

William P. Hendricks was born in Monroe township, Adams county, January 29, 1864. He is directly descended from pioneer settlers of northeastern Indiana, and his forebears in this section of the country have been men and women who contributed much to the development and prosperity of their region. He is a son of William and Mary A. (Ray) Hendricks. His father was the son of Thomas Hendricks, who lived in Ohio at an early day and came to Indiana in 1847. His son William accompanied his father to this state and settled on a farm in Monroe township. He lived on this farm and cultivated it until his death in 1901. His wife died some years earlier, her death occurring in 1883. To the elder Hendricks eight children were born. Of these children, Eli W., a farmer of Monroe township, cultivating the old homestead; William P., Ella, the wife of Joseph R. Smith, of Petoskey, Michigan, and Josiah, also a resident of Petoskey, are living. The father of these children was a good citizen. He was a progressive man and a successful farmer. He served as an assessor for one term and consistently voted the Democratic ticket. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

William P. Hendricks attended the country schools and received a good English education. He assisted his father to improve and cultivate his estate and worked on it until he grew to manhood. He was married in 1887 to Miss Achsa A. Harris, daughter of William and Julia (Jones) Harris. His wife was born in Adams county and her father was one of the early men to come to Indiana from Ohio. He settled in Adams county about 1850 on land he purchased from the government. He always lived on this farm after coming to Adams county and died on it in 1871. This land was transferred but once since it was purchased originally from the government, and that time was when it came into the possession of Mr. Hendricks. Soon after Mr. Hendricks married Miss Harris he purchased her father's land. This is a tract of eight acres and is admirably located for agricultural purposes. It is rich and is in one of the best regions in the county. During the tenure of Mr. Harris the property was improved, and after his death it was improved still more by his widow. Since coming into the possession of Mr. Hendricks still other improvements have been added from time to time until today it is one of the most valuable and most attractive places of its kind in the entire county. Among the recent improvements made by the present owner is a fine barn seventy-six by thirty-eight feet. His residence is a substantial and comfortable building and the other buildings on the estate are up-to-date and commodious. He is a progressive man and employs modern methods and machinery in cultivating his farm. His crops are rotated with judgment and are always profitable.

He is a man who takes a live interest in the affairs of his county and township. His interest extends to a hearty co-operation in all projects that are aimed at improving the status of the county and increasing its prosperity and commercial development. In politics he is a member of the Prohibition party and he is active in the work of this party in Adams county. He and his wife are member of the Evangelical church at Berne and are the parents of one child, a son, Guy R. Hendricks.