

Hon. S. S. Selvey, M.D., one of Dunkirk's leading citizens, was born in Harrison County now Taylor County, Virginia, May 9, 1832, his parents, James and Elizabeth (Cross) Selvey, being natives of the same county and of English descent. Both parents are still living in Taylor County, the father aged about seventy-seven years, and the mother seventy-four years old. The father being a farmer, our subject was reared to the same avocation, his education being received in the common schools of his native county and the adjoining county.

He began reading medicine under the preceptorship of Dr. R. C. Reynolds in Fairview, Taylor County, Virginia, in the spring of 1858, and in the spring of 1860 commenced the practice of medicine.

In 1860 owing to the condition of the South at that time, he left Virginia with the intentions of attending some western medical college. He stopped at Albany, Delaware County, Indiana and finding on his arrive a great deal of sickness in that locality, he abandoned his idea of attending college for a time, but soon had a large medical practice in Albany.

August 8, 1861, he married Miss Sarah E. Smith, a native of Greene County, Ohio. Doctor Selvey entered the Miami Medical College in the winter of 1868, and graduated from that institution March 9, 1869. He practiced medicine in Albany until the spring of 1878, when he came to Dunkirk, Jay County, where he has since followed his profession building up a very extensive practice, but is gradually retiring from active life.

The doctor is the owner of a fine farm of 239 acres in Niles Township, Delaware County, which is farmed by tenants. Politically the doctor is a Democrat.

In 1886 he was nominated from the Twenty-Sixth Judicial Circuit for State Representative and was elected to the Legislature in November, 1886 and served on the committees on Swamp Lands, Public Expenditures, Statistics and Emigration and State Medicine. While a resident of Delaware, he was a member of the Delaware County Medical Society.

He is not a member of any religious denomination, but a strong believer of the Christian faith and one of the most respected men in his township.

Biographical & Historical Record of Jay County, Indiana, Lewis Publishing Company, 1887

Transcribed by Jim Cox

Note: Samuel Sylvester – died March 2, 1915; buried Strong Cemetery, Delaware Co, IN