

JOHN SCOTT LIGHTCAP has been a lifelong resident of East Mahoning township, Indiana county, and one of its most active citizens, engaged in general farming and stock raising, and associated with the administration of its public affairs. He was born there Sept. 21, 1851, on his father's homestead farm, son of Johnson Lightcap and grandson of Godfrey Lightcap.

Godfrey Lightcap, the founder of this family in America, was born in Germany, and settled at an early day in Cumberland county, Pa. There he married Jane McElaney, and they had a large family, viz.: Solomon, who settled in Rayne township, Indiana county; Polly, who died in middle age; Jane, who married John Lockey; Hugh, who made his home in Rayne township; Lucinda, who married Edward Branden, being his second wife; Margaret, who died unmarried; Benjamin, who lived on the old homestead in Rayne township; Juliann, who married James McQuilkin, of South Mahoning township; Jemima, who was the first wife of Edward Branden; and Samuel and Johnson, twins, the former of whom is mentioned elsewhere. Godfrey Lightcap moved across the Allegheny mountains in 1819, and first settled in Westmoreland county, later, in 1845, moving to Indiana county, making a permanent home in Rayne township, where he settled down to farming. He became a large land owner, his holdings lying in Rayne and Young townships. He died on his farm and is buried in the old Washington Church cemetery in Rayne township, as is also his wife, who died on the farm. They were members of the Presbyterian Church.

Johnson Lightcap, son of Godfrey, was born Oct. 2, 1811, Cumberland county, Pa., and was a boy when the family settled in Westmoreland county. Years later, when they moved to Rayne township, Indiana county, he accompanied them, he and his twin brother, Samuel, coming thence to East Mahoning township. He settled on a part of what was known as the Hastings and Thompson tract, of 270 acres, the brothers living together until Samuel's marriage, a number of years later. Johnson Lightcap improved his property materially, put up suitable buildings, etc., and as he prospered subsequently bought a tract of 120 acres, at the time of his death owning a total of four hundred acres of good farming land. He spent his life on the farm, dying there in December, 1896, at the age of eighty-five years, and was buried in the Marion Center cemetery. His religious connection was with the Presbyterian Church. In politics he was associated with the Democratic party, and he took an active interest in public affairs, serving as supervisor. He married Susan McElhoes, a native of Rayne township, and she died on the home farm at the age of eighty-two years, and is buried in the same cemetery as her husband. She, too, was a member of the Presbyterian Church. They had the following children: Jane, who married George Wynkoop and resides in Rayne township; Lucinda, who died young; John Scott; Nannie, who married Robert Mabon; Silas, who was a farmer and died on the homestead Feb. 10, 1910, a son that died in infancy; and Harry Johnson, farming on the homestead, who married Ida Wynkoop, of Rayne township.

John Scott Lightcap attended the Bovard school in what is now the Branden district, and worked on the home farm with his father until he reached the age of twenty-seven years. He then settled on his present place, a tract of 120

acres in East Mahoning township, part of what was known as the Brady tract, on which he has built the residence and made numerous other improvements. In addition to general farming he has engaged to a considerable extent in stock raising, making a specialty of Shorthorn cattle, with which he has been quite successful. He is a thrifty and industrious farmer, combining hard work and progressive methods with good effect, as the condition of his property attests. He has been particularly interested in the welfare of the public schools in his township, and has served two terms as school director, being also treasurer of the board during one term. He has also given three terms of service as township supervisor, and has done his share toward placing public affairs on a businesslike basis. In politics he is a democrat. He and his family are members of the Presbyterian Church at Marion Center.

On Nov. 16, 1876, Mr. Lightcap married Maria Bence, who was born Sept. 8, 1858, in Rayne township, daughter of Samuel and Anna Elizabeth (Rime) Bence, who came to live with Mr. and Mrs. Lightcap in their declining years. Mr. Bence, who was from Northumberland county, this State, is still living with them, now (1912) aged ninety-three years; Mrs. Bence, who was of German descent, died at their home. Mr. and Mrs. Lightcap have had a family of twelve children, six sons and six daughters, of whom eleven are living, one son dying young. William H., born Jan. 18, 1878, a farmer in East Mahoning township, married Laura Konser, and they have two children, Eva Grace and Arthur Konser. Susanna, born Nov. 5, 1879, married James H. Beatty, a farmer of East Mahoning township, and has three children, Elma Gertrude, Wilber Lightcap and L----Mildred. Samuel J., born June 26, 1881, died March 29, 1884. Mary J., born Feb. 26, 1883, is at home. Silas Edgar, born Dec. 16, 1884, is a farmer in East Mahoning township. Clara Mabel, born March 29, 1887, Margaret Florence, born Nov. 4, 1899, Rinnie Fern and Lucinda Fay (twins), born Nov. 29, 1891, John Irwin, born Jan. 11, 1895, Harry Donel, born Oct. 22, 1897, and Charles Bence, born June 18, 1901, are at home.