

**Cheney PYLE**, a successful farmer of Jefferson Township, and a representative of one of the early pioneer families of Jay County, was born in Washington County, Pennsylvania, December 23, 1826, a son of George P. and Ann (SMITH) PYLE, the father born in Chester County, Pennsylvania, and the mother a native of Virginia. They immigrated to Clinton County, Ohio, in 1832, living there until the spring of 1838 when they came to Jay County, Indiana. They first made their home on section 35, Greene Township, where they lived in a rude log cabin about one year. The father was a poor man, unable to buy land. In 1840 he contracted for 120 acres on section 35 of the same township, and during his three or four years residence at this place he made considerable improvements. He then exchanged this property for eighty acres on section 10, Jefferson Township, where the parents spent the remainder of their days, the father dying May 29, 1859, aged sixty years, and the mother July 2, 1863, at the age of sixty-four years. They were the parents of nine children -- William living in Smith County, Kansas; Nathan died in Jay County, in 1880; Abel living in Greene Township; Cheney, the subject of this sketch; Phoebe, deceased wife of William W. STEED; Elias, died September 14, 1856; Eliza Ann, deceased wife of George RHODES; George P., of Decatur County, Kansas; Curtis died many years ago aged fifteen years.

Cheney PYLE has lived in Jay County since his father first settled here nearly half a century ago. Here he was reared to agricultural pursuits, which he has made the principal avocation of his life. He was married February 16, 1851, to Miss Matilda A. STEED, a native of Shenandoah County, Virginia, born October 1, 1827, a daughter of John and Frances STEED, who were among the pioneers of Jay County, settling in Jefferson Township as early as 1837. Mr. and Mrs. PYLE have had born to them fourteen children -- Frances, died aged fifteen years; George P., died aged twenty years; John lives in Jefferson Township; Mrs. Mary Ellen BRANDENBURGH, a widow, now residing with her parents; Sarah, wife of Willis STEED of Jefferson Township; Lavinia died aged seventeen years; Jane, wife of Jonathan GREEN, of Jefferson Township; Emeline, wife of David BROWN, of Jefferson Township; James W. and Jasper N. at home; Monroe died in infancy, and Thomas J., Jesse R. and Cheney R living at home with their parents. Most of the family are members of the Disciples church. [p 387] Mr. and Mrs. PYLE commenced housekeeping in Jefferson Township April 15, 1865, they removed to their present home on section 14, Jefferson Township, this being the first land owned by Mr. PYLE. His farm now contains 130 acres of well improved land with good residence and farm buildings, the buildings and other improvements being his own work. In politics Mr. PYLE is actively identified with the Republican party. He has served his township as assessor with credit to himself and satisfaction to his constituents. Mr. PYLE is fond of the chase, and in the early days of the county he annually secured many trophies of his skill. In later years he visits the peninsula of Michigan and northeastern Wisconsin every fall, and spends a few weeks deer hunting, always returning home improved in health, and bringing with him evidences of his skill as a marksman."

**Unknown source**