

Edward Reiley

REILEY, EDWARD, Lawyer, was born March 10, 1820, in Campbell County, Kentucky. His parents were William and Elizabeth (Morin) Reiley; the former a native of Washington County, Pennsylvania, and of German extraction; and the latter of Culpepper County, Virginia, and of Irish and English origin. His grandfather, John Reiley, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War; emigrated to Kentucky, in 1789, landing at Limestone, now Maysville, but afterwards removed to Fayette County, on the Elkhorn. William Reiley, his father, yet living, was a mechanic and farmer; was, for several years a member of the Legislature of Kentucky; was, for some time, a magistrate in Campbell County, and was intimately connected with the early history and subsequent prosperity and growth of that county. His grandfather, Edward Morin, was also a soldier in the Revolution, and one of the early pioneers of Bourbon County. Edward Reiley was raised on the farm, where he worked until he came of age. He attended the neighborhood schools, several good select schools, and, for a time, Clermont Academy, in Ohio. He chose the law for a profession; but, in 1845, began teaching school, and was thus employed for several Winter terms, while preparing for practice, having read law, in Cincinnati, with Adam N. Riddle, Esq. In 1850, he was admitted to the bar at Cincinnati, and at once entered on his profession, at Independence, Kentucky. In 1854, he removed to Covington, and, after a successful practice of six years' duration, he changed his residence to Canton Station, on account of impaired health. In 1867, he located at Alexandria, in Campbell County, where he has since resided, actively engaged in his profession. He was elected County Attorney for Kenton County, serving a year; and, in 1854, was elected County Judge of Kenton County, and served four years. Judge Reiley is a Republican in politics, and, during the war of the rebellion, was known as an earnest, unflinching Union man. Yet his first Presidential vote was given for James K. Polk, and his last, preceding the war, to Stephen A. Douglas. He is a man of fine personal and social habits, and of great integrity of character. He was married, November 9, 1854, to Mary J. Reddick, a native of Kenton County, and daughter of William J. Reddick, a farmer of that county.