

CHARLES E. KEOUGH

Charles E. Keough, who conducts the leading drug and grocery store of Smithville Flats, was born in the town of German, Chenango County, NY, March 11, 1852. He is a son of Francis and Eleanor (Ramsey) Keough.

Francis Keough was born in County Monaghan, Ireland, in 1817, and left the "ould sod" for the United States in 1837, on the day which witnessed the coronation of Queen Victoria. He located in the town of German in 1840, where he purchased a fine farm of 100 acres, and became one of the good solid farmers of that community. He was united in marriage with Eleanor Ramsey, who was also a native of Ireland, and they became the parents of the following children: Margaret, wife of Milo V. Carr, who has charge of the Rushmore Creamery of Norwich, and is now a candidate for sheriff; Jane Elizabeth, deceased, was the wife of George Dunning; John Franklin, who is a farmer of the town of German; Charles E., in whom the interest of this sketch centers; James R., who is proprietor of a saloon at Smithville Flats; Mary Mariah, the wife of Julian Seeber of Frankford, Herkimer County, who is a barber by trade; William Robert, a resident of Binghamton; Joseph G., who has charge of a milk station in Schoharie County; Eleanor, who is now deceased; and Francis, who makes his home in the village of Norwich. Our subject's beloved mother passed into the world of rest in 1864, at the age of forty-two years.

Charles E. Keough was reared upon the farm until he was twelve years of age, and received his education in the district schools of Greene and German. At the age of twelve, he went to live with his uncle, Dr. M. M. Wood of Greene. He attended school and worked in his uncle's drug store for some years. In 1874, he moved to Smithville Flats, and entered the employ of Purdy & Skillman, proprietors of a drug and grocery store. He was a man of good habits, industrious and energetic, and during the five years he clerked for that firm, he not only gained greatly in experience, but saved a part of his salary, and in 1879 was able to purchase the store. He has since conducted it, and in such a manner as to gain for him the patronage of the leading citizens of the village. He also follows farming and deals extensively in real estate. He owns twelve valuable lots in the city of Binghamton, and a half interest in the opera house at Smithville Flats. He also owns a farm in the northern part of the town of Smithville, consisting of 180 acres of good farm land, well supplied with good buildings and other modern improvements, which are so necessary for carrying on farming successfully.

Mr. Keough formed a matrimonial alliance January 1, 1878, with Miss Flora E. Nichols, a daughter of Harvey Nichols, a blacksmith of McDonough. One daughter, Josie E., was born to bless their union. In political belief, Mr. Keough is a staunch Republican, and was appointed postmaster of Smithville Flats under President Harrison. Socially, he belongs to Victor Lodge, No 111, I. O. O. F., of Smithville Flats. He is also a member of Chenango Encampment, No. 51, I. O. O. F., of Norwich.

Source: Biographical Sketches of Chenango County, 1898

Smithville Historical Society
PO Box 176
Smithville Flats, NY 13841