

PETER RIDDLE, late of Indiana, was for over twenty years of his active life engaged in business as a drover, and after settling in the borough of Indiana carried on the livery business a few years before retiring. He was born Jan. 24, 1834, in East Mahoning township, Indiana county, and the family is of Scotch-Irish extraction. His grandfather, William Riddle, was a farmer in East Mahoning township, Indiana county.

Michael riddle, father of Peter Riddle, was born in East Mahoning township, was reared to farming, and followed that vocation all his life. After the death of his first wife, Catherine Pounds, he moved out to the State of Indiana, settling at Rockville, and died there. He remarried. By the first union he had four children: William J., born May 5, 1831, who married a Miss Henry and lives in Clarion county, Pa.; Margaret, Mrs. Henry Orr, who died in Indiana borough; Peter; and Mary Jane, Mrs. Sharp Neal, of Jefferson county, Pa., where she died.

Peter Riddle was but four and a half years old when his mother died, and his father moving out west to the State of Indiana he went to live with his maternal grandmother, Mrs. Margaret Pounds, who raised him. She kept tavern for many years at Georgeville, Indiana county, having a double log building of six rooms, known as the Georgeville Tavern, and young Peter did chores around the place in his early years. He was well looked after, was allowed to attend school part of each year until he reached the age of nineteen, and had the usual experiences of the youth of that day. His first teacher was James Van Horn. The old subscription school was held in a log building, furnished with slab benches and heated by a log fire, the pupils chopping the wood during the noon hour. He lived with his grandmother until her death, in 1862, when she was eighty-five years old; she had given up the hotel and tavern many years before. After her death Mr. Riddle worked around among farmers, and then began to work as drover for his cousin, William Chambers, and his partner, John Brady, receiving fifty cents a day. He was next employed at cutting pine timber at the same wages, getting up before "sunup" and walking miles to the tract where the work was going on. After a year or two at this work he became a drover on his own account, in 1863, buying horses, cattle, sheep and hogs in Indiana, Armstrong, Jefferson and Clarion counties. The first horse he owned was bought with money saved while he was working for fifty cents a day, in the timber. He continued to follow droving until 1887, when he removed to Indiana, at which place he afterward had his home. For three years after removing to the borough he was in the livery business in partnership with Calvin Bley, and after giving that up he lived retired. He died Dec. 25, 1912, in his seventy-ninth year, and is buried in Oakland cemetery, Indiana. Mr. Riddle was always a man of honorable dealings and business methods that were above reproach, and he was respected by all his fellow citizens. He was a Democrat on political questions.

On march 1, 1880, Mr. Riddle was married in Indiana to Mary A. Bley, of Indiana, daughter of Conrad and Mary (Zimmerly) Bley, and she continues to reside at their old home, at No. 45 South Seventh street, Indiana. They had no children, but they raised a niece, Jennie R. Bley, daughter of John Bley, Mrs.

Riddle's brother. She died Nov. 20, 1907; she had married Samuel J. Apple, and left two sons, Samuel R. and John A. Mrs. Riddle is a Lutheran in religious faith.