

James M. Avey, a well-known and substantial agriculturist and landowner of Jackson township, is an Ohioan by birth but has been a resident of this county since he was twenty-five years of age and has thus for years regarded himself as thoroughly identified with the interests of this county as though native here. Mr. AVEY was born on a farm in Butler County, Ohio, June 1, 1851, and is a son of Jacob and Rachel (McDaniel) Avey, whose last days were spent in that county. Jacob Avey also was born in Butler County, a son of one of the pioneers of that section of Ohio, and grew up as a farmer, a vocation he followed all his life, the owner of a farm of forty acres. He and his wife were the parents of eleven children, three of whom are still living, the subject of this sketch having a brother, George W. Avey, and a sister, Mollie.

Reared on the home farm in Butler County, James M. Avey received his schooling in the local schools and from boyhood followed farming. He married at the age of twenty-two and three years later came up into Indiana and bought a tract of eighty acres in the woods of Jackson Township, this county, where he established his home and proceeded to clear the place and get it in shape for cultivation. Clearing and draining was a big job, but he presently got it accomplished and now has a well improved farm, the drainage of which is aided by 1,300 rods of tile.

Mr. Avey is a Republican and, is a member of the local lodge of the Royal Order of Moose at Montpelier. It was on September 8, 1874, that James M. Avey was united in marriage to Louisa Jane McKee, who was born in Pennsylvania, a daughter of Thomas and Mary McKee, and to this union eight children have been born: Omer, Elmer, Taylor, Sell, Goldie, Lula, Alice and Hawsie, all of whom are living. Omer Avey is married and is living in British Columbia. Elmer Avey married Edith Priest, of this county, and has four children, Thelora, Marjorie, Cloyse and Allean. Taylor Avey married Katie Michaels and has seven children. Sell Avey married Minnie Downey, of this county. Goldie Avey married Rolla Brooks and is now living in Oregon. Lula Avey married Louis Welch and also lives in Oregon. Alice Avey was married on March 1, 1922, to Charles Myers of Oregon City, Oregon. Hawsie Avey married May Alexander, of this county, and has one child, a son, Robert.