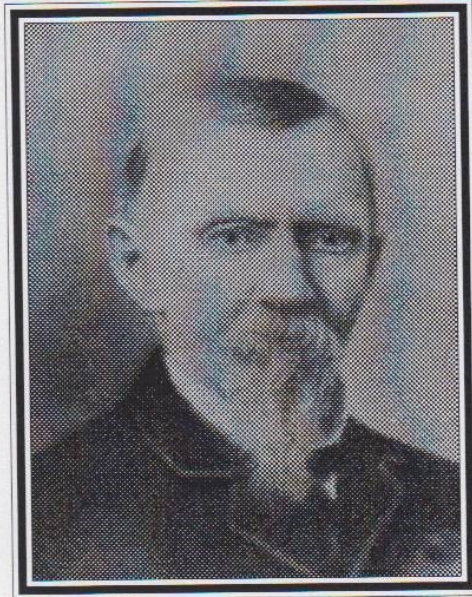


# CANAWLERS AT REST

## J. R. GOODLET MORGAN

b. February 26, 1825  
d. October 13, 1907

By Robert F. & Carolyn I. Schmidt  
Photos by Robert F. Schmidt



Today, in southeast Petersburg, Indiana, on 701 Goodlet Street between 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> stands the brick home of canal contractor and commissioner Goodlet Morgan. This prominent citizen of Pike County was born on February 26, 1825, in nearby Dubois County. He was the fourth child of eight born to Simon and Rose Reed Morgan.

Simon Morgan, Goodlet's father, was born in Virginia where he received a fine literary education. In his early life he studied medicine and was graduated from a Philadelphia college. He lived for a time in Ohio and was planning to move to St. Louis. He became ill while en route and after remaining some time in Dubois County (organized in 1817), he decided to stay in the area. He soon became involved in government and served as the county clerk from 1818-1839 and as county recorder from 1818-1841. He taught school in the log court house in Portersville, which was the early county seat (1818-1830). He was one of the founders of Jasper, Indiana, which became the second county seat in 1830. He was also a merchant at a store on the southeast corner of the courthouse square in Jasper. He died on January 12, 1841.

Rose Reed Morgan, Goodlet's mother, died in March 1836 when Goodlet was 11 years of age. She left Simon with a large family to rear.

In letter written to George R. Wilson on August 16, 1890, Goodlet writes about his boyhood days:

"My father, who was clerk and recorder put me to writing in the [Jasper] office about 1836. I continued to do so until 1839 [when he was sent to Petersburg]. By this means I got to know a great many of the people, for, at that day, at least that was the case in Dubois and Pike counties, the clerk's office was where nearly all the clerical work was

done. The clerk wrote the wills, made the settlements for the administrators, guardians, etc. I speak in reason when I say that much more than one-half of the voters could not write their own names. Of course, then the clerk yielded a much greater influence, especially in politics, than at the present day.

"My father's office was headquarters for the Whigs, he being a strong partisan and the principal leader of the Whig party at the time in Dubois county. The Edmondson and Barker families were the acknowledged leaders of the Jackson men, for at that time men were known politically as either Clay or Jackson men. Politics was "red hot." Men were thoroughly in earnest and maintained their beliefs both with tongue and fists. I have myself seen in Jasper as many as fifteen or twenty men fighting on the first Monday in August, which was then general election day, generally over politics. Then there was nothing like the methods used to secure votes that prevail at present. Men could neither be bought nor intimidated to vote against their own convictions. They seldom changed their politics. The parties were pretty equally divided and success depended largely upon personal popularity of the candidate. In 1836 General Harrison was the Whig candidate for president, and Martin Van Buren was the Democratic candidate. My father sent me with the Harrison tickets to Columbia township. I was only eleven years old. The election was held at the house of Phillip Conrad — 'uncle Phil' as he was generally called. The ballots were put into a hat, the voters filled the room, where the votes were received. There was no fighting or trouble, for they were nearly of all one mind. The votes, when counted, stood thirty-six for Van Buren, and three for Harrison. The three Harrison votes were cast by Phillip Conrad, one of his sons, and Mr. Richard Kirby. Phillip Conrad was with General Harrison at the battle of Tippecanoe.

"By the way Van Buren's name was never mentioned, but when the whisky began to take effect there was one continuous yell for General Jackson. As to the personality of the voters, there were two thirds of them dressed in Buckskin, with coonskin caps and moccasins. Each man came to the polls with his long rifle and hunting knife. All had likely killed a deer on their way to the election. Before then I had seen a number of persons partially dressed in buckskin, but never so many together. At the time of which I speak the county was sparsely settled. In 1839, I think, there were fewer than six hundred voters at the presidential election. The south part of the county, what was then Patoka and Hall townships, with Columbia township in the east, was almost an unbroken forest. In the southern part of the county there were very few roads and many of the principal streams were without bridges. In Patoka and Hall



townships the leading families were Bolin, Hendricks, Cox, Lemmon, Miller, Able, a notable and well known fighter, Jonathan Walker, also an Englishman by the name of Robert Oxley, a county commissioner. The families of all of them were exceptionally large, physically. The men were generally over six feet high and their weight ran from 225 to 275 pounds. All took pride in their manhood. They had many hotly contested fights, but finally Walker was acknowledged to be the champion not only of Dubois county, but also of Pike. He wore the belt until the day of his death.

"The people, as a rule, were brave, generous and hospitable. All were great hunters and lived well for that day. The principal amusements, and which were participated in by nearly all, were shooting matches, horse racing, fox chasing, wood chopping, foot racing, jumping, wrestling, and winding up with a dance, properly called a 'hoe down.'

"As a matter of fact, people had more leisure, lived easier, were more upon an equality and enjoyed themselves better than at the present time. It did not require that constant and persistent exertion to live, and live well, that it does now. The woods were full of game, such as deer, turkey and wild hogs. The clothing was principally made at home. A patch of flax and cotton and a few sheep furnished the clothing, but is all that was required. Cotton was then grown successfully in southern Indiana. There was a cotton mill at Portersville. Everybody raised cotton. Each family had a large wheel, a small one and a loom. The women corded, spun and wove the cotton, wool and flax, out of which they made the clothing for themselves and their families.

There were several tan yards in the county. Hides were tanned on shares; the tanner took one-half for his work. The shoemaker went from house to house and made the shoes for the family for winter use. There were comparatively few goods bought out of the stores for dress, either for men or women. Calico sold for thirty-seven cents a yard, and other goods in proportion. Ladies' dresses were then made out of six yard patterns. Buttons or drawstrings were used. There were no hooks or eyes. The cooking was done in iron vessels in a fireplace. I do not recollect of ever seeing a cooking stove in Dubois county up to 1839. I never saw a carpet, except home made ones, and few of them, until 1841, when I first traveled on a steamboat."

In 1839, at age 14, Goodlet Morgan was sent to Petersburg to live with Judge Matthew Foster, a prominent merchant, and to learn a trade. Since Goodlet's life was closely related to Matthew Foster and the influential Foster family it important to know more about Foster. How the Morgan family got acquainted with Matthew Foster is not fully known, but it is assumed that they met Foster through his trading store and flatboat, which traded at Portersville on the White River where young Goodlet's family lived.

Matthew Foster was born in 1800 in England. He came with his parents to New York and traveled by wagon via the Buffalo Trace to St. Louis. Becoming disillusioned with the slavery controversy there, Foster decided to settle at a site in Indiana, which he had passed on his way west. He moved to Indiana in 1819 and purchased 240 acres at "Delectable Hill."

At first Foster operated the aforementioned trading post along with Robert Logan, the builder of stone Lock #47 (Riley Lock) in Vigo County. Logan's home at "Highbanks" along the White River was about three miles from Foster's home "Delectable Hill" outside of

Petersburg. Foster made his first flatboat trip to New Orleans under Robert Logan's employ.

In 1828 Foster opened a store with Albert Hammond. On June 18, 1829, Matthew Foster was united in marriage to Eleanor Johnson (d. 9-22-1849), daughter of another prominent man, Col. John Johnson, who fought at the battle of Tippecanoe, was Territorial Secretary for William Henry Harrison, and served in the Indiana Legislature from 1816-1824. They had a eight children: George, Eliza, John W., Eleanor, Alexander H., James H., and two others. Their son, John Watson Foster, became a brigadier general in the Civil War and later Secretary of State (1892-93) in the Benjamin Harrison administration. Their great grandson's were John Foster Dulles, Secretary of State under President Dwight Eisenhower (1953-1959) and Allen Dulles, longest serving director of the CIA (1953-61).

Eleanor Johnson Foster was like a mother to Goodlet. She died on September 22, 1849. Matthew Foster then married Sarah Kazar. They had two children William C. and Elizabeth.

Matthew Foster was appointed Probate Judge from 1831-32. For several years from 1835-39 he spent a great deal of time developing his farm lands, because the mercantile business in which he had engaged for fifteen years had run on credit with accounts continuing over year after year. They were adjusted by barter. The farmer would pay with his surplus products, which Foster would then transport by flatboats and sell down river.

Foster built a large house at "Delectable Hill" that was much finer than the first cabin he built there in 1819. The new one was constructed of hewn timbers that stood two stories high, had two large rooms on the first floor with a broad open space between them. It had doors fitted with hardware, window sashes, and brick chimneys made from brick fired on the farm. Its out-houses included a dairy, provision storehouse, smoke-house, and frame barn. There was a yard with trees, ornamental shrubbery, flowers, arbors, an orchard and a fruit and vegetable garden. Inside the house they had a loom and different sizes of spinning-wheels. Religious meetings were held before the large brick fireplace, politics were discussed and gossip exchanged. Foster also owned another farm about two miles away in the White River bottom.

In 1839 Foster returned to the mercantile business and erected [one history says an abstract shows he purchased Johnson's store] a large store known locally as "The Big Store," in downtown Petersburg on the corner of Seventh and Main. The building covered about half a block and the family living quarters were located



in its eastern portion. Foster needed help with the store. He hired 14-year-old Goodlet Morgan to work for him in "The Big Store" and provided Goodlet with room and board. There Goodlet learned thrift and industry working with the flatboat business, large scale farming and merchandising. Later in life Goodlet became the owner of that store.



Emily Proffit Morgan

Goodlet wrote several articles in 1905 describing life in Petersburg in 1839 when he moved there. Below find his description of "The Big Store" and about the town in general:

"About forty feet above [a hardware establishment] Judge Matthew Foster lived in a frame building one and a half story high, which at that day was considered to be the best dwelling house in the county. Under the same roof there was a room 20' x 50', in which he conducted a general mercantile business. He was largely engaged also in the produce trade, each spring shipping several flat-boat loads of pork, corn, venison hams, etc., to the southern market we then had.

"As to the trade in Petersburg in 1839, and for several years after, it was by barter - exchanging the pork, corn, venison hams, deer hides and product of the housewife's loom for groceries and dry goods. There was very little money in circulation. Bank paper, which was at a heavy discount, as all banks had suspended specie payment, was the only circulating medium, there being no silver.

All the surplus produce of the county was shipped in flat boats to the south, it being the only market we then had.

Prices of produce were very low, corn 10 to 12½ cents per bushel; wheat 30 to 37 and one-eighth cents; oats 10 to 12½ cents; pork \$1.50 per 100 pounds, in trade or payment of debts. Good horses were \$25 to \$30 each; Milch cows sold for \$5 to \$7; stock cattle in proportion, all cattle being sold by the head.

There were no scales in town until about 1855 or 1856, when the corporation bought a scale and built it on the street below the Eisert corner, and appointed John Eisert as the weighmaster.

While produce was low, goods were high. Chopping axes were \$2.50, and nails were 12½ cents per pound. Domestic were worth 16 to 20 cents per yard.

Our town in 1839 was well supplied with liquor refreshments. There were two hotels with bars, three saloons and a distillery.

Signed, Goodlet Morgan, May, 1905

In 1846 Matthew Foster moved to Evansville to pursue business interests there and for better educational opportunities for his children. He died on April 13, 1863 in Evansville and was buried beside Eleanor, his first wife, in Evansville's Oak Hill Cemetery.

It is not clear if Goodlet Morgan went to Evansville in 1846 with Foster, but we know he was in Evansville for several years. The Census of 1850 shows him as a merchant or store owner at age 26.

Goodlet Morgan married Emily Proffit on November 24, 1848. The Proffits were one of the most prominent families in Petersburg.

Emily's father George H. Proffit was born September 7, 1807, and moved to Petersburg in 1828 from Louisiana. He was a state representative from Pike and Dubois counties from 1831-39 and a United States congressman from the 1<sup>st</sup> Congressional district from 1839-43. Proffit was a huge supporter of internal improvements for the state of Indiana, especially the National Road and the Wabash & Erie Canal. In 1843 President John Tyler appointed him as Minister to Brazil 1843-44. He died unexpectedly on September 7, 1847, at the Comstock House in Louisville, Kentucky, where he had gone seeking medical attention for a lingering illness. He was only 40 years old. He was buried in Walnut Hills Cemetery in Petersburg. At the time of his death he owned 1541 acres of land, all in the vicinity of Petersburg. On February 1, 1848, Mahala Proffit, his widow, was named administratrix of his estate and guardian of their daughter Emily Proffit.

George Proffit had married Mahala Wyatt, the daughter of John Turner Wyatt, a prosperous farmer near Petersburg. He had met Mahala while traveling to Evansville. She was reputed to be the most beautiful girl of her day. George and Mahala had two daughters, Emily, the oldest born in 1831, and Amanda, who died at age 9½ on September 18, 1845. He left a considerable estate to his wife and Emily. In 1849 Mahala married John B. Hannah (b. 3-6-1814, d. 8-15-1854).

Goodlet and Emily, one of 14 original members of Hornaday Baptist Church, were married in Evansville only a year after her father's death. Goodlet was 23 years of age and Emily was 17. The newly married Morgans returned to Petersburg in 1851 where Emily had inherited a substantial amount of property. Some of this land was later sold to Reddick Harrell, Alexander A. Byers and John J. Eisert, trustees of Pacific Lodge #175, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and their successors for Walnut Hills Cemetery. They were paid \$1,200 for the land. Deeds were written on February 8, 1876, and the cemetery opened that March.

Some more of the land became the Pike County fairgrounds. At first Goodlet and Emily were paid \$150.00 a year for a ten year lease of fifteen acres of this land to be used as the county fairgrounds. Once the fairs were financially successful the directors purchased twenty-eight and a half acres of his land for \$2,850.00.

Goodlet raised a large amount of livestock and produce on the land Emily inherited. He cured the pork and tobacco and shipped it by flatboat and canal boat.



On one large shaded lot of Emily's inheritance Goodlet built their home. Construction began around 1851 and it was completed in late 1853 or early 1854.

The house's 20-inch-thick walls were constructed of brick manufactured on the property. Walnut and poplar timber felled there was sent via the Wabash & Erie Canal to Evansville to be milled into fine woodwork. To give some idea of the homes size, someone standing in the upstairs bathroom could look 76 feet down the eight-foot-wide hallway to a window overlooking Goodlet Street.

The Goodlet Morgan home is described in *Our People of Pike County, Indiana* as follows:

"On the first floor, to the east of the large hall, are the downstairs bedroom and bath, the library which, during Goodlet Morgan's day, was lined with bookshelves from floor to ceiling, the kitchen, utility room and pantry and a smaller back stairway. To the right of the spacious hall are the large double parlors with matching fireplaces. An open stairway leads to the second floor where there are four large bedrooms, a nursery and an upstairs bathroom, with two smaller rooms in the back, which served as servant's quarters during Mr. Morgan's lifetime. Presumably the servants also used the small back stairway leading down to the kitchen and pantry. Altogether there are fifteen rooms besides the two baths in this spacious home.

There was a cupola on the top of the house, which provided a 360-degree view. A small cannon was placed up there and aimed toward the White River, probably for defense during the Civil War. Although the cupola is no longer there, many visitors to the home wrote their names on its walls.

Behind the house's wine cellar there was a concealed basement where the Morgans hid runaway slaves as part of the Underground Railroad. Then during the Civil War Confederate prisoners were held behind barred windows in the cellar.

The house was home to Goodlet and Emily's eight children of which only three were living in 1885.

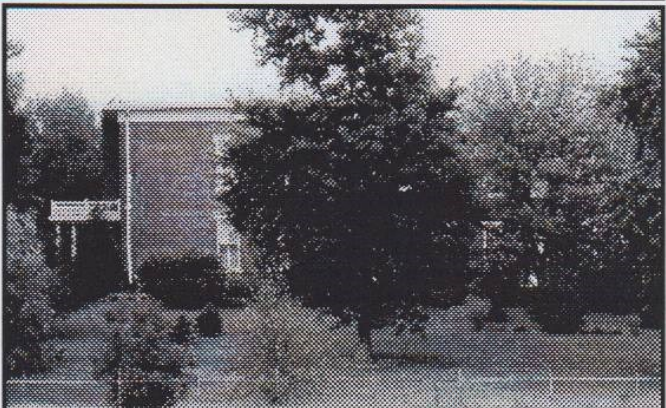
They were Simon, Proffit and Ralph. Only his son Simon survived him. The Census' of 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, and 1900 reveal the following names of the children still living in Goodlet's household and their ages:

	1850	1860	1870	1880	1900	born died
Goodlet	26	35	45	55	75	2-26-1825 10-13-1907
Emily	19	29	39	49		7-20-1831 5-18-1888
George P. 1		11	20			12-24-1849 2-15-1873
Simon		8	18			
Proffit		5	16	25		6-06-1855 8-17-1892
Ralph H.		3	14	23		3-10-1857 10-25-1891
Hanna		3/12				
Johnnie						
Francie						

The Morgan children had Billy goats and loved to "waller" around with them. They smelled so badly when they arrived at school that the teacher would say, "Hoist those windows, Anna. Those nasty Morgan boys have been playing with those nasty goats." They and their playmates have been described as rascals. However, some of their more refined neighbors took piano lessons from their mother, Emily, on a Gilbert piano, a piano favored by Jenny Lind. When introducing her young pupils to the elegance of fine music, Emily told about the time she played for His Imperial Majesty, the Emperor of Brazil, when her father George Proffit was President John Tyler's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States at the Court of the Brazilian Emperor.

Goodlet Morgan was a merchant businessman and was involved in flat boating. The captain of his flat boat for a number of years was Elias Osborne, Jr., who took cargoes of pork and lard to New Orleans and re-

Goodlet and Emily Proffit Morgan's home at 701 Goodlet Street in Petersburg, Indiana, as it appeared in September 2008.





turned with cargoes of sugar, molasses and other commodities for Goodlet's store. Elias was a large strong but lazy man. He would never start a trip near election day because he did not want to miss casting his vote.

As the leading business man in the county and in the absence of banks, Goodlet acted as a banker. He kept large sums of money at his home in an old safe.

He became a canal contractor for the Wabash & Erie Canal when construction of it began through Pike County in 1849. In 1850 cholera broke out along the canal line taking the lives of hundreds of canal workers and local citizens. Once the canal was completed, Petersburg became the canal port for business and produce of not only Pike but also parts of Dubois, Knox and Gibson counties. The Governor of Indiana appointed Goodlet one of three commissioners for the Wabash & Erie Canal, a position he held for some time. He was one of the investors in 1859, who leased the southern portion of the Wabash & Erie Canal from Evansville to Newberry in an effort to salvage the canal. At that time a large number of men came to Petersburg to work on the canal.

Albert Smith was the captain of a canal boat based in Petersburg named the "Goodlet Morgan" in his honor. In 1853 Goodlet and Smith worked together in building the county jail. It was a 40 ft. x 20 ft. brick structure on a stone foundation and cost \$2,347.25.

During the Civil War Goodlet took the place of R. Harrell as Provost Marshal when Harrell became the Assistant Revenue Collector. He helped recruit soldiers for the Union. During the war he gave thousands of dollars of clothing, fuel and provisions to the families of Pike County soldiers thus impairing his own finances.

In 1861 Goodlet was elected a trustee for the municipal government of Petersburg. In 1863 he became a Pike County commissioner and served as its president with Chew as vice president. He served two terms as Clerk of the Pike Circuit Court. He was the president of the Pike County Council. Politically he was a Whig/Republican. He served as the First District Member of the Republican State Convention for several years.

Goodlet Morgan opposed slavery. His home was a stop on the slave smuggling system called the "underground railroad" since it operated in defiance of the federal fugitive slave laws, which required return of runaway slaves to their southern owners.

Many of Goodlet's friends, who were political leaders, asked him several times to run for Congress. He would not permit his name to be put on a ballot.

In 1877 Goodlet became financially embarrassed. He then concentrated his time of his farm.

In 1885 Goodlet was the treasurer of the Pike County Agricultural Society, which had been organized in 1871. He presented the following report about Pike County to the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Indiana State Board of Agriculture in which he advocates dog licensing. A report of the proceedings were then sent to the governor.

#### PIKE COUNTY

"The fifteenth annual fair of the Pike County Agricultural Society commenced August 31 and continued until September 5. It was held on the society's grounds adjoining Petersburg. The fair was a success. The entries in all classes were largely increased as also our receipts. We prohibited both gambling and the sale of liquor. The result was that every thing went off pleasantly and good order and decorum prevailed. The very liberal patronage that has been extended to our association not only by the citizens of our own but neighboring counties from its organization to the present time, is very gratifying to the management, from the fact that it proves the public appreciate our efforts to make our society an active and efficient agent in promoting the interests of the farmers and stock raisers.

"The crops this year were above the average, with the exception of wheat; that was very light, especially where sown in corn grounds or on lands that had been kept continuously in wheat for years; while the yield from clover sod was generally satisfactory. In this connection, I will state that our county is so productive that our farmers have been enabled to raise large crops of corn tobacco, wheat, and all the grasses with comparatively a small amount of labor, and no expense for artificial or commercial fertilizers. This has resulted in making farmers somewhat careless in properly preparing their grounds for a crop, and in cultivating the same. There is no question in my mind but that by proper tile draining, the more general use of clover as a fertilizer, and the feeding of the grain and grass produced on the farm to stock, would so improve our naturally rich soil, that with careful cultivation, the average yield of wheat in the county could be raised to 25 bushels per acres, and all other crops in proportion.

"In furtherance of this object, our society in its last premium list offered liberal premiums on the following staple farm products: For the largest yield and best quality on 5 acres of corn, wheat, oats, tobacco, clover and timothy. No entry fee was charged and we required those competing to give a detailed written statement as to time of planting and sowing, the quality of seed used, the quality of soil, the manner of cultivation and indeed every particular that would be of advantage to others engaged in producing crops. We intend in the future to still further increase our premiums on farm products, believing it will stir up a laudable emulation amongst farmers, that will result in so increasing the productivity of our soil by the use of fertilizers and improved tillage, that a farmer will be able to produce as much on 10 acres as he now does on 20 under the present system of farming. Every one must admit, if this result can be attained, it would be a great saving of labor and profitable to the producer. Livestock of all kinds have been very healthy in the county during the present year. There are less hogs and cattle feeding than in former years. Sheep have been sold off very close. There are not one third as many sheep in Pike county as there were one year ago, and my impression is, that our counties and perhaps the whole State will show a very large decrease in the number of sheep. This I think, very unfortunate, for it is an undisputed fact, that a few sheep are almost indispensable on a farm, not only on account of the wool and mutton, but from the fact that they keep the fields and pastures where they run free from sprouts and worthless weeds; and, also, for the value of their manure. It



has been demonstrated both in this country and England that where sheep have been folded in movable hurdles, so as to distribute the droppings evenly over the ground, the yield of wheat has in many instances been double. In view of these facts, it certainly is both the duty and interest of the National and State Governments to protect and foster this great industry. In proof of this position under the operation of the protection given by Congress, in 1860, which imposed a heavy duty on foreign wool, the sheep have increased in the United States from 22,000,000 to over 38,000,000 and the wool has increased in still greater ratio; the entire amount produced was a little less than 100,000,000 pounds, in 1860; the crop of 1885, is over 240,000,000 pounds, and at the same time the value of manufactured woolen and worsted goods has been wonderfully developed. The total value of these goods manufactured in the United States in 1860 was a little over \$65,000,000. In 1885, it is estimated that the amount will exceed \$250,000,000. In brief, we manufacture five-sixths of all the woolen and worsted goods which are consumed in this country, and, also, grow four-fifths of the wool used in the manufacture of this immense amount of goods. And, further, instead of increasing the price of this class of goods to the consumer, it is a well known fact that clothing, carpets and all articles manufactured from wool, are from 35 to 33 per cent cheaper than in 1860 and of a much better quality.

"I think the present State law fails to give proper protection to sheep growers, as the revenue from the dog tax steadily decreases while the dogs continue to multiply. It is now found that in many townships there is no money in the hands of the trustees to pay for sheep destroyed by dogs. This state of things will continue to grow worse unless we resort to the license system, and every dog that is not protected by having the license paid, be killed. All the necessary regulations to carry this measure into effect could be provided for by the Legislature. In concluding this subject, I appeal to every farmer in the State of Indiana to seriously consider the importance of sheep husbandry as affecting these interests, and the dangers which now threaten its destruction, and if possible place this great industry on an enduring and solid basis of prosperity.

"In regard to our roads there has been no improvement in the manner of working them, and consequently no improvement in their condition. Public opinion in this county is gradually drifting in favor of the enforcement of the stock law and I think in the near future it will be adopted.

"Goodlet Morgan, Secretary."

Governor James Mount appointed Goodlet one of twenty-five business and professional men from Indiana to attend the Conference on Trusts held in Chicago by the Civic Federation of Chicago on September 13-16, 1899. The general subject was a discussion on trusts and trade combinations and representatives included congressmen, ex-congressmen, ex-governors, ex-supreme court judges, attorneys-general, presidents of banks, president of railroads, manufacturing and commercial organizations, and representatives of labor, agricultural and educational interests to that every side of the general subject would be represented in the discussion.

He loved flowers, books, music and young people. He had a very good memory and is said to have been the best informed man in the county at that time. He was very knowledgeable about local history and wrote a series of articles about life in Petersburg in 1839, the year he arrived there. These have been published as a part of *Our People of Pike County, Indiana*.

Following an illness, Goodlet Morgan died on Oc-

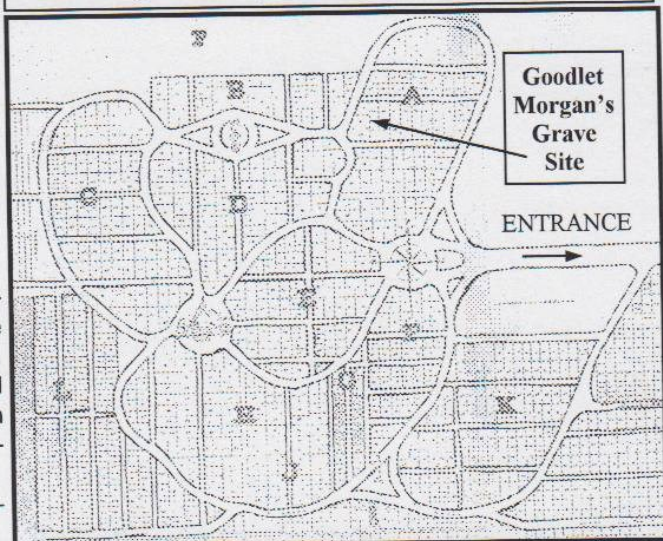
tober 13, 1907, of "urerena," (uremia). He was 82 years, 7 months and 17 days old. Friends gathered at his home at 2 o'clock on Tuesday October 15 to pay their respects. Rev. G. W. Law, the former pastor of the Baptist church in Petersburg but then located at Princeton, delivered his funeral sermon. Some of the notables attending his funeral were James A. Hemenway, United States senator from Boonville, Indiana; Frank B. Posey, who Governor Baker appointed prosecuting attorney; John W. Foster, Matthew Foster's son who was like a brother to Goodlet and who served as President Benjamin Harrison's Secretary of State; Judge W. R. Gardiner; and Ezra Mattingly, state senator of Washington. Other services were conducted by Pacific Lodge, No. 175, I. O. O. F. of which he was a member. A long procession of friends followed him to his final resting place at Walnut Hill Cemetery in Petersburg, Indiana.

Up until the time of his death, Goodlet's memory was unailing. He was still serving his community. He was the president of the county council. He filled all political positions during his life with honor and credit and had a great influence in the policy of his party in Pike county and in his district.

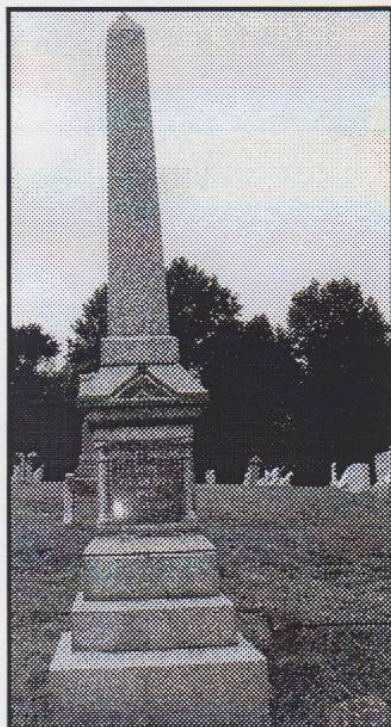
Although Goodlet was not connected with any church, his obituary says he was a great student of the Bible and gave to the support of the Christian cause. He had "strong attachments to hundreds of business, political, social and friendship circles. No man in this community, no matter his wealth, prominence or influence, was better known or admired than he." He offered his hospitality to all who visited his home.

Map of Walnut Hill Cemetery, Petersburg, Indiana

Walnut Hills Cemetery is located on the left side of SR 61 north of Petersburg and before you get to the White River.



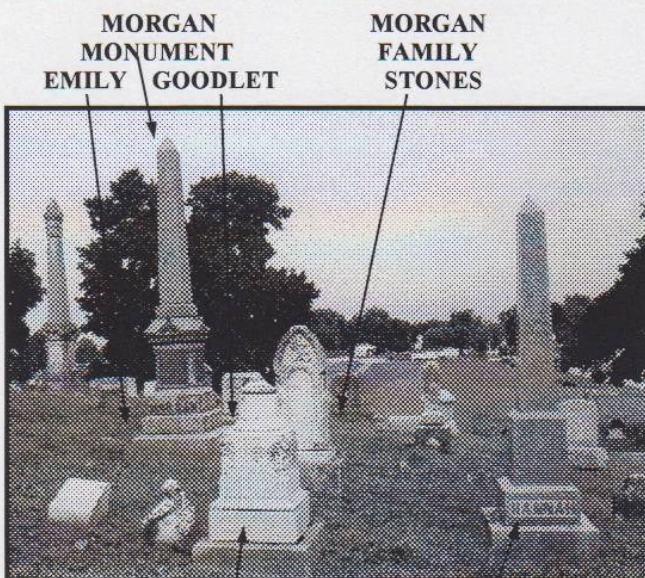




**MORGAN MONUMENT**  
Erected at later date  
Left side: MORGAN  
Front:  
GOODLET MORGAN  
BORN  
FEB. 26, 1825  
DIED  
OCT. 13, 1907  
Back side:  
EMILY PROFFIT  
MORGAN  
WIFE OF  
GOODLET MORGAN  
BORN  
JUL. 20, 1831  
DIED  
MAY 18, 1888

**EARLIER STONES**  
Buried in ground with only tops  
and a little information shown

EMILY  
GOODLET



**GEORGE PROFFIT**  
b. 1807, d. Sept 7, 1847  
Emily's father

**JOHN B. HANNAH**  
d. Aug. 15, 1884  
Emily's step-father

Pike County Heritage, Inc., a group of Petersburg citizens, launched a campaign to acquire Goodlet Morgan's home in 1963 to restore and furnish it as a museum. Although local donations were received, it was necessary to seek financial help from the Indiana Department of the Interior. The help was denied and the project was abandoned. It is currently a private residence.

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Special thanks to **Shirley Behme**, genealogy librarian at the Pike County Public Library in Petersburg, Indiana, for her help with research on the Morgans and for allowing us to take pictures of the portraits of Goodlet and Emily Morgan.