

MILLIGAN, WILLIAM F.

WILLIAM F. MILLIGAN, head of the firm of MILLIGAN & Company, real estate and loans, at Portland, secretary of the Jay County Farm Loan Company, president of the MILLIGAN Finance Company of Ft. Wayne, and for years regarded as one of the active and influential business men of this county, is a native of Ohio, born in Darke county on April 17, 1865, and is a son of John and Rominia (CARTER) MILLIGAN, the latter of whom was born at Cincinnati. John MILLIGAN was born in Pennsylvania and grew to manhood in that state. He moved to Ohio and thence to Indiana, where he married Rominia CARTER. He later established his home on a farm in Darke county, Ohio, and there became a substantial farmer and landowner. He and his wife were the parents of twelve children, four of whom are still living, the subject of this sketch having two sisters, Martha, wife of George DENNEY, of Mercer county, Ohio, and Ellen, wife of Ernest LOWRY, of New Madison, Ohio, and a brother, J. Wesley MILLIGAN.

Reared on the home farm in Darke county, William F. MILLIGAN received his early schooling in the schools of that county and supplemented this by a course of eighteen months in the Normal School at Portland, after which he was employed as a bookkeeper in his home county for four years, at the end of which time he went to Chicago and was there for two years engaged as a shipping clerk in a wholesale concern. He then moved to Selma, Ind., where for two years he was in the retail meat business. Disposing of his interests at Selma he then became a resident of Portland, where for about four years he was engaged as a collector for the mercantile firm of Cartwright & Headington, acquiring thus a form of experience which presently prompted him, to go into the collection business on his own account. With this end in view he formed a partnership and for two years conducted a collection agency, with offices at Portland and Muncie. In 1906 Mr. MILLIGAN disposed of his interest in that concern and became engaged at Portland in the real estate and loan business, which business he since has maintained, his business being incorporated under the firm name of MILLIGAN & Company, he being the head of the concern, and has been quite successful. Mr. MILLIGAN also is secretary of the Jay County Farm Loan Association and in other ways has been active in the business concerns of the community in which he resides. He is a Democrat and he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Mr. MILLIGAN has been twice married. In 1904 he was united in marriage to Elizabeth PEDEN, who was born in Randolph county, this state, daughter of Thomas and Martha PEDEN, and to this union were born two children, Arab, who married Bernard HIATT, of Portland, and Luella, who is now (1921) a student in the Portland high school. Following the death of the mother of these daughters Mr. MILLIGAN married Mrs. Dora E. (WOODS) CABLE, who was a friend of his youth in his old home neighborhood in Darke county, Ohio, where she also was born, a member of one of the old families of that section of the state. Mr. and Mrs. MILLIGAN have a pleasant home

at Portland and take an interested part in the general social activities of their home town.

SOURCE: Milton T. Jay, M.D., History of Jay County Indiana, Historical Publishing Co., Indpls. 1922, Vol. II, pp.86-87. Transcribed by Eloine Chesnut.