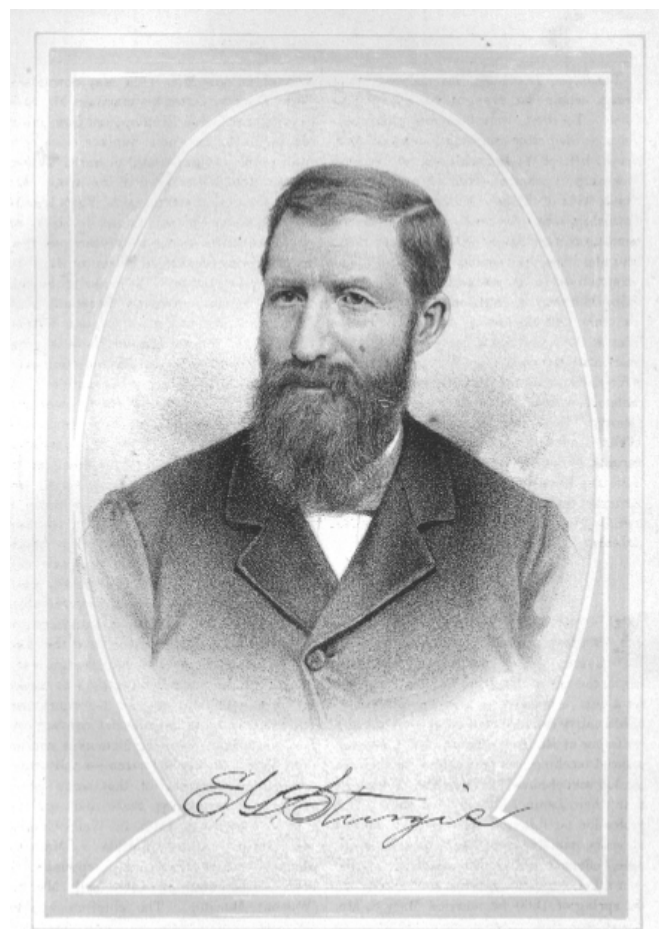


ELMORE Y. STURGIS, editor of the Bluffton Banner, was born in Wayne County, Ohio, April 25, 1836.

Arriving at the age of fourteen, he was employed for a year in the auditor's and clerk's offices of his native county. Soon after arriving with his father at Bluffton, in May, 1852, he commenced teaching, his first school being in an old log school-house in Lancaster Township, near where Lemuel Paynter now lives.

This profession he followed steadily for a number of years, namely, three years near Steubenville, Jefferson County, Ohio, also his home district schools and two seasons in Bluffton. In the spring of 1860 he married Mary S. McKimey, who died in the autumn of 1861, leaving a daughter, now Mrs. Tida May Sowards, of Wells County. After his marriage Mr. Sturgis taught school in Bluffton, and from among his pupils he can now number some of its most prominent and useful citizens. In September, 1861, he enlisted in the army, from Wells County, in Company A, Forty-seventh Indiana, under Colonel James R. Slack, and remained in the service three years and

three months, being discharged December 31, 1864. He was promoted from the ranks to the position of Sergeant, Orderly Sergeant, First Lieutenant, and to that of Captain October 3, 1862. In the war chapter there is given a brief account of the battles and other services in which his regiment was engaged. At the battle of Champion Hills he received a serious wound. Returning from the fields of carnage Mr. Sturgis, in 1865, began farming, which he continued until 1879, when, having been elected county auditor the spring previous, he moved to Bluffton in order to fulfill the duties of the office. On the close of his term as auditor he took charge of the Banner, August 1, 1883, in company with Dr. A. G. Gorrell and J. J. Gorrell, and a year later he became sole proprietor, which place he now maintains, with satisfaction to his party and credit to himself and the community which he serves. Mr. Sturgis was a delegate to the State Democratic Convention which nominated Gray for Governor, and also to other State and district conventions. He is an uncompromising Democrat and has the fullest faith in the correctness and soundness of the principles of that party in its application to county, State and national affairs. October 4, 1865, in Wells County, Mr. Sturgis married Matilda J. Markley, who was born in this county, September 18, 1848, a daughter of John and Melinda (Wilson) Markley. The children by this marriage are — Charles E., who was born September 15, 1867, and will soon complete the course of study at De Pauw University, including law; Linnie B., born August 27, 1869; Morna S., August 17, 1873; Will Carleton, October 9, 1877, and Ray, April 6, 1880. In Freemasonry, Mr. Sturgis has received the thirty-second degree, is a member of Bluffton lodge and chapter, Fort Wayne Commandery of Knights Templar, Consistory of Indianapolis; a member of the Knights of Honor, and of the order of the Eastern Star, to which last Mrs. Sturgis also belongs. He is also a member of Lew Daily Post, G. A. R., of Bluffton, and, when farming, was a member of the Grange organization.



Biographical and historical record of Adams and Wells counties, Indiana. Chicago: Lewis Publishing Co., 1887. pp. 848-851.