

Esais W. Dailey has made his success as a practical farmer and is one of the live and progressive citizens of St. Mary's Township in Adams County. He has lived practically all his life in that one locality, and his dependability has been a prominent characteristic in all his relations. His home is in section 9 of St. Mary's Township.

Mr. Dailey was born in that locality in June, 1863, a son of James T. and Mary (Johnson) Dailey. His grandfather, James Thomas Dailey, Sr., was born in County Cork, Ireland, and was ten years old when brought by his parents to the United States. His father was a sea captain and was drowned at sea. James Thomas Dailey soon after coming to America was left an orphan and for a number of years found it a difficult matter to earn a living and uncover prospects for the future. At Baltimore, Maryland, he learned the shoemaker's trade and from there went to Virginia, where he married and where he took up farming. From that state he moved his family to Athens County, Ohio, buying land in Lee Township, and lived there honored and respected until his death at the age of seventy-seven. His children were Eliza, Rebecca, Matilda, Esais, Nimrod, Robert, William, James T. and David.

James T. Dailey, Jr., was born in Virginia, but was reared in Athens County, Ohio, and lived there until he was twenty-two. He then came as a pioneer settler to Adams County, Indiana, locating in St. Mary's Township and bought a portion of the wilderness and constructed his cabin in the midst of the woods. That land was the scene of his laborious activities the rest of his life. He was reared a democrat but afterwards took up with the republican doctrine. He married Mary Johnson, who was born in Harrison County, Ohio, daughter of Joseph and Mary (Davis) Johnson. Joseph Johnson was born in West Virginia, married there, and in 1836 became an early settler in Van Wert County, Ohio, where he spent the rest of his years. James T. and Mary (Johnson) Dailey had twelve children: Nimrod, Davis, Mary, Joseph, Rebecca, Amy, Samantha, Almina, Emily, Maggie E. and James T., twins, and Esais W. Seven of these are still living, Davis; Mary, a widow living in Van Wert County; J. J. Dailey of Blue Creek Township; Mrs. Emily Moses; Maggie; James T.; and Esais W.

Esais W. Dailey grew up on the home farm and supplemented his education in the public schools by courses in the National Normal College at Lebanon, Ohio. With this preparation he became a successful teacher and taught both in Adams County and in Van Wert County, Ohio. Along with teaching he carried on farming and after his marriage gave all his time and attention to farming.

March 31, 1903, Mr. Dailey married Laura Bunner. She was born and reared in Adams County, and died February 28, 1914. Mr. Dailey is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Bobo, Indiana, as was also his wife. Mr. Dailey is a republican in politics and has served as county central committeeman. The fine farm he owns and controls consists of 355 acres, and it has been kept up to a high degree of efficiency under his direction. He breeds and feeds good grades of livestock.

His older brother, Davis Dailey, a farmer living three miles southeast of Decatur, was born in section 9 of St. Mary's Township, July 2, 1844, was well educated and for twelve years taught school. He married for his first wife Almina Lee and they had two children, Cora L. and Lee N. His second wife was Alice C. Smith, who became the mother of two children, Rollie and Alice. Davis Dailey married for his third wife Ellen Kern, and they have one child, Elizabeth. Davis Dailey is a republican but has never held any office. He has been a successful and enterprising farmer and has 240 acres.