

### ELZA SHEETS.

Elza Sheets is one of the prosperous farmers of Richland county, now being in charge of the Kling farm. He was born in Ashland county, Ohio, January 28, 1856, and is a son of Samuel and Emaline (McCready) Sheets. His grandparents, Joseph and Nancy Sheets, came to the Buckeye state from Virginia after their marriage and took up their abode in Ashland county, where the grandfather purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres. Upon that place the city of Ashland has since been built. He was successful in his business affairs and his energetic prosecution of his farm work brought to him a very desirable competence. He became one of the influential residents of Ashland county and was an active member of the Presbyterian church, in which for many years he held office. All who knew him respected him for his sterling worth. His honesty was proverbial and he bore an unassailable reputation. The father of our subject was born in Ashland county in 1828, and was there reared and married, after which he began farming on his father's land. About 1867 he removed to Richland county, purchasing the old Patrie farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Mifflin township. There he made his home for ten years, when he sold that property and removed to Cleveland, where he lived retired for four years. Then he returned to Richland county and bought forty-five acres

of the old Lambright farm in Monroe township, having since that time made it his place of residence. In his political views he has long been a Republican and is a member of the Presbyterian church. He married Miss Emaline McCready, who was born in Ashland county, Ohio, about 1835, a daughter of John and Sarah (Carter) McCready, who came to Ohio from Pennsylvania and were among the early settlers of Ashland county. To Mr. and Mrs. Sheets were born four children, all of whom are yet living, namely: Elza; John, at home; Loren S., who is engaged in the flour and feed business in Cleveland, Ohio; and James, who is a partner of his brother Loren.

Elza Sheets, whose name forms the caption of this review, spent his childhood days with his parents, and to the common-school system of his native county he is indebted for the educational privileges which he received. On attaining his majority he came to Richland county, where for three years he was employed as a farm hand. In 1879 he was united in marriage to Miss Alice Kling, daughter of Ephraim and Lucinda Kling, and soon afterward he took charge of the Kling farm, which he has since successfully managed and operated. His business methods are progressive and commendable and in all his dealings he is strictly honorable. He is a member of the Lutheran church and in his political affiliations is a Republican. He belongs to Pomona Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry, and enjoys the high esteem of all with whom business or social relations have brought him in contact.