

STRATTON, TIMOTHY L.

Timothy L. STRATTON, one of the oldest and best known residents of Jay county, a substantial land owner of Pike township, where he was engaged in farming for many years, a veteran of the Civil war and former assessor of Pike township, now living retired at Portland, which has been his home for more than ten years is a "Buckeye" by birth, but has been a resident of Jay county since his infancy, a period of more than eighty years. Mr. STRATTON was born on a pioneer farm in the immediate vicinity of Springfield, Ohio, June 14, 1838, and is a son of Henry S. and Rebecca (HEADRICK) STRATTON, the latter of whom was born in that same county (Clark), a member of one of the first families to settle at South Charleston. Henry S. STRATTON was a Pennsylvanian, born in 1809, and was but a child when his parents settled in the Springfield neighborhood, where he grew to manhood and became a cooper and farmer. He married in Clark county, and in 1839 came to Jay county and bought a quarter section of land in the woods in Pike township, erected a house on the same and established his home, he and his wife spending the remainder of their lives there, useful and influential pioneers of that neighborhood. They were the parents of twelve children, of whom four are still living, the subject of this sketch having two brothers, John H. and Finley R. STRATTON, and a sister, Laura L., who married Silas DARBY and is now living in Pike township.

As noted above, Timothy L. STRATTON was about a year old when his parents came to Jay county, and he grew to manhood on the home farm in Pike township, his schooling being received in the private school conducted by Mary ENSMINGER on the Hawkins place. At the age of twenty-one he married Mary L. MALOY, who was born in this state, the wedding taking place on November 26, 1860, and started farming on his own account. His wife died on February 12, 1862, at the age of twenty years, and he then enlisted for service in the Union army and went to the front as a member of Company E, 89th regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was sent to Kentucky. He was left at Louisville, Ky., for a while on account of illness, but presently rejoined his regiment, continuing then to serve through all the engagements in which the Eighty-ninth participated until the close of the war. Upon the completion of his military service Mr. STRATTON returned home and resumed his farming operations, buying an "eighty" in Pike township, not far from his old home. For a time after his return home he also was engaged during the winters in teaching school.

On September 26, 1867, he married Rebecca J. COLLETT, a member of one of the pioneer families hereabout, who died a year or two later leaving a son, Charles, who died at the age of three years in September, 1871. On January 26, 1871, Mr. STRATTON married Mrs. Jaretta (BABB) LEWIS, who was born in the neighboring county of Delaware. As his farming affairs prospered he added to his holdings until he became the owner of a well-improved farm of 140 acres. On that place he continued farming for about forty years, or until 1910, when he retired. He and his wife spent the following

winter in California, and in 1911 bought the house in Portland in which they are now living and have since lived there, very comfortably situated. Mr. STRATTON is a Republican and for some time during his residence in Pike township served as township assessor. To Timothy L. and Jaretta (BABB) STRATTON have been born seven children, namely: Henry E., who married Margaret STALEY and has four children, Veda, Ruth, Berle and Dale; Orra W., who married Kate KRUTZ and has two children, Harry and William K.; Isaac H., who married Alice DEGLER and has four children, Ray, Bessie, Mamie and Benevill; Lola L., who is unmarried and lives at Los Angeles, Cal.; Viola F., who married A. W. HARDY and has five children, Lecile, Herbert, Lola, Edith and George HARDY; Lucas H., who married Mae McIVEN and lives in California, and Bessie M., who died on August 21, 1881. David W. LEWIS, son of Mrs. STRATTON by her first marriage, is now living at Riverside, Cal. He married Edith BINKS and has four children, Gertrude, Robert, Clara Louise and Benjamin BINKS.

SOURCE: Milton T. Jay, M.D., History of Jay County Indiana, Historical Publishing Co., Indpls. 1922, Vol. II, pp.208-209. Transcribed by Eloine Chesnut.