



A PARTIAL HISTORY
of the
SHRADER FAMILY TREE

Presented to George Jacob Shrader

by

*son and daughter-in-law, Gary and Joan
grandchildren, Shelby, Shanell, and Devi*

Latvia Day, June 19, 1983

1900

Jacob Marion Shrader

Jacob Marion Shrader was born on the site of his present residence, five miles north of Hartford City, Washington Township, on the 12th of July, 1862. He is the son of John R. and Margaret (Cochran) Shrader, ^{should be Mary ANN Cochran} he being a native of Marion County, Virginia, and being brought by his parents when six years of age to Henry County Indiana, and four years later to Blackford County, the family settling one and a half miles east of Dundee. Here his father, Absalom, entered land of the government, and made it his permanent home, dying about 1870, and his wife, Julia, survived until the ripe and venerable old age of eighty-seven. They had resided on the old homestead which is now owned by their granddaughter and her husband, Phillip Schmidt. They were the parents of two sons, John R. and Henry, who is residing in Richardson County, Nebraska, having gone from this state while yet a young man. Of the three daughters one only is living, Julia, widow of Joseph Sills, and living near the old homestead. Martha married Alfred Ratliff, and Elizabeth married Nicholas Willman.

John R. Shrader remained home during his minority, and was married March 18, 1852 to the daughter of Thomas B. and Margaret (Whitlock) Cochran. Her parents then lived in the same vicinity, removing however, later to Selma, Dalaware County, where they reached quite advanced years. Soon after John's marriage he settled in the woods on the present tract of land, erected a small log house with the most primitive furnishings, a board stuck in a crack for a table, slabs for a seat, and every thing else along the same lines. His life was devoted to the making of a farm and was, like many another man's, remarkable for the perseverance and

pluck that characterized the living under the difficulties of the times. He succeeded in placing about thirty acres in cultivation and this lying in a flat section of the country, demanded a great deal of drainage before it was in suitable condition for the growing of large crops. He adopted the old style of timber ditches, of which he laid an immense amount, only to replace it with a more modern system of tile, when the value of the latter was proven. The old log house in which they began housekeeping in that simple manner remained the home until it was replaced in 1873 with the present more modern edifice. He died on November 21, 1879, at the age of sixty-nine, being survived by his companion, who also passed away on February 5, 1900 at the age of sixty-eight.* *(Luther Glancy, who transcribed this account, questions this)

It can well be said of them that the community knew no better citizens, every help of a moral character finding in them most ardent encouragement. He, being trained in the school of simple democracy, naturally identified his life with the political party that embodies most of the principles that made for greater personal freedom and individual worth, ever casting his franchise for the nominees of the Democracy. His life was quiet, making little noise in his professions of religion or politics, but set a worthy example in the every-day living, whose emulation by the youth of today will redound to the honor of the community.

The family consisted of five children, of whom William Henry died at nineteen; Martha Jane is the wife of Phillip Schmidt, and as stated above, resides at the old homestead. Elva Viola died at sixteen, and one died in infancy. Jacob Marion Shrader spent his boyhood with the family on the home farm, attending the common schools. Upon attaining his twenty-first birthday he resolved to do for himself. He decided to learn the carpenter's trade. He joined an uncle in Nebraska, but not being specially impressed with the beauties of the hand-saw and jack-plane, returned soon

after to the parental roof. Glad to see him back, and hoping to keep him near him, his father gave him forty acres, to which he now began to direct his attentions, not however, in full, dividing it with the young ladies of the neighborhood, the one most favored in this respect being Miss Phoebe Lockett. The more he saw of this young lady the more he felt that her assistance was necessary to the proper conduct of the farm, a view in which she coincided. They were married on the 18 (28?) of April, 1887. She also represents an old family in the county, her father, James Lockett, who is still living near, having been born in the county in the 1830's. He was the son of Esquire Lockett, one of the earliest residents. Her mother was Amelia Leffingwell, many of whose graces and attractions have been inherited by the daughter.

At his father's death Jacob returned to the place, caring for his mother in her declining years. His father having purchased the old Shafer place, presented it to his daughter, as her share of the estate, this leaving Jacob the sole heir of the home place, which passed to him at his mother's death. About ninety-five acres are in a fine state of cultivation, the greater part of which was improved by his father. More than eight hundred rods of tile have been laid on the tract, and the same care and skill have been displayed in all their lines of improvenent, which are on a commensurate scale. Being in the heart of the valuable oil field, five wells have been drilled, the product from them bringing an appreciable monthly revenue, which with the income from the conduct of the farm places the proprietor in circumstances of affluence and ease.

Mr. Shrader is quite well known in connection with the operation of threshing machines and hay balers, having an extensive and lucrative patronage in that line.

He is often found in the deliberative councils of the Democratic Party and is ever ready with time and means to contribute to its success at the polls.

FAMILY ARE:

Mary Belle, Homer Marion, and Caroline May, and Delbert Earl, who died in infancy.

Jacob and Phoebe are members of the Washington Center United Brethren Church.

Mary Belle Shrader married Benjamin Silvers 12, September 1903, in Blackford County by Reverend D.O. Fulton. They resided in Roll, Indiana. On April 1, 1907 she died at her parents home. Funeral services were held at the Center Church April 3. Burial was in the Center Cemetery. She was age 21 years.

Jacob Shrader died at his home, 6 mile north of Hartford City, Ind. July 25, 1923. Funeral services were held at the Roll Methodist Church, July 28. He was 61 years, 13 days of age. Burial was in Center Cemetery, 2 miles south of Roll, Ind.

Phoebe Shrader died April 5, 1913, age 49 years 10 days. Funeral services were held at her home, April 8, 1913. Burial was at Center Cemetery.

Jacob M. Shrader was married a second time December 19, 1914, to Ella Fowler, who resided in Blackford County. They were married in Hartford City by Reverend Lewis Reeves. She was born in Butler County, Pennsylvania. After his death she returned to Illinois where she had relatives living.