

GARRETT, WILLIAM

William S. GARRETT, formerly and for years engaged in business at Redkey, now the owner of an excellent farm in Richland township, where he and his family have made their home for the past ten years or more, is a native Hoosier and has lived in Indiana practically all his life, the exception being a short period spent in the West. Mr. GARRETT was born on a farm in Delaware county, this state, January 25, 1863, and is a son of James P. and Jane (FEASEL) GARRETT, the former of whom was born in that same county, his father having been one of the pioneers and the owner of a farm of more than 600 acres there. James P. GARRETT was reared on the home farm in Henry county and at the age of twenty-two years took a trip West, going as far as Idaho. Upon his return and after his marriage he established his home on a farm and there spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring when he was sixty-five years of age. He and his wife were the parents of seven children, of whom three are living, the subject of this sketch having' a brother, Johnson GARRETT, and a sister, Lavina.

Reared on the home farm in Delaware county, William S. GARRETT received his schooling' in the neighborhood schools and early became engaged as a timber man, a vocation he followed for three years, at the end of which time he entered the employ of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company and was located at Redkey. He worked for the railroad about three years and then was made deputy city marshal, a position he occupied for four years. He then became engaged as a bartender in one of Redkey's saloons and was thus engaged for about ten years, at the end of which time he became engaged in the saloon business on his own account at Redkey and thus continued in business for ten years, at the end of which time, in 1907, he disposed of his interests in that city and bought a small farm in the neighborhood. He farmed this place for about three years and then went West, prospecting in the oil fields of Kansas. There he was painfully injured in an accident in the oil field about six months later and was compelled to return home. His recuperation required about a year and then he bought a tract of eighty acres just north of Redkey, on which he has since made his home. Since taking possession of that place Mr. GARRETT has made numerous substantial improvements on the same and as his affairs prospered has added to his holdings until now he is the owner of an excellent farm of 138 acres of Richland township land.

In 1884 William S. GARRETT was united in marriage to Anna KEESIER, who was born in this county, daughter of Samuel and Clara C. (HOPPES) KEESIER, and to this union two children were born, Edna P. and one who died in infancy. Edna P. GARRETT married Harry TRONE and is now living at Dayton, Ohio.[Montgomery Co.] Mr. and Mrs. GARRETT also have an adopted son, Cassius Clay GARRETT. The GARRETT's are Republicans.

SOURCE: Milton T. Jay, M.D., History of Jay County Indiana, Historical Publishing Co., Indpls. 1922, Vol. II, pp.377-378. Transcribed by Eloine Chesnut.