

HON. JAMES TODD. Every county depends for much of its progress, as well as prosperity, upon its intelligent, patriotic and energetic business men Indiana county, ever since its organization in 1802, has had able and experienced business men to fill her offices of trust and responsibility. Among those of this class who was faithful to every trust reposed in him was Hon. James Todd, an honored citizen of Indiana and a prominent man in the political history of Indiana county. He was born in Belfast, Ireland, in 1788, and died at Indiana, this county, in 1872, at the ripe old age of eighty-four years. In 1789 he came to this country with his parents, and they made their home in Chambersburg, Franklin county, for some years. They afterwards removed to Westmoreland county, where he was reared on a farm, endured all the privations of frontier life and received the limited education of that day.

In 1815 James Todd removed to this county, and was engaged in farming until 1844, when he came to Indiana, where he engaged in the mercantile business, which he followed successfully as long as he lived. He was a whig and afterwards a republican, and took an active part in political matters. He served as county commissioner in 1828, and as county treasurer in 1833 and in 1834. in 1837 he was elected as member of the Pennsylvania Constitutional convention of 1838, and served very creditably in that distinguished body.

He married Elizabeth Mahaffey, 1808, who died in 1842, aged fifty-five years, and two years later he married for his second wife Mrs. Lavina (Woodward) Johnson, who died in 1857, aged fifty-one years. He had two children, four sons and six daughters, nine of whom grew to man and womanhood, and their descendants are widely scattered over different parts of the country.

Hon. James Todd was a self-made man. He was kind to the poor and liberal to the churches and all worthy objects. He was a member and ruling elder of the Presbyterian church, as were both of his wives, and he now sleeps by their side in Oakland cemetery. One of his children is Mrs. M. T. Landis, widow of Dr. S. S. Landis, and now resident of Indiana.