

History of Columbia and Montour Counties, Pennsylvania, Containing A History of Each County; Their Townships, Towns, Villages, Schools, Churches, Industries, Etc.; Portraits of Representative Men; Biographies; History of Pennsylvania, Statistical and Miscellaneous Matter, Etc. Edited By J. H. Battle. Illustrated. Chicago: A. Warner & Co. 1887.

**George W. Reifsnyder**, merchant, Catawissa, born in Schuylkill County, Penn., March 24, 1848, a son of **George** and **Harriet (Sharpless) Reifsnyder**, natives of Pennsylvania and of German-English descent. His grandfather came from England; was one of the settlers under William Penn. His grandfather, **Benjamin Sharpless**, came to Catawissa at an early day and was one of the founders of the paper-mill here, and also of the Quaker Church; he owned and operated the mill for a number of years and died at the age of ninety-four years. Our subject's father was born in Montgomery County, this State, in 1804, and lived there but a short time; thence moved to Perry County and thence to this county, where he engaged in mercantile business for several years. He then moved to Schuylkill County and located at New Castle, where he carried on mercantile business, and there resided until he reared his family, which consisted of twelve children, five of whom are living: Mrs. William Hartman, Mrs. E\* S. Jackson, (a resident of Scranton), George W. (our subject), Mrs. Isaac Hartman (a resident of Ontario, Canada), and Mrs. Charles Pearson (a resident of Berlin, Ontario). The father died in 1856. Our subject was about nine years of age when he came to Catawissa where he received his education. In 1874 he engaged in conducting the Susquehanna hotel which he continued! proprietor of until 1883, when he embarked in mercantile business. He carries a general line of dry goods and groceries, his stock being valued at about \$5,000. He married in December, 1870, Anna Kostenbauder, by whom he has had five children, three living: Samuel, Leonard and Karl. Mr. and Mrs. Reifsnyder are members of the Lutheran Church; he is a member of the Masonic fraternity and the G. A. R. In 1862 he enlisted in the State militia, and in January, 1864, enlisted in the Third Pennsylvania Artillery, and served until 1865; was one year on picket duty continuously, and the rest of the time served on detached duty; he served two years in the militia and regular service. He owns several properties in Catawissa; he is the best pigeon shot in the county.

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