

EARL G. SHORT

It is a well attested maxim that the greatness of a community or a state lies not in the machinery of government nor even in its institutions, but rather in the sterling qualities of the individual citizen, in his capacity for high and unselfish effort and his devotion to the public welfare. In these particulars he whose name appears at the head of this review has conferred honor and dignity upon his locality, and as an elemental part of history it is consonant that there should be recorded a resume of his career, with the object in view of noting his connection with the advancement of one of the most flourishing and progressive sections of the commonwealth, as well as his official relations with the administration of the public affairs of the county honored by his citizenship.

Earl G. Short was born in Springville, Lawrence county, Indiana, on the 5th day of December, 1871, and he is the son of Dr. Wesley and Mollie E. (Rafferty) Short. The father, who was born near Somerset, Kentucky, was brought to Lawrence county, Indiana, when two years old, by his father, Milton Short. The farm which they settled on at Springville is now the property of the subject of this sketch and his brother. On that farm Doctor Short lived until his death, which occurred on March 23, 1900. He was by vocation a physician, as his title would indicate, having received his professional education in the Cincinnati Eclectic College, and afterward taking a post-graduate course in New York city, and he was engaged in the practice continuously up to within a year of his death, being not only eminently successful in the treatment of disease, but also enjoying to a notable degree the confidence and esteem of the entire community. He was a veteran of the Civil war, serving first as assistant surgeon of the Twenty-sixth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and afterward being promoted to surgeon of the First Texas Cavalry Regiment, serving two years in all. To him be longed the distinction of being probably the only soldier in Lawrence county who never applied for a pension. To Wesley and Mollie Short were born three children, namely: Earl G., the immediate subject of this sketch; Carl M. and. Mary C, who now live on the home farm.

Earl G. Short was reared on the home farm and is indebted to the common schools for his educational training. In 1893 he started in life on his own account by engaging in the mercantile business at Springville, but at the end of three years he went to Switz city, Greene county, this state, where he was in business for the same length of time. He then formed a partner ship with George Holmes and they engaged in the mercantile business at Oolitic, this county, but at the end of a year Mr. Short's health failed and he turned his attention to farming operations, having bought a splendid farm of four hundred and seventy acres near Springville, to which he devoted his attention for six years. Mr. Short then made a trip to New Mexico and on his return, in 1906, he came to Bedford and engaged in the livery business, in which he is still interested, in partnership with William F. Owen. In November 1912, Mr. Short was elected to the office of county treasurer, for which he had been nominated on the Republican ticket, assuming the duties of his office on January 1, 1913. He is discharging the duties of this responsible office in a manner that has earned for him the approval and commendation of all classes, regardless of political lines

On November 24, 1897, Mr. Short was married to Dora Hurley, the daughter of John and Addie (Martin) Hurley, of Switz city, Indiana. She died on October 7, 1906 at

Albuquerque, New Mexico. To their union were born five children, Mary, Harry, Glenn, Bessie and Beulah.

Fraternally, Mr. Short is affiliated with the Masonic lodge at Hobbieville, Greene county, Indiana, and with Lodge No. 826, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, at Bedford. He is a man of splendid business qualifications, which, combined with his Courtesy and genial disposition, have commended him to the good will and friendship of all who know him. As a side line, Mr. Short gives some attention to the breeding and raising of Shetland ponies, in the handling of which he has been very successful, selling them practically all over the world.

(History of Lawrence and Monroe Counties Indiana , 1914 B. F. Bowen & Co. Inc. Indianapolis, Indiana pgs 499-500)