

**Adam Wesley FLESHER**, one of Jefferson township's well known and substantial farmers and landowners, residing on rural mail route No. 2 out of Ridgeville, is a native son of Jay county, a member of one of the pioneer families here, and has lived in this county all his life. Mr. FLESHER was born on a farm in Jefferson township on February 16, 1857, and is a son of John and Lydia (BENNETT) FLESHER, who were then living on a farm in the vicinity of where Powers Station came to be established when the railroad came through. John FLESHER was born in Warren county, Ohio, and was but two years of age when his parents, Adam and Elizabeth (HARFORD) FLESHER, left their home there and with their two small children, John and Granville, came to Indiana and located on a tract of land in what later came to be organized as Jefferson township, Jay county. That was in 1835, the year before Jay county attained a separate civic identity, and the country in which the FLESHER's settled then was practically a woodland wilderness. Adam FLESHER, who was a Virginian by birth entered from, the Government a tract of 240 acres in Jefferson township and created there an excellent farm, his home being in section 21. He and his wife spent the remainder of their lives there. They had five children who grew to maturity, those besides John having been Granville, who took over the old home place, and three daughters, Mrs. Susanna JOHNSON, Mrs. Eliza GILBERT and Mrs. Elizabeth MERANDA.

John FLESHER was but a babe when his parent settled in the then wilderness of Jefferson township and he grew to manhood on the home farm there, presently coming to be the owner of forty-seven acres of the home place. This he added to by the purchase of adjoining land until he became the owner of a well developed farm of 182 acres and was accounted one of the substantial citizens of that part of the county. On that farm he spent his last days. John FLESHER was twice married. By his first wife, Lydia BENNETT, he had six children, of whom but two are now living, the subject of this sketch and his sister Mary. Following the death of the mother of these children John FLESHER married Malinda ULLMAN and to this union four children were born, three of whom, Ellas, John and Florence, are living.

Reared on the home farm in Jefferson township, Adam Wesley FLESHER received his schooling in the neighborhood schools, completing the same in the Powers school, and remained at home, assisting in the labors of the farm, until his marriage at the age of twenty-one, after which he began farming on his own account, renting a farm of 120 acres in Jefferson township. On this place he made his home for twenty years and then he bought an "eighty" north of Powers. Ten years later he bought a tract of 200 acres in that same township, the place on which he is now living, and now has 280 acres in that township and an excellent farm plant.

Mr. FLESHER is a Democrat and has ever given a good citizen's attention to local political affairs, but has not been a seeker after public office. On February 21, 1878, Adam W. FLESHER was united in marriage to Mary J. THORNBURG, who was born in the neighboring county of Randolph, a daughter of Isaac and Eliza THORNBURG, and to this union nine children have been born, all of whom are living save Grover and Arlie, the latter of whom married Julia HOMER and left three children, Majesca, Miriam and Zenobia. The other children of this family are as follows : Jesse, who married Elsie SMITH; Nora, who married William ROSS; Rollie, who married Don WHALEY and has two children, Nova and Grover; Arnold, who is unmarried and living at home; Gail, who married Louis FRAZE and has one child, Kenneth; Bessie, who married Monte CARTER and has four children, John Wesley, Roman L., Robert and Ardath; and Flossie, who married Elva SILVERS and has three children, Marie, Fern and Royce.

**Unknown source**