

JOSEPH FISHER.

This gentleman, who has spent his entire life in Richland county, and is to-day a leading citizen of Weller township, was born on the 19th of May, 1836, in Franklin township, a son of John and Effie (Eversole) Fisher. The father was a native of Jefferson county, this state, born about 1799, and was a son of John Fisher, a prominent farmer of that county and a veteran of the war of 1812, who was of German descent. The mother of our subject was born in New Jersey in 1803, and was a daughter of Martin Eversole, also a native of that state and a pioneer of Jefferson county, Ohio, where his death occurred and where our subject's paternal grandfather also died.

In the county of his nativity the father was reared and married, and shortly afterward came to Richland county, locating at Spring Mills, where he spent about a year. He then rented a farm of eighty acres from John Palmer, for five years, and at the end of that period purchased forty acres of land in Franklin township, upon which he made his home for three years. On selling that place he bought eighty acres near the Alfred Urick farm in the same township, to which he later added a twenty-acre tract, making a good farm of one hundred acres. He was a Democrat in politics and a man highly esteemed by all who knew him. His death occurred on the 31st of January, 1853, and his wife departed this life in 1859. Unto them were born twelve children, but only four are now living, namely: Joseph, our subject; Samuel, a farmer of Weller township, this county; William, a farmer of Hillsdale county, Michigan; and Mary L., the wife of Jacob Miller, of Williams county, Ohio.

Joseph Fisher was only seventeen years of age at the time of his father's death, but he and his brothers successfully carried on the home farm, and also engaged in the threshing business for four years. At the end of that time he purchased his brothers' interests in the outfit, and for thirty-three years owned and operated one or more threshing machines, meeting with good success in that undertaking. In the spring of 1865 he purchased sixty acres of land in Franklin township, upon which he made his home for fifteen years, and then sold, buying his present farm of eighty-one and a half acres on section 26, Weller township, which he has placed

under a high state of cultivation and improved with good and substantial buildings. In 1895 he purchased another farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Blooming Grove township, which he rents.

In February, 1864, Mr. Fisher was united in marriage with Miss Susanna Boals, a daughter of David Boals, one of the early pioneers of Millin township, and to them have been born four children, as follows: Effie J., now the wife of John McElroy, of Toledo, Ohio; Susie E., the wife of Foster Urick, a farmer of Franklin township, this county; and Mary and Calvin M., both at home. The son is now carrying on the work of the farm.

The Democratic party finds in Mr. Fisher a staunch supporter of its principles, and he has been called upon to fill the offices of infirmary director from 1888 to 1894, and township trustee of Franklin township for three years, refusing longer to accept the position, as he cares nothing for official honors. By untiring industry and sound judgment he has won a merited success in all his undertakings, and is in all respects worthy the high regard in which he is held by his fellow men.