

Twentieth Century History of Altoona and Blair County, Pennsylvania, and Representative Citizens, Jesse C. Sell; Chicago, IL; Richmond-Arnold, 1911.

**William A. Patton** was born at Union Furnace, Huntingdon County, Pa., on October 21, 1849, a son of **George W.** and **Mary (Burket) Patton**, the former of whom was born in 1817 and died in 1882 and was a prominent citizen of Blair County. His mother was born in 1825 and died in 1856. **Mr. Patton** received his education in the schools of Altoona, finishing with a course in the High School. He entered the service of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company in the General Superintendent's office, Altoona, January 11, 1865, was transferred to Philadelphia in December, 1871, and was appointed chief clerk in the office of Mr. A. J. Cassatt, General Manager, on August 1, 1872, and remained with him in that capacity while Mr. Cassatt filled the positions of General Manager, Third vice-president and First vice-president.

Upon Mr. Cassatt's resignation as First vice-president of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, **Mr. Patton** was transferred to the president's department, and on April 1, 1884, appointed by the board of directors, general assistant. On February 10, 1897, he was appointed assistant to the president of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, acting in the same capacity with the Philadelphia, Wilmington & Baltimore Railroad, West Jersey & Seashore Railroad and Northern Central Railway Companies. On May 24, 1884, he was elected vice-president of the New York, Philadelphia & Norfolk Railroad Company, and upon the resignation of Mr. A. J. Cassatt to accept the presidency of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, **Mr. Patton** was, on June 14, 1899, elected president, which position he fills in addition to his official connection with the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. On August 30, 1899, he was elected general chairman of the Pennsylvania Railroad Department, Young Men's Christian Association of Philadelphia. He is also a director of The Real Estate Trust Company of Philadelphia, a trustee of the Presbyterian Hospital, a member of the board of trustees of the Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church, president Board of Trustees St. John's Orphanage, which was founded by the late John Edgar Thomson for the care and education of daughters of employees of the Pennsylvania R. R. Co. killed in the service, director of the Young Men's Christian Association of Philadelphia and a member of the International Committee of Young Men's Christian Associations of North America, as well as a member of the Valley Forge Park Commission of Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania Society Sons of the Revolution and other organizations.

**Mr. Patton** married in Philadelphia on December 13, 1876, **Katharine Jane Linn**, a daughter of **John Atcheson Linn**, a native of Perry County, Pa., and afterwards a well known citizen of Philadelphia. They had one child, **John Linn Patton**, born October 13, 1883, died October 6, 1900, who at the time of his death was a member of the Sophomore Class (1903), Princeton University.

**Mr. Patton** resides at Radnor, Delaware County, Pa. He has two brothers, **T. Blair Patton**, of Huntingdon, Pa., and **J. Howard Patton**, of Greensburg, Pa., and one sister, **Mrs. Harold A. Freeman**, of St. David's, Pa.

[www.theperryhistorians.org](http://www.theperryhistorians.org)