

William H. McCarty, of Lynn, Massachusetts. Mr. Gschwend and family are members of St. Peter's Parish of the Catholic Church, is also affiliated with the Catholic Mutual Benevolent Association, the Canton Chamber of Commerce and the Congress Lake Club.

HON. WILLIAM J. PIERO is one of the able lawyers of Canton, and also one of its versatile, broad and strong citizens. Commencing his professional career in this city more than forty years ago, both as a legist and in public life he has earned a substantial and honorable reputation. Ex-Mayor Piero was born on his father's farm at Buck-Hill, near Canton, Stark County, Ohio, September 8, 1852, and is descended from one of the county's pioneer families.

The founder of this branch of the Piero family was Anthony Piero, a Frenchman who served as an officer in the army of the great Napoleon. He came to the United States and to Stark County, Ohio, in the year 1833, settling in Canton, where he took up carpentering as a vocation and so continued to be engaged during the remaining years of his life. Francis I. Piero, son of Anthony, was born at Neiderbrun, near Strassburg, capital of the Territory of Alsace-Lorraine, France (since 1871, Germany), November 3, 1820, and was a lad of thirteen years when the family came to Canton. He grew up in Canton, was educated in the public schools, and subsequently turned his attention to the boot and shoe business, being for a time the proprietor of a shop on the present site of the Auditorium at Canton. Later he sold out and moved on a farm two miles west of Canton, but in 1859 returned to Canton and established a bakery and confectionery on the east side of the Public Square which he conducted successfully for many years. His residence for many years stood on the present site of the Renkert Building. Mr. Piero was one of the well known citizens among the early settlers of Canton, and when he died in 1903, at the age of eighty-three years, the city lost one who had done much to promote its growth and development. Francis I. Piero was married at St. John's Roman Catholic Church, in 1842, to Julia A. Krantz, who was born in Hesse, Germany, the daughter of Joseph Krantz, a pioneer of Canton. She died May 27, 1895, the mother of the following children: Henry J., Anthony I., Louis A., Frank A., Julia M., Frances M., who is now Mrs. John F. Peter; Minnie R., who is the widow of the late Louis A. Loichot, who at the time of his death was president of the First National Bank of Canton; and William J., of this notice.

William J. Piero was seven years of age when he came to Canton with his parents from the farm in Perry Township. He received his education in the parochial and public schools, being graduated from the Canton High School in 1869, and while still a student displayed his industry and ambition by working as an office boy in the office of Judge Seraphim Meyer, of Canton, where he first showed an inclination to follow the law. A few years later he took up the study of that profession under the guidance of Judge Meyer, and on September 17, 1874, was admitted to the bar, beginning the practice of his chosen calling in the office with his former preceptor. In April, 1875, he was elected justice of the peace, an office in which he served for a full term of three