

Putnam County Blacksmiths, They Hammered Their Way to Progress!

By Lane Ralph

The value of a blacksmith to early settlers, farmers and merchants cannot be understated in the growth and development of our state and counties. They served as makers and repairmen for a multitude of items used by pioneers as they sought to survive the harshness of early life in Putnam County and thrive. As the land was cleared for farming; as stone quarries and brick kilns were developed for construction materials; as water- and horse-powered mills were built in multiple locations; and as sawmills utilized the bounty of vast forests, blacksmiths were essential.

U.S. Census data from 1850 to 1900 shows that blacksmiths were active throughout Putnam County townships, especially Greencastle. An overview of the blacksmith's trade, tools, workshop locations will give an idea of how integral they were to their communities. You would be hard-pressed to name many activities whose equipment was untouched by a blacksmith's work. A smithy made or repaired: tools, grills, cooking utensils, nails, hooks, hinges for doors, latches, light fixtures, agriculture related implements, weapons, knives, locks, guns, gun parts, hoists, chains, horse shoes, axes, hammers, punches, wedges, pokers for the fire, shovels, parts for the grist mill, mauls and sledges for the quarries, large rings for various applications, rivets, bits and smaller rings for the harness makers, rings for the wheels on wagon and carriage makers. The list is almost unlimited, since customers would often request made-to-order items.

Rather than money payments, barter was often the manner of trade for merchants and those craftsmen. Grain, flour, livestock, cured meats, or labor often were exchanged for items made. Blacksmiths may have removed a decayed or infected tooth in the early days, wielding effective pliers! In 1860, some blacksmiths were making \$3 dollars a day (about \$113 in 2024).

The 19th c. blacksmith shop was outfitted with tools and supplies for making, repairing, and teaching. Although many skilled craftsmen could not read or write, pioneer families valued their expertise when seeking an apprentice position for a son. As is evident in census records for Putnam county, a blacksmith and his family often housed and fed the apprentice.



A blacksmith in his workshop, c. 1855

The essential tools for a smithy were a forge to heat metal; an anvil to set the hot and cold metal and working the metal into the desired shape or form; a bellows to keep the oxygen flowing to the forge and maintain the flame; hammers of various shapes to work the metal with repeated blows; tongs in various shapes to hold the metal tightly and to place it in the forge. In addition, vises, punches, grinding wheels, hoists, wedges, a water bucket for cooling, and wood for adding handles to items were common in the blacksmith shop of this time.

The Early Blacksmith Tools

Forge

The early blacksmith forges were generally made of brick using a fire brick that was tighter, less porous than regular or common brick. Blacksmiths needed bricks that could retain the heat of the fire they would make to heat up the metal that they were working on. The brick had to be made to last as a fire in the forge would be made every working day. The early fire brick was not as good as later versions, so forges often had to be rebuilt.

The early forge would have a pit about six inches deep. The good forge had to have a way to get air to the fire. Generally, a type of nozzle called a tuyere (a French word meaning nozzle) would be placed on a side of the pit which would allow a bellows to force air into the fire. The early fires for blacksmiths also had to be fueled using different materials. Wood, coal, charcoal and later coke (a highly carbon charcoal) were the primary sources for a fire that would have to get to a temperature of 1500 to 2000 degrees to heat up metal enough to be able to work it further with a hammer on an anvil.

Cast iron, more portable forges did start to appear around 1865 up 1870 time period but most were a little later made by Buffalo Forge in New York and Champion in New Jersey.

Bellows

The forge needs a way to get air to the fire pit to heat up the fuel. The bellows was the early answer. Bellows in the early 1800's would be made of wood, leather and maybe a little wrought iron for the tuyere (French for nozzle) to direct the air to the fire pit. The bellows would often have a pear shaped form that had oiled leather attached to the sides to seal up the bellows. But the bellows also had to have a small vent or valve (usually made of wood) to allow air in the bellows. The size of these would vary. After the Civil War, manufacturers of various types started making metal, hand crank bellows that could be either attached to the brick forge or used with a more portable cast iron forge fire pot on legs.

Anvil

The anvil is what most of us today associate with the blacksmith and his work. Early anvils were in many different forms. American made ones were hard to come

by and most were European made in the early 1800's. In his book, *Anvils in America*, Richard Postman describes Mark Fisher as the first successful American anvil maker, having devised a method for making a cast iron anvil with a steel faceplate. He took out a patent for the anvil in 1847. Under the name Fisher and Norris they began producing anvils in Trenton, New Jersey, and did so until 1979, creating over 400,000 of them.

According to Postman, America used more anvils than any other country, with most coming from England, Sweden, and Germany before 1850. It should also be noted that a good granite stone could be used for smithing and was sometimes better than an early cast iron anvil. This basic design is known as the London Pattern (see image). It should also be noted that anvils were made to do other types of work, including wagon-making, ferrier work to shoe horses and mules, jewelry and other small-piece work activities.



Hammers

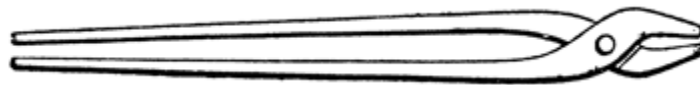
To this day the hammer is the tool the blacksmith handles to shape his metal creations. There was a wide variety of hammers in different shapes and they were made by the blacksmith to yield different results. In the Middle East and Eastern Europe a shorter wooden handle and more mass on the head of the hammer was common. In England, Northern Europe, and North America a lighter hammer head with a longer, thinner wooden handle was common.

Hammers had many names and some were just made to do one or two functions. Mallets, sledges, ball peens, cross peens, clipping hammers (to cut or clip a hot

piece), square flatters, cutting chisels, and hole punch hammers with a head on one end and a pointed punch on the other. The sledge, in different sizes, was used by the blacksmith helper or striker on the hot metal taken directly from the forge and shaped on the anvil. Ball peen hammers, with the rounded head on one end and a flat surface on the other, were very important for shaping.

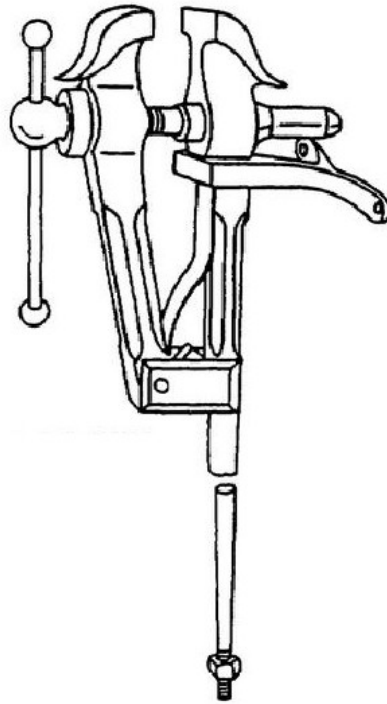
Tongs

A pair of tongs is a tool much like a pair of pliers. The jaws at the front would hold hot metal taken from the forge. The blacksmith would hold the tongs in one hand to grip the hot metal and put it on the anvil, then pound it with the hammer in his other hand. Or the blacksmith would have his striker hit the hot metal as he firmly gripped the tongs. Tongs were made bigger or smaller, with rounded or fluted jaws to hold different shapes of hot metal. It was not unusual for a blacksmith to have many sets of tongs to hold many different metal shapes.



Vise

The blacksmith shop often had a vise to tightly hold items he was working on. The early post vises were portable with a long leg but were usually made by a blacksmith: There were no factory-made vises until around the 1870s. In England, Peter Wright patented the first machine-made closed box post vise. All the previous vises had turning jaws made with a blacksmith made screw to open and close the jaws of the vise to hold the hot metal to be worked on.



Various supplies, too, were essential. Metal of all types were used, including pig iron, a crude iron with lots of carbon; wrought iron, an iron with very low carbon content; and steel, if it could be obtained. Wood turned to charcoal and later coke for use in the forge as a fuel. The early forges were made of brick but the brick had to be fire brick, a more hardened brick vitrified in the kiln. Forges made after 1870 were cast iron forge table pots with sides and legs and cast iron crank handle blowers (no bellows was needed) attached to the forge platform, usually lined with fire brick.

Statistically, Putnam County blacksmiths in the 19th century came from 15 different states: Ohio, Virginia, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Indiana, Massachusetts, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, New Jersey, Georgia, New York and Louisiana. Kentucky, Indiana, and Virginia supplied the most. Blacksmith immigrants came from England, Norway, Ireland, and Germany.

It is difficult to pinpoint the location of each blacksmith to a specific shop location using U.S. Census data and the other historical sources I consulted are sketchy. However, the early blacksmith shops were generally located near enterprises such as water-powered grist mills, horse-drawn mills, and later steam mills, mercantile shops, doctor's practices, etc. They were established in growing towns like

Putnamville, Mt. Meridian, Manhattan, Reelsville, and Pleasant Gardens and all were conveniently located on the National Road. or Cumberland Road as it was known in the early 1800s. The east- and westbound traffic along this route made an ideal spot for a blacksmith shop. A smith shod horses and mules, repaired wagons and carriages, and supplied the essential tools that local farmers needed. Statistically, Putnam County blacksmiths in the 19th century came from 15 different states: Ohio, Virginia, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Indiana, Massachusetts, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, New Jersey, Georgia, New York and Louisiana. Kentucky, Indiana, and Virginia supplied the most. Blacksmith immigrants came from England, Norway, Ireland, and Germany.

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Further north in the county, Russellville, Portland Mills, Carpentersville, Fincastle, to transact other business. Each of these communities had multiple blacksmiths in the period between 1850 and 1900.

Fillmore, and Bainbridge provided great locations for blacksmiths to thrive. They were also adjacent to stores, grist mills, etc., where pioneers would come to town. The county also had a few blacksmith shops located in more rural settings where no major town existed at the time. These shops were usually located near a creek or stream that might also have a water or horse-drawn mill. The processing of grain and the transportation of it by wagon gave blacksmiths and farmers an opportunity to do business. Clinton Township had a blacksmith shop on the Little Walnut South branch near the Dunkard Church in Section 27 and another north of that in Section 22 owned by Nelson Talley. Madison Township, Section 25 had a shop that appears to have been operated by Andrew J. King and his son Willaim J. King, based on the 1864 Putnam County map.



Interior of the blacksmith shop located within the Landis–Werneke Carriage Repair business. Courtesy of Putnam County Public Library, gift of Julia Werneke Deem, niece of the brothers Will and Edward Werneke, who worked in the business.

Based on close examination of the Census data, from 1850 on Greencastle Township had the most blacksmiths working in shops. Some were working in livery stables, some in wagon and carriage shops (the Christian Landis wagon and carriage shop was located on East Washington Street, current site of St. Paul the Apostle Church), and a few worked in the Greencastle Iron and Nail Factory on the south side of town (near the present county jail).

Since the county seat was a half-day ride by wagon for families living in the outermost townships, the trip might not have been made more than once or twice a year for some, more frequent for others. Every trip, however, would be fully utilized to conduct all kinds of business that the county seat offered in the way of commerce, government offices, train depots, etc. Many times the blacksmith would be on that list. George Bicknell, according to the 1860 Census came from Pennsylvania, is the only blacksmith in Putnam County Census records to indicate his occupation was Master Blacksmith. With his son Jacob working alongside him, he taught others as apprentices.

My father was a blacksmith for over 65 years. Clifton E. Ralph is recognized as one of the leading blacksmiths to rekindle the art and skills of current blacksmiths returning the tools and work products to consumers. My father was a power hammer specialist that devised tools and techniques for utilizing a large factory made hammer that could be powered by electricity, steam, air or hydraulics. He retired after 35 years but went on to teach, demonstrate and lecture at many blacksmith hammer-in's, demonstrations and festivals across the United States. His VHS Tapes and DVD's entitled: "Power Hammer Forging" are in the Library of Congress, state blacksmith associations and blacksmithing schools, and our PCM collection.

It is my hope that this article will "shake the trees" of thought and reflection on Putnam County descendants to obtain more details, biographies, records, tools, and photographs that can and should be shared and preserved for the public to appreciate. Each county in America may have shared the experience and skill of the blacksmith.

**Number of Blacksmiths in Putnam County Townships,
from U.S. Census Data, 1850–1900**

Township	1850	1860	1870	1880	1900
Clinton	7	4	2	4	2
Cloverdale	4	2	4	3	4
Floyd	3	1	2	1	1
Franklin	6	4	4	6	9
Greencastle	14	19	25	25	11
Jackson	5	1	1	3	3
Jefferson	5		1	3	4
Madison	4	4	2	3	4
Marion	4	2	3	2	6
Mill Creek				1	
Monroe	9	6	7	6	8
Russell	12	1	5	6	4
Warren	6	6	6	3	2
Washington	11	9	5	6	6
TOTAL	88	59	67	72	64

References

Atlas of Putnam County, Indiana. Greencastle, Indiana: Putnam County Museum, 2018. This work is a reproduction, with added indexes, of the earlier publication, Chicago: J. H. Beers & Co., 1879, which included a history of Putnam County and biographical sketches of notable figures by Gillum Ridpath.

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U.S. Census Bureau. Data for 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, and 1900.

Putnam County Blacksmiths on

U.S. Census Records

1850–1900

United States Census 1850**Clinton Township**

Name	Birthplace	Age	Other
Josept Hulet	Kentucky	29	two children
Bowlin Key	Virginia	38	800 acres
Ezekiel Moore	Kentucky	28	
James P. Houck	Pennsylvania	44	2500 acres
George Frank	North Carolina	22	
Simpson Bulcher	Indiana	20	
Sameul Bulcher	Indiana	19	

Cloverdale Township

Joseph Herbert	New Jersey	41	eight children, 1500 acres
J. Harvey Sparks	Kentucky	24	lives with Greenburg Lyon
J. B. Compton	Ohio	33	four children, 200 acres
Greenburg Lyon	Virginia	35	cannot read or write

Floyd Township

James M. Stout	Ohio	24	cannot read or write
David Justus	Indiana	18	
Hugh Yeats/Yates	Virginia	50	four children, 125 acres

Franklin Township

Name	Birthplace	Age	Other
Andrew Conner	Indiana	20	later Daniel Conner, also
George Kirfman	Virginia	32	
William Thrift	North Carolina	22	
Thomas Stringer	Kentucky	27	four children, 100 acres
Amos Bradford	Massachusetts	42	four children, 150 acres
John G. McCorkle	Illinois	27	four children, 30 acres

Greencastle Township

Christian Landes	Indiana	36	4800 acres
Daniel Week	Indiana	19	apprentice
Bland Benson	Indiana	17	
Robert J. Rosebreux	Tennessee	23	600 acres
William Lane	Tennessee	25	200 acres
John Applegate	Kentucky	27	200 acres
James Applegate	Kentucky	19	Brothers?
James T. Gifford	Kentucky	37	four children, 2500 acres
William Seller	Indiana	20	
Albert Coley	Kentucky	20	
Mason Gill	Kentucky	32	700 acres
Charles Cane	Kentucky	40	three children, 1000 acres

Greencastle Township, continued

Name	Birthplace	Age	Other
Mark Talley	Ohio	26	five children, 1000 acres
James F. Lane	Tennessee	50	seven children, 1000 acres

Jackson Township

Berry Chastain	Kentucky	36	four children, 1000 acres
John Giddings	North Carolina	20	
Jesse Shepard	Ohio	23	250 acres
Samuel T. Proctor	Indiana	38	four children, 125 acres
Silvester W. Perry	Indiana	32	five children

Jefferson Township

William Abel	Kentucky	25	100 acres
Lysander Burnett	Maryland	50	six children
Ephraim Parker	Indiana	27	five children
Jesse Nichols	Kentucky	24	
John Willing	Ohio	24	

Madison Township

Silas Frank	Indiana	35	300 acres
George Bicknell, Sr.	Pennsylvania	55	four children, 800 acres
George Bicknell, Jr.	Pennsylvania	22	

Madison Township, continued

Name	Birthplace	Age	Other
James Alspaugh	Kentucky	26	

Marion Township

David Hunter	Kentucky	36	six children, 800 acres
Thomas Detemore	Kentucky	22	
Christian Detemore	Kentucky	36	five children, 400 acres, one brother
James Jackson	Indiana	33	four children

Monroe Township

John Fraker	Indiana	21	
Daniel Huff	Virginia	35	1500 acres
John Hunter	Indiana	19	
Wellington Peach	Virginia	28	three children, 600 acres
George Carpenter	Virginia	37	300 acres
James Thomas	Kentucky	20	
Perry Varner	Kentucky	32	700 acres
Adam Feather	Virginia	46	four kids, 200 acres
James H. Hall	Kentucky	36	five children, 2000 acres

Russell Township

Richard H. Bishop	Kentucky	16	son of David Bishop
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Russell Township, continued

Name	Birthplace	Age	Other
David C. Bishop	Virginia	50	seven children, 300 acres
William Jones	Indiana	21	apprentice blacksmith
James Smith	Indiana	22	
Nelson McNamany	Kentucky	50	seven children
Martin Grimes	Kentucky	22	
Nathaniel Key	Virginia	31	200 acres
Joseph Thornton	Kentucky	23	
William Brumfield	Kentucky	42	
William Brumfield	Kentucky	30	

Warren Township

Thomas Richardson	South Carolina	76	four children, 400 acres
Richard M. Sullivan	North Carolina	33	five children
James Buncham	Kentucky	47	800 acres
Barton Hartley	Indiana	25	
Thomas Highnote	Indiana	24	
Benjamin Hawkins	Kentucky	57	1500 acres

Washington Township

Joseph V. Stoles	Kentucky	25	
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Washington Township, continued

Name	Birthplace	Age	Other
William Girton	Pennsylvania	39	
John W. Smith	North Carolina	37	
Samuel Petty	Tennessee	40	
William C. Sellers	Indiana	20	son of Nathan Sellers
Phillip Fritz	Kentucky	44	
Silas Watts	Kentucky	33	
Abraham Jackson	Ohio	40	
Ezra Davis	Indiana	28	cannot read or write
George Remel	Pennsylvania	35	
Wilford Torr	Indiana	33	

Putnam County Blacksmiths**United States Census 1860****Clinton Township**

Name	Birthplace	Age	Other
Nelson Talley	Indiana	26	
Richard Houk	Indiana	22	
Benjamin Coffman	Kentucky	24	
W. M. Graham	Kentucky	28	

Cloverdale Township

Lysander Burnett	Massachusetts	53	eight children
James H. Sparks	Kentucky	33	

Floyd Township

John Lydick	Kentucky	23	
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Franklin Township

A.P. Parker	Indiana	37	
Thornton Masterson	Kentucky	27	
David Worden	Indiana	21	
John Dodd	Virginia	74	

Greencastle Township

Name	Birthplace	Age	Other
Jesse Nichols	Kentucky	31	
Jacob Bicknell	Pennsylvania	25	
George Bicknell	Pennsylvania	31	master blacksmith
Peter Altimus	Pennsylvania	29	
James Paxton	Kentucky	30	Ward 1
James T. Gifford	Kentucky	48	Ward 4
Daniel N. Batterson	Massachusetts	23	Ward 1
Mercer Welch	Kentucky	36	Ward 3
Albert Hendricks	Indiana	25	Ward 3
Frederick Weik	Baden, Germany	23	Ward 3, Jesse Weik's uncle
John Cox	Indiana	19	Ward 4, apprentice
James R. Jones	Kentucky	47	Ward 4
Henry Remick	Indiana	35	Ward 4
Milton Hathaway	Indiana	18	Ward 4, apprentice
James A. Curtis	Ohio	25	Ward 4
Alfred Curtis	Ohio	19	Ward 4, apprentice
John Sharrod	Kentucky	50	Ward 5
Lorenzo Talbott	Indiana	36	Ward 5
Robert Shields	Kentucky	42	Ward 5, eight children

Jackson Township

Name	Birthplace	Age	Other
Thomas Norris	Kentucky	29	

Jefferson Township

Ambrose Bourne	Kentucky	42	Mt. Meridian
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Madison Township

Addison B. Phillips	Virginia	47	cannot read or write
Thomas Ragle	Indiana	22	
Andrew J. King	Kentucky	45	four children
William J. King	Kentucky	16	

Marion Township

John J. Siddons	Kentucky	39	
Oliver Siddons	Indiana	24	

Monroe Township

William Jones	Kentucky	29	
Edward Nelson	Kentucky	27	
Adam Feather	Virginia	56	
William Fraker	Illinois	25	
Joseph Smith	Indiana	30	
Ninian Steele	Kentucky	54	

Russell Township

Name	Birthplace	Age	Other
David C. Bishop	Virginia	60	

Warren Township

A.B. Vivars	North Carolina	28	
Lysander Gose	Virginia	30	
S. W. Perry	Indiana	42	
S. W. Perry	Indiana	18	
Thomas Aiken	Ohio	23	
Daniel Emery	New Jersey	28	

Washington Township

W. Braniman	Pennsylvania	25	
Garner Bobo	Indiana	29	
Elizah Kellum	Georgia	63	
Joseph Downing	Tennessee	38	
William McCormick	Pennsylvania	29	
William Roberts	Indiana	28	
John W. Smith	North Carolina	47	
David Pool	Kentucky	28	Reelsville, four children

Washington Township, continued

Name	Birthplace	Age	Other
Jackson Yocum	Kentucky	39	Reelsville

Putnam County Blacksmiths**United States Census 1870****Clinton Township**

Name	Birthplace	Age	Other
Aiden Hamilton	Indiana	39	Portland Mills/Clinton Falls?
Daniel Conner	Indiana	37	Morton

Cloverdale Township

Samuel Hoover	Kentucky	28	apprentice blacksmith
William F. Poynter	Indiana	33	Cloverdale
John W. Sherrod	Kentucky	57	Cloverdale
William Nichols	Indiana	20	apprentice blacksmith

Floyd Township

John Lydick	Kentucky	44	Greencastle P.O.
Hugh Yates	Virginia	71	Bainbridge P. O.

Franklin Township

Ephraim Parker	Indiana	47	Carpentersville
Calvin Harris	Indiana	27	Carpentersville
George Hackley	Indiana	27	Carpentersville
Wesley Twigg	Indiana	36	Carpentersville

Greencastle Township

Name	Birthplace	Age	Other
William Leet	Indiana	36	Ward 3
George Bicknell	Pennsylvania	42	master blacksmith
James M. Paxton	Kentucky	40	Ward 1
James T. Gifford	Kentucky	58	Ward 2
George White	Indiana	29	Ward 3
John L. Gragg	Virginia	49	Ward 1
Frederick Weik	Germany, Baden	33	Ward 1 (Jesse Weik's uncle)
Levi Vanfossen	Maryland	28	Greencastle Junction
Martin L. Vanfossen	Maryland	26	Greencastle Junction
James A. Curtis	Ohio	36	Ward 2
Frank Kiddey	Tennessee	42	Ward 3
John Huffman	Indiana	32	Ward 1
Christian Phifer	Pennsylvania	40	Ward 2
Richard P. Houcke	Indiana	32	Ward 3
James Kerr	Indiana	29	Ward 2
Newton L. Lee	Indiana	37	Ward 1
William H. Ellis	Indiana	23	Ward 1
James Hoveke	Pennsylvania	64	Ward 3
Jacob Bicknell	Pennsylvania	36	Ward 1
John F. Lane	Tennessee	67	Ward 1

Greencastle Township, continued

Name	Birthplace	Age	Other
Edward Landis	Indiana	23	Ward 1
Charles W. Pfeiffenberger	Germany	40	Ward 1
Charles Craig	Indiana	23	Ward 3
James Murphy	Ireland	40	Ward 3

Jackson Township

George Hendricks	Kentucky	44	New Maysville
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Jefferson Township

Ambrose Bourne	Kentucky	52	
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Madison Township

A. B. Phillips	Virginia	57	
Thomas Ragle	New York	39	

Marion Township

Thomas Siddons	Kentucky	43	Fillmore, seven children
John Johnson	Norway	46	
John W. Rice	Kentucky	39	Fillmore, seven children

Monroe Township

Charles L. Loyd	Ohio	33	Bainbridge
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Monroe Township, continued

Name	Birthplace	Age	Other
Joseph E. Smith	Indiana	42	Bainbridge
Eli Anderson	Ireland	31	Bainbridge
Daniel A. Hooversmail	Kentucky	30	Greencastle P.O.
James W. Hooversmail	Kentucky	27	Greencastle P.O.
James H. Hall	Kentucky	57	Bainbridge P.O.
Willaim Moreline	Ohio	34	Bainbridge P.O.

Russell Township

Cyrus B. Garlinghouse	New York	59	Russellville
David Warden	Indiana	30	Russellville
John Doke	Kentucky	25	Portland Mills
David C. Bishop	Ohio	72	Portland Mills
James V. Thompson	Indiana	32	Portland Mills

Warren Township

Marion Perry	Indiana	25	Cloverdale P.O.
John Williams	Indiana	36	
William Shields	Indiana	39	Cloverdale P.O.
Henry Williams	Indiana	23	

Washington Township

Name	Birthplace	Age	Other
William McCormick	Pennsylvania	44	
William Roberts	Indiana	38	
Stephen Taylor	Tennessee	43	
Henry Faith	Indiana	26	
Samuel Binkley	Ohio	30	

Putnam County Blacksmiths**United States Census, 1880****Clinton Township**

Name	Birthplace	Age	Other
Allen Hamilton	Indiana	39	Clinton Falls
Benjamin Cawthorn	Kentucky	45	Clinton Falls
Tim Grimes	Kentucky	52	Clinton Falls
William David	Indiana	33	Clinton Falls

Cloverdale Township

Jesse A. Poynter	Indiana	32	Cloverdale, West Main
William F. Poynter	Indiana	42	Cloverdale
John W. Sherrod	Kentucky	67	Cloverdale

Floyd Township

William Dodge	Indiana	19	Floyd Township
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Franklin Township

Ephraim Parker	Indiana	57	Carpentersville
James O. Parker	Indiana	16	Carpentersville
Calvin Harris	Indiana	38	Carpentersville
James W. Hillis	Indiana	22	
Charles Twigg	Indiana	46	Carpentersville

Franklin Township, continued

Name	Birthplace	Age	Other
Ely Anderson	Norway	42	
Hans Anderson	Norway	16	

Greencastle Township

George Bicknell	Pennsylvania	52	Master Blacksmith, Jackson St.
James M. Paxton	Kentucky	50	Ward 1
James T. Gifford	Kentucky	68	Ward 2, Washington St.
George White	Indiana	39	Ward 3, Crown St.
Lewis Snider	Tennessee	65	
Frederick Weik	Germany, Baden	43	Ward 1, J. Weik's Uncle, Jackson St.
Levi Vanfossen	Maryland	38	Greencastle Junction, Limedale
Martin L. Vanfossen	Maryland	36	Greencastle Junction
John Huffman	Indiana	42	Ward 1, Indiana St.
Christian Phayler	Pennsylvania	50	Ward 2, Seminary St.
Richard P. Houcke	Indiana	32	Ward 3
M. B. Welch	Kentucky	55	Depot St.
James Houck	Pennsylvania	72	Ward 3
Jacob Bicknell	Pennsylvania	46	Ward 1, Jackson St.
Charles W. Pfeiffenberger	Germany	49	Ward 1, Jackson St.
George Demoth	Ohio	39	

Greencastle Township, continued

Name	Birthplace	Age	Other
James Murphy	Ireland	62	Ward 3
Charles Pfeifenberger	Germany	18	Jackson St.
John T. Siddons	Indiana	20	Ward 1, Jackson St.
William S. Taylor	Tennessee	50	
George Shildmyer	Indiana	28	
Alex Dunnington	Indiana	23	
James Osborn	Indiana	35	Ward 1, Jackson St.
Charles Rowles	Ohio	22	Ward 1, Jackson St.
Thomas J. Siddons	Kentucky	53	Ward 1, Jefferson St.
David Thompson	Indiana	28	Ward 1, Poplar St.

Jackson Township

George Hendricks	Kentucky	54	New Maysville
Algernon Rick	Indiana	42	
Rubin Higgins	England	46	

Jefferson Township

Ambrose Bourne	Kentucky	62	Mt. Meridian
Liberty N. Scott	Indiana	20	Belle Union
Daniel W. Macy	Indiana	33	Belle Union

Madison Township

Name	Birthplace	Age	Other
Addison Vickers	North Carolina	48	
John C. Siddons	Indiana	45	
Thomas Ragle	Kentucky	51	
Brady D. Rice	Kentucky	26	Fillmore
John W. Rice	Kentucky	52	Fillmore, seven children

Mill Creek Township

Noah E. Siler	Indiana	32	
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Monroe Township

Charles L. Loyd	Ohio	39	Bainbridge
Joseph E. Smith	Indiana	52	Bainbridge
Frank Hall	Indiana	36	Brick Chapel
William McNary	Indiana	37	Brick Chapel
Scott Wyatt	Indiana	28	Brick Chapel
John C. Grintead	Kentucky	29	Bainbridge

Russell Township

Frederick Fink	Kentucky	35	Russellville
David Warden	Indiana	37	Russellville

Russell Township, continued

Name	Birthplace	Age	Other
James Twigg	Indiana	22	Russellville
James W. Thompson	Indiana	43	Russellville
Daniel Sowder	Tennessee	59	Russellville
James H. Winn	Indiana	23	Russellville

Warren Township

Thomas Brothers	Kentucky	29	
John Williams	Indiana	47	
Frank Crawford	Indiana	31	

Washington Township

William McCormick	Pennsylvania	49	
John Lydick	Kentucky	54	
Henry Blake	Indiana	19	journeyman blacksmith
David Taylor	Indiana	14	journeyman blacksmith
Louis Frank	Indiana	45	
Joseph B. Stokes	Kentucky	55	

Putnam County Blacksmiths

United States Census, 1900

Clinton Township

Name	Birthplace	Age	Other
Frank Bettis	Indiana	21	
William A. Call	Indiana	38	

Cloverdale Township

Jesse A. Poynter	Indiana	52	Cloverdale, Boon St.
Jacob A. Deniewitz	Ohio	36	Cloverdale, West Main St.
John M. Shoppell	Indiana	33	Cloverdale, West Main St.
John Richardson	Indiana	52	Cloverdale, Water St.

Floyd Township

Jacob A. Michael	Ireland	31	
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Franklin Township

James A. Wyatt	Indiana	48	
William Faller, Sr.	Germany	66	
David H. McIntyre	Kentucky	42	
Otto August Faller	Indiana	22	
Benjamin Tool	Indiana	42	
Thomas P. Bell	Indiana	38	

Franklin Township, continued

Name	Birthplace	Age	Other
Henry W. Dyer	Indiana	30	
John M. Read	Indiana	22	
Ely Anderson	Norway	60	

Greencastle Township

James Pierce	Louisiana	28	
Levi Vanfossen	Maryland	58	Limedale
Martin L. Vanfossen	Maryland	56	Limedale
Frank Roberts	Indiana	43	
Fred R. Crawford	Indiana	27	Jackson St.
John M. Overseer	Indiana	46	Jackson St.
James M. Paxton	Kentucky	70	West Franklin St.
William Jones	Kentucky	33	Crown St.
Edward S. Landes	Indiana	53	East Washington St.
Richard P. Houck	Indiana	61	Bloomington St.
Frederick Weik	Germany	63	Washington and Indiana Sts.

Jackson Township

Reuben Higgins	England	66	
Ditter C. Stringer	Indiana	65	
Reuben H. Perkins	Indiana	48	

Jefferson Township

Name	Birthplace	Age	Other
Lloyd E. Knight	Indiana	31	
Leander Runyon	Indiana	33	
Howard Macy	Kentucky	25	
Daniel W. Macy	Indiana	53	Belle Union

Madison Township

William A. Swinford	Indiana	36	
Marcus Ragle	Kentucky	51	
John Wilson	Kentucky	70	
Elzophus Rice	Indiana	40	

Marion Township

Omer C. Hall	Indiana	25	
John O'Carroll	Indiana	30	
Sandford W. Erwin	Indiana	50	six children
Samuel M. Case	Indiana	56	
William H. McNary	Indiana	57	
Wade D. McNary	Indiana	23	

Monroe Township

Name	Birthplace	Age	Other
Charles F. Smith	Indiana	37	
James F. Twigg	Indiana	40	
Charles W. Twigg	Indiana	66	
Jesse Coffman	Indiana	23	
Leslie C. Priest	Indiana	35	
Henry C. Frank	Indiana	29	
Robert L. Pierce	Indiana	34	
Belery C. Grintead	Kentucky	47	Bainbridge

Russell Township

Ernest E. Fink	Indiana	27	
Bert S. Slavens	Indiana	24	
John Murray	Kentucky	54	
James H. Winn	Indiana	43	Russellville

Warren Township

John Williams	Indiana	66	
William A. Shields	Indiana	61	

Washington Township

Name	Birthplace	Age	Other
James Turner	Indiana	26	
Thomas J. Brothers	Kentucky	49	
William Shopell	Indiana	49	
Joseph E. Gardner	Indiana	25	
Edward M. Yocum	Indiana	31	
Christian Snyder	Indiana	28	