

ELIAS BOST, one of the prominent and wealthy agriculturist of Jay county, was born in Columbia County, Pennsylvania, Mary 20, 1833, a son of William and Eliza Bost, who were born, reared and married in the same State. The mother of our subject died when he was three years old. She was the mother of three children – the eldest child married Thomas McCartney and is now deceased. Elias was the second child and the third child died in infancy and was buried with his mother. The father again married before leaving his home in Pennsylvania, taking for his second wife Miss Elizabeth Shugars. They left Pennsylvania with teams, and after a journey of several weeks duration reached Jay County, Indiana, November 9, 1839, and within a week they were sheltered by a rude log cabin erected on land purchased by the father on section 13, Jefferson Township. There the father with the help of his sons as they became old enough, worked to make a good home, and well they succeeded. Commencing with a capital of not more than \$1,000, and working against many disadvantages, no market for buying or selling, he became one of the prosperous citizens of the county, leaving at his death 218 acres of well improved land, and \$35,000 in personal property. He died December 9, 1880, aged seventy-two years. His widow survived until October 4, 1886. She was the mother of two children, both of whom were born in Jay County – Sarah Catherine, deceased wife of Fernando H. Lacy, and James who died at the age of four years. Mr. Bost and his wife were members of the Lutheran church.

Elias Bost, the subject of this sketch, has lived in Jay County since coming with his father in 1839, and here he was reared amid the scenes incident to pioneer life. Coming here when the county was an almost unbroken wilderness, with no churches, schools or mills, he has witnessed the many important events that have transpired, changing the county into thriving towns and well cultivated farm. Few men living today have done more toward the development of Jefferson Township than he. He remained with his father until twenty-six years of age when he was deeded sixty acres of land on section 13, Jefferson Township, near the old homestead.

He was united in marriage July 3, 1859, to Miss Hannah P. Sanders, who was born near New Mount Pleasant. Her father, Jacob H. Sanders, a pioneer of Jefferson Township, having been the original proprietor of that village. Of the five children born to Mr. and Mrs. Bost four are living – Louvernia J., wife of Samuel J Bair; Jacob W., Elmer E. and Joseph F., all living in Jay County. Jacob W. has been a cripple from the age of three years. He is a young man of good education, and is now studying law at Portland. James O., the third child of Mr. and Mrs. Bost, died at the age of thirteen years and six month.

Elias Bost commenced married life in a primitive log cabin on the land given him by his father, and to this land he subsequently added eighty acres, directly west of his homestead. There he erected a fine residence in 1877, which he occupied until his removal to Portland June 5, 1884, where he is now living a more retired life. He now owns 380 acres of choice land in one body, divided into two farms, nearly all on section 13, Jefferson Township all under improvement. This includes all of his father's homestead. Politically Mr. Bost may be classed as an independent Democrat. He is a member of the Methodist church.

Biographical and Historical Record of Jay County, Indiana, Lewis Publishing Co, Chicago, 1887, p. 342-345.