

James KAY, a well-known and substantial farmer and landowner of Greene Township, now living retired on his place there, on rural mail route No. 1 out of Pennville, is a "Buckeye" by birth, but has been a resident of Indiana since the days of his young manhood and of Jay County for more than thirty-five years. Mr. KAY was born on a farm in Shelby county, Ohio, September 22, 1856, and is a son of Job and Mary KENDICK KAY, both of whom were born in the vicinity of Dayton, in Montgomery county, Ohio. Job KAY was a son of James and Rebecca (NEWTON) KAY, who had come to this country from their native England and had settled in Montgomery County, Ohio, where James KAY became a well-to-do farmer. Job KAY remained in Montgomery county until shortly after his marriage to Mary KENDICK, when he moved to Shelby county, in that same state, and bought a quarter section of land, on which he established his home, living there until his retirement from the farm and removal to Newport, Ohio, where he became a merchant and where he died in 1900. He and his wife were the parents of seven children, of whom four are living, the subject of this sketch having two brothers, Jacob and Lot KAY, and a sister, Susan.

Reared on the home farm in Shelby county, Ohio, James KAY received his schooling in the schools of that county and remained there until he started out "on his own," coming then over into Indiana and locating in Henry county, where he remained for thirteen years, or until 1886, when he came up into Jay county and bought an "eighty" in Greene township, the place on which he is now living, and there established his home. When he took that place it was unimproved and he erected the present set of buildings and in other ways brought it to its present state of development, also increasing his holding to 105 acres. In 1915 Mr. KAY retired from the farm and he and his wife moved to Pennville, where his wife died in 1918. Two years later he returned to the farm, which meanwhile had been operated by his son, and has since been making his home with his daughter and her husband.

James KAY married Laura A. MAIN, a daughter of Alexander and Mary MAIN, and to this union four children were born, two of whom are now living, Grace, who married Jay WHITE and is living on the home place, and Warren, who married Ima DULL and has one child, a daughter, Betty Ann. Mr. KAY is a Democrat and takes an interested part in local politics, but has not been a seeker after public office.

Source unknown