

Ezra Maynard, deceased, was born in Jefferson County, Ohio, June 5, 1816 a son of Ezra and Hannah Maynard, who moved from Maryland to Ohio in an early date. His use was passed in Jefferson County, and his education was obtained in the schools, of Canton, Ohio. While still young man, he left his native county for Indiana, locating West of Wheeling in Delaware County, where he taught the first school ever taught in Washington Township. His parents had previously settled in this locality, where they continue to reside until their deaths. In early manhood he studied for the ministry; joined the Northern Indiana conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1845; was ordained deacon in 1849, and in 1852 he was ordained elder by Bishop Baker. His fields of labor work at Alamo, Greenfield, Decatur, Asburn, LaGrange, Covington, Warren, Orland, Banbago, LaGro and Huntington, in the State of Indiana, residing at Huntington until 1855, when on account of failing health, he was placed upon the superannuated list, in which relation he stood for 28 years. In 1856 he moved to Albany, Indiana, where he engaged in the mercantile business and continuing variant for 12 years, and by strict attention to business and upright dealing, he won and retained the respect and confidence of a large circle of people, besides amassing considerable wealth. Soon after his return to Albany, he was appointed postmaster, which office he held until 1869. During all the troublous times of the war, he held his post, faithfully discharging the duties devolving upon him, and his place of business became and continue to be the center of interest in that inland town. He held numerous offices of trust, but not of a lucrative character as political ambition was a thing entirely foreign to his nature. General and state elections were held at his place of business, and under his supervision during the above stated, as the most perfect trust was felt by men of all parties in his integrity and fidelity. As a businessman, he was cautious, careful and stringently honest, and to these traits. His success is ascribed.

On 27 June, 1831, he was united in marriage to Miss Letitia English, a native of Columbia County, Pennsylvania, a daughter of Joseph and Mary (Johnson) English. The parents of Mrs. Maynard were natives of Pennsylvania, the father having been born in Bucks County, August 24, 1794 and the mother in Columbia County, April 5, 1798. They were married in their native state, and in 1844 left for Richland County, Ohio, and two years later removed to Steuben County, Indiana, where they resided until 1854, when they went to Fillmore County, Minnesota, where they passed the remainder of their days; Mr. English having died January 4, 1875 and Mrs. English in November, 1868. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Maynard, of whom one, died in infancy, there son Joseph Ross Maynard the sole survivor now being 22 years of age and engaged in business in Dunkirk, Indiana. In 1877, Mr. Maynard removed with his family to Dunkirk, Indiana, where he continued to reside until his death, November 8, 1883, and where his widow still resides. After his removal to Dunkirk, being somewhat of an invalid, he spent most of his time in and about his home, beautifying and adoring his house and grounds. As a benevolent and public spirited citizen, he had few equals and no superiors as even in the closest retirement. He was never known to pass by unheeded a call for charity or benevolence. His health, during the last few years preceding his death was such that he was forced to abstain from public enterprises or political discussions, but he surrounded himself with books and papers and kept pace with the times. His death caused universal regret throughout the community in which he lived. In his political views, he was a Republican. In his family he was kind and affectionate; as a member of the church. He was faithful, active in liberal. He had none of that littleness, which sets up individual opinion as the standard for all the world, but walked humbly with his God, content that other man should enjoy the same liberty he himself possessed.

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Contributed by Jim Cox