

that organization in this part of the country. In politics he is an enthusiastic member of the national greenback party.

Jacob H. Brewer, farmer, Russell's Mills, is the son of John and Minerva (Prest) Brewer, natives of Pennsylvania, who settled in Vermilion county, Indiana, at an early date, and where he was born in 1841. The family is originally from Holland, and at present they are engaged in an effort to obtain a portion of a large fortune, which was left in that country by one of their ancestors. His great-great-grandfather, Sybrant Brewer, or Brower, as the name was originally spelled, was one of the first settlers of New Amsterdam, now New York, and there married Sarah Webber, returning again to Holland, where they made their wills and died. His great-grandfather, Mathew Brower, was born in New Jersey; served throughout the revolutionary war, and afterward settled in Pennsylvania, and died there; his grandfather, Jacob Brewer, who was born in New Jersey, afterward removed to Ohio. His father and mother were born in 1813, in Pennsylvania, and in 1839 removed to Vermilion county, Indiana, where they resided until 1874, when they located in Sugar Creek township, where they are still residents. When Mr. Jacob C. Brewer settled in this township, in 1841, the farm he now occupies was heavily timbered, there only being about one acre cleared upon it. Now he has one of the most productive farms and beautiful residences in the township, the result of his own energetic labor and industry. He has been twice married; the first time, in 1864, to Miss Elizabeth Lusk, the youngest daughter of the late Salmon Lusk, one of the first settlers in the township; he married his present wife, Miss Rebecca Kemp, daughter of Jesse Kemp, who formerly owned what is known as Russell's Mill, in 1875, and has a family of five children: Salmon, Almeda, Gouverneur, John J. and Jesse Irving. His farm now consists of 340 acres. He is a member of the Society of Friends; is justice of the peace, and served during the war in Co. K, 97th Ind. reg., and in politics is a republican.

L. W. Bannon, preacher, Russell's Mills, was born in Warren county, Ohio, in the year 1818. His father, Michael Bannon, was a native of Pennsylvania, and came to Ohio at a very early date, settling at Cincinnati when that city only consisted of five houses, and there opened a blacksmith shop, the first in the city. In 1858 he moved to Indiana, settling in Sugar Creek township, at Russell's Mills, which he rebuilt, and ran for four or five years. He returned to Ohio on a visit, and died there about 1868. Mr. Bannon received his early education at the primitive country school, and worked at the bricklaying business for many years, and during the last thirty

years has been a preacher of the christian denomination. In 1854 he settled in Montgomery county, this state, where he preached the gospel until 1870, when he removed to Parke county, locating in this township. Since beginning to preach he has averaged over a hundred sermons per annum; married over three hundred couples, and preached over a hundred and fifty funeral sermons. In 1838 he married, in Ohio, Miss Livonia Ashley, daughter of Loama Ashley, one of the pioneer preachers of the christian denomination in Ohio, and in 1860 he married his second wife, Miss Angeline Hellams, and has a family of nine children, five by his first wife and four by his present; and Mr. Bannon is a member of Harveysburg Lodge, A. F. and A. M., and is a prominent member and past grand of Parke Lodge, I.O.O.F. He was one of the organizers and first preachers of Pleasant Grove Christian church in this township. In politics he is entirely independent.

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#### HOWARD TOWNSHIP.

This is a north township of Parke county, in R. 6 W. of the 2d P. M., and 16 N. The east and south boundaries are each six miles in length. The northern boundary is three miles long. Fountain county lies on the north, Montgomery on the east; on the south are situated Greene and Washington townships. The western boundary is very irregular; along this lie Sugar Creek and Penn townships, the latter bounding only a spur, one and a half miles wide, projecting from the southwest of Howard township. On the west and south of Howard township is some farming land as fine as there is in Parke county. Along the Sugar creek, which flows southwest through the township, the surface is very broken for some distance away from its banks. The east and south of the township is divided into large farms, which are well improved. The hilly country contains, in lieu of good farms, rich deposits of mineral wealth, sandstone of several varieties, and limestone, all of which are well adapted for building purposes. The soapstone beds are twenty feet in thickness, and situated between two strata of sandstone. From the outcroppings there is an abundance of coal in these hills, and iron ore in large quantities. These indications are more flattering on the farm of Urial C. Delp. There the iron ore is seen peering from the hillsides wherever you look, and coal-beds twelve feet in thickness, of good quality.

Howard township up to 1855 formed a part of Sugar Creek township. Before this several petitions had been presented to the commis-