

IRVIN BRANDYBERRY

An active merchant, Irvin Brandyberry, of the firm of Teeple, Brandyberry & Peterson, at Decatur, is identified with one of the best-known and most popular clothing houses of the county, and for many years has been a moving spirit in the management of public affairs. A son of the late Jesse Brandyberry, he was born in Washington Township, Adams County, Indiana, October 3, 1866, of pioneer stock.

Jesse Brandyberry was born and educated in Carroll County, Ohio, and lived there until young manhood, coming to Indiana in search of a favorable location. Settling in Adams County, he took up a tract of virgin land in Washington Township, paying therefor the Government price. Clearing an opening in the forest, he built a log cabin for himself and wife, and by dint of sturdy labor improved a good farm. A few years later, he moved to a farm in St. Mary's Township, and there his wife died, in 1889, at the age of fifty-six years. On retiring from active pursuits, he moved to Decatur, where his death occurred, in 1905, at the good old age of seventy-seven years. He was a democrat in politics, and he and his family were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The maiden name of his wife was Catherine Stults. Of the children born of their union, the following named are living: Mary E., wife of S. B. Fordyce, of Decatur, has one child, Margaret, wife of Charles D. Teeple, member of the firm of Teeple, Brandyberry & Peterson; Ida, wife of H. A. Hartman, superintendent of the public schools of Marion, Ohio, has four sons and one daughter; Irvin, with whom this sketch is chiefly concerned; and Noah, a retired farmer at Boulder, Colorado, is married.

Irvin Brandyberry was brought up on the old homestead in Washington Township, where, after his graduation from the East Indiana Normal School, in Portland, he began his career as a teacher, having charge of the school in District No. 6. He subsequently entered the normal school at Angola, Indiana, as a pupil-teacher, and there completed his early education. Becoming somewhat prominent in public affairs, he was appointed deputy county auditor under W. H. H. France, and at the death of Mr. France, Mr. Brandyberry was appointed to fill out the unexpired term. Mr. Brandyberry was then elected county superintendent of public schools, and filled the position so ably and satisfactorily that he was continued in that office for nine consecutive years.

In September, 1907, Mr. Brandyberry, in company with Messrs. Teeple and Peterson, established himself in the clothing business at the corner of Second and

Main streets, Decatur, where, in a building 22 feet by 100 feet, with a basement for storing goods, the firm have ample room for caring for the large business now carried on, the stock of men's and boys' clothing, and furnishings.

Mr. Brandyberry married, in Decatur , Maggie Sweigart, who was graduated from the Decatur High School in 1889, and at the time of her marriage was one of its successful teachers in Willshire , Ohio . She was born in Ohio , and came to Decatur with her parents, neither of whom are now living. She has two brothers, namely: Samuel, living in Portland , Indiana , is married, and has two sons and a daughter; and Herman A., a farmer in Boulder , Colorado , is married, and has a son and a daughter. Mr. and Mrs. Brandyberry have two children, Neva and Geraldine. Neva was graduated from the Decatur High School with the class of 1912, and after taking special studies in Terre Haute and Bloomington educational institutions accepted her present position as a teacher in the Decatur schools, in the Riley Building of the city. Geraldine attends the Decatur High School , being a member of the class of 1918. Mr. Brandyberry has ever evinced an intelligent interest in educational matters, and for three years served as a member of the local school board. Fraternally he is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Order of Masons. He and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.