

MCLAUGHLIN, William H.

WILLIAM H. McLAUGHLIN, trustee of Wayne township and one of the best known citizens of Portland, is a native son of Jay county, a member of one of the pioneer families here, and has lived in this county all of his life. Mr. McLAUGHLIN was born on a farm in Madison township on May 8, 1864, and is a son of Hugh and Sarah A. (LEHMER) McLAUGHLIN, both of whom were members of pioneer families there. Hugh McLAUGHLIN was born in Ohio and was about ten years of age when his parents, John and Barbara McLAUGHLIN, came over into Indiana with their family and settled on a farm in Madison township, this county, where they established their home. John McLAUGHLIN, the pioneer, and his wife were the parents of eight children, of whom three are still living, Francis M., Anna and Rebecca. Hugh McLAUGHLIN grew to manhood on the old home farm in Madison township and after his marriage to Sarah A. LEHMER, McLAUGHLIN became engaged in farming on his own account and was long recognized as one of the substantial farmers of that community. He and his wife were the parents of eight children, three of whom are still living, the subject of this sketch having a sister, Barbara, and a brother, Wiley A. McLAUGHLIN.

William H. McLAUGHLIN received his schooling in the district schools of this county and for three years after reaching manhood's estate farmed with his father. He then became engaged in black smithing and was thus engaged for nine years, at the end of which time he bought a general store at College Corner and was for thirteen years engaged in business at that place. Selling his store at College Corner, Mr. McLAUGHLIN resumed farming for one year and then became engaged at Portland in operating a shoe repair shop. In 1918 he was elected trustee of Wayne township and is still serving the public in that capacity. Mr. McLAUGHLIN is a Republican and he and his wife are members of the Congregational church. In 1894 William H. McLAUGHLIN was united in marriage to Anna M. WEBER, who also was born in this county, a daughter of Benjamin and Mary A. WEBER, and to this union eight children have been born, Harrison Emerson (deceased), Harriet R., Mary L., Lula, Walter L., Byron and Gerald.

SOURCE: Milton T. Jay, M.D., History of Jay County Indiana, Historical Publishing Co., Indpls. 1922, Vol. II, pp.85-90. Transcribed by Eloine Chesnut.