

**ALONZO BEEM.**

Alonzo Beem, who has always resided in this county, engaged in farming pursuits, was born in Lima township, March 11, 1844, and his ancestors were early settlers of this part of the country, his paternal grandparents having been William and Katherine (Rhodes) Beem, the grandfather having come from Maryland to this township with his parents. He was one of the early settlers of this part of the state and here reared fourteen children. The maternal grandparents of Alonzo Beem were John and Fannie (Brown) Myer, while his parents were George W. and Margaret (Myer) Beem, both of whom were natives of Jersey township, this county, the former born November 17, 1820, and his wife on July 25, 1825. There both resided until they were united in marriage, November 17, 1842, at which time they located on a farm in Lima township, where they spent their remaining days, Mr. Beem departing this life November 14, 1895, and his wife entering into rest June 25, 1854. He was known throughout the county as a prominent stock-raiser, and particularly as a cattle breeder, and at the time of his death he owned a farm embracing three hundred acres. In his family were five children: Alonzo; Minerva, who passed away in her twentieth year; George W., who died in infancy; Albert, who resides at Summit Station, this township; and John M. After the death of his first wife Mr. Beem wedded her sister, Julia Ann Myer, by whom he had one child, Alice D., who wedded Daniel H. Whitehead, and lives in Wichita, Kansas. His third marriage, which occurred March 18, 1858, was with Elizabeth Tharp, by whom he had three children: Sarah A. Headley, of Franklin county; Rosa L. Prior, deceased; and Ida E. Foster.

Alonzo Beem was educated in the district schools and reared on the home farm. Upon his marriage, in 1865, desiring to become independent in life, he purchased his present farm, where he has since been devoting his time and energy to raising general produce and to stock-breeding. His home farm embraces seventy acres of rich and productive land, and his place is provided with all modern improvements and conveniences with which to pursue his work. Aside from this farm he owns one containing one hundred and sixty acres in Phillips county, Kansas, which he also has under cultivation and which he has possessed for the past twenty years. He has been quite successful in all his undertakings and aside from his farming interests he is connected with a number of other enterprises, including the People's Bank of Pataskala, of which he is a stockholder.

On October 10, 1865, Mr. Beem wedded Miss Mary Looker, a native of Rockingham county, Virginia, where she was born May 22, 1844, having come here in the fall of 1854 with her parents, John and Mary (Looker) Looker, both of whom were natives of that state where his nativity occurred March 25, 1806, and that of his wife on February 25, 1882, respectively. Both died in this township – in February, 1874, and February



MR. AND MRS. ALONZO BEEM

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25, 1882, respectively. They were of English extraction and related as third cousins. In their family were seven children, namely: Mrs. Katherine Wolcott, William, Rachel Ann, Thomas, and Margaret, all deceased; Mrs. Mary Beem; and John, who resides in Kentucky.

Mr. Beem's political views have always been on the side of the democratic party, and believing firmly in the wisdom of its policies he has always been enthusiastic during campaigns to secure the election of the candidates of his party, since in his opinion the principles of the democratic party embody those policies which alone can preserve the dignity of the nation's free institutions and so distribute wealth as to enable each individual to stand an equal showing in trade, commerce and industry. In local affairs he has taken considerable interest and for twelve years was township trustee, also serving as road supervisor and a member of the school board. He has always been industrious and enterprising and these qualities have not only enabled him to attain prosperity but also to do much toward developing the natural resources of the community. He is well spoken of by all who know him and enjoys the respect and confidence of his neighbors.

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