

JOSEPH HENRY BURGESS, for several years chief clerk and paymaster for the Pittsburg Gas Coal Company at their Iselin plant in Young township, was born in Erie, Pa., Sept. 22, 1873, son of John and Mary (Pilling) Burgess, both of whom were born in the vicinity of Manchester, England, and died at Erie, Pennsylvania.

Joseph Henry Burgess attended the local grammar and high schools of his native city, and after finishing his educational training became clerk for a hotel in Erie, retaining this position for several years. He then engaged with the Rochester & Pittsburg Coal & Iron Company, at Punxsutawney, Jefferson Co., Pa., as clerk, in the fall of 1903 leaving that concern to become chief clerk and paymaster for the Pittsburg Gas Coal Company, at Iselin, and has been thus retained ever since. As the plant was in its infancy at Iselin when Mr. Burgess assumed his present responsibilities, he has seen it grow and assisted in its material advancement. The employees on the payroll have increased from 200 to 1,600, and instead of the few houses in the village that Mr. Burgess found upon his arrival there are now over three hundred good residences. Having seen all this progress, Mr. Burgess was naturally interested in the village, and was one of the men who organized the Union Church of that place, serving on the building committee, and subsequently as a trustee. He is a strong Republican, and was postmaster of Iselin from the establishment of the office until 1911, when it was changed from a fourth-class to a third-class office, and his assistant, Mr. Rhoads, succeeded him. He now makes his home in the borough of Indiana.

Mr. Burgess was married in Erie, Pa., to Elizabeth Walter, who was born in that city, daughter of G. A. Walter. Mr. and Mrs. Burgess have had four children, Richard Walter, Alice, Frederick and Jane. Mrs. Burgess is active in church and Sunday school work, ably seconding the efforts of her husband along these lines, and both of them stand high in the public estimation.