

## ST JOHN, ROSCOE M.

Roscoe M. ST JOHN, a well-known and substantial farmer and land owner of Richland township, proprietor of a fine farm in the Dunkirk neighborhood, is a native son of Jay county and has lived here all his life. Mr. ST JOHN was born on a farm in Richland township on February 13, 1862, and is a son of Cyrus B. and Dorothy (HICKMAN) ST JOHN, who were among the influential residents of that community. Cyrus B. ST JOHN was born in Ohio and came to Indiana in 1856, the family settling in Jay county. He bought a quarter of a section of land in Richland township and here established his home. He continued to reside there until his retirement from the farm in 1892 and removal to Albany, Ind., where his last days were spent. He and his wife were the parents of nine children, those besides the subject of this sketch being Milton, Joseph, Eliza, Louis, Samantha, Cyrus, Lillie F. and J. Frank.

Reared on the home farm in Richland township, Roscoe M. ST JOHN received his schooling in the local schools in the neighborhood of his home, and from the days of his boyhood has devoted himself to farming and stock raising. He started on his own account as a renter and for fourteen years was thus engaged, at times renting and operating as much as 220 acres of land. He then purchased his present farm of 100 acres in Richland township and has since resided on that place, he and his family being very pleasantly and very comfortably situated. Since taking possession of this farm Mr. ST JOHN has made numerous substantial improvements and has one of the best farm plants in the neighborhood. He makes somewhat of a specialty of sheep and hogs and keeps about fifty head of sheep and about 100 head of hogs. He is a Republican and he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. ST JOHN has been twice married.

On June 2, 1883, he was united in marriage to Ella BABB, who was born in this county, and to this union were born four children, Harry E., Lora, Cecil M. and Naomi. The mother of these children died on March 8, 1915, and on April 30, 1917, Mr. ST JOHN married Nettie Ellen KITCHEL, who was born in Cass county, Indiana, and to this union one child has been born, a son, Martin, born on December 5, 1920. Mrs. ST JOHN is a daughter of Daniel and Mary E. (BABB) KITCHEL, the latter of whom, born in Greene county, Ohio, died on July 10, 1915. Daniel KITCHEL was born in Union county, Indiana, and at the age of thirteen years was orphaned, thus early being compelled to "do for himself." When seventeen years of age he joined the Union army for service during the progress of the Civil war and served until the close of the war. Upon the completion of his military service Mr. KITCHEL located in Cass county, Indiana, and presently bought there a tract of 200 acres of land, mostly in timber, and made a profitable clearing. He has continued to make his home on that place and has increased his holdings until now he owns 600 acres of land in Cass county. To Daniel KITCHEL and wife were born ten children, all of whom are living, Mrs. ST JOHN having three sisters, Louanna D., Harriet C. and Nellie G., and six brothers, Emerson B., Jacob E., Alvin D., Everett and Edgar (twins) and Charles D. KITCHEL.

**SOURCE: Milton T. Jay, M.D., History of Jay County Indiana, Historical Publishing Co., Indpls. 1922, Vol. II, pp.341-342. Transcribed by Eloine Chesnut.**