

Snow's History of Adams County, Indiana, John Fletcher Snow, B. F. Bowen, Indianapolis, IN, 1907, p. 471 (image 961)

J. K. NIBLICK.

Numbered among the successful business men of Adams county is James K. Niblick. He has gained a place for himself as a business man that is enviable and is a member of a family that has long been intimately associated with the commercial growth and development of Decatur and Adams county. Mr. Niblick was born in Decatur, January 14, 1859. He is a son of Jesse and Catherine (Closs) Niblick. His father was one of the older financiers of Adams county and a man who was a strong factor in the industrial life of the county during his life. He was interested in a number of enterprises. He founded with J. D. Nuttman the Old Adams County Bank, since became the strongest institution of its kind in the county, and the business of Niblick & Company, the leading mercantile establishment of Decatur. Jesse Niblick was one of the wealthiest and most highly respected residents of Decatur at the time of his death, October 6, 1895, and his name continues to be an Adams county synonym for integrity and progressiveness.

His son, James K. Niblick, was reared in Decatur. In his boyhood he attended the schools of his home city and grew to manhood there. With the exception of a few months spent on his farm in Union township, he has resided continuously in Decatur. After completing his course in the Decatur schools he, in 1872, entered the mercantile field. He engaged in the capacity of a clerk in the dry goods store operated by his father, and was connected with this store until the death of his father in 1895. Two years after his father's death he severed his connection with Niblick & Company and engaged in the grocery business in Decatur. He conducted his grocery business for three years and then sold out his interest in it. His next business venture was in the line of agricultural implements, and he sold this line for the succeeding three years after abandoning the grocery business. At the expiration of the three years he removed to his farm in Union township and operated his farm. However, the quiet life on his farm was not, seemingly, aggressive enough for his ambitious and active nature, and he returned to Decatur and assumed the management of the elevator owned by the Niblick estate. This elevator was purchased originally by Jesse Niblick from David Studabaker in 1877 and was operated by the elder Niblick until his death. It became a successful business venture and a valuable property.

May 9, 1882, Mr. Niblick was united in marriage with Miss Aurelia Spuller. The wedding was solemnized in Saint Mary's Roman Catholic church and was a distinct social event. Mrs. Niblick is a daughter of George and Fannie (Welter) Spuller and was born in Union township, Adams county. Her father was a gallant soldier during the Civil war and died in 1865 as the result of disease contracted while in the service of his country. Her mother died in Union township in 1869. Mr. and Mrs. Niblick are the parents of four children, three of whom are living. Those living are: May C, Charles N. and Verena. Frederick, the third child born to Mr. and Mrs. Niblick, died when three years of age.

Mr. Niblick is in every way an exemplary citizen. He is a man who takes much interest in the affairs of his county and city and does much to promote its welfare and prosperity. Measured by commercial standards, he is a successful man and owns a fine farm of one hundred and forty acres in Union township and other realty. With the members of his family he is a consistent member of Saint Mary's church and accords his hearty support to the aims and charities of this denomination.