William Richards Symons (1824-1888) was born in Cornwall, England, worked in a tin mine as a child, and studied and practiced civil and mining engineering under his uncle, Robert, a famous mapmaker.

Photo courtesy Stacey Rehein
stacey@familydig.net
Symons’ Great Granddaughter

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In 1856 he came to the United States, moved to Pottsville and worked at Yorktown for George K. Smith for about three years.
He went back to Cornwall, working with his uncle and cousin Brenton, married, and returned to the States.
For some years he was Chief Mining Engineer for the LCN&Co.
He did a lot of work in the Tamaqua area, with the Geologic Survey and in private practice.