

SAMUEL CRAWFORD, postmaster at Rochester Mills, has passed all his life in that part of Indiana county, and was for many years actively engaged in farming on the place in Canoe township where he still makes his home. He was born April 27, 1835, in East Mahoning township, and is a member of an old family of this region, his grandfather, Moses Crawford, having come to Indiana county in 1798 and to the Mahoning district in 1818. The Crawford's were among the first pioneers north of the Purchase Line in this county.

Moses Crawford was a member of a pioneer family of Kentucky, where he was born about 1772. he grew to manhood in his native State, and coming to western Pennsylvania in 1798 first located in Wheatfield township, Indiana county, near Centerville, where he continued to make his home until 1818. He then moved to what is now East Mahoning township, settling in the woods on a tract of land where he established a permanent home, dying there in 1831, at the age of fifty-nine years. He was a carpenter, and followed his trade as well as farming. During the war of 1812 he was in the service of his country as a scout. In politics he was a Whig. He was twice married, and by his first wife, Nancy (Scroggs), had a family of nine children: Mary, who married James Donaldson; Samuel; Jane, who married William Hartman; John; David; Allen; Ann, who married William Matthews. Mr. Crawford's second wife, Mary (Jamison), was born in 1790 in Wheatfield township, daughter of Archie Jamison, a Scotch Covenanter, who settled near Armagh, this county, where he followed farming. She died in 1864 in East Mahoning township. Seven children were born to this marriage: Archibald J. T., who married Emily Sprenkle; Rachel, who married Andrew Spalding; Margaret, who married John Gourley; William, who married Mary Gourley; Isabella; Martha; and Moses Scott, who married Rachel Pollock.

Allen Crawford, son of Moses, was born in 1804 in Wheatfield township, Indiana county, and there obtained what education the subscription schools offered. He was fourteen years old when the family moved to the Mahoning section, settling in what is now East Mahoning township, on a tract of 150 acres where he put up a log house and barn and set to work to make a comfortable home. With the help of his sons he succeeded in clearing his land, upon which he made many improvements, building a frame house and frame barn as prosperity enabled him to better his surroundings, and adding to the value of the place in various ways. He followed farming and stock raising there throughout his active years, and spent the remainder of his life there, dying there in 1872. he was buried in Covode cemetery. Mr. Crawford was first a Whig in politics, afterward becoming a Republican, and in religious connection was a Presbyterian. In 1826 he married Nancy Brown, who was born in 1806 in what is now East Mahoning township, daughter of John and Margaret (Wiggins) Brown and granddaughter of John Brown. They had the following children: Margaret married Daniel Rishell, of Punxsutawney, Pa.; Moses died in young manhood; John, who died at Punxsutawney, married Jane Black and (second) Miss Milliron; Samuel is mentioned below; Alexander S., deceased, married Elizabeth Anderson; James L., a physician, now deceased, married Zermiah Griffith and (second) Alice Blinn; Mary Jane married Samuel McGee; Nancy Ann married James Wilkins; Lucinda died in young womanhood.

Samuel Crawford attended the subscription and public schools of North Mahoning township, and was reared in farming from early life, following that kind of work until his enlistment for service in the Union army, in 1864, when he joined Company B, 74<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Wilson, of Punxsutawney, and Colonel Rhobeck. He served until the close of the war, receiving his honorable discharge in August, 1865, at Clarksburg, W. Va., and was mustered out at Harrisburg, Pa. His principal service was in West Virginia, doing guard duty. Upon his return to Indiana county Mr. Crawford commenced farming for himself in Canoe township, on the W. P. Morris tract of 185 acres, where he has followed general agricultural pursuits and stock raising. He has erected a substantial house, barn and other buildings, and has made numerous improvements on the property, which gave every evidence of his thrift and intelligent care during his management. In 1886 he gave up the active work of farming, his son now operating the place, but Mr. Crawford has continued to make his home there. For the last thirteen years he has served as postmaster at Rochester Mills, having been appointed Feb. 16, 1900, under President McKinley, by Hon. Emery Smith, of Philadelphia, then postmaster general. He succeeded H. D. Widdowson, becoming the fifth incumbent of the office, and has had the longest term of any postmaster there. Mr. Crawford has also filled other local offices, having been assessor of Canoe township eleven years, school director, and a member of the election board. His political connection has been with the Republican party. He is a member of the G.A.R., Post No. 28, at Indiana, and in religious association is a Presbyterian, belonging to the church at Rochester Mills and serving as trustee of same. A useful and highly respected member of his community, he has become popular with his fellow citizens in a long career of satisfactory public service, and is widely and favorably known in his section of Indiana county.

In 1858 Mr. Crawford married May Radclift, daughter of David Radclift, of Banks township, this county, and they have had a family of seven children, as follows: James Robert; Edith M., living on the old farm; Samuel C., of Iowa; Harvey, who is engaged as an oil operator in Jefferson county, Pa.; Clark, also an oil operator of Jefferson county, Pa.; Edith, wife of Harry Pierce, of Punxsutawney; and Jennie, wife of Howard Vite.