

Standard History of Adams and Wells Counties, Indiana, Vol. II, John W. Tyndall & Orlo Ervin Lesh; Chicago: Lewis Publishing Co, 1918, p. 642-644.

SIMEON B. FORDYCE

Simeon B. Fordyce was born in Adams County seventy years ago, was a youthful soldier in the Civil war, and for a half century has been identified with the county as a practical farmer, land denier, merchant and a citizen on whom has been conferred many positions of trust and responsibility.

He is of German and Scotch ancestry. His grandparents spent their lives in Pennsylvania. John Fordyce, father of Simeon B. had a brother, David, who became a California forty-niner. Early in 1850 John Fordyce also went out to California, going around by way of Cape Horn, and he and his brother had considerable success in the gold mines of the far west. After a year John returned to Adams County, where he had settled some years previously and in 1854 made a second trip to the West. John Fordyce had left his native state of Pennsylvania and had moved to Guernsey County, Ohio, where he married Mary Brown of Scotch ancestry. Five of their children were born in Ohio and about 1845 the family came to Adams County, traveling over the rough roads into a new and sparsely settled district. They located in St. Mary's Township and here erected a log cabin home in which their three youngest children were born. Simeon B. being next to the youngest. The land was cleared up. and in time constituted a good farm.

He is the type of citizen who by experience, activities and judgment the people implicitly trust. For twelve years he has served as a member of the Adams County Board of Guardians, for six years as a member of the County Board of Charities, and served two terms as a member of the city council of Decatur. Mr. Fordyce is an active republican, has served as senior vice commander of Post No. 63 Grand Army of the Republic, and for twenty-five years has been affiliated with Lodge No. 65 of the Knights of Pythias. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. Fordyce married Miss Mary Branderbery, a girl who grew up in the same neighborhood with him. She was born in Washington Township April 5, 1849, was well educated and for several years before her marriage taught school. She is member of the well known Branderbery family elsewhere mentioned in this publication. Mr. and Mrs. Fordyce have one daughter, Maggie. She was reared from early girlhood in Decatur, and graduated from the high school with the class of 1897. She is now the wife of Charles D. Teeple, who was born in Van Wert County, Ohio, but was reared and educated in Adams County. Mr. Teeple is now head of the successful clothing firm of Teeple, Branderbery & Peterson of Decatur. Mr. and Mrs. Teeple have a daughter, Alta Fordyce Teeple, born February 21, 1900. She is now a senior in the Decatur High School and her education is to be continued in Vassar College. Mr. and Mrs. Teeple and daughter are members of the Presbyterian Church.