

**Biographical and Historical Record - Adams and Wells Co. Indiana; Lewis Publishing Co.
Chicago, IL, 1887**

ADONIRAM JUDSON HILL was born in Herkimer, Herkimer County, New York, October 9, 1832. His education was obtained in the common and select schools and completed by an academic course at Little Falls, New York. In the Winter of 1848-'49 he emigrated with his father and family to Virginia, settling in the Shenandoah Valley, near Front Royal, where he remained until he attained his majority. In the fall of 1852 he came to Indiana and settled in Adams County, which has since been his home. In the spring of 1859 he purchased a half interest in the Decatur *Eagle*, and a little later the entire interest in the paper, which he conducted until the fall of 1862, when he enlisted in the Eighty-ninth Indiana Volunteers and was elected Captain of Company H. He took with him the entire force of the office, including "the devil" for a drummer boy. He continued in command of the company until the fall of 1864, when his health failed; and he returned home in January, 1865. A draft was pending in the county at the time, which was soon wiped out by the enlistment of some sixty volunteers by his personal exertion, which filled all demands made by the President for troops during the war. After this he resumed his old position on the *Eagle*, the office having been rented during his absence in the army. At the solicitation of John McConnell, then clerk of the Adams Circuit Court, he was made his deputy in the spring of 1865, and at the October election, 1867, was elected Mr. McConnell's successor. Four years after he was re-elected, thus serving two terms. His first presidential vote was cast for James Buchanan, and he has always been active in the interests of the Democratic party, having been chairman of its central committee for some ten years. In the fall of 1874 he disposed of his interest in the *Eagle* to Joseph McGonagle and opened a notion store. In August, 1881, he re-purchased the *Eagle* (meanwhile changed to the *Democrat*) of S. Ray Williams, and conducted it two years, when it was sold to Roth & Cummings. Since that time ill health, the result of exposure in the army, has kept him from any active business pursuits.