

William Rayn, one of the early settlers of Bear Creek Township, and now deceased, was born in Maryland in 1789 and as a young man removed to Pickaway County, Ohio, where he married Miss Timmons. To this union were born 10 children - John, Nancy, Matilda, William, Edward, Lovisa, Cyrus, Ellen, Joseph, and Elizabeth. His second wife was Jemima Crabb, of Pickaway County, and they had six children - John, Alexander, Fletcher, Gilley, Bertha and Whittington. The family came to Jay County in 1852, coming by horse team and wagon. They located upon the farm now occupied by his son, Alexander, having purchased it of John Goff, who had built the house, at that time one of the best houses in the Township. About 50 acres of the land has been cultivated. Here Mr. Rayn resided until his death, which occurred in 1872; his wife survived, but a short time. He was a worthy and consistent member of the United Brethren Church and greatly esteemed by all.

Biographical and historical record of Jay County, Indiana, The Lewis Publishing Company, 1897.

Contributed by Jim Cox