

## WILLIAM ZIMMERMAN.

William Zimmerman, one of the better known farmers of Adams county, is the son of sturdy parents, who followed agricultural pursuits all of their lives. His youth was spent on a farm and he admits that the life of a successful farmer holds greater charm for him than any other. He is qualified to speak, for he devoted some of the years of his life to general business and then returned to a farm life. He was born in Kirkland township on May 13, 1863. His parents were Jonathan and Elizabeth (Blosser) Zimmerman. His father was born in Pennsylvania in 1837 and his mother was a native of Ohio, where she was born in 1840. His parents were married in 1862. Jonathan Zimmerman came to Indiana and settled in Kirkland township in about the year 1853. Associated with his brother Peter he purchased eighty acres of land in section 14, on which he lived for a short time. This tract he sold and purchased another farm in section 12. This land was in a wild state and had no improvements of any nature. He cleared this land and improved it to a certain point when his death occurred.

William Zimmerman, the subject of this sketch, was his only child. William Zimmerman was reared on his father's farm and assisted in its clearing and cultivation during the latter years of his father's life. He was educated in the Kirkland township schools and was known as a bright and ambitious boy. After completing his school work he devoted himself to the labor of improving his paternal estate. This was hard work, but the young man was a determined sort and worked zealously and continuously. He was a devoted son and of great help to his father.

In 1885 he married Eliza McWhirter, a daughter of George and Catherine (McConaughy) McWhirter. His wife's parents were Irish and came to this country in an early day to make a new home. They lived for a few years in Ohio after reaching America. Then they came to Indiana and settled in Adams county. Later they moved to Decatur and then to Peterson, Kirkland township, where they still reside.

The two years immediately following his marriage Mr. Zimmerman lived on and operated his father's farm. He decided to enter on a commercial career and established himself in business at Peterson. In this place he operated a store for six years. After the expiration of this period he sold this business and returned to his home place in section 12. On his father's death the farm came into his possession and he engaged in the active improvement of it. He has proved to be a successful farmer. His crops are always profitable and he conducts his place along the best of modern lines. His place is all under cultivation and his residence, barns and other buildings are of a suitable and commodious character. He has fenced and drained his farm and made of it a model estate.

Mr. Zimmerman is a progressive, wide-awake citizen. He is interested in all matters that have a local or state significance. He is a careful reader and keeps informed on current events. In spite of his busy agricultural life he takes an active part in the politics of his township and was elected about eleven years ago as justice of the peace on the Democratic ticket. He held this office for eight years and so well did he discharge his obligations as a public servant he was chosen a township assessor, which office he still holds. He is active in all matters having as their objects the improvement of his county and is a clear-headed, intelligent citizen. He is a member of the Baptist church of his neighborhood.

The home circle of the Zimmermans consists of the father, mother and two children. These latter are: Bessie B., born in 1886, and John, born in 1889. The family is highly respected and its social position is one of the best in the county.

**Snow's History of Adams County, Indiana, John Fletcher Snow, B. F. Bowen, Indianapolis, IN, 1907, p. 428 (image 875).**