

JOHN A SCOTT. The bar of Indiana has many successful young lawyers who are destined to make the future legal reputation of the place equal to its present well-earned fame in the field of the law, and one of these promising young attorneys is John A. Scott, the present well-known and able prothonotary of Indiana county. He is a son of Thomas J. and Sarah A. (Anderson) Scott, and was born at Clarksburg, Indiana county, Pennsylvania, September 2, 1858. The Scotts are of Scotch-Irish descent. John Scott (paternal grandfather) was a native of Huntingdon county, Pa., from which he removed about 1830 to Burrell township, where he followed farming for many years and died in 1859, aged sixty-five years. Of his children, one was Thomas J. Scott (father), who was born and reared in Burrell township. He was in the general mercantile business for many years at Clarksburg and is now engaged as a clerk in the prothonotary's office. He married Sarah A. Anderson, who was born and reared in Young township. They are both members of the Presbyterian church. She is a daughter of Thomas Anderson, who was a native of Mercer county, this State, and came to Young township about 1824. He ran a pottery in connection with his farm. After some years' residence in this county he purchased a grist-mill at Clarksburg, which he operated successfully for many years. He was a strong Presbyterian, a pronounced republican and died in 1879, aged eighty years. The Anderson are of Scotch-Irish descent.

John A. Scott was reared principally at Clarksburg, in Conemaugh township. His rudimentary education was received in the common schools. He fitted for college at Elder's Ridge academy and entered Washington and Jefferson college, from which well-known educational institution he was graduated July 1, 1879. After graduating he taught for one year at Elder's Ridge academy, then became a teacher in the Johnstown grammar school, and after serving for one year in that capacity he was elected principal of the Johnstown high school, which position he left in one year in order to give his undivided attention to the study of law. He commenced reading with Hon. Silas M. Clark and upon the election of the latter to the Supreme Bench of the State he completed the required course with Hon. George W. Hood and was admitted to the bar of Indiana county, December 19, 1884. For three years after his admission he practiced his profession at Indiana. He was then elected prothonotary and clerk of quarter sessions and oyer and terminer, took charge of that office on January 2, 1888, and has faithfully discharged all of its duties ever since. In 1890 he was re-nominated by the republicans of Indiana county for prothonotary, which is equivalent to election, as the county is republican, and Mr. Scott has conducted the business of his office in a very satisfactory and commendable manner to the public.

In politics John A. Scott has always been a republican and one who ever worked vigorously in behalf of the political principles which he advocated. In 1886 he served as chairman of the county republican committee and did his work so well that his party rewarded his many efficient services with an election as prothonotary. He is a member of the Improved Order of Heptasophs, and takes an interest in whatever tends to the advancement of Indiana borough and county.