

NATHAN B. SHEPHERD, laborer, Geneva, was born in Wabash Township, Adams County, Indiana, June 3, 1852, a son of Edward and Lucy A. (Buckingham) Shepherd. He grew to manhood in his native county, being reared to the avocation of a farmer, and receiving in his youth a fair common-school education. In 1871 he began working in a stave factory at Bluffton, and since then has been engaged at various occupations. In 1877 he entered the employ of S. W. Hale & Brother, remaining with that firm to the present time. He was united in marriage October 26, 1879, to Sarah E. Connor, who was born in Jay County, Indiana, June 15, 1856, a daughter of William and Catherine (Farbee) Connor, who were natives of Ohio and early settlers of Jay County, Indiana. In his political views Mr. Shepherd is a Republican. He is at present a member of the village board.

His father, Edward Shepherd, was a native of Ohio, born in Franklin County July 5, 1826, his parents, William and Olivia P. (Emery) Shepherd, being natives of Virginia, the former born August 18, 1788, and the latter August 19, 1788. Edward Shepherd was married in Wabash Township April 23, 1847, to Lucy A. Buckingham, a native of Maryland, born May 25, 1826, a daughter of Nathan and Frissell (Michael) Buckingham, and to this union were born nine children - William E., born March 7, 1849; Margaret E., born December 29, 1850; Nathan B., subject of this sketch; Martha A., born August 17, 1854; Pyreny J., born March 17, 1856, died September 2, 1881; Alfred A., born January 10, 1858, died November 7, 1877; John H., born August 5, 1860, died November 11, 1866; Morton G., born February 3, 1863, and Emma, born September 18, 1865, died January 17, 1878. Edward Shepherd was reared to the avocation of a farmer and followed agricultural pursuits through life. He came to Adams County, Indiana, when about twelve years of age, and made his home in Wabash Township till his death, December 14, 1866. His widow is still living in Wabash Township. He and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal church, their parents being members of the same church.

The paternal grandparents of our subject, William and Olivia P. Shepherd were married in Virginia July 14, 1809, and of the eight children born to them all are deceased. They removed to Franklin County, Ohio, in an early day, being among the first settlers. They immigrated to Indiana about the year 1838, settling on section 36, Wabash Township, Adams County, where the father entered some 1,200 or 1,400 acres of land, living there till his death, which occurred June 17, 1862. His wife died April 25, 1856. He was a soldier in the war of 1812, and was at the siege of Fort Meigs and also at the siege of Toledo, beside other engagements. The maternal grandparents were natives of the State of Maryland. They immigrated to Fairfield County, Ohio, where they resided seven years, removing thence to Indiana, locating in Jay County, where Mr. Buckingham died June 6, 1852, his widow surviving him until 1868. They were the parents of a large family. Both were members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

## **NATHAN B. SHEPHERD**

One of the successful business men who have contributed much to the financial development of his section of Indiana is Nathan B. Shepherd, a successful and esteemed resident of Geneva , Adams county. He is engaged in the grain business as a member of the Berne Grain and Hay Company. He was born on a farm occupied by his father in Adams county that had been in the family since the grandfather of Nathan - William Shepherd - entered the land from the government. Nathan Shepherd's father was Edward Shepherd, who married Lucy A. Buckingham. He was a native of Franklin county, Ohio, where he was born in 1826. The elder Shepherd was a son of William and Olevia (Emory) Shepherd, natives of Virginia. After a residence of some years in Ohio Edward Shepherd and his parents removed to Adams county in 1836 and settled on a farm. Here William Shepherd died in 1863. His wife died in 1856. Edward Shepherd and his wife had nine children, five of whom are still living: Emery, Margaret E., Nathan B., Martha A. and Morton G.

Nathan B. Shepherd spent his early life on his father's farm and grew to manhood there. In 1877 he started out for himself and engaged in the grain business with J. D. and O. W. Hale at his present location in Geneva as an employe. He continued in this business until 1898, when he was appointed postmaster of Geneva. This office he filled with credit and discharged all of its duties and obligations with intelligence and to the satisfaction of the citizens of his native town. In 1901 he engaged in his present business. Under his able management and attention this business has grown until it is one of the most important and largest of its kind in the county. He has of recent years enlarged the scope of his business and includes in his grain business dealing in hay, coal, cement and other similar products. He is a member of the Berne Grain and Hay Company. This concern was organized in 1901 and stock in it is held by a number of farmers and dealers of Adams county. It has been developed from a comparatively small concern to a large business and the annual business done is gratifying to those who are interested in the company and who have been instrumental in promoting its prosperity.

In 1879 Mr. Shepherd married Miss Sarah C. Conner. His wife is a daughter of William and Catherine (Farber) Conner, natives of Jay county, Indiana, where her father was a carpenter and joiner. Mr. and Mrs. Shepherd are the parents of four children, all boys. Earl is employed in the railway mail service, William is in a railway office at Fort Wayne and Charles and Clarence are in school at their home.

Mr. Shepherd has been a consistent voter of the Republican ticket and gives that party organization his loyal support. He served for a time as a member of the board of trustees. He is a member of the Masonic and Odd Fellows fraternities and is enthusiastic in the interests and work of these bodies. In religious matters he and his family support the Methodist church. His grandfather had the distinction of being the first member of this faith in Adams county and the first services of this denomination in the county were held at the grandfather's home and in his log cabin the first church was organized.

**Snow's History of Adams County, Indiana, John Fletcher Snow, B. F. Bowen, Indianapolis, IN, 1907, (image 599)**