

JOHN T. FREELAND, M. D.

It is not always easy to discover and define the hidden forces that have moved a life of ceaseless activity and large, professional success; little more can be done than to note their manifestation in the career of the individual under consideration. In view of this fact, the life of the physician and public-spirited man of affairs whose name appears above affords a striking example of well defined purpose, with the ability to make that purpose subserve not only his own ends but the good of his fellow men as well. Doctor Freeland has long held prestige in a calling which requires for its basis sound mentality and intellectual discipline of a high order, supplemented by the rigid professional training and thorough mastery of technical knowledge with the skill to apply the same, without which one cannot hope to rise above mediocrity in ministering to human ills. In his chosen field of endeavor Doctor Freeland has achieved a notable success, which has been duly recognized and appreciated throughout the section of the state in which he lives. In addition to his long and creditable career in one of the most useful and exacting of professions, he has proved an honorable member of the body politic and in every relation of life he has never fallen below the dignity of true manhood nor in any way resorted to methods that have invited censure.

John T. Freeland, M. D., of Bedford, Indiana, was born near Freelandville, Knox county, Indiana, on June 7, 1860, and is the son of Dr. John T. and Lydia (Ford) Freeland. The subject's paternal grandfather, Benjamin Freeland, was a native of Maryland, who, in an early day, came to Indiana and settled in Monroe county, where his death occurred. John T. Freeland, Sr., who also was born in Maryland, was brought to Indiana by his parents in childhood. After attending the public schools he became a student at the State University, of which he was one of the earliest graduates. He then matriculated in the Louisville Medical College and afterward practiced his profession in Knox county up to the time of his death. He married Lydia Ford, a native of Cleveland, Ohio, and whose death occurred in 1868. To these parents were born three children, those besides the subject of this sketch being Robert, deceased, and Mrs. C. B. Robbins. of Knox county, Indiana.

Dr. John T. Freeland, Jr., attended the public schools and completed his literary education in the University of Michigan. Having determined to adopt the practice of medicine for his life work, he then entered the Kentucky School of Medicine, at Louisville, where he was graduated in 1886, with the degree of Doctor of Medicine. He then attended the New York Polyclinic, graduating in 1888, after which he was interne and later house surgeon in the New York Hospital for Ruptured and Crippled. Coming then to Bedford, Indiana, he has since been engaged in the general practice of medicine and surgery here with splendid success, acquiring a high reputation throughout this section of the state because of ability. He is chief surgeon for the Chicago, Terre Haute & Southeastern Railroad Company, which position he has held since John R. Walsh acquired the road. He is also surgeon for the Indiana Quarries company and other industrial concerns. He is a member of the Lawrence County Medical Society, the Indiana State Medical Society and the American Medical Association. In the civic life of the community he has, though a busy man professionally, taken a commendable interest and has given his earnest support to all movements which have promised to benefit the locality in any way.

In October, 1888, Doctor Freeland was married to Caroline Pearson, of Bedford, and they are the parents of two children, Mrs. Ruth McCloud, who lives in Canada, and Frances, who is at home with her parents. Fraternaly, Doctor Freeland is a member of the Masonic order, in the workings of which he takes an intelligent interest. He is in the highest sense a man among men and because of his genial disposition and splendid character he enjoys a well deserved popularity in the community which is honored by his citizenship.

(History of Lawrence and Monroe Counties Indiana, 1914 B. F. Bowen & Co. Inc. Indianapolis, Indiana pgs 550-552)