

CHARLES S. SMALL

The biographies of successful men are instructive as guides and incentives to those whose careers are yet to be achieved. The examples they furnish of patient purpose and consecutive endeavor strongly illustrate what is in the power of each to accomplish. The gentleman whose life story herewith is briefly set forth is a conspicuous example of one who has lived to good purpose and achieved a definite degree of success in the special sphere to which his talents and energies have been devoted.

Charles S. Small, the well known and popular cashier of the First National Bank of Bloomington, was born in the city in which he now resides on July 1, 1862, and is the son of James and Matilda (Riddle) Small. These parents were both natives of Ireland, who early in life came to America, the father at the age of twelve years and the mother when seven years of age. They located in different communities, the mother's family settling in Pennsylvania, while the father was brought to Indiana. Here he became a farmer early in life, in which he met with success, and subsequently engaged in the hardware business in Bloomington, which he conducted until the time of his retirement shortly before his death, his wife dying in 1905. They became the parents of six children, of whom all are deceased excepting the subject of this sketch. The latter has also one half-sister, Nancy Jane, who keeps house for him.

The subject of this sketch was educated in the common schools and in the preparatory department of the State University, and his first employment on his own account was as clerk in a furniture store, where he was engaged one year and then for a short time was employed in a like capacity in a book store. He was faithful to his duties and made friends easily, his career being such as to gain the confidence and good will of the community. On February 15, 1881, he accepted a position in the First National Bank of Bloomington and several years later was promoted to the position of assistant cashier, the duties of which he performed until 1906, when he was elected cashier of this well known institution, and has since served in that capacity. He has been most efficient and painstaking in the discharge of his duties and has gained the commendation of his associates in the bank, as well as the approval of its patrons. The First National Bank has long occupied a position among the leaders of the strong financial institutions of Monroe county and a large part of the success which has characterized the institution has been due to the untiring efforts and personal influence of Mr. Small.

Fraternally, Mr. Small is a member of the Knights of Pythias, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Free and Accepted Masons, belonging to both blue lodge and chapter in the latter organization. Religiously, he is a member of the Presbyterian church, of which he is a regular attendant and to which he contributes liberally of his means. Personally, he is affable and popular with the people of his city and ready at all times to lend aid to all laudable measures and enterprises for the general good. By a life consistent in motive and because of his many fine qualities he has earned, the sincere regard of all who know him, and his success in his special field of endeavor has been well merited.

(History of Lawrence and Monroe Counties Indiana , 1914 B. F. Bowen & Co. Inc. Indianapolis, Indiana pgs 527-528)