

**ALBERT BEEM.**

Albert Beem, a retired merchant and farmer of Lima township, now living at Summit Station, after having for many years conducted a general store and dealt in drain tile, was born in Lima township, December 16, 1848, a son of George W. and Margaret (Myer) Beem, natives of Jersey township, this county, the former born November 17, 1820, and the later July 25, 1825. There they resided until they were united in marriage November 17, 1842, when they came to Lima township, where they purchased a farm on which they remained until they departed this life on November 14, 1895, and June 25, 1854, respectively. They reared a family of five children: Alonzo, Minerva, who departed this life in her twentieth year; George W., who passed away in infancy; Albert; and John N. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Beem on July 1, 1855, was united in marriage to Julia Ann, a sister of his former wife and to this union were born one child, Alice D., the wife of Daniel H. Whitehead, of Wichita, Kansas. Mr. Beem's second wife having entered into eternity, he wedded Elizabeth Tharp, on March 18, 1858, by whom he had three children: Mrs. Sarah A. Headley, of Franklin county, Ohio; Mrs. Rose L. Prior, deceased; and Mrs. Ida E. Foster, a resident of Summit Station. George W. Beem was a well known stock dealer, who handled cattle and sheep on a large scale, his farm containing three hundred acres, provided with every convenience for carrying on his business.

Albert Beem spent his boyhood on the farm on which he was born, engaging in its daily routine during the summer season and acquiring his education at the neighboring school in the winter time. Remaining upon the home place until he was twenty-two years of age, he then went to Benton county, Iowa, where he spent six years, returning to this place after a lapse of that time and engaging in the general merchandise business at Summit Station, which enterprise he conducted in connection with handling the various kinds of drain tile until two years ago when he retired from active life. He still owns the store building in which he transacted his business, the structure being a two-story frame one, twenty-four by seventy feet, and also owns two fine dwelling houses aside from the elegant brick residence, which he built for himself in 1904. In addition to these holdings he also possesses a farm in Kansas and considerable real estate in the city of Denver, Colorado. Mr. Beem has been remarkably successful in his business ventures and his industry and careful management have enabled him to amass a handsome fortune and he is numbered among the influential citizens of the county.

In February, 1871, Mr. Beem wedded Fidelia Beals, a native of Lima township, born March 20, 1849, and a daughter of Enoch H. and Katherine (Beem) Beals. To this union two children were born: Carrie M. is the widow of Lewis G. Evans and resides with her father. George H., born February 10, 1875, died August 3, 1905. His widow, Ninniota Pickering and their children, Hazel M. and Lula, reside with her father-in-law. Mr. Beem has had a long, useful business career in this community and one which has been marked by a degree of enterprise and industry which not only furthered his own prosperity but also greatly contributed to the financial worth of this part of the county. His business relations having always been in accord with a high standard of morals, his influence in commercial circles has been of much worth and he is entitled to the high place he now occupies as a retired business man and representative citizen of the township.

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