

EDWIN G. ORR, one of the successful merchants and popular young business men of Indiana, was born in Armstrong township, Indiana county, Pennsylvania, October 16, 1862, and is a son of Andrew and Martha J. (Lowman) Orr. The Orr family has been resident of Ireland for several centuries. James Orr (grandfather) was born in the year 1801 in that country, and was brought to Indiana county, when but seven years of age. He was an extensive farmer of Armstrong township, where he owned a large tract of land. He was a consistent member of the Evangelical Lutheran church, reared a family of eight sons and six daughters, lived a quiet but useful life and died in 1881, when he had reached his four-score years. His son, Andrew Orr (father), was born in 1830, in this county, where he resides in Armstrong township, and is chiefly engaged in farming and dealing in horses, cattle and hogs. He makes the State of Indiana the field of his extensive stock purchases. He is a democrat, a member of the Lutheran church and married Martha J. Lowman, who is of the same religious faith and church membership as her husband. She is a daughter of Abraham Lowman, who was a strict presbyterian, a farmer of East Mahoning township and lived to be eighty-three years of age. Andrew and Martha Orr have ten children: Jas. L., Mary A., Lizzie C., Agnes L., Maggie Olive, Bertha A., Carrie C., Paul Lafayette, Grace Amber and Edwin G.

Edwin G. Orr was reared on the home farm, attended common and select schools and commenced life for himself as a teacher in the district schools. In two years he quit teaching and embarked (1885) with his brother, James L. Orr, in the lumber business near Indiana, which they still pursue and in which they employ nearly fifty men. In October, 1889, he and his brother purchased the store of J. M. Guthrie and engaged in their present general mercantile business. Into merchandising Mr. Orr threw his whole energy, and his success has been commensurate to his well-directed efforts. He has continually added to his stock of goods in quantity, quality and variety, has branched out in the lines of articles which he handles and is constantly adding to the number of his patrons. This firm deals in dry-goods, clothing, hats and caps, and boots and shoes, handles hardware, groceries and flour and makes a specialty of ladies' and gentlemen's furnishing goods. Their establishment, popularly known as the "Farmers' Exchange," is on the corner of Church and St. Clair streets. It is complete throughout its many departments, neat and tasty in all of its arrangements and has ample floor space for the large stock of goods which is constantly kept on hand to supply the many wants of numerous purchasers.

Edwin G. Orr has always believed in improving present opportunities and in never being idle. In whatever he does he works with a will and for a purpose, and as a natural consequence success has crowned his efforts. With but little capital to commence the battle of life, he has by good judgment, quick perception, honest dealing and earnest and persistent labor won success and become prominent among the business men of the county. He is a republican in politics. He is a member of William Penn Council, No. 305, Royal Arcanum; Improved order of Heptasophs Lodge, No. 280; Junior Order of United American Mechanics, and the Evangelical Lutheran church. Live, active and energetic, the possibilities of the future open to him a wide field for a successful business career.