

JOHN H. PIERCE, of the borough of Indiana, has been engaged in the practice of law there for over a quarter of a century and has a large and highly creditable patronage, the class of people who have shown their confidence in him being a reliable indication of his ability and worth. He has justified that confidence in all the relations of life and is one of the most respected citizens of his community.

Mr. Pierce belongs to a family of Scottish origin which has been established in this country since Colonial days. His grandfather, William Pierce, settled in Armstrong county, Pa., at an early day. James Pierce, son of William, was born in Armstrong county, received a good education, and became a successful teacher of his native county. His death occurred in 1864 at Rimersburg, in Clarion county, whither he had gone on a business trip. He was an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. On April 22, 1852, Mr. Pierce married Sarah A. Harrold, who was born in Columbiana county, Ohio, her parents removing from that locality when she was small and settling near Elderton, in Armstrong county, Pa. A few years later they located in Jefferson county, near Punxsutawney, where they passed the remainder of their lives. After her husband's death Mrs. Pierce moved to near Elderton, Armstrong county, and later to Indiana, Pa., where she died July 13, 1901. She was a member of the M. E. Church for many years. Mr. and Mrs. Pierce had a family of five children, of whom John H. is the eldest.

John H. Pierce was born March 8, 1855, in Clearfield county, Pa., and during his early life lived principally near Elderton, Armstrong county, where he attended the common schools, and the Elderton academy. Later he entered the state normal school in the borough of Indiana, from which institution he was graduated in 1881. Meantime, in 1875, he had commenced teaching, and he continued to follow that profession until the winter of 1883. His law studies were commenced under hon. Silas M. Clark, who was shortly afterward elected to the Supreme bench of the State. He then continued his preparation for the legal profession under Co. Daniel S. Porter, and after his death completed the course of reading with the law firm of Jack & Taylor, of Indiana. He was admitted to the bar in Indiana county in 1885, and has devoted himself to practice ever since. Mr. Pierce has attained success by the most honorable methods, and his personal and professional reputation are alike above reproach.

On Sept. 5, 1883, Mr. Pierce married Josie Moore, daughter of John and Eliza Moore, of Whitesburg, Armstrong Co., Pa., and they have had three children, John M., William E., and Mary L. All three are graduates of the Indiana common schools and of the Indiana State normal school. The eldest son, John M., is also a graduate (in the architectural course) of Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, taught one year in San Antonio, Texas, and is now teaching architectural drawing and manual training in the schools of Reno, Nev. William E. is in his last year in Washington and Jefferson College, and expects to enter the practice of law with his father. The daughter Mary L. is with her parents, and is a student of music in the Conservatory of Music of the Indiana normal school. Mr. Pierce is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Indiana. In politics he is a Republican. He has been an interested member of the Indiana County Agricultural Society, which

he served as secretary for several years. He has been closely identified with temperance work and has for many years represented the remonstrances against the granting liquor licenses by the court of Indiana county.