

SIMPSON, EMMETT

Emmett SIMPSON, one of Jay county's best known stockmen and the proprietor of a well-kept farm in Noble township, where he makes his home, rural mail route No. 3 out of Portland, is a native son of this county and has lived here all his life. Mr. SIMPSON was born on a farm in Greene township on September 7, 1877, and is a son of George W. and Adaline (LaFOLLETTE) SIMPSON, the latter of whom also was born in this county, a daughter of Joseph and Charlotte (STRATTON) LaFOLLETTE, a substantial pioneer family of Jay county. Mrs. Adaline SIMPSON was born on July 16, 1852, and died on October 17, 1887. She was the mother of nine children, of whom three are living, the subject of this sketch having a sister, Ruth, of New Mt. Pleasant, this county, and a brother, Nial D. SIMPSON, now living in Kansas. The late George W. SIMPSON, who died at his home in Noble township on November 15, 1919, as is set out elsewhere in this volume, together with further details regarding the SIMPSON family in this county, was twice married and his widow, Mrs. Martha J. (BADDERS) SIMPSON, is now living on the old home place. She has three children, Edna, James W. and Albert J. George W. SIMPSON was born in Meigs county, Ohio, in 1849, and was a son of Daniel and Hannah (JONES) SIMPSON, the former a native of New York state and the latter of Ohio. In 1866 Daniel SIMPSON came to Indiana with his family and settled in Jay county, where he spent the remainder of his life. George W. SIMPSON was seventeen years-of age when he came to this county and the rest of his life was spent here. He started his farming operations in Greene township, but about twenty years ago moved to Noble township. He was a good farmer and stockman and at the time of his death was the owner of 270 acres of excellent land in this county.

Emmett SIMPSON was trained to the life of the farm from the days of his boyhood and has followed that vocation with considerable success. He received his schooling in the Coulson, Hill school house and remained at home, a valued assistant to his father in the labors of developing the home farm, until his marriage at the age of twenty-five years, when he bought a "forty" in Greene township and started in "on his own." A year later he sold that farm and moved to Portland, where for three years he was engaged in the confectionery business. Then realizing that a commercial life was not to his liking he disposed of that business and resumed farming, making his home on the place on which he is now living in Noble township and where he and his wife are very comfortably situated. It was about fifteen years ago that Mr. SIMPSON took possession of this farm of eighty acres and since then he has made numerous substantial improvements on the place, now having an admirably equipped farm plant. For some time past he has been renting his fields and has been devoting his attention chiefly to the livestock phase of his agricultural operations and in this connection has gained something more than a local reputation as a breeder of pure bred cattle and hogs, with particular reference to his Shorthorns and his big type Poland Chinas, feeding out about 100 head of hogs a year. He and his wife also make a specialty of White Leghorn chickens and raise about 1,500 of this popular variety of fowls a year. Mr. SIMPSON is a Republican, as is his wife, and he is a member of the local aerie of the Fraternal Order of Eagles at Portland.

On April 1, 1903, Emmett SIMPSON was united in marriage to Bertha A. TROUT, who was born in Pike township, this county, and who is a daughter of Ezra and Margaret (WARE) TROUT. Mr. and Mrs. SIMPSON have a pleasant home and have ever taken an interested part in the general social activities of the community in which they reside.

SOURCE: Milton T. Jay, M.D., History of Jay County Indiana, Historical Publishing Co., Indpls. 1922, Vol. II, pp.270-271. Transcribed by Eloine Chesnut.