

SIMPSON, GEORGE W.

George W. SIMPSON, who died at his home in Noble township in the fall of 1919 and is buried in beautiful Green Park cemetery at Portland, was for years recognized as one of the leading agriculturists and stockmen of Jay county, a substantial citizen who left a good memory at his passing, a memory to which this brief review of his useful and active life may be considered a modest, yet just, tribute. Mr. SIMPSON was not a native son of Jay county, but had lived here since the days of his boyhood, and his interests were firmly united to those of this county. He was born in Meigs county, Ohio, October 1, 1849, and was a son of Daniel and Hannah (JONES) SIMPSON, the latter of whom was born in Tuscarawas county, Ohio, in 1831, and died in Smith county, Kansas, December 7, 1887. Daniel SIMPSON was born in Sullivan county, New York, October 12, 1824, and was married in Ohio, where he made his home until 1866, when he came to Indiana with his family and located on a farm in Jay county. He survived his wife for some years, his death occurring in January, 1905.

George W. SIMPSON was seventeen years of age when he came with his parents to Jay county in 1866, and he grew to manhood on the home farm here, remaining with his father until he had attained his majority, when he began farming on his own account, and alter his marriage two or three years later rented a farm in Greene township on which he made his home until 1878, when he bought an "eighty" in Wayne township and moved to the same. To this he added as his affairs prospered until he had an excellent farm of 200 acres. About twenty years ago he sold this place and moved to Portland, but a few weeks later bought a farm of 160 acres in Noble township, which is now being operated by his son Emmet. After a residence of two years in Portland Mr. SIMPSON returned to farming and bought a tract of 130 acres in Noble township and moved to the same, the place on which his widow is now living, and there he spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring on November 15, 1919. Mr. SIMPSON was a good farmer and at the time of his death was the owner of 270 acres in this county, having sold thirty acres of his 130-acre tract in Noble township. For years he had given much attention to the raising of heavy draft horses, Shorthorn cattle and pure bred Duroc Jersey hogs and had done much to improve the strain of livestock in this county. He was a Republican and had ever given a good citizen's attention to local political affairs, but had not been a seeker after public office.

George W. SIMPSON was twice married. On February 1, 1873, he was united in marriage to Adeline LaFOLLETTE, who was born in this county on July 16, 1852, daughter of Joseph and Charlotte (STRATTON) LaFOLLETTE, and who died on October 17, 1887. To that union were born nine children, of whom three are living, namely: Nial D., born on November 16, 1873, who is now living in Kansas; Emmet, born on September 7, 1877, who is now farming in Noble township, and Ruth, November 23, 1882, who is living at New Mt. Pleasant. On June 12, 1906, Mr. SIMPSON married Martha J. BADDERS, who also was born in this county, and to this union were born

three children, Edna and James W. and Albert B. (twins). Edna SIMPSON is a member of the class of 1925, Portland high school, and the twin boys are attending the Price school in Wayne township and are also members of the United Brethren Sunday school at Bellefontaine. Since the death of her husband, Mrs. SIMPSON has continued to make her home on the farm in Noble township, where she is very comfortably situated, having a pleasant home on rural mail route No. 6 out of Portland. She was born in Wayne township and is a daughter of Jesse and Sarah (BURNS) BADDERS, both of whom also were born in Jay county, members of pioneer families here, and who were the parents of four children, Mrs. SIMPSON having had two brothers, Robert (deceased) and James, and a sister, Margaret.

SOURCE: Milton T. Jay, M.D., History of Jay County Indiana, Historical Publishing Co., Indpls. 1922, Vol. II, pp.368-369. Transcribed by Eloine Chesnut.