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JAMES QUINCY NEPTUNE, D.D.S., Decatur, Indiana, was born in St. Mary's Township, this county, August 9, 1859, a son of James L. and Isabel (Flagg) Neptune, his father a native of Ohio, of German and Scotch ancestry, and his mother of Maryland, of English descent. Both were brought in childhood by their parents to Adams County, and were here reared. James L. Neptune has lived in Adams County fifty years with the exception of two years spent in California during the gold excitement. He was a soldier in the war of the Rebellion, serving three years. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Willshire, Ohio. Our subject was reared on a farm, receiving a good education in the common schools. January 1, 1884, he began the study of dentistry with Dr. C. C. Scott, at Celina, Mercer County, Ohio, and in the winter of 1884-85 attended the Ohio College of Dental Surgery at Cincinnati, and again in 1885-'86, graduating as D. D. S., in March, 1886. In June, 1886, he located at Decatur, and has since been in the practice of his profession at that place. He was married December 7, 1886, to Miss Clara Counterman, daughter of A. M. and Anna E. (Bollenbaugher) Counterman, of Willshire, Ohio. She is a native of Mercer County, Ohio, and for seven years prior to her marriage was a prominent teacher in the public schools. Her parents are natives of Ohio, her father of German and Irish and her mother of German descent.

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J[ames] Q. Neptune, D. D. S.

Few professional men of Decatur are better known throughout Adams County than is Dr. J. Q. Neptune, who enjoys the distinction of being the oldest dental practitioner in this city, and is also numbered with the substantial agriculturists of the county. There are many interesting features, all creditable, that might be brought forward in making a record of Doctor Neptune's progress from early indigent circumstances to his present financial and social status. He comes of sturdy old pioneer stock, and no one has more reason to take pride in a family's military record, his father having been a brave and faithful soldier in the Civil war, and his youngest son, at the present moment, being one of General Pershing's brave command "somewhere in France."

J. Q. Neptune was born August 8, 1859, in St. Mary's Township, Adams County, Indiana, on his grandfather's old homestead, later owned by his father and now owned by Doctor Neptune, never being out of the Neptune name since entered from the Government. His grandparents were William and Lydia (Beaman) Neptune. The grandfather was born in eastern Ohio, of Scotch-Irish ancestry, and the grandmother was of Pennsylvania Dutch stock. Possibly it was 1834 when they first came to Adams County and settled in St. Mary's Township, their first home being a "lean-to" built against a large log. They came from Ohio with wagon and team and fortunately brought two fine milch cows for they found little to subsist on in the new home at first. The grandfather had been a distiller and was well-to-do before he lost his fortune. In the fall of 1835 he built a substantial log cabin on his land which he cleared off before his death. He had children, and one of his sons, James Ira, became the father of Doctor Neptune.

James Ira Neptune was born in Ohio and was eight years old when he accompanied his parents to Adams County, Indiana. When the Civil war came on he entered the Union army as a drummer boy in Company K, Eighty-ninth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. At one time he was captured by the Confederates with his regiment, but was paroled and finally exchanged, and he immediately

returned to his command and served through three years. Many times his life was endangered, but he escaped all serious injury and lived to return to his home, where his death occurred in 1904. In 1852 he made the trip to California, going by way of the Isthmus of Panama, and passed through many adventures while in the mining districts. He was married first to Lorena Jacobs, who belonged to an old county family, and they had one child, Louisa. His second marriage was to Mrs. Isabelle (Flagg) Barnhart. She is a daughter of Samuel Flagg and wife, who came to Adams County as the first pioneers on St. Mary's River and lived for a time with friends on what was known as the Devil's Backbone. Samuel Flagg later became a merchant and tavern keeper in Decatur. He died at the age of eighty-one. By her first marriage, the mother of Doctor Neptune had one daughter, Mary Celestia Barnhart, who is the wife of John Bradlock, who was one of the youngest soldiers enlisted for the Civil war from Adams County. They have nine children and live in Nebraska. Five sons and four daughters were born to the second marriage of James Neptune. J. Q., C. R. (Dick), and Frances, wife of ex-Attorney General N. G. Denman of Toledo, Ohio, are living. The deceased are Lovinia, Harry, Curtis, Samuel Oren, Latell Annota, and one died in infancy. The mother of Doctor Neptune lives in the Town of Willshire, Van Wert County, Ohio, and is now aged eightythree years.

In his boyhood Doctor Neptune had very few advantages, times being hard. The youth was ambitious and early determined to learn the profession in which he has become eminent, but in large measure he had to make his own opportunities for schooling and progress in the direction he wished to go and these often entailed self-denial and wounds to his pride that were hard to bear. However he never turned back and the time came when he reached his goal and on March 6, 1886, he was most creditably graduated from the Ohio College of Dental Surgery, Cincinnati. On June 9, 1886, he came to Decatur and opened an office on Second Street, where he remained for twelve years, and for ten years his brother, Dr. C. R. (Dick) Neptune, was associated with him, the latter now having a separate office. Doctor Neptune in 1898 moved to his present location, in the Spangler Block, on East Second Street, where he has fine accommodations, including a waiting room, an operating room and a laboratory, all connected. His equipments are those made use of by modern dentists and his treatments are according to the latest scientific discoveries in dental surgery.

Doctor Neptune was married first to Miss Clara Counterman, who was born at Willshire, Van Wert County, Ohio, and died at Decatur in 1906. She was a lady of education and refinement and for seven years prior to her marriage had been a school teacher in Ohio. She was the mother of two sons, both of whom survive: Gregg C., who is a graduate of the Northwestern Dental School and is now in practice in the city of Winnipeg, Canada, with bright professional prospects; and James Glenn, who served first on the Mexican border and became a seasoned and well trained soldier and was a member of the contingent selected to accompany General Pershing to France for service in the World war.

Doctor Neptune married for his second wife Celeste Kintz, a lady of great musical talent and leading member of the choir in the Roman Catholic Church, of which body she is a member. Doctor and Mrs. Neptune have three children: E. Isabel, Mary D. and Robert Jean.

In addition to his large practice, Doctor Neptune's income is considerably derived from other sources, for he has additional interests. He owns 180 acres, all in one tract, situated in St. Mary's Township, Adams County, which farm is well improved and very productive. He also owns his grandfather's old farm of forty acres, situated in the same township.

Doctor Neptune, like his talented wife, is very musical, and is especially proficient as a player on the snare drum, and has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church choir for thirty years. He has long been active in the Masonic fraternity, being a member of the Council, and for twenty years has had charge of the musical programs for the lodges, and also for public occasions, such as Decoration Day and other meetings of the Grand Army of the Republic. He was reared in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal Church and is an interested and generous member of this religious body at

Decatur. "Visitors to his office and home may be permitted to examine a very large and interesting collection that the doctor has made, some of these being old family relics and others curiosities brought from distant parts. He values the drum sticks which his father beat on the snare drum as he marched toward the enemy, a drummer boy, so many years ago. A number of game trophies may also be noticed decorating the walls. His friends know that these have been secured through Doctor Neptune's own prowess during his periods of recreation, when he hunts wild game in the northwest and the Rocky Mountains.