

GRAY, EMERY A

Emery A. GRAY, a well-known and substantial farmer and land owner of Penn township, proprietor of an excellent farm on rural mail route No. 4 out of Bryant, was born in that township and has lived there practically all his life, the exception being a period of three years which he spent in the oil fields in Kentucky. Mr. GRAY was born on March 25, 1866, and is a son of Reese and Prudence (WILLIAMS) GRAY, both of whom were born in Ohio, the former in Monroe county and the latter in Belmont county. Reese GRAY came to Jay county in the days of his young manhood in the late '40s and became engaged as a carpenter in Penn township, which vocation he followed until after his marriage, when he bought an "eighty" of timber land in that township and started in to clear the same. When he had it about half cleared he sold it and bought another "eighty" in the same township, the place on which his son Emery is now living, and there resided until his retirement from the farm and removal in 1889 to Balbec, where he spent the remainder of his life. He was a good farmer and had increased his holdings from eighty to 150 acres and had a well-improved place. He and his wife were the parents of four children, of whom the subject of this sketch is the only one now living.

Reared on the home farm in Penn township, Emery A. GRAY received his schooling in old district No. I school and from the days of his boyhood was helpful in the labors of developing the farm. He early became interested in oil production and spent three years as a driller in the Kentucky oil fields, but his chief interest has been the old home farm in Penn township, eighty acres of which he owns and operates, making his home there. Mr. GRAY and his wife are members of the West Grove Spiritualist church and are "independent" in their political views. He is a Freemason and a member of the local lodge of the Modern Woodmen of America at Pennville.

Emery A. GRAY married Susanna UPTYCRAFT, a daughter of William and Emaline (ALBERTSON) UPTYCRAFT, and to this union three children have been born, Ethel Mea, Edna Murriel and Elmo C., the latter of whom served as a soldier during the time of America's participation in the World War, a member of Troop B, 13th Cavalry, United States Army. Ethel Mea GRAY married Russell DILLON and has three children, Donald, Dana and Doris. Edna GRAY married Ross STOUT and has two children, Margaret and Marrile. Elmo C. GRAY married Hattie GREGORY, of Rogers, Texas, August 31, 1921.

SOURCE: Milton T. Jay, M.D., *History of Jay County Indiana*, Historical Publishing Co., Indpls. 1922, Vol. II, pp.349-350. Transcribed by Eloine Chesnut.