

Joseph S. Alberson, who formerly and for years was engaged in the mercantile business at Poling, in this county, and is now the proprietor of a well improved farm in Jackson Township, where he makes his home, rural mail route No. 3 out of Bryant, is a native Hoosier, a member of one of the pioneer families in this part of the state, and has lived in Indiana all his life. Mr. Alberson was born on a farm in the neighboring county of Adams on July 15, 1863, and is a son of Henry and Rachel (Shigley) Alberson, the latter of whom was born in Ohio, but had been a resident of Adams County since the days of her girlhood. Henry Alberson was born in Randolph County, this state, and was ten years of age when his parents, Josiah Alberson and wife, who were among the pioneers of Randolph County, moved from that county up into Adams County. He grew to manhood on a pioneer farm there and after his marriage established his home on a farm of his own, coming to be the owner of 160 acres in that county, and there he remained until his retirement from the farm when he made his home with his son Joseph in this county, where Iris last days were spent. He and his wife were the parents of four children, three of whom are living, the subject of this sketch having two sisters, Barbara and Mary.

Reared on the home farm in Adams County, Joseph S. Alberson received his schooling in the schools of that neighborhood and remained on the home farm until he was twenty-eight years of age when he became engaged in the mercantile business at the village of Domestic, in Wells County. Some years later he disposed of his interests there and moved down into Jay County and bought a store at Poling, where he remained in business until 1907, having thus been engaged in the mercantile business for thirteen years, when he traded his store for the farm on which he is now living in Jackson Township and has since made his home there. Mr. Alberson has a well improved farm of 160 acres and is doing well in his operations. Among the improvements he has made since taking possession of the place is the erection of a fine new barn 38 by 72 feet in dimensions. He gives considerable attention to the raising of pure bred Chester White hogs and feeds out about seventy-five head a year.

Mr. Alberson is a Republican and has ever given a good citizen's attention to local political affairs. Joseph S. Alberson married Emma Taylor, daughter of Henry and Mary E. Taylor, and to this union four children have been born, Artie, Orel, Merle and Earl, all of whom are living save the first born. Artie Alberson married Lawrence Tinkle and died on September 25, 1916, being then at the age of thirty years, six months and eighteen days, and left two children, Vaughn and Donovan. Orel Alberson married Hazel Stewart. He has been teaching since he was seventeen years of age save for the time spent in the Army during the World War and is now a teacher in the Massey Business College at Houston, Tex. During the World War he was in the service for about two years, a flyer in the aviation section, and attained the rank of second lieutenant. Merle Alberson married Nellie Hartley. Earl Alberson married Nellie Edington and has two children, Louise and Hugh. The Alberson's had a very pleasant home and have ever taken an interested part in the community's general social activities.