

## **SUTTON, CHESTER J.**

Chester J. SUTTON, a well-known and progressive young farmer of Penn township and proprietor of an excellent place on rural mail route No. 2 out of Pennville, was born in that township, a member of one of the old families of Jay county, and has lived here all his life. Mr. SUTTON was born on July 31, 1884, and is a son of James M. and Caroline V. (BIRDSALL) SUTTON, who are still living in that township and further and fitting mention of whom, together with further details regarding the SUTTON and BIRDSALL families in this county, is made elsewhere in this volume.

Reared on the home farm in Penn township, Chester J. SUTTON received his schooling in the neighborhood schools and from the days of his boyhood was an active assistant to his father in the labors of the farm. He continued actively engaged on the farm until he received an appointment as a rural mail carrier on one of the mail routes out of the Balbec post-office. For five years he carried the mail and then returned to farming, renting 120 acres from his father, and has since been thus engaged, doing very well in his agricultural operations.

Chester J. SUTTON married Tina Esther DeWEESS, who also was born in this county, a daughter of Benjamin L. and Elizabeth (SCOTT) DeWEESS, old established residents of the Balbec neighborhood. Mr. and Mrs. SUTTON have a very pleasant home and have ever taken an interested part in the general social activities of the community in which they have spent all their lives. They are Republicans and are members of the United Brethern church at Balbec.

Mrs. SUTTON's father, Benjamin L. DeWEESS, a former merchant at Balbec and a veteran of the Civil war, was born in Morgan county, Ohio, a son of John and Sarah (STREET) DeWEESS. He was attending Liber College in this county when he enlisted for service in the Union army during the Civil war and upon his return from the army taught school here for several winters, meanwhile becoming also engaged in tile making. In 1871, he married Elizabeth SCOTT, who was born in Penn township, a daughter of Stanton and Esther (EDMUNDSON) SCOTT, the latter of whom was a daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth (MACHEL) EDMUNDSON, and after his marriage established his home on a farm just east of Pennville, where he lived until he became engaged in 1874 in the mercantile business at Balbec. He and his wife had seven children, five of whom grew to maturity, those besides Mrs. SUTTON being Dr. Roy DeWeess, Wendell, Mark M. and Sarah.

**SOURCE: Milton T. Jay, M.D., History of Jay County Indiana, Historical Publishing Co., Indpls. 1922, Vol. II, pp.214-215. Transcribed by Eloine Chesnut.**