

**JOHN SCHMUCK**, one of the leading men of Greene Township, was born in Darke County, Ohio, October 3, 1827, a son of Peter and Asenath (Chapman) Schmuck, who were natives of New Jersey and Pennsylvania, respectively. They were married in the State of Pennsylvania, and immediately after their marriage settled in Darke County, Ohio, where they spent the remainder of their lives. They were the parents of ten children, eight of whom reached maturity. John Schmuck was the sixth child in his father's family, and remained at home with his parents until sixteen years of age. He then went to learn the carpenter's trade, which he followed until he enlisted in the Mexican war, in March, 1847. He served fourteen months as a member of Company D, Sixth Ohio Infantry, passing unscathed through many dangers of war, and after receiving an honorable discharge at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, he returned to Ohio, and resumed work at his trade. He was married August 22, 1849, to Miss Alta Reed, who was born in Ontario County, New York, November 18, 1825, a daughter of Harry and Phoebe (Evarts) Reed. They had had born to them the following children -Nancy, born August 10, 1850, married Clinton Wilcox, and died at Worthington, Indiana, January 18, 1885, leaving three daughters -Ettie, now aged twelve years; Myrtle A., aged ten; and Grace, now in her eighth year; William H., residing in Colorado; Emily, wife of Morris Blazer, of Greene Township; Alice, wife of C.S. Spahr, of Greene Township; Bianca, living at home Elmer, a student at the Normal School at Portland; Elery Morton, twin brother of Elmer, is with Henry in Colorado; Charles B. youngest child at home.

In March, 1851, Mr. Schmuck came with his family to Jay County, and settled in the village of New Corydon, where he worked at his trade two years, when he moved to Jackson Township, where he followed his trade until he removed to Liber, and was there employed working on Liber College. In 1864 he settled on his present farm on section 26, Greene Township, which was then partially improved, twelve acres being cleared, and a small cabin built. The farm now contains 105 acres, of which seventy-five acres are cleared and under good cultivation, and his residence and farm buildings are substantial and commodious. October 13, 1864, Mr. Schmuck enlisted as a private in Company F, One Hundred and Fortieth Indiana Infantry, and was unanimously elected Captain of the company. His regiment was assigned to the Twenty-third Army Corps under General Schofield, and was in the battle of the Cedars, and Murfreesboro, Tennessee, and with the Twenty-third Corps joined Sherman at Goldsboro, North Carolina. His regiment was discharged at Greensboro, North Carolina, being mustered out in the summer of 1865. His father was a soldier in the war of 1812. In early life our subject affiliated with the Democratic party, but for many years has been identified with the Republican party, and in 1870 he was elected on the Republican ticket land appraiser for Jay County, which position he filled five years. He also served one term as county commissioner. Mr. Schmuck, although sixty years of age, and having passed through two wars, and a life of toil, is still in the vigor of manhood, and bids fair to live many years to enjoy the fruits of a well spent life.

**Unknown source**