

**Thomas M. C. LUTES**, an active and enterprising business man of Mount Pleasant, is a native of Ohio, born in Coshocton County, May 2, 1833, a son of John and Mary (PARKER ) LUTES, the father of a Prussian by birth, and the mother a native of New Jersey. After his mother's death, which occurred when he was in his seventeenth year, he started out in life on his own account, and during the seasons following, before he came to Jay County, he found employment on Lake Erie and on the Wabash and Erie canals. He came to Jay County, Indiana, in 1851, and during his residence here has followed many vocations. In early manhood he learned the wagon maker's trade, and soon after his marriage he engaged in carpentering. He was a soldier in the war of the Rebellion, enlisting in the fall of 1864 in Company F, One Hundred and Fortieth Indiana Infantry, and participated in the battle of Nashville, Tennessee. He was discharged on account of disability in June 1865, and now receives a pension.

Mr. LUTES was first married September 13, 1855, to Miss Sarah J. NIXON, who was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, October 11, 1835, a daughter of John NIXON, one of the early settlers of Jefferson Township, Jay County. They commenced housekeeping on a farm of eighty acres on section 3, Jefferson Township, where Mrs. LUTES died April 21, 1858, leaving one child, Angeline, now the wife of George HATZELL. Mrs. LUTES was an estimable woman and a member of the Christian church.

Mr. LUTES was married a second time July 4, 1858, to Miss Ann MANNING, a native of Baltimore, Maryland, born April 23, 1833, a daughter of Paul and Barbara Ann MANNING, her parents dying when she was a child. To this union six children were born -- John, now a lumber manufacturer in Michigan; Hannibal H., died in his fourth year; Elijah M., died aged two years; Esther Ann, wife of Isaac WILSON, of Redkey; Thomas Sherman, at present attending the Normal school at Portland. Mr. LUTES was again bereaved by the death of his wife July 22, 1881, dying at the age of forty-eight years. He was again married June 17, 1882, to Mrs. Matilda J. (NEWLAND) WAYNE, widow of George WAYNE. By his last marriage Mr. LUTES has one son named Edward B.

Mr. LUTES owned and occupied his farm on section 3 until 1883, when he removed to the village of Mount Pleasant, where he carries on a grocery and restaurant. Of an active turn of mind he has made at least one valuable invention, the Hoosier Drain Tile, which he patented in 1869. He is one of the public spirited citizens of his township, and no work tending toward the advancement of his township or county has failed to receive his encouragement. In politics he is an ardent Republican, and ranks among the leading Republicans of his township. He has served as township trustee. He is a member of the Ridgeville Lodge, No. 362, F. & A. M., and is a comrade of Stephen J. BAILEY Post, G. A. R., at Portland. His brother, Elijah LUTES, served as a soldier through the Mexican war, and was four years in the war of the Rebellion. His maternal grandfather was one of the heroes of the Revolution.

**SOURCE: p. 563-564 "Biographical and Historical Record of Jay County, Indiana," Chicago: Lewis Publishing Company, 1887. Reprinted by Mayhill Publications of Knightstown, Indiana, 1974. This is the reprinted section out of the original combined 1887 History of Jay and Blackford counties.**

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