

Biographical Annals of Cumberland County, Pennsylvania; Containing Biographical Sketches of Prominent and Representative Citizens and of Many of The Early Settled Families. Illustrated. Chicago: The Genealogical Publishing Co., 1905.

**William B. Rice**, who conducts a shoe store at No. 420 North West Street, Carlisle, is one of the most respected residents of that place. He has been identified with its business interests for many years and has always borne the highest reputation for honor and integrity, whether in commercial transactions, or in any of the other relations of life.

**Mr. Rice** was born April 27, 1834, in Saville Township, Perry Co., Pa., and comes of an old family of that county. He is a grandson of **Adam** and **Betsey Rice**, the former of whom settled in Perry County at an early day, and both lived to advanced age. He was a wagonmaker by occupation. **Joseph Rice**, father of **William B.**, was also a wagonmaker. He married **Elizabeth Bird**, and both died in Perry County, about five miles above New Bloomfield. They were members of the Reformed Church. Their family consisted of ten children, all but three of whom still survive.

**William B. Rice** remained at the place of his birth until grown to manhood, and during boyhood attended the district schools, receiving a good practical education. When but thirteen years old he commenced to learn the shoemaker's trade, and in time started in the business for himself, at Linn's Mills, Perry County, where he remained until 1856. He then followed carpentering for a time, and later put up post fences, doing the boring by hand. In 1863 he entered the Union army for service in the Civil war, enlisting for ninety days in Company B, 202d P. V. I., in which he served one year. On his return from the army **Mr. Rice** located in Carlisle, Cumberland County, and bought a tract of land which he farmed for a time, finally embarking again in the shoe business. For three years he was located on South Pitt Street, thence moving to Main Street, where he continued to do business for twenty-five years. At the end of that period he sold out and moved to Washington, D. C, where he bought a home and resided for several years, until after the death of his wife, which occurred in Washington in 1899. **Mr. Rice** then returned to Carlisle, where he has since carried on his present store, in which he has met with the success which attended all his business ventures. However, he has deserved all his prosperity, for he is hard-working, and an excellent manager, and he neglects nothing which might contribute to the good of his business or the accommodation of his patrons.

**Mr. Rice** was married in Perry County, about 1856, to **Alvina Keck**, who was born there, daughter of **Daniel** and **Lydia (Dick) Keck**, and two children blessed this union: **Elmira Jane** is the wife of **William Wagner**, of Carlisle; **Kieffer E.** married **Miss Catherine Masonhamer**, and also resides in Carlisle. **Mrs. Rice** was a member of the Reformed Church, to which her husband also belongs. He is a Republican in political sentiment, but not active in party matters or public affairs of any kind.

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