

JAMES GABLE FLEMING, who is particularly well known in Indiana as the promoter of the south extension of that borough, known as the Fleming extension, is developing one of the prosperous residence sections of this place. Formerly he was for some years a merchant of Indiana, and in every business association he has made a name for honorable dealing and reliability which reflects credit upon his character and methods. He is a native of Armstrong county, Pa., born in 1837 at Woodard's Mill, son of James and May Fleming.

Thomas Fleming, his grandfather, was born in Huntingdon county, this State, and his wife, Bettie (Marton), was a native of Ireland, coming to the United States with her parents when a little girl. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Fleming were both of Scotch-Irish parentage. In 1818 he settled in Indiana county. He was a farmer by occupation.

James Fleming, son of Thomas, was born in Huntingdon county and lived in Indiana county among the early settlers. He was a machinist by trade, engaged in farming to some extent, and was also in the flourmilling business, being a part owner of the first flourmill in Armstrong county. During the forties he was a member of the Pennsylvania militia. His children were: Elizabeth A., wife of David Hill; John; Thomas; James Gable; William; May A., wife of Israel Thomas; and Charlotte, wife of George Cline. The father of this family died in 1891, the mother surviving until 1902; she was ninety-two years old. They were members of the Presbyterian Church.

James Gable Fleming obtained his early education in the public schools, later becoming a pupil at the Indiana academy and the Glade Run academy. For about six years he taught school, being engaged in Indiana, Armstrong and Westmoreland counties. Meantime he had commenced farming on his own account, and he followed that calling for about thirty years. He then went into the mercantile business, at Five Points, Indiana county, continuing same about eleven years, when he sold out and took charge of the grocery and shoe departments of the Wilson & Sutton establishment, in Indiana. Subsequently he opened a shoe store of his own in the borough, being associated in this enterprise with Israel Thomas under the firm name of Fleming & Thomas, retaining his interest in this business for about ten years. After that for some time he was occupied in looking after his farm, which is in Armstrong township, Indiana county, and is the old Fleming homestead owned by the family since the days of the early settlement in this county, in 1818. In company with H. W. Lowry, Mr. Fleming purchased the eighty acres of land now known as the south extension of Indiana borough, and they have opened streets and laid it out in lots, developing a residence section which promises to become one of the most popular in the borough.

Some years ago Mr. Fleming was appointed justice of the peace by Governor Stewart, to fill a vacancy, and in 1908 he was elected to that office, which he is now holding. Some idea of his personal standing may be gained from the fact that he is the only Democrat in Indiana borough holding the office or having held that of justice of the peace. During Morgan's raid he served as a member of the State militia. He is a prominent member of the Presbyterian Church, in which he has been ruling elder for over twenty years.

On May 9, 1865, Mr. Fleming married Harriet Bowman, of Westmoreland county, Pa., and they have had three children: Jannett Alice, Mary Bell, and J. D.