

**Thomas Milliken**, (24 Dec 1830 – 21 Oct 1903), Commemorative biographical encyclopedia of Dauphin County, Pennsylvania : containing sketches of prominent and representative citizens and many of the early Scotch-Irish and German settlers (1896)



**MILLIKEN, THOMAS**, justice of the peace, was born at Petersburg, now Duncannon, Perry county. Pa., December 24, 1830. His father was born in Tuscarora Valley, Juniata County. Pa., August 4, 1794, and died December 28, 1860. His mother died June 9, 1855, aged about forty-four. The first wife of the elder Mr. Milliken was **Rachel Branyon**, by whom he had two children, **John** and **James**. His second wife was **Susanna Parker**. They had nine children: **Isaac, Thomas, Joseph E., William Parker, Susanna Parker, Francis Bonner, Jackson McFadden, Alexander Jackson**, and **Charles Parker**. The boys all volunteered in the army. **Isaac** was in a cavalry company, under Captain Sanno, of Carlisle; **Joseph**, in company D, One Hundred and Seventh regiment, Pennsylvania volunteers; **William**, in the old Eleventh infantry regiment, Colonel **Colter**; **Francis B.**, in company B, Eighty-seventh regiment, Pennsylvania volunteers; and **A. Jackson**, in the Fourteenth and Fifteenth regiments, United States regulars.

**Thomas Milliken** attended the public schools of his native town. The family removed first to Bloomfield, afterwards to Liverpool, both in Perry County. When Thomas was six years of age they went to Harrisburg, where he attended the city schools. Later, having removed to Coxestown, he attended a school there which was taught by Charles Huston in an old log school house, near where the Methodist Episcopal Church now stands. The next removal was to the premises known as the old Burnt Tavern; the next to the old Clark's Ferry Tavern, where he went to the old log school house on Duncan's Island. Once more he removed with his parents to the place then known as Greensburg and Port Lyon, now Dauphin, where Thomas attended school under J. Wilson Parks.

At the age of seventeen Mr. Milliken began work on his own account, being employed as driver on the canal. Later he kept store for J. G. Updegrave, at Coxestown, and afterwards attended store at Matamoras, Powell's Valley, for James Reed. He returned to his job on the canal at Dauphin, receiving as wages eight dollars per month. His parents at this time removed to Clark's Ferry and kept tavern. On April 26, 1849, he engaged with his uncle, **A. R. Kincade**, in mercantile business on Duncan's Island. After carrying on this business for a year he sold his interest and engaged in section boating on the canal, and shipped between Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. He was thus occupied for about sixteen years, being at the same time engaged with

George G. Neuer in butchering at Dauphin. In March, 1865, Mr. Milliken enlisted at Camp Curtin, Harrisburg, in Company I, Capt. John Bell, Seventy-seventh regiment, Pennsylvania volunteers, Col. Thomas E. Rose. His regiment was sent as far south as Texas. He was discharged at Victoria, Texas, December 6, 1865, and returned to Dauphin. In 1866 he engaged in keeping hotel and boating at Dauphin locks. In March, 1892, he removed to the homestead, where he now resides. He was elected justice of the peace in 1887 and re-elected in 1892, and has served in that office up to the present time. His political views are Democratic. The family is Presbyterians, and are of Scotch-Irish descent.

Mr. Milliken was married, at the old Stees Hotel, December 7, 1852, to **Mary J.**, daughter of **Frederick** and **Catherine (Hassinger) Stees**. Of their four children all are deceased but one, **Augustus Bell**, born October 1, 1856. He is at present general superintendent of the erection department of the Phoenix Bridge Company, Phoenixville, Pa. Their deceased children are : **Susanna Parker**, born September 18, 1853, died April 12, 1872; **Esther Graydon**, born November 30, 1859, died January 29, 1862; **Thomas**, born July 7, 1862, died February 2, 1877; and **Daniel Stees**, born August 25, 1868, died September 27, 1868.