

CREAMER, JESSE E

Jesse E. CREAMER, a well-known retired farmer and former landowner of Jay county, now living at Portland, where he has made his home for years, is a native son of Jay county and has lived here all his life. Mr. CREAMER was born on a farm in Pike township on January 23, 1862, and is a son of George E. and Mary (BOCKHOVEN) CREAMER, both members of pioneer families in this county. George E. CREAMER was born in the vicinity of Shelbyville, in Warren county, Ohio) and was but a lad when he came with his parents to Jay county, the family settling on an un-cleared tract of land in Pike township, where he grew to manhood. He married Mary BOCKHOVEN, a daughter of Nelson and Betty (LEWIS) BOCKHOVEN, substantial residents of that community, and not long after his marriage was seriously injured in an accident which befell him while aiding in the erection of the old wooden bridge over the Salamonie river at Portland, and for eighteen months thereafter was confined to his home. Upon his recovery he began farming in association with his father and some years later purchased a farm of 120 acres one mile west of Bluff Point. In Pike township, where he established his home. He later added to tills holding an adjoining "forty" and thus had an excellent farm of 160 acres, which he continued to operate until his death in 1890. He and his wife were the parents of six children, two of whom, Anna and Jimmie, are deceased, the others (besides the subject of this sketch) being, Ellory, Hattie P. and Jane. Reared on the home farm in Pike township, Jesse E. CREAMER received his schooling in the Days Creek and Bluff Point schools and from the days of his boyhood was a helpful factor in the labors of the farm, continuing as a farmer in association with his father until the latter's death, after which for a time he made his home in Portland, but presently again was attracted to the farm and bought a tract of forty acres in Wayne township, a mile and a half east of Portland, but a year later returned to Portland where he has since resided, and in 1916 sold his farm. On May 24) 1902) Jesse E. CREAMER was united in marriage to Mrs. Isabel (SWANK) BLAKELY and he and his wife have a very pleasant home at 142 East Third street in Portland. They are Democrats and are members of the First United Brethren church. Mrs. CREAMER was born in the vicinity of Salem, in Madison township, this county and is a daughter of George and Anna (SNELLBAKER) SWANK) the latter of whom was born in Philadelphia, Pa., and was seven years of age when she moved with her parents to Warren county, Ohio and came to Jay county with his parents as a boy. After his marriage he bought a farm

of eighty acres in the Salem neighborhood in Madison township and there established his home and spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring in 1890. He was an honored veteran of the Civil war having enlisted in 1862 and served until his discharge after the close of the war in 1865. At the battle of Chickamauga he received a severe hip wound which rendered him a cripple for life. His widow survived until 1897. They were the parents of eight children, all of whom are living save one, Mrs. CREAMER having one sister, Adeline, and five brothers, George, William, John, Terry and Isaac SWANK. By her previous marriage to Montraville M. BLAKELY, Mrs. CREAMER has one child, a son, Andrew J. BLAKELY. SOURCE: Milton T. Jay, M.D., History of Jay County Indiana, Historical Publishing Co., Indpls. 1922, Vol. II, pp.269-270. Transcribed by Eloine Chesnut.