

WILLIAM M. STEWART, formerly a leading member of the Indiana county bar and now a well-known citizen and prominent business man of Philadelphia, is a son of Dr. James M. and Matilda E. (Elliott) Stewart, and was born at Frankstown, Huntingdon county, Pennsylvania, January 15, 1817. Dr. James M. Stewart was born in Huntingdon, where he was well educated and read medicine with Dr. Henderson. He attended the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania, from which he graduated. He came, in 1814, to Indiana, where he practiced medicine and surgery for one year, when his house and library burned and he returned to his native county. After one year's practice in Huntingdon county, he came back to Indiana, where he was professionally engaged until his death, which occurred March 27, 1869, when he was in the seventy-eighth year of his age. His practice extended into all the surrounding counties of Indiana and he was a man who utterly despised every form of irregular practice that had any tendency to imposition. He represented this county in the Legislature in 1831, but refused a re-election in order to give his entire time and attention to his profession. In 1849, Gov. Johnston appointed him associate judge of Indiana county, which position he held for five years. Dr. Stewart was appointed, by Gov. Curtin, during the late war, as one of the board of surgeons for examining surgeons, and set with his associates, Dr. Trail Green, of Easton, Pa., and Dr. Smith, of Philadelphia, for that purpose. He was highly complimented by his medical brethren for the efficient manner in which he discharged his duties. He was in favor of only passing young men who were fully competent. It is said that his examinations were the most exhaustive and caused great trepidation among the applicants for positions. His services were demanded by eminent persons at a great distance, one of whom was Judge Jeremiah Black. Dr. James M. Stewart was a son of Judge David Stewart, of Huntingdon county. Dr. Stewart was a republican in politics and married Matilda Elliott, daughter of Judge Benjamin Elliott, a prominent citizen of Huntingdon county. Mrs. Stewart passed away in 1862.

William M. Stewart was reared at Indiana and received his education at Jefferson college, from which he was graduated in September, 1837. After graduation, he read law with Judge Reed, of Carlisle, Pa., who was the principal of a law school in that place, was examined by Judges Gallagher and Watts and Charles B. Penrose and was admitted to the Indiana county bar in 1839. He then opened an office, was very careful and successful in the management of his cases and soon rose to the front rank in his profession. In 1854, Judge Clark entered his office as a law student and four years later became a member of the firm of Stewart & Clark, which continued in existence until 1875. In 1873, Mr. Stewart removed to Philadelphia where he had engaged, in 1869, in the banking business with B. E. Jamison, succeeding partner of P. E. Kelly & Co., under the firm-name of Jamison & Co. It is a private bank and is located on the corner of Fifth and Chestnut streets, Philadelphia.

On July 13, 1847, he was married to Elizabeth Clopper, daughter of Edward Clopper, of Greensburg, and a very kind and estimable woman and granddaughter of Hon. John Young, president judge of the Tenth Judicial District of Pennsylvania (see his sketch). They have four sons, of whom William M., Jr., the youngest, is an active member of the Philadelphia bar. The eldest, James M., is civil engineer for the Oregon Pacific railroad, Oregon.

During the legal career of over thirty-years at the Indiana bar Mr. Stewart had a more extensive practice than any other lawyer in the county. He is a republican in

politics, was a candidate in 1862 for Congress against John L. Dawson, of Fayette county, and was defeated by a very small majority in his district, then democratic by a large majority. In that contest Indiana county honored him with the largest majority which she ever gave a republican candidate for any office. Mr. Stewart was a member of the whig convention which nominated Henry Clay in 1844 and was one of the delegates from Pennsylvania to the Chicago National republican convention of 1860, who voted for Abraham Lincoln when Cameron's name was withdrawn. He now gives his attention mainly to financial matters. He was for a number of years president of the First National Bank of Indiana, and is now president of Saltsburg bank, besides being a member of the banking firm of Jamison & Co., of Philadelphia. He resides at No. 2008 Walnut street, and he and his wife are consistent members of St. Stephen's Protestant Episcopal church, of Philadelphia, of which he has been a vestryman for ten years. He is a man of good judgment, enterprising, although conservative and cautious, and his counsels in financial matters, when fully followed, always lead to a successful and honorable disposition of any problem under consideration.