

**Memoirs of the Miami Valley, Volume III Logan County Biographical, 1920**  
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Richard Doan, a prominent farmer of Bokes Creek township, has passed a long and honorable career in Logan county, where he was born November 13, 1861, a son of Richard C. and Rachael (Parks) Doan, the latter a native of Shelby county. Richard C. Doan was born in Washington county, Ohio, and was a lad when he came to Logan county with his parents, the family settling south of DeGraff on what is now known as the Joshua Doan farm. There he grew to manhood and was engaged in farming with his pioneer father until the time of his marriage, he then moving to Bokes Creek township, where he settled in the woods. Mr. and his young and capable wife there experienced all the hardships and inconveniences of pioneer existence. Their home was a small log cabin, and Mr. Doan was forced to clear the timber from his land before he could start the work of cultivation and crop planting. They were energetic and persevering, however, and developed a good property. Mr. Doan was the first man in Bokes Creek township to put in head-in ditches or underground draining at that time colloqually known as "pig troughs," and in various other ways displayed his progressive spirit. His first purchase was twenty acre tract, this with his brother, with whom he also cleared an eighty-nine acre tract belonging to their father. He passed his life in farming, and at his early death, at the age of thirty-nine, was the owner of seventy-eight acres of land. He and his wife were the parents of three children: Richard, Lydia Ellen and Martha, who died. Richard Doan was educated in the country school in the vicinity of his home in Bokes Creek township, and his career was started as a farm hand, which was his employment for a period of four years. He then began farming on his own account on twenty acres of land which had been left him by his father, and to which he subsequently added twenty-one acres purchased from his sister. This land he farmed for some four years, then moving to near DeGraff, where he rented a property of 180 acres for five years. Moving back to Bokes Creek township, he bought 100 acres more of land and began to farm there, continuing to carry on successful activities until 1903, when he went to Ridgeway. Mr. Doan spent four years at that place and then returned to Bokes Creek township, and in 1916 came to the property which he now operates, a splendidly-productive farm of 197 acres, on which he has the best of improvements. Mr. Doan married Elizabeth Anna, daughter of W. A. and Anna (Palmer) Doan, and to this union there have been born two children: William Richard, who died at the age of nineteen months; and Ida Maude, who married Bird Ramsey and has had seven children, Earl, deceased, Carl, Mae, Mary, Richard, Grace and Marlowe. Mr. and Mrs. Doan and their children are members of the Methodist Protestant church, and Mr. Doan has been a trustee and class leader of the church at Ridgeway. He has gone through the chairs of the Knights of Pythias lodge there, and in politics is a Republican. Mr. Doan's citizenship has been decidedly valuable, and at present he is serving his third year as a member of the board of Bokes Creek township trustees. His standing is high in business circles and personally his popularity is evidenced by the warm regard of a wide circle of friends.