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Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II, <BR>  
au: William Travis,  
publ. 1909

<P></CENTER><CENTER><H3>Jesse A. DECKER</H3></CENTER>

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JESSE A. DECKER.—The history of a community concerns itself not so much with the machinery of government as with the character of the citizens who are active in its business circles and constitute the essential basis of its political and legal status and its educational and moral progress through their support of interests tending in the line of improvement. In this connection therefore mention should be made of Jesse A. Decker, for long years a successful merchant of Brazil, where he was engaged in dealing in groceries, provisions, meat, flour and feed from October, 1866, to January, 1908.

J. A. Decker was born January 7, 1841, near Pisgah, Butler county, Ohio. His father, Obadiah B. Decker, was born in Pennsylvania, January 26, 1816, and having removed westward was married near Piqua, Ohio, to Miss Sarah Ann Austin, whose birth occurred in that state August 6, 1821. His death occurred April 9, 1885, while his wife died November 19, 1883. They were parents of nine children, all sons, and seven grew to manhood. Frequently they with their father cast eight Republican votes. Five of the number are now living: Jesse A., William W., Elmon A., Andrew S. and Oba A. During the pioneer epoch in the history of Clay county Obadiah B. Decker brought his family to this locality, arriving on the 16th of August, 1849, after two weeks of travel in a large covered wagon, for this was before the era of railroad building. The father cut the date of their arrival upon a big beech tree which stood for a number of years thereafter and gave witness of the day of their coming. Mr. Decker was a shoemaker by trade but in Indiana turned his attention to farming and also engaged in buying furs each winter. He was likewise well known as a coon hunter and throughout Clay and adjoining counties he was frequently seen taking a lot of furs on horseback to the nearest market. His son Jesse frequently made these trips with him and the father handled thousands of dollars' worth of furs each winter. The father had the assistance of his seven sons (there were no daughters in the family) in clearing up a farm of one hundred and sixty acres. They cut down and burned large oak trees just to get the land ready for farming. Deer, turkeys and other kinds of wild game were plentiful and Mr. Decker of this review has seen wild deer within twenty feet of the cabin home in which the family lived. During the busiest season of the year the father frequently employed hired help and sometimes paid them in flour and meat at a rate of from fifty to seventy-five cents per day or at eight, ten or twelve dollars per month for the summer. They raised stock of all kinds and each spring and summer the boys of the family would have a great time picking wool, which was carded and spun into, cloth from which their winter garments were made. Log rollings were very common in that locality from 1849 until 1860 and the father would spend from five to fifteen days each spring in assisting his neighbors in that way. The wives of the helpers would at the same time have a quilting or wool picking and at night there would be a dance or party—festivities which were greatly enjoyed. Whiskey was always served in those days and Obadiah Decker raised rye and would take the grain to Williams-town, where he had whiskey manufactured. It sold from twenty-five to thirty-five cents per gallon in those days and was an unadulterated article.

The experiences of pioneer life were utterly unlike the modes of living at the present time. If there was a death in the community the relatives would go to William West, a cabinet maker of the neighborhood, who manufactured cupboards, tables, bedsteads and chairs. Receiving an order for a coffin, he would have it ready for the burial the next day, working all night at times to complete his task, and sometimes the varnish was hardly dry at the time of the funeral. The funeral procession would be composed of farm wagons and people on horseback. Later a man of the community purchased a spring wagon with which to go to market and church and this was often borrowed to be used for hauling the corpse to the cemetery, the coffin placed in the wagon, with a white bedsheet spread over.

In those early days Mrs. Decker, the mother, rode to church on horseback. Services were held in a log schoolhouse, the only church at that time being at Cloverland, a representative of the Baptist denomination. Educational privileges in the early '50s were very poor. The teachers were hired by the people of the district, paying so much for each scholar, and the school term covered December, January and February. The roads were often bad and the weather inclement and these conditions, combined with the amount of work to do on the farm, made it impossible for J. A. Decker and his brothers to attend school for more than about two months in the year.

After attaining his majority Mr. Decker left the farm and came to Brazil, where he attended a graded school taught by Professor Loveless, realizing the fact that his education was inadequate for the demands of the time in a growing and progressive country. There was probably not a frame schoolhouse in the county in the early '50s. One of the schoolhouses in which he pursued his studies was a low, squatty structure of round logs, with a big fireplace in one end in which could be burned a four-foot log. The seats were made of split logs, the flat side being dressed smooth, while legs were put in the round side to rest the slab upon and thus was constructed a bench for about a dozen pupils.

Another feature of pioneer life was less pleasant, for in the early days there were horse thieves, robbers and murderers who infested the country and it was an impossibility to arrest the culprits and secure their conviction according to law, for they were banded together and when one of them would get in trouble the others would stand by him until he was cleared. The good people, therefore, had to organize and eventually broke up the band. They formed a society known as the Regulators, of which Obadiah Decker became a member. As time went on the organization grew stronger and more determined to break up the band of outlaws, who were in command of one John A. Clark, who lived on a farm about two miles west of Cloverland in the house now occupied by Charles Hendricks. Not far distant lived other members of the band and it was arranged between them that when any of them saw an opportunity to trade horses or buy a cow from a family emigrating westward they would pay for the same in counterfeit money. The mover was left absolutely helpless, for the band would warn him to go on and keep quiet about the transaction or it would be the worse for him. On one occasion Clark, in a quarrel with a man in Cloverland, went to his wagon which was standing near, secured the wagon hammer and knocked the man in the head, killing him on the spot, and yet he was not arrested for the crime! The law abiding people realized that something must be done. They went to the homes of all whom they knew to be antagonistic to the band, routing them out at night with the intention of lynching the culprits but they escaped, although some were shot. At different times the law abiding citizens made a raid upon the bandits. On one occasion, following

such a raid, the next morning twelve or fifteen of the bandits, mounted on horseback, rode through Cloverland, shouting that they were going to Deckers, Modesitts and Corbans and take them out and lynch them. They were all armed with revolvers, dirks and knives. They reached the Decker home about eight o'clock in the morning and to their surprise found about twenty-five men there who had been after them in the night and were holding counsel as to what to do next. The bandits, not making their real errand known, said they wanted to buy hogs. One Nathaniel Modesitt, a man of too much "grit" to quietly accept such an excuse, called out that he would lick any of the party in fair fight, saying, "You came here for trouble and not for hogs ;" but his challenge was not accepted. The Regulators did not care to enter into an open fight, as they knew that some of their number would be killed or seriously wounded. Later the whole force of the Regulators was called out with the intention of capturing Clark. There were over two hundred men who proceeded to Clark's house in day time but they found him out, learning that he had gone to Terre Haute. Proceeding to the city, they asked of the authorities permission to find Clark and were told, "Get him if you can." They then proceeded to one of Clark's friends, who kept a den and was noted for stealing. They did not succeed in finding Clark but took his friend out east of the city across the canal bridge and, placing a rope around his neck, they pulled him up, then let him down, asking him to tell where Clark was. He did not have the information, however, but he confessed to stealing meat and other supplies. Clark's band was so well organized that they kept him out of sight and later the family removed to Illinois. At length the band of lawbreakers was broken up but occasionally a horse theft was committed for several years and lesser depredations were committed, so that the Regulators continued their organization until there was no further need of the society, the last call for their aid being made in 1862. There are still four members of the society living in Brazil: Lake Modesitt, Sanford Modesitt and William and Jesse Decker.

There were two men and their families who moved into a cabin near a war widow by the name of Peake, her husband having responded to the call to arms in 1861. In the fall of 1861 those two men came, strangers to the neighborhood, and settled in the cabin. No one knew anything about them and it seemed as though they got a living without working for it. Smokehouses were occasionally robbed of the meat and wheat and corn were also missed at different times. The two families found they were crowded in the little cabin and made known to the widow that they wished her to move away so they could have her cabin. She objected and one night she was taken out and all sorts of indignities heaped upon her. She brought suit against the men and while she was attending trial her house was burned to the ground. The neighbors then thought of the old-time law of the Regulators, called a meeting, organized and selected officers and plans were made to mete out justice to the two men. This was in the spring of 1862. About fifty members of the new society went to the cabin, knocked in the door with a fence rail and grabbed the two criminals (who had pistols under their pillows) before they were aware of what was

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MORTON E. DECKER was born in Posey township, Clay county, Indiana, four miles southwest of Staunton, December 19, 1871, and is a son of William W. and Loretta (West) Decker. His parents moved to Brazil, Indiana, about 1875 or 1876, where he has since resided. He graduated from the high school of that city in 1889, and then as a lad of eighteen made a tour of the West, earning the money with which to pay his expenses en route, and while in Salt Lake City he was stricken with mountain fever for a month. Recovering sufficiently he went on to San Francisco. While convalescing at the latter place he played a guitar and French harp for a living. Afterward he found employment in the Davis Brothers Golden Rule Bazaar. Later and in company with his uncle, O. B. Decker, he engaged in the notion business outside of the city, selling, their goods in the surrounding villages, and while thus employed the Messrs. Decker formed the acquaintance of Dr. Lepper, who engaged them to give open air concerts while selling his Rocky Mountain Tea.

In 1891 Mr. Decker returned to Brazil and began work for his uncle, Jesse A. Decker, in the furniture business, remaining with him for about three years. In all this time his love for music had kept him in touch with the profession and he with others organized the Concert Band. It was while at Carbon one evening with this band that Dr. Decker and his former friend and schoolmate, John C. Kidd, decided to engage in business for themselves, and they entered the field of fire insurance and real estate under the firm name of Kidd & Decker at Brazil. In 1894 Mr. Decker purchased his partner's interest and has since been in business alone. He now owns considerable real estate in this city, has held several public and private trusts and is one of the leading business men and citizens, and during his life has been a total abstainer from drink and tobacco.

Mr. Decker married Miss Anna Hollaway on the 4th of January, 1892. She was born in Putnamville, Putnam county, Indiana, February 23, 1872, a daughter of William H. and Caroline (Lancett) Hollaway. The father was born in Pennsylvania and came to Indiana some time in the '50s, locating in Owen county. He enlisted in the army for the Civil war and was with Sherman on his famous march to the sea. The two children of Mr. and Mrs. Decker are Ada and Leone. In his lifetime Mr. Decker has had the pleasure of traveling through twenty-seven states of the Union. He is a liberal giver to the churches, and is a member of Brazil Lodge No. 215, I. O. L. O.; of the Modern Woodmen of America, No. 3418; and of the Improved Order of Red Men, No. 61. He is also a member of the Brazil Concert Band, with which he has been connected for twelve or fifteen years, and in that time they have won many state prizes and the reputation of being one of the best bands in Indiana. Mr. Decker gives his political allegiance to the Republican party, and at this time is chairman of the county central committee.

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WILLIAM W. DECKER, one of Clay county's brave and honored soldier citizens, was born in Butler county, Ohio, March 16, 1844, a son of Obediah D. and Sarah Ann (Austin) Decker, both of whom were natives of the county named. The father, who was of German and Irish ancestry, died at the age of seventy-one years, and the mother, of English lineage, passed away at the age of sixty-two. They were married in Butler county, Ohio, June 11, 1837, and became the parents of nine sons, two of whom died in infancy and two (Robert and John) in manhood; the living are Jesse A., William W., Elmond A., Andrew S. and Obediah Decker. Seven lived to be voters and with their father cast their ballots for Republicanism.

Obediah Decker's father was John Decker, who came from Fayette county, Pennsylvania, to Butler county, Ohio, where he established himself as a farmer and died at about thirty years of age. Obediah was the only son. The widow married David Hulse and she herself died when the boy was fifteen years of age. The orphaned youth then learned the shoemaker's trade and became an expert hunter of small game. Afterward he was employed on a packet boat, engaged in transferring coal along the Ohio river, but finally returned to Butler county, Ohio, where he married Sarah Ann Austin on the 11th of June, 1837. After residing there for some ten years they removed to Clay county, Indiana, where the husband engaged in various industries and lines of business and became a large dealer in furs and bought and improved a large farm and, after the building of the Vandalia Railroad, invested in coal mines. He also entered the real estate field, engaged in building and brick manufacturing, and himself erected a fine brick house on his farm, which was quite a mansion for those days and is still standing. Further, he was associated with Messrs, Modisett, Hawkins and Serdam in a flour mill, which was destroyed by a hurricane in 1862. The plant was located at what was then Highland, now Staunton. During these early days before the courts and police machinery were fairly organized there was much lawlessness in this section of the state, murders and robberies being of not infrequent occurrence. What was called the John A. Clark gang, comprising about a hundred desperate characters, terrorized the whole country for a number of years, and for the purpose of breaking up the organization the citizens formed a company that was called the Regulators and elected Mr. Decker captain. The citizens' body comprised several hundred men from Terre Haute, Brazil, Bridgeton, Ashboro and Center Point, and in a short time drove the obnoxious characters out of the country. Mr. Decker was a large raiser of corn and wheat and also of stock, his stock always being prominent prize winners at the county fairs. He finally removed to Brazil, bought the Sherman House, in which occupation he spent the last years of his life, dying on the 9th of May, 1885.

William W. Decker was a small boy when he came with his parents to Indiana, reaching manhood in Clay county. His boyhood was spent in an unsettled country, and, like his father, he loved the woods and became a famous hunter of such game as mink, coons, wild turkeys, deer and upon several very rare occasions, of bear and panthers. As he would

rather work than study and schools were scarce at best, his education was of the most limited nature. At the age of sixteen he worked in the Highland flour mill, and afterward assisted his father in clearing his farm about a mile southwest as well as in sawing logs for the house patterns which the father sent to Terre Haute , and chopping wood to be used in the brick manufactory. Later, he learned to make brick and to lay them.

At the declaration of the Civil war Mr. Decker enlisted in Company G. Seventy-eighth Regiment. Indiana Volunteer Infantry, under Colonel Rose and Captian J. W. Sanders and was afterward attached to the Fifty-fourth Regiment and Colonel Knox's regiment and then to the Fifteenth Indiana Volunteers under Colonel Donham. While with this command he participated in the siege and surrender of Munfordsville Kentucky. September 12-14, 1862. The defending force of Union troops consisted of between 3,000 and 4,000 men, mostly raw troops, the 800 under Colonel Wilder having neither guns nor ammunition. But the order of the superior officer was to hold the place to the last: and it was held against overwhelming odds until a surrender was effected with all the honors of war. The first night of the surrender 700 or 800 succeeded in making their escape (including Mr. Decker) , but were recaptured about eight miles away and returned to the headquarters of Bragg and Butler, where the prisoners were paroled and sent to General Buell's army. They then marched through Bowling Green and thence to Brandenburg on the Ohio river in Kentucky, where they boarded the transports, crossed the river and, marching to New Albany and Jeffersonville, obtained transportation to Indianapolis.

Following his return Mr. Decker attended school during a part of the winter of 1862, and after legal exchange enlisted in Company D. 115th Indiana Volunteer Infantry. While engaged in recruiting duty and in attendance at school he wore his uniform of blue, and during this period received a notice from the Knights of the Golden Circle (rabid sympathizers with the Confederacy) that they would hang any man wearing the garb of a Union soldier at their meetings. Mr. Decker and Captain Sanders took the notice to Governor Alorton, who provided them with a force and gave them orders to shoot to kill, in case they were molested. This action broke up the camp of the Knights of the Golden Circle, near the old hill, Clay county, Indiana. On the 5th of Augtust, 1863, Mr. Decker re-enlisted for service, being assigned to Company D, 115th Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was honorably discharged in 1864. He served as a member of the Twenty-third Army Corps from the 1st of August, 1863, until his discharge, and was under the general command of Major Generals George L. Hartstuff and Burnside. This corps took part in the following engagements, in many of which Mr. Decker personally participated Scott's raid, from July 25 to August 6, 1863 ; Green River Bridge, July 4, 1863 ; Morgan's raid into Kentucky, Ohio and indiana, July 2-26, 1863; Limestone Station, Tennessee, September 8, 1863; Cumberland Gap, Tennessee, September 7-10; Bristol, Tennessee, September 19, 1863 Carter's Station, Tennessee, September 20-21, 1863 ; Blountsville Tennessee, September 22, 1863 ; Calhoun, Tennessee, September 26, 1863 Blue Springs, October 5, October 10, 1863 Philadelphia, October 20, October 26, 1863 Sweet Water, October 26-27, 1863 Rogersville, November 6, 1863; ; Huff's Ferry. November 14 Marysville Loudoun Creek, Lenair Holston River, Campbell's Station, November 10, 1863; siege of Knoxville, November 17-December 6; Bean's Station, December 14; Blain's Cross Roads, December 16-19; Mossy Creek, December 24-29, 1863, all in Tennessee; and Munfordsville, Ken-

tucky, September 12-14, 1862. At Bean's Station Mr. Decker assisted in the capture of a train.

After his return from the front, Mr. Decker operated a sawmill in Posey township for a time, then engaged in farming, but soon returned to his sawmill work on the line of Vigo and Clay counties. He then successively engaged at the carpenter's trade, farmed and sunk a coal shaft in Perry township, removed two years later to Brazil and engaged in the grocery business, after a year embarked in the teaming and undertaking business, was in the grocery line with his brother Andrew, again worked as a carpenter and in 1886 established a business in second-hand merchandising. As a fraternalist Mr. Decker has been identified with the Ancient Order of United Workmen and with the General Canby Post No. 2, Grand Army of the Republic, at Brazil, Indiana.

On the 27th of August, 1864, Mr. Decker married Miss Loretta Jane West, who was born in Terre Haute, Indiana, and died July 30, 1887, when but thirty-four years of age. She was the daughter of William and Amanda (Lee) West. Her father was born in Clay county, Indiana, a son of James West, and he was a Terre Haute cabinet maker. He was a Republican, a Mason, a member of the Regulators (already mentioned), and of the Baptist church, and died in a soldier's hospital at Indianapolis from disease contracted in the Union army, in which he served as a member of the Seventy-first Regiment of Indiana Volunteers, Sixth Cavalry. Mrs. West was born in Vigo county, Indiana, was also married in that county, and Mrs. Decker was her only child. Four of the ten children born to Mr. and Mrs. Decker are living: Morton E., Charles S., Hattie B. and William W.

<CENTER><H3> Roswell T. DEETER</H3>

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ROSWELL T. DEETER.—In the early days of the history of Clay county there came to reside within its borders one who proved a valued factor in its upbuilding and future development, Jacob Deeter, the grandfather of Roswell T. He was a native of Pennsylvania, and after coming to Clay county, Indiana, he entered eighty acres of land in Perry township, while later he bought and entered from the government to the amount of three quarters of a section, and he also entered one hundred and sixty acres in Posey township, owning in all about six hundred acres or more in Clay county at one time. But he in later life gave most of his land to his sons; giving to each of his five sons eighty acres, and the same amount to his daughter, Mrs. Knighton. He was known and was very prominent throughout Clay county, and in addition to his farming he also did much masonry work for the Vandalia Railroad Company. His politics were Republican, and he was a member of the Christian church and died in its faith in Posey township.

Thomas Deeter, a son of this well remembered Clay county pioneer, was born in Ohio, but came with his father to Indiana in his boyhood, and in 1861 he entered the Civil war and was killed in North Carolina. In his early manhood he had married Katherine Barber, who was born in Ohio and came with her parents to Clay county when fourteen years of age, being a daughter of Aaron G. Barber, one of the pioneer farmers of Perry township. In their family were two children, a son and a daughter, and the latter, Sarah E., is the wife of John Q. Gummere, a farmer of Perry township. Mr. Deeter farmed in Posey township until entering the war, owning a little farm of eighty acres, and he was a life-long Republican and a member of the Christian church.

The district schools of Posey township afforded Roswell T. Deeter his educational training in his youth, and he was born on the same section of land on which he now resides July 15, 1859. It was in 1892 that he located on his present homestead place, where he has made many valuable and substantial improvements, and owns eighty acres of land in section 36. He is also a stockholder in the Brazil Wire Factory. He is independent in his political affiliations but endorses Republican principles, and has taken quite an active part in local political work. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Prairie Lodge No. 855, of Posey township.

In 1885 Mr. Deeter was married to Rosa B. Huffman, who died in February of 1888, leaving one son, Elmer. On the 30th of November, 1892, he wedded Mary Ann Kuefner, who was born in Peoria county, Illinois, a daughter of George and Elizabeth (Sipp) Kuefner. The parents were born in Germany, and coming to the United States were married in Hamilton, Ohio, from whence they moved to Hancock county, Illinois, and later to Peoria county, that state, their present home. Mrs. Deeter is the youngest of their ten children, three of whom were born in Ohio and seven in Illinois. and three of the number were sons. Mr. and Mrs. Deeter have had three children, but the only one now living is Frank Edward, who was born at their present home April 25, 1907. The other two children died in infancy. Mr. Deeter is a member of the Christian church.

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DAVID DIEL—Among the highly respected and esteemed citizens of Clay City is David Diel, who is now living retired from active pursuits. His father, Jacob Diel, and his grandfather, Henry Diel, were both natives of Pennsylvania, where Adam Diel, the great-grandfather of David, settled on coming from Germany to this country, and where he spent the remainder of his life.

Henry Diel was born, reared and married in Berks county, Pennsylvania, but in 1812 moved from there to Ohio, taking with him his wife, four children and all of his earthly possessions. A pioneer of Montgomery county, he bought a tract of timbered land that is now included within the corporate limits of the city of Dayton. He was the first blacksmith in that locality, and one of the first in the county. After a residence there of twenty years he settled in Wayne county, Indiana, which was then in its primitive wildness. Purchasing one hundred and sixty acres of timbered land, he cleared and improved the farm, on which he carried on general farming for twenty-two years. Coming then to Jackson township, Clay county, he purchased a partly improved farm, the management of which he left to his son Joseph, who was still a member of the parental household. There he lived, retired from the activities of life, until his death, September 15, 1858, at the venerable age of ninety years. He married Elizabeth Hetsel, who was born, of German parents, in Pennsylvania, and died at the very advanced age of ninety-six years. She belonged to a family noted for its longevity, her father having attained the age of ninety-nine years.

One of a family of ten children that grew to maturity, Jacob Diel was born in Berks county, Pennsylvania, in 1805, and when seven years old was taken by his parents to Montgomery county, Ohio, where he grew to manhood and married. Coming in 1830 to Indiana, he lived for four years in Fayette county, and from 1834 until 1847 was engaged in farming in Wayne county, where he had purchased wild land. Removing then to Clay county, he bought one hundred and sixty acres of timbered land in Jackson township, and soon the ringing strokes of his axe were heard as he leveled the giants of the forest in his endeavor to clear a space in which to erect a log cabin. He split boards to cover the roof of the cabin, holding them in place with poles, and split puncheon for the floor. His wife, who shared with him the privations of pioneer life, worked equally as hard, carding, spinning and weaving the homespwn in which she clothed her family, making the garments herself. He cleared a fine homestead, replaced the original log cabin with a substantial house made of hewed logs, built a good barn, and was there employed in tilling the soil until 1872. Going to Jasper county, Illinois, in that year, he bought an improved farm of two hundred acres, which he subsequently divided among his children, after which he made his home with his son William in Sugar Ridge township, Clay county, until his death at the age of ninety-one years and twenty-four days. He was a man of fine physique, stalwart and strong, weighing over two hundred pounds, and was very industrious and temperate in his habits. He married Sarah Kersehner, who was born in Pennsylvania, which was also the birthplace of her father. John Kerschner, who removed from there to Ohio in 1820,

and spent his last years in Montgomery county. Mrs. Sarah (Kersch-ner) Diel died in Jasper county, Illinois, aged seventy-two years. She reared nine children, namely: Emeline, David, Jacob, John, Daniel. Mary, Catherine, William and Lucinda. During the Civil war all of these sons enlisted in Company F. Fifty-first Indiana Volunteer Infantry. and Daniel died in the service, all of the others returning home, marry- ing, and rearing families.

Fourteen years old when he came to Clay county with his parents, David Diel had previously obtained the rudiments of his education in the pioneer schools of Wayne county, each day walking three miles to reach the rude log school house. He subsequently attended school in Jackson township for a while, in the meantime having a practical drilling in the various branches of agriculture, and remained at home until his mar- riage, when he began life as a farmer on rented land. In September, 1864, Mr. Diel enlisted in Company F, Fifty-first Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was with the regiment in all of its engagements until December 16, 1864, when, at the battle of Nashville, he was wounded and sent to the hospital. Recovering from his injury, he joined his regiment in Alabama in February, 1865, and continued with it till the close of the war serving in the states of Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia and North Carolina. Receiving his honorable discharge from the service June 14, 1865, Mr. Diel returned home, and during the ensuing six years was employed in a saw mill. He then resumed farming, and in 1881 pur- chased land in Perry town ship, where for twenty years he was prosper- ously employed in agricultural pursuits. In 1901 Mr. Diel removed to Brazil. and six years later, in September, 1907, traded his Brazil property for his present home estate in Clay City.

Mr. Diel married, in 1858, Catherine Latham, who was born in Cass township, Clay county, September 14, 1841, that being likewise the place of birth of her father, George W. Latham. Her grandfather, John Latham, moved from his native state, North Carolina, to Cass township, which then formed a part of Owen county, about 1818. He cleared and improved a farm from the wilderness, and after living there for a long time went with his son to Jackson township, where he lived until more than ninety years of age. His wife, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Lucas, died two years before he did. Reared on the home farm in Cass township, George W. Latham subsequently lived for a few years in Jack- son township, after which he sold the farm that he there owned and returned to Cass township. Buying land, he cleared and improved a homestead, on which he was employed in tilling the soil until his death, at the age of seventy-four years. He was a man of prominence in the community, and for twenty years served as a justice of the peace. His wife, whose maiden name was Lucinda Wilkerson, was born in Cass township, a daughter of Robert and Catherine (Moffit) Wilkerson, the former of whom was born in Ireland, of Scotch ancestry, and was a pioneer settler of Cass township. George W. Latham's first wife died at the early age of twenty-nine years and he married for his second wife Rhoda Slack, who is still living, being now eighty-five years of age.

Six children blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Diel, namely: Myra Ella, Sarah Lucinda, Rhoda Annis, Mary Elizabeth, Clarissa Catherine and Olive May. Myra Ella is the wife of Lawrence Loudermilk, and has four children, Bessie, Myrtie, Ray and Hester. Sarah Lucinda, wife of Daniel Meyers, has eight children, Gertie, George, Mabel, William, Edith, Leora, Dewey and Bernice. Rhoda Annis, wife of Charlie Bennett, has three children, Grace Belle, Fred and Freddie. Mary Elizabeth mar- ried Leander Overton, and they have one child, Elsie. Clara Catherine married William Schiele, who died in 1898. She lived but two years

longer, dying in May, 1900, and leaving one child, David William Schiele. Olive May is the wife of John Nevins. Three of the grandchildren of Mr. and Mrs. Diel are married, Bessie Loudermilk having married William Beasley ; Myrtie Loudermilk is also married and Gertie Meyers married Frank Nyer and has two children, Janice and an infant.

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Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II, <BR>  
au: William Travis,  
publ. 1909

<P></CENTER><CENTER><H3>William C. DIEL</H3></CENTER>

<PRE>

Progressive and enterprising and well versed in agricultural lore, William C. Diel, of Dick Johnson township, has built up an extensive and remunerative business as market gardner, the productions of his greenhouses metting a ready sale in near-by and more distant cities. A native of Indiana he was born December 13, 1864, in Jackson township, Clay county. He comes of thrifty German stock being a descendant in the fifth generation from the emigrant ancestor, Adam Diel, who emigrated from Germany to this country, the line being continued through Henry Diel, a native of Pennsylvania; Jacob Diel, Sr., who was born in Pennsylvania ; Jacob Diel, Jr., and William C. Diel. A more extended history of the Diel family may be found elsewhere in this volume, in connection with the sketch of David Diel.

Jacob Diel, Jr., was born in August, 1835, in Wayne county, Indiana, and when but a child was brought to Clay county by his parents. At that time Brazil was but a hamlet, and the surrounding country a dense wilderness, through which deer, bears and other wild beasts roamed at will, and wild turkeys and other game were plentiful. Although never learning a trade, he was a natural mechanic and for a number of years operated a shingle mill, managing that in addition to his labors as a farmer. During the Civil war he enlisted as a private in Company E, Fifty-first Indiana Volunteer Infantry, of which all of his brothers were members, and served his country bravely. After leaving Jackson township he lived for a few years in Perry and Cass townships, and is now a resident of Terre Haute. His wife, whose maiden name was Huldah Slack, was a daughter of John and Margaret (Wright) Slack, natives of North Carolina and pioneers of Clay county. She reared three children, namely: William C., the subject of this sketch; Joseph D.; and Francis M.

Having completed his early education in the public schools, William C. Diel began as a youth to make himself useful, his first employment being in his father's sawmill. At the time of his marriage he began farming on his own account in Cass township, remaining there until 1892. Going from there to Terre Haute, he worked first in the car shops, later following the carpenter's trade for awhile, and then entered the employ of L. H. Mahan, a market gardener, under whose instruction he became familiar with the special branch of agriculture in which he is now engaged. Returning to Clay county in 1901, Mr. Diel lived in different places for two years, in 1903 establishing himself on the farm where he now resides and beginning his present profitable work. Here he is well equipped for gardening purposes, the several greenhouses which he has built having a combined area of twenty-three thousand feet, giving him ample room for the raising of lettuce, of which he makes a specialty, his reputation in this line being one of which he may well be proud.

In April, 1886, Mr. Diel married Ludema Latham, a native of Cass township, Clay county, a daughter of David U. and Delaney (Mace) Latham. Her great-grandfather, John Latham, came to Cass township as a pioneer, secured large tracts of bottom lands on the Eel river, and was there extensively engaged in farming during the remainder of his life. George W. Latham, Mrs. Diel's grandfather, was engaged in agricultural pursuits in Cass township during the greater part of his life.

David U. Latham was a farmer by occupation, but in addition to his agricultural labors he was for a number of years employed in manufacturing shingles. He was a life-long resident of Cass township, where four of his sons are now living. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Diel has been blessed by the birth of six children, namely: Dennis; Elva; Della; Zora, who died in infancy; Stella; and Thelma. Mr. Diel is quite prominent in fraternal circles, belonging to Brazil Lodge No. 364, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; to Paul Revere Lodge No. 374, Knights of Pythias; to Brazil Camp No. 3418, Modern Woodmen of America; and to the Home Defenders No. 1.

<CENTER><H3>Dr. Frederick C. DILLEY</H3>

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Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II, <BR>

au: William Travis,

publ. 1909

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<PRE>

DR. FREDERICK C. DILLEY, a native of Clay county, Indiana, was born November 5, 1876, son of James N. and Percilla J. (Councilman) Dilley. The father was born in Mercer county, Pennsylvania, in 1839, and died in Brazil, Indiana, in 1901. He married Miss Councilman, a native of Mercer county, Pennsylvania, born in 1849. She died April, 1907. They were united in marriage in their native county and their only child was Frederick C. Upon coming to Indiana they settled, in 1869, at Knightsville, Clay county. Soon after Mr. Dilley arrived in Indiana he engaged in the drug trade, continuing for twelve or fourteen years, at the end of which period he returned to Rochester, Pennsylvania, where he followed the same line of business. After two years he believed he could better his interests by again taking up his abode in Indiana, so returned and located at Brazil, in which place he continued as a prosperous druggist until the date of his death in 1901. He bore well his part in putting down the rebellion. August 8, 1861, he enlisted as a member of Company A, Forty-first Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and served three years as a private, being mustered out with an honorable discharge. He was appointed sergeant of his company, and received his final discharge, at Cincinnati, Ohio, January 21, 1865, on certificate of disability. While doing picket duty, July 9, 1864, along the Chattahoochee river, Georgia, he was wounded. During his military services he participated in the engagements at the battle of Shilob, Stone River, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge and Resaca, His death was occasioned by his exposure, while in the army, in connection with other complaints. Politically, Mr. Dilley was a supporter of the Republican party, and held with credit to himself and his neighbors, the offices of school director and school treasurer for a number of years. He was an honored member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to Brazil Lodge, No. 264, A. F. & A. M., of which lodge he was a past master, having served a number of years and was ever an active, bright Mason. He was also a member of Brazil Lodge No. 30 of the order of Knights of Pythias, In his church connection he was identified with the Methodist Episcopal church.

Frederick C., son of James N. and Percilla J. Dilley, was educated in the high schools of Brazil and later chose medicine for his profession and studied under Doctor Joseph Eastman of Indianapolis, Indiana. He graduated from Central College of Physicians and Surgeons at Indianapolis, with the class of 1898, since which date he has been actively engaged in the practice of his profession at Brazil, where he has won an enviable reputation as a medical practitioner and a skilful surgeon. In his political affiliations, Dr. Dilley is a Republican. He is a worthy member of the Indiana State Medical Society and American Medical Association. and in 1908 he was elected president of the Fifth Councilor District of the Indiana State Medical Association. In civic societies he is numbered among the active members of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, Brazil Lodge, No. 762, of which he is now the exalted ruler. He is also a member of the Brazil Lodge, No. 38 Knights of Pythias order; and the Home Defenders of America. At this date (summer of 1908) he is secretary of the Brazil city board of health, in which position he is proving himself highly efficient.

Of his domestic relations it may be stated that Dr. Dilley was married

March 14, 1900, to May E. Leavitt, a native of Clay county, Indiana, daughter of William and Margaret (Lewis) Leavitt, both natives of Ohio and now residing in Brazil, Indiana. Dr. Dilley's wife is the fourth child in a family of six children now living.

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[Back to;<a href="http://www.rootsweb.com/~inclay/bios.html">Clay County Bio Page</a>]

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The Brazil Democrat<BR>

<P></CENTER><CENTER><H3>Albert DINKEL</H3></CENTER>

<PRE>

The only practical and experienced florist in Brazil, or Clay Co, is the subject of this sketch. Albert Dinkel was born in Lancaster, PA March 31,1859, moved to Terre haute with his parents in 1865 and came to Brazil in 1891. For twelve years Mr. Dinkel was in the employ of the Heinl brothers of Terre Haute as florist, gaining knowledge and experience in his ine that have served so well in the establishment of his business in this city. Wedding and party decorations and designs of floral tributes are specialties in which Mr. Dinkel cannot be excelled. His green houses covered with three thousand feet of glass contain a general assortment of bedding and decorative plants and he keeps in season a full line of bulbs, including calla lilies, hacinths, tulips, norcises, daffadills, joanquils, crocuses etc. Choice cut roses and cut flowers are furnished at all times in the year. Many are the visitors to Mr. Dinkel's floral establishment on north Walnut street and few go away who have not profited by the visit. Personally an affable gentleman, Dr. Dinkel takes special pains to be courteous in his treatment of patrons and has earned the reputation of dealing with them fairly. All are invited to inspect his green houses and will be welcome. In 1880 Mr. Dinkel was married to Miss Emma Montgomery at Terre Haute. The family residence adjoins the greenhouses.

The Brazil Democrat

December 1895

Brazil, IN

Louis Holtman, Publisher

<CENTER><H3>Joel S. DRAKE</H3>  
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1884 History of Clay County, p. 399.<BR>

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES. <BR>Bowling Green and Washington Township.  
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<PRE>

JOEL S. DRAKE, of Bowling Green, was born in Meade County, Ky., January 24, 1831, and is the seventh of nine children of Greenberry and Nancy (Lane) Drake, native of Virginia and of English origin. Our subject was reared on a farm, working in the summer and attending the common schools in the winter seasons. In this way he acquired an education that qualified him as a school teacher. In his younger days he also acquired the trade of brick-mason, which trade he followed for twenty-eight years. After serving his time, he went to Des Moines, Iowa, where he sojourned about fifteen years, when he returned to Bowling Green, and purchased a farm of 140 acres near the town, and on this farm he now resides; said farm has all the improvements necessary to make home pleasant and attractive. He was married, June 18, 1873, to Melissa Shafer, a native of Owen County, Ind., and a daughter of Elijah and Rhoda Ann Shafer, natives of Ohio, and of German and Irish descent. To them have been born four children, viz., Maude S., Nancy A., Howard J., and Albert A., all of whom are living. October 7, 1880, Mrs, Drake died. She was a devoted member of the Christian Church. By his own hands and skill, Mr. Drake has made the farm he now owns and occupies; in short, he "is the architect of his own fortune."

<CENTER><H3>Thomas DRAKE</H3>

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1884 History of Clay County, p. 399.<BR>

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES. <BR>Bowling Green and Washington Township.

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<PRE>

THOMAS DRAKE, a resident of Bowling Green, was born in Barren County, Ky., November 18, 1815, and is the second of nine children of Greenberry and Nancy (Lane) Drake, natives of Virginia, and of English lineage. He was brought up on a farm, and received his education in the common schools. He emigrated from Kentucky with his pparnts in 1831, locating in Washington Township, Clay County. Here Here his parents resided until their death. January 14, 1842, Mr. Drake was married to Mariah, daughter of Lee and Jerusha Bybee, natives of Kentucky. After his marriage, he continued farming in Clay County, where he has since resided on a farm of 190 acres of land, which he owns. His farm has all the modern improvements. He is one of the pioneers of Clay County, and with his own hands has made and improved the beautiful farm which is his home. To Mr. and Mrs. Drake have been born two children, viz., Margaret (Allee) and Stewart. For two years he was a member of the City Council of Bowling Green. His wife is a member of the Christian Church.

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Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II, <BR>  
au: William Travis,  
publ. 1909

<P><H3>Oscar T. DUNAGAN</H3>

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Oscar T. DUNAGAN who is a teacher and practicing attorney of Sugar Ridge township, Clay county, Indiana, residing at Center Point, was born in Parke county, Indiana, October 6, 1832, and was educated in the public schools of Clay county, in Ladoga Seminary, Indiana, in the Terre Haute Commercial College, the Michigan University and the Indiana State Normal School. He is a son of Solomon and Eliza (Seybold) Dunagan. The father was a native of Morgan county and the mother of Parke county, Indiana. The father died in 1854 in Parke county, and in 1857 Mrs. Dunagan married Charles W. Moss and they moved to Sugar Ridge township. Clay county, where they owned a farm containing about two thousand acres, divided between timber and farm lands. Mrs. Moss died in 1904, aged seventy-one years, leaving one daughter. Mrs. Alattie Webster, of Terre Haute, a sister of the subject; also a half brother and five half sisters.

Mr. Dunagan remained at home with his parents until his marriage in 1878, when he was united to Susan Ambrose, of Center Point, a daughter of Lewis F. and Elizabeth (Phillip) Ambrose, natives of Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, where she was born. He began teaching school in 1868, when sixteen years of age, and still follows this profession a part of his time. He has taught in the Center Point schools, in township schools, and was superintendent of schools in Martin county, Indiana. He has also taught in Warrior, Alabama, Mt. Lebanon University, Louisiana; has been superintendent of the Pima Indian Boarding School in Arizona, and was principal of the Aurora, Illinois, Normal School. During the past five years he has held the position of principal of the Perry- township and Sugar Ridge township high schools. In 1874-75 he took a course in law at the Michigan University, and was admitted to the bar in Indiana in 1875. During his vacations from school he has practiced law, but has made teaching his specialty. He has performed considerable special work in township and county institutes in Indiana, and has also worked with county superintendents and teachers in county normals for five sessions. A judge of the circuit court, a number of the members of the bar and a large number of teachers in Clay county are numbered among the pupils of Mr. Dunagan, aside from many good business men of the county. Politically he is an ardent supporter of the Republican party.

Mr. and Mrs. Dunagan are the parents of the following children  
Lois L., now a milliner; Verna L., a music teacher; and Carlos, a student in the high school of Brazil.

1884 History of Clay County, p. 424.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES. Clay City and Harrison Township

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<H3>Isaiah Hamilton DUNCAN</H3>

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ISAIAH HAMILTON DUNCAN, farmer and stock-raiser, was born in this township December 4, 1832, and is a son of Isaiah and Nancy (Murdock) Duncan, natives of South Carolina and Georgia and of Scotch and Irish descent respectively. Our subject remained at home until he was twenty-two years of age, and acquired from the subscription schools an average education. December 31, 1858, he married, in Owen County, Mahala Winters, a union which gave birth to seven children, six of whom died in infancy -- Elsie, Wilson and Willard (twins) Sylvia A., Ura C., and one unnamed; the only living issue is Julia Ann. Mr. Duncan is an uncompromising Democrat. He is an industrious man and an esteemed citizen. He was a member of the late Grange organization, and Master of his lodge. In 1869, Mr. Duncan was elected Township Trustee, an office which he held for eight successive years. Mrs. Duncan is a member of the Christian Church.

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Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II, <BR>  
au: William Travis,  
publ. 1909

<P></CENTER><CENTER><H3>Walter Covington DUNCAN</H3></CENTER>

<PRE>

WALTER COVINGTON DUNCAN, M. D.—Among the representative business men of Harrison township is Walter C. Duncan, M. D., a well-known druggist of Clay City. A native of Indiana, he was born October 13, 1855, at Noblesville, Hamilton county. He comes from substantial Scotch ancestry, being a lineal descendant in the fifth generation from the immigrant ancestor, the line of descent being thus traced: Coleman, Daniel Coleman, Henry Coleman, Coleman Covington, and Walter Covington.

Coleman Duncan, who was born in Dumfriesshire, Scotland, came with his brother George to America in colonial days, settling in Virginia, where he lived during the remainder of his life. Daniel Coleman Duncan removed with his family from Virginia to Kentucky, becoming a pioneer of Hopkinsville, and was there employed in tilling the soil until his death. James Coleman Duncan was born in Culpeper county, Virginia, but was brought up on the Kentucky homestead. When a young man he came to Indiana as a pioneer settler of Hendricks county. Taking up a tract of timbered land three miles north of Salem, in the Fort Red School House district, he reclaimed a farm from the wilderness, on which he resided until his death, and many of his descendants are now living in that vicinity. He was twice married, and was the father of sixteen children, and as his second wife was a widow with six children when he married her he had the care of twenty-two children, truly a patriarchal family.

Coleman Covington Duncan was born in 1831, in Hendricks county, Indiana, on the parental homestead. He was reared to agricultural pursuits, and as a boy eagerly seized every opportunity for increasing his knowledge and advancing his education beyond that obtained in the common schools. When ready to start in life on his own account he embarked in the mercantile business, for a number of years thereafter being located at Carpentersville, Putnam county, Indiana. From there he went to Otterville, Boone county, Missouri, where he dealt in live stock until after the breaking out of the Civil War. Returning then to this state, he kept a hotel at Greencastle for a number of years, and then engaged in the marble business in Illinois, first in Salem, and later in Vandalia. Giving up that business, he again came back to Indiana, and after a short residence in Brazil settled in Clay City, and here spent his last days, dying at the age of seventy-three years. His wife, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Glen, was born in Hendricks county, Indiana, sixty-seven years ago, a daughter of William A. and Mary (McKenzie) Glen. Her parents were both born in Virginia, of colonial ancestry, and were among the earlier settlers of Hendricks county. Of the children born to Coleman C. and Elizabeth Duncan four grew to maturity, as follows: Walter C., the subject of this sketch; James William; Mary; and Frank.

Walter C. Duncan received his early education in the public schools, and at the age of nineteen years began the study of medicine with Dr. R. H. Hogan, then one of the leading practitioners of Salem, Illinois. He subsequently attended lectures at the Saint Louis Medical College from which he was graduated with the degree of M. D. in 1876. The ensuing year Dr. Duncan practiced with his former preceptor, and then located in Vandalia, Illinois, where he was in active practice for eight

years. Removing then to Smithboro, Illinois, he was there located as a physician for three years, in his professional career meeting with success. Coming to Clay City in 1889, the Doctor purchased a drug business which he has conducted most successfully ever since.

Dr. Duncan married, in 1889, Mrs. Elizabeth (Perkins) Brown, who was born in Bond county, Illinois, a daughter of Henry and Mary Perkins. By her marriage with Mr: Brown, Mrs. Duncan has one child, William Brown, of Millbury Grove, Bond county, Illinois.

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<P></CENTER><CENTER><H3>Franklin Pierce ELLIOTT</H3></CENTER>

<PRE>

Among the sturdy, energetic and thriving agriculturists of Clay county who have a thorough understanding of their vocation and consequently are enabled to carry on that calling most profitably is Franklin P. Elliott, of Perry township, a well-known and prosperous farmer. A son of Bluford Elliott, he was born November 16, 1852, in Washington county, Indiana, near Salem.

Mr. Elliott's paternal grandfather, William Elliott, lived in North Carolina until sixteen years old. Ambitious then to try life on the frontier, he came to the territory of Indiana, which seemed to him a land of bright promise. Locating in Floyd county, he lived and labored there until after his marriage with Nancy Biarly, who, it is thought, was born in that county. Settling then in Washington county, he was employed as a tiller of the soil near Salem until about 1860, when he went to Middletown, Vigo county, where he continued his independent occupation during the remainder of his active life. Both he and his wife there attained good old ages, he being eighty-two years old at the time of his death, and she nearly as old when she died.

A native of Washington county, Indiana, Bluford Elliott was there reared to agricultural pursuits, and there spent the earlier years of his life. Locating in Vigo county in 1853, he rented land near Centerville, and there as a general farmer met with good success. Seven years later, having accumulated some money, he bought a tract of unimproved land lying three and one-half miles northwest of Centerville, and having cleared away a part of the brush and timber erected a substantial hewed log house, which is still standing and is in excellent condition. He planted fruit and shade trees, and made other improvements of value, and there resided until his death, at the age of three score years. He married Margaret Hauger, who was born in Washington county, Indiana, a daughter of Solomon and Miss (Perkizer) Hauger. Her father, a native of Pennsylvania, fought in the Indian wars. He was a pioneer of Washington county, Indiana, but afterwards located in Middletown, Vigo county, where he purchased a small farm, which he managed as long as he was able, and on which both he and his wife lived to advanced ages, her death occurring about a year before his. Mrs. Bluford Elliott survived her husband, passing away at the age of eighty years. She reared seven children, namely: Franklin Pierce, Milton, Edward, Clifford, Mary, Martha and Philander.

But a year old when his parents settled in Vigo county, Franklin P. Elliott was brought up amid pioneer scenes. There were at that time no railroads in the state, transportation being made by teams, and Terre Haute, the most convenient market, was but a small village. He began as a boy to assist on the farm, remaining at home until twenty-five years old. Working then by the day or month, he saved his earnings until he had enough to buy a team, when he rented land and commenced his career as an independent farmer. Prosperity greeting his efforts, he was enabled in 1888 to buy in section thirty-four, Perry township, a farm which had been partly cleared and had a fair set of farm buildings. Selling out in 1898, Mr. Elliott bought the place which he now occupies and has since

carried on general farming with good results. He has eighty acres of rich land, well improved, and a substantial set of buildings, the whole estate being a credit to his industry and good management.

Mr. Elliott married first, November 16, 1882, Louisa Latham, who was born in North Carolina, and died on the home farm in Perry township November 18, 1903. Her parents, Solomon and Elizabeth (Bolin) Latham, came from North Carolina to Indiana in November, 1860, locating in Montgomery county at first, but afterwards living in Putnam county, and then at Sugar Ridge township, Clay county, and later in Perry township, where both spent their last days, Mrs. Latham surviving her husband a few years. Mr. Elliott married second Mrs. Senna (Goedeker) Latham, who was born in Holland, a daughter of Joseph Goedeker. Mr. Goedeker was born, reared and married in Germany. On leaving the Fatherland he lived for awhile in Holland, and then, accompanied by his wife, two children and his mother, emigrated to Indiana, settling in Terre Haute, where he worked for awhile at the carpenter's trade. He subsequently bought land in Perry township, and was here engaged in carpentering and farming until his death.

Mrs. Elliott married for her first husband Noah Latham, who was born in North Carolina, a son of Solomon Latham. He died in 1902, leaving six children, namely: John F., Lon, Lana, Lizzie, Annie and Elsie. John F. Latham married Mattie Gibbons, and they have four children, Ruth, Carl, Daisy and Iretha. Lon Latham married Minnie Varner, and they have two children, Clifford and Dorothy. Lana, wife of George Cortner, has four children, Jessie, Rosa, Glendolin and Willis. Lizzie married Oliver Bosley and they have one child, Esther. Mr. Elliott is a Democrat.

<CENTER><H3>Theodore Wilhelm Englehart</H3>  
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My GGgrandfather was Theodore Wilhelm Englehart or "T.W." as he was known in the city of Brazil. He was a businessman in Brazil, founding the Englehart Drug Company, and the East End Drug Store and the West End Pharmacy. He was appointed Postmaster in 1917. He was one of the organizers of the Citizens Telephone Company. He also went into the automobile industry locally. These were just a few of his many endeavors in Clay County, Indiana. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Brazil. T.W. was very involved in civic and fraternal circles. He served from 1911 to 1914 on the City Board of Education. He was on the committee to choose the site and construction of the Clay County Court House. He was a member of the Masonic Blue Lodge, the IOOF lodge of Harmony. He was born in New Philadelphia Ohio in 1863, and died in Brazil in 1932.

T.W.'s daughter Lenore Catherine Englehart is my Ggrandmother, and she died just months after I was born. Lenore married Wilbur Rogers. Their daughter Rosemary Rogers (b: 1921 in Brazil and graduated 1938 from Brazil High) married my grandfather Frederick McLaughlin (a 1937 Brazil High graduate, but not a native Brazilian) in 1942.

T.W.'s other children were:

Bertie (born 1890, died at 6 yrs.)

Otto Theodore (born 1892, married Lucia Kerfoot)

Ira Holland (born 1894, married Virginia McNutt)

Maggie Harriet (born 1898, married Kenneth Wilson)

Ruth Lucille (born 1903, married Standiford "Henny" Shattuck - no children)

I actually had the honor of meeting my great Aunt Ruth Shattuck around Christmas of 1980 (when I was 5 yrs. old) before she died in 1982(???). My grandmother Rosemary has fond memories of all her Aunts and Uncles, who primarily lived in Brazil throughout her childhood.

I forgot to list my sources on the first biography, AND I messed up my email address.

This is a mixture of information received from the Clay County history book of my grandmother Rosemary Rogers, a family history compiled by my Aunt Ruth Shattuck. I also have some info in here from talks with my grandmother Rosemary Rogers McLaughlin.

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Please email me with any questions.<BR>

<A HREF="mailto:Famtreel@aol.com">Brian McLaughlin</A>

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Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II, <BR>  
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<P></CENTER><CENTER><H3>Lewis ENGLEHART</H3></CENTER>

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Lewis ENGLEHART, who is known as one of the most prominent business men and agriculturists of Jackson township, is a representative of a pioneer family of Clay county, and the history of his parents is given in the sketch of his brother, John W. Englehart, in this work. When a boy of twelve Lewis Englehart came with his parents to Clay county, Indiana, and he completed his educational training in the district schools of Jackson township. His birth occurred in Tuscarawas county, Ohio, June 21, 1853, and after leaving school he spent three years as a clerk in a mercantile store in Bowling Green. Returning then to his father's homestead he took charge of the farm, and this valuable old place has ever since been his home. He helped to clear its land, and at the time of his father's death he rented eighty acres of the place, and has since become the owner of one hundred and fifty-one acres, all of which is under an excellent state of cultivation. He makes a specialty of the raising of stock, handling thoroughbred English Berkshire hogs and short-horn cattle, and he also owns a house and lot in Terre Haute and property in Indianapolis.

Mr. Englehart married, November 6, 1875, Rosanna Raab, and the history of her father, Valentine Raab, also appears on other pages of this work. She was born in Ohio, but was reared in Clay county, Indiana, and in her girlhood days attended the district schools of Jackson township. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Englehart has been blessed by the birth of four children, namely: Phoebe, the wife of Homer Boyd, a Jackson township farmer; Margaret, deceased; and John A. and Charles F., all of whom were born on the old Englehart homestead. The politics of Mr. Englehart are Democratic, and he is a member of the Red Men and of the Lutheran church.

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Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II, <BR>  
au: William Travis,  
publ. 1909

<P></CENTER><CENTER><H3>John W. ENGLEHART</H3></CENTER>

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The farming interests of Clay county include among its most prominent representatives John E. Englehart, whose attractive and valuable homestead is located in section 11, Jackson township. The three years subsequent to his marriage and leaving home were spent in Harmony, Indiana, where he was engaged in teaming and coal mining, and then coming to Jackson township he bought forty acres of land, the nucleus of his present estate of one hundred and thirty and a half acres, of which he has cleared about eighty acres and has made many valuable and substantial improvements. He makes a specialty of the raising of stock, and is very successful in both his farming and stock interests.

Mr. Englehart was born in Tuscarawas county, Ohio, March 20, 1846, and is of German parentage. His father, John Englehart, for many years a prominent farmer in Jackson township, was born in Germany, and when a young man came to America and married in Zanesville, Ohio, where he first located, a native daughter of his own country, Magdalena Zimmerman, they becoming the parents of five children, three sons and two daughters. For several years after coming to America Mr. Englehart worked at the stone cutter's trade, and was then engaged in agricultural pursuits in Ohio until his removal to Clay county, Indiana, in an early period in its history. He arrived here soon after the war and bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Jackson township, which he and his sons cleared of its dense growth of timber, and this farm continued as his home until his death. He gave his political allegiance to the Democratic party, and was a member of the Lutheran church.

His son, John W. Englehart, was a young man when he came to Clay county, and he was married in Jackson township in 1869 to Lena Byers, who was born and reared in Zanesville, Ohio. Her father, John Byers, came from his native land of Germany to America when a young man and located in Ohio, where he was married to Lena Bastian, also a native of the fatherland, and together they came to Clay county about five years subsequent to the arrival of Mr. Englehart, purchasing one hundred and sixty acres of land in Jackson township. Mr. Englehart affiliates with the Democracy, and is a member of the Lutheran church.

<CENTER><H3>John A. FALLS</H3>

<P>

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II, <BR>

au: William Travis,

publ. 1909

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JOHN A. FALLS, a retired farmer of Posey township, was born in Muskingum county, Ohio, July 8, 1829. His father, John W. Falls, was born in either Ohio or Virginia, but was reared in Ohio and was there married to Mary Marks, a native daughter of the state, Four children were born to them in Ohio—Mary Jane, John, Susan F. and Hester Ann. Mr. Falls, the father, went to Charleston, Illinois, in his later life and died there, He was first an old-line Whig in his political affiliations, finally transferring his allegiance to the Republican party at the time of its organization, and he was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. The father of John W. Falls was born in Ireland.

John A. Falls came to Indiana from Ohio in 1850, where he was born and educated, and located in Cloverland, resuming at once his former trade of a potter. After several years at that occupation he obtained a half interest in the business with which he was connected. In company with William Carpenter he later bought seventy-one acres of land in Posey township, of which they cleared about ten acres, and finally Mr. Falls bought his partner's interest in the land and is now the owner of the entire seventy acres. He has also bought other lands in Posey township, and now has in all about one hundred and forty-five and a half acres and property in Cloverland. About 1902, however, he retired from the active work of the farm.

Mr. Falls married, June 26, 1857, Katherine A. Carpenter, who was born in Pennsylvania October 2, 1836, and was but three years of age when brought by her parents to Clay county, Indiana. Her father was George Carpenter, one of the early pioneers of Cloverland, where Mrs. Falls was reared and educated. She was the fourth in her parents' family of nine children. Three children have been born to Mr, and Mrs. Falls—Clara Ellen (deceased), Carrie L. and Harry D., all of whom were born and reared in Cloverland. Mr. Falls has been a life-long member of the Republican party, and he is a prominent and worthy member of the United Brethren church.

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<P></CENTER><CENTER><H3>Jonathan Marion FAST</H3></CENTER>

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JONATHAN MARION FAST.—One of the enterprising business factors of Brazil, Indiana, is a native of Ohio, born in Ashland county, May 16, 1839, son of George and Sarah (Brink) Fast, both of whom were born in Pennsylvania in 1807. The father died in Ashland county, Ohio, in 1889 on July 4. The mother died in the same county and state in 1878, aged seventy-two years. This worthy couple were the parents of eight children, five of whom still survive. They are as follows: William, living in Ohio; Jonathan M., of this memoir; Hannah, wife of Abraham Myers, residing in Ohio; Dellia, wife of James Tuttle, now a resident of Michigan; George, also resides in Michigan. The paternal grandparents, Christian and Barbara Fast, were early settlers in Ohio, and George, father of Jonathan M., spent his life in Ohio, following farming for his livelihood. He owned a farm of one hundred and eighty-five acres. He was fond of good horses and kept many. He cleared up a farm from out the forest and became a well-to-do man. Politically, he was an old line Whig and later upon the formation of the Republican party, supported that, but neversought or held public office. He was a consistent member of the Christian church.

Christian Fast, the grandfather, was taken prisoner by the Indians when but sixteen years of age, but finally made his escape from them and while swimming the river and in mid-stream, he saw the Indians on the opposite shore, so he simply floated down stream—which was the Ohio—but was finally recaptured by the Indians. He was then adopted into an Indian family and held for eighteen months, but at the time over five hundred Indians started out to capture Fort Wheeling, he made good his escape. Subsequently, he married in Pennsylvania and removed to Ashland county, Ohio, where he took up government land upon which tract he built a log cabin. He was among the early pioneers of Ohio, and many years later, a son of the Indian who had adopted him, found him in Ohio and made him an offer of all the land he could walk around in a day, if he would return to the tribe to which lie belonged, but of course this seemingly liberal offer, made in good faith upon the Indian's part, was not accepted.

Jonathan M. Fast spent his youthful days in Ohio and in 1872 came to Indiana, locating at Brazil, where he engaged in the bakery and confectionery business, with William Shannon. This firm carried on an extensive and profitable business up to the date of the death of Mr. Shannon, after which the widow retained her interest up to November 27, 1907, when Mr. Fast purchased her interest. The subject is now numbered among the oldest business men of Brazil and bears the good will and respect of the entire community in which he has traded for so many years. Politically, he is a staunch Republican. He has served the city as member of the council for six years and has always been interested in the welfare of his home city and county.. He is a member of the Brazil Knights of Pythias, Lodge No. 30; also belongs to Lodge No. 762, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

In the month of April, 1867 he was united in marriage to Frances V. Shannon, in Ashland county, Ohio, in which county she was born in 1845; she died in September, 1905. Her parents were both natives of

Ohio. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Fast were: Elza D., and William.

<CENTER><H3>John Charles G. FERGUSON</H3>

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Charles G. Ferguson was a native of Burlington county, New Jersey, born near Bordentown, October 8, 1814. He learned coach painting at the age of fifteen years, which he followed in his native state and in the cities of Philadelphia and Brooklyn until 1846, and during this period of seventeen years painted many of the first railroad coaches manufactured in this country, having been in the employment of the Camden & Amboy Railroad, the first one in the state of New Jersey; he engaged in mercantile pursuits in his native state until 1856, when he came to Indiana, locating in Putnam county, where he purchased land and engaged in farming for the period of nine or ten years, then he re-engaged in merchandising, at Webster's Mill, on Walnut, or Eel river, where he did business for two or three years, then moved to Harmony, in 1868, where he continued to do a store business during the remainder of his life, a period of practically forty years.

May 19, 1835, he married Miss Elizabeth Bunting, at Bordentown, who died February 6, 1882. Mr. Ferguson was a close observer and reader and an interesting conversationalist, endowed with a most remarkably retentive memory and enjoyed relating to friends the incidents of his earlier life experiences. From his great store of reminiscences he related that when the first locomotive for the Camden & Amboy Railroad was shipped over from England, the farmers and people generally of the rural districts of the state of New Jersey petitioned the governor and legislature not to permit its being used, as it would ruin the state by running over and killing them and their stock. April 20, 1906, he died at the ripe old age of ninety-one years, six months and twelve days. He was the father of George B. Ferguson, of the firm of Moore & Ferguson, Brazil, and of William H. Ferguson, Washington, Daviess county.

<CENTER><H3>Charles Cutler FESLER</H3>

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CHARLES CUTLER FESLER.—Widely and favorably known as the post-master at Clay City, Charles C. Fesler takes a genuine interest in everything pertaining to his adopted township and county, and is among the foremost to forward all enterprises of a beneficial nature. He was born May 13, 1852, in Hutsonville, Crawford county, Illinois, a son of Nicholas Fesler, and is of excellent German ancestry.

A native of North Carolina, Nicholas Fesler was but a boy when he accompanied his parents on their overland journey to Illinois. He subsequently grew to manhood in Crawford county, that state, and after beginning life for himself was employed at different trades, including those of a wool carder, a shoemaker and a carpenter. He spent his closing years in Bellair, Crawford county, dying in 1891 at the venerable age of seventy-nine years. He married Mrs. Lucinda (Sweeney) Dorothy, a widow with one child, Francis M. Dorothy, who passed the last years of his life in Clay City, Indiana. Of this union the following named children were born: James O.; Emily; Kate S.; William; and Margaret M. and Charles C., twins.

Brought up in his native county, Charles C. Fesler began the battle of life very young, having been but eleven years old when he commenced to be self supporting. For three years he worked as a farm laborer, and at the age of fourteen entered a general store at Bellair, Illinois, as a clerk, and remained thus employed until 1870. Going then to Effingham, Illinois, he there worked in a lunch room two summers. In 1872 he located at Terre Haute, Indiana, where for seven years he was employed as clerk and bookkeeper in a grocery store. Coming to Clay City in October, 1879, Mr. Fesler was here engaged in mercantile pursuits with his half-brother, the late Francis M. Dorothy, until 1885, when the partnership was dissolved. Opening then a grocery in this city, he operated it alone until 1894. For a few years thereafter he was employed in various ways, in 1897 superintending the building of the first gravel road made in Harrison township. In 1899 Mr. Fesler was appointed by President McKinley postmaster at Clay City, and at the expiration of his term, four years later, was reappointed to the same office by President Roosevelt, who again reappointed him to the office in February, 1908.

Mr. Fesler married, in 1883, Mrs. Mary (Reed) Long, who was born in Ohio, a daughter of Samuel Reed. She married for her first husband Brishon Long, by whom she had two children, namely: Orville, deceased, and Nettie, wife of Dr. H. O. Woodrow. Fraternally Mr. Fesler is a charter member of Uncas Tribe, No. 68, Improved Order of Red Men, organized in 1882; a member of Martz Lodge, No. 360, Independent Order of Odd Fellows; and of Clay City Lodge, No. 562, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, organized in 1880, and of which he is a charter member, and was secretary and worshipful master for years. Of the first two lodges he has been treasurer since 1893. Politically he is an earnest advocate of the principles of the Republican party.



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<P><H3>John FIELD</H3></CENTER>

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John FIELD, ESQ. A man of keen perceptions, strict integrity and sterling worth, John Field, Esq., of Lewis township, enjoys the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens to a high degree. Public-spirited and capable, he has never shirked the responsibilities of office, and has filled the various positions to which he has been elected with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of all concerned. A native of Lewis township, he was born October 8, 1852, a son of Aquilla Field.

Mr. Field received his early education in the common schools and since attaining manhood has been variously employed, he has rendered appreciated service as deputy county coroner and as deputy county prosecutor, and at the present time is justice of the peace. in this capacity he has won an enviable reputation as a wise and impartial dispenser of justice, his decisions being almost invariably accepted as honest and just.

On March 20, 1884, Mr. Field married Amanda Bledsoe, who was born in Greene county, Indiana, a daughter of William and Mary A. (Neal) Bledsoe, and granddaughter of Rev. John Neal, a pioneer preacher of Indiana. Seven children have been born of the Union of Mr. and Mrs. Field, namely: Celestia, Henry, Evard, Herman, Maria, Lillian and Lola.

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<P></CENTER><CENTER><H3>Lewis FIELD</H3></CENTER>

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Distinguished as a native-born citizen of Lewis township, and as the descendant of an honored pioneer family, Lewis Field is, also, a representative of the prosperous and well-to-do farmers of this part of Clay county. An experienced agriculturist, possessing sound sense, good judgment, and an energetic nature, he has been quite successful in the work to which he has given his attention since early youth. A son of the late Aquilla Field, he was born in Lewis township, Clay county, Indiana, December 13, 1854, and was here reared and educated.

Henry Field, the grandfather of Lewis, was born in Kentucky, and for a number of years after his marriage resided there. Coming with his family to Indiana in 1830, when this section of the country was in its primeval wildness, he bought land in Honey Creek township, Vigo county, lying about six miles from the site of the Court House at Terre Haute. With true pioneer courage, he began the improvement of his land, and on the farm which he reclaimed from the wilderness, both he and his wife, whose maiden name was Miss Ball, spent the remainder of their lives.

A native of Kentucky, Aquilla Field was born, February 24, 1824, and when six years old came with his parents to Indiana. Brought up on the home farm in Honey Creek township, he learned the trades of a carpenter and a shoemaker when young, and after settling in life for himself made the shoes and did the carpentering for the family. In the spring of 1844 Mr. Field came to Lewis township, Clay county, where he had previously entered forty acres of government land in section thirty. He lived for a few months on land lying near his own, and while living there built a hewed log house on his own tract, and in the fall of the year took possession of it. There were neither railways nor canals here at that time, and no convenient markets, the chief subsistence of the people hereabout being produced on farms, or obtained by expert marksmen from the surrounding forest, which was filled with deer, wild turkeys, and other kinds of game. Devoting his time to the clearing of the land and the tilling of the soil, he lived and labored here until his death, in April, 1901. He was twice married. His first wife, whose maiden name was Martha Hughes, was born in Ohio, a daughter of John Hughes, a pioneer of Honey Creek township. She died in March, 1859, leaving six children, namely: Susan, Henry, James, John, Lewis, and Thomas. He married second Nancy Holladay, by whom he had four children, as follows: George, Lucinda, William, and Frank.

Leaving the parental homestead when ready to assume the responsibilities of a married man, Lewis Field settled on the farm which he now owns and occupies. It then contained but fifty acres, thirty of which had been cleared, and a hewed log house had been built. Beginning work with a will, he added constantly to the improvements already begun on the place, setting out fruit trees of several varieties, erecting a substantial set of frame buildings, and has since bought additional land. On this pleasant homestead of ninety acres, he is now carrying on general farming and stock-raising to great advantage, meeting with well-merited success in his agricultural operations.

On February 29, 1880, Mr. Field married Elizabeth Henry, who was born in Columbiana county, Ohio, July 7, 1854, a daughter of Jacob

Henry. Her grandfather, David Henry, was born in Pennsylvania, where his parents, who were born in Ireland, of Scotch ancestors, settled on coming to the United States to live. He subsequently migrated to Gallia county, Ohio, where he spent his closing years. He married Nancy Lyons, who was born in Pennsylvania, of Irish parents, and died in Beaver county, Pennsylvania. Jacob Henry was born and reared in Beaver county, his birth occurring March 1, 1829. He married Elvira Rowles, who was born in Ohio, close to the Pennsylvania state line, a daughter of William and Dorothy (Leach) Rowles. Mr. and Mrs. Rowles were both natives of Culpeper county, Virginia, and were there married. They subsequently moved to Ohio, following the emigrants' trail on horseback, and taking with them all of their earthly possessions. Settling on land situated about five miles from Palestine, Columbiana county, they spent the remainder of their lives on the farm they improved from its original wildness. Of the fifteen children born to Mr. and Mrs. Rowles, twelve grew to years of maturity, and all married and had large families. After their marriage, Jacob Henry and his wife lived on the Rowles homestead, in Columbiana county, Ohio, until 1858, when they came to Greene county, Indiana. Buying a tract of timber land in Wright township, they built a log house, improved quite a portion of the land, and lived there till the family were grown. Mrs. Henry died in November, 1904. Mr. Henry sold that property, and is now living in Sullivan county. Mr. and Mrs. Henry reared nine children, as follows: David W.; Elizabeth, now Mrs. Field; James P.; Leroy; Rachel; Lewis; Thomas; Marietta; and Alfred. Mrs. Field is a woman of culture, and at the age of sixteen began teaching school and taught for seventeen consecutive terms, being very successful as an educator. Mr. and Mrs. Field have three children, namely Rupert, Viola, and Eva, all of whom are well known teachers in Clay and Vigo counties.

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<P></CENTER><CENTER><H3>William FRANCIS</H3></CENTER>

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Prominent among the native born representatives of the brave pioneers of Clay county is William Francis, who is one of the most thrifty and prosperous farmers of Harrison township, and possesses in a marked degree those principles that constitute him an honest man and a worthy citizen. A native of Clay county, he was born January 26, 1856, in Washington township, a son of William Jacob Astor Francis, The grandfather, named Joseph Francis, was born, it is thought, in Virginia, but subsequently settled in Kentucky, and from there in the later years of his life came to Clay county, Indiana, to spend his last days.

William J. Francis was born in Crab Orchard, Kentucky, in 1818, and was the sixth of a family of eight children born to Joseph and Millie (Grizzard) Francis, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of North Carolina, and both were of German extraction. Shortly after he reached his majority William J. came to Clay county, Indiana, where he spent the remainder of his life with the exception of four years, which he spent in Terre Haute. On his return he was married to Rebecca Stevens, a native of Clay county and a daughter of James and Wealthy Stevens. Mrs. Francis died in less than a year after marriage, and about three years after her death Mr. Francis married for his second wife Mrs. Almira (Luther) Kendall, a widow and the daughter of William and Patience (Long) Luther. Mrs. Kendall was a native of North Carolina of English and German descent. She had one daughter by her first marriage, Clarissa Kendall, now the wife of Albert Wilson, To Mr. and Mrs. William J. Francis were horn eight children, viz: James M. (deceased), Joseph L., Nancy E., Harriet (deceased), William, Jacob (deceased), Andy, and Mary J. (deceased). Mr. Francis was in politics a Democrat, and cast his first presidential vote for William H. Harrison in 1840. Mr. and Mrs. Francis were both members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Christian Luther, the grandfather of Mrs. William J. Francis and the great-grandfather of William Francis, of this sketch, was born in Ireland of Scotch ancestry. Emigrating when young to the United States, Christian Luther lived for a number of years in North Carolina, but spent his last days in Indiana, making his home with his children. William Luther, his son, was born in Randolph county, North Carolina, and there grew to manhood. In early life, probably about 1825, he came to Clay county, becoming a pioneer of Washington township. Securing from the government two hundred acres of woodland he cleared a space in which he built the log cabin that was the place of birth of all his children. In common with his neighbors, who were few and far between, he lived in a very primitive manner, with few of the comforts and conveniences of these days. He never had a wagon, but did own a sled, which was doubtless home-made. Traveling was performed on horseback in those times, and in this way he used to go to the distant mill and have a little meal ground. His farming implements were crude, and he always used a wooden mould board plow. He raised sheep and flax, and the family dressed in homespun garments made by the wife and mother from material which she carded, wove and spun, and in addition she spun and

wove all the bed clothing, towels, table linen. The husband was equally industrious, splitting by hand the rails with which he fenced the land that he cleared, running the fences by the compass. On the farm which he improved he resided until his death, in August, 1844. Patience Long, the wife of William Luther, was born in Virginia, a daughter of Benjamin Long, who accompanied by three of his daughters and one son, came overland from that state to Indiana with one horse, the father and two of the children walking the entire distance. Settling in Clay county, Mr. Long entered government land in Washington township, cleared a farm, and there spent his remaining days. The wife of William Luther survived him a number of years, dying in 1856. Of the six children she reared, but two are now living, Margaret J. and William Luther. Margaret J. is the wife of Jacob Hudson, who was born in North Carolina, a son of James Hudson, a native Virginian, who became a pioneer of Clay county. William Luther served as a soldier in the Civil War, and is now a resident of Terre Haute, Indiana.

Brought up on the homestead, William Francis acquired a practical education in the public schools, and while yet young became familiar with the various branches of agriculture. In early manhood, after farming for a time with his father, he bought a part of his present farm, and has since been actively employed in general farming. His untiring industry, combined with skill and practical judgment in conducting his operations have met with a well merited reward, his homestead, with the substantial set of buildings which he has erected, being one of the most valuable in the locality. He has added to the farm by purchase at different times, and now has one hundred and ninety-five acres in one body and in another tract has eighty acres of the rich bottom lands of Eel river.

On November 30, 1876, Mr. Francis married Mary Harden, who was born in Harrison township, June 14, 1859, of honored pioneer ancestry, her father, Henry Harden and her grandfather, Nathan Harden, having been early settlers of Clay county. Nathan Harden and his wife, whose maiden name was Mary Hammond were natives of Pennsylvania. Coming to Indiana in an early day he bought government land in section 4 of Harrison township, and in the dense wilderness erected a log cabin for himself and family. For years thereafter there were no railroads in the state, the chief subsistence of the people being produced on the farms or obtained by the expert marksman in the surrounding forests. His faithful wife and helpmate, carded, spun and wove all of the table linen, bed clothing and the homespun in which she dressed her family, making the garments herself.

Henry Harden, a farmer and stock raiser. was born December 20, 1835, in Knox county Ohio, and was the seventh of twelve children born to Nathen and Mary (Hammond) Harden, both natives of Pennsylvania and of Irish and German Extraction. Henry Harden moved with his parents to Logan county, Ohio, when he was quite young, and they remained there until the fall of 1852, when they came to Harrison township, Clay county, Indiana. At the age of twenty-one Henry commenced life for himself, receiving no help, but by his own efforts he owned at his death four hundred and seventy-nine acres of land. On December 25, 1857, he was married to Melinda Bolick, now deceased. Eight children were the fruit of this marriage; Lewis, Mary, John, William (deceased), Lydia, Nathan, Emma (deceased) and Elias (deceased). The second marriage of Mr. Harden occurred March 16, 1877. to Nancy Oliver, who is also deceased, and two children of that union died unnamed. He was next married to Alice Whited, April 15, 1880. Seven children were born to them; Ezekiel, Clara (deceased),

Charlie, Curt, Harrison, Henry, and Edgar. Mr. Harden was politically an active member of the Republican party. He died January 5, 1892.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. William Francis eight children were born, namely: Otis, Minnie, Cleo, Lydia, Athel, Lozier, Earl and Emory. Minnie, who married Isaac B. Turner, died at the age of twenty years, leaving one child, William Turner, who was born November 2, 1897. Otis, who by a former marriage had one son, Leverett Francis, married for his second wife Stella Woods, and has a daughter, Kyle, one son unnamed, who died and a daughter, Mirle, born September 14, 1907. Cleo married Marjorie Pherson and they have one daughter, Marjorie Virginia, born July 8, 1908. Lydia is the widow of the late Joseph L. Hicks. Athel died when but twelve years of age and Earl and Emory are also deceased. Both Mr. and Mrs Francis are members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Bellaire Indiana.

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<P></CENTER><CENTER><H3>John FRUMP</H3></CENTER>

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On January 29, 1908, John Frump, of Bowling Green, Clay county, celebrated his eighty-sixth birthday in his spacious and beautiful country residence, which is almost literally the work of his hands, and, as such, is strikingly illustrative of his independent, sturdy, determined and unique character. Thirty-two years before he had burned the brick for the house on his own farm, cut the timber and had the lumber sawed which was to enter into the construction of his home, and to the minutest detail saw to it that the material was sound and the building was honest. As it stands to-day, with its neat sandstone trimmings and its substantial appearance, an acre of velvet lawn, graceful shade trees and pretty flower beds for a frame, the homestead is a symbol of the industrious, solid, bright and mellow old gentleman, whose hard-working, venturesome and useful life has been crowned by the admiration and affection of his associates. At the age when many men are huddled in a corner, mumbling absently of the past, John Frump is actively alive to the present, tending his flowers with loving care, driving briskly over the country in his rounds of relatives and friends, or sitting at his desk and writing letters of friendship or business with the same clear-cut and bold hand which adorns the books of the county treasurer of more than forty years ago; and this latter accomplished without glasses! In alluding to this unusual retention of physical and mental strength a close friend gives the following gentle touch to his character: "As a memorist he is phenomenally endowed, his retentiveness so acute that he recites readily without reference or prompting, declamations committed in his schoolboy days more than seventy years ago. It is an unusual spectacle to see a man of eighty-six years repairing to the village or rural school house, in response to an invitation to recite for the entertainment and edification of the children, which Mr. Frump frequently does. When but ten or twelve years of age, when he began reading in the old English reader, then the only reader in the public schools of the west, he committed a somewhat lengthy composition entitled 'An Address to the Young,' which he delivers to schools and parties at this time with apparently as much avidity and, delight as in the days of his youth. 'At no time,' says Mr. Frump, during the lapse of more than seventy years since I memorized this address have I ever been in any way embarrassed or at any loss to reproduce and declaim it word for word.' In his retirement from the activities of farm life Mr. Frump devotes his time to reading and floriculture, his flower gardens being the admiration and envy of all passers-by."

This fine old pioneer of Clay county is a native of Highland county, Ohio, born near Hillsboro on the 29th of January, 1822, just twenty years prior to the birth of William H. McKinley. His parents were John and Mary Ann (Crabb) Frump, natives respectively of Delaware and Ohio. In 1835, when he was but thirteen years of age, the family came to Clay county and located on an eighty-acre farm in Posey township near the present site of Brazil. There the mother died in 1849, her husband surviving her until 1867, when he passed away at the age of seventy-six years. Both were buried in the Hill cemetery, Brazil. Eight children were born to them, of whom two sons and two daughters are living, John Frump being the eldest of the family.

When Mr. Frump came to Clay county seventy-three years ago the family located in a forest well stocked with deer, wild cats and wolves, and the father, with his assistance and the help of everyone to the limit of his capacity, commenced the erection of a log house and the clearing of the eighty acres which was to constitute the farm. Their supplies were hauled from the vicinity of Terre Haute. At the age of seventeen his father gave him his "freedom," but a search for work among the farmers of the neighborhood indicated that there were neither surplus labor nor funds in circulation, so with three other young men the fortune-seeker walked to a locality in Vigo county near Fort Harrison. They tramped along all day without anything to eat but frozen turnips, and at night John Frump stopped with a farmer named David Sassene, who hired the grateful youth at ten dollars per month. Mr. Frump remained thus employed for about two years, but during this period (in the spring of 1842) made a trip to New Orleans with his employer, their mode of conveyance being by a flat boat down the Ohio and Mississippi. Upon his return to Clay county he traded in stock, split rails and otherwise busied himself for about three years. In 1845 he entered forty acres of land in Dick Johnson township, paying for it in stock at the rate of two dollars per acre. Later he purchased eighty acres in Van Buren township, for which he paid two horses and the remainder in cash—the latter being earned by splitting rails at twenty-five cents per hundred and cutting cordwood at twenty cents per cord. Having paid for his eighty acres, he added a "forty" through much the same process. As illustrating the advance in land values in about twenty years, it may be stated that in 1868 Mr. Frump sold forty acres of his farm at one hundred dollars per acre. In the same year he bought four hundred and forty acres in sections 25, 30 and 36, Washington township, which comprised his present homestead of two hundred and eighty acres. About five acres of the farm be transformed into an orchard, which bears a variety of fruit, and in 1876 he erected his present residence of eleven rooms, constructed of home-made brick, with sandstone trimmings and pronounced the finest house of the kind in Washington township.

During the earlier years of his residence in Clay county Mr. Frump was an active Democrat and held many offices, both because of his popularity and real ability. He cast his first vote for James K. Polk in the fall of 1844; held the offices of constable and trustee of Van Buren township (the latter for ten years) and served as county treasurer of Clay county from September, 1856, to September, 1869. In all these offices he was a model of precision, faithfulness, honor and general efficiency. He is still a Democrat, but for many years has taken no active part in politics. His identification with the Christian church, on the other hand, is as earnest and steadfast as ever. At the organization of the church at Bowling Green, in the late 'sixties, he became an elder, and continued to hold the office for about seven years. He is now a member of the Washington township church at Bellair.

In March, 1848, Mr. Frump wedded Miss Betsy Jane Matthews, daughter of William and Susan (Storm) Matthews, of Parke county, Indiana. The father was a native of Tennessee and the mother of Ohio, and they were married in Parke county. Afterward they spent some time in western Illinois, and returned to Bowling Green, where they died and were buried. Mrs. Matthews spent her last days at the home of Mr. Frump. John Frump has become the father of five sons and six daughters. Laura became the wife of M. B. Crist, of Morgan county, Indiana. Alice married Elias Kilmer, of Clay City, who was clerk of the circuit court at the time the county seat was removed to Brazil. After his death his widow married Joseph Lind, of Terre Haute, who died, the mother of

three children, William M. Frump, another child, is now a resident of Bowling Green; M. B. Frump is of Washington township; Ben Franklin Frump, of Jasonville, Indiana; B. D. Frump, also of Washington township; Alma, wife of Bud Chapman, now deceased; Rosilla F., deceased; and Mary C., wife of John W. Knipe, who lives with her father. The venerable and revered mother of this family died September 11, 1901, aged seventy-five years and five months. Mr. Frump has been blessed with thirty-nine grandchildren, of whom thirty-one are living, and with seventeen great-grandchildren, of whom thirteen are alive. These rising and honorable representatives of his own flesh and blood are the inspiration and the solace of his passing years, and in the younger generations he lives his earlier life anew. Thus his old age is lightened of its burdens, and is kept fresh and green.

<CENTER><H3>Cassius M. Funk</H3>

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Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II, <BR>  
au: William Travis,  
publ. 1909

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CASSIUS M. FUNK, a substantial farmer and a well known citizen of public affairs, resides on section 30, Washington township, Clay county. He is also one of the most influential members of the Methodist Episcopal church in that section of the county, having been faithful and untiring in his good work for a period of forty-one years. During this long period he has either been a steward or a class leader. There are few citizens of the county whose usefulness has been broader, and none whose life labors have been conducted on a higher plane.

A native of Champaign county, Ohio, Mr. Funk was born on the 4th of July, 1847, son of Daniel and Sarah J. (Ellis) Funk, both natives of Virginia. They were married in Ohio, where the father followed his trade as a carpenter, and in September, 1854, when Cassius was seven years of age, the family moved to Clay county, locating on a farm in Washington township. In the spring of 1855 the elder Mr. Funk bought eighty acres of land in section 29, of the township named, and this remained the nucleus of his homestead until his death, April 6, 1903, aged eighty-six years. His wife died in January, 1901, at the age of seventy-eight. Before the death of the father he had added to his original purchase until the family estate had reached three hundred acres. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Funk were as follows: Cassius M., the oldest William H., a resident of Marion township, Owen county, Indiana ; and Annie Funk, who died in 1874.

Cassius M. Funk was reared on his father's farm in Washington township, and received his education in Clay county, with the exception of his first two terms of schooling in Ohio and the season of 1865-6, which he also spent as a pupil in Champaign county, that state. He assisted his father until his marriage, on April 22, 1866, to Mary N. Addy, daughter of Solomon and Catherine (Norman) Addy, both natives of the Buckeye state. For about five years after his marriage he farmed on the paternal estate, and then bought sixty acres in section 30, Washington township, where he still resides. It was originally a timber tract, boasting for improvements only a small, old log house. But the land is now all cleared and thoroughly cultivated, a productive fruit orchard of over an acre is a valuable and attractive feature of the homestead, which also includes a commodious house and substantial barns and other agricultural conveniences. He has owned altogether about four hundred acres in Washington township, and is now the proprietor of sixty-one acres in Harrison township and forty in Lewis township. He is engaged in general farming operations, and is strongly influential both as a progressive agriculturist and a public and religious man. He is a Democrat in politics, was elected justice of the peace in the fall of 1907, and appointed road superintendent in the beginning of 1908. He is a member of Bowling Green Lodge, No. 513, I. O. O. F., and in whatever field he has been active he has conducted himself as an able and upright man.

He has three of the old parchment deeds executed by Presidents John Tyler, Andrew Jackson and Martin Van Buren, the fifth of their kind found in southern Clay county. There are valuable heirlooms in the Funk family.

Nine children have been born to Mr. Funk, two of whom are deceased, the family being as follows: Alice B., deceased; John H., a

resident of Washington township; C. Ellen, deceased; Cora, wife of Dennis Luther, of Terre Haute; Allen, of Washington township; Eunice, who married Harlie Lasell, of Washington township; Daniel V., of Lewis township; Ida J., wife of Elmer Francis. who lives in Terre Haute, and Lewis R. Funk, who resides at home. The family recently suffered an irreparable loss in the death of the wife and mother, and her life was beautifully commemorated in the following paragraphs from the local papers:

"Mary M. Funk was born in Ohio, January 20, 1847. She came to this state with her father and mother in 1855 and was married to Cassius M. Funk April 23, 1866. To this union were born nine children; of that number seven survive her, three girls and four boys. She became a member of the M. E. church in 1867 and remained a faithful member until death.

"Sister Funk was a great sufferer for almost two years, but so hopeful and uncomplaining that it was inspiring to be in her company. She was a firm believer in God. She believed that her long affliction was God's will and rejoiced in Him every day for grace given. Husband, you have not only lost a faithful wife; children, you have not only lost a loving mother, but we have all lost a true friend and a good neighbor, and now that she is gone, we are lonely. A. N. ELROD."

"Mary M. Funk, wife of Cassius M. Funk, died at the home in Washington township Saturday morning, September 12, in her 62d year, after an illness of almost two years.

"The funeral services were held at Mt. Zion church, conducted by her pastor, Rev. J. F. Dyas, pastor at Patricksburg. Mrs. Funk had been a member of the M. E. church at that place since her marriage and was one of the most spiritual members of that class. She leaves a husband and seven children, three girls and four boys. The funeral was in charge of Miss Kate Tapy, of Bowling Green."<CENTER><H3>Daniel FUNK</H3><P>

Blanchard, Charles, editor. History of Clay County, Indiana. 1884.  
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DANIEL FUNK was born in Virginia in April, 1818, and is the sixth of twelve children of Daniel and Christina (Saftley) Funk, the former a native of Pennsylvania, the latter of Virginia, and both of German ancestry. Our subject was brought up on a farm, and received his education at common country schools. Just preceding his majority, he began work at the carpenter and joiner trade, and continued in it during the next succeeding fifteen years. On August 6, 1846, he was married to Sarah J. Ellis, a native of Virginia, and daughter of Abraham and Sarah (Couchman) Ellis, natives of Virginia, and of German origin. Mr. Funk prosecuted his trade until 1854, when he came to Clay County and settled in Washington Township, where he has since resided, living at present on a well-improved farm of 300 acres, near Bowling Green. To this couple have been born three children, viz.: Cassine M., William H. and Anna E. (deceased). In politics, Mr. Funk voted with the Old-Line Whigs until after Gen. Scott's campaign, since which he has generally voted the Democratic ticket, having cast his first ballot for Harrison. Hard labor, tact, perseverance, economy and good management have rewarded him with a comfortable, beautiful home, and given to his children,

for their fidelity and faithful service, a competency.<p>&nbsp;</p>  
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<CENTER><H3>Jacob Nelson GARD</H3>

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Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II, <BR>  
au: William Travis,  
publ. 1909  
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Jacob NELSON GARD.—Especially deserving of more than passing mention in this biographical volume is Jacob Nelson Gard, of Perry township, Clay county, who comes of honored pioneer stock, a man of sterling integrity, a farmer of skill and ability, and who served during the Civil War as one of the youngest soldiers in the Federal army. A son of the late John H. Gard, he was born October 20, 1849, in Jackson township, Owen county.

Aaron Gard, grandfather of Jacob N., was one of the earlier pioneers of Union county, Indiana, coming to this state while it was yet a territory. Taking up land in that county, he improved a farm and there resided until his death. His wife was born in Virginia and she survived him, and spent her closing years at the home of her son, John H., in Owen county.

Born in Union county, Indiana, in 1821, John H. Gard was there bred and educated. About 1845 he removed to Owen county, becoming an early settler of Jackson township. Purchasing land that was in its primitive condition, he cleared a space in the timber, and subsequently built the log house in which his son Jacob was born. It was a substantial building, made of hewed logs, and a part of it is still standing and is occupied. Clearing and improving a homestead, he lived there until a short time previous to his death, when he removed to the home of his son Jacob, where his death occurred January 25, 1888, at the age of sixty-seven years. He married Phebe Nelson, who was born in Preble county, Ohio, in 1821, and died in Clay county, Indiana, June. 25, 1906. She reared four children, namely: Lorenzo D., Nancy J., Jacob Nelson and James Monroe.

Before celebrating the fifteenth anniversary of his birth, Jacob N. Gard, inspired by patriotic zeal and enthusiasm, enlisted, in 1864, in Company B, Ninety-seventh Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and from that time until the close of the war was in the thickest of the fight. With his regiment he took part in Sherman's campaign while on the way to Atlanta, marched with that gallant hero and his troops to the sea, afterwards passing through the Carolinas and Virginia on to Washington, where he participated in the Grand Review, and on June 9, 1865 was honorably discharged with his regiment, all of this taking place before he was sixteen years of age. Returning home, he remained with his parents until taking upon himself the responsibilities of a married man. Going then to Crawford county, Illinois, he bought a farm and resided there a year. Selling out then, he returned to Indiana, and for a year resided in Owen county. Buying then his present farm in Perry township, Mr. Gard has since been here successfully employed in general farming and stock-raising. He has made improvements of a noteworthy character on his place, having erected good farm buildings, planted fruit and shade trees, and in other ways added to the beauty and value of his estate.

In February, 1868, Mr. Gard married Sarah E. Anderson. She was born in Owen county, Indiana, in Jackson township, a daughter of Robert Anderson, and granddaughter of Isaac Anderson, an Indiana pioneer. Isaac Anderson came from North Carolina, presumably his native state, to Indiana in 1822, with his wife and children making the journey with teams, and bringing all of his earthly possessions. Locating in what is now Cass township, Clay county, he entered a tract of government land,

a part of which is now included within the limits of the village of Poland. This section of the country was then a vast wilderness, the home of wild beasts, and the hunting ground of the Indians. Reclaiming a farm from the forest, he continued as a farmer until his death, about 1854. His wife, whose maiden name was Barbara Dyer, survived him, and in 1859, with three of her sons and some of her neighbors, went to Kansas, making an overland journey. Settling in Bourbon county, she was there during the troublous times that preceded and during the Civil War, continuing her residence in that county until her death, at a ripe old age. She reared seven children, namely: James, Joel, Robert, - George, Daniel, Isaac and Eliza. Born near Raleigh, North Carolina, in 1813, Robert Anderson was a lad of nine years when he came with his parents to Cass township, Clay county, where he was reared. On attaining his majority, he entered eighty acres of government land in Jackson township, Owen county, and there built the log cabin on which his children were born. For a number of years thereafter Terre Haute, twenty-five miles away, was the nearest market. Deer were plentiful, roaming at will through the woods, which was also the home of bears and wolves. Subsequently clearing a large part of the land, he replaced the log cabin with a frame house, erected a fine set of farm buildings, and there lived until his death, at the advanced age of eighty-three years. He married Lydia Cagel, who was born in North Carolina, and came with her father, John Cagel, to Cass township, Clay county, where he bought land and improved a homestead. She died in 1871, having reared seven children, as follows: Mary Jane, Daniel, John C., Sarah, Edward, Elizabeth and Alice.

Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Gard, namely: Willis L.; John R.; Iva F.; Mary V., who died at the age of eighteen years; Henry R., who lived but fourteen years; Ada M.; Frederick C.; and Flona E., who died when sixteen years old, in March, 1908. Willis L. married Dovey Chamberlain. John R. married Martha Jackson, and they have three children, Jessie O., Hugh M. and Vola. Iva F., wife of Ross Tucker, has six children, Edith, Jacob, Sarah, Lucy, Ernest and Velma. Ada, wife of John Knust, has two children, Herbert and Effie. Fred C. assists his father in the care of the home farm. Mr. and Mrs. Gard and their family are members of the Christian church. Mr. Gard is a Democrat and is somewhat independent in his franchise. He is a member of the G. A. R. Post at Cory, Indiana.

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<P></CENTER><CENTER><H3>Leverett Eugene GARDNER</H3></CENTER>

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LEVERETT EUGENE GARDNER -Skillfully devoting his energies to the management of the homestead on which he was born. Leverett Eugene Gardner holds high rank among the prosperous agriculturists of Van Buren township. He is a man of enterprise and keen foresight, possessing a good understanding of the best ways of conducting his business so as to secure profitable returns. His father, David Gardner, was born in Ames township, Athens county, Ohio, March 16, 1821, a son of Thomas Gardner, who was born and bred in New York city.

Thomas Gardner was left an orphan when young, and during the war of 1812 was employed in teaming for the government. Some years afterwards, accompanied by his wife and seven children, he migrated to Ohio and bought a large tract of land in Ames township. Clearing a farm, he superintended its management and did an extensive business as a dealer in live stock, driving cattle to the New York city market. A man of strong physique, he lived to the good old age of ninety years. He married Margaret Smith, who was born in New York city of German parents, and died in Ames township, Ohio, at a very advanced age.

Reared to agricultural pursuits, David Gardner remained on the parental homestead until 1852, when he started for Indiana, coming by the river to Lawrenceburg, thence by rail to Clay county. Though this part of the state had been settled for several years, its improvement had been slow, and much of the land was still in its virgin wildness. Brazil was a small hamlet, with few habitations, and many of the near-by towns and villages were built under his observation. Buying a tract of timbered land in section fifteen, Van Buren township, he at once took possession of the log house which stood in the small clearing, and with an energetic spirit and a pioneer's axe began the improvement of a homestead. His faithful wife and helpmate was busily employed with her household duties, which included carding, spinning, weaving, dressmaking and tailoring. There being no convenient markets in those days, the people subsisted on the products of the land and the wild game, which was abundant, and notwithstanding the scarcity of money were well fed and well clothed. With the aid of his sons David Gardner cleared a fine farm, on which he resided until his death July 28, 1900.

On May 16, 1844, David Gardner married Mary Allard, who was born in Deerfield township, Morgan county, Ohio, June 15, 1828, a daughter of Reuben Libby Allard, and granddaughter of Shadrach Allard. Shadrach Allard was born in England, and with his brother Daniel and sister Polly came to America when voting. Their father commanded an English merchant vessel, and lost his life when his ship with all of her crew was wrecked off the coast of Maine. Shadrach Allard settled first in New York state, but moved from there to Vermont, and subsequently went to Athens county, Ohio, where he spent his closing years. He married first Mary Libby, who died in New York state. He married second Hannah Woodbury, of Vermont.

Reuben Libby Allard was born in New York state, was brought up in Vermont, and subsequently moved to Ohio, locating first in Washington county. From there he moved to Morgan county, then to Athens county, and from there came to Clay county, Indiana. Purchasing land in section

fifteen, he began the improvement of a farm, but did not live long enough to make many improvements, dying at the age of fifty-five years. His wife, whose maiden name was Mary Allen, was born either in Ohio or in the Shenandoah valley, Virginia, a daughter of Reuben and Mary Magdalene (Bird) Allen. Reuben Allen was a Virginian by birth and breeding, and while living in his native state was a slave holder. Migrating to Washington county, Ohio, he located in Belpre township, where both he and his wife spent the remainder of their lives. Of the five children born to David and Mary (Allard) Gardner four are living, namely: George Leander, Amanda Viola, Leverett Eugene and Cora Nevada.

Having acquired a practical education in the common schools, Leverett Eugene Gardner turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, and succeeded his father in the management of the homestead property. Active and enterprising, he has made many improvements, rebuilding and adding to the house, and is carrying on general farming quite successfully.

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Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II, <BR>  
au: William Travis,  
publ. 1909

<P><H3>August GAUCHAT</H3></CENTER>

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AUGUST GAUCHAT.—Many of the most enterprising and prosperous farmers of Clay county have come from the land beyond the sea, some of them, mayhap, seeking a refuge from military despotism, others fleeing from the penury and poverty that obtains in their native country, while others come with the hope of legitimately bettering their condition by willing toil. Prominent among this latter class stands August Gauchat, whose finely-improved farm, almost adjoining Clay City, bears visible evidence of his industry, thrift and good management. A native of Switzerland, he was born March 12, 1851, in the village of Prilly, Canton Berne, which was also the birthplace of his father, John F. Gauchat.

John F. Gauchat made farming his principal occupation during life. being employed in tilling the soil in his native land the greater part of his active career. In 1857 he made a bold venture, going on a sailing vessel to South America. At the end of ninety-eight days on the ocean he arrived in Buenos Ayres, and from there went up the La Plata river to Santa Fe. Going then into the country, he bought a tract of land, and at the end of a year and a half, having made some improvements on it, sold it and returned to his native heath, having been away from home two years. After the death of his wife, whose maiden name was Sophia Geauque, he came here in 1881 and spent his last days with his son August, dying at the age of sixty-one years. Nine children were born to him and his wife, namely: Julia, August, Zaline, Louis, David, Frederick, Mary, Paul and Emile. David now lives in Clay county, Indiana. Frederick came to Indiana and died, while yet in manhood's prime, in Indianapolis. Paul is a resident of Linton, Greene county, Indiana. All of the other children still live in Switzerland.

Brought up in his native canton, August Gauchat was educated in its schools, in which French, the language of the people, was taught, attending regularly until sixteen years old. In the subsequent six years he followed farming, but not satisfied with his future prospects he determined to come to America. Leaving Switzerland September 2, 1872, he came directly to Indiana, arriving at Bowling Green, Clay county, on October 2 of that year, a stranger in a strange land, unable to speak anything but the French language. Mr. Gauchat worked at various kinds of labor for awhile, for two months being employed in a brewery at Bowling Green, and for a year working in the timber. He subsequently worked on a farm three months, receiving sixty-five dollars wages for that time. With the money that he had accumulated he then, in company with John Wellen, bought a tract of standing timber, and for twenty-one years was engaged in the manufacture of staves until forced to give up the business on account of the scarcity of timber. In 1877 Mr. Gauchat bought fifty-five acres of land lying three and one-half miles northeast of Clay City, and after living on it seven years sold it and purchased one hundred and sixty acres in sections twenty-nine and thirty-three, very near Clay City. Taking possession of the frame buildings that were standing on section thirty-three, he lived there until 1900, meeting with marked success in his agricultural labors. Building a commodious and conveniently arranged house on section twenty-nine, and erecting substantial barns and outbuildings, he then moved with his

family to his newer home, and has since resided here, his home being one of the most cheerful and attractive of any in the vicinity. in 1881 Mr. Gauchat visited his old home and friends in Switzerland, and on his return to Indiana brought with him his brother Paul and his father. In 1900 he made another trip to his native land, and at that time took in the Paris Exposition.

On June 20, 1876, Mr. Gauchat married Mary Betteron, who was born in Mackinac township, Holmes county, Ohio, April 17, 1839. Her father Abraham Betteron, was born in the village of Nods, Canton Berne, Switzerland, where he received a good education, and was well drilled in agriculture. In 1837, accompanied by his second wife and his three children, he came to America in a sailing vessel, being three months on the voyage. Locating in Holmes county, Ohio, Mr. Betteron bought forty acres of land near Berlin, and after living there a brief time removed to Mackinac township, where he remained several years. In 1850 he came across the country to Indiana, journeying for two weeks with teams. He purchased one hundred and sixty acres of heavily timbered land in section twenty-two, Harrison township, and built for his first dwelling house a two-story cabin of round logs. Clearing a large part of the land, he engaged successfully in general farming, and later erected a substantial frame house, in which, with the exception of a few years spent in Bowling Green, he resided until his death, in 1879. Mr. Betteron was four times married. By his first wife, who was a life-long resident of Switzerland, he had one child, Julia Harriet. his second wife, whose maiden name was Lydia Forchelin, bore him four children, namely: Sophia; Amos; Mary, now Mrs. Gauchat; and Margaret. This wife was born in Canton Berne, and died in Indiana, on the home farm, in May, 1863. Mr. and Mrs. Gauchat have three children, Caroline Louise and Charles Louis, twins; and Lydia Julia. Caroline L. married Silas A. Travis, and they have two children, Vera Etna and Vella Glenn. Charles L. married Addie Neal, and they have three children, Olive Cletis, Charles Vincent and Kermit Orville. Mr. and Mrs. Gauchat are members of the Reformed church.

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Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II, <BR>  
au: William Travis,  
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<P></CENTER><CENTER><H3>DR. Joseph C. GIFFORD</H3></CENTER>

<PRE>

DR. JOSEPH C. GIFFORD, an active and able practitioner of Brazil, is a son of Dr. William H. Gifford, for more than half a century a physician and a public man of high standing in Clay county. Joseph C. is a native of Williamstown, that county, where he was born on the 27th of September, 1842, a child by his father's first marriage to Almira Curtis. The Doctor was reared in Williamstown, where his father practiced for twenty-six years, and had received a thorough education in the fundamental branches prior to the outbreak of the Civil war. He then enlisted for the three months' service in Company F, Tenth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and had his first military experience under General McClellan in West Virginia. participating in the battle of Rich Mountain. At the expiration of his term he returned to Terre Haute and re-enlisted (1862) in Company B, Seventy-first Indiana infantry, which company he had raised and of which he was chosen first lieutenant. The regiment was first ordered to Kentucky and was captured at the battle of Richmond Dr. Gifford. with others, being paroled and returned to Terre Haute. He resigned in January, 1863, and in 1864 re-enlisted in Company D, 133rd Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry. Again going to the front, he took part in various campaigns in Tennessee and Alabama, and, with his honorable discharge from the service, returned to his home in Brazil and commenced the study of medicine with his father. He was finally matriculated at Rush Medical College Chicago, from which he graduated in 1870.

After receiving his degree Dr. Gifford located at Brazil and formed an association with Dr. Black which he continued until July, 1884, since which year he has practiced alone. His professional labors have brought him a fine reputation and a substantial income and his ability as a private practitioner has included various corporations and boards to request his services in their interests. He has served as secretary of the City Board of Health for two years and has been president of the United States Pension Board of Examiners for the past fifteen years, receiving his first appointment to the latter office from President Harrison. Dr. Gifford is also examining surgeon for the "Penn" Mutual Life, Equitable Life, Northwestern Life and other like organizations, and is a leading member of various societies designed to further the interests of his profession. in the municipal affairs of Brazil he has actively and prominently participated, having altogether served five terms of two years and one term of four years as a member of the City Council. His membership in the fraternities embraces the following: Centennial Lodge, No. 541, A. F. & A. M.: Brazil Council, No. 40, R. & S; Brazil Commandery, No. 47, K. T.: and Brazil Lodge. No. 762, B. P. O. E. A cursory examination of the above record will convince anyone that Dr. Gifford has not restricted his activities, but has established himself as a broad and strong force in the community which has so long been his home.

Dr. William Howell Gifford, the father, was a native of Washington, Mason county Kentucky, born April 23, 1814, and he died at his home in Brazil on Sunday, March 29, 1891, at the age of seventy-six years, eleven months and six days. In 1831 he came with his parents to

Putnam county, Indiana, and four years later entered upon a course of medical reading and studies. Soon after his graduation from Transylvania Medical College, Lexington, Kentucky (in 1838), he located at Williamstown, Posey township, Clay county, for the practice of his profession. In May, 1840, he married Miss Almira Curtis, a native of New York, who was born July 20, 1820, and died in Williamstown on the 4th of October, 1860. Four children were born to this union, of whom the following are alive: Dr. Joseph C., of this sketch, and Ann S., wife of Randal G. Yocom. After the death of her husband Mrs. Yocorn married again and is now living in Indiana. Dr. William H. Gifford married as

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<P></CENTER><CENTER><H3>Willard H. GLIDEWELL</H3></CENTER>

<PRE>

WILLARD H. GLIDEWELL, editor and owner of the Brazil Democrat, was born at Metamora, Franklin county, Indiana, February 26, 1859. His father, Emory G. Glidewell, also a native of Franklin county, was descended from ancestors who came originally from the north of England. The great-grandfather, Robert Glidewell, arrived in Indiana about one hundred years ago and settled on Templeton's creek near Brookville, at which place the government land office was then located. The family came from North Carolina on horseback and on foot, the women and some of the men of the company riding, while a part of the male contingent made the whole trip across the Alleghenies on foot. The grandmother of W. H. Glidewell is said to have been a direct descendant of John Rolfe and Pocahontas. The family name was Coleman. The mother, who bore the maiden name of Eliza N. Murphy, was born in Fayette county, Indiana, and died on the frontier in Kansas on Christmas day of 1866. For nearly a half century Emory G. Glidewell devoted his energies to the profession of teaching school.

Willard H. Glidewell was educated in the public schools and manifested notable precocity in various lines. He could read readily when four years of age and at six read in the fifth reader, being considered the best reader in school at that time. He studied algebra, trigonometry, surveying and other higher branches in Fairfield, Indiana, high school, but at that time no graduation exercises were held nor certificates of scholarship issued. He began teaching at the age of seventeen., his first term being in Fayette county, Indiana, in 1875 and 1876, and the next year he was again employed by the same school. He then taught for two years in Franklin county, after which he began farming near Fairfield, that county. For several years he carried on general agricultural pursuits and after being out of school work for two years he again resumed the profession of teaching, which he followed in the winter seasons, while the summer months were devoted to agricultural pursuits. In 1884 he left the farm and taught for several years as grammar school teacher, while later he was principal of the Fairfield schools. In 1886 he became county surveyor of Franklin county, devoting his energies to surveying and the fire insurance business throughout the vacation periods, while still following the teacher's profession. In 1888 he abandoned school work again and removed to Brookville, to take charge of the county seat department of the Laurel Review, at which work nearly two years were spent. In 1890 he removed to Connersville, Indiana, where he spent two years as principal of the East Connersville schools. In 1892 he became bookkeeper for Taylor & Enos, a large lumber manufacturing concern, and upon the retirement of Mr. Taylor in 1893 he became secretary of the new firm. His connection with journalism dates from 1894, when he became the editor of the Connersville Examiner, whose owner was postmaster of the city. He was again called into the field of educational labor in June, 1895, by his election to the county superintendency of schools of Fayette county, in which capacity he served for two years, rendering effective aid in promoting the standard of public instruction. In December, 1897, he purchased the Greensburg

New Era, which he successfully conducted until January, 1903, when he sold that paper and in March of the same year purchased the Brazil Democrat, which he has since edited and published. He has made it one of the leading journals of this part of the state. It is thoroughly up-to-date in its methods and devoted to the dissemination of general and local news. It is also known as the champion of progress and improvement in Brazil, while its large circulation makes it an excellent advertising medium.

Mr. Glidewell was married at Hamilton, Ohio, November 1, 1880, to Miss Rose E. Kelley, and unto them have been born six children: Otis, who was born March 3, 1882, but is now deceased; Ivan, who was born in 1883; Erle, born in 1885; Carl, in 1887; Bessie. in 1889; and Angie, whose birth occurred in 1890.

Mr. Glidewell is identified with several fraternal organizations. In 1882 he joined Magnolia Lodge, No. 80, I. O. O. F., at Fairfield, Indiana, has filled all the chairs in the local lodge, is a past grand and has been a member of the grand lodge since 1884. In 1894 he joined the Red Men at Connersville and in 1899 became a charter member of the Elks lodge at Greensburg. A Democrat in his political views, he is also a staunch advocate of the temperance cause and an opponent of the saloon interests, which he staunchly opposes through the columns of his paper. He served as county surveyor of Franklin county, Indiana, from 1886 until 1890, was superintendent of schools in Fayette county from 1895 until 1897, and chairman of the board of children's guardians in Decatur.

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<P></CENTER><CENTER><H3>Simon F. GONTER. </H3></CENTER>

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The name of Gonter has figured in connection with the grocery trade of Brazil for many years and has always been a synonym for enterprise and reliability. He whose name introduces this review is now successfully conducting the business under the old firm style of J. M. Gonter & Company. Born in Tuscarawas county, Ohio, on the 30th of July, 1851, he is a son of Jacob M. and Mary (Sommers) Gonter. The paternal grandfather, Jacob Gonter, was a native of Pennsylvania and removed to Tuscarawas county, Ohio, at a very early period in the development of that section of the state, casting in his lot with the pioneer settlers who were extending the frontier and reclaiming a wild region for the purposes of civilization. He cleared and developed a farm, devoting his life to general agricultural pursuits and while thus engaged shared in all of the hardships and privations incident to pioneer life. At an early day he traveled through the woods for ninety miles, blazing his way to Zanesville, Ohio, to get salt. There were still many evidences of Indian occupancy in that locality and it required a brave, determined and courageous spirit to face the conditions that existed and to undergo the hardships entailed by reason of the remoteness from centers of civilization where the necessaries and comforts of life could be easily secured. He bore his full share in the improvement of his locality and lived to the ripe old age of seventy-five years.

The father, Jacob M. Gonter, a native of Ohio, born in 1822, spent his younger years in the state of his nativity and followed carpentering and farming. In the spring of 1857 he removed to Indiana, settling in Brazil, where he became a contractor and farmer. He built the Clay Hotel for Dr. Lebo and also the residence now occupied by W. A. Knight. He also erected many other prominent buildings of the city and the surrounding district and was a leading representative of industrial interests in Brazil. His political allegiance was given to the Whig party and in early life he was a member of the Lutheran church but a change in his religious views led him to identify himself later with the Methodist Episcopal church. At all times he was an earnest Christian man, actuated by stalwart devotion to whatever he believed to be right. His death occurred in 1894. He had long survived his first wife, the mother of our subject, who died in 1857. They were married in Ohio and unto them were born four children, of whom three are now living: Eliza, the widow of Martin Raididon; Simon F.; and Angie, the wife of Jesse A. Decker, who is mentioned elsewhere in this volume. For his second wife Mr. Gonter chose Rebecca Raididon and unto them were born two children: Mary, now the wife of Joseph H. Sampson; and Edward S., who is living at Centerpoint, Indiana., For his third wife Mr. Gonter chose Mrs. Mary Moterman, who has also passed away. In his early boyhood days Simon F. Gonter attended the public schools of Tuscarawas county, Ohio, but his educational privileges were very limited, for from the age of eleven years his entire time and attention were given to the work of the home farm and to carpentering, which trade he followed in connection with his father, save that in the winter months he had the opportunity of attending school. In the school of experience, however, he learned many valuable lessons, becoming a man of broad general knowledge and of practical business ideas. In 1881 he engaged in the grocery business with his

father and J. H. Sampson in the city of Brazil, and from the beginning the enterprise has been conducted under the firm style of S. F. Gonter & Company. They carry an extensive and well selected line of staple and fancy groceries and are justly accounted one of the representative firms of the city.

On the 10th of February , 1875, Mr. Gonter was married to Miss Margaret Eacret. who was born in Hendricks county, Ohio, October 2, 1848, a daughter of Harrison and Mary Ann (Reed) Eacret, both of whom were natives of Ohio. The father spent his days in Marion, Hendricks and Hamilton counties of Ohio devoting his time and energies to farming. His father was one of the early pioneers of Ohio and in pioneer times owned the land upon which the city of Indianapolis now stands, including the site of the capital. Harrison Eacret hunted deer on the present site of the city in early day was a post rider, carrying the mail as far west as Lafayette, Indiana. Unto him and his wife were born six children, of whom five are now living John. a resident of Indianapolis Catherine, the wife of Phillip B. Stitt, living in Danville, Indiana Mrs. Gonter Foster and Mary, the wife of William Privitt.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Gonter was blessed with four children: May, now the wife of Dr. H. H. Thacker, a practicing dentist of Brazil Carena, the wife of Charles Hutchinson, who is living in Brazil Grace, at home ; and J. Frank, who died in his eighteenth year.

Mr. Gonter is not only well known as a merchant but has also been somewhat active in community affairs and for one term served as city councilman. His influence is always given on the side of improvement and progress and he is a valued supporter of the Republican party, he belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church and to Centennial Lodge. No. 541, F. and A. M., Coal City Lodge, No. 522, I. O. O. F., and Brazil Lodge, No. 30, K. P. From early boyhood he has been a resident of this city and the fact that many of his staunchest friends are numbered among those who have known him from boyhood indicates that his has been an honorable career.

<CENTER><H3>Benjamin Franklin GOSHORN</H3>

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Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II, <BR>  
au: William Travis,

publ. 1909

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BENJAMIN FRANKLIN GOSHORN, V. D. M.—Noteworthy among the prominent and influential business men of Clay City is Benjamin F. Goshorn, who for many years has been intimately associated with the best interests of this part of Clay county, being a farmer and the publisher of the Clay City Democrat, one of the leading newspapers of this section of the state. A native of Indiana, he was born in Marion township, Owen county, September 13, 1857, a son of Robert R. Goshorn.

The name of Goshorn was first known in America in 1655. when two brothers of the name emigrated from Holland to this country, settling here permanently. No definite knowledge of the family is subsequently obtainable until 1770, when four brothers of that name—John, Leonard, Jacob and Nicholas — were living in Pennsylvania. John and Leonard moved to Ohio, one locating in Cincinnati and the other near Wheeling. Jacob settled in Huntingdon county, Pennsylvania, and Nicholas took up his residence in Juniata county, five miles away. Nicholas had two sons—Robert, who located in Hoilidaysburg Pennsylvania, and James, who settled at Hamilton Butler county, Ohio and five daughters who married respectively Smith, Goshorn, Clemens, Orr and Funk. Jacob, who settled in Huntingdon county, Pennsylvania, had seven sons and five (daughters, as follows George, who had six sons and four daughters Jacob, who had four daughters John, who had five sons and four daughters Andrew, who had four sons and four daughters Nicholas. who had seven sons and seven daughters Samuel who had four sons and three daughters; and William who had three sons and three daughters. The names of the daughters were: Mary married to James Jones: Susan, married to Hugh Dorn: Nancy, married to John McClure: Elizabeth, married to a Mr. Renner: and Margaret married to David Heckadorn. The six sons and four daughters of George are, Jacob, John, Nicholas, George, Robert and Samuel and Jane (married to Alexander McNeal). Susan (unmarried), Mary (unmarried) and Margaret (married to Aaron M. Shoop)

Through the third son (Nicliolas) comes the line of Benjamin F., of this article. Nicholas was born and reared in Pennsylvania, where in his boyhood days he served a two years' apprenticeship as a tanner, during which time he missed but one days service to his employer. In middle age he removed with his family to Holmes county Ohio where he purchased a farm and also established a tannery, both of which he successfully managed for a number of years. Disposing of all his Ohio interests, he came with his family, then consisting of himself, a son and a daughter. to Clay county, Indiana, and settled in Bellaire, where, in partnership with his son George V., he engaged in mercantile pursuits during the remainder of his active life. He spent his last years on the farm of this son, George, in Harrison township, dying when upward of sixty-three years old. He married Jane Robinson, a daughter of Alexander Robinson. She died in middle life in Ohio, leaving four children, namely Denny, Robert R. (father of Benjamin F.), George V. and Mary Jane.

Robert R. Goshorn was born in Huntingdon county, Pennsylvania, November 7, 1833, came with his parents to Ohio at the age of two years, and was there brought up and married. Acquiring a good common

school education when young, he began his career as a teacher in Ohio when but seventeen years of age. When eighteen years old he married, and with his young wife and her parents came to Owen county, Indiana. Shortly after his arrival in Marion township, he bought a tract of timbered land upon which was a log house, the only improvement made on the place. In this he resided until after the birth of his three older children. He continued his professional duties. teaching nine terms of school in Owen county, in the meantime clearing his land and tilling the soil with great success. He added to his landed possessions by purchase at different times until he had a farm of two hundred and twenty acres, well improved with a substantial set of buildings, he being among the first in Marion township to erect a frame house and barn, he was enterprising and progressive in his methods and always one of the first to try new machinery invented for the purpose of lessening the work of the farmer. He has now in his possession the first lamp in which he burned kerosene oil, it being one of the first if not the pioneer lamp of the kind in Owen county. He still lives in that county, retired from active pursuits, enjoying to the utmost the fruits of his earlier years of toil. For about fifty years he has been a member of the Church of the Brethren, in which he has served faithfully in almost every official capacity and is now filling the office of elder. He married in Tuscarawas county, Ohio, October 7, Julia Ann Sommers, who was born in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, April 22, 1828, daughter of Jacob Sommers and granddaughter of Michael and Catherine Sommers, natives of Germany. Jacob Sommers, an only child of Michael and Catherine Sommers, was a soldier in the war of 1812, enlisting when but eighteen years of age. Some time after his marriage he immigrated to Ohio and, after living in Tuscarawas county a number of years, came thence to Owen county, Indiana, locating in Marion township, where he cleared and improved the farm on which he resided until his death at the age of seventy-seven years and six months. The maiden name of his wife was Martha Aucerman. To them were born ten daughters and three sons, all of whom were brought up to mature age and all of whom married and raised families, with the exception of their son Benjamin, who died from injuries received in felling a tree while yet single. At the time of their deaths their descendants numbered considerably over one hundred. The children born of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Robert R. Goshorn were as follows: Lydia Jane, wife of John Fair; Josiah S.; Benjamin F., the special subject of this sketch; George V. ; Flora Alice, who married Jesse Benham; Ezra N.; Martha Etta, wife of George Kitch; and Martin R. Goshorn the mother of the family died at the family homestead in Owen county, October 2, 1899, at the age of seventy-one years, five months and ten days.

Benjamin F. Goshorn received his elementary education in the public schools of Owen county, after which he attended the Lancaster Sormal School, where he had as classmates Hon. Robert J. Aley, Hon, Samuel Ralston, Professor Benjamin Wisely, Dr. Robert McKelvay, Josiah Goshorn (now a banker in Clay City, Indiana), Dr. K. B. Kelly, Professor William Hoffman, W. H. Chillson, and others of such prominence and influence. He subsequently continued his studies at the State Normal School in Terre Haute, and at the age of twenty years embarked in life as a teacher, teaching sixteen hundred and seventy days in Clay and Owen counties. During this time, with characteristic enterprise, Mr. Goshorn was employed for four years in mercantile business at Coal City. In November, 1897, he purchased the office fixtures and good will of the Clay City Democrat, which he has since published with marked ability and success, making it one of the leading journals of Clay county. He is

also interested in agricultural progress, devoting a part of his time to the care and management of his farm, which is located at Danville Crossing, Harrison township.

On October 1, 1882, Mr. Goshorn married Miss Ida E. Smith, who was born in Worthington, Greene county, Indiana, August 21, 1862, daughter of James R. Smith. Her grandfather, John Smith, was born in Kentucky, but was brought up in Virginia. When a young man he removed to Ohio, whence in 1839 he came to Indiana, settling in Owen county. A few years later he again traveled westward, going to Marshall county, Iowa, where he was a pioneer settler. Taking up land, he improved a farm on which he lived and labored successfully until his death. He married Hester Metcalf, who was of New England birth, being the daughter of James Metcalf, who spent his last years in Ohio. James R. Smith was eighteen years of age when he came with the family to Owen county, Indiana, and two years later he began to learn the carpenter's trade at Old Point Commerce, Greene county. He subsequently worked at his trade for four years in Lafayette, after which he settled in Jefferson township on a tract of timber land which had been presented to his wife by her father. Moving into the little log cabin which stood upon the place, he occupied it for a few years and then built a good frame house. He cleared sixty or more acres of the land and lived there about thirty years, when he sold the farm and settled in Harrison township, Clay county, and for the past fifteen years has resided in Middlebury. He married Susan Amelia Heaton, who was born in Owen county, Indiana, a daughter of Isaac and Jane (Kelley) Heaton, who died shortly after their removal to Clay county. Isaac Heaton, a native of Connecticut, was one of the pioneer settlers of Owen county, clearing and improving a homestead near what is now Farmers, where he subsequently resided until his death. He was graduated from the first class of the Indiana State University, was a man of prominence in public affairs, and for a number of years served as judge. Mr. and Mrs. Goshorn are the parents of five children: Earl R., who married Mabel Blough and has one son, Willard B.; Effie A., wife of Charles E. Kitch; Blanche M.; Ross R. and Ruth L. Goshorn. Mr. Goshorn and family are members of the Church of the Brethren, with which he united when seventeen years old and in which he has been a minister for nearly a quarter of a century

<CENTER><H3> George V. GOSHORN</H3>

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From "Counties of Clay and Owen, Indiana. Historical and Biographical."<BR>Published 1884 by F.A. Battey & Co., Publishers, Chicago Ill.

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GEORGE V. GOSHORN was born May 8, 1837, in Holmes County, Ohio, and was the third of four children born to Nicholas and Jane (Rolinson) Goshorn, both natives of Pennsylvania, and of English and German extraction. The first sixteen years of George's life were spent upon a farm and in attending school. He then engaged in mercantile business with his father, at Winesburg, Ohio, where he remained three years. He then came to Owen County, Ind., in the fall of 1856, and taught school the following winter. In the fall of 1857, his father came to Clay County, and together they commenced the mercantile business at Bellaire. George was appointed Postmaster. He also bought and sold grain, had an interest in a saw mill and a shingle factory. The father and son sold out their business and bought a farm of 240 acres, all deeded to George, with whom his father made his home until his death, his mother dying some years previous in Ohio. He has several other farms, comprising 700 acres, well improved and stocked. He was married, April 7, 1861, to Rebecca Burkhart, a native of Coshocton County, Ohio, a daughter of Benjamin and Leah (Ream) Burkhart. Nine children have been born to them, viz.: Jane B., Laura, Edwin, Robert, Mary, Benjamin, Leonard, Rosa and Ira. Mr. Goshorn is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and his wife is a Lutheran. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity. Politically, he is a Democrat, was formerly an active politician, but now merely votes. In the fall of 1864, he was elected County Surveyor of Clay County, and served a term of two years. He has also taught school in Bellaire.

<P><HR><P><CENTER><H2>Donated by Laura Curtis Gabbard.</H2><P><HR><P>

<CENTER><H3> John J. GRABER, Jr.</H3>

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From "Counties of Clay and Owen, Indiana. Historical and Biographical."<BR>Published 1884 by F.A. Battey & Co., Publishers, Chicago Ill.

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JOHN J. GRABER, JR., farmer and stock-raiser, was born August 27, 1857, in Harrison Township, Clay County, Ind., and is the seventh of nine children born to John J. and Mary A. (Fisher) Graber, the former a native of Switzerland, the latter of Germany. His father came here at an early period, and is still living in Middlebury, Ind. He, with the aid of his sons, developed from the wilderness one of the finest farms in the county, upon which the son John now resides. His early education was limited, but he has been a close student and is a model farmer. He was married to Margaret H. Willen, a native of Owen County, January 3, 1880. Two children have been born to them—John, born December 17, 1880 and Viola B., January 6, 1883. Mr. Graber and wife are active members of the German Reformed Church. In politics, he is a Democrat, having given his support to that party since he became a voter. He is an active, wide-awake young man, with a promising future.

<P><HR><P><CENTER><H2>Donated by Laura Curtis Gabbard.</H2><P><HR><P>

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<P></CENTER><CENTER><H3>William E. GRAESER</H3></CENTER>

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William E. GRAESER is one of the largest property owners of Clay county and is one of its best known and most prominent citizens. He has served four years as the deputy assessor of Sugar Ridge township, for five years as its assessor, has served as a town clerk and on the town board and at the present time is a member of the advisory board of his township. At the time of his father's death he came into possession of considerable money, which he has invested in three hundred acres of land in Harrison, Jackson and Sugar Ridge townships, also in real estate in Brazil and Center Point and in government bonds.

Mr. Graeser is of German birth, born in Heidelberg, Germany, July 15, 1848, a son of Otto and Elizabeth (Fries) Graeser, and a grandson of William and Annie (Rens) Graeser and of Christian Adam and Louisa (Hadeus) Fries. His father died in Germany January 24, 1901, and his mother a number of years previously, January 15, 1891. Their son William received a college education in his native land, and during sixteen months he served in the Franco-Prussian war. Coming to America in 1873, he went from New York to St. Louis, Missouri, thence to Illinois, and some time later, on the 4th of July, 1878, arrived in Center Point, where he was first employed as a gardner and farmer, and his home has ever since been in this city.

Mr. Graeser was married on the 27th of August, 1881, to Barbara Giltz, who was born in Tuscarawas county, Ohio, July 3, 1850, a daughter of Ehrenrich and Catherine (Schuler) Giltz. They were born in Wurtemberg, Germany, and coming to America were married in Ohio, and from there came to Jackson township, Clay county, Indiana about 1855. The two children born to Mr. and Mrs. Graeser are Elizabeth and William O. The daughter, born June 3, 1884, married Emery E. Schaffer, of Center Point. The son was born July 28, 1887, and since January of 1907 has served as the deputy auditor of Clay county. He married Floy Williams, who was born in Ashboro, Clay county, a daughter of Fred and Sarah (Tribble) Williams. Mr. Graeser gives his political allegiance to the Democratic party, and is a member of the Lutheran church.

<CENTER><H3> James S. GRAY</H3>

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From "Counties of Clay and Owen, Indiana. Historical and Biographical."<BR>Published 1884 by F.A. Battey & Co., Publishers, Chicago Ill.

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JAMES S. GRAY, stock-raiser and farmer, was born in Monroe County, Ind., October 18, 1833, and is the fourth son of William and Mary (Gross) Gray, the former a native of Kentucky and of Scotch-Irish descent, the latter a native of North Carolina and of German descent. These parents removed to this locality and settled in 1848. Mr. Gray was reared on their farm, and from the subscription schools acquired a very fair English education. December 20, 1855, he married in this township, Phebe J. Moody, by which alliance descended three children-Emily I. (deceased), Mary C. (deceased) and Ralph D. (now four and twenty years of age). Mr. Gray was largely the creator of his success in life, now possessing a magnificent farm of 210 acres, mostly in high cultivation and improvement. Mr. Gray is a Republican in politics, and a most valuable citizen. He and his wife are members of the Christian Church, in which Mr. Gray is a Deacon.

<P><HR><P><CENTER><H2>Donated by Laura Curtis Gabbard.</H2><P><HR><P>

<CENTER><H3> G. Paris GRAY</H3>

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From "Counties of Clay and Owen, Indiana. Historical and Biographical."<BR>Published 1884 by F.A. Battey & Co., Publishers, Chicago Ill.

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G. PARIS GRAY, farmer, was born in Monroe County, Ind., February 8, 1845, and is the youngest son of William and Mary (Gross) Gray. His parents removed to Clay County when he was four years old, and located where he now resides. He grew up on this farm, and acquired the rudiments of an education from the neighboring schools. August 8, 1869, he married, in Middlebury, Ind., Edith I., eldest daughter of Granville and Evaline (Smith) White, by which marriage they have one child, Bertha L. February 8, 1865, Mr. Gray enlisted in Company B, One Hundred and Forty-ninth Indiana Volunteer Infantry; served as a Corporal until July 17, and was honorably discharged. While in the service, he contracted disease of the stomach, with which he is yet affected. Mr. Gray inherited the farm from his father, to which he has materially added by his thrift and diligence. His mother is yet living, aged eighty-two years. Mr. Gray is an earnest Republican, having cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. Grant. He and wife are consistent members of the Christian Church.

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Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II, <BR>  
au: William Travis,  
publ. 1909

<P></CENTER><CENTER><H3>John Clarence GREGG</H3></CENTER>

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JOHN CLARENCE GREGG, the present capable and obliging postmaster of Brazil, Indiana, was born in Milroy, Rush county, Indiana, January 15, 1871, and was educated at the high schools of his adopted town—Brazil, graduating with the class of 1888. He is the son of John Carson and Susan A. (Welty) Gregg. The father was born on a farm in Green county, Ohio, and is now living in Brazil. The subject's mother was born in Oxford, Ohio. John Carson Gregg was educated at Oxford college, in Ohio, and soon after his marriage removed to Indiana, locating in Rush county, where he taught school. He came to Brazil in 1877 and took charge of the Brazil high school as its superintendent and remained there for twenty years, he being the originator of the Brazil high school system. He is in the employ of the United States government at present as store-keeper for the Internal Revenue offices at Terre Haute, Indiana. He is a member of the Odd Fellows order, and has held the office of Noble Grand in his lodge. He served in the Union army in the days of the Civil war, as a member of an Ohio volunteer infantry regiment, and belongs to General Canby Grand Army Post. In his church affiliations, he is connected with the Presbyterian church in which he is an elder. Politically, he is a staunch Republican. By his marriage to Susan A. Welty the following children were born: William B. died aged twelve years; Nellie K., wife of B. F. Crawford; Lillie J., now Mrs. James Simms of Brazil; Dr. Joseph W., located in Brazil, Indiana; John Clarence, of this review.

Soon after completing his education, John C. Gregg learned the machinist's trade with Crawford & McCimmon Co., with which firm he remained between fourteen and sixteen years, and January 18, received his commission as postmaster of Brazil, from President Roosevelt, and is the present incumbent. He is a member of the Presbyterian church and politically, is a supporter of the Republican party, in which organization he has taken an active part for the last fifteen years; has been chairman of the city central committee; also chairman of the county central committee for two years. The Greggs have descended from Scotch-Irish stock, and the characteristics of that sturdy people are still seen in the present-day generation.

John C. Gregg was married to Anna L. Martin, May 13, 1891. She was born in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania in February, 1872, a daughter of Jacob E. and Addiline (Keys) Martin, both natives of Pennsylvania, and whose children were twelve in number, the older being Mrs. Gregg. Her father served in the Civil war four and a half years, going out with a Pennsylvania regiment. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and in politics, a staunch Republican.

Mr. and Mrs. Gregg have become the parents of four children, two of whom are living, Joseph W. and Susan Alsina. John Carson, died aged seven years; Mary E., died aged five years. While the family is not in possession of a true and correct genealogy, it is known that the subject's great-grandfather, John Brown, came from Scotland at a very early date and that he was a Revolutionary soldier. Mr. Gregg's maternal ancestors are of German stock, descending from the old Kumler family, who were pioneers in the settlement of Ohio.



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<P></CENTER><CENTER><H3>John E. GRIDER</H3></CENTER>

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JOHN E. GRIDER is prominently identified with the farming and stock raising interests of Posey township, and is also serving his fellow citizens in the office of trustee of his township. His family were early residents of this community, and from the early days to the present they have been prominent in developing the agricultural interests. Cornelius Jones Grider, the father of John, came to Indiana with his parents when a lad of eight. He was born in Tennessee May 30, 1827. On arriving in Indiana the family located on a farm in Nevins township, Vigo county. There the little son grew to mature years, but during his early manhood, however, he came to Clay county, where he had charge for several years of a tannery in Posey township, and for some time following this operated a flouring mill here. He then bought sixty acres of land in Posey township, which he cleared and improved, and in this township he was married to Mary Grass. She was born in Virginia, of German ancestry, and was reared and educated in Indiana. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Grider, a son and two daughters, and by a former marriage Mr. Grider also had three children, but all are now dead. He has been a lifelong Republican, and is a member of the United Brethren church at Cloverland.

John E. Grider remained in his parents' home until the age of twenty-one, attending the district schools of Posey township, and from the age of maturity he has made his own way in the world. After his marriage he farmed on rented land for six years, and then bought eighty acres in Posey township, also at one time owning thirty-seven acres in another tract, and in addition to his home farm of eighty acres he also owns property in Cloverland, where he resides. In 1904 he was elected to the office of trustee of the township, and he has been quite active in local politics for many years.

Mr. Grider married, November 16, 1898, Dean O'Connor, who was born and reared in Posey township, Clay county, a daughter of Timothy and Martha (Roberts) O'Connor, the father a deceased miner and famer of this locality but a native of New York City. Mrs. Grider is the second of their four children, and all were born in Staunton. Mrs. O'Connor had four children by a former marriage. Two children, a son and a daughter, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Grider—Stanley and Anna Dell. Mr. Grider is a member of the Masonic, Knights of Pythias and Red Men fraternities, and is a worthy member of the United Brethren church.

Mr. O'Connor, the father of Mrs. Grider, served four years and eight months in the Civil war, a member of the Thirty-first Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and he was in service in Texas after the close of the conflict. He was wounded in battle, participated in the famous march of Sherman to the sea, and was discharged with the rank of a corporal.

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<P></CENTER><CENTER><H3>Oliver GRIFFITH</H3></CENTER>

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As a native-born citizen of Clay county, a soldier in the Civil war, and for many years one of the most industrious and thrifty farmers of Lewis township, where he is now residing, Oliver Griffith well merits representation in a work of this character. He was born February 11, 1832, in Harrison township, in the rude log cabin built by his father in the midst of a dense forest. His father, Bartlett Griffith. was born in Tennessee, and his grandfather, Joseph Griffith, was, it is thought, a native of North Carolina.

After living a few years in Tennessee, Joseph Griffith followed the march of civilization westward and northward to Clay county, Indiana. and as one of the original householders of Harrison township bought from the government a tract of timbered land in section 12. He was a gunsmith by trade, skilled in the use of tools, and had the reputation of making the best rifle to be obtained in these parts. He followed his trade in connection with farming, and here spent the remainder of his three score and ten years of earthly life. His wife, Melinda Griffith, died a number of years before he did.

Coming with his parents from Tennessee to Indiana, Bartlett Griffith assisted his father in clearing a homestead, using axe and hoe with dexterity. On one occasion, when returning from a horseback trip to Kentucky, he broke a water sprout from an apple tree, and on arriving home stuck it in the ground, very near the house, and it grew and proved to be an excellent winter fruit. Several trees grew from that one, and on these and the parent tree an abundance of fine fruit has been produced. Arriving at manhood, he bought eighty acres of land adjoining the parental homestead on the west, cleared an opening in the woods, erected a house of round logs, with a stick and clay chimney, and rived boards to cover the roof. His wife had no stove, but did all of her cooking by the fireplace. He cleared quite a tract of the land, and continued there, engaged in tilling the soil until his second marriage, when he came to Lewis township to live on his wife's farm, and here, two years later, in 1855, died., He married first Patience Dalton, who spent her entire life in Harrison township, dying in 1840. He married second Mrs. Susan Neal, who survived him a number of years. His children were all by his first marriage, and of them six grew to years of maturity, namely: Joseph, Elizabeth, Oliver, William, Sampson and Henry. During the Civil war William enlisted first in Company A, Forty-third Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and later in Company F, One Hundred and Thirty-seventh Indiana Volunteer Infantry, served until the close of the war, and died soon after receiving his honorable discharge from the army. Sampson served in Company B, Twenty-sixth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, was captured at Tyler, Texas, and remained a prisoner eleven months and seven days. Henry served in the same company, and died while in the army.

Born and reared in pioneer days, Oliver Griffith well remembers the hardships and privations endured by the early settlers of this part of the country, and the strenuous labor that he, as a boy, performed while assisting his father to clear a homestead. For many years after his birth there were no railways in the state, and no convenient markets. Indeed! Why should there be? There was very little to sell, the people being what

might be termed home livers; that is, they produced almost everything they ate or wore. Corn bread and wild meats were the principal articles of food; and the father raised, pulled, broke and hackled the flax which the mother carded spun and wove into the homespun from which she fashioned garments for the whole family. Sugar was made from the sap of the maple tree, and the head of the household was oftentimes his own cobbler. Mr. Griffith says that he was quite a lad before he had a pair of shoes, and that his first ones were made for him by his grandfather, who tanned the leather himself. In order to pay for these shoes, Oliver pumped the bellows for his grandfather, who was a blacksmith as well as farmer and cobbler, a whole spring, summer and fall. Those shoes, so hardly earned, were worn when the ground was covered with snow, at other times being carefully wrapped up and put away, to be given, when he outgrew them, to a younger brother. In going hunting in cold weather, he used to warm a board to take along, and when the dog started a rabbit he would place the board on the ground, and keep his bare feet on it while waiting.

From early boyhood Oliver Griffith worked with his father, and for weeks at a time would split rails that sold at twenty-five cents a hundred, that being one of the ways the brave pioneers had of securing ready money. Occasionally his father would take one or two hogs, some furs, venison and honey to Terre Haute, trade them for coffee, salt, needles, thread, and such other small articles as must be had, taking two days to make the trip. During the winter of 1848 Oliver lived with William Edmundson, and worked for his board and attended school for three months, getting up at four o'clock in the morning to do his chores, and afterwards walking five miles to the school, which was the only one that he ever attended, having obtained his education by good reading and observation. He is an intelligent reader, keeping abreast of the times in regard to current events, and for many years has kept a daily record of things of importance and interest. Growing to manhood, he was for a number of years employed in farming by the month or year. In 1856 he worked for Christopher Trinkle, receiving at the end of the year, in addition to his board, fifty dollars in cash and two suits of clothes. A part of the next year he worked for Joseph Liston, and then returned to Mr. Trinkle and farmed on shares, his share of the crop in the fall amounting to twenty-one dollars. The result was so discouraging that he returned to Mr. Liston, with whom he remained until after the breaking out of the Civil war.

On October 29, 1861, Mr. Griffith enlisted in Company A, Forty-third Indiana Volunteer Infantry; was with his regiment in Kentucky, Tennessee, Missouri, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas and Kansas, and took part in several engagements, the more important being the battles at Fort Pillow, Memphis and Island No. 10. In February, 1863, on account of physical disability, he was honorably discharged, and after his return home was unable to work for more than six months. Going in the fall of that year to Knox county, Indiana, Mr. Griffith was there married, December 6, 1863, to Sarah Chambers, who was born in that county, April 18, 1831, a daughter of John and Mary (Hollingsworth) Chambers. The young couple remained on the farm of Mr. Chambers for two years, and then settled in Lewis township. In 1866 Mr. Griffith bought the farm which he now owns and occupies, ten of its eighty acres being cleared at the time of purchase, while on it was a log cabin, with an addition built of poles, the whole roof being covered with boards rived by hand. This cabin was the home of Mr. and Mrs. Griffith for two or more years, and in it two of their children were born. By dint of persistent toil, he cleared the timber from the remainder of the land, and

after a few years built a nice hewed log house, one and one-half stories in height, and that in time gave way to the commodious frame house in which the family now live. Successful in all of his undertakings, Mr. Griffith wisely invested his money in more land, and has now one hundred and thirty-seven and one-half acres of land in his farm, which, in regard to its improvements and appointments, ranks well with any in the community, his house, substantial barn and outbuildings being well adapted to the purposes for which they are used. Mrs. Griffith died in 1889, and Mr. Griffith now lives, retired from active labor, on the home farm, which is managed by his youngest son.

Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Griffith, namely: John Franklin and Richard Harland, now living; and Thomas and Claude, who died in infancy. John Franklin Griffith, the oldest son, is a minister and now has charge of the Missionary Baptist church at Spencer, Owen county. He married Effie Trinkle, and they have two children, Flossie and Edith. Richard Harland, who lives on the home farm, married Viola Strahla, and they have three children living, Sarah Margaret, William Oliver and Courtney Lee, one child, Orris Graeme, dying at the age of twenty months. Mr. Griffith is a member of the Missionary Baptist church, to which his wife also belonged.

<CENTER><H3>Benjamin M. GUIRL</H3>

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Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II, <BR>  
au: William Travis,

publ. 1909

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BENJAMIN M. GUIRL.—Prominent among the foremost citizens of Clay county is Benjamin M. Guirl, of Clay City, a man of superior business discernment and judgment, and who by careful attention to the interests of others and to those things conducive to the welfare and progress of society has shown himself a public-spirited and highly useful member of the community. Gifted with quick perceptions and an intelligent mind, is he also endowed with that peculiar vein of enterprise and ambition which is essentially American, and which has been the means of leading him onward to success in his undertakings. He was born February 11, 1864, in Jennings county, Indiana, a son of Charles A. and Mary (Millhouse) Guirl. A short sketch of his parents and more immediate ancestors may be found on another page of this work, in connection with a brief personal notice of his brother, Hon. William H. Guirl.

Completing his early education in the district schools, Benjamin M. Guiri remained at assisting in the care of the farm until twenty years of age. Beginning life then for himself, he obtained work in a sawmill at Lapel, where he acquired his first knowledge of the lumber business. Going from there to Kirklin, he had charge of a sawmill for a while, and then, buying a half interest in a flour mill, superintended the operations of both mills for about three years. Disposing then of his interest in the flour mill, he moved his sawmill to Clay City. A year later, in 1892, Mr. Guiri sold his interest in this plant to his brother, organized the Clay City Manufacturing Company, put up a large mill, and for ten years was here engaged in the manufacture of staves. During this time Mr. Guiri organized the Clay City Electric Light Company and the Clay City Packing Company, and for six years had the management of these three great enterprises, a part of the time having, in addition, the care of his brother's farms and of his lumber business. Disposing of his stock in the Electric Light and Packing companies in 1902, Mr. Guiri removed the plant of the Clay City Manufacturing Company to Alexander county, Illinois, whither he also took his family. Within five years the company had stripped all of the timber from the large tracts of land that they had bought in that locality, converting it into staves, and now, in 1908, have a large force of men at work removing the stumpage preparatory to placing the land under cultivation. Returning with his family to Clay City in 1906, Mr. Guiri took charge of the lumber business which he had previously purchased from his brother, and has since reorganized the Clay City Electric Light Company, and is here carrying on an extensive and lucrative business, being, in Western parlance, a "hustler."

On April 28, 1888, Mr. Guiri married Blanche E. Nickey, who was born in Whitley county, Indiana, which was likewise the birthplace of her father, Allen Nickey. Her grandfather, Jacob Nickey, was born, it is thought, in Virginia, from there coming to Indiana and settling as a pioneer in Whitley county. Allen Nickey was a practicing physician during his earlier life, but was afterwards engaged in the lumber business in Boone county, Indiana, where he also operated a flour mill. He is now engaged in farming near Tipton, this state. He married Mary Reed, a native of Whitley county. Mr. and Mrs. Guirl are the parents of six children, namely: Hazel, Paul, George, Mabel, Clara and Leona.

Politically Mr. Guirl is a Republican, and is now serving as chairman of the Clay City School Board. Both Mr. and Mrs. Guiri are members of the Christian church.

<CENTER><H3> Robert GUTHRIE</H3>

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From "Counties of Clay and Owen, Indiana. Historical and Biographical."<BR>Published 1884 by F.A. Battey & Co., Publishers, Chicago Ill.

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ROBERT GUTHRIE, farmer, is the second of the eight children of Robert and Margaret (Patterson) Guthrie, natives of Pennsylvania, and of Irish and Scotch descent respectively, the former born November 21, 1800, died November 30, 1881; the latter born September 27, 1797, died January 18, 1881. Our subject first saw the light January 4, 1828, in Washington County, Penn., whence his parents, in the year 1836, removed to Coshocton County, Ohio. He was reared on a farm, and acquired a fair education in the schools of the day. At maturity he inherited from his father about \$6,000, to which he has added by diligence and thrift until he now ranks among the wealthiest farmers of the county of Clay. June 5, 1856, he married Jane Elliott, which union was graced by three children-Hugh W. (deceased), Andromedia (deceased), and Prudence N. In 1858, he came to this state and located where he now resides. December 4, 1863, Mrs. Guthrie died, and October 13, 1864, he married Mary Ann Sowash, who became thereby the mother of four children- Emma Jane, Ella C., Ida L. and Daniel V. Mr. Guthrie is a member of Clay City Lodge, A. F. & A. M., and was for two years Treasurer thereof. He is a liberal Democrat, and a benevolent, esteemed citizen.

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