

HENRY MARTZ, one of the old and respected pioneers of Adams County, who is now deceased, was born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, March 26, 1792, his parents being natives of Germany. On coming to America they settled in Pennsylvania, where they lived till their death. The father was killed while assisting to raise the framework of a mill. Henry Martz, our subject, was reared on the home farm in Pennsylvania. He was first married to Julia A. Timberly, who was born in Frost-town, Somerset County, Pennsylvania, and to this union were born seven children, three sons and four daughters. Mrs. Martz died in Pennsylvania in 1824. In 1828 Mr. Martz went with his children to Ohio, and after visiting different parts of the State, located in Knox County, where he was married to Catherine Lydick, a native of Bedford County, Pennsylvania, born November 10, 1807. Her parents were also natives of Pennsylvania, where they spent their lives, and her grandparents came from Germany. Six children were born to this union - Mrs. Lydia Wagoner, George H., Mrs. Catherine Whiteherst, Mrs. Ellen Swiger, James K. and Mrs. Frances Hartnett. After living in different parts of Ohio Mr. Martz, in 1839, came with his family to Adams County, Indiana and settled on section 11, Monroe Township. He first entered forty acres, and afterward purchased land until he had 140 acres. The surrounding country was then new and covered with timber. The family camped out three days and nights until Mr. Martz, assisted by his sons, erected their log cabin, in which they lived until their hewed-log house was erected, in 1852. Here the parents lived until their death, Mr. Martz dying May 20, 1870 and Mrs. Martz, February 3, 1884. Mr. Martz was a prominent man in his township, and took an active interest in all public affairs. In politics he was a Democrat, and voted at the first election held in Monroe Township, when he was elected justice of the peace. He held that office continuously for twenty-one years by election, and also filled other local offices, including trustee and clerk. He was a member of the Maryland militia during the war of 1812, and participated in the battle of Baltimore Heights. For his services in that war he received two land warrants for 160 acres, and after his death his wife received a pension.