

WILLIAM E. MILLS.

One of the well known and progressive farmers of Indian Creek township is William E. Mills, who was born in La Salle county, Illinois, on the 26th of August, 1863. His parents, Edward C. and Levantia D. (Guy) Mills, were both natives of the state of New York, removing to Illinois with their respective parents when young. They were married in Ottawa, Illinois, in 1859, and then settled on a farm in La Salle county, where they continued to reside for eight years. In 1866 they came west locating on one hundred and sixty acres which they bought in Indian Creek township, this county. Here in 1876 Mr. Mills died but the family remained on the farm until 1900, when they removed to Maxwell, where Mrs. Mills passed away in 1907.

William E. Mills was but twelve years of age when his father passed away and when he was barely fourteen assumed the responsibility of conducting the home farm. He remained at home until 1891, when he decided to become a pharmacist and entered a drug store in Maxwell in order to learn the business. In the summer of 1893 he bought an interest in the store in which he was employed, but retained it only a short time, however, selling out the following spring and going to Pine Village, Indiana. He purchased a store in the latter place, which he continued to run until 1902, at which time he disposed of his interests there and, returning to Story county, bought a farm in Union township, near Elwell, upon which he lived for five years. He sold this farm in 1907 and bought his present place in Indian Creek township, where he has ever since resided.

On the 1st of October, 1893, Mr. Mills was united in marriage to Miss Maud V. Flickinger, a daughter of Levi and Catherine (Traxler) Flickinger, at that time residents of Maxwell but natives of Pennsylvania, where they were reared and married, coming to Story county in 1869.

Mr. Mills follows diversified farming and raises the best breeds of stock, although he does not specialize. His fields are well tilled, his stock well cared for and his farm has the general appearance of being owned and conducted by a progressive, businesslike agriculturist.

He has long been a member of the Masonic fraternity and is at present identified with the Herald Lodge, No. 455, A. F. & A. M., and is a de-mitted member of the Royal Arch chapter. He also belongs to the Knights of Pythias. His wife is a member of the Order of the Eastern Star and also holds membership in the Presbyterian church. Although he does not take any active interest in politics to the extent of seeking public office, Mr. Mills is a staunch adherent of the republican party, and each election finds him casting his ballot for the candidates of the same. His high principles, progressive spirit and unquestionable integrity make him a most desirable citizen, and it is needless to say that he is one of the highly respected and esteemed farmers of this county.