

JOHN A. SPRUNGER, senior member of the firm of Sprunger & Lehman, of Berne, Adams County, Indiana, is a native of Canton Berne, Switzerland, born August 12, 1853, a son of Abraham B. and Elizabeth (Curcher) Sprunger. In 1855 he was brought to America by his parents, who, after remaining in Ohio three months, settled on section 32, Monroe Township, Adams County, and there our subject grew to manhood on his father's farm, receiving his education in the German schools of his neighborhood. When twenty years old he bought his time of his father, giving his note for \$100. He then engaged in saw milling and mulling a threshing machine, which he followed until 1875, when he began dealing in hardware and machinery at Berne. In 1876 he engaged in general building, and the same year erected the grain elevator and several dwelling houses at Berne. During 1878 and '79 he was engaged in dealing in and shipping stock. In 1879 he became a member of the firm of Sprunger, Lehman & Co., of which he is manager. He erected the flour mills in 1884. In 1883 he built his fine residence at Berne at a cost of \$3,000. During 1884 and '85 he erected twelve dwelling houses, and also built the Champion Block in which his firm does business, and in 1883 he built the Eagle House. Mr. Sprunger was united in marriage February 17, 1880, to Miss Katie Sprunger, a native of Wabash Township, Adams County, Indiana, born September 5, 1859, a daughter of Christian P. Sprunger. Two children have been born to this union - Hillegunda, and Edmona (deceased). Mr. Sprunger may be classed among the self-made men of the county, having commenced life for himself a poor boy. Although a comparatively young man he has accumulated a competence, which he has gained by persevering industry, and strict attention to any business in which he has been engaged, and is now considered one of the substantial men of the county. He is a active and public spirited citizen, and perhaps no man in the county has done more toward building up the town of Berne than he. He is a member of the Mennonite church, and is a teacher in the Sabbath-school.

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