

## Early IU history

# Professors foreign-born

Among the influx of foreign-born persons who settled in Monroe County between the 1820s and the Civil War were three men who served as teachers of Indiana University.

Since college-educated men were in short supply in America in those days, it is not surprising that Europeans took the opportunity of crossing the Atlantic in search of teaching positions.

**IU'S FIRST FOREIGN** professor was William Richard Harding, who was born in County Cork, Ireland. He was a graduate with honors of Trinity College in Dublin and emigrated to the United States in 1836.

It is possible that Harding had already established a connection with the university, because he began teaching here shortly after his ocean crossing. Unfortunately, he died after a little more than a year's service to the university.

A student, Matthew Elder, who graduated in 1840, apparently had a decided dislike for Professor Harding. In later years, Elder wrote, "W.R. Harding was a tall, hard looking Irishman. He was said to be a fine linguist. He

## Looking Back

*By Rose H. McIlveen*

taught the Preparatory Department, and was anxious to have the position of Prof. Parks, to accomplish which he would have stooped to anything. This made me hate him. He killed himself smoking. When he lay sick I visited him, for which he appeared grateful."

**ALTHOUGH PROFESSOR** Robert Milligan, hired in 1852, was born in Ireland, he was educated in America and did not bring a European "flavor" to the small IU faculty. Emanuel Marquis certainly did. He was born in Malchin, Grand Duchy of Mecklinburg. Although his specialty was languages — he was fluent in Ger-

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