

William Poling, an active and enterprising citizen of Jackson Township, where he is engaged in farming, was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, April 18, 1830. His father, Samuel Poling was a native of Virginia, born in Randolph County, June 27, 1806. He was married March 27, 1829 to Sarah Spohn, a native of Perry County, Ohio and to them was born seven children, of whom six still survive - Rebecca, William, Lydia, John, Sarah and Samuel. A daughter, Rachel, died after reaching maturity. The parents came with their family to Jay County, Indiana in 1840, when they settled on a tract of land on Section 15, Jackson Township, on which a rude log cabin had been built, but no clearing done. Two years later the family returned to Fairfield County, Ohio, where they resided until 1849, when they came again to Jay County.

William Poling, the subject of this sketch was but ten years old when his parents first settled in Jay County. His father being a farmer, he was reared to the same avocation, his youth being passed in assisting to clear and improve the home farm. He was united in marriage in January, 1852 to Miss Sarah German, a native of Warren County, Ohio, born March 12, 1832, a daughter of Henry German. They are the parents of seven children - Julia, Ann, Thomas E., Jane, John J., George W., Eli and Samuel. All of the sons are members of the Sons of the Veterans Camp.

Mr. Poling served as a soldier in the War of the Rebellion from October, 1864 until the close of the war, and is now a comrade of John C. Porter Post, No. 83, G.A.R. at Geneva, Adams County.

He has met with success in his agricultural pursuits and is now the owner of 130 acres of as good land as can be found in Jay County, with good farm buildings. Politically Mr. Poling affiliates with the Republican Party.

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Transcribed by Jim Cox