

History of Perry County, Pennsylvania, Including Descriptions of Indian and Pioneer Life from the Time of Earliest Settlement Sketches of Its Noted Men and Women and Many Professional Men, By H. H. Hain, Harrisburg, Pa., 1922 - Hain-Moore Company, Publishers, Harrisburg, Pa.

Dr. George M. Stites was born in Millerstown, March 11, 1860, the son of **Dr. Samuel** and **Katharine (Matter) Stites**. His father was descended from a long line of medical men on both sides. His mother's name was **Rush**, and she was of the famous **Benjamin Rush** family. On the father's side the first **Stites** came as a surgeon to the colonists in the time of Cromwell. **Dr. William Stites**, who practiced in Perry County for a few years, was a brother of his father. **Dr. Stites** attended the Millerstown schools, where he got his preliminary education.

In March, 1882, he graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Baltimore. His father died about that time and he succeeded to the practice at Millerstown. In a few years he removed to Williamstown, where he assumed the practice of his uncle, **Dr. George Matter**. There he resided and practiced until his death in 1921. He was surgeon of the Lykens Division of the Susquehanna Colliers Company. He was in charge of the First Aid Corps of that mining district and his men were drilled so efficiently that many lives were saved. He helped organize the Williams Valley Railways Company and was long vice-president of the Williams Valley Bank, and was for fourteen years a member of the board of education, etc. He was married to **Miss Hannah Durbin**. They had three children, **Joseph D.**, **Mrs. Herbert T. Quinn**, and **Harry J.**

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**Albert Harvey Stites** was born in Millerstown, March 2, 1858, the son of **Dr. Samuel** and **Catharine (Matter) Stites**. He attended the public schools, and in 1875 worked for one year on The Times, at New Bloomfield. He then went to Philadelphia and began clerking in a drug store. In 1879 he graduated in pharmacy and continued there in the drug business until 1881. In June of that year he located in what was then Dakota Territory, at Sioux Falls, and opened a drug store, which he has conducted for the past forty years. He was president of the South Dakota State Board of Pharmacy for six years, and was county commissioner of Minnehaha County for three years. In 1896 he was elected mayor of Sioux Falls, and in 1898 was elected to the State Senate, a position in which he served two terms, having been reelected. During the Roosevelt administration he was postmaster for four years. In 1884 he married **Elizabeth M. Law**, of Chicago, to whom three children were born, one son, **Samuel L.**, living and being in the drug business in Sioux Falls.

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Dr. Harry Stites was born at Fisherville, Dauphin County, June 28, 1854, the son of **Dr. Samuel** and **Catherine (Matter) Stites**, but at a very early age his father having located at Millerstown, he became a Perry Countian and always claimed it as his home. He was educated in the public schools of Millerstown and at Freeburg Academy. He graduated from the

University of Pennsylvania in 1876 and immediately began practicing medicine at Newport. In 1881 he located at Sioux Falls, and became government physician to the Blackfoot Indian Agency, being later transferred to the Sioux Reservation. He then located in Florida for a time, and from 1887 to 1893 he practiced in Harrisburg. His health failing he returned to Florida, going in a vessel of his own with his family. In that state he was examining surgeon of the East Coast Railway under the noted Henry M. Flager's regime. In 1896 he took a postgraduate course in the Polyclinic College at Philadelphia and again located in Harrisburg, where he remained until 1900, when he traveled Europe, visiting the principal hospitals in order to advance further in his profession. He returned to his Harrisburg practice, but in January, 1906, left on a trip South to regain his health, going to Cuba. Two days after his arrival there he died. **Dr. Stites** had another distinction. In 1870 he organized Newport Council, No. 107, Junior Order of United American Mechanics, and two years later was elected National Vice-Councilor, becoming National Councilor the succeeding year, so far as is known, the only Perry Countian to become the national head of a beneficial order.

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