

JAMES ST. CLAIR, one of the progressive men of Indiana, who by his assiduity, honesty and frugality has gained a good reputation in mercantile circles, is a son of Isaac and Sarah (Miller) St. Clair, and was born in White township, Indiana county, Pennsylvania, October 14, 1844. He is of Scotch descent and is the great-grandson of the old Revolutionary soldier, James St. Clair, Sr. James St. Clair (grandfather) was born in what is now Adams (then York) county, May 4, 1774, and died in the spring of 1855. He was a hale, hearty man, and full of energy when he moved, in 1816, into White township, where he took up a quarter section of government land. His wife was Jennie Slemmons, a native of Lancaster county. She died in the same year as her husband and when in the seventy-second year of her age. They left nine children. Their son, Isaac St. Clair (father), was born in "Little York," York county, in 1816, and came with his father into Indiana county when a child. He was a farmer in White township, and a member of the Presbyterian church. He was a life-long republican, casting his first presidential vote for Gen. W. H. Harrison and his last vote for Benjamin Harrison. He married Sarah Miller, a native of Ireland, who was brought to this country by her parents while an infant. She lives in Indiana, is a member of the Presbyterian church, and is in the seventy-fourth year of her age.

James St. Clair, named in memory of his grandfather, was reared on his father's farm, and received his education in the schools of his neighborhood. He remained on the farm until the oil fever of 1870, when he went out as an oil prospector. He returned in one year and served as a clerk for the Adams Express company for three years. He has been a dealer in agricultural implements ever since 1875, and has prospered in that line of business. His well-stocked establishment is situated in a business part of the town.

He married Amanda Jane, daughter of John and Eliza Anthony, of Indiana, in 72 and has three children: Vernie, Helen and James E.

He is a member of the Presbyterian church, and is a republican in politics. The St. Clairs are a long-lived race and he descendants of those who emigrated from Scotland to this country have all evinced their Scotch origin by their industry and thrift.