

Isaac Teeple.

It is doubtful if any one citizen supplies more of the general business activities of the community of Geneva than Isaac Teeple. Mr. Teeple is primarily a farmer, is also an extensive dealer in livestock, and has numerous other connections due to his long and successful residence and citizenship in this community.

Mr. Teeple was born in St. Mary's Township of Adams County, Indiana, on May 7, 1855. His birthplace was where the village of Revere now stands. He is a son of James B. and Mary (Smith) Teeple, both natives of Ohio, his father of Franklin County and his mother of Fairfield County. His father was one of the successful agriculturists of Adams County from early manhood and married here Miss Mary Smith, who had come to the county at the age of two years. Isaac Teeple's maternal grandfather, Zachariah Smith, was the first elected sheriff of Adams County. He was born in Ohio in 1809 and in 1835 came with his wife and family to Adams County, Indiana, settling in St. Mary's Township. Upon the organization of the county he was elected sheriff and served two terms and made a splendid record as an officer. It was his unpleasant duty to escort the first convict sentenced in the county to prison. He also filled the office of assessor three terms, and was narrowly defeated as a candidate for the legislature. He helped lay out the county seat of Wells County. Zachariah Smith was drowned in the St. Mary's River on July 7, 1844, while endeavoring to cross that stream on an unselfish mission in behalf of a sick person.

Isaac Teeple was reared on the old farm in St. Mary's Township and derived his early advantages from the district schools. At the age of twenty-one he married Miss Rachel S. Moser of Van Wert County, Ohio. After their marriage they lived in St. Mary's Township four years and then moved to Jefferson Township. At the present time Mr. Teeple owns 290 acres of highly improved and valuable land in both Wabash and Jefferson townships.

He was one of the organizers of the Farmers and Merchants State Bank at Geneva and has been vice president since the organization. He is especially well known over this part of the state for his business as a livestock dealer and buys, sells and ships large numbers of hogs, sheep and cattle from the primary points of production to the markets. Politically Mr. Teeple is a republican. His wife is an active member of the Christian Church. They have a family of seven children: David H., Lola G., James L., Joseph, Ray, Fay and Paul.