

JONES, MARK

Mark W. JONES, a former member of the board of commissioners for Jay county and for many years one of the best known and most substantial farmers and landowners of Penn township, where he had resided since 1887, and where he died in January, 1922, was a native Hoosier and had lived in this state all his life. Mr. JONES was born on a farm in Rush county, Indiana, August 30, 1859, and was a son of Ithamar and Elizabeth (WAGNER) JONES, the latter of whom was born in Pennsylvania, Ithamar JONES was born in Wayne county, Indiana, where he grew to manhood as a farmer and was married. After his marriage he moved over into Rush county and resided there until in the early '60s, when he moved to the adjoining county of Hancock, where he was engaged in farming for awhile, afterward moving up into Henry county, where he lived until about 1873, when he moved to Randolph county and established a home on a rented farm there. In this latter county he spent the remainder of his life. He and his wife were the parents of three children, the subject of this memorial sketch; Mary, who died at the age of thirteen years, and Elizabeth.

The late Mark W. JONES was reared on the farm. He completed his schooling in Randolph county, having been about fourteen years of age when his parents moved to that county, and he was engaged in farming operations with his father until after his marriage in 1886. A year after his marriage he came up into Jay county and bought a tract of seventy-seven acres in Penn township, a part of the farm of which he died possessed, and there spent the remainder of his life. Mr. JONES cleared and ditched that tract and as his affairs prospered he added to his holdings until at the time of his death he was the owner of a well improved farm of 293 acres, 160 acres of which he cleared himself, and on which he erected a well equipped farm plant, including two sets of buildings on the place. There also are four producing oil wells on the place. In addition to his general farming Mr. JONES gave considerable attention to the raising of pure bred Shorthorn cattle and did well. He died at his home on that place, on rural mail route No. I out of Pennville, January 23, 1922, and his widow is still making her home there, where she is very comfortably situated. Mr. JONES was a Democrat and for the term beginning in 1908 served his district as a member of the board of county commissioners. He was past chancellor commander of the local lodge of the Knights of Pythias at Pennville and also was a member of the local grange of the Patrons of Husbandry.

It was while living in Randolph county that the late Mark W. JONES was united in marriage to Nettie Mae HINSHAW, a daughter of Silas and Sophronia (MULLEN) HINSHAW, and to this union were born nine children, Lulu, Bertha, Oscar, Daisy, Flossie, Arnold, Florence, Clyde and Minnie, the two latter of whom, as well as Bertha and Arnold, are unmarried. Lulu JONES married Charles ABBOTT and has twelve children, Ralph, Opal, Lennie, Daisy, Dorothy, Martha, Mary, Russell, Margaret, Verne, Charles Edward and Rebe Daleine. Oscar JONES married Pearl ROSE and has one child, a daughter, Irene. Daisy JONES married Theodore DAVIS and has one child, William Ellis. Flossie JONES married Fred CONKLIN and has one child, a son, Fred, Jr., and Florence JONES married George SMITH and has one child, a daughter, Virginia. During the time of America's participation in the World war Oscar JONES served as a soldier, attached to the 23d Engineers Corps, and was eighteen months overseas.

Submitted by: Eloine Chesnut

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