

## JOHN L. *and* LEO NICHOLS

Among the men of sterling worth and strength of character who have made an impress on the life of the locality in which they live, none have received a larger need of popular respect and regard than the gentlemen whose family name is well known throughout this section of the county, John L. and Leo Nichols, able and successful architects at Bloomington. Lifelong residence in one locality has given the people an opportunity to know them in every phase of their character, and that they have been true to life in its every phase is manifest in the degree of confidence and regard in which they are held by those who know them. Professionally, they are men of unusual attainments and have achieved a splendid success among the followers of their profession, which is dual in character, combining the artistic and esthetic with the practical and economic.

John L. and Leo Nichols are both natives of Bloomington, Indiana, and are the sons of Hiram J. and Rebecca M. (Rogers) Nichols, the father a native of Shelby county, Kentucky, and the mother born in Virginia. The father came to Monroe county, Indiana, in an early day, being numbered among its early settlers, and he was the first surveyor of the locality in which the family has lived for so many years, having laid out the town of Bloomington. He and his wife were married in this county, and to them were born six children, namely: Harriett, James, John, Victoria, Leo M. and Claude, all being deceased except the subjects of this sketch. John and Leo M. Nichols received their education in the public schools of Bloomington, upon the completion of which both took up the study of architecture, in which John has been continually engaged until the present time. Leo M., after following the business for a time, went to Indianapolis, where for seven years he was engaged in the clothing business. At the end of that period he returned to Bloomington and again formed a partnership with his brother, under the firm name of Nichols & Nichols, and he has since remained actively engaged in the business. As architects they are considered an unusually capable firm, combining a technical knowledge of the profession with original ideas which commend their work to the most exacting class of patrons. They have successfully handled some of the largest and best buildings in this section of the country and are numbered among the leading architects of this locality.

In 1886. Leo Nichols married Anna Campbell, the daughter of William and Hannah (Dunn) Campbell, and to them have been born two children. Claude and Robert. John Nichols married Mabel Dunn, the daughter of Samuel Grundy Dunn, and they had one child, Bridge, who died in 1911.

Fraternally, John Nichols is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias; the Improved Order of Red Men and the Court of Honor, while Leo is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Knights of the Maccabees. Both brothers take a deep and intelligent interest in fraternal affairs and are popular in the circles in which they move. They are both of pleasing address, gentlemanly in manner and because of their splendid qualities of character and their eminent professional success, they are entitled to and deserving of the splendid positions to which they have attained in the community in which they have spent practically their entire lives.

*(History of Lawrence and Monroe Counties Indiana , 1914 B. F. Bowen & Co. Inc. Indianapolis, Indiana pgs 509-510)*