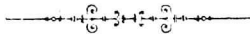
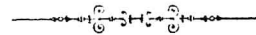


have three children—Edward L., Odessa A. and Elbert O. Mr. Buis owns 260 acres of well cultivated land in Marion Township, and is a successful farmer. He has done a great deal of hard work, and cleared up a great deal of land. Politically he is a Democrat.



**W**ILLIAM THOMAS, farmer, section 19, Madison Township, was born in this county June 17, 1844, son of Joel and Mary Thomas, natives of Kentucky, and of Irish descent. Joel Thomas immigrated to Indiana in 1832 with his parents, who settled in Clinton Township. They first erected a log cabin and then commenced the work of clearing the farm in true pioneer style. About 1856 the parents of our subject, Joel and Mary Thomas, removed to Madison Township, locating on section 31, where they improved a farm. The father was accidentally killed on the night of November 8, 1884, by a railroad train. He had been twice married. His first wife was Mary Stites, and nine of their children are living—William, Hiram, John, James, Joel, Aaron, Levi, Isaac M. and Fanny, who married Frank Burcham, of Lincoln, Nebraska. His second wife was Elizabeth Hart. He was widely known throughout the country, and greatly esteemed by all. He was a self-made man, having begun life with practically nothing. The first wife died August 4, 1879. William was reared to manhood in this county, and has been a life-long farmer. He was educated in the early subscription schools, which afforded but limited advantages. January 1, 1863, he was married to Miss Elizabeth Ewing, who was born in Montgomery County in 1842, and a daughter of George and Eliza Ewing, natives of Kentucky. To

this union ten children have been born, seven of whom are living—Dora, wife of Charles Reeves, of Marion County, this State; Henry, Oscar, Elmer, Charley, Ona and Bertha A. The deceased are—Alice, Eliza and Frank. Mr. Thomas settled upon his present farm in Madison Township in 1873, where he owns 218 acres of excellent land. He also owns ninety-seven acres in Parke County. He is now serving his third term as township trustee. Politically he affiliates with the Democratic party.



**G**IBBEN C. FOSTER, a prominent business man of Cloverdale, was born in Lawrence County, Indiana, February 12, 1826, a son of Samuel and Mary (Craig) Foster. He was reared on the old homestead in his native county and educated in the common schools. He followed farming until his removal to Cloverdale in the spring of 1855, when he engaged in general merchandising and stock-trading. He has been connected with the trade ever since he came to Cloverdale with the exception of a few years. He is now engaged in farming, and owns 350 acres of good land, lying in Warren, Jefferson and Cloverdale townships. He is a Democrat in politics, having cast his first presidential vote for Franklin Pierce. Mr. Foster was married in 1863 to Sophronia Jenkins, a native of this county, and they had five children—Ida B., Nora E., Winnie M., Gertrude and Herschel C.; all are deceased except the last mentioned. Mrs. Foster died August 31, 1876. She was a worthy and consistent member of the Christian church, and esteemed by all who knew her. October 22, 1878, Mr. Foster was married to Miss Sarah Elizabeth Allen, who was born December 8, 1843, in Shelby