

History of Dauphin County, by Luther Reily Kelker, Custodian of Division Public Records of Pennsylvania With Genealogical Memoirs, Illustrated, Volume III, New York – Chicago, The Lewis Publishing Company, 1907

Martin G. Stoner, engineer on the Philadelphia Express, of the Pennsylvania Railroad, and member of the firm of Miller and Stoner, carpet cleaners, of Harrisburg, is one of the representative businessmen of the city, and a bright example of what individual energy and source of character can accomplish.

Martin G. Stoner, grandfather of **Martin G. Stoner**, was born in Manstavern, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, in 1786, and died about 1870. He married and was the father of children: 1. **Christian**, see forward. 2. **Levi**, who was a wagonmaker by trade, and lived at Masterville, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. He married and had one daughter. 3. **Frederick**, also a wagonmaker, and in addition a farmer, is now (1907) living retired at Manstavern, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania; he married and had two children. 4. **Barney**, deceased, resided at Turkey Hill, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. He married and raised a family. 5. **John**, deceased, born in Shiremanstown, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, was a wagonmaker. He also married and raised a family. 6. **Mary**, deceased, married **Hiram Young**, and resided in Manor Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. They had several children.

Christian Stoner, son of **Martin G. Stoner**, was born in Manor Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, in 1817, and died February 23, 1896. He was educated in the district schools of his township, and was then apprenticed to learn the trade of blacksmithing. While still quite a young man he located in Cumberland County, where he purchased a shop and went into business for himself at a place called Sporting Hill, later removing to Shiremanstown, where he carried on a successful business for upward of fifty years. He was one of the most prominent members of the time of the church of God, and took a deep interest in all its affairs, as well as the affairs of the Republican Party and filled very efficiently a number of minor offices. He was man of more than ordinary intellect, and in his death the church and state lost a faithful friend.

Mr. Stoner married **Mary Ann Sponge**, born in Cumberland County, now (1907) living at the advanced age of eighty three years at Carlisle, with her daughter, **Mrs. Kate West**. She is of German descent. **Mr. and Mrs. Stoner** had children: 1. **Elizabeth**, widow of the late **Joseph Sadler**, and resides at Marysville, Perry County, Pennsylvania. She has had children: **Florence, Mary, Harry, Kate, Joseph, Wesley, William** and **Frank**. 2. **Mary**, married a **Mr. Fetson**, of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and has children: **Emma, Charles, Irene, Wells**, and **Frank**. 3. **John W.**, born 1843, died in 1882. 4. **Martin G.**, see forward. 5. **Leverse**, born 1850, is an employee of the Northern Central Railroad. 6. **Andrew K.**, a blacksmith, residing at Mountville, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. 7. **Martha**, married **John Bear**, of Darksville, West Virginia, and they have had children: A **son**, deceased and Jane. 8. A **daughter**, died in infancy.

Martin Stoner, second son and fourth child of **Christian** and **Mary Ann (Sponge) Stoner**, was born in Shiremanstown, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, October 18, 1848. He was educated in the public schools, and later attended the White Hall Academy for a year. His boyhood days were spent in his native town, and he was a very young boy when he began his business career as

a teamster for the Inland Telegraph Company and the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. When he was fifteen years of age he enlisted, February 2, 1864, as a private in Company C, Third Pennsylvania Artillery, under General Butler, was advanced to the rank of corporal and served until November 16, 1865. During his time of service he was stationed at Fort Monroe, on guard duty, part of the time over Jefferson Davis. Part of his duty consisted in serving the noted prisoner with his meals in his cell. At the close of the war he returned to his home, and it was at this time that he attended the White Hall Academy. After this he engaged in blacksmithing under the able tuition of his father, and remained with him for seven years. He then went to Altoona, and entered the employ of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, working at his trade in their shops for a period of nine months, then in their car shops in Harrisburg, where he remained until March, 1873. He then accepted the position of brakeman on the middle division of the company, and in September of the same year was advanced to that of fireman, which he held for nine and a half years. He was made freight engineer in 1882, and ten years later was promoted to capacity service. He purchased the Star Carpet Cleaning works in 1903, is now operating the same, and is one of the stockholders in the Harrisburg Heat, Light and Power Company. He has been a resident of Harrisburg since 1872, and his present home was built in 1873. He is a staunch Republican in politics, and has held a number of public offices. He was a member of the board of revision of taxes and repeals for eight years, and was president of that body for six years of this time; has been a member of the select council for two terms, and was a member of the finance committee for eight years; was chairman of the sanitary committee for seven years; was elected a member of the council in 1896, and served eight years and has held a number of minor offices. He is a member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, has served as chief engineer and secretary for sixteen years, and represented that body at the national conventions at Pittsburg, and Los Angeles; is a member of the Lodge No, 160, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Stoner married, December 19, 1867, **Virginia C. MacMullen**, born in Dillsburg, York County, Pennsylvania, April 3, 1849, daughter of **John** and **Jane (Fulton) MacMullen**, and they have had children: 1. **Gertrude Irene**, born in Shiremanstown, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, October 1, 1868, resides with her parents. 2. **Edith Jane**, born October 7, 1877, was graduated from the Harrisburg High School in the class of 1896. She married **William Manahan**, who is employed as an engineer by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, and is a member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and a staunch Republican, and resides with his family at No. 618 Calder Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. **Mr. and Mrs. Manahan** have children: **William S.**, born August 30, 1903, and **Mildred Gertrude**, born July 30, 1904.

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