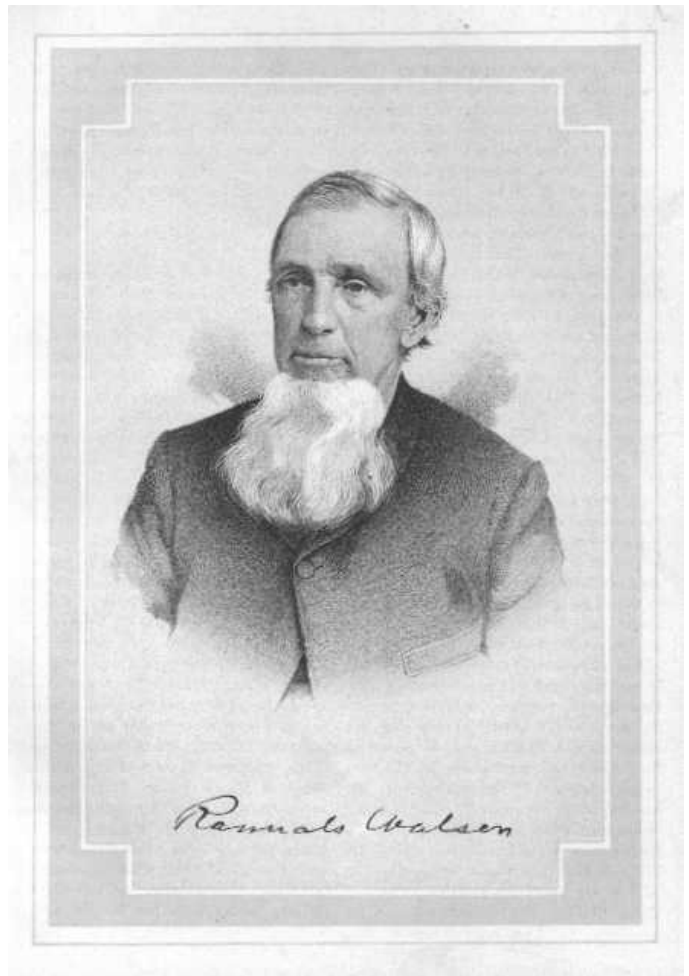


RANNALS WALSER, one of the prominent citizens of Wells County, is a native of Indiana, born in Dearborn County February 7, 1825, his parents, Mark and Sally (Gray) Walser, being natives of North Carolina and Indiana respectively. The father came to Indiana when a lad, and his first land purchase was in Dearborn County, where he was married, making his home in that county until 1852. He then removed to Missouri, and made that State his home until his death, which occurred in February, 1885. His widow still survives, and is now residing in Dakota. Rannals Walser, the subject of this sketch, remained with his parents until attaining his majority, being reared to the avocation of a farmer. On leaving the parental roof he went to Ohio, where he worked as a farm hand for two years. He was united in marriage August 8, 1848, to Miss Cynthia Ann Anderson, a daughter of John and Margaret Anderson, and to this union were born ten children—Lafayette P., Ellen Maria, John Anderson, Sarah Margaret, Warren Perry, Harrison



Waymore, Lewis Sellers, Mary Elizabeth, Erick D., and Oscar Elsworth (deceased). After his marriage Mr. Walser rented land in Ohio, in which State he followed farming until the fall of 1854, when he came with his family, then consisting of wife and four children, to Wells County, Indiana, and located on his present farm, which he had previously purchased. From a tract of 160 acres of dense timber he has made one of the best farms in the county, having by his persevering industry cleared his land and put it under line cultivation, and to his original purchase he has added to his home farm 240 acres, making his landed estate 400 acres. Mr. Walser was bereaved by the death of his wife February 23, 1887, who left a devoted husband, an affectionate family and a host of friends to mourn her loss. Mr. Walser is classed among the public-spirited men of Wells County, and in every enterprise for the public welfare, or the advancement of his township or county, he takes an active interest. In his political views he affiliates with the Democratic party. He has served seven years as township trustee, and in 1874 was appointed to the office of land appraiser of his township. He is a member of the Christian church at Buena Vista, his wife having been a member of the same church until her death. Mr. Walser lives a retired life, having rented his property to his boys.

Biographical and historical record of Adams and Wells counties, Indiana. Chicago: Lewis Publishing Co., 1887. pp. 958-961.