

BUTLER, JOHN H., of New Albany, is a native of Williamsport, Pennsylvania, where he was born, October 17, 1812. His father, Jonathan Butler, removed with his family to Indiana, and settled in Hanover, Jefferson County, in the year 1819. His mother, Nancy (Hopkins) Butler, was a daughter of John Hopkins, whose family were among the early settlers of the state of Maryland. John H. Butler was educated in the schools of his native village, and later at Hanover, Indiana, where he received a college training. He commenced the study of law at Hanover, in the office of Judge Eggleston, then the most prominent lawyer of that county, and Judge of the Circuit Court. He was admitted to the bar in 1839, and removed to Salem, the county seat of Washington County, where he opened an office and commenced the practice of his profession. Here he met with success from the beginning, and was soon known as a rising young lawyer. For nearly thirty years he pursued his professional career in the same place, achieving a brilliant reputation, and becoming known not only in his county but throughout the state. In 1866 he removed to New Albany, and formed a partnership with W. Gresham, now United States District Judge. In 1868 he was appointed, by Governor Baker, Judge of the Twenty-seventh Judicial District of Indiana. He was a delegate to represent his district in the Republican convention at Chicago which nominated Abraham Lincoln for the presidency, in 1860. He has always been a Republican, but never a professional politician. On the 3d of January, 1843, he married Miss Mary Chase, daughter of Isaac and Ruth Chase, of Salem. They have a family of two sons. The elder, Noble C., studied law with his father, was admitted to the bar in 1867, and the following year was appointed register in bankruptcy, which position he still holds. The other son, Charles H., is a bank teller. Mrs. Butler is a member of the Presbyterian Church, of which her husband is an occasional attendant. Now, in his sixty-seventh year, the cares of life have left their marks upon his brow. But his silvery hairs have never been whitened by dishonor, and his life has been such as to commend him to the esteem of his fellow-men.