

Dr. James O. Rush, of Forrest City, St. Francis county, Arkansas, was born at Lexington, Lafayette county, Missouri, and he was reared and educated in Johnson county, that state, whither his parents removed when he was a mere boy. He is a son of J. G. and Annie M. Rush, the former being a farmer during the greater part of his active career. He now lives in Johnson county and is still farming on the old homestead upon which they settled many years before the Civil war. Mr. and Mrs. Rush became the parents of seven children, all of whom are living, the doctor having been the eldest in order of birth, the date of his nativity being June 2, 1867. After completing the curriculum of the public schools of Johnson county, Missouri, Dr. Rush entered the University of Missouri, at Columbia, in which well-ordered institution he was a student for three years. Thereafter he took a two-years' course of medical lectures in Kansas City and in 1896, although still an undergraduate, he came to St. Francis county, this state, and began the active practice of his profession. He later returned to Kansas City for further medical preparation and in 1899 he was graduated in the University Medical College in that city, with the degree of Doctor of Medicine. In 1900 he located at Forrest City, the county seat of St. Francis county, and here he controls the largest medical patronage in the county. He is local surgeon for the Chicago and Rock Island Railroad Company and is ex-president of the St. Francis County Medical Society.

Dr. Rush is aligned as a stalwart in the rank of the Democratic party and he has long been prominent among the leaders of its affairs in Arkansas. For four years he was secretary of the county central committee and for a period of eight years was president of the local board of health. In addition to his medical and official interests he is an extensive landholder in this county, owning a splendid plantation of four hundred acres, eligibly located one mile distant from Forrest City, besides which he also owns considerable real estate in the city, his fine residence and grounds being one of the most beautiful places in the county. He is a valued and appreciative member of the St. Francis County Medical Society, the Arkansas State Medical Society and the American Medical Association.

In the year 1907, at Lexington, Missouri, was recorded the marriage of Dr. Rush to Miss Cora M. Peak, of Lexington, Missouri. To this union have been born three children, namely: Frances Marian, Anna Virginia and Stella May. Dr. and Mrs. Rush are devout members of the Presbyterian church, in which he has long been an elder and to whose charities and good works he has always been a liberal contributor.