

JAMES CHAPMAN, who for many years has been engaged in agricultural pursuits in North Mahoning township, was born Sept. 15, 1839, in County Tyrone, Ireland, son of James and Mary (Rogers) Chapman.

James Chapman, the father, was born in County Monaghan, Ireland, there grew to manhood, and married Mary Rogers, of County Tyrone. He was engaged in farming in his native land until 1849, in which year he emigrated to the United States, locating first in Pittsburg, Pa., where he was employed by Zugg, Lindsay & Company until 1856. In that year he went to Porter township, Jefferson county, where he continued to cultivate until his retirement, in 1895, after which he made his home with his son James until his death, in 1899, at the advanced age of ninety years. His wife passed away in April, 1898, when eighty-eight years of age. They were members of the Fourth United Presbyterian Church of Pittsburg. Ten children were born to them, as follows: Eliza, who died in 1859; Margaret, who married David Elkin, of South Mahoning township, both now deceased; John, twin of James, who served in Company I, 78th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and was killed at the battle of Stone River, Dec. 31, 1862; James; Robert and William, who both died of cholera while at sea on the family's journey to this country; Mary, who died in infancy; Henry, who served in Company F, 9th Pennsylvania Reserves, during the Civil war, and was killed at the battle of Antietam, Sept. 17, 1862; Sarah, deceased, who was the wife of Andrew Fleming; and Ellen, who died in infancy.

James Chapman was ten years of age when he accompanied his parents to the United States, and while residing in Pittsburg was employed as a nail cutter by the firm of Graff, Bennett & Company. In 1869 he came to West Mahoning township, Indiana county, where he purchased a farm, but five years later sold it and purchased the Hoover place, in North Mahoning township, a tract of 100 acres on which he has since made his home. In 1884 he erected a modern house, and in 1905 built the large substantial barn, in addition to which he has made numerous other improvements. His land is well cultivated and he is justly considered one of the leading agriculturists of his township.

On Jan. 12, 1865, Mr. Chapman was united in marriage with Sarah Elkin, of County Tyrone, Ireland, daughter of William and Martha (Beattie) Elkin, of that county. Mrs. Elkin died in Ireland, and her husband subsequently came to the United States and located in the Loop, in West Mahoning township. By his first marriage Mr. Elkin had ten children, namely: Francis, father of Judge John P. Elkin, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work; Eliza, who married John Bond and (second) Benjamin Barrett, and both are deceased; William, living in West Mahoning township; James, also a resident of that township; Henry, who died in August, 1912, in Pittsburg; Annie, who married Spencer Barrett, of Wendell, Idaho; John, who died in infancy; Sarah, who married Mr. Chapman; John (2), who died in infancy; and Mary, who is deceased. Mr. Elkin's second marriage was to Jane Rippey, of County Tyrone, Ireland, who died in 1892, and he followed her to the grave in May, 1896. They were the parents of three children, as follows: David, who is living on the homestead place; Mattie, the widow of Thomas Ralston, of Brockwayville, Pa.; and John, living on a part of the old place.

The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Chapman were as follows: (1) John, M.D., educated in the Cleveland, Ohio, and Louisville, Ky., schools has practiced medicine at Fly, Ohio, Shirley, W. Va., and Jacksonburg, W. Va., at which latter place he is known as a leading physician and surgeon. He married Rosie Underwood, and has two children, Anna and Walter. (2) William, died at the age of seventeen years, eleven months. (3) James F., a graduate of the normal school, class of 1896, was for sixteen years a teacher, and is now county superintendent of schools of Indiana county and a resident of Indiana borough. He married Bessie Cunningham, and has one child, Harriet. (4) Ellen M. was formerly a teacher until her marriage to Joseph H. Wingert, of Caneaden, N.Y., by whom she has one son, Wallace. (5) Joseph, a farmer of Caneadea, married Grace Burr, and has three children, Lawrence, Averell and Zelda. (6) Anna resides with her parents. (7) Wallace C., living at Indiana, Pa., graduated from the Indiana State Normal school in 1899, taught school four years, attended Dickinson Law School, at Carlisle, Pa., and was admitted to the Indiana county bar in 1905. He married Lottie Smith, and has two children, Martha and Charlotte. (8) David, who is assisting his father in the work of the home farm, was married Dec. 30, 1908, to Ella Blose, of Perry township, Jefferson county, daughter of Addison Blose, and has one son, Arthur C., born March 22, 1910.

Mr. Chapman has been residing on his present property since 1874, and during that long period has gained and maintained a reputation for the strictest integrity. A man of high principles, with profound respect for the value of hard work, he has conducted himself in such a manner as to gain the good will and friendship of a wide circle of acquaintances. He has lived a clean, upright life, and in spite of his seventy-three years is in full possession of his faculties and attends to his business matters in the same able manner that brought him success in his younger days. In political matters he is Republican and his fellow citizens have honored him with election to public office, he having rendered his community valued services as a member of the school board of his township. With his family he holds membership in the Lutheran Church, and has many friends in the congregation of that faith at Trade City, Pennsylvania.