

THOMAS H. FLEMING, of Indiana, who has recently become superintendent of the grounds of the Indiana County Fair Association, is a man of proved business ability and was a successful farmer for a number of years before he settled in Indiana. He is a native of this section of Pennsylvania, born Dec. 25, 1846, on a farm in Kiskiminetas township, Armstrong county, son of James Fleming. His grandfather, Samuel Fleming, came to this country from Dublin, Ireland, with his parents, and his wife's family came from the same place with her parents, the families settling in Pennsylvania, where they were married. James Fleming, son of Samuel, married Elizabeth Shirley, daughter of John Shirley, who was a farmer of Armstrong county, Pennsylvania.

Thomas H. Fleming was three years old when his father removed with his family to Washington township, Indiana county, and there he grew to manhood. He attended public school in that township, his first teacher being John Bothel, after which he was under the tuition of Mary Griffith, Wesley bell (now a physician) and others. Leaving school at the age of fifteen, he worked on the home place for his father until the latter's death. His brothers John, Samuel and Gilbert having one to the front in the defense of the Union, he was the only son left at home, and he cared faithfully for his widowed mother until their return from the army. In 1866 he went to the oil field in Venango county, and boated oil from Petroleum center to the Susquehanna, continuing in that region for three years. After he gave up boating he ran the engine at a pumping station. During that time he had succeeded in saving some money, with which upon his return home in 1869 he bought the old home place, resuming farming on his own account. He cultivated that property for ten or twelve years, finally selling it to his brother Samuel and removing to Center township, this county, where he bought a tract of seventy-two acres, known as the Judge Campbell farm. He was on that place for ten years, during which time he had disposed of the coal rights, and he sold the land at the end of that time. He then bought a 125-acre farm in Armstrong township upon which he remained for two years, continuing to follow farming, selling that place and removing to Indiana borough. Two years after settling there, in 1909, he became superintendent of the grounds of the Indiana County fair Association. His services in this connection have been highly satisfactory, his thorough understanding of the requirements of the position and his high regard for its responsibilities making him a most desirable incumbent.

On April 7, 1876, Mr. Fleming married Mary McAllister, of Rayne township, Indiana county, daughter of John and Sarah (Keester) McAllister. They are the parents of ten children: James A., now of Steubenville, Ohio, who married Ethel Lowry; Mabel, Mrs. Ira Mikesell, of Steubenville, Ohio; Ira H., of Steubenville, Ohio, who married Sarah McKinstry; Nora, Mrs. Charles Hildebrandt, of white township, Indiana county; Sarah, Mrs. Clyde Cameron, of West Virginia; Guy M., who is in Nebraska; Kenneth, Margaret, Dorothy and Helen, at home. Mr. and Mrs. Fleming are members of the First U. P. Church. In his political views he has always been a Republican.