

WASHINGTON P. ALTMAN. Prominent among the citizens of Indiana stands Washington P. Altman, the veteran chief of police. Strictly attentive to duty, and stern in the discharge of it, he is the terror of evildoers. He is a son of Capt. Henry and Juliann (Sloan) Altman, and was born in Indiana, Indiana county, Pennsylvania, March 24, 1845. His grandfather, Henry Altman, Sr., was a native of Germany, and came to this country in early manhood, and followed the occupation of farming. His son, Colonel Henry Altman (father), was born in Indiana county, in the year 1803. By trade he was a carpenter and builder, living most of his life in Indiana. At the breaking out of the "Great Rebellion," he enlisted in Co. K, 105th regiment Pa. Vols.; was elected captain of the company. His death, which occurred soon after he resigned, was occasioned by exposure in the Virginia swamps. He died at the age of sixty-three, deeply deplored by the community in which he resided. He was a prominent member of the Presbyterian church, and always took an active part in the church work. He married Juliann Sloan, who was a native of Armstrong county, and from early life was a sincere member of the Presbyterian church. She died in November, 1888, at the advanced age of eighty-four years.

Washington P. Altman was reared in the public schools of the borough and Indiana academy, from which he was graduated in 1862. In June, 1863, he enlisted for six months in Co. A, 1st Pennsylvania Cavalry. When discharged in December following, he enlisted in the regular army, as a member of Co. A, in the 19th U. S. Infantry, for three years, with the rank of first sergeant. During most of this time his regiment was stationed in Tennessee, Arkansas and Indian Territory. After his discharge he taught school for seventeen years in Arkansas, Illinois, Colorado, and Iowa, as well as in his native State. He was a most successful teacher; his long service in the army having given him special training as a disciplinarian. At length the confinement to the school-room impaired his health, obliging him to seek other employment, *n 1880 he was appointed chief of police of Indiana, which office he still holds; here, too, his army training aids him in the discharge of his duties.

On March 17, 1870, he married Belle, daughter of James M. White, of Indiana. She died in 1879, leaving one child, William Houston. His second wife, whom he married December 9, 1880, is Ella, daughter of William Glass, of Indiana county. To this second union have been born three daughters: Lulu, Julia and Helen.

W. P. Altman has always been a republican, and attends the Presbyterian church. He was a member of Palladium Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Shavano Lodge, No. 28, Knights of Pythias, and Indiana Lodge, No. 260, Jr. O.U.A.M. He is very prominent in the Grand Army of the Republic, a member of Torbert Post, No. 11, and Logan Camp, No. 77, Sons of Veterans, of Colorado. While teaching in Colorado he was elected to the offices of department commander of the Grand Army of Colorado and judge advocate of the department of Colorado of the Sons of Veterans; the latter office he still holds. Although a scourge to wrong-doers, he is quick to sympathize with and aid the suffering, living up faithfully to initiatory vows of the various orders of which he is a member.