Daniel Hale Williams III was one of the first African-American cardiologists, performing the first successful open-heart surgery in the United States. He was born on January 18, 1856, in Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania. His father, Daniel Hale Williams Jr., was a doctor, and his mother, Sarah Williams, was a nurse. Daniel Hale Williams pursued a pioneering career in medicine. He was the first African-American to open a hospital and to perform open-heart surgery. Williams opened Provident Hospital, the first medical facility to have an interracial staff. He was also a founder of Provident Foundation, which provided medical care to patients regardless of their race. Williams was a brilliant surgeon and a pioneering advocate for interracial medicine. He died in Idlewild, Michigan, on August 4, 1931.
Hollidaysburg, Pa., in 1856. and continued to work for equal rights for minority patients and medical providers all of his life.