

**FULLENLOVE, THOMAS J.**, of New Albany, ex-sheriff and ex-auditor of Floyd County, was born in Harrison County, Indiana, on the 30<sup>th</sup> of August, 1837. His parents were John Fullenlove, of Lexington, Kentucky, and Nancy (Gwin) Fullenlove, daughter of Thomas Gwin, of Harrison County. His grandfather and grandmother were natives of Virginia, and among the early settlers of that state. Mr. Fullenlove's father died when the former was only ten years old, leaving him to make his own way in the world and assist his widowed mother in the care of his younger brothers and sisters. Being a bright, intelligent boy, and possessed of a business turn of mind, after alternately attending the country school and working upon the farm until he was fifteen years of age, he apprenticed himself to his uncle, George H. Gwin, to learn the blacksmith's trade. Here he continued two years, at the expiration of which time he had mastered his trade, and could shoe a horse and build a plow or wagon as well as those much older. He then rented a shop, purchased a set of tools, and commenced business for himself. His energy was met by the warm support of his friends. One of his first jobs was to make a large emigrant wagon for one Mr. George Smith, which he did readily and satisfactorily, and the owner used it emigrating to Minnesota. He continued at his trade until 1866, when he received the nomination of the Democratic party for the office of sheriff of Floyd County, in which he lived. He accepted, and was elected by a good majority. At the expiration of the term of two years, he was re-elected by a majority of over fourteen hundred, and discharged the duties of the office to the entire satisfaction of his constituents. At the close of his second term, in 1870, he was unanimously nominated to the office of auditor of the county, and was elected by a large vote, holding the position four years, with credit to himself and honor to his friends and party. It was during his last term as sheriff that the Reno brothers, three notorious express robbers, were taken out of his charge by a band of about one hundred "vigilants," and hung to the beams in the jail but not until Mr. Fullenlove had been severely wounded by a pistol shot in the right arm, and otherwise so injured as to render him unable to contend with the crowd. He still refused to surrender the keys, although informed that his life should pay the forfeit, and defiantly told his captors: "I'll surrender my life, but not my trust!" He was then pitched into a corner of the room, under guard, and a general search was commenced. They went to his wife's room and threatened her with death, but the little woman was as plucky as her husband. They at last found the object of their search, and, having consummated their purpose, quietly left on the special railway train with which they were provided. Mr. Fullenlove was married to Miss Emily Davis on the ninth day of April, 1857. She is the daughter of George and Margaret Davis, substantial farmers, of Harrison County, Indiana. They have been blessed with five children, four of whom, two sons and two daughters, are still living. Their names are Lizzie A. Martin McClellan, Horatio S., Maggie D., and Charles Herschel (deceased). Mr. Fullenlove's mother is now seventy-six years old, and enjoys in her old age the devoted care of her son. Mr. Fullenlove and his family are members of the Methodist Centenary Church of New Albany; he has many warm friends and is highly esteemed for his constant readiness to perform a kind act for the poor. He is largely engaged in stock-raising, and is proprietor of one of the best hotels, the Central, in Southern Indiana.