

John S. Emmons, of the firm of Emmons & Saunders, druggists, Pennville, is a native of Indiana, born in Delaware County, October 17, 1847, a son of Eli and Eliza J. (Clevinger) Emmons, who came from Ohio to Indiana in an early day. The father was born in Virginia, of Scotch descent, a son of Ephraim Emmons, whose father served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War for seven years.

Eli Emmons was a farmer by occupation, in connection with which he followed the cooper's trade until 1857, when he removed to Wells County, Indiana and purchased a farm of 160 acres of unimproved land, where he followed farming in connection with his trades. He served as magistrate for eight years. The mother of our subject was a daughter of John Clevinger who came from Ohio, and was of English descent. Of the eleven children born to Eli and Eliza Emmons, ten grew to maturity, and seven are still living.

The father died at his home in Nottingham Township, Wells County, June 11, 1872, aged fifty-three years. In his political view, he was an uncompromising Democrat. He was a member of the New Light Church.

Mr. Eli Emmons was also a member of the same church. After the death of Mr. Emmons, she married Aaron Ball and died in the year 1886.

John S. Emmons, the subject of this sketch, was reared on the farm until seventeen years of age when he started out in life for himself, going to Randolph County, where he remained three years. In October, 1864, he went to Guthrie County, Iowa, where he worked at the carpenter's trade for one year. In 1870, he began teaching school, which he followed until 1872, when on account of his father's illness, he returned to his home in Wells County, and in the winter taught school. He was married January 18, 1871 to Miss Lucy J. McDonald, a native of Wells County, Indiana, and a daughter of Alexander and Frances (Dawley) McDaniel, her father coming from Pennsylvania and her mother from Ohio.

They are the parents of three children - Edward Elbert, born in 1874; Oscar Orlander, born in 1876, and Fanny Pearl, born in 1878.

In 1880, Mr. Emmons came to Pennville, Jay County, and engaged in the drug business, which he has since followed with success. Politically, he affiliates with the Republican Party. He is a member of Relief Lodge, No. 145, I.O.O.F., and also belongs to Pennville Lodge, No 212, A.F. & A.M. Both he and his wife are members of the Christian or Disciple Church and among the respected residents of Penn Township.

Biographical and Historical Record Jay County Indiana, Lewis Publishing Company, 1887

Transcribed by Jim Cox