

BRADLEY, DAVID E

David E. BRADLEY, one of Greene township's well known farmers and landowners, was born in that township and has lived there most of his life. Mr. BRADLEY was born on March 5, 1865, and is a son of Ben R. and Mary (REED) BRADLEY, well known in the community in their generation. Ben R. BRADLEY was a Pennsylvanian who came to Jay county when a young man and here spent the remainder of his life. He was a trained blacksmith and harness maker, but upon coming to this county bought an eighty acre farm in Greene Township with a view to becoming a farmer, but not long afterward left the farm and moved to the village of New Mt. Pleasant to resume work at his trade. A year later he moved to Portland and there set up an establishment on Meridian street in which he carried on his business for eight years, at the end of which time he returned to Greene township and bought a farm of 131 acres on which he spent the rest of his life. He and his wife were the parents of five children, of whom two are still living, the subject of this sketch having a brother, John BRADLEY. There were two other brothers, James and George, and a sister, Ellen, now deceased. David E. BRADLEY received his schooling in the Portland schools and the schools of Greene township and grew up well trained to the ways of the farm. He married at the age of twenty-one and then began farming on his own account, renting a farm for three years, at the end of which time he moved to a tract of thirty acres belonging to his wife. Sometime later he left the farm and moved to Portland, where he remained for eight years, working at the carpenter trade and for some time engaged in the grocery business. He then returned to Greene township and was for five years engaged in farming his mother-in-law's farm. In 1905 Mr. BRADLEY bought the tract of eighty acres on which he is now living in that township and has since been farming there. Since taking possession of this place he has made numerous substantial improvements on the place and has an excellent farm plant, carrying on his operations in up-to-date fashion. It was on November 20, 1886, that David E. BRADLEY was united in marriage to Ida A. LORTON, who was born in the neighboring county of Randolph, daughter of Joseph O. and Martha J. LORTON. Mr. and Mrs. BRADLEY have a pleasant home on rural mail route No. 2 out of Portland and take a proper part in the community's general social activities. Mr. BRADLEY is a Democrat and is a member of the local lodge of the Loyal Order of Moose at Portland. SOURCE: History of Jay County Indiana, Historical Publishing Co., Indpls. 1922, Vol. II, pp.186-187. Transcribed by Eloine Chesnut

