

THOMAS WILSON CRAMER, eldest son of Joseph Cramer, senior member of the mercantile firm of Cramer Brothers, of Cramer, and a justice of the peace, was born in East Wheatfield township May 10, 1857. After attending the local schools Mr. Cramer worked with his father at charcoal burning and in his mercantile establishment. In 1889 he was made his father's partner, the firm being first Joseph Cramer & Son and later Joseph Cramer & Sons, his brother, Robert G., being also a member of same. This association continued until the death of the father in 1906, when the two brothers changed the name to Cramer brothers, and are now devoting all their attention to making their house the leading one in its line in the township. In 1905 Mr. Cramer was elected a justice of the peace, served faithfully and capably for five years, and was reelected in 1910, still holding the office. His sense of justice is so strong and his ideas as to the administration of his office so sensible, that his work in this connection is very satisfactory in every way, while his knowledge of the law is such as to make appeals from his decisions extremely rare,. When Joseph Cramer died it was found that he had made his eldest son the executor of his estate, and Mr. Cramer settled it ably and expeditiously.

Like his father Mr. Cramer takes an active part in the affairs of the Methodist Church, has been trustee, Sunday school teacher and superintendent, and is now recording steward. Mrs. Cramer is also prominent in the work of that church and a consistent member of same. While he is a Republican who has rendered valuable services to his party, Mr. Cramer has never sought or desired office, preferring to discharge his duties as a citizen in his private capacity.

In may, 1893, Thomas W. Cramer was married to Laura M. Hill, born in Elderton, Armstrong Co., Pa., daughter of John Wesley and Martha (Stewart) Hill, and sister of Dr. R. J. Tomb's wife. Mrs. Cramer is a woman of intelligence and refinement, and is bringing up her four children by Christian precept and example. They are; Clifford H., a student at the State normal school, Indiana, Pa.; Rut h M.; Bessie M., and John Elkin.