

HENRY P. MERRIMAN, of Monroe, and justice of the peace of Monroe Township, was born in Blue Creek Township, Adams County, Indiana, September 28, 1853, a son of John and Mary Jane (Ray) Merriman, natives of Steubenville, Ohio, the father born July 17, 1816, and the mother February 25, 1828. The father had been twice married, the mother of our subject being his second wife, by whom he had eight children, seven sons and one daughter. By his first marriage he had two children, both now deceased. For many years the father ran a distillery at Steubenville. He came to Adams County, Indiana, in 1848, and entered land on section 7 of Blue Creek Township, where he resided until his death January 7, 1879. He was a prominent man in his township, of which he was trustee, and for twelve years held the office of justice of the peace. Mrs. Merriman is now living at Salem, Blue Creek Township. She belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church, Mr. Merriman having been a member of the same church till his death.

Henry P. Merriman, the subject of this sketch, was reared on the home farm, receiving a fair common-school education in the schools of his neighborhood. When nineteen years old he taught school for two terms, after which he was engaged in farming until 1878. He was married January 27, 1876, to Mary C. Edwards, a native of Guernsey County, Ohio, born March 6, 1853. Her parents, Lewis and Elizabeth (Wilson) Edwards, were natives of Ohio. They came to Adams County, Indiana, in 1865, and settled in Blue Creek Township, where they still reside, engaged in farming. Both are members of the United Brethren church. They are the parents of ten children, three sons and seven daughters.

To Mr. and Mrs. Merriman have been born five children - Leonard L., Dora L., Ann I., Gertrude C. and Margaret M. In 1878 Mr. Merriman came to Monroe, Adams County, and was engaged in railroading for eighteen months. He then entered the general mercantile establishment of Hocker & Hendricks, where he was employed as clerk until the firm dissolved partnership. He then formed a partnership with Mr. Hocker, with whom he was associated in the mercantile business until January, 1886, when owing to his inflammatory rheumatism he disposed of his interest in the business to Mr. Hocker, and visited Kansas Hot Springs in Arkansas, returning to Monroe July 19 of the same year. In 1881 he was appointed justice of the peace, and elected in 1882, and in the spring of 1886 was re-elected, and as far as his health will permit devotes his time to his office. Both Mr. and Mrs. Merriman are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Merriman is a member of St. Mary's Lodge, No. 167, I. O. O. F., of Decatur, having joined that lodge September 7, 1885.

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