William Henry Sturdevant (1838-1919) and his father John were associated as engineers, surveyors, and in the real estate business. William held the offices of county surveyor and Wilkes-Barre city engineer for about fourteen years and served as engineer and director for the Wilkes-Barre Water Company and the Wilkes Barre and Wyoming Valley Traction Company.

Sturdevant was well known for his mapmaking, preparing the Wilkes-Barre City Atlas in 1894 and 1904 and maps for other clients, including the Pennsylvania Geologic Survey.

His son Thomas was a renowned architect, designing many remarkable buildings in eastern Pennsylvania.