

WILLIAM DREW, attorney at law, Geneva, was born in Tioga County, Pennsylvania, July 5, 1833. His father, Rufus B., was born in Maine, and his mother, Mary A. (Buck) Drew, in New York. They were married in Tioga County, and engaged in farming, and later removed to Steuben County, New York, where they still reside. They reared a family of six children, William being the second child. He remained at home on the farm until nineteen years of age, and received an education in the common schools of New York and at Union Academy at Knoxville, Pennsylvania. He then came to Ohio, where he was engaged in clerking in Pickaway and Fayette counties until the summer of 1855, then went to Randolph County, Indiana, and followed school teaching. He was elected to the office of justice of the peace, which office he held twelve years. August 13, 1862, he enlisted in Company E, Eighty-fourth Indiana Infantry, and served until August, 1863, when he was discharged by reason of disability, having contracted a disease, for which he now draws a pension. He returned to Randolph County, and resumed teaching, and was also re-elected to his former office of justice of the peace. While engaged in these duties he devoted his spare time to the study of the law, passed a successful examination, and was admitted to the bar in 1869. He at once engaged in the practice of his profession at Ridgeville, where he remained until the spring of 1876, then came to Geneva, Adams County, where he has since resided. He has held the office of justice of the peace in this county five and a half years and served one term as trustee for the town of Geneva. Mr. Drew was married at Deerfield, Randolph County, November 23, 1856, to Miss Rebecca A. Vorhis, a native of Hunterdon County, New Jersey, born April 2, 1835. By this union they have six children - Annie, Jessie, Thomas, Willard, Charlotte and Charles V. Mr. Drew is a charter member of John P. Porter Post, G. A. R., and is also a member of the Masonic fraternity.

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### **WILLIAM B. DREW.**

The legal profession in Adams county, Indiana, has no more respected or abler member than William B. Drew. As an attorney who has created an enviable place among his fellows for himself much interest centers about him. Never having had the advantages of a course in an established college of law, Mr. Drew gathered his large fund of legal knowledge through his own unaided efforts and prepared himself in a thorough manner to practice his profession. He is the son of Rufus B. and Mary A. (Buck) Drew. His father was born in Maine and his mother is a native of New York. The grandfather of William B. Drew was the Rev. John Drew, who preached the gospel in Maine near the city of Bath for a number of years and then removed to Lawrenceville, Pennsylvania, where he also preached. The family is of English descent and is one of the distinguished "down east" families. After living with his father in Pennsylvania for some years, Rufus Drew moved to Steuben county, New York. He followed the pursuits of a farmer in the New York county until his death in 1889. Mrs. Rufus Drew the following year removed to the home of a daughter in Indiana, where she died after a few months.

William B. Drew was born near Elkland, Tioga county, Pennsylvania, July 5, 1833. He removed with his father to New York, where he lived until twenty years of age. In 1853 he went west and settled in Fayette county, Ohio. For the next three years he was employed as a clerk in a hotel, and then he pushed farther west, coming to Randolph county, Indiana. While living in Steuben county Mr. Drew studied in the county schools and took a course for two years in an academy at Knoxville,

Pennsylvania . Here he acquired a smattering of law, and when he came to Indiana he pursued his reading of law during the six years he taught in the Randolph county schools. He was chosen a justice of the peace and filled this office and practiced law in said county for thirteen years. His practical work while in office, supplemented by his industrious and careful reading, gave him a grasp of the principles of his profession few men have.

In 1856 Mr. Drew married Miss Rebecca Vorhis, daughter of Cornelius and Elizabeth (Large) Vorhis. Mr. Vorhis and his wife were natives of New Jersey who came to Indiana early in the fifties and settled in Randolph county, where they devoted themselves to farming. Following his marriage Mr. Drew successfully practiced his profession and at the beginning of the Civil war he enlisted in the Eighty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. His command was attached to the Army of the Cumberland under General Granger. Mr. Drew saw much active service until his discharge in 1863 because of ill health. He then returned to his home in Randolph county and again took up the practice of law and in 1876 removed to Geneva , Adams county. During their married life a number of children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Drew. These were named: Rufus, since dead; Ann a, the wife of James Lindsay, of Alexandria, Indiana ; Bessie, the wife of Felton D. Garrison, who during his life was employed by a railroad, his widow now a resident of Kalamazoo, Michigan; Thomas, who conducts a harness store at Geneva and is married to Delia Buckingham; Willard, a farmer of Butler county, Missouri, and the husband of Lucy Carpenter; Charlotte, the wife of Robert B. Black, an oil man of Geneva ; Charles, in the employ of the Southern Pacific Railroad, and Moore and Adelbert, who died in infancy. Mrs. Drew died in 1898.

Mr. Drew has ever been a man who took a keen interest in the affairs of his county = ind neighborhood. He has long been an ardent Prohibitionist, and was among those who organized the party in Adams county. He has been a successful business man and owns several fine residence properties in his town and some vacant property. He has been a notary public for more than twenty years and has been prominent in public affairs. He is one of the men of the county who can view his achievements and then say with honesty that what he has accumulated has been done through his own unaided efforts. He is a man universally esteemed by all who know him and enjoys the fullest confidence of his neighbors and fellow residents of Adams county.

**Snow's History of Adams County, Indiana, John Fletcher Snow, B. F. Bowen, Indianapolis, IN, 1907, (image 489)**