

Alfred Alexander, one of the early settlers of Wayne Township, where he still resides on Section 5, was born in Kanawha County, Virginia in 1824, a son of Thomas Alexander. The father was born in Bedford County, Virginia, where he was reared and married to Miss Sallie Huddleston, who was also from Bedford County, Virginia. In 1826, they removed from Kanawha County where they had lived for a time to Jackson County, Ohio, where they lived until their death, the father dying in his seventy-second year and the mother in her sixty-eighth year. Nine children were born to them, eight arriving at maturity. Four of the family is yet living - Caleb, a resident of Jackson County, Ohio; Otey in Greenup County, Kentucky; Andrew C. of Bates County, Missouri and Alfred who was the youngest child.

Alfred Alexander was but two years old when taken by his parents to Jackson County and there he grew to manhood. He started in life a poor boy, but by hard work and strict economy he accumulated the sum of \$350, which he brought with him to Jay County, Indiana in February, 1849, and the same year he purchased a quarter section in Wayne Township, paying for the same \$425. The two years following he divided his time between Jay County and Jackson County, Ohio.

In October, 1853, he was married to Miss Lavina Golden, who came to Jay County from Jackson County, Ohio in September 1849. She was born in Fayette County, Pennsylvania February 7, 1832, her parents, James and Annie Golden, being natives of the same state. Her mother died when she was a child and she was reared in the family of her maternal grandfather, James Adair, with whom she came to Jackson County when seventeen years old. She came to Jay County with her sister, Mrs. Nancy J. Wilmore, who is now living at Warren, Huntington County, Indiana.

Mr. and Mrs. Alexander settled on their farm in Wayne Township, where they have lived for thirty-five years, and here their seven children were born, of whom only four are now living - Jennie, born February 9, 1859, wife of John Chritman of Bear Creek Township; Andrew Calvin born June 17, 1862, married Nina Florence Milligan, a daughter of Samuel H. Milligan and a granddaughter of Wilson Milligan of Bear Creek Township; Alvin A., born November 9, 1864 and Thomas H. born August 10, 1867. Sarah Ann died aged six years; James B. died at the age of two years and America Adella, who was the youngest child, died in 1875, aged three years.

When Mr. Alexander settled on his farm it was in a state of nature, but by industry and good management on the part of himself and wife, they have acquired a pleasant home and gained competence for their declining years. Their farm contains 229 acres of Jay County's best and everything about the place betokens the thrift and industry of the proprietor.

In politics, Mr. Alexander is a Democrat, casting his first presidential vote for General Cass in 1848 and has voted for every Democratic candidate since that date. Mrs. Alexander is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Although a member of no church, Mr. Alexander holds in respect all religious opinions and is highly esteemed throughout the community where he has made his home for so many years.

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Transcribed by Jim Cox