

RILEY, IDA M.

IDA M. RILEY, a member of the excellent teaching staff of the Portland public schools and for years an active participant in the cultural activities of, that city, was born in Ohio but has been a resident of Indiana since the days of her childhood. Miss RILEY was born at Phillipsburg, Ohio, and is a daughter of Davis and Mary J. (MORGAN) RILEY, the latter of whom was born in Lancaster county, Ohio, and was three years of age when her parents, Isaac and Sarah MORGAN, came to Indiana and located at Bluffton, where she grew to womanhood and was married. The late Davis RILEY, who died at Portland at the age of eighty-five years, also was a native of Ohio. He grew up to the harness-maker's trade and as a young man came to Indiana and located at Bluffton, where he presently was married. Not long afterward he returned to his former home at Phillipsburg, Ohio, but after a sometime residence there came back into Indiana and located at Huntington, where he remained for three years, at the end of which time he came with his family to Jay county and settled at Pennville, where he made his home for twenty years, or until he moved to Portland, where his last days were spent, one of the best known men in Jay county. Davis RILEY and his wife were the parents of six children, of whom four are still living, Miss RILEY having three sisters, Jessie, wife of William GRIEST, of Portland, of whom further mention is made elsewhere in this work; Catherine RILEY, who has for years been a clerk in the Portland post office, and Aletta, wife of W. H. WILLIAMS of Winchester, Ind.

Miss RILEY was but a child when her parents moved to Pennville and the greater part of her early schooling thus was received in the excellent schools of that village. This she supplemented by a course in the old Portland Normal School and then began teaching school, a profession she since has followed. For seven years she was a teacher in the schools of Pennville and Penn township and then she became a teacher in the Portland public schools and has since been associated with the work of the Garfield school. Miss RILEY is a member of the Presbyterian church at Portland and is a Republican. She is a member of the Mississinewa chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution at Portland, of which her sister, Mrs. GRIEST, is the present (1921) regent, and is also a member of the local lodge of the Daughters of Rebecca, the woman's auxiliary of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, her father having for years been an influential and active member of this order.

SOURCE: Milton T. Jay, M.D., History of Jay County Indiana, Historical Publishing Co., Indpls. 1922, Vol. II, pp.49-50. Transcribed by Eloine Chesnut.