

JACOB JEFFERSON TODD, attorney at law, Bluffton, Wells County, Indiana, was born on his father's farm in Beaver County, Pennsylvania, March 12, 1843, and is the seventh child of Jacob and Jane (Thomas) Todd, who moved to Wells County in October, 1851. His father was born in Beaver County, Pennsylvania, August 15, 1805, and was the youngest son of Samuel and Lucy (Shivers) Todd, whose family consisted of seven sons and seven daughters. His grandfather, Samuel Todd, was the son of Alexander Todd, of Baltimore County, Maryland. His mother, Jane (Thomas) Todd, was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, January 2, 1807, and was the eldest of twelve children, three sons and nine daughters of Enos and Margaret (Cameron) Thomas. His maternal grandfather, Enos Thoumas, was born in Chester County, Pennsylvania, the son of Seth and Martha (Kirk) Thomas, and his grandmother, Margaret (Cameron) Thomas, was the daughter of Lewis and Frances (Sutten) Cameron. The Todd family is of Scotch-Irish descent, the Shivers of Scotch ancestry. Seth Thomas was born in Wales. The Kirk family was of Quaker origin, and came from England in 1681 with William Penn. Frances Sutter was a native of Lincolnshire, England. Lewis Cameron was born in the Highlands of Scotland. The parents of our subject were married January 14, 1830, and to them were born eleven children. (Of their children--Samuel Thomas, who died January 11, 1859, was born October 24, 1830, married Rebecca I. Crawford, May 11, 1853, by whom he had three children, Lizzie J. now the wife of John C. Anderson, living near East Liverpool, Ohio, and two sons who died in infancy. John Wesley, the second son, was born April 19, 1832, and married Abigail Glass, September 13, 1855, who died August 24, 1859, leaving a daughter, Mary Jane, who is now living at Jasonville, Indiana; his only son by this marriage died in infancy; he was again married March 11, 1862, to Angeline Biddle, and to this union have been born three sons and five daughters. He was Second Lieutenant of Company G, One Hundred and First Indiana Infantry in the late war. He now resides at Jasonville, Indiana. Lucy was born February 11, 1834, married Asa McDaniel, September 21, 1854, who died July 15, 1855, leaving one son, John T. She was married a second time December 6, 1859, to Nathan Tobey, and they are the parents of three sons and two daughters living and one son who is deceased. Mr. Tobey was a member of Company E, One Hundred and Fifty-third Indiana Infantry. Margaret Ann, the fourth child, was born June 28, 1836, married Calvin Biddle, of Wanseon, Ohio, August 9, 1860, by whom she has two sons and two daughters. Uriah was born August 5, 1838, married Lois Smitley, November 26, 1867, and died April 14, 1880, leaving two sons and two daughters. Three of his children died in infancy. He was a member of Captain barber's Company, Fourteenth Ohio Infantry, enlisting in April, 1861, in the three-months' service, and was also Second Lieutenant of Company K, Seventy-fifth Indiana Infantry, and was afterward First Lieutenant of Company H, First United States Veteran Volunteer Engineers. He was the first citizen of Wells County to enlist in the war for the Union. Mary Jane was born September 26, 1840, married Samuel B. Bowman, December 9, 1858, and to this union were born nine children, three of whom died in infancy. She died April 24, 1878. Jacob Jefferson is the subject of this sketch. Nancy was born October 9, 1845, married John V. Allen, September 24, 1867, who was a member of Company A, Thirty-fourth Indiana Infantry. A son and a daughter were born to this union, of whom the son is deceased. Elizabeth Ellen, was born December 22, 1847, married Ransom Allen, February 15, 1866, and they have two daughters and one son living, and one son deceased. Mr. Allen was a member of Company A, Thirtieth Indiana Infantry. Simpson was born August 5, 1851, married Harriet E. Hoover, January 23, 1873, and has one son and one daughter. He resides upon and has charge of the old homestead. Bathsheba Isodene was born September 18, 1855, married John Adam Glass, October 24, 1872, and of the three children born to this union a son and a daughter are living. After their marriage the parents of our subject settled in Beaver County, Pennsylvania, remaining there until 1851, when, having sold their old homestead, they started for the then far West. They traveled in the primitive style with covered wagon and buggy, reaching their Indiana home on the northwest quarter of section 19, township 28 north, range 12 east,



on the 12th day of October, 1851, where mother Todd still resides. Both joined the Methodist Episcopal church soon after their marriage, their parents being members of the same church. After coming to Indiana they endured the hardships incident to pioneer life, but by energy, industry and economy, they improved their farm, and made a comfortable home, and reared and educated their children in the principles of morality and Christianity. The father died November 3, 1861, leaving a good name and a life of Christian activity as an example for his children. He was a man of great honesty of purpose, and honorable in all things. In physical appearance he was six feet one and a half inches in height, and weighed from 195 to 215 pounds when in his usual health. Mother Todd is a woman of slight physique, possessing unusual activity of mind and body, and has a remarkable memory. She is generous and kind, and Christian charity is a marked characteristic of her life. She is an excellent and agreeable conversationalist. Jacob J. Todd, whose name heads this sketch, was brought up on his father's farm in Jefferson Township, and assisted in his youth in clearing eighty acres of land. He received his education in the common schools of Wells County, and afterward attended Roanoke Seminary and Fort Wayne College for a short time. During the winters from 1861 until 1866 he taught in the public schools, three winters in the Glass district and two at Ossian. In August, 1861, he enlisted in Company A, Thirty-fourth Indiana Infantry, but was rejected on account of ill health. In April, 1864, he enlisted in Company D, One Hundred and Thirty-seventh Indiana Infantry, and served during the summer of 1864 at Tullahoma and Duck River Bridge, Tennessee, under the command of General Robert Milroy, who had charge of the railroad defenses in that department. He returned home in October and cast his first vote for the great war Governor, O. P. Morton, and voted for the re-election of Abraham Lincoln as President in November following. In March, 1865, he was appointed assessor of Jefferson Township, and performed the duties of that office for that year. He commenced reading law at Bluffton, April 4, 1865, was admitted to the bar May 22, 1866, and entered upon the practice of his profession in January, 1868, in Bluffton, where he has since continued to practice. In 1867 he served as deputy collector of Internal Revenue for Wells County, in the Eleventh Congressional District, and in March, 1868, he was elected clerk of the corporation of Bluffton and served as such one year. He became a member of Ossian Lodge, No. 297, A. F. & A. M., in April, 1864, and was worshipful master of Bluffton Lodge, No. 145, during the years, 1872-'77-'78 and '79. He was worthy patron of Crescent Chapter, No. 48, Order of Eastern Star, in 1881; grand lecturere of Grand Chapter, Order of Eastern Star, in 1881-'82; grand associate patron, 1883-'84, and grand patron in 1884-'85, and in 1884 was high priest of Bluffton Chapter, No. 95, R. A. M. He is a member of Fort Wayne Commandery, No. 4, K. T., and a Thirty-second degree member of Indiana Consistory A: A: Scottish Rite. He was senior grand deacon of the Grand Lodge from 1882 until 1884, grand marshal from 1884 until 1886, and is the present junior grand warden of the Grand Lodge of Masons for Indiana. He is also a charter member of Lew Dailey Post, No. 33, G. A. R., and has been several times a delegate to the State encampment. September 2, 1859, he became a member of Prospect Chapel Methodist Episcopal Church and for some sixteen years has been a member of the Quarterly Conference of his church at Bluffton, either as steward, trustee or Sunday-school superintendent. He was a member of the Lay Electoral Conference at Richmond in March, 1876, president of the Lay Electoral Conference at Union City in April, 1880, and lay delegate to the General Conference at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in May, 1884, and participated in the election of Bishops Ninde, Walden, Mallalien, Fowler and Taylor. He was appointed alternate delegate to the national Republican Convention at Philadelphia, June, 1872, and in June, 1880, was a delegate to the National Republican Convention at Chicago that nominated Garfield and Arthur, and was a member of the committee on permanent organization; and during the great excitement following the thirty-sixth and final ballot for President Mr. Todd carried the Indiana banner over to General Garfield, and shook hands with and congratulated him upon his nomination, and then turning to Governor Charles Foster extended greetings from the Indiana delegates, upon which Governor Foster grasped Mr. Todd's hand and enthusiastically exclaimed, "God bless Indiana, she deserves a golden crown," the Indiana delegates having turned the tide to the victorious leader, General Garfield, on the thirty-fifth ballot. He was a member of the committee on resolutions at the Republican State Convention in 1882, and urged the adoption of the submission resolution of the prohibition amendment in the committee and convention and upon the stump in that campaign. In September, 1886, he was a delegate to the National Convention of Anti-saloon

Republicans at Chicago, Illinois. During 1886 he was prominently and favorably mentioned as a probable candidate for the office of Lieutenant Governor, but he did not permit his name to go before the convention. He was delegate to the International Sunday-school Convention at Chicago, June, 1887. Mr. Todd has always enjoyed an extensive legal practice, and by his energy and attention to the interests of his clients he has won success. He took an active and energetic part in securing the necessary encouragement and aid which resulted in the building of the Fort Wayne, Cincinnati & Louisville and the Toledo, St. Louis & Kansas City railroads through Bluffton. He has always been at the front to advocate all measures which might add to the prosperity, morality and intellectual advancement of the people. He is and has been an enthusiastic advocate of the cause of temperance and sobriety in the community and State, and believes that liquor saloons are the greatest foe to financial prosperity, to moral advancement, to the elevation of society and to the success of our Christian civilization, which is the hope and safeguard of our Government. In all things that adds to the comfort, happiness and well being of the people he has ever lent his time, means, influence and hearty support. Mr. Todd was first married April 17, 1866, to Miss Rachel J., daughter of Nelson Kellogg, a well known and influential citizen of Bluffton. By this marriage he has one son, Nelson Kellogg Todd, born February 10, 1867. He is a graduate of the Bluffton High School of the class of 1883. By trade he is a printer. Has also read law to some extent in his father's office. He has been connected with the press as a news writer and local editor, and manifests considerable talent in this direction. August 22, 1876, Mr. Todd was married to Mrs. Mary Jane Klinck, whose former husband, Dwight Klinck, was drowned on the ill-fated steamer, Schiller, on her voyage to Europe, May 7, 1875. Mrs. Todd is the eldest daughter of John and Rebecca (Angel) Studabaker. Her father is well known for his mental and physical activity and energy, and his success in all his undertakings has been most remarkable. Her mother is favorably known for her generosity and acts of kindness, and she has been a faithful worker for the cause of temperance, humanity and Christianity. Mrs. Todd obtained her education in the public schools of Bluffton and at Fort Wayne College. She has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal church since her girlhood, and her parents have been members of the same church for many years. She has all her life been active in Sunday-school and church work as scholar, teacher, assistant superintendent, class-leader and president of the ladies' social of the church. She is untiring in her labors in behalf of that which elevates mankind and furthers the cause of Christianity in the community. She is a lady of culture and refinement. By her first marriage she had four daughters--Maggie, Bessie, Lucy and Mattie. Bessie was married September 9, 1884, to James W. Sale, and died September 7, 1886, leaving an infant daughter ten hours old. Maggie married David A. Walmer, May 12, 1885, and died October 17, 1886, leaving an infant daughter fifteen days old. The great sorrow caused by the death of these two lovely daughters has cast a gloom over the family which will never disappear while life lasts. Both were earnest Christian ladies, faithful Sunday-school workers, and loved by all who knew them. Each babe takes the full name of its departed mother. Bessie's babe finds a home with its father, James W. Sale, and his mother, while Maggie's babe is being cared for by Mr. and Mrs. Todd. Lucy is a graduate of the Bluffton High School of the class of 1885. Mattie was a student of the class of 1887, but left school to assist in caring for Maggie's babe. The second marriage of Mr. Todd has been blessed by two bright, intelligent children -- Mary, born August 9, 1878, and Ralph Studabaker, born August 5, 1880. Mr. Todd is a man of well disciplined mind, refined sentiment and definite principles. Fervent, sympathetic, earnest and withal jovial, he makes everyone his friend. With all his sterling traits there is in his manner not the slightest degree of pedantry nor conceit. He represents the true American idea of republican suavity, marked originality and an exceedingly active and enterprising disposition, and accordingly has been a leader in all the local measures proposed for the public good.

Biographical and historical record of Adams and Wells counties, Indiana. Chicago: Lewis Publishing Co., 1887. pp. 663-667.