

JOHN J. DILL.

John J. Dill is one of the wide-awake, progressive young men of Worthington township, prominently identified with agricultural and educational interests. He is a son of Jerry M. Dill, who was numbered among those substantial citizens whose characters are of sterling worth and who contributed to the material growth and advancement of the community, and in his death Worthington township lost one of its representative and highly respected farmers. He was born in Stark county, Ohio, and there spent his child-

hood and youth. When a young man he went to Ashland, but after a short time he took up his abode in Mansfield, where his father, Thomas Dill, conducted a blacksmithing shop for many years. The latter was born in Dillsburg, Pennsylvania, and lived to be seventy-eight years of age. His political support was given the Democracy and in the conduct of his business affairs he was successful.

Under his father's direction J. M. Dill learned the blacksmith's trade, which he followed for a long period. When the Sandusky, Mansfield & Newark Railroad, now the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, was built through this section of the state, he secured a position as fireman for the company, and within a short time was promoted as engineer, running between Sandusky and Newark for several years. On the expiration of that period he came to Worthington township, Richland county, and later to Jefferson township and purchased a small farm, where he resided till 1890, when he removed to Worthington township upon a farm purchased by his sons, J. J. and J. E. Upon this he spent his remaining days, his energies being given to agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred when he was fifty-seven years of age. In his political views he became a Republican in 1860 and supported that party throughout the remainder of his life.

Mr. Dill married Miss Lydia Donough, a native of Holmes county, Ohio, and a daughter of Amos Donough, who was born in Pennsylvania and was of German lineage. Mrs. Dill is still living, at the age of sixty-seven years, and is one of the highly respected ladies of Worthington township. By her marriage she became the mother of four children: John J.; Jerry E., who follows farming on the old homestead; Minnie J., who married Herman Berndt, and died leaving one child, Herman Dill Berndt; and Charles F., a farmer of Worthington township. The first named, John J. Dill, was born in Mansfield, Ohio, where he spent the first six years of life, when he was taken by his parents to the farm on their removal to that place. He has since remained at the old homestead and much of the labor of cultivating the fields has devolved upon him. He was educated in the public schools near his home, in Bellville and in Ada. His aptitude in his studies enabled him to successfully pass the teacher's examination, and he engages in teaching through the winter months, and during the summer works the home farm. He and J. E. own eighty acres of valuable land and their mother resides at the old home place with them. Their fields are under a high state of cultivation and everything about the place is neat and thrifty in appearance, indicating his careful supervision. In his political views he is a stalwart Republican, laboring earnestly to disseminate the principles of the party and to secure their adoption through elective measures. He was

chosen by popular ballot appraiser of Worthington township and now fills that office. He is a prominent member of Sturges Lodge, I. O. O. F., and Silver Star Lodge, Daughters of Rebekah, both of Butler, Ohio, and of Jefferson Grange, of Bellville, this state. He is a man of good business judgment, is enterprising and progressive and lends his co-operation to all movements and measures calculated to prove of benefit to the county along material, social, moral and intellectual lines.