

John E. Nelson.

Possessing unquestioned executive and business ability, John E. Nelson of Monroe, Adams County, holds a position of prominence in his community, and as manager of the Monroe Home Store has won the confidence and esteem of his fellow citizens. A son of George and Anna (Carpenter) Nelson, he was born in Adams County, Indiana, January 12, 1884.

A native of Adams County, George Nelson settled on a farm of forty acres in Monroe Township soon after his marriage, and was there actively engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred in the fall of 1888, while he was yet in manhood's prime. To him and his wife three children were born, as follows: John E., of whom we write; Elizabeth, deceased; and Pearl. His widow was subsequently twice married. She married first John Lambert of Adams County, who died, leaving her with two sons, Francis and George. She married for her third husband Elias King, also of Adams County, and by that marriage she had one child, Martha. Mrs. King died in April, 1899, in middle age.

Having acquired a practical education in the public schools of Monroe Township, John E. Nelson, in 1902, began his career as a teacher, and was thus engaged for ten years. After teaching many terms in Washington Township, Mr. Nelson was principal of the Magley School two years, and afterward taught in Berne, in the seventh grade for one year. The ensuing three years he was principal of the South Ward School, in Decatur, there meeting with characteristic success. Resigning that position, Mr. Nelson accepted an offer with the Monroe Home Store, in Monroe, Indiana, and as its manager is carrying on an extensive and profitable business. The store was incorporated with a capital of \$20,000.00, its stockholders being composed of home people, and under the judicious supervision of Mr. Nelson is doing a remarkably good business, carrying a complete stock of general merchandise and groceries of a high grade.

Mr. Nelson married, March 10, 1905, Elta May Essex, whose parents, Jesse V. and Anna F. Essex, natives of Indiana, reared several other children, as follows: Sherman; Merle; Minnie; Jason; Leona; Clella, deceased; Harry; Clifford; and Donald. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson have three children, namely: Bernice, born in 1907; Marcella, born in 1910; and Dorris, born in 1913. Both Mr. and Mrs. Nelson are valued members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.