

Jacob Shively, one of the progressive farmers of Rock Creek Township, was born in Stark County, Ohio, April 1, 1813, a son of Ulerich and Christine (Shidler) Shively, both of whom were natives of the State of Pennsylvania, and of German ancestry. The mother was a daughter of Henry Shidler, a native of Pennsylvania, who settled in Ohio in an early day. The father being a farmer, Jacob was reared to the same avocation. In his youth he received a limited education, attending the rude log cabin subscription schools, with their puncheon seats and floor, stick and clay chimney and greased paper lights. He remained under the home roof until reaching his majority, and in 1825 removed with his mother's family, his father being deceased, to Preble County, Ohio, where he grew to manhood. He was married in Preble County January 22, 1830, to Rebecca Brower, who was born in Preble County, and of German descent, a daughter of Abraham and Elizabeth Brower. To this union were born four children-Christine, deceased; Elizabeth, wife of Joseph Mishler; Joseph, deceased; and Mariah, wife of Frederick Sheets. Mrs. Shively died June 15, 1841, and in April 1843, Mr. Shively married Rebecca Heren, a native of Ohio, and a daughter of Alexander and Matthew Heren, who were of Irish ancestry, and of the ten children born to them eight still survive - Henry, George, Martha (wife of August Mitchell), Jacob, Rebecca (wife of Henry Mast), Mary, Lydia and Flora. Two children died in infancy. Mr. Shively was again bereaved by the death of his wife in 1860. She was a member of the German Baptist church. He was again united in marriage April 12, 1864, to Mrs. Susan (Harris) Gusman, who was a native of Ohio. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Shively, in his religious faith, is a German Baptist. Mr. Shively came to the State of Indiana in 1839 and settled in Huntington County, where he purchased 103 acres of unimproved land. He cleared and improved this land, on which he resided until March 29, 1850, when he sold it and purchased 160 acres of partially improved land in Rock Creek Township, Wells County. He added this to his tract of land until he now owns 433 acres, located on sections 5, 6, 7 and 8 of Rock Creek Township, all of which is now well improved and under fine cultivation. Mr. Shively is one of the self-made men of the county, he having commenced life on his own account with limited means, and by persevering industry and good management has accumulated his present fine property, and surrounded himself and his family with all the necessary comforts of life. In politics he affiliates with the Democratic party. While living in Huntington County Mr. Shively was elected magistrate, and after serving as such for a short time, resigned that office. He has served as township trustee for many years, and by his honorable and upright dealings gained the confidence and respect of all who know him.

