

HARRY E. BURNS, a well-known resident and business man of Grant township, Indiana county, has been engaged as a general merchant at Decker's Point since 1904.

Mr. Burns is a native of East Mahoning township, this county, where he received his education in the common schools. In early boyhood he began farm work, at which he was engaged for a number of years, commencing on his own account on a tract of forty acres in Green township, which he bought from Hon. Horace J. Thompson, of Marion Center. There he carried on farming and stock raising until he became interest in the mercantile business, conducting his first store in Grant township for two years. Then he became established at Eastrun, in the same township, where he carried on a general business for eight years, in 1904 buying the business and store property of H. J. Thompson, at Decker's Point, where he has ever since been located. He has not only succeeded in holding the old customers, but by careful attention to the wants of his patrons has widened his trade steadily, building up a profitable business by the most commendable methods. He endeavors to keep ahead of the wants of this trade introducing new lines and giving service that proves his progressive disposition and willingness to accommodate whenever possible. For two years Mr. Burns acted as postmaster at Decker's Point, until the office was closed on account of the establishment of the rural free delivery service. Mr. Burns has made a success of his business enterprises by intelligent attention to every detail, and he is recognized as capable and reliable, commanding the respect of all who have had dealings with him. Politically he is a Republican, but he has not taken any active part in public affairs.

On April 20, 1893, Mr. Burns married Mary C. Peiffer, who was born in Grant township, daughter of Frederick and Sarah Peiffer, and they have had a family of ten children: Oda Pearle, Nora Viola, Nay Ward, William Everett, Zola Belle, Frederick Carl, J. Telford, Ada Helen, Harvey Earl and Alverta Jane. Mrs. Burns is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.