



JOHN S. BAILEY

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The venerable gentleman whose career is briefly sketched in the following lines is one of the older residents of Bedford and his life has been such as to gain the confidence and good will of the people of his community and to make him well and favorably known throughout the county of which he has so long been an honored citizen. In the highest sense of the term he is a self-made man and as such has met with success in material things such as few attain and made a record which may be studied with profit by the young men of the rising generation.

John S. Bailey was born on September 10, 1831, on his father's farm six miles north of Bedford, Indiana, and has therefore been a participant in and an eye witness of the wonderful development which has characterized this section of the state during the last few decades. He is the son of Levi and Catherine (Holman) Bailey, the father a native of Indiana and the mother of Woodford county, Kentucky. The subject's paternal grandfather, Charles Bailey, was a native of Hagerstown, Pennsylvania. In boyhood he was bound out, but ran away and came to Louisville. At this time there were only seven houses there. He was a great hunter and woodsman and in order to find available locations he settled on Lost River, in Orange county, Indiana, where he remained several years. Later he located six miles north of Bedford, where he took up government land and lived until 1847, when he moved to Sullivan county, this state. He married a Miss Smith, a native of Kentucky, who died in Sullivan county, and eventually he went to Linn county, Iowa, where his death occurred. He was the father of the following children: John, Levi; Gideon, who was a doctor, and after he moved to Iowa was appointed a marshal; Harrison, Joseph, Lena, Rebecca, Sallie and Ann. Levi Bailey had few opportunities for securing an education and his early years were devoted to agricultural pursuits and stock raising. These lines of effort developed a large business and he eventually became noted as a shipper, having sent twenty-one boat loads of pork and wheat on flat boats to New Orleans. He built his own boats and was successful in all his undertakings, at one time owning fourteen hundred acres of land six miles north of Bedford. He was a Democrat in politics and was well known throughout the community where he lived. His death occurred in 1854 and his wife died in 1844.

The subject of this sketch was educated in the common schools of his home neighborhood, remaining under the parental roof until he had attained his majority. He lived on the home farm north of Bedford until about the time of the breaking out of the Civil war, when he went to Sullivan county, Indiana, where he remained until about a year after the war closed. He then bought ninety acres of land located two and one-half miles east of Bedford where he remained two years and then traded that for a farm in Guthrie township. He was very successful in his farming operations, acquiring several other farms located at different places in the county and he devoted his attention to agricultural pursuits until 1912, when he retired from active business life and moved to Bedford, where he now resides. Persistent industry and sound business methods characterized his career and in all his relations with his fellow men his dealings were marked by the strictest integrity and fairness so that at all times he enjoyed the confidence of all who were associated with him in any way.

On July 9, 1862, Mr. Bailey enlisted at Madison, Indiana, in Company A. Sixty-seventh Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry, with which he took part in the battles of

Munfordville, Kentucky; Chickasaw Bayou, Mississippi; Arkansas Post, Arkansas; Grand Gulf, Port Gibson,. Raymond, Champion's Hill, Big Black River Bridge, siege and capture of Vicksburg, and Jackson, Mississippi; Apalousas and Grand Coteau, Louisiana; Matagorda Bay, Texas; Grand Ecore, Saline Cross. Roads, Moresfield, Cane River Crossing, Cane River, Alexandria, Hunt's Plantation, Dunn's Bayou, Bayou DeLamora, Avayletes Prairie, Yellow Bayou, Old River and Anhapologa Bayou, Louisiana; Ft. Gaines, Fort Morgan. Pollard and Ft. Blakely, Alabama. He was honorably discharged in August, 1865. He is now a member of the Grand Army Post No. 247, at Bedford.

Mr. Bailey has been married three times, first in the spring of 1852 to Mary Ramsey, of Bedford, Indiana, who died in 1862. In August, 1866, he married Margaret Malotte, of Bedford, Indiana, whose death occurred in February, 1906. and on November 19, 1908, he married Mary E. Scott, the widow of Reuben B. Scott, of Bedford, a farmer whose death had occurred in 1906. Mr. Scott was a prominent man in his community and had served as representative in the Legislature from Lawrence county. Mrs. Bailey is the daughter of John W. Miller, who married Susan. J. Udderback, both of whom were natives of Kentucky, who came to Lawrence county and settled four and a quarter miles northeast of Bedford. where he conducted farming operations and also worked at his trade as a cabinet-maker. He died on February 3, 1857, and his wife died on July 16. 1881. They were members of the Christian church and were the parents of two children: Elijah H., who died in 1896, was a farmer, and Mary E., the wife of the subject. To Mr. Bailey's first union were born two children, Oscar, who is a carpenter and farmer at Woodmond, Oklahoma, and Austin, a carpenter who died in 1887. To the subject's second union were born the following children: Frank, a member of the hardware firm of Bailey & Pittman, of Bedford. He married Hester Dodd, and they have two children, Roy and Mary; Homer, who was a soldier in the Spanish-American war, died of typhoid fever during that war; Fred C., in the transfer business at Bedford, married Mabel Julian. and they have two children, Joy and. John S.; Lillian is the wife of Fay Hamilton, of Greencastle, Indiana, and they have five children, Glen, Gene, Louisa, Lowell and Francis; Emma C. is the wife of Wesley Ramsey, of Seattle, Washington, and they have four children, Ivan, Irene, Mary and John; Lee, a shoe and clothing merchant at Bedford, married Grace Owen; ,Robert M., who is a druggist at Martinsville, Indiana, married Mabel Dill, and they have one child, Margaret A.

Fraternally, Mr. Bailey is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Bedford, while his religious connections are with the Christian church, of which he is a faithful and earnest member. He enjoys a wide and favorable acquaintance throughout the county and everywhere he is held in high esteem by those who know him.

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