

ANDREW LYBARGER.

This well-known farmer and highly esteemed citizen of Cass township, Richland county, now residing on section 13, was born in that township December 10, 1842, a son of Lewis and Margaret (Walkup) Lybarger. Of the eleven children born to this worthy couple only five are now living, namely: Valentine, a farmer of Crawford county, Ohio; Oliver, a farmer of Cass township, this county; Barbara E., the wife of Adam Weiser, a farmer of the same township; Belle, the wife of William Coover, a farmer of Jackson township, this county; and Andrew, of this review.

Lewis Lybarger, the father of our subject, was born in Bedford county, Pennsylvania, and when a boy came to Ohio with his parents, Daniel and Esther Lybarger, who first located in Knox county, but a few years later moved to Richland county, the grandfather purchasing the farm in Cass township now owned by Salathiel Bloom, upon which he and his wife spent their remaining days. When the family located here the farm was a heavily timbered tract of one hundred and sixty acres, and to Lewis Lybarger's lot fell most of the work of clearing the land. He grew to manhood amid frontier surroundings and experienced many of the hardships and privations incident to pioneer life. After his marriage he remained at his parental home, and continued to carry on the farm until 1856, when he purchased a farm of one hundred and thirty-six acres in the northeast part of Cass township belonging to his father-in-law, Andrew Walkup. There he made his home until his death, which occurred in May, 1898, when he was seventy-eight years of age. He was a Democrat in politics, and in early life was a member of the Lutheran church, but on his removal to Ganges joined the Reformed church.

Reared upon the home farm, Andrew Lybarger conned his lessons in a pioneer log schoolhouse of the neighborhood. At the age of twenty years he started out in life for himself, as a farm hand for Levi Dicks, and was thus employed for two seasons, after which he and an uncle cultivated his paternal grandfather's farm, on the shares, for two years. The uncle then purchased a farm of one hundred acres, leaving our subject to carry on the other farm for four years longer. At the end of that period he removed to the old Glasgow place, which he rented for the same length of time,

and then, in partnership with his father, he bought a farm of one hundred and thirty-six acres in Cass township. Four years later the property was divided, our subject receiving sixty-eight acres, which he still owns. In the fall of 1899 he rented the Eli Glasgow farm, upon which he now resides, leaving his son-in-law, Elmer Garrett, to run the home farm.

Mr. Lybarger was married, September 28, 1865, to Miss Catherine Rupert, a native of Franklin county, Pennsylvania, and a daughter of Jacob Rupert, who came to Ohio in 1839 and located in Ganges, where he followed his trade of shoemaking for some years, and later engaged in merchandising. Mrs. Lybarger's maternal grandfather, Ludwig Weber, was a soldier of the war of 1812, while one of his sons, George Weber, was a captain in the Mexican war. Mr. and Mrs. Lybarger have two children: Cordelia, the wife of Joseph Arnold, of Blooming Grove township, this county; and Ida Belle, the wife of Elmer Garrett.

Politically Mr. Lybarger is an ardent Democrat, and religiously is a member of the Reformed church. He is thoroughly identified with the interests of his native county, and is well known as an enterprising and reliable business man.