

JAMES ROBERT CALHOUN, burgess of Dayton, and a descendant of an old, honored and influential family, is a son of Hon John and Elizabeth (Anthony) Calhoun, and was born in Wayne township, Armstrong county, Pennsylvania, March 25, 1817. The Calhouns trace their ancestry to Ireland, from which James Calhoun (grandfather) emigrated to the United States during the Revolutionary war. He enlisted in the Continental army, and was wounded in one of the battles of that great struggle. After peace was declared he came to Indiana county. He was a weaver by trade, but followed farming. He married a Miss Templeton, by whom he had two children: Samuel and William. After her death he married, for his second wife, Mrs. Mary Walker (*nee* Adams), the mother of the celebrated Indian spy, Col. Robert Walker. To this second union were born several children, one of whom was Judge John Calhoun, who was born January 16, 1784, in Indiana county, and removed with his parents to Armstrong county when young. He was a carpenter by trade, but for many years was actively engaged in farming in Boggs and Wayne townships. He purchased a large tract of land near Dayton. He was an active democratic politician, and was for many years justice of the peace in plum Creek and Wayne townships. On August 30, 1811, he was commissioned lieutenant-colonel of a militia regiment and on March 30, 1818, he was appointed by Governor Snyder, captain of an Armstrong county company. In 1845 he was appointed by Governor Porter as associate judge of Armstrong county to serve out the unexpired term of Judge Beatty, who had died, and afterwards was appointed to the same office by Gov. Shunk. He served with credit to himself and satisfaction to the public. Judge Calhoun was a prominent member of the Presbyterian church, and was one of the founders of the Glade Run and Concord Presbyterian churches, in each of which he held the office of elder. He died in 1865, in the ninety-first year of his age. He married Elizabeth Anthony, daughter of Jacob Anthony, a German farmer, who married a Miss Johnson, by whom he had three sons and three daughters. To Judge and Mrs. Calhoun were born eight children: Noah A., born December 26, 1806, and died in 1889; William J., born July 22, 1809, and now dead; Mary, born in 1812, married to Thomas Ritchey, and both are dead; Nancy (deceased), who was born September 18, 1814, and married Samuel H. Porter; James R., Sarah, born October 4, 1819, wife of James Calhoun; Samuel S.S.N., born March 22, 1823, and Hon. John K., who was born February 26, 1825, became a lawyer, served in 1856 and again in 1858 as a member of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives and in 1863 was captain of Co. G, emergency men of Kittanning.

James R. Calhoun was reared on his father's farm, received a common school education, and until 1882 was engaged in farming in Wayne township. For the last eight years he has lived at Dayton. Besides his home and four acres of land at Dayton, he owns a good farm of one hundred and seventy acres of land which he has always kept in first-class condition.

April 8, 1841, he married Nancy S. Cochran, daughter of William and Mary (Marshall) Cochran. To Mr. and Mrs. Calhoun have been born five children: Ephraim A., who was born July 5, 1843, enlisted in 1862, in the 155<sup>th</sup> reg., Pa. Vols., and was killed in the battle of the Wilderness, May 5, 1864; Elmira A., born January 5, 1845, received an academic education, and has taught several terms of school; Lavina Clara, born September 26, 1846, and married to J. H. Mateer, a farmer of Boggs township; Jefferson, born May 20, 1849, a farmer of Indiana county, who married Kate R. Steele,

daughter of Samuel Steele, of Westmoreland county; Leander S., born October 25, 1850, married Lina Ambrose, daughter of John Ambrose, of Franklin township, and lives on the homestead farm. Mrs. Calhoun was born December 20, 1816. She is one of a family of eleven children. Three of her brothers enlisted in the Union army; William enlisted in Co. K, 14<sup>th</sup> Pa. Cavalry, was wounded in Shenandoah Valley and died in 1864, from the effects of his wound; Robert served in an Illinois regiment and is living in Nebraska, and David Sloan entered Co. K, 78<sup>th</sup> reg., Pa. Vols., and resides now at Dayton

James R. Calhoun and his estimable wife have been members of fifty years of the Concord Presbyterian church, of which Mr. Calhoun has been repeatedly a trustee and the treasurer. He is a democrat and has held the offices of school director for twelve years, and tax collector and road supervisor of Wayne township for four years. He served one term as councilman of Dayton borough. He is now burgess of Dayton, and has served for two terms in the capacity in such a manner as to give general satisfaction