

## JOHN WESLEY LANGLEY

John Wesley Langley was born near the close of the Civil War, in Floyd County, Kentucky. He is descended from the Langley Family of North Carolina, and the Robinson Family of Virginia, both old Revolutionary families. On his mother's side he is descended from the Salmons and Click families of Virginia and Kentucky. His maternal ancestor was Edith MacAlpine, who married Archibald MacGregor, and, afterwards, — Langley. Her daughter, Ann MacGregor, married Captain Henry Connelly. John W. Langley, therefore, is descended from the Clan MacAlpine, the first of the Scottish Highland clans. And he and all the Langleys of his family are cousins to the descendants of Captain Henry Connelly — making, perhaps, the largest blood-relationship in Eastern Kentucky. Through his mother's line he inherits a large element of German blood.

Langley was educated in the common schools of Floyd County, and in the Georgetown, Columbian, and National Universities of Washington City, at which he attended at night while holding a government position. He won the first honors in all three of these Universities and took the degrees of A. B., LL. B., and LL. M., Doctor of Civil Law and Master of Diplomacy. He, therefore, has taken the highest working degrees conferred by any University in the country. His early education was secured with the usual difficulties encountered by a country boy in the mountains of Kentucky, and almost entirely through his own unaided efforts.

At the age of sixteen Langley was granted a teacher's certificate, receiving the highest rating in the county. He



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taught school for three years, and was then appointed to a clerkship in Washington. Later, he returned to Kentucky and was twice elected to the Legislature of that State, receiving at the beginning of his second term the caucus nomination of his party for Speaker of the House, which made him the minority leader of that body. He afterwards was appointed a member of the Board of Pension Appeals, having received the highest rating of all who took the examination for the position; and the Secretary of the Interior, in one of his official reports, said that Langley stood at the head of the list for amount of work accomplished.

After holding this position for some time Langley returned again to his native State and was the nominee of his party for Member of Congress. The district was overwhelmingly Democratic, and he was defeated. He was then given the position of Appointment Clerk of the Census Office, and, later, the office of Disbursing Clerk was, by Act of Congress, combined with that of Appointment Clerk, and he held both positions until he was given his second nomination for Congress, in his home district, in 1906. In this position he made an exceptional record, and his salary was twice increased by special Act of Congress.

While his district had been Democratic by a good margin, Langley was elected to Congress in 1906 by a majority of nearly one thousand. In Congress he at once took high rank, and his record was so satisfactory to the people that, two years later, he was re-elected by a majority of almost three thousand. He is at this time, 1910, the unanimous nominee of the Republican party in his district for a third term in Congress.

In Congress Langley has been particularly active in his efforts to secure additional pension legislation, appropriations for the erection of public buildings and the improvement of the Kentucky and Big Sandy rivers, and Federal aid in the construction of public highways.

Langley has been a delegate to two Republican National Conventions, and he was the first to propose Roosevelt for Vice-President on the floor of the convention at Philadelphia in 1900. He is forceful, tactful, energetic, of a pleasing personality, ambitious to accomplish things for his people and the country, of the highest integrity and sense of honor, and a man in whom the people repose the fullest measure of confidence.



MILTON FORREST CONLEY  
Editor and Banker, Louisa, Ky.

## MILTON FORREST CONLEY

Milton Forrest Conley (spelling of name changed from *Connelly* by his father) was born June 13, 1868, at Louisa, Lawrence County, Kentucky, where he now lives. He is a great-great grandson of Captain Henry Connelly, of the Revolution, through the soldier's son Thomas and through Constantine, the eldest son of Thomas.

Milton Forrest Conley is the eldest of three children (two sons and a daughter) of Asa Johnson Conley and Elizabeth Leslie Conley. The other son is Martin Leslie Conley, General Manager of the Ohio & Kentucky Railway Company and President of the Morgan County National Bank at Cannel City, Ky.

Milton Forrest Conley was educated in the common schools, and in his sixteenth year established the *Big Sandy News*, a weekly newspaper since continuously published by him. It was the first weekly newspaper in Kentucky to install a linotype machine. During the years 1901 and 1902 he was a one-half owner in the Ashland, (Ky.), *Daily Independent*, the Catlettsburg, (Ky.), *Daily Press*, and the *Kentucky Democrat*, dividing his time between these and the *Big Sandy News*. He has been a member of the Kentucky Press Association for twenty-two years and an Executive Committeeman several terms; and he has attended the National Editorial Association four years as Delegate from Kentucky. In 1893 he was appointed Postmaster at Louisa and served four years. In 1904 the Louisa National Bank was organized with a capital of \$50,000, and he was offered the position of Director and Cashier, which he accepted and still holds. He is identified with other business enterprises in the Big

Sandy Valley, and is one of the two Trustees of the Kentucky Normal College, at Louisa, which has four hundred boarding students and a like number of local students. He was married to Miss Willie Burgess in 1894, and of this union three children have been born.

## ANNOUNCEMENT

This volume is the first of a series which I intend to publish on the history and genealogy of Eastern Kentucky.

Eastern Kentucky has a history as important and interesting as has any part of America, and it is my design to set it down faithfully in these volumes.

As shown in this volume, the people of Eastern Kentucky are descended from the best families of Europe and America. The only trouble has been that they have not made any effort to collect and preserve family annals and traditions. To gather authentic information about the early history of a family is extremely expensive, and this has been the principal cause of delay in securing it by some families.

I have extensive records of the Mayo, Leslie, Auxier, Hager, Meek, Cecil, Preston, Brown, Harris, Dixon, Witten, Patrick, Prater, May, Stafford, Mankins, Porter, Hanna, Rice, Rule, Price, Caudill, Adams, Gardner, Howard, Williams, Salyer, and many other pioneer families of Eastern Kentucky. I hope to treat these, or some of them, at least, even more extensively and thoroughly than I have the Connelly and other families in this volume.

WILLIAM ELSEY CONNELLEY