

JOHN M. BEEM.

John M. Beem, a son of George W. and Margaret (Myer) Beem, has practically spent his entire life in agricultural pursuits in Lima township, where his birth occurred January 22, 1854, since which time he has remained here with the exception of the brief period spent in Iowa. He is widely experienced in all phases of farming, being an adept in the adaptation of crops and also in stock-breeding, his work in these lines having been successful from the outset, so that at present he is in comfortable circumstances and in possession of as fine a farm as exists in this part of the county. He owes his success to his own exertions, being a man of great energy and industry, at the same time being possessed of all those qualifications requisite to thrift, and through his practical economy and excellent management he has gradually attained the reputation which he well deserves as a progressive farmer and substantial citizen of the township.

Mr. Beem acquired his knowledge of farming from his father and during his boyhood days received his education in the neighboring schools, remaining upon the home farm until he was twenty-one years of age, at which period of his life he was married and then removed to Benton county, Iowa, where he purchased two hundred and forty acres of land, in the cultivation of which he engaged for four years. Then selling his property he returned to Licking county in 1878 and resumed the occupation of farming on fifty acres of land which he subsequently sold and then purchased one hundred and sixteen acres to which he later added sixty-eight acres and, including ninety acres of his father's estate, his farm at one time embraced two hundred and seventy-four acres of excellent land, all of which he kept under cultivation. He has been quite successful in agricultural life and has made considerable money in the sale of his farms, having several times disposed of his property, each time purchasing a new tract of land which he would improve and put upon the market. He has thus realized substantial profits in this way out of his real-estate transactions. He has now disposed of all but eighteen acres. Eight years ago he built an elegant residence at Summit Station, which he subsequently traded for fifty-two acres – a farm which he still owns. His present residence, which is one of the finest in the township, is surrounded by ten acres of land. He is interested in a number of commercial enterprises, being a stockholder in the People's Bank at Pataskala, the Summit Creamery, the Summit Chair Factory and the Pataskala Farmers Telephone Company.

On June 29, 1874, Mr. Beem wedded Margaret Beals, a native of Lima township, born October 11, 1853, and a daughter of Enoch and Katherine (Beem) Beals. Her father was born in Etna township, this county, March 5, 1818, a son of Nathan and Elmira Beals, the former a native of Vermont who settled in this county in 1815. Mrs. Beals was born in Lima township, and passed away June 25, 1899, in her seventy-eighth year, her husband's death occurring February 10, 1895. They had eight children: Andrew, who resides at Summit Station; George, who passed away in infancy; Adelbert, a resident of Indiana; Fidelia, the wife of Albert Beem; Margaret; Amanda, who resides with her husband, Alvin Peters, in Jersey township; Belle, the wife of Amos Courter, residing in Jersey township; and Jane, who lives with her husband, Dennis Davenport, in Franklin county.

Mr. and Mrs. Beem have one daughter, Nerva Izora, who was twice united in marriage, first to William Dixon, by whom she had one child, Inzabelle, and, after becoming a widow, she wedded Jacob William Roshon, of this township. Politically Mr. Beem is a democrat and his religious convictions are with the Universalists, having served in the church of that denomination here as deacon since its organization and at the same time as a member of the board of trustees and, being an ardent church worker, he has for many years been superintendent of the Sunday school. He is a man of high moral and religious aims, living a daily life above reproach, striving

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ever to conduct his actions in harmony with the tenets of the Christian faith, while his excellent qualities justly command for him the respect and confidence which he enjoys from all who know him.

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