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PAST AND PRESENT  
OF  
CHRISTIAN COUNTY,  
ILLINOIS.

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BY HON. J. C. McBRIDE.

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ILLUSTRATED.

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"A people that take no pride in the noble achievements of remote ancestors will never achieve anything worthy to be remembered with pride by remote generations."—MACAULEY.

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*Dedicated to the Pioneers and to the Living Representative  
Citizens of Christian County.*

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## PREFACE.

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THE undersigned, at the request of the publishers, The S. J. Clarke Publishing Co., herewith submits to the reader a brief history of many of the important events that have transpired in the County of Christian since its organization. He is satisfied that many events have transpired quite as important, if not more so, than the ones submitted, but having to depend upon information received from different sources, it would be impossible to gather all of the matters that should be included in a history of this character, and the limited space would prohibit chronicling the many other things that might be of interest to the public. The early events being beyond the memory of the most of the present generation, the reader can appreciate the difficulty in gathering them together.

The writer desires to acknowledge the valuable assistance received by him from the notes compiled by the late Dr. Calvin Goudy, in a former work edited or prepared by him. Had it not been for the preservation, by him, of the incidents pertaining to the early settlement of Christian county, it would have been almost impossible to have obtained a correct or extended idea of the early events. The writer also desires to acknowledge the valuable assistance rendered by the late A. D. Webb, in the preparation of the article upon "The Press" and for other assistance rendered: to John W. Dappert for the assistance rendered by him in the contribution of the article upon "Drainage," and to Miss Anna Lois Barbre, County Superintendent of Schools, for the valuable assistance rendered by her in the contribution of the article upon "Schools." He would also tender thanks to J. P. Walker, E. A. Miller, W. T. Vandever, T. J. Langley, Mrs. Edward Forrester, T. W. Brents and W. O. Wilcox for valuable information received from them from time to time in the preparation of this work.

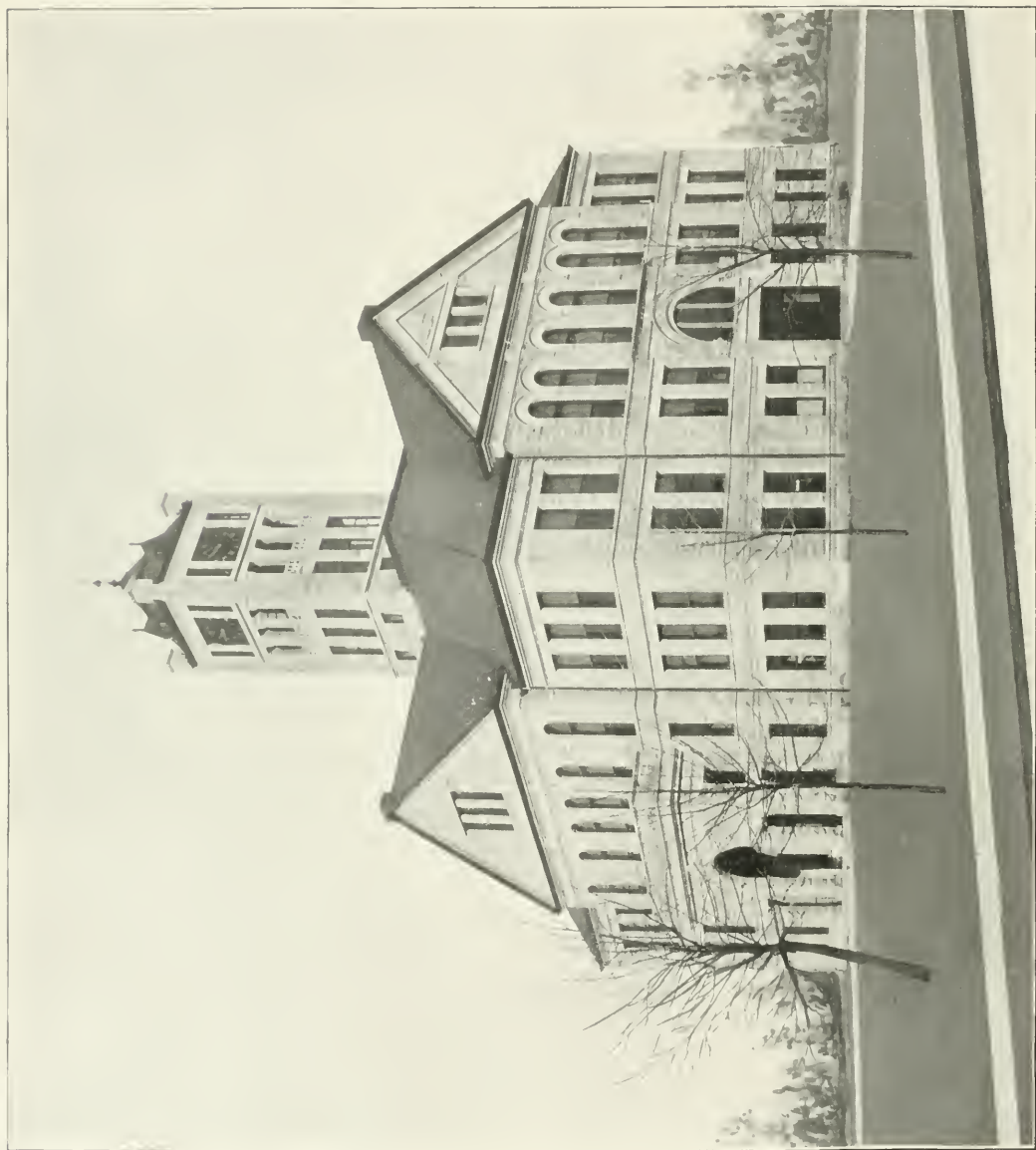
We are also under obligations to The Courier Printing Co. and Taylorville Journal for copies of their files, and to Mr. Benjamin Winters for copies of the paper called *The Independent Press*, published at Taylorville at an early day by his father, B. F. Winters, from the files of which papers much valuable information was obtained. The reader will doubtless realize the difficulty attending the compilation of a work of this character, and of selecting such as should be included. It has been classified as best the writer could so as to present to the reader as ready reference as possible of the chronicled events, and hope that it will prove beneficial to the public as a book of reference concerning the past of the county, covering the incidents, accidents and misfortunes

of the past as well as its present resources. No doubt the work will be criticised, but in all criticisms I hope the reader will appreciate the difficulties that have surrounded the preparation of the work, and the difficulty attending the description of an event with which the writer had no personal acquaintance.

Whatever your criticisms may be, we desire to assure the reader that, with the light given us, we have tried to chronicle a fair and impartial statement concerning the organization, growth and prosperity of Christian county and its inhabitants. Hoping this will meet the approval of the readers and patrons of The S. J. Clarke Publishing Co., I respectfully submit it to you for a fair and impartial consideration.

J. C. McBRIDE.





COURT HOUSE

# PAST AND PRESENT

## OF

# CHRISTIAN COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

### INTRODUCTORY.

All history is a record of past events. Each day and each hour adds to the experiences of men and increases the amount of human knowledge. To "catch the shadow ere the moments fly" and tell of them through history serves to perpetuate the experiences of the past, and thus create a fund of human knowledge based upon all that has gone before. It is a work of love in that it bequeaths to those who are to come all the wisdom gathered from the experiences of those who were here yesterday but to-day are gone. Enough of human experience lies buried 'neath the sod to have made the world many fold wiser than it is had it been recorded.

The early pioneers are nearly gone, and their names and what they did and endured will soon be forgotten, unless somebody writes. The record must be made lest we forget. The wisdom of the past must be preserved.

No portion of this country has changed more than the vast prairie region with the

Mississippi river running through near its centre. The northern and southern portions of this vast plain are undulating and much rougher than the central part, and have been changed less by the hand of man. But through the central portion occupying more than half the state of Illinois is a vast level plain containing the most productive land in the world, which little more than fifty years ago was a vast morass or swamp, unfitted for the habitation of man or beast. The land was so level and the growing vegetation so rank that the falling rain could scarcely find its way to the sluggish streams. From a part of this semi-submerged country, Christian county was carved. Surrounded as it was by miles and miles of country of a similar nature, the isolation of the early settlers was almost complete. It was only along the banks of the streams, which were bordered with trees and upon the more elevated regions, which were few, that it was possible for men to live.

Tall grasses that would scarcely permit a man to see above them when riding upon horse-back (the usual means of travel) grew nearly all over this vast plain, and to travel from place to place during the rainy season it was necessary to cross miles of this semi-swamp land and horses had often to swim with their riders. To travel with the ordinary wagon or vehicle was simply impossible. The old canvas covered schooners were seldom seen by the early settlers, because they could not be used. And the black loam formed from the luxurious decaying vegetation of centuries was scarcely less penetrable than the water; a horse could scarcely walk through it, and the surface would tremble for several feet around whenever a man or beast would attempt to travel upon it.

Roads there were none and the trails led along the ridges and always sought the highest ground. It was seriously thought most of the prairie land would never be taken up or cultivated as it was too wet. Therefore most of the early settlers located along the streams, and when they visited a neighbor in some other part of the county, they encountered all the perils of the navigator as well as those of the cavalier, but it was not the elements of land or water that they feared.

They were neither sailors nor soldiers, but they were both, and the combination produced another sort of being that had the hardihood and courage of both combined with the indomitable pluck of an explorer in a new element. Had the north pole been sought by these early navigators in this new element of mud, it would certainly have been found; if there was no channel opened they would have opened one; if there was ice they would have produced a machine to navigate it, or they would have subdued and

transformed the elements as the early pioneers did in this county and created an element with which they were familiar and then made that element subservient to the will of man. A machine to melt all the ice about the north pole would work no greater change than has been made in this county. These early settlers knew not how to use mud and so they transformed it into soil and reaped golden harvests. The Christian county pioneer has changed the nature and conditions of the soil and then reaped gold as a result.

What Christian county was could never be guessed by what it is to-day. The greatness and productiveness of this county is more the result of what was done by the pioneers than what is being done to-day. But these changes required a peculiar kind of man, and the circumstances created the man here as it always has and always will. The Christian county pioneer was a man of a peculiar type. He possessed all the qualities of the pioneers of the mountain fastnesses, the solid plain, the rolling hill top and added to them the conqueror of land and sea, and beside that the new element which he has subdued and transformed into wealth. He has found the rich alluvial mixture of land and water to be most precious, although simply Christian county mud.

And it is of these pioneers and what they did that we would write. It is of these men, yellow-skinned, ague-haunted, poorly clad, big-hearted, generous-minded, fearless pioneers that have subdued both land and water we would tell. It is the chronicle of a generation that is almost gone, and these pages and others like them will soon be all that will be left to tell the story. And how difficult that story! Each of these men was self-contained. Each of them was separated by miles of almost impenetrable

morass from their closest neighbor and were compelled to live nearly alone. None of them dreamed of the wealth upon which they trod. None of them knew that the quivering mire that they learned to navigate was worth as much pound for pound as the most valuable food and only needed subduing. To tell all of the deeds, many of which have never been recorded, would be impossible, but we can tell a few things—only a few—and we hope we may give those who read, a slight impress of the early pioneers of one of the most valuable counties of the state. Truly these hardy men builded better than they knew.

#### EARLY SETTLEMENT.

Before entering upon a history of the settlement of this county it might be interesting to many of our readers to know that the locality now composing Christian county at one time belonged to the colony of Virginia, and was included in the territory that was authorized by the act of 1783 of the Commonwealth of Virginia to be conveyed to the U. S., and on March 1, 1784, Thomas Jefferson, Samuel Hardy, Arthur Lee and James Monroe by virtue of the power vested in them by the commonwealth of Virginia conveyed to the government of the U. S. all that part of the Virginia commonwealth "lying and being to the northwest of the river Ohio," which included a vast territory now composing many of the states of the Union, including Illinois.

By an Act of Congress of May 7, 1800, this territory was again divided and it was enacted by Congress "that from and after the 4th day of July next all that part of the territory of the United States northwest of the Ohio river which lies west of the line beginning at the Ohio opposite the mouth of the Kentucky river and running

thence to Fort Recovery; thence north until it shall intersect the territory line between the U. S. and Canada shall for the purpose of temporary government constitute a separate territory and to be called the Indiana territory;" and by this name was this section of country known until February 3, 1809, at which time this territory was again divided, and on that date it was enacted by Congress "that from and after the first day of March next, all that part of the Indiana Territory which lies west of the Wabash river and a direct line drawn from said Wabash river and Post Vincennes due north to the territorial line between the U. S. and Canada shall for the purpose of temporary government constitute a separate territory, and to be called Illinois;" and thereafter on April 18, 1818, Congress passed an act authorizing the people of the Illinois territory to form a constitution and state government for the admission of such state into the Union on an equal footing with the original states. This ordinance was adopted by the people of the Illinois territory on August 26, 1818, at Kaskaskia, in convention assembled; a formal ratification took place and a constitution known as "the constitution of 1818" was adopted and became a fundamental law for the government of the people of the state of Illinois, and in this ordinance passed by Congress, the sections numbered 16 in every township, except where the same had been sold, and in that case other equivalent lands were granted to the state of Illinois, for the use of the inhabitants of such township for the use of schools.

While it is true that the constitution had been adopted and the state organized, yet the settlements throughout the state were very few, in the locality composing Christian county, there were in fact no settlers

to speak of, and this country was then occupied and used by the Indians as a hunting ground, but as localities along the Wabash, Mississippi and Illinois rivers grew more thickly populated, they gradually began to reach out into the more fertile prairies and localities of central Illinois. Some settlements had about this time reached the borders of Christian county and as these settlements advanced, the Indians reluctantly but quickly yielded to the civilization of the white man, and as has been said in former histories of this county "they perished when they came in contact with our civilization almost as the hues of sunset when you look at them through the telescope; or as the odor of the rose vanishes while you attempt to analyze it. Before they could be studied as men or as nations, as families or as tribes, either by their traditions and literature, by their customs and affinities, they had disappeared, or at least had been so degraded as to seem to have fallen below the level of even scientific observation." However mysterious may have been their origin, they certainly recorded but few events of their progress or want of progress while they occupied this beautiful land.

The manners and customs of their ancestors are but traditional; any history of these early people must be at best uncertain, and few events, except the accidental ones recorded by the white man in his pursuit of this foe of civilization in his attempt to lay a foundation for the building up and supporting of a higher type of manhood are recorded.

Whatever may have been the nature of the first denizens of the soil of America, or of the inhabitants of those who preceded the white man, there certainly exists a dearth of records as to their customs, their government, their religion or their homes, if they

had any, and as has been well said "a few mounds, some beads, a small variety of earthenware, stone hammers, implements for dressing skins and now and then one of their own idols of religious worship, together with a few personal articles of luxury or dissipation or ornament, are all of their domestic or public life left to us. We find scattered in many parts of the country their gimlets, arrow heads, spear heads, saws, flesh scrapers, and hammers all made of stone, and demanding almost infinite patience for their manufacture. It seems a wonder that a people having power to concentrate the mind on such difficult work as shaping flint-stone should have been so barren in all the graceful and elevating arts. We alternately pity and despise them; admire their sublime stoicism and sicken at their cruelties; we praise their valor and denounce their selfishness.

They gave us their country and left us none of their customs. We use the maize which they sometimes cultured and stupefy ourselves with the smoke of tobacco, which they taught us to consume. These are their sole contributions to the world's progress in profit and comfort. Is it strange that we should forget them, or that we should readily persuade ourselves that such an idle unprogressive people should scarcely have a right which an enterprising, ambitious and needy race should respect? Their whole ideas, habits, wants, aspirations and beliefs were so different from those of our race that we can scarcely arise to any sympathy with them or their interests.

This portion of country was known in an early day as the "Black Hawk hunting ground, and was widely noted as a fine hunting region. Game of all kinds was very abundant," and many tribes gathered upon this hunting ground to hunt the buffalo and

deer that roamed over and fed upon these beautiful prairies.

The whole life and energy of the Indian tribes who occupied this, as well as the great northwestern country, were devoid of all acquisitions for the future, destitute of all ideas of morality, their minds were barren and uncultured, except to prepare themselves for battling one with another.

No pretensions of the cultivation of a higher and nobler part of man, no ideas of the beautiful or conceptions of their future welfare seem to have existed among them. and the poet has well said:

“Lo, the poor Indian, whose untutored  
mind,  
Sees God in the clouds and hears him in the  
wind;  
His soul, proud science never taught to  
stray,  
So far as the solar walk or milky way.”

It seems that the Indian when not at war with the white man, admired him, seems to have recognized his superior ability and readily yielded his happy hunting ground to the strong arm of culture and civilization.

It is said “even after a few of the settlers had located here, there still remained as residents of the county a fragment of the Kickapoo tribe; ‘Basseina’ the chief said this land was theirs; that they had occupied the territory of South Fork ‘more moons’ ago than there are tracks of the buffalo upon the plain, or feathers upon the wild fowl’s back.”

An amusing anecdote is related in connection with one of the pioneer settlers of this county by the surveyor general when passing through this section in 1818; “he had formed the acquaintance of young Martin Hanon, and wishing to play a joke he went to the chief and told him Hanon was about to enter some of the land he was measuring off, and that he wanted a wife;

upon hearing this news the young squaws gathered around the young candidate for matrimonial honors as if they meant business. All of them wanted a white man ‘if he would hunt’; the surveyor relieved himself of the difficulty by informing them, much to his regret, that Hanon was a ‘poor hunter,’ and so would make a sorry husband.”

The temptations for the settlement of most parts of Illinois, including this county, were great. The richness of the soil, the beauty of the country and the tales of prospective wealth existing here that were told to the people of the eastern and southern states were many and magnified, but these accounts of this wonderland worked like magic and caused many people to leave their homes for the settling up of this country.

Many were the hardships endured by the early settler; perhaps all of the hardships that were undergone will never be known, but it is at least certain that many people came, but few remained.

Many of them after reaching this prairie country filled with malaria as it was, remained some of them six months and some perhaps a year, becoming discouraged by the many hardships endured, sickness and often death brought on by exposure, readily sacrificed their all to get out of this country and return to their native home. It is almost impossible for the inhabitants of the present day to conceive of the sickly conditions, brought on principally by malaria, that existed upon these prairies at an early day, especially during the fall of the year.

The writer well remembers that even as late as the year 1865 when this county had been partially broken out and to some extent subdued, that during the fall of that year nearly every family and every member of the family upon the prairie between the

South Fork and the Chicago & Alton railroad were more or less afflicted with fever and ague which caused the people as a rule to have what was called "every other day chills," and in nearly every household these chills would come upon alternate days, so that one member of the family would miss to-day and chill to-morrow, and the sick of to-day would administer to the wants of the sick to-morrow.

Quinine and other fever and ague remedies were in great demand and were supplied to this country by cart loads, and these remedies were even more bitter and unpalatable, if possible, than "Kirk's Malarion" of this day. So great was the destruction of the health of many of the early settlers, so distressing this everlasting fever and ague that came upon many of the people, so discouraging was it to the father and mother to see their entire family afflicted with this dread disease, that in many cases valuable farms, partly paid for, were abandoned that they might return to their old home and health, and as much as they coveted the fertility of the soil of this great prairie, they could not endure the hardships.

The most of the earlier settlements were made along the streams and on the higher lands, which was more beneficial to the health of the inhabitants; the prairies were subdued by the people who after becoming acclimated, gradually pushed out into the higher spots upon the prairie lands. The lands most valuable of that day are the cheaper lands of to-day.

These people were a great distance from market, for the products they raised; they were compelled to drive their hogs to the markets of St. Louis or other places equally distant and haul their grain to these points, returning with wagons loaded with groceries and provisions.

The generations of the early settlements of Christian county have practically all passed away, and it is impossible at this late date to gather very many of the incidents and anecdotes of the early settlement, except the few that have been noted by some of the prior generations for the purpose of being published, and in giving the incidents, anecdotes and customs of the early settlements, we have taken most of them from the notes and writings of Dr. Calvin Goudy, which we think will prove interesting to our readers. It is said by him "The first men of our race so far as is known whose glad eye looked upon the beautiful prairies of Illinois now embraced within the boundaries of Christian county, were a band of hunters and trappers, who left Vincennes in the fall of 1811 and following an Indian trail traversing this county in a north-westerly direction to the Illinois river and stopping for the winter at Peoria Lake to trap, hunt and fish. They were Frenchmen and belonged to the Mission at Vincennes. On their return trip the following spring, they were robbed of a portion of their furs and peltries and two of the members slain by the Indians.

#### FIRST SETTLEMENT AND EARLY SETTLEMENTS.

"The honor of being the first white resident of the country now comprised within the limits of Christian county belongs to Martin Hanon. He was a native of Tennessee, born in April, 1799, near the city of Nashville. He came to the territory of Illinois with his father, Michael Hanon, in the year 1812, and settled in Gallatin county where he resided until his father's death in 1817. The year following his father's death, young Martin in charge of his mother

and family emigrated and settled in Christian county in the fall of the year 1818. At first he pitched his tent on the south side of a large fallen tree; their meat in one end of the sack and their provisions in the other end were balanced in the crotch of a tree until a log cabin was extemporized. The scent of the meats soon attracted a pack of hungry wolves, and they were only kept at bay by occasionally throwing a fire brand in their midst."

The wolves of that day, going in great bands as they frequently did, were very annoying to the early settlers, sometimes attacking people, frequently attacking stock, especially after night. It is said by Mr. W. A. Goodrich that even as late as 1840, it was dangerous to cross the prairie after night between here and Mount Auburn, especially along about Buckhart Grove where the wolves were so numerous; that they frequently attacked men upon horseback and one who was so unfortunate as to come in contact with a band of these ravenous wolves was indeed in great danger of losing his life.

"Martin Hanon first settled and improved what afterwards was known as the Squire Council farm. John S. Sinnet, a brother-in-law of Hanon's and Claiborn Matthews with his family, Jacob Gragg, Eli Alexander and Kenchen 'the well digger' all came to and settled in the county November 21, 1818, only a few days after Hanon. Their nearest neighbor in this county in 1820 was Ephraim Cooper, living on the north fork. Martin Hanon, realizing that it was not good for man to be alone, soon after improving his claim, determined to take unto himself a wife. He went down into Egypt, wooed and won one of the fair daughters of that land, and was married in Shawnee-town on the 10th of October, 1823, to Miss

Sallie Miller. Among the usual attractions presented on such occasions to his young bride was that he possessed on his farm 1,000 bearing apple trees; judge of her feelings when on reaching her new home, of which she had become joint proprietor, her husband directed her attention to 10 acres of thrifty crab apple trees. Young Hanon's wife proved to be a thrifty, industrious woman; she frequently delighted in telling how she spun her dozen cuts of yarn in a day, and at the same time performed her other household duties.

"The walls of her cabin home were lined with numerous bundles of spun yarn and flax, which she wove into cloth, using a part to clothe the family and bartering the balance for articles of household use at the store.

"Calico at that time cost 37½ cts. per yard," but it should be remembered that a lady dressed in calico in that day with a poke-bonnet in a newly settled country was equally as nicely dressed and as gayly attired as the lady of to-day attired in silk and an umbrella hat.

"There were no educational facilities in the territory when Hanon was a boy, and his education was consequently limited. For a short time he attended a school taught by Timothy Rogers, on Horse Creek in Sangamon county; Eli Matthews and James Funderburk, formerly of this county, were his classmates; the schoolhouse was a regularly built cabin with paper windows, and one end open, forming a huge fireplace; this is said to have been the second school taught in that (Sangamon) county.

It is related that Hanon was very fond of attending all the rail maulings and corn shuckings far and near; he was a lover of athletic sports and he and Moses H. Brents were accounted the most popular gallants of

the day. They often extended their tours far into the Rochester prairie until within hailing distance of the capital of the state.

Martin was one of the best hunters of that day. On one occasion John S. Sinnet, Jake Gragg and himself were out hunting. Sinnet wandered off and became lost from his companions..

They came across three Indians, which moved them to hunt for Sinnett; the Indians followed close upon them; they stopped and dismounted, so did the Indians; Hanon, not being well acquainted with the Indian character, became somewhat alarmed at their strange actions; they examined their guns, and picked their flints; and the Indians did likewise; Gragg then, in a threatening manner, ordered them to "puckachee" (that is, light out), and they did. Gragg turned to Hanon and said, if Sinnett had been present, he would have shot one of the Indians; it was the opinion of Hanon that they made a narrow escape.

In that day Indians were quite numerous in this part of the country. On one occasion, while Hanon was out hunting alone, he saw a number of them on the banks of South Fork near the old Elgan mill, they had killed 68 musk rats and were skinning and eating them. In one of his hunting excursions, about the year 1825, when skirting the timber west of Taylorville, he killed a panther, near by a small stream, which measured 9 feet from top of the nose to end of the tail; this circumstance caused the stream to be called Panther Creek, by which name it has been known to this day.

During the "deep snow," he in company with Vandever and three or four others of the "Richardson settlement," in South Fork started for O'Banning's horse-mill, then located on a farm about three miles northeast of Taylorville (at that day the lat-

ter place did not exist); they made a bee line, passing through the prairie north of the present county seat; Vandever had a horse and the others ox teams; they had to break the snow ahead, thus making poor headway. They finally abandoned their wagons, placing the sacks on the backs of the oxen and mounting on top of them, resumed their journey; Vandever having a horse pushed through first, and when night came, built signal fires to guide the others; they all battled their way through that night, but suffered much from the intense cold.

Many such hardships did the pioneers have to brave in securing a subsistence. The summer following the "deep snow" there was frost during every month, rendering the corn raised unfit for seed; Hanon gave a yearling heifer for one bushel of old seed corn in the spring of 1832. It was that spring that the steamboat (Talisman) ascended the Sangamon river to Springfield with a cargo of corn; it sold readily for \$2.50 and \$3 per bushel for seed corn. In the year 1826, Hanon built a cabin and lived in it a short time on the west side of Spring Branch, where afterwards stood the old "Forest Mill," south of Taylorville; he returned again as a resident of South Fork.

In 1834 he purchased an interest in the "Knuckols and Wallace" water mill, afterwards more familiarly known as the "Elgan mill." He moved his family and settled on the banks of the Sangamon near the mill. It was here his aged mother died in 1838. Soon after this sad event, he sold out his interest in the mill to Jesse Elgan, and in 1839 settled permanently on his farm, five miles northwest of Taylorville; it was on the north side of Horseshoe prairie, lately owned by Josiah A. Hill. On this farm he resided nearly a quarter of a century; here

his aged partner died on the 28th of May, 1862; she was buried in Horseshoe graveyard. He had a family of 11 children; after the death of his wife, the children having grown up and gone to houses of their own, he sold the old homestead and retired from the active cares of life. Mr. Hanon was a man of fine physical development and constitution, and was highly respected for his many virtues. The latter years of his life were spent with his daughter, Mrs. Mason, of Sharpsburg, this county, where he died April 5, 1879, thus ending a most eventful life; he would have been 80 years old during that month.

Captain Jesse Hanon, Jr., is the oldest son of Martin Hanon, the first settler. He was born in this state and is now a resident of Clay county.

As mentioned above, Hanon's brother-in-law, John S. Sinnett, Claiborn Matthews with his family, Eli Alexander and Kenchen Matthews, his sons and Jacob Gragg all came and settled in the county soon after Hanon's arrival, the exact time of the arrival of these parties seems to be uncertain.

Some circumstances indicate their arrival in 1818, and others in 1819, but from the best information obtainable, they arrived late in the fall of 1818, and a short time after Martin Hanon settled, as has been stated.

John S. Sinnett was a native of Lexington, Kentucky, born March 10, 1796. When three years of age, his father moved to Missouri, where young Sinnett remained until the war of 1812; he enlisted, and served his term in that war, and was honorably discharged. Soon after leaving the army, he came to Illinois, then a territory. In the year 1818, he was married to Miss Rhoda Hanon, a sister of Martin Hanon. Soon after this event they settled in what is

now Christian county; he located on land now including the southeastern part of Taylorville, built a cabin on the east side of the old fair grounds spring in 1826. He sold this to Col. Thomas S. Young in 1829, and built another in the ravine a little southeast of what is now the junction of the B. & O. and Wabash R. R.; Mary Sinnett, daughter of John Sinnett, was the first white child born in this county; her birth occurred early in 1820. On the 8th of March, 1840, he moved from Christian to Tazewell county, where he resided until his death, January 13, 1872, in the 76th year of his age.

Sinnett was twice married; the second time to a Miss Elizabeth Perdue; he had 10 children by his first wife and three by the last one. He was a great hunter; Mr. Sinnett was a member of the Methodist church over 50 years and died in that faith; he was a member of the Pioneer M. E. church of this county, which held its meetings at John Brents' and Father Young's.

Of the early history of Jacob Gragg, better known as Jake Gragg and the "tall man," there is but little known. He was a ranger in the war of 1812; at one time, during the war, he, with others, were taken prisoners by the Indians; some were instantly killed and others were reserved for more severe torture; Gragg used to tell that he successfully ran the gauntlet from one end to the other without receiving serious injury. This secured his safety and he subsequently escaped. Gragg first settled in Illinois in 1803 near Troy, in Madison county, and afterward squatted on the place owned by Martin Hanon on Horseshoe Prairie in Christian county; he, too, was a celebrated hunter, and with Martin Hanon and John S. Sinnett hunted the deer and the honey of the wild bee in the forest.

Alexander Matthews was a native of

Tennessee; was the son of Claiborn Matthews and one of the first settlers in the county; his mother's maiden name was Moore; his father and mother were natives of North Carolina; they were married in that state and emigrated to Tennessee, thence to Illinois in 1817. They first located in the southern part of the State and when Alexander was about five years of age his parents settled in this county. They settled in what is now South Fork township, near the stream known by that name. He died many years ago, at his home in this county, having resided here ever since he was of the age of five years; he was twice married and raised a family of four children and served as Justice of the Peace in the town of Buckhart. At the time of his death he left a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

The Brents family were an old pioneer family in this county, settled here in 1820. William C. Brents was born in Livingston county, Kentucky, in 1814, and came to this county with his widowed mother and family when about six years of age. They settled and improved a farm about five miles northwest of Taylorville in 1824. The family removed to the farm half a mile south of Taylorville, where William C. died Feb. 3, 1861, at the age of 47 years. Many of the old settlers remember the old Brents' cabin and its hospitable inmates, all of whom have passed away. William C. Brents was held in high esteem and was the recipient of several offices of trust; he was several times elected as constable and served as Sheriff in 1854-5; he was generous to a fault; the latch string of his house was always out and many a one he aided and succored in time of need. His brothers, Simeon and John, came here at the same time; the latter owned and made the first improvements on the Hall farm, two miles east of

Taylorville, before the deep snow in 1830. He sold out in 1834 to Jesse Langley and returned to Kentucky. In 1831 the first Methodist meeting in Taylorville township was held at his house. Joshua, Simeon and Moses Brents were in the Black Hawk war; Simeon was married Nov. 19, 1839, to Miss Mary W. Blalock, at the residence of Morgan Goode, J. P.; this was the first marriage in Taylorville.

The land on which Taylorville is located was entered by Daniel C. Goode in 1835; Goode was a Kentuckian by birth; he settled in Horseshoe Prairie, this county, in 1821; was a resident of Sangamon county as early as 1819. Daniel C. Goode was a true type of the pioneer; in person, he was portly and erect, his bearing noble and commanding, his forehead high and broad, his features regular, expressive, strong and masculine. He was possessed of many marked traits of character, firm, decided and uncompromising in his own views, he quailed at no danger; a warm friend, a bitter enemy. He was what might be termed a pioneer statesman. His judgment of men and things was good; in politics, he was a Democrat and maintained the doctrines of the party without fear, and exercised a great influence at elections. He was also a great hunter, and fond of sport; he assisted in raising the first log house in Springfield. It was often his custom to wear a buckskin hunting shirt and breeches. He died March 28, 1845, and was buried at the root of a tree on his farm that he had selected as his last resting place.

Miss Hannah Hanon, a sister of Martin Hanon, married Samuel Miller in Kentucky. They emigrated to this State in the fall of 1823, and settled in South Fork township on a farm near Elgan's mill; Miller died in 1833. E. A. Miller is a son

of Samuel Miller, and the only living member of the family, and now resides in Taylorville; he was born and raised in this county. Samuel Wyodick, a native of Pennsylvania, emigrated and settled on the Flat Branch in Prairieton township in 1824; he was about the first white man in that section, coming one year before his nearest neighbor, Peter R. Ketcham, who settled about six miles below him. Game was then so plentiful in that section that he often stood in his cabin door and shot the deer. He was a soldier in the war of 1812 and also in the Black Hawk war. At seeing the soldiers mustered for the contest of the late civil war, his heart was fired with all the patriotic spirit of old; he joined Captain Long's Company in August, 1861, and marched to Decatur; the "boys in blue" had great respect for the aged veteran; so robust and active was he that he passed muster easily, giving his age at 41—though 81 years old—at Camp Pugh, Decatur. His company formed a part of Colonel Pugh's regiment, which marched to St. Louis the same week. A correspondent says of him: "He endured the hardships incident to the tented field with as much bravery and spirit as did his more youthful companions in arms." He died in his country's service, in St. Louis, April 22, 1862, at the ripe age of 82 years. This was a remarkable man, thus to have served his country in three wars so far apart, and died in the country's service at the age he did.

Thomas Dawson was a pioneer settler of this county, and built the first cog mill in this section of the country on the Dixon Hall farm, now owned by W. M. Wally.

Daniel Miller was a man familiarly known to the early settlers and is well remembered by those who have survived; he, like many of our pioneers, was a self-made

man and arose to considerable prominence in the county. He was born in Kentucky in 1818, and at the age of five years, came with his father's family to this county, settling in South Fork township in 1823. His early years were spent on his father's farm, devoting his leisure hours to writing and study. He attended school about four months in all; was a pupil of Elijah Hanon (a brother of Martin Hanon), who taught the first school in Christian county in 1827, in a log cabin two miles northeast of Taylorville. After this, he built a small cabin on the Reese farm in South Fork, below Squire Council's old homestead, where, in 1828, he mastered arithmetic and made progress in other studies. At the early age of 17, he taught school; took an active part in the formation of the county; under the non de plume of "East Sangamon" he wrote and published in the Springfield Republican several able articles advocating the division of Sangamon county, and in 1843 he was elected Constable of South Fork precinct; also served for a time as Treasurer of the school fund. Soon after the location of Taylorville he made it his place of residence; was elected county school commissioner Aug. 4, 1845, without opposition. At one time served as deputy sheriff, was admitted to the bar in this county and as a practicing attorney received a liberal share of the cases in court. In August, 1847, he was elected County Clerk for a term of four years, but died the following year, Nov. 9, 1848.

Gabriel McKinzie was born in 1797 and died in Taylorville Oct. 22, 1862; he settled in this county at an early day; was a great fiddler and played for all the dances and frolics of this part of the country, and helped the young people to break the monotony of a pioneer life and enjoy the inno-

cent amusements that the country then afforded.

R. Preston Langley came to this county in 1831; resided on a place owned by him in Horseshoe Prairie for more than 50 years, where he died at a ripe old age; he was the brother of Jesse, Josiah and Thomas Langley.

Another old pioneer was Jesse Murphy; he came here in 1829 and sojourned for a short time in Horseshoe Prairie; taught school in 1831, about two miles west of Taylorville.

We will here give a passing notice of a few of the other early settlers who lived in close proximity to Horseshoe; among the number was John B. Pitman, father of Mrs. R. P. Langley; he was born in Ireland in 1776; came to America and settled in Christian county in 1830 and died in 1834. He lived and died on Clear Creek, one mile north of Horseshoe. Thomas Jones and family lived one mile west of Pitman's in 1829 and moved to Missouri in 1840.

Joseph Denton, father of Isaac Denton, lived on Clear Creek, before the "deep snow," and not far distant from Horseshoe.

In 1824, Solomon Meade and his brother Joseph came to this county and first located below "Elgan's mill," in South Fork Township, where they lived a few years, then moved to Bear Creek. Solomon died Dec. 12, 1871, at the age of 90 years and upwards, and was buried in the Catholic cemetery on Bear Creek.

The Young family emigrated from Kentucky to Christian county in 1825, and consisted of "Old Johnny Young," his sons, William (father of Peter Cartwright Young), Ezekiel, commonly called "Black Zeke," and Jarret, all came together. The father, John Young, settled and improved

the John S. Fraley farm, four miles east of Taylorville, where he died in 1834.

His son, Thomas, familiarly known as "Big Tommy Young," came here in 1829, purchased a small improved claim and settled on it, which was a short distance south of the R. P. Langley place on Horseshoe Prairie. He was celebrated for breeding fine hogs and also keeping the best stock in the country.

Jarret Young was only 14 years of age when he came with his parents to this country.

"Old Field Jarvis" is well remembered by many of the older settlers; he came here in 1825; was tall in stature, often had to stoop to pass through the doors of many of the cabins, and when within not infrequently his head would be above the loft. On one occasion, when thus situated, he asked "who lives here?" The lady of the cabin replied, "come down and see."

Peter and Christopher Ketchum were natives of Alabama. Peter Ketchum was born about 1805, and at the age of 20, came to this county and settled on Flat Branch, about 18 miles northeast of Taylorville in 1825; was one of the early settlers in that part of the county; was a Methodist minister, and is said to have organized the first M. E. church in the county in 1828, at his own residence, where meetings were held for a number of years. He was elected Justice of the Peace for Buckhart precinct (Sangamon county) in 1835, and re-elected in 1839, after the organization of Christian. He administered the oath to the commissioners selected to locate the county seat of Christian at the town of Allenton before they located Taylorville as the county seat; was elected a member of the County Commissioners' Court, Aug. 4, 1845, and his son, Green B. Ketchum, was elected Coro-

ner of the county in 1844. Before the Civil war the family moved to Texas, where most of them were killed by Indians; his brother Christopher, who came to the county with him, improved a farm adjoining where he resided until his death. It is said that Isaac Ketchum (whether of this family or not) moved to Alton, Illinois, and there formed a partnership with Unah Cheatam, and they displayed the novel sign of "I. Ketcham and U. Cheatam," which was certainly very attractive.

William S. Ricks, a native of Kentucky, came to Illinois in the spring of 1835 and settled on Bear Creek; he was a prominent character in the organization of the county; was the first Sheriff of Christian county, and represented this county in the legislature in 1844, and filled many other positions of honor and trust.

He had great confidence in the future of the county, and did much to encourage his many friends and early pioneers to remain here as permanent settlers. There was born to him 11 children; prominent among whom was the late Hon. John B. Ricks, William S. Ricks, N. D. Ricks and Richard S. Ricks, one of the early members of the Taylorville bar, and was the grandfather of the Hon. James B. Ricks, now Justice of the Supreme Court of this state. He subsequently moved to Sangamon county, where he died March 7, 1873.

Martin Miller, a native of Kentucky, born Oct. 6, 1820, came to the territory now embraced within this county when only five years old, in company with his father. He was one of the pupils of the first school taught in the county by Elijah Hanon in a log house, two miles east of Taylorville.

William Wallace, a native of North Carolina, emigrated with his wife to Sangamon county in 1819, from which place he moved

to this county in the fall of 1825, and upon a small farm, one mile east of Taylorville, Mr. Wallace died on his farm, Dec. 6, 1844.

A hardy old pioneer was John Durbin, better known as "Stumpy John." He, with his sons, John Z., Josephus and Leonard emigrated from Kentucky in 1828, and pitched their tent in the "Richardson settlement," lower South Fork precinct. He died in 1831 and was buried on Bear Creek.

The year they came, 1828, was the exciting presidential contest between General Jackson and John Quincy Adams, and John Z. Durbin walked all the way to Springfield and cast his first vote for the old hero of New Orleans. He raised fine crops of flax and cotton in 1829. It is said that John Z. was the first person married in Christian county. He was quite a hunter in his younger days; many wolves and deer have been brought to grief by his trusty rifle; was at one time proprietor of the "Durbin-Owaneco" business house on the county road from Pana to Taylorville.

Jesse Langley was born in Kentucky April 18, 1796; emigrated to this county in 1828; purchased and settled on a small improvement made by a Mr. Armstrong on the south side of Horseshoe, about 6 miles west of Taylorville.

In 1834, he moved to and improved the place formerly occupied by John Brents, one and a half miles east of Taylorville (now known as the Dalby place), where he settled permanently; here he erected a horse-mill and built a distillery in 1837. He often wore the garb so common with pioneers, a seal-skin cap, buckskin hunting shirt and breeches; he died March 4, 1847, at 51 years.

In 1827 William George, a native of Virginia, emigrated to this county and settled in Buckhart township, a few miles north of

Edinburg. He died soon after he had located there in the same year, aged 94 years. He had a family of six children, three boys and three girls; his son, John George, was 8 years of age when he came to this county with his father, and has since that time resided in this county, except a few years that he lived in the state of Kansas. During a great portion of this time he lived on his farm in Buckhart; in 1874 he moved to Taylorville and subsequently purchased an interest in a flour mill in Pana, which burned down in 1875. In connection with W. T. Minnis, the mill was re-built and went into operation in February, 1876. During the latter part of his life he lived in Edinburg, where he died a few years ago.

James Baker, father of W. T. Baker, a Kentuckian by birth, came here in 1828 and settled in Mt. Auburn township. He built a saw-mill on the north fork of the Sangamon river, familiarly known as Baker's mill: was a constable and Justice of the Peace for many years; also took great interest in all agricultural movements and introduced some of the first thoroughbred stock in the county; was an industrious farmer, good citizen and a kind neighbor; died at the advanced age of 82 years, on the 4th of February, 1869. His wife died three years later, at the age of 82 years.

The first settlement of the Bear Creek region of the county began in 1829; three families, Squire Joseph P. Durbin, a native of Kentucky; Nathaniel Painter, and Old Grandfather Durbin, all came together in one wagon drawn by a yoke of oxen, and settled near each other on Bear Creek. They suffered many hardships incident to the pioneer; were compelled to go 30 or 40 miles to mill and to do their trading. Squire Durbin dressed a pair of mill-stones and constructed a rude horse-mill which did good

service during the "deep snow;" was Justice of the Peace for many years; first elected in August, 1835, at which time that locality was a part of Montgomery county. In 1850, he moved to Locust township, and settled one mile south of Owaneco, where he continued to live until his death, Oct. 5, 1875. At one time there was a large connection of the Durbin family living in this county; they were nearly all adherents of the Roman Catholic religion, and they looked up to the Esquire as a kind of spiritual father and adviser, in the absence of a priest. He was the father of Hiram Durbin, a prominent man of the county at the present time.

The Richardsons all came from Christian County, Kentucky, and formed what has been known as the "Richardson Settlement" in 1829. Isaac Richardson, Jr., came with his parents to this county; lost his arm by accident in a threshing machine. He was a member of the firm of Amos Richardson & Bro., in the dry-goods business in Taylorville at the time of his death, Jan. 19, 1851; he was a bachelor.

William Richardson, brother of Robert Richardson, was a native of North Carolina; emigrated to Kentucky and from there, with his brother, to this county in 1829, and settled on the east side of the prairie. His wife's name was Jemima Richardson; they had nine children born to them.

Isaac Richardson, Sr., died Jan. 18, 1872; Harvey Richardson died May 10, 1873. These two brothers lived about a mile northwest of "Ralston's Bridge," and both lie buried in the old Finley graveyard.

Robert Richardson, a native of North Carolina, born July 3, 1785, married a Miss Elizabeth West in 1805; emigrated to Kentucky in 1809 and from there to Illinois in 1829; settled on a farm ten miles west of

Taylorville, where he lived until his death, Nov. 17, 1855. His farm was on the west side of the prairie, and his brother William's on the east; they both had large families and many of their descendants are still living in the county.

Robert was a great friend and supporter of religion, and through his energies a Methodist society was organized at an early date. Services were held in the school-house near by until the erection of a new house of worship; it is now known as the Bethany M. E. church. When he arrived in this county, South Fork had but few inhabitants; he put up a double log house with an entry between late in the fall and did not get time to make doors, but hung up quilts instead, which afforded poor protection against the cold winds and drifting snow.

Amos Richardson was born in Kentucky Nov. 6, 1811; was married in Sangamon county and had a large family born to him; he held several offices in the county; was elected Constable Aug. 5, 1839; was the first Deputy Sheriff in 1839; was elected Sheriff Aug. 1, 1842, and a member of the County Court Nov. 6, 1849; was an active member of the Methodist church, a good citizen and highly esteemed for his moral worth; died in Taylorville Nov. 1, 1852. He was the father of I. W. Richardson, at present a merchant in Taylorville.

Jesse Richardson lived on a farm near his father for many years, but subsequently moved to Taylorville; he came with his parents to the county in 1829; was never married; he was elected County Treasurer in 1849, and died Sept. 23, 1855.

James Minnis came to this county also in 1829 and settled and improved a farm on "Horseshoe Prairie," six miles northwest of Taylorville, where he died in 1860. His

wife survived him until 1873; they had 10 children, some of whom are still living.

Shadrack J. Campbell was a veteran of the war of 1812, and a soldier of the Black Hawk war; was born in East Tennessee and emigrated early in the fall of 1829 with his family to this county, and settled on Section 3, Township 14, 3 West.

The South Park timber projected out into the prairie at his place, and it took the name of "Campbell's Point," by which it was familiarly known for years; soon after his settlement, he was elected a Justice of the Peace, probably in 1831; he held that office until his death in 1836. He was a candidate for the legislature, which then held its sessions in Vandalia, but was defeated by only one vote. His wife, known as "Aunt Milla," was a noble, self-sacrificing, kind and hospitable woman and survived him over 33 years. Col. Thomas S., Marcus L., and John Young, natives of Kentucky, all came to this county in 1829 and settled on Flat Branch, south of Taylorville.

John Finley, his wife and son Andy, natives of Kentucky, moved to this county the same year; Andy was a great deer hunter.

Jesse Murphy, who figured quite prominently in the organization of the county, was a native of Tennessee, born Feb. 6, 1792; came to this county in 1829. He settled and improved a farm about two miles west of Taylorville; raised a large family, some of whom still reside in the county. He was appointed, April 16, 1839, the first Collector; in 1843 he was elected Assessor and Treasurer for the county, and re-elected in August, 1847; in 1856 was elected to the office of Coroner, a term of two years; died in Taylorville Nov. 3, 1865, aged 73 years.

John Gore, Sr., known as the 25-cent man, settled on a farm four miles west of the county seat in 1830. He was called the

"twenty-five cent" man from the fact that in selling his surplus corn crop, he would never take less than twenty-five cents per bushel, nor would he ever charge more, even if the market price was 50 cents per bushel; he was a zealous member of the M. E. church, and his house was a noted stopping place for the preachers of that denomination.

The second school in the county was taught by William McCollough in 1831, in an old log house, about two miles east of Taylorville, above the Hall's wood pasture on Flat Branch road. The school-house was on the land then owned by John Brents; McCollough is said to have been a good teacher, but at times a little intemperate, and on such occasions many amusing things would happen in his school.

The first settler on East Bear Creek was Walter Clark, born in Virginia, April 12, 1788; married a Miss Young, daughter of Peter Young of Ohio, by whom he had six children; his son, Dennis Clark, was Judge of Knox county, Illinois, for a number of years. Mr. Clark came with his family to Illinois in 1821; after several removals to different parts of the state, he settled on Bear Creek in this county, March 26, 1831. He located on the east side of the creek timber, not far from Palmer; they came from Sangamon county on foot, not able to own a team, bringing with them a yearling heifer, a gun, ax and hoes; they soon built a log cabin, 16x18 feet in size, with large fireplace and puncheon floor; that spring they cleared five acres in the edge of the timber, and with their hoes dug places in the ground, dropped the corn and attended it the whole season with nothing but the hoe and raised a fair crop. The following winter was a trying one on the family; with no team to go to mill, they beat their corn in a mortar and used a piece of punctured

buckskin, drawn over a hoop, for a sieve. At this date, deer and all kinds of game were plentiful in this section, and they did not want for meat; in 1832, John Baker, who settled about three miles north, was his nearest neighbor. Christopher Durbin was also living in the neighborhood. At one time there were 350 Indians encamping over Sunday on Bear Creek. They were very religious and held services on the Sabbath. An Indian preached. Clark was at one time arrested at the instance of the Durbins for killing an Indian, who was very troublesome in the neighborhood, but he was acquitted on trial, and those causing his arrest again secured the friendship of Walter Clark. He moved to Alton in 1836, and died in St. Louis, April 12, 1846.

John Davis was one of the earliest settlers of Mt. Auburn Township in this county; was a native of Nashville, Tenn.; emigrated to Illinois in 1818 and settled in Mt. Auburn township, three and a half miles west of Mt. Auburn in 1832; he married Miss Sarah D. Milligan and there were born to him four sons, Henry, Dial, William and John, and a daughter named Sarah, now the wife of M. V. Swick; these children have been residents of this county most all their lives, and William, Dial and Henry died but a few years ago.

Esquire W. M. Thomas was a Kentuckian, and emigrated to this county in 1832; his first wife died in 1846; their daughter was the wife of Samuel Brents. December 6, 1847, Thomas married Mrs. Polly Wallis, both of whom are now dead. The Esquire was a soldier in the war of 1812 under General Jackson, to whom he was devotedly attached. He was elected Justice of the Peace on the organization of the county in 1839, and held the office successively for over 15 years and until his death. A great

many amusing stories are told about Thomas that occurred during his official life; he was greatly respected.

In 1833 Thomas Young, Sr., a native of South Carolina, settled about one mile southwest of the county seat. Five of his sons came to this county; Col. Thomas S. in 1829, James in 1830 (mentioned above) and the other three, Frederick, Ezekiel S. and John W., came with their father in 1833. "Old Father Young" died on his farm March 24, 1845; his wife followed him a year or two afterwards.

Gavin Ralston, Sr., was a native of Scotland; married Miss Cynthia Vandever in Indiana; emigrated and settled in South Fork on the banks of the Sangamon in 1834. The bridge over the stream has taken his name (Ralston); a member of the first County Court; he died in 1846.

J. M. Wilkinson, a Kentuckian, and James Harris, from Tennessee, were among those who settled in this county during the same year.

Gabriel R. Jernigan, born in North Carolina, May 9, 1802, came with his family to this county early in 1835, settling on Bear Creek; they lived with Walter Clark until a cabin was built on his place; he was an active Democratic partisan and took a prominent part in the formation of the county. On its organization he was appointed by the County Court the first County Treasurer; in 1840 he was elected to the same office for a term of two years; was also elected Sheriff of the county, and in November, 1849, was elected one of the associate justices of the County Court for a term of four years; was also honored with an election as State Senator in November, 1852; he held the office of Police Magistrate of Taylorville in 1858, and other minor offices; died Aug. 3, 1866.

Jesse Elgan, a native of Maryland, came here in 1835; located 10 miles northwest of Taylorville, near Elgan's mill, which he owned for a time. He was one of the contractors in building the first court-house; was twice elected a member of the County Court. He was married to Miss Nancy Vandever.

John C. Whitecraft, a native of Tennessee, was born in November, 1784. His father emigrated and settled in Kentucky when he was a boy, where he lived to manhood; he was married in Kentucky in 1816 to Miss Rachel Arnett. Being attracted with the glowing accounts of the great "Prairie State," he emigrated with his family in the fall of 1835 and settled in Christian county on Clear Creek, about twelve miles west of Taylorville. He purchased 160 acres of land of a Mr. Rathbone, which he improved as his homestead. He completed and run the mill which was partly built on his place for a number of years; in time his children grew up and most of them settled around him. They were among the prominent and respected citizens of the county; from numbers and position, the locality has been known as the "Whitecraft settlement." The old gentleman was gathered to his fathers on the 25th of July, 1847, at the age of 63. His widow was accidentally killed by being thrown from a wagon with a runaway team in Springfield, Ill., Sept. 23, 1875.

Elder A. D. Northcut was a native of Montgomery county, Ky.; was born Sept. 11, 1813; was married on the 25th of August, 1835, to Miss Salena Masterson, and emigrated to this county in 1836. He first located and lived for many years on a farm in Mosquito Township; at that early day there were but few settlers living in that section, probably not over 8 or 10 families.

In speaking of the many hardships and inconveniences of the early settler, he says they had no milk, no stores, no markets for their surplus produce; St. Louis, Beardstown and Springfield were the nearest trading points. Elder Northcut attended the first religious meeting in the county, and was among the first to preach the truths of the gospel in this section of the county. He was several times honored with official positions by his fellow citizens; was a Justice of the Peace in Sangamon before the formation of this county, and was one of the first justices after its organization in 1839, which office he continued to fill for eight years; was a member of the first board of supervisors in 1866, and served in that capacity for a term of four years; he had been a life-long Whig and Republican. In 1854, he changed his residence to Prairieton Township, settling on the Esquire Hammer farm on Flat Branch, where he resided for many years. He was highly respected for his ability and integrity.

Another early settler whom we mention with pride and as one of the most distinguished citizens of this county in the early days, and in fact up to the time of his death was Judge H. M. Vandever; he came here in the pioneer era and began life a poor boy, and with commendable energy and industry became an honored and useful citizen of the county at an early day, and retained this position until the day of his death. He was undoubtedly a man of great wisdom; his knowledge of human nature was equal to, if not exceeding, that of any man's I have ever known; was many times honored by his fellow citizens with positions of honor and trust, and for many years prior to the date of his death, was the wealthiest man in the county.

In the latter years of his life he had

grown so wealthy and his interests so multiplied that they became identified with that of many citizens of the county, so much so that it became a matter of general remark, and the writer at one time heard Governor Palmer remark that it was as impossible to enter upon any enterprise with the citizens of this county and not encounter the interests of Judge Vandever as it was to stick a knife in the human body without severing some of the veins of the body. With all his acquisitions of wealth, he was a very indulgent man to those in whom he had confidence and believed to be treating him fairly, so much so that this indulgence frequently permitted men to take undue advantages and in protecting his own rights frequently brought upon him criticisms that were in many instances unjust. His name became a household word in this county; he was called by those who knew him intimately by the name of "Horatio" or "Rash" Vandever, and to this day he has many namesakes in the county. H. M. Vandever was a native of Indiana, born in Washington county, March 1, 1816; his father, Aaron Vandever, removed to Sangamon county, Ill., in the fall of 1829, and improved a farm on Horse Creek. Here the Judge lived until the age of 21 years with his father, most of the time laboring on the farm; he attended a pioneer log-cabin school about three months; most of his education was acquired during his hours of leisure, at night and at other convenient times, which he never failed to improve. His taste for reading and study of books was acquired at an early day in life, and his industry and ability attracted the attention of the Hon. John T. Stewart of Springfield, who tendered him the use of his law library, by means of which he acquired some knowledge of the law. In 1836, he taught school

in a log cabin on Andy Finley's farm, about 12 miles west of Taylorville.

In time he was admitted to the practice of law and soon became prominent in the profession. For many years and up to the time he was elected Judge of the Circuit Court, was the leading lawyer of the county, always employed upon one side or the other of every case that came up before the courts for investigation, and so prominent did he become that a litigant felt sure of winning his case if he could only secure the services of "Rash Vandever." Mr. Vandever participated in the organization of the county, and at the first election held on the first of April, 1839, was elected County Recorder; a few days later was appointed by the County Court as School Commissioner. June 1st of the same year was appointed by Judge Treat Clerk of the Circuit Court, which office he held for many years. He was elected a member of the House of Representatives in 1842 over Martin White, the former representative, and Henry T. Luckett, both popular men. On his return home, at the close of the session, 1843, he was re-appointed Clerk of the Circuit Court and was the same year elected Justice, and subsequently appointed postmaster at Taylorville, and it has been said of Judge Vandever by the early settlers that at one time he held all of the offices of the county, and while this may not be strictly true, it is certain he did hold many of the important offices at the same time.

In 1846 he answered to the first call of his country and raised a company of soldiers for the Mexican war, and was elected its Captain, but the company was rejected by the Governor, as the call of the government had been filled; he was shortly afterwards appointed by President Polk as Assistant Quartermaster in the United States

army, with the rank of Captain, and served in that position in the Mexican war. Upon his return home, he was one of the prominent candidates for Congress, but withdrew his name. He had been twice elected as County Judge of the county; in 1860 was again returned to the legislature, and two years later was elected to the State Senate, and while in the State Senate he showed himself to be the peer of any in that body. The writer has read with pleasure one of the speeches delivered by him while in that body, and it certainly was a remarkable effort, and one of which his constituents could well be proud.

In the fall of 1870 he was elected Judge of the 10th Judicial Circuit, to fill the unexpired term of Judge E. Y. Rice, and again in 1873, which position he held for a term of nine years, but owing to the great pressure of his private business he refused reelection. In politics he was a staunch Democrat, and no resident of the county has ever enjoyed the confidence of the people more than did Judge Vandever.

James Funderburk came to Christian county in the spring of 1836 and settled two miles west of Taylorville, where he resided until about 15 years ago, when he sold his farm and moved to Kansas; his father, Henry Funderburk, came from Tennessee to this state in 1815, and settled first on "Turkey Hill," in St. Clair County, where he resided for two years and moved to Sangamon county in the spring of 1817 and settled on Horse Creek, built a cabin and raised a crop that year, with the assistance of William Nelson. He was probably the first settler in that part of Sangamon county, and probably raised the first crop in that part of the county and was among the earliest settlers of the county. His son

James was quite young when his father moved to this state.

James R. Lucas also came to Christian county in 1836 and first located on the west side of Flat Branch timber, where he lived about five years, when he moved to Taylorville in April, 1840. He was the first landlord of the "Lucas Tavern," afterwards known as the "City Hotel," and located on the north side of the square where the Jayne & Cheney building now stands.

Lucas was born in Tennessee, Oct. 7, 1807, and came with his father, Edward Lucas, to Sangamon county, and settled on Horse Creek in 1827. He was married to Miss Elizabeth M. Harris, daughter of Isaac Harris, in 1828. Mr. Lucas was elected the first constable in Taylorville precinct, after the organization of the county; he died June 2, 1862.

Frederick Hammer was also a prominent settler in 1836; he lived to an advanced age and died Nov. 26, 1866.

James Waddell, an old settler, settled upon and improved a farm now adjacent to Taylorville; he died on this place and the farm passed into the hands of James Young.

Lewis H. Jernigan was born in Tennessee in 1808; emigrated to this county and settled on Bear Creek in the year 1836; was married in Tennessee to Miss Sallie Currie. They came to this country in wagons drawn by oxen.

Isaac Harris, a native of Nashville, Tenn., was born in 1780; married to Miss Rhoda Parker of Virginia in 1802, and emigrated to Sangamon county, Illinois, in December, 1820; moved to Christian county in the fall of 1836; located and improved a farm four miles east of Taylorville where he spent the remainder of his years.

Among others who came to this county during the year 1836 were Ellington Adams,

a native of Kentucky, who emigrated with his family and settled and improved a farm on the ridge five miles above Stonington; Hiram Walker, a native of Virginia, purchased and located on a farm six miles northeast of Taylorville, near the Flat Branch timber; Rev. Isaac Haines, a native of Virginia, born in 1809, emigrated to this State and preached for two years, 1836-7, on the Buckhart Circuit. He was highly esteemed for his many Christian virtues. Died in September, 1838, and left descendants residing in this county.

Henry Dickerson came also in the spring of this year. He served as Constable and Justice of the Peace in Taylorville precinct for many years and died in Johnson township. He was a man of strong convictions and had the nerve to follow them. At one time when summoned to serve upon the jury in Circuit Court he refused to serve and publicly stated that he would not serve because "there were two murderers on the jury and he would not serve with them." He was excused.

Judge Wm. S. Frink figures prominently in the early history of this county; was born in Connecticut in December, 1790; moved with his father to Stonington, Conn., where he lived until he was forty-one years old; in 1831, he went to New York City, where he engaged in business for three years; in May, 1837, he with his family emigrated to this state and settled at Allenton in this county, where he resided until January, 1853, when he moved to Taylorville; he was a soldier of the war of 1812. He took quite an active part in the organization of the county, and by his efforts as much as any one else, was due the acquisition of the towns of Pana, Assumption and Prairieton to Christian county; he was elected Probate Judge Aug. 7, 1843, for a

term of four years, and it is said that on Court days, the Judge would be seen entering town with the archives of the office in a basket on his arm; he also held other positions of honor and trust; he resided in Taylorville until his death, which occurred about sixteen years ago. He lived to the ripe old age of ninety-seven and was much honored and respected by all who knew him.

Wm. L. Hammer, who recently died at Decatur, was also one of the pioneer settlers of this county; he was born in Kentucky, Nov. 2, 1817, and at the age of ten years, emigrated with his father to Sangamon county, Illinois, in 1827, where he lived until the spring of 1837; at this date he removed with his father and family and settled on the Flat Branch in Prairie-ton township. At the first general election held after the organization of the county in August, 1839, he was elected Constable of Stonington precinct and was selected as bailiff of the grand jury at the first term of the Circuit Court. It held its session in the open air where the present brick jail now stands. He served as Deputy Sheriff in 1844, and in 1846 was elected Sheriff. He was politically a Whig, and was very popular and influential in that party. October 11, 1853, he was married in Taylorville to Miss Isabella East. In December, 1854, they moved to Decatur, where he held many positions of honor and trust, and resided there until the time of his death, which occurred about two years ago.

In 1837, Thomas P. Chapman came to this county, and joined the Stonington colony at Old Stonington, where he continued to live until his death, Jan. 16, 1867, at the ripe age of 75. He was born in Stonington, Conn., Sept. 12, 1791. He served his country in the war of 1812 in the capacity of drummer boy. In early days he was a

strong Democrat. Upon meeting a new acquaintance, a familiar question with him is said to have been, "Be you a Whig or a Democrat?" His strong patriotic feelings led him, during the late rebellion, to be a "War Democrat," which culminated in his becoming a Republican and voting for Abraham Lincoln for President in 1864. On the formation of the county in 1839, he was chosen one of the first members of the Court, which station he filled with honor to himself and credit to his constituency. To his industry and perseverance, the citizens of Stonington settlement were much indebted for the establishing of a post office in their midst; he was first postmaster and carried the mails weekly to and from Taylorville on horseback; he held several offices of trust, and was extensively known throughout the county and highly esteemed for his many social virtues. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity, and at his death was buried with Masonic honors.

Nicholas Sanders was a native of Rhode Island; born April 7, 1805; emigrated to Christian county in the spring of 1837, and improved a farm on Flat Branch; he opened a store of general merchandise at this point in March, 1852, and remained in business for 16 years; his store formed the nucleus of the town called Sandersville in Stonington township.

Among others who came to this county this year, were Elijah Behymer, a native of Virginia; Presley Peak, born in Kentucky; Rev. Paris Pray of Connecticut; John Hill, Sr., from Kentucky, with his sons, James H., Terry and Gabriel; and Thomas S. Leachman, also from Kentucky.

Among others who came to this county in 1838 were Joseph A. Hailey of Kentucky, S. B. Sheldon of Massachusetts, Frank Haines and James Ferguson of Virginia.

During the year 1839 the county was organized and there was a great influx of population. Prominent among those who arrived at this date were Morgan Goode, at one time County Treasurer; Wm. Hargis, a Kentuckian; Joel Traylor, a native of South Carolina, and Levi W. Gooden.

David Rutledge, the "deer slayer" and "Nimrod" of the Flat Branch, was a native of Tennessee, born in Dickinson County in 1813. He emigrated to Christian County in 1840; was married to Miss Anna Harris, a daughter of Silas Harris, in 1844; he was a resident of May township; was very fond of the chase and devoted much time to hunting; it is said that he killed in one winter 48 deer, besides a large amount of smaller game.

John W. Wheat was born in New York, Sept. 25, 1819, and came to this county in 1840. In that year he taught the first school in Taylorville; was by profession a lawyer and was elected the second school commissioner of the county.

Daniel DeCamp settled in the county in June, 1843; was born in Virginia in 1824. For several years he was connected with Allen's Great Eastern Stage Line, which passed through the county. Was married, Oct. 7, 1847, to Miss Pernecy Langley, a daughter of Jesse Langley. He purchased the Blue Point farm and "stage stand" in February, 1851, and moved there the March following. His farm embraced over 200 acres of choice land, on which the town of Edinburg is now located. Mr. DeCamp is said to have been fond of hunting in his younger days; has been Justice of the Peace and held other offices of trust in his town and township. He served as Captain of Company D of the 130th Regiment Illinois Volunteers in the late rebellion.

Mr. DeCamp was highly respected by his

people and was of that peculiar type that attracted men to him; made warm friends and strong enemies. He died in Edinburg a few years ago at a ripe old age.

In recording the names of those men who have been connected with the history and development of Christian County among its earlier days, that of the late Major D. D. Shumway must not be forgotten. Though he did not become a resident until 1843, he made an honorable record, but like many others, did not live long afterwards to enjoy it; he was born in Massachusetts Sept. 28, 1813, where he resided until he reached the years of manhood. In 1834 he came west and settled first in Zanesville, Ohio, where he remained until 1837 when he came to Montgomery county, Illinois. While there, was elected and served a term as one of the County Commissioners' Court of Montgomery County; was also appointed Major of the State Militia. June 3, 1841, he was married to Miss Emily R. Rountree, daughter of the late Hon. Hiram Rountree of Hillsboro, Ill. In the spring of 1843, he removed to Christian County, first settling on wild prairie land about four miles east of Taylorville, where he improved a farm of several hundred acres. In 1851, he became a resident of Taylorville, where he engaged in merchandise, this being his occupation in former years, which he continued with success until 1858. He then retired from active business life, having accumulated considerable wealth. He was a member of the legal profession, and for many years held the office of Master in Chancery of the county. The Major was a gentleman of culture and taste, possessing a noble, generous disposition, and was highly esteemed among his fellow citizens. In politics he was a Democrat. During his residence in the county he was elected in

1845 a member of the legislature from the counties of Christian and Shelby, and at the following session was elected Clerk of the State Senate. In 1848 he was a member of the State Constitutional convention, and took an active part in its deliberations; was elected County Judge in November, 1857, for a term of four years; he was also interested in both the County and State Agricultural societies and one of the incorporators and directors of the Springfield & South-eastern R. R., and discharged the duties of many minor offices. Much credit is due him while in the legislature for the location of the Terre Haute & St. Louis R. R. through the southern part of this county, where have sprung into existence the flourishing towns of Pana and Rosemond. He was a prominent Mason, and in fact held the positions of W. M. of Mound Lodge and High Priest of Royal Arch Chapter at Taylorville for many years, and is said to have been a very bright Mason. While the writer had no personal acquaintance with him, he is informed that Major Shumway was a bright and intelligent man, a fluent speaker, good conversationalist and was very popular and much loved by those with whom he associated. He died in 1870, and was buried at the old homestead in Taylorville, where his body remained until a few years ago, when it was removed to the Taylorville cemetery.

Dr. Calvin Goudy was a native of Ohio; born June 2, 1814; emigrated with his parents to Indiana in 1826, thence to Illinois; in 1832 locating at Vandalia. He graduated at the St. Louis Medical College in the spring of 1844. Soon thereafter, in May, 1844, he located in Taylorville, where he acquired a lucrative practice and continued to reside until his death. Dr. Goudy was a very scholarly man and the people

of this county are indebted to him for preserving in the form of notes and manuscript the names and other biographical sketches of the earlier settlers of this county, together with the incidents connected with the early settlement. Had it not been for the foresight of Dr. Goudy in preserving these matters, it would be impossible at this day to give the citizens any accurate idea of many of the early settlements or of the hardships they endured.

The writer of this article feels more than grateful to the forethought and wisdom of Dr. Goudy for preserving such facts and incidents as makes it possible to give the generations of the present day an insight into the character and history of the early settlers of this county.

Dr. Goudy was the publisher of the J. N. Picks Gazeteer of Illinois in 1834; also Wakefield's History of the Black Hawk war and Goudy's Almanac for several years, and issued a journal known as the Common School Advocate, which is said to have been the first journal devoted exclusively to the cause of education in the Great North-west.

In 1847 he was elected Probate Judge of this county; in 1856, was elected to the legislature from Christian and Montgomery counties, and it is said that great credit is due him for having obtained the passage of the bill creating the "Normal University" and the Chicago Times of 1860 in speaking of that bill gives much credit to Dr. Goudy of Christian county. He, at one time, was Professor of Chemistry in the Rock Island Medical College and delivered a course of lectures on Chemistry before a class of some eighty students. He erected the first steam mill in Taylorville in the year 1850, which was a great public benefit and added largely to the improvement of the town; he served the county in many official

capacities, and is said to have been an efficient officer and a man of integrity. He took a great interest in church work, and especially in Sabbath schools, and represented the Presbyterian church at its General Assembly in New York. In May, 1876, he was married to Miss Martha A. Mayhood of Codaz, Ohio, to whom were born eight children, and it has been said of him, "the record of his life is complete. It is that of one who amidst the toils and hardships of our early history held fast his integrity and manhood, and moulded upon his associates the virtues of his character. This is the reward of the righteous, and many arise to call him blessed."

Dr. J. H. Clark, a Kentuckian, settled first in Johnson township in the spring of 1844, and was a member of the County Court when the second courthouse was built. He moved to Taylorville and there engaged in the practice of medicine for a great many years prior to his death.

Joseph Edwards, a native of Ireland, settled on Coal Creek in this county March 26, 1845. He was one of the noted eighteen voters of "Stone Coal Precinct"; was a man known for his candor and integrity and exercised a commanding influence in that section of the county.

Another early and prominent settler in Stone Coal, now Pana, was Wm. Pryce; born in England in 1817; came to this county in 1845; taught the first school in that part of the county; was deputy tax collector in 1845 and held other offices of trust.

Elijah Duncan, a native of North Carolina, settled on the west side of Bear Creek in 1847; there was born to him sixteen children. Wm. A. Welsh, a native of Tennessee, settled on South Fork in 1849; Wm. S. Berry settled four miles south of Taylorville in 1849.

In the foregoing we have attempted to give the names of the early settlers of this county, together with the date of their arrival in the county, and the characteristics and public positions held by them; and in giving these facts or sketches of the lives of these people, we have been compelled to rely largely upon the notes of Dr. Goudy. We have found some whom he had failed to mention, and it may be that there are others that we have failed to learn of, but the writer has done the best he could to ascertain the names and date of the coming of the early settlers. It is certainly gratifying to those who are friends and descendants of the early settlers to have due credit given to them for their participation in the early events of the county.

The writer feels that great credit is due to these noble men who were willing to make the sacrifices they did for the purpose of settling up a wild country, barren of comforts and even the necessities of life; these people were brave and courageous; they saw in the character of the country the fertility of the soil the probable outgrowth of the county and the prospect for making their children and their descendants comfortable and happy homes, and in the subduing of this country from a wild and almost uninhabitable waste, they builded better than they knew, and we have for them the profoundest respect and admiration, and take pleasure in expressing it.

#### THE ORGANIZATION AND GROWTH OF CHRISTIAN COUNTY.

In the year 1839, the legislature of the State of Illinois, then in session at Vandalia, created Dane County under an act entitled "An act to establish the County of Dane," and this act gave the boundaries of the

county as "all that tract of country lying within the following boundaries, to-wit: Beginning where the third principal meridian crosses the north fork of the Sangamon river; thence down said river to the line between Sections Nine and Ten, in Township Fifteen (15), North of Range Three West; thence south to the southeast corner of Section Four in Township Fourteen North, Range last aforesaid; thence West three miles by the surveys; thence south three miles by the surveys; thence west three miles by the surveys; thence south to the southern boundary of Township Eleven (11), Range last aforesaid; thence east with the surveys to the Third Principal Meridian; thence north to the place of beginning, shall constitute the County of Dane."

"Approved Feb. 15, 1839. Thos. Carlin, Governor."

It will be observed that the County of Dane, as created by this act of the legislature, did not include that territory now known as towns of Pana, Assumption, and Prairieton. The first petition was entrusted to Colonel Bond to present to the legislature, and when the act was passed, making the Third Principal Meridian the eastern boundary of the newly formed county, the inhabitants of the district, especially those residing east of the boundary, were not well pleased. It was expected that the county would extend six miles further and take in the towns above enumerated, but for some cause this part of the petition was ignored, and this left the east tier of townships now belonging to Christian county still a part of Shelby county. By the efforts of Judge Fink, William B. Hall and Aaron McKenzie petitions were circulated over Shelby county favoring the annexing of these townships to Christian.

Proper certificates were obtained from

Jesse Oliver, County Clerk of Shelby county, showing the willingness of the people of that county to make this tier of townships a part of Dane county, and thereupon a law was enacted adding to the County of Dane, Townships Eleven, Twelve and Thirteen and the south half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of Fourteen, North of Range One, East of the Third Principal Meridian, thus extending the County of Dane to the present boundaries of the County of Christian, and added thereto 80,640 acres more than was allotted to it by the original act. This was indeed a wise provision as it made Christian (then Dane) of better proportions and of sufficient size to properly maintain its organization, buildings and other expenses incident to the carrying on of county government without burdening the people with taxation.

We are pleased to note that the addition of these townships proved a very valuable acquisition to Christian county, upon which are now located some of the most important cities and villages in the county—many railroad facilities, and the lands are very fertile; besides it has been demonstrated that they contain a very valuable coal deposit, and no part of the county can be said to be any richer, more productive or enterprising than this acquisition. The act creating the County of Dane also provided for the appointment of commissioners to locate the county seat, and in pursuance of such act, Benjamin Mitchell of Tazewell county, John Henry of Morgan county and Newton Walker of Fulton county were appointed commissioners to locate the county seat of Dane.

The town of Allenton, then located about a mile and a half northeast of the present county seat, and on what was recently known as the David Hall farm, and the town of Edinburg, then located about a mile

and a half northwest of the present county seat on what is now known as part of the George W. Vollentine farm, were both competitors for the county seat. The commissioners met at the town of Allenton on the 20th day of May, 1839, were sworn by Squire Ketcham to faithfully and impartially discharge the duties imposed upon them and proceeded to locate the seat of Justice. They at last determined upon the West Half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of the Northeast Quarter ( $\frac{1}{4}$ ) of Section Twenty-seven (27), Township Thirteen (13) North, Range Two (2) West of the Third Principal Meridian as the most eligible place. A man by the name of M. Eastham, then being the proprietor of said land, was required to give bond and security conditional for the conveyance of a public square of not less than two acres of said land to said county, on which to locate a courthouse, and for the payment of Three Thousand Dollars in cash. This record was filed by the said commissioners in the office of C. R. Matheny (Clerk of Sangamon county) on May 24, 1839. This fixed the county seat in its present location, and the town was shortly thereafter named Taylorville; the land upon which it was located was entered by Daniel C. Goode, a former citizen of this county, in the year 1835, and conveyed by him to Marvellous Eastham and others. This deed was acknowledged before Eli Matthews, J. P., on May 24, 1839, and was witnessed by the Hon. Stephen A. Douglas.

The county seat was surveyed and platted by T. M. Neal, County Surveyor of Sangamon county, by a company composed of Dr. Richard F. Barrett, Hon. John Taylor, Marvellous Eastham and Robert Allen, citizens of Springfield, Ill.

As the county seat was located upon private property, it became necessary under the

law for the owners of such private property to pay a bonus of Three Thousand Dollars, to be used in public improvements, and this company agreed to pay said amount and executed their obligations therefor. The obligations were not paid at maturity, and suit was instituted thereon and settlement was made. By the terms of the settlement the company agreed to convey to the county "the public square and seventy-eight town lots in Taylorville"; it is said that these lots were afterwards sold at merely nominal prices by the county authorities to persons agreeing to improve them, and we are informed from the pen of an old settler that "the location of the seat of justice was looked upon by the old settlers as an important event in the history of the county. It was determined to honor the occasion in a suitable manner; therefore a sumptuous dinner was given to the proprietors at the house of Daniel C. Goode, the former owner of the land. The dinner was supplemented with an ample supply of 'old Monongahela.' Some of the guests, feeling its exhilarating effects, proceeded to name the new county seat, and that in so doing, it should be in honor of one of the notable guests present. The proposition was received with hearty eclat. In response to a toast it was named '*Taylorville*,' in honor of Hon. John Taylor of Springfield, Ill., one of its proprietors."

It is said by some that there is nothing in a name; by others, that the name is everything. In this case, however, it must appear to have been unfortunate that the "old Monongahela" caused the guests of that occasion to have conceived the idea that Taylorville would always remain a small village; they did not understand the capacity of the country surrounding it, and if the City of Taylorville should grow to a popu-

lation of 100,000 or more, the word "ville" would still carry with it the idea of a small village and keep the inhabitants constantly explaining that it is not such, but has grown to be a city.

The location of the county seat at Taylorville undoubtedly created considerable comment and more or less dissatisfaction, as it is said by the *Springfield Journal* of the date of Sept. 20, 1839, which seemed to be in touch with matters in this county at that time, "that the county seat was not located in accordance with the implied wish of nine-tenths of the citizens, is a proposition which has never been denied by any person residing therein, but on the contrary, was located in opposition to their wishes. The citizens held a meeting (and there was quite a respectable collection of people before the location was made), expressing a desire to have Allenton or Edinburg selected. There was not a dissenting voice in the meeting. Yet the commissioners wholly disregarded this expression of the citizens."

It may be that as the population of the county at that time was mostly in the western part thereof that the location of the county seat at Taylorville created some dissatisfaction, but it certainly was not an unjust act of the commissioners.

The commissioners doubtless realized that sooner or later other parts of the county would be fully populated, and in view of the possibilities of a settlement of the county in all its parts at some future period, and the centrality of the location of Taylorville, that the choice was a wise one. By reason of the county seat being centrally located Christian county has avoided the bitter county seat contest that has grown up in other counties where the county seat had been located to one side or the other.

We are told by Dr. Goudy that this

county was called Dane "in compliment to Nathan Dane," who had been a member of Congress and rendered prominent as the author of that celebrated Northwestern Ordinance by which that large territory was forever consecrated to freedom.

The act was passed by Congress on the 13th of July, 1787. In a speech at Boston shortly after the nullification times of 1832 Daniel Webster, in referring to Hayne's speech in an ironical manner of "one Nathan Dane," exclaimed scornfully, "Mr. Hayne calls him 'one Nathan Dane!' I tell you, my fellow citizens, that Nathan Dane was no Federalist, and, that as author of the Northwestern Ordinance, his name is as immortal as if it were written on yonder firmament, blazing forever between Orion and Pleiades."

This statement is made, as on it hinged the changing of the name Dane to that of Christian. It was rumored that Dane was a rank old "Federalist," and effectually used by those seeking the change. The county at that time, as now, was Democratic, and the term "Federalist" was distasteful—often used as a term of opprobrium towards their opponents in those partisan days.

The name Dane was suggested and first put in the original petition, asking for the new county, by William S. Frink, a prominent "Whig" politician at that period, who took an active part in the formation of the county. This fact gave coloring to the charge. At the time he thought little about the political proclivities of the author of the celebrated ordinance, but selected the name from his known national reputation; and from the fact that in the great Northwest there was no county by that name, thus avoiding a too frequent use of names common in counties and towns in this and other states. Since, however, a county in Wis-

consin has been called Dane. Daniel C. Goode, an old settler and an uncompromising Democrat, circulated petitions to have the name changed. In aid of the movement a mass meeting of the citizens of the county was held on the open prairie where the court-house now stands; Thomas P. Bond addressed the meeting; made the motion which was adopted, substituting the name "*Christian*" for that of "*Dane*." This name was suggested from the fact that many of the inhabitants at that time were from Christian county, Ky. The change was effected and legalized by an act of the legislature passed Feb. 1, 1840. Hon. Thomas J. Nance was the representative of the district in the legislature, and it was through his efforts that the prayer of the petitioners was granted, and the bill became a law. The records and proceedings of the county for the first year after its organization appear under the name "*Dane*." There was no particular notation of the change of the name of the county upon the records. It does appear upon the records of the County Commissioners' Court that on Dec. 11, 1839, the County Commissioners' Court convened as commissioners of the County of Dane, and on that day adjourned until court in course; then on March 2, 1840, the County Commissioners' Court again convened as the County Commissioners' Court for the County of Christian, and no mention or other record is made of the change from Dane to Christian.

At a later term, however, several reports of commissioners appointed as road viewers, and several orders for services of the different officers of the court were allowed, and in these it is recited that they were for the "County of Christian alias Dane." And this is the only mention that is made of the change.

It seems strange that a matter of so much importance, and in which so much interest was being taken by the inhabitants, that the change from Dane to Christian county was not particularly noted upon the records. No one man has any particular claim over others in the organization of the county.

Many of the inhabitants then residing in all parts of the county took an active part, and were very much interested in this organization, and it is said that prominent among them was Col. Thomas P. Bond, Judge W. S. Frink, Daniel Miller, Gabriel R. Jernigan, Jesse Murphy, William S. Ricks, Aaron McKinzie, A. D. Northcut, Amos Richardson, William B. Hall and others.

After the county seat had been located it then became necessary to arrange the courts and offices for the transaction of the business of the county.

The first election for county officers was held on the first Monday of April, 1839. The county was divided into three precincts, the north precinct, with the voting place at Buckhart Grove; centre precinct, with voting place at Allenton, and the south precinct, with voting place at the house of John Z. Durbin.

The judges of this election for Buckhart were James Fletcher, George D. Pearson and John George; clerks, Samuel Virden and Gustavus A. Kilbourn. For Allenton judges were John Estes, Joshua Brents and Isaac Harris; clerks, Thomas S. Leachman and Jesse Murphy. At Durbins the judges were Richard Simpson, Isaac Logston and Thomas Durbin; clerks, William Durbin and Christ K. Durbin.

The officers elected at this time were Thomas P. Chapman, Peter Porter and Gavin Ralston, Sr. Members of the County Commissioners' Court, E. S. Young, Clerk

of the County Court; Thomas W. Davis, Probate Justice; William S. Ricks, Sheriff; Benjamin Williams, Coroner; H. M. Vandever, Recorder, and John S. Stockton, County Surveyor.

The law required the judges of the several precincts to meet at Allenton and canvass the votes and deliver to the officers elected a certificate of their election, which they did, and declared the officers above named as elected.

The poll books were retained by the judges until the County Clerk was qualified, when they were to be delivered to the Clerk, and it became his duty to make a transcript of the votes so returned and transmit the same to the Secretary of State, which was done, and we are informed the returns were mailed at Blue Point, the then nearest post-office, being about 12 miles distant.

The total number of votes polled at this election was 160; the population of this county was then only about 1,400.

The County Commissioners' Court at that time, so far as the business transactions of the county was concerned, corresponded with our present Board of Supervisors, and was composed of three commissioners. The first commissioners selected for the county were Gavin Ralston, Peter Porter and Thomas P. Chapman. They met and held their first session of court at Taylorville on Monday, April 15, 1839. Their first act was to order the Clerk to procure blank books for keeping of records of the county commissioners', recorder's office and school commissioners' office; they next divided the county into four districts for the purposes of assessment, numbering the districts from one to four inclusive, beginning with the north part of the county and dividing the territory of the county as well as they could between these four districts; thereupon John

S. Stockton was appointed Assessor of the first district, Daniel C. Goode of the second district, Thomas P. Bond of the third district and A. Council of the fourth district. The County Commissioners then ordered the Clerk to purchase a county seal for Dane county.

On the next day, April 16, the Court again met and appointed Jesse Murphy Collector for the County of Dane; Gabriel Jennings, Treasurer of the County of Dane, and Horatio M. Vandever, School Commissioner of the County of Dane. It then proceeded to divide the county into seven road districts and appointed Martin Hinkle, Supervisor of the first road district, John G. Fletcher of the second road district, David Simmons of the third road district, Allen Peabody of the fourth road district, William B. Hall of the fifth road district, Presley Peak of the sixth road district and Francis Adams of the seventh road district, and assigned to each of the supervisors so appointed a particular road, being principally parts of the road then described as extending from Springfield to Terre Haute, Springfield to Charleston and Springfield to Taylorville. This was all of the business transacted at that meeting.

The County Commissioners' Court again met on June 24, 1839, this being the June term thereof. At this meeting they drew lots as to who should be next elected. Gavin Ralston drew No. 1, Peter Porter No. 2 and Thomas Chapman No. 3.

At this meeting the county commissioners made the following order: "Ordered, that the courthouse be let out to the lowest bidder, the undertaker giving bond with approved security. Description of the courthouse being 36 by 30 ft., 21 ft. high, and to be fenced in a workmanlike manner."

Notices were then directed to be issued for the August election.

On Monday, Aug. 12, 1839, the county commissioners ordered the Treasurer to collect from the proprietors of Taylorville \$1,000, to apply to the building of the courthouse in Taylorville.

In speaking of the road supervisors being assigned to certain districts and their duties to look after particular roads in the county, it must be remembered that the county, at that time, had less public highways than there are now railroads in the county. The road known as the Springfield and Terre Haute road traversed the northern part of the country, passing through Mt. Auburn and the highway known as the Springfield and Shelbyville road passes through the more central part of the county, striking Blueville, Old Edinburg and Allenton and a point near Pana. After the location of Taylorville this road was changed so as to pass through Owaneco, Taylorville, Blueville, thence to Rochester and Springfield; afterwards there was a road laid out from Taylorville to Hillsboro. These constituted perhaps the entire public highways of the county at that time: the public was then served by running stage lines along these roads at such seasons as was practicable, and people living off of these highways were compelled to reach different parts of the county by traveling through the prairie grass. In some instances, trails had been formed so as to form a kind of a path along which the people traveled, but in most cases the travel was across swampy, flat prairie without anything to guide or direct, except known points of timber. The inhabitants of Christian county, however, were instinctively progressive and were not slow in discovering that to constitute a habitable country it was necessary to build roads and

bridges. As soon as the revenue of the county would permit, the good work began, and we are told by the old settlers that a road was surveyed and located between Taylorville and Mt. Auburn and between Taylorville and many other points in the county as rapidly as it could be done. From an examination of the County Commissioners' Court it appears that the question of building and repairing roads constituted one of the main objects to which the attention of this Court was called.

The trail was sufficient for the savage who raised no crops, nothing to be hauled upon the highway and cared for nothing but the present, but to the man of energy, of care for the future and looking forward to an age of prosperity, the trail would not answer the purpose, consequently it became necessary to build these highways traversing the different parts of the county and connecting the people with other localities by which they could exchange their commodities. From the small beginning of highways thus described, few, imperfect and rude as they were, a system of commercial intercourse was started between the early settler of this county and the localities more favorably situated along the river and used for trading posts, and as business centers, and from that day until the present there has been a steady improvement not only in the numbers of the highways, but in their condition until nearly every section of land in the county is almost, if not entirely, surrounded by good highways, suitable for the convenience of the farmer, and for the most parts of the year constitute the best highways in the world, excluding the macadamized roads: as the value of lands advance and the people become more prosperous it is to be hoped that good roads for all seasons of the year may take the place of the

dirt road that can not be made to serve the interests of the traveling public during very muddy seasons. There is no improvement that would develop a country more rapidly, more surely increase the value of its land than a good system of roads so built as to afford easy and rapid traveling at all seasons of the year. Even if such roads were built by special assessment of the lands benefited the increased value of the farm, the pleasures and benefits accruing to the home would more than compensate for the expense. *Let us have a better class of roads.*

#### TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATION.

In the early 60's there began to grow in this community a feeling that the business interests of the county should not be left to be determined alone by the County Commissioners' Court. That court, being composed of only three members, was not able to appreciate the wants of the several localities of the county, and that a want of a representative from many of the localities prevented such localities from receiving the attention that they felt was needed. A feeling to adopt township organization sprang up and grew rapidly, desiring to distribute the power for the making of public improvements and apportion the objects for which the finances of the county were disbursed.

Township organization had been adopted in New York and many of the eastern states, and was highly approved in many of these states, and so much were the people of many counties of Illinois pleased with the workings of township organization that a rapid demand for the adoption of township organization sprung up all over the state.

Many of the people of Christian county were also thoroughly imbued with the idea that township organization was best for the entire interests of the community, and so

persisted in their demands for the submission of this question that it was finally submitted to a vote of the people to adopt or reject township organization. It was defeated at two elections, but at the third election, held on Nov. 7, 1865, the proposition to adopt township organization was carried, and A. G. Neel of Pana, Dial Davis of Mt. Auburn and J. H. Vandever of Taylorville were appointed commissioners to divide the county into towns.

At the March term, 1866, the commissioners reported that they had divided the county into 17 towns, as follows:

Assumption, Bear Creek, Buckhart, Adams, Douglas, King, Locust, Mosquito, Mt. Auburn, Pana, Nevada, Ricks, Rosemond, Stonington, South Fork, Smith and Taylorville. At the April special term, 1866, the name of the town of Adams was changed to Prairieton; the town of Smith to May; the town of Douglas to Johnson, and the town of Nevada to Greenwood. With these changes the names adopted, that the judges suggested, have remained as the names of the several towns of this county to the present time. The first board of supervisors was composed of Jacob Overholt of Assumption, James H. Hill of Bear Creek, John Sharp of Buckhart, George W. Traylor of Greenwood, T. B. Anderson of Johnson, William A. Potts of King, B. C. Cochran of Locust, John S. Fraley of May, James M. Davidson of Mosquito, John M. Hill of Mt. Auburn, W. B. Little of Pana, W. K. Eaton of Prairieton, James H. Cisne of Ricks, Thomas E. Simpson of Rosemond, Gavin Ralston of South Fork, Asa Bowman of Stonington and W. W. Anderson of Taylorville.

W. W. Anderson was elected chairman of this board of supervisors and from that time until the present the business interests

have been conducted and controlled by a board of supervisors, and they have had the complete control of the finances of the county, which have at all times been managed with reasonable economy.

This board has had charge of all public buildings and improvements of every kind and character and assisted in the building of bridges in the several localities of the county, so that it may be said that the public improvements and bridges over the larger streams of the county are in a reasonably good condition, and the county has not at any time had a heavy indebtedness imposed upon it. The people have at no time suffered because of taxation for county purposes, and to-day no indebtedness exists against the county, and all public improvements have been made at such times and under such circumstances as not to burden the people with heavy taxation.

#### FINANCES OF THE COUNTY.

It is but natural, and we presume common, that the finances of all counties at their organization are meager and require the most rigid economy to carry on the county government. In the year 1839 H. M. Vandever, who was then Clerk of the Circuit Court, was by the County Commissioners' Court authorized to purchase such records as were necessary for the recording in the several departments: the bill rendered by him showed that he purchased supplies for the Recorder's office to the amount of \$24.37; Circuit Clerk's office, \$82; County Clerk's office, \$93.25; School Commissioner's office, \$8.87; jury book, \$1.25, and county seal, \$12, making a total of \$221.74. The bill rendered by him shows the rigid economy exercised both by him and those with whom he was associated in the purchasing of equipments for the several of-

fices. It is said by Dr. Goudy "that the clerks used a wooden bench with a screw fixed in a frame for more than twenty years to take impressions of the official seal. It cost \$2.50. This economical outfit lasted for several years."

\* \* \* \* \*

"The court appropriated at the rate of \$4 per month to pay rent for the use of the Circuit and County Clerks. The Ralston building was the first one in Taylorville used for that purpose after its location as the county seat. It was moved from Edinburg."

The writer, in a conversation with W. A. Goodrich, one of the early settlers who came to this county in 1840 and resided at Mt. Auburn, learned that the county was not only economical with reference to the purchasing of records and the payment of salaries, but Goodrich says the county actually had nothing, not even a hitching post, near the old court-house; that he came here in 1840 to have a deed recorded, and not finding a post, fence or tree in the vicinity of the courthouse, was compelled to tie his horse to the door latch while he went up to have a deed recorded, and says that is the first time he met H. M. Vandever, who was then recorder, both of whom afterwards became life-long friends and prosperous citizens of the county.

The necessity of this economy was well understood by the officers in charge of the finances of the county. At the June term, 1839, of the Commissioners' Court, they levied a tax of 70 cents on the \$100 of all the real and personal property of the County of Dane.

It should be borne in mind that the title to much of the lands, in the county at that time, was in the government, and not yet

subject to taxation, which made the real taxable property of the county very small. The valuation for taxation of that year was \$108,630, upon which the 70 cents was levied and brought a total revenue of \$760.41. This is but a mere pittance when compared with the taxable property and revenue of the county at the present day.

An examination of the record discloses that the total valuation of the property of the county for the year 1903 was 39,571.875 dollars; the assessed valuation, 7,914.375 dollars, and the total taxes raised by this assessment were 351,587.28 dollars. By contrasting these figures with those of the assessment of 1839, we appreciate, to some extent, the vast improvement that has taken place in the county since its organization. It should be borne in mind that such lands as were taxable and the best lands of the county in that day were worth only from \$1.25 to \$5 per acre. The same lands are now worth from \$100 to \$125 per acre.

The scanty revenue made it impossible to construct therefrom a courthouse and other public buildings, and the policy of requiring the proprietors of the county seat to contribute \$3,000 to the funds of the county to assist in building a courthouse was a wise one, as was required when the county seat was located at Taylorville.

At the June term, 1839, of the County Commissioners' Court, an order was made to build the first courthouse at Taylorville, in the following language: "Ordered, that the courthouse be let out to the lowest bidder, the undertaker giving bond with approved security; description of the courthouse to be 36x30 ft. x21 ft. high, and to be fenced in a workmanlike manner." At the August term, 1839, of said court, the County Treasurer was authorized to collect from the proprietors of Taylorville \$1,000,

to be used in the building of the courthouse; this courthouse was completed in September, 1840, at a cost of \$2,350, but the proprietors of Taylorville failed to pay the money, according to contract.

At the March term, 1840, of the County Commissioners' Court, they ordered the Treasurer to demand immediate payment of Eastham, Taylor, Allen and Barrett of the moneys they had agreed to pay, and if not paid to sue the said proprietors for the same. Suit was brought and a committee, consisting of H. M. Vandever, T. P. Bond and Jesse Langley, was appointed by the commissioners to settle the suit and accept in payment thereof Taylorville real estate. The suit was finally compromised by the proprietors of Taylorville deeding to Christian county 78 lots, including the public square in the Village of Taylorville, "or  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the present town of Taylorville," all of which, except the public square, were afterwards sold, by order of the County Commissioners, and the money paid into the treasury.

While the courthouse that had just been completed was not a costly structure nor of great proportions, it was all that was needed by the citizens of the county at that time. It answered their purposes; furnished offices for the county officers and a courtroom commensurate with the wants of the people; was hailed by the inhabitants of the county with probably as much delight and satisfaction as the new courthouse that was completed at Taylorville in the year 1902. The offices and court up to this time had apparently been of a transitory character and located wherever convenient, but now they were all gathered under one roof and the people appreciated the benefits that accrued from having the officers of the county assembled at one place, and a courtroom that

was sufficiently large to accommodate the few trials that were then instituted in our courts. The offices were on the second floor and courtroom on the first.

#### COUNTY JAIL.

On April 4, 1846, the commissioners directed that a contract be made on Monday, the first day of June next, to erect a jail of the length of 20 feet, the width of 16 feet and two stories high, with two rooms on the first floor and one on the second, the lower walls to be made of hewn timbers 10 inches thick and to be constructed by building two walls 8 inches apart and the space between the walls filled with timbers 8 inches thick set on end; to be built of white or burr oak with two doors to the lower story and one to the upper; all to be placed upon a stone foundation. There was to be one window in each room in the first floor 12x18 inches with iron grates, two windows in the second story, 24x30 inches, with iron grates; the shutters were to be of the thickness of three one-inch plank lined on the inside with sheet iron.

The contract for the building of this jail was awarded to James C. Morrison about June 2, 1846, for the performance of which he executed a bond, and while the records are silent as to the price to be paid for this jail, orders were drawn payable to J. C. Morrison upon the contract to the amount of \$394.80; this jail was erected near the southeast corner of the square and located probably on the back of the lot now occupied by Ahlman's meat shop. This would not be a very safe place for the incarceration of criminals at the present day, but in those days the criminals did not have the many inventions and contrivances of escape that they do now, and this was reasonably safe for the prisoners of that day. I am in-

formed, however, that a negro who had escaped from his master in one of the Southern states was incarcerated in this jail and held for some time, but made his escape, luckily for him, the day before his master arrived.

Prior to the construction of this jail the prisoners of Christian county were confined in the jail at Springfield, as the records disclose that bills were paid by the county commissioners of this county to Sangamon county for the food and care of prisoners.

The next building erected by the county was a courthouse, being the second one built by the county. The records are not entirely clear as to the date at which the contract for this building was made. Some confusion grows out of the fact that a contract was first made with Squire & Overholt for its erection, which for some reason was not carried out, and afterwards a contract was made with Dennis & Ream of Springfield, Ill., to complete the building of the courthouse at a cost of \$13,526; under this contract the courthouse was completed in the year 1856. This courthouse, when completed, consisted of an office for the Circuit Clerk and Recorder, and a County Clerk's office. Afterwards vaults were added to each of these offices, and were supposed to be fire-proof. On the other side of the building on the lower floor were three rooms set apart, one for the Treasurer, one for the Sheriff, and one for the County Judge and for the Superintendent of Public Schools. There was a large hallway of the width of about 10 feet, running north and south the entire length of the building and separating the Clerk's offices from the other offices; there was an upper story consisting of the Circuit Court room, a small room for the jury, which was afterward converted into an office for the Circuit Judge; also a grand

jury room; the grand jury and Circuit Judge's rooms were used, when not otherwise occupied, by the petit juries in considering the cases submitted to them. This building served the purposes of the county until the year 1901, when it was sold to Mr. L. D. Hewitt and removed. This was the courthouse in which much of the important litigation of the inhabitants of the county was conducted; it was the scene of many a forensic battle; was the room in which many of the present members of the bar made their maiden effort; many were the trials of criminal cases in which the public were intensely interested upon one side or the other, and often did litigants assemble in this room with a host of friends arrayed upon each side, a feeling of bitterness of sufficient intensity existing to precipitate a battle between these friends had there not been some way of giving vent to the pent-up feelings of the contestants, but in the courtroom, before the court and jury, their rights and interests were submitted, passed upon and determined, and although in some cases justice may have miscarried, yet upon the whole, it can be well said that justice was reasonably well meted out, and had it not been for the courtroom and cool headed advocates employed upon each side to represent the interests of their respective clients and allay the intensity of the feeling that existed, many of these contests would have resulted in bloodshed, and by this means, the spilling of blood was averted and satisfaction given that was far above any that could have been realized by a hand to hand combat or settlement of the affray by battle.

The liberties and rights of many a poor, downtrodden and oppressed man and woman have been here preserved to them; the court, jury and bar have here stood like an impenetrable wall, protecting many in-

nocent victims from the ravages of an infuriated populace, from the frauds of the sharp, unscrupulous villain, from the conspiracies of the wicked, from the greed of the shylock, from the unfortunate position brought about by accident or ignorance, and while it is the pride of many that they have been able to spend a life without having been engaged in a law-suit, and many dread a contest in court, yet it is equally true that the courtroom is the asylum to which we all rush for safety in the hours of greatest peril, selecting the lawyer for our guide and the judge our arbiter. If there is one thing that the people of any county should remember above all others, it is that the courts finally determine and settle all of their differences, and that each man owes to every other an obligation to perform his duties as juror, when selected, or in any way, when called upon to aid the courts in the administration of justice, without flinching, without seeking to be excused because of some trivial matter, without shirking the duties that the laws have enjoined upon him as a good citizen.

Every citizen should remember that when he himself is in peril, his greatest desire is that his rights be determined by an upright judge, a just jury and a conscientious advocate.

These qualities are best preserved by an unflinching adherence of every citizen to the duties enjoined upon him by law.

The old courthouse is gone, but to the bar, many are the pleasant memories that cling around the scenes that transpired in that old courtroom, and while it has given way to a better and more pretentious building and courtroom, this will not, in all probability, be the scene of greater contests or produce brighter or more pleasant memories than the one that has passed away.

While Christian county has made such improvements and constructed such buildings as were necessary and convenient for the business interests of the county, it has not been unmindful of the poor; in 1870, a poor farm of 160 acres was purchased in the northern part of the town of Rosemond, for which the county paid \$6,400, and located thereon a building at a cost of \$3,534, which was burned in 1892, and a new one erected at a cost of \$4,500. A keeper is in charge of this poor farm and raises grain and other products thereon, and raises meat and vegetables to supply the inmates of the poor farm, and it is said that those who are so unfortunate as to become inmates of this house are well cared for.

During the same year (1870) the county erected the present jail at a cost of \$5,360, which took the place of the old one above described, and has since that time made quite a valuable addition thereto, practically doubling the capacity of the jail and making it more convenient; has improved its sanitary conditions; it is now a safe and wholesome place for the unfortunate ones who are incarcerated therein, and since the erection of the new jail the Sheriff or keeper thereof has constantly resided in rooms connected with it, and under the same roof. The jail is at present occupied by T. W. Brents, the present Sheriff of the county.

For several years prior to 1900, it became evident to all thinking people that the old courthouse was not sufficient to accommodate the courts of the county, preserve the records and files of the different offices and to meet the wants of the people, and that the time had come when a new courthouse should be built. The question was agitated, at least two or three years, before it was submitted to a vote of the people, and while it had many advocates, there were

quite a few who opposed the building of the courthouse, because they feared that it would burden the county with an indebtedness that it could not easily rid itself of; the Board of Supervisors had no money with which to build the courthouse, and they were powerless to levy a greater tax than was being levied for general purposes, except by a vote of the people. It therefore became necessary to submit to the voters of Christian county the question of authorizing the levy of a sufficient tax for this purpose. Accordingly A. S. Martin, Supervisor of the Town of Taylorville, introduced a resolution in the Board of Supervisors authorizing the levy of a courthouse tax to the amount of \$100,000, to be used in building a new courthouse. This resolution was adopted by a vote of 13 to 5 of the supervisors, but was, at the March meeting, 1900, reconsidered and rescinded by a vote of 12 to 5. However, at the June meeting, 1900, of the Board of Supervisors, a resolution to authorize the submission to a vote the levying of a special tax of \$75,000 for courthouse purposes, was introduced by the committee on public buildings and adopted by the vote of the following named supervisors: G. W. Adams, G. F. Barrett, T. T. Berry, J. E. Downs, O. B. Fraley, R. A. Gray, H. H. Herdman, A. S. Martin, H. O. Minnis, J. H. Morgan, F. F. Weiser, W. O. Wilcox and Joseph Hale, and this proposition was submitted to a vote of the people at the November election in 1900, and carried by a majority of 990 in a vote of 7,408; 10 townships gave a majority for the proposition, one had a tie vote and this gave a majority against the proposition; a majority of the votes of the county being in favor of the appropriation, the old courthouse was sold and immediate steps taken for its removal.

The board immediately advertised for plans and specifications for the new courthouse, many of which were submitted, but the plans of J. W. Gaddis, an architect of Terre Haute, Ind., were adopted by the building committee in February, 1901, and a contract for the building of the new courthouse was made upon the recommendation of the building committee by the Board of Supervisors with V. Jobst & Sons of Peoria, Ill., on June 3, 1901, for the amount of \$80,000. Owing to the increase in the price of building materials, it soon became evident to the committee and members of the Board of Supervisors that the amount authorized to be levied would not be sufficient to build such a courthouse as was needed, and the supervisors, after having respectively canvassed the matter with their constituents, determined that the appropriation would when desired be increased, and accordingly laid its plans for the construction of a courthouse with the furniture that would cost about \$100,000. The building was constructed as speedily as possible and completed Sept. 29, 1902, at a total cost of building and furniture of \$100,535.80. While the building was being built a vote for a future appropriation was had and adopted, and by the time the building was completed, the taxes had been levied and collected. When the courthouse was dedicated, it was fully paid for. The construction of the courthouse was under the immediate supervision of the building committee, which during the first year was composed of the following named gentlemen: Robert A. Gray, chairman; J. H. Morgan, A. S. Martin, A. B. Fraley and P. M. Klinefelter, but owing to the fact that during this time, an election was held to fill the places of the Supervisors whose term of office expired, some of them were

not candidates for reelection, and a new committee was composed of A. S. Martin, chairman; G. W. Adams, John Kennedy, O. B. Fraley and C. D. Cutler. It can be said to the credit of both of the committees, they carefully watched over the work as it progressed, investigating every detail and it may be well said that every dollar of the money appropriated by the people for the building of this court house, actually went into its construction, and as a result the money expended has produced a building that is a credit to the county and is estimated by many people to cost much more than it really did.

The corner stone of this building was laid with the usual formalities of the Masonic craft, the Grand Master C. F. Hitchcock of A. F. & A. M. of Illinois being present and participating in its exercises. The little box placed in the corner stone was filled with a short history of Christian county, prepared by the Committee, together with a copy of practically all of the papers published in the county, and a history of many of the churches, secret orders, building association and many other enterprises in which the people were interested, and this box was placed in the northeast corner and sealed by the Grand Master who pronounced the work to be "good work, true work and square work" and thereupon addresses were made by the Hon. James B. Ricks, Justice of the Supreme Court, Hon. Wm. T. Vandever, the Hon. W. M. Provine, all residents of Taylorville. The occasion was a memorable one, and the addresses were excellent, and well adapted to the occasion.

After the court house had been completed, it was duly and formally accepted by the Board of Supervisors, the Hon. R. W. Morrison presiding, and dedicated on the day of its acceptance.

The dedicatory exercises consisted of the usual and necessary action of the Board of Supervisors, music, and of addresses made by the Hon. I. W. Kitchell of Pana and J. C. McBride, of Taylorville, and closed by the address of R. W. Morrison, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors.

The writer of this article, J. C. McBride, desires to record the fact that he made the last address in the old court house and the first one in the new.

Christian county now has a beautiful and commodious courthouse of the length of 117 feet and of the width of 90 feet, three stories high with a room for the Board of Supervisors, County Superintendent of Schools, State's Attorney and a rest room for the ladies of the county on the lower floor; rooms for the County Judge, County Clerk, Sheriff, Treasurer, and Circuit Clerk on the second floor with a private office for each of the officers all nicely furnished with the best steel furniture; on the third floor is the Circuit Court room, Judge's room, room for the attorneys, library, grand jury room, two petit jury rooms, two witness rooms and other rooms not now needed or used; all of these rooms are supplied with the modern conveniences; it is remarked by many that the courtroom is of convenient size, and beautiful in appearance; in fact the whole courthouse from top to bottom is a credit to the county, and reflects honor upon its builders.

This courthouse would appear to a casual observer to meet the conveniences and requirements of this county for 100 years to come, but who can tell; measured by the progress of the past, the ingenuity of man, its wealth producing capacity, it may not supply the wants for a half century, but one thing is certain, it will meet the requirements for many years to come.

#### JUSTICES DISTRICTS.

The County Commissioners' Court at the June term, 1839, divided the county into four districts called by them justices districts, and an election for selecting Justices of the Peace and Constables of the respective districts was called for August 5, 1839. For the first district Thomas Young, Jesse Murphy and Isaac Harris were appointed Judges; for the second district Thomas Anderson, Robert Richardson and Francis Adams were appointed Judges; for the third district James Fletcher, Geo. Fearson and Geo. Dickerson were appointed Judges, and for the fourth district Elija Palmer and Peter Ketchum were appointed Judges. These districts were known as the Taylorville or Central District, Stonington District, North Fork District and South Fork District, and there were to be elected two Justices and two Constables in each of the districts, except the Taylorville or Central, which was to have three; the election was held at that time and at the respective voting places in the different districts, and for the Taylorville District W. M. Thomas, Eli Matthews and Richard Simpson were elected as Justices and James R. Lucas and John P. Nelson as Constables; for the Stonington District Peter R. Ketchum and David Simons were elected as Justices and Wm. L. Hammer Constable; for the North Fork District A. D. Northcut and James Baker were elected Justices of the Peace, and J. M. Fletcher and T. F. Farris Constables; for the South Fork, Presley Peck and Aquila Council were elected Justices and Amos Richardson and J. L. Cagle were elected Constables.

It appears from the records that J. I. Volentine and Samuel Brents were also elected as constables at this election, but it is un-

certain from which district. The highest vote received by any of those elected was 55 and the lowest 23, and the highest vote received by any of those defeated was 23 and the lowest 12, and while it is difficult to determine the exact number of voters, owing to the absence of the poll book, it is estimated that there were about 200 votes cast at this election in these four precincts, which shows the voting population of the county at that time; the voting was not by ballot as at the present time, but by viva voce, which vote when given was recorded. At the election succeeding this one and held August 3, 1840, the highest vote being for State Senator, shows E. D. Taylor, Democrat, to have received 208 votes and E. D. Baker, Whig, to have received 111 votes, making a total of 319 votes.

At the presidential election in November, 1840, Martin Van Buren received 147 votes and Wm. H. Harrison 89 votes, making the total number of votes cast at this election 236. At that time, however, the local officers were elected at the August elections, and not in November.

The above is a sufficient amount of the statistics of the elections held at about these times to show the number of electors in the county. The first Representative elected from this county was Martin White, and at the same election Aquilla Council was elected County Commissioner, Wm. S. Ricks, Sheriff; Jacob Lovely, Coroner; John C. Goode, Clerk of County Commissioners' Court, and Gabriel Jernigan, Treasurer, all Democrats, and at the election held August 2, 1841, Overton Williams and Richard Simpson appear to have been elected for County Commissioners and Leonard Kilburn for Treasurer (to fill a vacancy) and John W. Wheat for School Commissioner.

At the August election in 1842, H. M.

Vandever was elected Representative, Amos Richardson, Sheriff; and in October of the same year A. B. Peabody was elected County Surveyor and Thomas Dougherty County Recorder, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of H. M. Vandever, who had just been elected to the legislature, and at the election held August 7, 1843, W. S. Frink was elected Probate Justice, P. C. Ferguson, County Clerk; Thomas B. Dougherty, County Recorder; Jesse Elgan, County Commissioner; Wm. A. Goodrich, County Surveyor, Thomas S. Leachman, School Commissioner, and Jesse Murphy Assessor and Treasurer; at the election held in August, 1844, Wm. S. Ricks was elected as Representative from this county. The total votes cast at that election were 431; at the same election, Henry Hardin was elected Sheriff; Geo. Dickerson, Jesse Elgan and John H. Bilyeu, County Commissioners; G. B. Ketcham, Coroner, and O. B. Ficklin, Democrat, received a majority of 70 votes over U. F. Linder, Whig, as a candidate for Congress.

A review of the officers elected as above, and the votes which they received at the different elections will give to the reader a fair idea of the men who assisted in the organization of the county, with its early counselors, and carried the burden of the beginning of a wild and practically unsettled county.

It is quite clear that the offices held by the different men were anything but lucrative; in many instances it required a great sacrifice upon the part of the individuals to fill the offices of the county, but some one had to perform these duties, and no one was better qualified or more interested in having the duty faithfully performed than these men who were striving to build up a

county government in the wild prairies of Christian.

In many instances the record discloses that the officers remitted the small pittances allowed them by law for the services performed for the purpose of aiding the county.

#### CIRCUIT COURT.

In the year 1839, the counties of Sangamon, Tazewell, McLean, Livingston, Macon, Dane, Logan, and Menard composed the Eighth Judicial District of the State of Illinois, with the Hon. Sam'l H. Treat, presiding Judge; he held the first term of court at Taylorville on November 4, 1839, in a small frame house 12x14 owned by H. M. Vandever, and situated on the north side of the public square, and it is said that this small house had to serve the purpose of hotel, stage office and courtroom; from the representations of the oldest citizens, it is clear that houses were very scarce in Taylorville at that time. It is said in jury cases, that body had to retire for its deliberations out of doors under a black-jack tree where now stands the calaboose, accompanied by Deputy W. L. Hammer, who provided the jury with the necessaries of life, and such refreshments as the jury desire and the court will permit.

This improvised courtroom will be remembered by many of the older citizens as Dr. Chapman's office, and the old landmark has given place to a large brick building. The officers of the court were the Hon. Sam'l H. Treat, Judge; H. M. Vandever, Clerk; Wm. S. Ricks, Sheriff; David P. Campbell, State's Attorney; Benjamin Williams, Coroner.

The only attorney attending this term of court from abroad was the Hon. James C. Conkling of Springfield, and it is said the panel of grand and petit jurors made at the

first term of the County Court seemed to be based upon an assumed census of 100 persons, that is, single men and heads of families; these, with the county officials added, comprised nearly all the names in the county, excepting only some half dozen whom it was the intention to indict.

The first grand jury was composed of John Young, foreman; Berry Rose, Thomas P. Bond, Geo. D. Pearson, John Martin, David Cagle, James Weeden, Thos Young, Robert Richardson, John Finley, Jacob Wydick, E. J. Leigh, A. B. Peabody, Christopher Ketcham, Joshua Brents, Alfred Curry and Louis Jernigan, who, after being duly sworn, were charged by State's Attorney Campbell.

This grand jury retired, and after solemnly deliberating, returned into court an indictment against Thomas Farris, indicting him for challenging Thomas W. Davis to fight a duel with deadly weapons, and was based upon the following letter written by Farris to Davis:

"Dear Sir:—I take this method of finishing our career. I will give you the chance of a dewel. I would rather fight manley than to do any other way. I will give you a shott at 12 o'clock P. M.

"(Signed) T. V. E. FARRIS."

He was required to give bond, and at the June term, 1840, of said court, the case was again continued upon the affidavit of the defendant until the October term, 1840, when the case was tried and the defendant found not guilty.

There was also found at that term of court an indictment against Samuel McKinsey and Gabriel McKinsey, charging them with riot, who were tried at the June term, 1840, of the Circuit Court and found guilty, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$10 each;

this was all the work done by the grand jury at that term.

As appears from the records of the county there was no petit jury empaneled for the November term, 1839; the first petit jury ever empaneled in the county as appears by the records was at the June term, 1840, for the purpose of trying the case of the People vs. Samuel and Gabriel McKinsey, indictment for riot, and this jury was composed of Geo. Oller, Overton Williams, Simeon Brents, Wm. Sheldon, Ezekiel Young, Robert P. Langley, Wesley Westbrook, Henry Dixon, Henry Judy, Wm. Wallace, Isaac Richardson and Wesley Blount.

There was at the same term another jury empaneled and tried John Gilbert for selling liquor without a license, but the jury were unable to agree and were discharged, and these were all of the jury trials at that term of court.

In giving some of the reminiscences of this court. Mr. Goudy says of some of the early trials of the court: "Another case was Peter R. Ketcham vs. Gabriel McKenzie, action for slander; damages laid at \$2,000. J. C. Conkling, attorney for plaintiff. In the declaration, it was alleged that the defendant had used words to this import: "Old Pete Ketcham is a d—d old hog thief." This trial seemed to involve the whole county and elicited a great deal of interest. It was known to many as the Methodist preacher against the Roman Catholic; attorney B. S. Edwards conducted the defense. The jury found for the plaintiff \$47.08.

In making up their verdict, the jury seem to have entertained a very nice estimate of a man's character so as to take into consideration the fractional part of a dime.

Juries occasionally returned to the courtroom for further instructions from the

Judge. In one case, the jury failing to agree as to the facts in the premises returned for instructions. The Judge inquired as to the difficulty. The foreman responded with apparent honesty and simplicity: "Why, Judge, this 'ere is the difficulty: Some of the jury want to know whether that ar what you told us, when we first went out, was raley the law, or whether it was only just your notion." The Judge having informed the jury that such was the law in the premises, a verdict was reached accordingly.

In these days, Mr. Lincoln was a frequent visitor of the Christian County Court, and was at one time associated with Judge Vandever upon the trial of an important case with Judge Robbins of Springfield on the other side, and in reply to a point made, Judge Robbins said, "If that is so, I will agree to eat this desk." Mr. Lincoln very promptly replied: "Well, Judge, if you do eat that desk, I hope it will come out a brand new manufactured wagon."

Mr. W. A. Goodrich informs the writer that the convening of court was a great holiday with the people at that time, and everybody was anxious to attend court; it offered an opportunity for people to meet one another and talk of the many hardships that were endured by them; he says that on one occasion, probably in the year 1841, he came from Mt. Auburn to Taylorville to attend court and to his utter disgust found the one lodging place in the town fully occupied, but a friend invited him to go out with him to a log cabin that was then situated near where the Wabash depot is now and he would find a bed. When he arrived there he found a bed for them to occupy; the bedstead was made by boring a hole in one of the logs that formed the cabin, putting one end of a pole in the log and the

other resting on wooden forks standing on the floor, and the remainder of the bed was made up in the same crude manner, but he assured me that it formed a good resting place for a man who had traveled from Mt. Auburn in those days, and that he enjoyed the night's sleep very much.

It is said that hardly had the last peg been driven in the location of the county seat when James Harris commenced preparations for the erection of a two-story frame hotel, formerly known as a part of the Globe Hotel, and located on the north side of the public square. The want of accommodations compelled the use of it at first in an unfinished condition; a ladder was used to reach the upper story with its loose boards for a floor; its accommodations were necessarily limited.

The landlord was under the necessity of dividing his guests into squads or divisions, some retiring early only to be aroused to give place to another division as time crowded on to midnight. About the latter hour, the stentorian voice of the landlord could be heard calling the first lot to get up and give place to others; "that Judge Treat and other noted lawyers wished to turn in;" Judge Edwards of Springfield relates that he preferred the luxury of wrapping himself in the folds of his coat and taking the courthouse floor for it, where he could have the whole night to himself. In the early days of Christian county, and before Lincoln, Douglas, Davis and others had acquired the notoriety they afterwards enjoyed, they were often seen in attendance at the court of Christian county, and many and amusing are the anecdotes that the early settlers told concerning these honorable visitors. Of course everything that any of them said or did (and many things that never happened) are remembered by the

early settler and told by him, and notwithstanding the many hardships endured, he loves to recall these early days, and with pleasure recites his many adventures. There is nothing so pleasant to mankind as the memory of times and events in which he participated that tried men's souls.

The writer frequently conversed with Judge H. M. Vandever in the latter part of his life, and many were the interesting and profitable as well as amusing incidents that he could tell concerning the people of the early day, their struggles, and concerning the men who afterwards became so noted. He, too, looked upon the trials and tribulations of the early day, his struggles with poverty, his battling against inconveniences, as being happy days, and those which he loved to recall, which he did with credit to himself and pleasure to the listener.

#### BENCH AND BAR.

There is no class more intimately connected and associated with the public events of a community than the bench and bar.

The courts are the final arbiters of the disputes that arise in any community. Property rights, rights of personal liberty and all other matters over which a contention exists are finally determined by the courts, and these courts are valuable in proportion to the legal learning and integrity of the bench and bar and those summoned before this tribunal to assist in the administration of justice.

Inasmuch as the bench and bar sustains such a relation to the public events, it is proper in a work of this character to give a short history of the courts and of the bar, especially of the members of the bar that have passed away. It is fitting only to comment upon the records and events of the lives of the deceased members of the bar

and bench, leaving the events of those now living and the work that may have been performed, whether good or bad, to be judged by the people and recorded by another pen.

In times of public excitement and strife, the Judge upon the bench, and the advocate at the bar are the people to whom those connected in such strifes look for protection and are willing to confide their interests; the sterling qualities of the Judge, the able and earnest advocate always have and always will be admired by the people of the community not only for their character and ability, but for the power they possess of aiding in the building up or destruction of the rights of mankind, and for that reason, it for no other, they are entitled to have their names enrolled upon the history of a community and the good or evil that was performed by them in their lifetime recorded.

As has before been said, at the organization of this county Samuel H. Treat was the first Circuit Judge and presided over the term of court held at Dane county on Monday, November 4, 1839.

He was at one time Judge of the Supreme Court of the State of Illinois, and in the latter years of his life filled the position of Judge of the Federal Court for the Southern District of Illinois, which position he occupied until his death, and was always regarded as an able, honorable and upright Judge, and fair to litigants. He was more closely associated with the people of Sangamon County than with this people. At the first term of court there were present Horatio M. Vandever, Clerk; Wm. S. Ricks, Sheriff; David B. Campbell, State's Attorney; James C. Conkling, an attorney at law of Springfield, was also present. At that time the counties of Sangamon, Tazewell, Woodford, McLean, Livingston, DeWitt,

Piatt, Champaign, Vermilion, Edgar, Moultrie, Christian, Logan and Menard composed the Eighth Judicial District.

Judge David Davis, of Bloomington, succeeded Judge Treat and presided over the courts at Taylorville from 1849 to 1853, after which time the home of Judge Davis, McLean county, was eliminated from this circuit. He was succeeded as Circuit Judge by Judge Emerson; Judge Emerson was succeeded by Judge E. Y. Rice. He in turn was succeeded by Judge H. M. Vandever. In 1877 the Legislature passed a law establishing Appellate Courts in each circuit and providing for the election of three Judges for each circuit, and out of the Judges of the several circuits in this state, four Appellate Courts, consisting of three Judges each were selected by the Supreme Court. At the election in June, 1879, Judge W. R. Welch of Carlinville, Judge Chas. S. Zane of Springfield, Judge J. J. Phillips of Hillsboro was elected for the circuit of which Christian county composed a part, Judge Zane was afterward appointed to a Federal Judgeship in Utah, and his decisions upon the Mormon question, while presiding there, brought him into much prominence throughout the United States; Judge Wm. L. Gross of Springfield was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Judge Zane, and he filled the position of Circuit Judge about one year; he was succeeded by Judge James A. Creighton, who presided over the courts of Christian county for many years, and since that time the county has been thrown into different circuits, and its Circuit Courts have been presided over by Judge Robert Shirley, of Carlinville, Judge Jacob Fouke of Vandalia, Judge Wm. Farmer of Vandalia, Judge S. L. Wright of Centralia and Judge T. E. Ames of Shelbyville, of whom the last three are now presiding Judges in

the circuit; of the Judges mentioned above, Judge J. J. Phillips, Judge W. R. Welch, Judge Creighton and Judge Farmer were from time to time selected as Judges of some of the Appellate Courts of the state, and Judge J. J. Phillips was elected one of the Justices of the Supreme Court of the state, which position he held until his death. He was succeeded in the Supreme Court by the Hon. James B. Ricks, of Christian county, who is at present one of the Justices of said court.

Many of the Judges above mentioned have died and passed to a jurisdiction where no errors can be assigned or judgments reversed, and where each of them will receive the reward they merit.

We have spoken of Judge Treat and his work upon the bench of the State and Federal Court; his name is familiar with the bar of the state, and many of the decisions rendered by him have been recorded upon the records of the state; he enjoyed the reputation of being an honorable, upright Judge.

David Davis enjoyed an enviable reputation both as a Judge of the State Courts and of the Federal Courts. He was elevated to the position of Justice of the Supreme Courts of the U. S. by his personal friend and former associate, Abraham Lincoln. He afterwards resigned and was elected as U. S. Senator from the state of Illinois. He was a man of marked ability, and filled several positions to which he had been elevated with dignity and honor.

It is said of Judge Chas. Emerson by those who knew him that he was a plain, unassuming man, a matter of fact lawyer. He had but little sentiment, and dealt very largely in facts; yet withal was kind and accommodating on the bench, and particularly to the younger and inexperienced mem-

bers of the bar. Very few of Judge Emerson's decisions were reversed by the higher courts.

Judge E. Y. Rice was of Montgomery county, and prominently connected in that county; he presided as Judge in this circuit for several years, which position he resigned in 1870, and was elected to Congress.

Judge H. M. Vandever was elected in 1870 to fill the unexpired term of Judge Rice and was re-elected in 1873, and continued in the position as Judge until the year 1875, at which time he refused to be a candidate for re-election.

Judge Vandever was a good lawyer, an excellent judge of human nature and was able under almost all circumstances to ascertain the true facts in the case that was being heard before him, and was not easily deceived. He was an able, upright Judge and while upon the bench by his kindness to the younger members of the bar and his appreciation of their inexperience drew them very closely to him.

The writer remembers that while lingering in his last sickness, and his death was daily expected, a young man of Macoupin county, who began his practice before Judge Vandever, requested the writer to notify him of the Judge's decease as he desired to attend his funeral and said that no man was ever kinder to the young men upon the bench than Judge Vandever. At the close of his career as Judge, he resumed the practice of law; it was a recognized fact with the members of the bar that the Judge could draw the best series of instructions, connect them closer and get nearer to the lines of dispute with them than any member at the bar, and he was frequently called upon to perform that duty.

In the latter years of his life he was

badly afflicted with rheumatism, died at Taylorville at a ripe old age, and was buried by the legal profession.

Judge Phillips presided over the Circuit Court of Christian county a great number of years, and until he was elected to the position of Justice of the Supreme Court.

He was a brilliant man, an excellent lawyer and a great reader; he kept in touch with all of the literature and legal learning of the age; while on the bench he was a rapid worker and enjoyed the reputation of being a man of integrity.

Judge W. R. Welch of Carlinville was an excellent lawyer, a man well read in the law, thoroughly conversant with the recent holdings of the courts and was a man of integrity, an able, conscientious and painstaking Judge.

His was the life of a lawyer; he lived in the law, and had rather converse about legal propositions than any other subject. His mind seemed to feed upon the law. He was loved and admired by all the members of the bar.

We could say good words for the many of the Judges that are now living, and have presided over our courts, but it is not the purpose of this work to record the events of the living.

#### PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS.

David B. Campbell was the first public prosecutor of Christian county, and is said to have been an able lawyer. He served from 1839 to 1852; after him came Elam Rust, who was elected in 1853, and served until 1856. J. B. White served as prosecuting attorney in the District from 1857 until 1864; he afterwards moved on to a farm near Morrisonville in Christian county, and there lived for a great number of years until his death, which occurred about

a year ago. He is said to have been an able prosecutor and a man of good ability.

C. M. Morrison served as prosecuting attorney from 1865 to 1868.

Horace Gwin was elected in 1868 and served until 1871. Horace Gwin was a very able lawyer and enjoyed the reputation of being more thoroughly acquainted with the elementary books of Blackstone and Chitty than any lawyer of his day.

In 1872 the old plan of electing District Attorneys for the several counties was abandoned, and the Legislature passed an act providing for the election of a State's Attorney in each county, and under this act Alexander McCaskill was elected prosecuting attorney for Christian county in 1872, and served until 1876. He was afterward elected County Judge. Judge McCaskill was one of the noble men of our county, and was loved and admired by all who knew him, and he loved the people and constantly drew from nature and the everyday practices of the people lessons which he at times used with great effect in his advocacy at the bar. Judge McCaskill's speeches were not at all times masterpieces, but when he became thoroughly aroused in a case and fully imbued with the guilt or innocence of his client, he at times made most excellent speeches to the jury. The writer has heard Judge McCaskill make speeches that were not easily surpassed. Notably his speech in the prosecution of Newton Crafton at Decatur, which gave him more than a local reputation as an advocate. He died as he lived, loved by all who knew him and was indeed a good man and honest in all his purposes in life.

V. E. Foy was elected State's Attorney in 1876, and served until 1880; was afterwards twice elected County Judge of the county. Judge Foy was a whole-souled,

good-hearted man; was honest and conscientious in his work and was loved by the people, and in his palmy days no one had a better or stronger hold upon the people politically than did Judge Foy. In fact, he came nearer knowing how to reach the people and control them than any man that has ever been in the county since the writer has lived there. Judge Foy died April 27, 1900, and was buried by the profession. His death was regretted by many of his excellent friends.

Judge Foy was succeeded as State's Attorney by the Hon. John G. Drenman, who was elected in 1880 and served two terms. He was an able lawyer and vigorous prosecutor and is now connected as associate counsel with the Illinois Central Railroad.

Joseph C. Creighton was elected State's Attorney in 1888, and served until 1895, when he was compelled to seek another climate on account of his health. Joe, as he was familiarly called by all who knew him, was a good lawyer, and had his health permitted, would doubtless have won distinction at the bar.

While acting as prosecutor he served the public well. Few attorneys had a much more difficult time in getting a start in his profession than did Joe Creighton, but he had the tenacity to hold on until he acquired a foothold; he died in Utah a few years ago, respected by all who knew him.

Mr. Creighton left here in June, 1895, and the Hon. James B. Ricks filled his place as public prosecutor until December, 1896.

The Hon. E. A. Humphreys, of Pana, was elected State's Attorney in 1896, and has served from thence up to the present time. He is now living and engaged in the practice of law at Pana, and in the courts of Christian county.

#### RESIDENT LAWYERS.

John W. Wheat came to Taylorville in 1840 where he engaged in teaching school and the practice of law, but sought a more lucrative practice in other parts at an early day.

Benjamin Mason of Greene county, Ill., came to Taylorville in 1852; was elected Justice of the Peace soon after he came here. It is said that he was a brilliant young man with a fine legal mind and soon obtained considerable practice, and would have succeeded well in the law, but unfortunately for him, fell into bad habits and soon lost his practice. He remained here until 1858; left this county at the time of the gold excitement in Pike's Peak and returned to his home in Greene county in 1862 and died there in 1870.

Thomas Shumaker was the fifth resident lawyer; he came to Taylorville in 1852; was somewhat "irregular" in his practice and remained here until 1854 when he removed to Kansas, and while there achieved some notoriety and wealth.

"Was one of those restless, energetic men and was peculiarly adapted for the stirring times incident to the history of Kansas while yet under territorial government. His prominence, however, proved his death; he was shot and killed in one of the riots that disgraced the early history of that state."

J. H. Dawdy located in Pana in 1856; was a native of Illinois and became a lawyer from force of circumstances; there being no attorney at Pana, when he first located there, and a lawyer being very much in demand, he concluded to study for the profession; was admitted to the bar in 1856. Soon after he was elected Associate Justice for the county, and thereafter Justice of the Peace, which office of Justice of the Peace he held

for a great many years; he died at Pana a few years ago.

George Pease was the second lawyer in Pana; was a native of Massachusetts and a graduate of Yale college. Came to Pana in 1857, and continued there in practice until 1861; enlisted in the army and elected captain of his company, and after serving his country for two years returned to this county and resumed his practice. After leaving Pana he removed to Taylorville, and from thence to Colorado, where he now resides, unless he has died recently.

James O. Connor was also a resident lawyer of Pana. He was a native of New York; located at Pana in 1858 and continued in the practice until 1861 when he entered the army and was elected as Lieutenant of a company in the 3rd Illinois Cavalry; was subsequently promoted to the rank of Major and continued in the service until the close of the war and when last known was residing at Helena, Ark.

Harrison Havens read law while a clerk in the office of W. S. Moore, Circuit Clerk; was admitted to the bar, but practiced very little. He went to Iowa and then to Springfield, Mo., where he permanently located and continued in the practice. Since becoming a resident of the latter place he has twice represented his district in Congress.

D. K. Hall came to Taylorville in 1859. Upon the breaking out of the war he entered the service as First Lieutenant; was promoted during the war to the rank of Major. At the close of the war he settled in the State of Missouri where he still lives so far as known.

Hon. D. D. Shumway was a native of Massachusetts. Came to Christian county in 1843; he studied law and was admitted to practice in 1860. Then formed a law partnership with the Hon. H. M. Vande-

veer, and was for many years a prominent man in the county and this section of the state, and held many offices of honor and trust; he died in 1870. His history and character are given fully in other chapters of this work.

D. T. Moore was another member of the bar. Was admitted to practice and remained here until 1864 when he removed to Washington, Iowa, but now resides in York, Nebraska.

David McWilliams came to Taylorville in 1863. He remained here until 1866 when he removed and located at Monticello, Piatt county, Ill.

S. P. Davis was a member of the Christian county bar, and was also a journalist and is better known as the latter than the former. In 1868 he removed to Belleville, then to Denver, Colo., where he died.

J. G. Murdock, an attorney, also came to this county and made an effort to obtain a practice, but for some reason was not able to do so, and left the place. It is said he moved to Texas.

Dan'l McFarland, an attorney from O'Fallon, in St. Clair county, came to Taylorville in 1871 and opened a law office; he left here soon afterward.

A. D. Rich, located in Pana in 1870. Is said to have established the Pana Palladium, a newspaper that still exists. He practiced law to some extent, and remained in Pana until 1872 when he removed to Iowa, thence to Missouri.

J. A. Tyler, formerly a resident of Macon county, was admitted to the bar in Decatur; came to Taylorville in 1872 and remained for several years. While here he contracted a fatal disease and died soon thereafter. The writer was personally acquainted with Mr. Taylor, and knew him to be a brilliant young man, a ready speaker and if his

health had permitted he no doubt would have made a bright advocate at the bar.

S. S. Hibbard came to Taylorville in about 1874, but did not remain a great length of time; he afterwards abandoned the practice of law and engaged in the ministry; was a quiet unobtrusive gentleman and a good lawyer.

H. M. Vandever must be regarded as the "Nestor" of the Taylorville bar. He began the practice of law here at an early day, and soon became the leading lawyer at the bar, and continued such until his election as Judge. Special mention has been made of the history of Judge Vandever in connection with him as Judge of the Circuit Court, and in other parts of this history which will not be repeated.

A. B. Hammer located at Assumption in about the year 1868; shortly thereafter moved to Taylorville where he formed a partnership with J. M. Simpson, and was engaged in the practice of law here for some time, but left in about the year 1874. Hammer now resides in Oklahoma, and Simpson at McPherson, Kansas.

In about the year 1873, Messrs. Hayes & Zollars located at Taylorville, but were unable to secure the practice anticipated, and soon left.

Chas. A. Shirley commenced the practice of law in Taylorville in 1877, but remained here but a short time.

G. W. Hinman came to Pana in 1877; remained one year and removed to his former home, Pike county, Ill.

J. W. Stanley practiced law in Pana; was elected City Attorney at that place and afterwards removed to Lawrence county, Ill.

Daniel Miller was Clerk of the Court of Christian county, and studied law during his term of office. He is said to have been a good lawyer and quite popular; died in

Taylorville; was a brother of E. A. Miller.

J. M. Penwell located in Pana in 1867; had a limited practice and died in 1878.

Wm. H. Dawdy was a resident of Illinois; was admitted to the bar in 1866. Read law with Judge Henry of Vandalia; was elected city attorney of Pana, and at the expiration of his term of office located in Greenville, Illinois, where he has since resided. Has been State's Attorney of that county, and has filled other positions of prominence.

A. C. McMillen practiced law in Pana; came there in 1866. Was a bright, energetic fellow, and met with some success in the practice of law; he died at Pana in 1875.

Andrew Simpson was one of the older members of the bar; was a native of Kentucky and came to Illinois in 1835. Was admitted to the bar in 1857, and continued in the practice of law until his death. He was honored with offices of trust in the county; was elected to the office of County Judge prior to township organization; as a lawyer he ranked high at the bar. His superior knowledge of human nature, the motive and springs of human action made him a dangerous antagonist to cope with before a jury. As a man, he was plain and unassuming; had a way that was peculiarly his own, and was quite humorous at times. He was an excellent advocate; was a man of integrity, and was especially strong before a jury.

Wm. S. Randle was a native of North Carolina; studied law in the office of A. W. Metcalf of Edwardsville; was admitted to the bar in 1858. Came to this county in 1869, and engaged in farming as well as the practice of law.

S. G. Lewis was a native of Delaware; emigrated to Greene county, Ill., in 1844;

was admitted to the bar in Carrollton in 1860, and began the practice of law in Taylorville in 1878.

J. M. Birce was a graduate of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor; was admitted to the practice of law in 1861; in 1865 he came to Assumption, and was admitted to the bar in 1866. He engaged in the general practice of law; was a painstaking, earnest lawyer; always resided at Assumption after coming to this county, and was regarded as an honorable, upright lawyer. He died at his home in Assumption a few years ago.

Hon. Wm. Edgar Morrison was admitted to the bar in 1867; began the practice of law at Springfield, Ill., shortly thereafter. After engaging in business for four years at Springfield, he then moved to Morrisonville in this county where he has since resided. He was a good speaker, and in trials before a jury they were well entertained by the speeches of Mr. Morrison.

Hon. John B. Jones was a native of Ohio; he came to Christian county in 1864. Read law here and was admitted to the bar in 1868 and began the practice of law at Nokomis, Ill. Shortly thereafter he returned to Taylorville, where he opened an office and continued in the practice of law at Taylorville until about 1882, at which time he removed to Little Rock, Arkansas, where he now resides. Mr. Jones while in Taylorville enjoyed a very lucrative practice; he was an earnest, painstaking lawyer.

Mr. D. F. Murray studied law with Mr. J. B. Jones; was admitted to the bar in 1871 and began the practice of law at Morrisonville where he continued in the practice for several years. He then moved to Washington, where he continued to reside until his death, which occurred about two years ago. Mr. Murray was at all times

a gentleman, honest, conscientious in his work, and ever diligent in protecting the interests of his clients, and was a good lawyer and safe counsellor.

Mr. Geo. B. Crooker was a native of Illinois; was admitted to the bar in 1874, formed a partnership with J. C. McBride and continued in the practice with him until Mr. Crooker's removal to Kansas in about the year 1884, at which time he removed to Anthony, Kansas, and there continued in the practice of law, where he is now living.

V. E. Foy read law in the office of J. B. Jones; was admitted to the practice of law in 1874, and was shortly thereafter elected State's Attorney for this county. His character as a lawyer and man have been treated in this chapter in his connection with the office of State's Attorney.

Daniel McCaskell came to Christian county in 1865; read law with his brother, A. McCaskell; was admitted to the bar in 1870 and commenced the practice of law in 1872 at Taylorville. In 1874 he formed a partnership with his brother, which continued until about the year 1876, when he was compelled on account of ill health to abandon the practice and move to Colorado. He regained his health, and since then has moved to Chicago, and now enjoys a lucrative practice in the city of Chicago.

James B. Ricks was educated at Wesleyan University, Bloomington, Ill.; studied law in the office of Andrew Simpson; was admitted to the bar in 1874. He was a good lawyer, a nice, smooth talker, and enjoyed a lucrative practice up to the time of his election as one of the Justices of the Supreme Court.

John G. Drennan studied law in the office of John B. Jones; was admitted to the bar in 1878. Formed a partnership with

Mr. Jones which continued for several years and until the election of Mr. Drennan as State's Attorney. A more complete history of Mr. Drennan as a lawyer was given in this chapter in connection with his office as State's Attorney; he now resides in Chicago, and is assistant counsel for the Illinois Central Railroad.

J. C. Essick became a member of the bar in 1870; practiced law at Pana, Ill., for many years. Was a good lawyer and fluent talker; he afterwards moved to Chicago, where he now lives and enjoys a lucrative law practice.

Wm. Kelligor was admitted to the bar in 1878, and after practicing law at Pana for a short time removed to Nebraska where he now resides and is said to have become a good lawyer, and to enjoy a lucrative practice.

S. R. Tippey was admitted to the bar in 1877, and resided in Pana for some time.

W. T. Houston was admitted to the bar in 1879; practiced law at Edinburg for many years; he afterwards moved to Springfield, where he continued in the practice until his death a few years ago.

E. Copperthwaite was admitted to the bar in 1879, and formed a partnership with J. M. Birce at Assumption, where he continued in the practice of law for several years. He was a bright, fluent talker; was elected to the Legislature where he earned for himself quite a reputation as a public speaker.

B. F. Burnett was admitted to the bar in the state of Michigan, in the year 1836; practiced law in that state for over 20 years. He afterwards moved to Litchfield, Ill., where he engaged in the publishing of a newspaper, and moved to Taylorville in the year 1880, where he lived until his death. Mr. Burnett was a well read lawyer and great student, and had the faculty of saying

pleasant things, but when the occasion required he could use as poisonous terms as any one, but he did not engage in the practice of law many years before his death; he died at Taylorville many years ago.

W. S. Moore was a native of Ohio; came to Taylorville in 1848; read law with H. M. Vandever and was admitted to the bar in 1852, and continued in the practice of law and filling the office of County Judge and Circuit Clerk until his retirement from the profession in 1878. After that he engaged in the mercantile business until the latter years of his life, when he removed to Morrisonville, where he was engaged in keeping hotel until his death.

A. McCaskell was admitted to the bar in 1857, and soon thereafter removed to Taylorville where he engaged in the practice of law until 1859, when he removed to Colorado, returning here in 1861, where he again engaged in the practice of law in this county, and continued in the profession until the time of his death; he was elected State's Attorney and County Judge. A more complete history is given of Judge McCaskell in another portion of this chapter.

Frank Reed is a native of Taylorville, Ill., born in 1871; was educated at public schools in Taylorville; admitted to the bar in the year 1893.

O. W. Reed is a native of Taylorville, born in 1860; was educated in the schools at Taylorville; admitted to the bar in about the year 1890; shortly thereafter he accepted a position in the pension department at Washington, D. C., and continued in that position for many years. He now resides in Texas.

#### PRESENT MEMBERS OF THE BAR.

We will not undertake to give a biographical sketch of the present members of the

bar; neither shall we unfold their greatness or expose their weakness; we should dislike very much to tell any of their bad traits, if they had any, and to undertake to tell all of the good acts we know about them might require more space than can be devoted to this work, so we shall content ourselves with giving their place of birth, education and dates of admission to the bar, and allow the reader to follow them in their daily walk through life and judge for himself of their character and ability.

James M. Taylor is a native of Scotland; was educated in Academy of Waukegan, Ill., and Kenosha High School; was admitted to the bar in 1868, and began the practice of law in Taylorville in 1868, and is probably the oldest practitioner in the county.

W. M. Provine is a native of Illinois; was educated in common schools, concluding at Macomb Seminary; was licensed to practice law in the year 1868. Shortly thereafter he moved to Taylorville and has been since that time engaged in the practice of law here.

J. C. McBride is a native of Illinois; was educated at Earlham College and Lincoln University of Lincoln, Ill., graduating in 1869; was admitted to the bar in 1870, and shortly thereafter began the practice of law at Taylorville, and continued therein to the present time.

Wm. T. Vandever was born in Christian county; educated at Shurtleff Upper Alton; was admitted to the bar in 1871, and for a time practiced law at Taylorville; he still resides at Taylorville, but abandoned the practice several years ago.

John W. Kitchell is a native of Illinois; was admitted to the practice of law in Iowa in 1852 and afterwards in this state, and shortly thereafter located at Pana, where he has resided ever since.

J. C. McQuigg is a native of Ohio; was educated at the Fredericksburg Academy and Vermilion College of Ohio, graduating therefrom in 1865. Graduated from the law department of Michigan University in 1867, and was at once admitted to the bar and soon located in Pana where he has resided and practiced law to the present time.

E. A. Humphreys is a native of Illinois; was educated in the schools of Christian county; admitted to the bar in the year 1872, and shortly thereafter began the practice of law at Pana, where he has continued to reside to the present time.

John E. Hogan is a native of this county. Was educated at Taylorville; admitted to the bar in the year 1888; and shortly thereafter entered upon the practice of law, and is engaged in the work of his profession at the present time.

Frank P. Drennan is a native of Christian county; was educated in this county and admitted to the bar in 1881; and soon thereafter entered upon the practice of law at Taylorville, where he now resides and is engaged in his chosen profession.

R. M. Potts is a native of Christian county; was educated in public schools; admitted to the bar in 1892; and shortly thereafter began the practice of law at Taylorville, where he has continued to the present time; he served one term as County Judge.

L. G. Grundy is a native of Macoupin county; was educated at Ann Arbor; was admitted to the bar in 1893, and shortly thereafter entered upon the practice at Taylorville, and still resides at Taylorville. He also served one term as County Judge.

J. E. Sharrock is a native of Towerhill; was admitted to the bar in 1886 and shortly thereafter entered upon the practice of law in Shelby county, from which place he moved to Taylorville in 1893, and has been

engaged in the practice of law ever since; he served two terms in the Legislature.

J. A. Merry was born in Bond County, Ill. Attended the Greenville High School, and afterwards graduated at the Valparaiso, Indiana, Normal School, and pursued the law course at Hayward College, Fairfield, Ill. Admitted to the bar in the year 1893, and began practicing law at Vandalia, Ill., and remained there until the year 1894, at which time he moved to Taylorville, Ill., and since that time resided in the City of Taylorville, and is now engaged in the practice of law at Taylorville.

John B. Colegrove is a native of Illinois; was educated in Christian county; admitted to the bar in the year 1889; soon thereafter entered upon the practice of law at Taylorville and is at the present time pursuing his profession.

James L. Drennan is a native of Christian county; was educated in the schools of Christian county; was admitted to the bar in the year 1893, and has since that time been engaged in the practice of law until about two years ago, when he accepted the position of Secretary to Judge Ricks, which place he now holds.

Alfred Adams is a native of Illinois; was educated at Fairfield and Greenville, Hayward and Almira colleges; admitted to the bar in the year 1893, and thereafter after his admission to the bar moved to Taylorville and entered upon the practice at this place, and is at the present time engaged in the practice of law here.

Edward Adams was educated at Dixon College; admitted to the bar in 1897; soon thereafter began the practice of law at Taylorville and continued in his profession until about the first of January last, when he accepted a position in the Pension Department at Washington.

F. O. Edler was born and educated in France; emigrated to Illinois about 15 years ago; shortly thereafter admitted to the bar but removed from Taylorville to Oklahoma about the first of January last, where he now resides.

W. S. Greer is a native of Illinois; was educated in Christian county, and was admitted to the bar about 10 years ago; engaged in the practice of law at Taylorville for several years, but moved to Chicago about the first of November last, where he is now engaged in the practice of law.

Fred O. Waggoner is a native of this county; educated in the schools of this county and admitted to the bar in about the year 1890; entered upon the practice of law at Morrisonville and continued at that place until about the year 1895 when he moved to Oklahoma Territory, where he now resides.

Paul Dowdel was born and educated in Illinois; admitted to the practice of law in about the year 1895; and for awhile practiced at Taylorville; afterwards moved to Assumption thence to Memphis, Tenn., where he now resides, and is engaged in the practice of his profession.

James B. Abrams is a native of Christian county; educated in the county; admitted to the bar about 10 years ago, and commenced the practice of law in Taylorville, where he continued in the profession until about the month of November last, when he moved to the state of Washington, where he now resides.

C. E. Abrams is a native of Christian county, and educated here and Shurtleff College; was admitted to the bar in about the year 1901; engaged in the practice of law at Taylorville until about the month of November last, when he moved to the state of Montana, where he now resides.

Leroy Anderson is a native of this county,

and educated here; was admitted to the bar in 1897 and practiced law at Taylorville until the spring of 1903, at which time he moved to Prescott, Arizona, where he now pursues his profession.

A. D. Sitler was born in Shelby county, Illinois; educated at Fort Scott, Kansas, Normal College; admitted to the practice of law in the year 1892 and shortly thereafter began the practice of his profession at Taylorville, where he has since that time resided.

C. H. Shamel was born in Christian county; is a graduate of the University of Illinois, and shortly after his graduation was admitted to the bar and immediately commenced practicing law at Taylorville, and has been engaged in the practice ever since that time.

James H. Forrester is a native of Christian county; was educated at University of Pennsylvania and Normal; admitted to the bar in 1897 and shortly thereafter began the practice of law at Taylorville where he still resides. He is at present serving as County Judge of the county, having been elected in 1902.

Geo. Wallace is a native of Christian county; was educated at Lincoln University at Lincoln, Ill., graduating therefrom in 1894; was admitted to the bar in the year 1899, and has since that time been engaged in the practice of law at Taylorville, where he now resides.

Walter M. Provine is a native of Illinois; was educated at the High School in Taylorville, graduating therefrom in 1895 and afterwards graduated in the law department of Cornell University, N. Y., in 1897, and was soon thereafter admitted to the bar in this state, and has since that time been engaged in the practice of law at Taylorville.

W. B. McBride is a native of Christian

county; born at Taylorville; was educated at Illinois University and Ada College, Ada, Ohio, graduating from the latter college in civil engineering in 1895; was admitted to the bar in 1898, since which time he has been engaged in the practice of law at Taylorville.

W. R. Dexheimer is a native of Christian county; was educated at Dixon, Ill.; admitted to the bar in the year 1901, shortly thereafter commencing the practice of law at Taylorville, and is still engaged in his chosen profession.

Arthur Yockey was born in Christian county; educated in the common schools and high school at Taylorville; graduated at Valparaiso, Ind. Attended law school in Chicago; admitted to the bar in 1899. Been practicing in Taylorville since that time.

R. C. Neff is a native of Sangamon county, Ill.; was educated at common schools, Valparaiso, Ind.; admitted to the bar in the year 1899 and has since that time been engaged in the practice of law at Taylorville, where he now resides.

D. O. Potts was born in Christian county, Ill.; educated in common schools; admitted to the bar in Atchison, Kansas, in 1898; recently admitted to the bar in Illinois, where he is now practicing.

Leslie Taylor is a native of Taylorville, was educated at Shurtleff College, Upper Alton and John Marshall Law School, Chicago; admitted to the bar in the year 1903 and soon commenced the practice of law at Taylorville, and is at the present time engaged in the work of his chosen profession.

C. A. Prater was born and educated in Christian county, Ill., and was admitted to the bar in 1882, and began the practice of law at Edinburg, Ill., and since that time he had resided and been engaged in the practice of his profession at that place.

J. H. Morgan is a native of Indiana; was educated at Marion College, Marion, Indiana; admitted to the bar in 1895, and shortly thereafter began the practice of law at Pana, at which place he has since that time resided, and been pursuing his chosen profession.

C. E. Springstun is a native of Indiana; was educated in Indiana and Illinois; admitted to the bar in 1893, and shortly thereafter commenced the practice of law at Pana, and is now engaged in the practice of his profession.

J. H. Fornoff was born in Illinois; educated at Wesleyan Law School; admitted to the bar in the year 1892, and has since that time been engaged in the practice of law at Pana.

E. E. Dowel was born at Shelbyville, Ill.; graduated at Pana High School; admitted to the bar in the year 1900 and has since that time been engaged in the practice of law at Pana, where he now resides and pursues his chosen profession.

M. J. Fitzgerald was born and educated in Fayette county, Ill.; was admitted to the bar about ten years ago, and practiced law for a while in his native county, but afterward removed to Assumption, Ill., at which place he has been engaged in the practice of his profession for several years.

Frank L. Taylor was born in Macon county, Ill. Was educated at the Normal University of Varparaiso, Ind., where he was graduated on the completion of a business course; was admitted to the bar in 1902, and immediately thereafter engaged in the practice of law at Decatur, Ill., where he continued until June, 1903, at which time he moved to Assumption, and has since then been engaged in the practice of law at that place.

A. E. Gowan was born in Jersey county,

Ill. Graduated in the commercial department of the Hillsboro Academy. He read law at Morrisonville and later attended law school at Ann Arbor, Mich. Was admitted to the bar in the spring of 1883; moved to Morrisonville and there engaged in the practice of law and has continued in the practice at that place almost continuously since that time.

Edwin F. O'Farrell was born and educated in Shelby county, Ill. Admitted to the bar in 1901, and immediately entered upon the practice of law at Pana, Ill., at which place he has been engaged in his profession since that time.

David M. Sharp was born in Christian county, Ill.; was educated at the Illinois College of Jacksonville, where he was graduated; he was admitted to the bar in the year 1889, and shortly thereafter began the practice of law at Taylorville, Ill., at which place he continued in the business of his profession for several years, but has recently occupied his attention with farming.

#### INCIDENTS OF EARLY DAYS.

The early settlement of the locality now composing Christian County was commenced as early as the year 1827, and those settling here between that date and 1848 are what in fact compose the early settlers of this locality. To appreciate the real perils undergone, the reader must imagine this as a locality without any houses or fields or even any signs of civilization and then take the first settler who came to this locality and see what he did after arriving here; of course he brought with him his axe and saw and such other tools as he had or could secure, and a small supply of provisions which could in no event be very extensive, selected the locality upon which he desired to build, in the timber, then the first thing he

did was to build a house to live in; this was done by cutting logs, hewing and notching them and then laying them one upon the other in the same manner that a rail pen is built until the cabin was of the desired height, usually 6 to 8 feet. Large timbers were laid across the building, taking the place of sleepers which supported the puncheon floor when laid; in some instances floors were not laid for a long time after the building of the cabin, then on top of these logs rafters or something to support the roof were placed and the building roofed with clapboards which were rived out of the timber. A large fireplace was built in one end of the building, and the chimney built of sticks covered with mud, for plastering, inside and out; clay was pounded in to form a fireplace, hearth and jambs and to build the chimneys to a sufficient height to prevent the fire from burning the building. This done, then the next thing was to dig a well, and build some shelter for the stock. It frequently happened that the construction of the log cabin and the raising of a crop for feed for the next year was carried on at the same time and frequently two or three families would come and settle together, build a house together and live together until their buildings could be constructed.

At the first opportunity, the owner with his axe and saw and an auger would build the furniture for the house, which consisted of bedsteads made of poles with one end fastened in the log of the house and the other frequently resting on a fork or bed-post constructed and extending out into the floor. These improvised beds were so constructed in many instances that they could be taken down during the day time and readily put up at night, thereby giving more room for the occupants of the small cabin.

As soon as the cabin and the reasonable conveniences of this one were constructed, then the work of constructing a cabin for a neighbor began. The families from this little cabin in a short time would begin improvements upon farms for themselves, by erecting their cabins, and in many instances, a neighborhood of three to half a dozen families would soon be formed consisting of those who came and located in that particular place; and for many years it frequently happened that the nearest neighborhood would be from 5 to 15 miles, and in some instances the settler and his family lived alone and without any neighbor nearer than two to five miles, and thus along the timbers of Bear Creek, of South Fork, North Fork and Flat Branch, the settlements gradually grew and the distance between neighbors was within 10 or 15 years reduced to that of a mile or less.

It is related that some of the early settlers did not see the face of a white man more than once or twice during the whole year. Some of these inhabitants were without a horse, or even a yoke of oxen, and in some instances they raised the crops to feed themselves and family with the hoe; in others they had rudely constructed plows and exchanged work, which enabled them to more readily till the soil and get from it better results.

They were not required to raise their meat, as at that time the lands abounded in wild deer, turkey, chicken and all other kinds of game to such an extent that the pioneer was always certain of his meat at any time.

It is related by an old settler that even after Taylorville had been located and people residing here and the first courthouse constructed that Wm. Darner, an expert hunter made a "stand" for deer in a little

grove located in about the place where the West school building now stands, and that many were the deer that he killed from that "stand." It is said that you could stand in the first courthouse and look out over the prairie and observe deer passing around the little village in herds of 20 to 50; they were indeed abundant, and the meat thus obtained by the settler was very much relished. It is also said that bees were very plentiful in this country at that time, would hive in the hollow trees and make large quantities of honey, and the early settler was able to supply himself and family with honey from the cutting of these bee trees; in many instances, large quantities of honey would be obtained from a single bee tree; experts in bee hunting were able to find these trees very readily. It is said of one early settler that on a trip taken by him from Campbell's Point to Buckhart Grove and Mosquito Creek that in the course of a few days they found a great number of bee trees and secured about 45 gallons of honey and 60 pounds of beeswax; that at another time on a trip over on the North Fork, Okaw and Kaskaskia rivers, they found about 40 bee trees. This was as early as 1822, and it was said that this settler, Samuel Williams, in all his bee hunting found no traces of any settlers along the several streams and that he went for weeks without seeing even the face of a white man, except one man who accidentally rode into their camp in crossing the prairie. This honey was also a source of revenue for the people, as they could obtain for beeswax in the market 25 cents a pound and a fair price for the honey.

It was more difficult for them to secure breadstuff than meat; while the settler was able to raise his corn and in some instances wheat, it was very difficult to get it ground and ready for bread; it is said that in many

instances they used a mortar for powdering the grain so as to make it fit for bread; at other times they boiled the corn and grated it into meal on an improvised tin grate. Corn bread was not a luxury in those days, but was the staple bread of the early settler.

Later, mills were located principally for grinding corn, but in most instances they were a long way from the settler, and being practically destitute of wagons or other vehicles of conveyance, it was very difficult to secure a grinding of the corn, and often two or three days would be consumed in getting to mill, and when there they had to take their turn, but the sturdy miller always took out his toll, which at times seemed exorbitant, yet, under the circumstances, was probably not unreasonable.

Mr. J. P. Walker informs me that in 1847 the whole neighborhood in which he lived was without bread along in the spring of the year; in fact it had been a wet, muddy winter and it was impossible for the people to have any grinding done; in many instances the families had subsisted upon such corn meal as they were able to obtain from boiling and grating the corn; that in March, he in company with another neighbor went a distance of 22 miles to a horsemill owned by Lipe in Montgomery county where they obtained the grinding of two or three sacks of corn to supply the neighborhood; when they returned, half of it was loaned in less than 24 hours.

It is also related that Jesse Hinkle went to old man Traylor's over on Bear Creek about the same time to borrow some meal and Mrs. Traylor said to him, "We are out, and have been grating corn for three weeks," and Hinkle replied, "Thank God, we are all alike."

While the trip of going to mill was a long

one and in many instances attended with hardships, yet in many cases it was an enjoyable affair, as the settler could there meet with his friends from the other parts of the country and learn what they were doing in that section, for it must be remembered that it took news a long time to travel about the circuit of even as small a locality as Christian county in those days.

From information obtained from Mr. Walker, one of the first mills built in this county was erected in about the year 1842 by Jesse Elgan on South Fork, near what is now known as the Ralston Bridge, and what was generally known as the Elgan settlement; this was a water mill, and built for grinding wheat, corn and sawing lumber.

Levi Henkle built the next mill near where Willowford Bridge is now, but the exact date the mill was built is not known, but erected prior to 1846.

Dr. Goudy also built a mill in the southwest part of Taylorville in 1850. At an early day, the people of the northern part of the county went to what was known as the Archer mill just across the line in Sangamon county, and on the north fork of the Sangamon River. We are also informed that in other places there were constructed what is known as horse or cog mills built of wooden rollers with wooden cogs, and so constructed as to be operated by means of levers to which horses were attached.

This was of course all in a rude form, but was very acceptable to the people of that day; it supplied them with bread.

While it is true that these mills were very rudely constructed and of limited capacity, they were sufficient, however, for the time, and essential in sustaining life while the settler strove to improve his home.

The demand for these mills was so great, that in a comparatively short time they were

constructed in the different localities all over the country, and some of them were constructed earlier than some of the mills mentioned above, so that in time it became much more convenient for the settler to obtain his grinding and his lumber.

The more difficult problem, however, was that of marketing the products raised and purchasing supplies for the family. The people of this locality usually in the early day marketed their products at St. Louis; after hauling their wheat that distance, were only able to procure from 40 to 45 cents a bushel for it, and usually could haul not to exceed 25 to 30 bushels at a time; there were regular stopping places on the road, but most generally the farmer would camp out during this trip. The expense of the trip was comparatively light; it required many, sometimes 7 or 8, days to make it, but he would usually return with groceries, tobacco and not unfrequently with a little Old Bourbon as that was one of the necessities of those days to cure snake bites, and most everybody used a little of the cure. Hogs were driven to the same market and hog driving time was always regarded as a holiday occasion; the people of the neighborhood would bunch their hogs, drive them to St. Louis, and then realize only from \$2 to \$2.50 per cwt. after they were dressed—but the drivers had a good time; told of the fine country they lived in and many interesting stories incident to the early settlement of the country. Some of them even told Indian stories and their narrow escapes from scalping; it all had a kind of wild, romantic atmosphere that, notwithstanding its perils, was exciting and being of that adventurous cast, was very alluring, but wherever the lot of the early settler was cast, you always found that free hearted hospitality that comes to people who are depending one upon the other and

forsakes them when they reach a point or station in life in which they feel that they are independent.

The want of conveyances, the comparative isolation of the people, the necessity of depending upon your neighbor to a great extent; the common motive of securing a home, that induced this people to take up their abode in the wilderness, were all elements that educated them in the line of free hearted, unselfish citizens, the same as the elements of plenty and the ability to purchase whatever you desire, the want of a common motive, except to see who can get rich the quickest are educators of selfishness and greed that exist to such an extent with the people of today. On the one hand, we have the warm, open-hearted, unselfish pioneer, who lived not for himself alone, but for his neighbors as well and was ready at all times to make any sacrifice to benefit his neighbor, and it seems to have been an unwritten law with these people that they were honest with one another; on the other hand, the citizen of today is selfish, unwilling to accommodate a neighbor; unable to appreciate a friend's distress and his actions in life are promoted largely by greed, and the more congested the population the greater seems to be this characteristic in the human family.

The fame of the fertile prairie of Illinois had reached even to the state of Connecticut, and as early as 1836 a band of people sent Rev. Gideon B. Perry and Thomas H. Hewitt to Illinois to prospect, locate and enter a large body of desirable land. It is said these representatives traveled over most of the northern part of the state, as well as Christian county, and finally decided to locate in the northeastern part of this county, on the west side of Flat Branch. They entered 10,000 acres

of land, which was divided and allotted by auction among the members of the colony in North Stonington, Conn.

Some of these colonists came in the year 1837, and others in the year 1838, but before leaving home they had selected their location and determined upon laying out a site for a city upon the lands entered, and also upon the erection of some public buildings. The principal persons composing this colony were Thomas P. Chapman, Nicholas Sanders, William S. Frink, Benj. F. Chapman, Gideon Wilber, Elija Palmer, Allen P. Peabody, Frederick Fitch, Wm. S. Peabody, Rev. A. Ackley, Elias S. Peabody, Amos Peabody, Thomas Skiff, Thomas Millard, Samuel Peabody, Samuel N. Peabody, Paris Pray, Horace Morgan, John D. Brown, Deacon Smith, John P. Williams, Andrew B. Chapman and C. Tyler Chapman.

Immediately upon their arrival they began the work of building their homes; a large six-room house was built by the company as the writer is informed, in which Thomas B. Chapman resided.

The gatherings of the colony were held in this house; this was the place where they assembled for a long time for public worship. This house or home was the centre to which all of the colonists in that locality were attracted; 160 acres of land entered by this colony was appropriated, before division, for the founding of a city, to be called "Stonington City." It was surveyed and platted in lots and blocks, under the direction of Gideon B. Perry, "chairman of the executive committee of Stonington" colony. It contained a public square, park, 42 blocks and 504 lots, with many streets, and is recorded on page 390 of book 47 in the recorder's office of Christian county. This is a transcribed record.

This city never materialized; the lots were used for agricultural purposes and afterward the plat was vacated and the land disposed of as a farm.

A charter was secured for the founding of a school, to be known as "Brush College," which was never founded. They did, however, provide for good schools in that locality, and because of the number of people that came together they had many advantages that did not come to the settlers who came single handed or in smaller numbers. The large house spoken of above is remembered by many of the children that were born in Christian county belonging to that colony. They say it was a place to which they would all go for pleasure, religious service and public meetings generally. It sat upon a high knoll, and in the early days, when occupied by Mr. Chapman, was a guiding star to those who traveled across the prairies.

Springfield was the point to which these people mostly went to do their trading and frequently upon their return it would be after night before they reached their homes—when it was known that any of the people of the colony had gone to Springfield or elsewhere, Mrs. Chapman, commonly known as "Aunt Martha," would place a light in the window to serve as a guiding star for those who were trying to cross the prairie. It was very difficult to keep your course in traveling across the prairie after night, and the light in the window kept by this old lady was to the traveler upon the prairie what the lighthouse is to the mariner upon the sea.

Paris Pray and B. F. Chapman resided on the opposite side of Brushy Branch, and had to cross this branch to reach this home in the colony; they were great church goers, and in times of high water the only way

which the branch could be crossed was by canoe, so they prepared, from a hollow log, a canoe, that was kept for use on all occasions; Chapman and Pray used to cross this creek in this canoe, and it is said that Chapman was a large man and somewhat awkward, and Pray used to make him lie down in the canoe and keep still for fear he would tip it over, while Pray would row across.

No doubt the people of this colony had many good times and they had the correct idea of the early settlement of a new country. The committee who selected the lands for this colony acted judiciously, as these are today among the most valuable lands of Christian county, and many of them are occupied at the present time by the descendants of these colonists.

The people composing this colony were thrifty, energetic and law-abiding citizens. They were of a religious character, and observed the laws of God and their duties as Christians with as much scrupulousness in the wild west as they did in their old steadfast home in Stonington, Conn.

This colony was a blessing to Christian county, and aided very much in building it up, and in inculcating a spirit of fairness and a due observance of the laws; many of the important offices of the county have from time to time been occupied by members of this colony.

From the best information that the writer can obtain, a general settlement of the prairie land did not begin until after the building of the Illinois Central Railroad, and of the Alton & Terre Haute Railroad (now the Big Four), and Mr. Walker informs me that even as late as 1854 that there was no settlement between his home, then in the south part of Johnson township and Robinson creek in Shelby county, except one place owned by Lane, afterwards

known as the McCoy farm; that the towns of Pana and Rosemond were not then in existence; it was about this time that the prairies began to be settled.

The town of Pana was first laid out and settlement commenced in about the year 1855, and the postoffice for that locality that had been located near Stone Coal was then removed to Pana, and shortly after, in about the year 1856 or 1857, the town of Pana was incorporated, which is now a prosperous city. Prior to 1856, the only families then living in Rosemond township, were those of Reed, Wolf and Blackburn, then living in or near Bell's Grove. In 1856 the colony from Massachusetts, composed of Benjamin Hawley, O. M. Hawks, Brainard Smith, Mr. Marvin, Benjamin Warner and John Putnam, came to this county and purchased a tract of about 2,000 acres of land in Rosemond township, and named the town Rosemond. The five houses for these families were framed in St. Louis and all alike, and were brought across the river on the ice and shipped out on the Alton & Terre Haute road on the first train that came to Rosemond.

These houses were erected near the village now called Rosemond; the name of Rosemond was selected by this colony before they left Massachusetts. The first Sunday after arriving in the village, these families organized a Sunday school and held public worship, the Congregational church was organized there in the summer of 1856; settlements at about this time began to spring up along the Alton & Terre Haute Railroad and the Illinois Central Railroad; with the coming of the Illinois Central Railroad a colony of French settled near what is now known as the village of Assumption, and the town was then called Tacusah.

The other railroads traversing the county were not located until much later, and the towns on these roads sprung up after 1868.

The credit for the early settlers of this county is not due to the man alone, but the woman of that day was equally as courageous, and is, perhaps, entitled to even more credit, the man could relieve the monotony of the routine work by the many excursions to mill and to market, but the wife and daughter were compelled to remain at home and in practical solitude during these days of anxiety; the husband raised the sheep and flax, the wife carded and spun the wool and spun the cotton, and wove it into linsey for dresses for themselves and into jeans and made out of that raiment for the husband.

"Every house contained a carding, loom and spinning wheel, which were considered by the women as necessary for them as the rifle for the men. The loom in use was a rudely-constructed one, consisting of two pieces of scantling running obliquely from the floor to the wall; later, the frame loom came into use and was a great improvement." It is said that the rattling of the loom, the whirr and buzz of the spinning wheel and the song of the maid at the wheel were among the delights of the household, and the women were proud of their ability to perform this work and the amount they could do and the perfection of the cloth that they could make by these processes. It is also said that in many instances when the men would gather together for the purposes of having a log-rolling or house-building or corn-husking or occasions of that character, the women also assembled with their spinning wheels and that the music of the many spinning wheels was delightful to listen to.

They had no stoves upon which to do

their cooking; that was done before the fireplace, and usually the Johnny cake and other species of corn bread were served up for dinner while mush and milk was the favorite dish for supper; in the fireplace hung the crane; the Dutch oven was used in baking. The streams abounded in fish, which formed a healthful article of food; many kinds of greens, such as dock and polk, were eaten. The truck patch furnished roasting ears, pumpkins, beans, squashes and potatoes, and these were used by all. For reaping-bees, log-rollings, house-raisings, the standing dish was pot pie; coffee and tea were used sparingly, as they were very dear and the hardy pioneer thought them a drink fit only for women and children. They said it would not "stick to the ribs," but you talk to an old settler today and he will tell you that the bread baked in the old fireplace in the old fashioned way was the best bread he ever ate; that nothing equalled it. In those days many wild fruits grew in the timbers and berries which were gathered and prepared by the housewife and every effort made upon her part to make the meals palatable, and indeed they were palatable and healthful. There being no church house or regular services of any kind to call the people together, they no doubt "cheerfully accepted invitations to house-raisings, log-rollings, corn-huskings or a bee of any kind; to attend these gatherings, they would go ten and sometimes more miles. Generally with the invitation to the men went one to the women to come to a quilting; the good woman of the house where the festivities were to take place would be busily engaged for a day or more in preparation for the coming guests. Great quantities of provisions were necessary, as dyspepsia was unknown to the pioneer, and

good appetites were the rule and not the exception."

"The bread used at these frolics was baked generally on Johnny or Journey cake boards, and is the best corn bread ever made. The board is made smooth, about two feet long and eight inches wide; the ends are generally rounded. The dough is spread out on this board and placed leaning before the fire; one side is baked and then the dough is changed on the board so the other side is presented in its turn to the fire. This is Johnny cake, and is good if the proper materials are put into it and it is properly baked."

#### REYNOLDS' HISTORY.

"At all log-rollings and house-raisings, it was customary to provide liquor; excesses were not indulged in, however. The fiddler was never forgotten. After the day's work had been accomplished out doors, and in, by men and women, the floor was cleared and the merry dance began. The handsome, stalwart young men whose fine forms were the result of their manly out-door life, clad in fringed buckskin breeches and gaudily-colored hunting shirts led forth the bright-eyed, buxom damsels, attired in neatly-fitting linsey woolsey garments to the dance, their cheeks glowing with health and eyes sparkling of enjoyment, and perhaps of a tenderer emotion."

Log-rollings, house-raisings and corn-huskings are not entirely out of the memory of persons living at the present day; many of the older inhabitants remember well occasions of the character of these, and that they were very enjoyable affairs. The amusements were simple, but pleasant, and afforded a great deal of pleasure to those who participated therein.

A good description is given of a corn-shucking of the olden time in Reynolds' Pioneer History of Illinois, in the following language:

"In pure pioneer times the crops of corn were never husked on the stalk, as is done at this day, but were hauled home in the husk and thrown in a heap, generally by the side of the crib, so that the ears, when husked, could be thrown direct into the crib. The whole neighborhood, male and female, were invited to the shucking, as it was called. The girls, and many of the married ladies, generally engaged in this amusing work.

"In the first place two leading expert huskers were chosen as captains, and the heap of corn divided as nearly equal as possible. Rails were laid across the pile so as to designate the division, and then each captain chose, alternately, his corps of huskers, male and female. The whole number of working hands present were selected, on one side or the other, and then each party commenced a contest to beat the other, which was in many cases truly exciting. One other rule was, that whenever a male husked a red ear of corn he was entitled to a kiss from the girls. This frequently excited much fuss and scuffling, which was intended by both parties to end in a kiss. It was a universal practice that taffia or Monongahela whisky was used at these husking frolics, which they drank out of a bottle, each one, male and female, taking the bottle and drinking out of it, and then handing it to his next neighbor, without using any glass or cup whatever. The custom was common, and not considered rude. Almost always these corn-shucks ended in a dance. To prepare for this amusement fiddles and fiddlers were in great demand; and it often required much fast riding to obtain them. One violin and a performer

were all that was contemplated at these innocent rural games.

"Towards dark, and the supper half over, then it was that a bustle and confusion commenced. The confusion of tongues at Babel would have been ashamed at the corn-shuckings. The young ones hurrying off the table, and the old ones contending for time and order. It was the case nine times out of ten, that but one dwelling house was on the premises, and that used for eating as well as dancing.

But when the fiddler commenced tuning his instrument the music always gained the victory for the young side. Then the dishes, victuals, table and all, disappeared in a few minutes, and the room was cleared, the dogs driven out, and the floor swept off ready for action. The floors of these houses were sometimes the natural earth, beat solid, sometimes the earth with puncheons in the middle over the potato-hole, and at times the whole floor was made of puncheons.

The music at these country dances made the young folks almost frantic, and sometimes much excitement was displayed to get on the floor first. Generally the fiddler on these occasions assumed an important bearing and ordered, in true professional style, so and so to be done; as that was the way in North Carolina, where he was raised. The decision ended the contest for the floor. In those days they danced jigs and four-handed reels, as they were called. Sometimes three-handed reels were also danced.

In these dances there was no standing still—all were moving at a rapid pace from the beginning to the end. In the jigs the by-standers cut one another out, as it was called, so that this dance would last for hours. Sometimes the parties in the jig tried to tire one another down in the dance, and then it

would also last a long time before one or the other gave up.

The cotillion or stand-still dances were not then known. The bottle went around at these parties as it did at the shuckings and male and female took a dram out of it as it passed around. No sitting was indulged in, and the folks either stood or danced all night, as generally daylight ended the frolic. The dress of these hardy pioneers was generally in plain homespun. The hunting shirt was much worn at that time, which is a convenient working or dancing dress. Sometimes dressed deer-skin pantaloons were used on these occasions, and moccasins—rarely shoes—and at times bare feet, were indulged in.

In the morning all go home on horseback or on foot. No carriages, wagons or other vehicles were used on such occasions, for the best of reasons—because they had none.

Dancing was a favorite amusement and was participated in by all.

“Alike all ages; dancers of ancient days,  
Have led their children through the mirthful  
maze,  
And the gray grandsire, skilled in gestic  
lore,  
Has frisked beneath the burden of three-  
score.”

There were many other amusements indulged in by the settlers of that day, and while it is said that they were more athletic and rude than those of today, they certainly had the virtue of being as innocent as the amusements of today, and were not susceptible of being called demoralizing.

“Among settlers in a new country, from the very nature of the case, a higher value is set upon physical than mental endowments. Skill in woodcraft, superiority of muscular development, accuracy in shooting with the rifle, activity, swiftness of foot,

were the qualifications that brought their possessor fame. Foot-racing was often practiced, and often the boys and young men engaged in friendly contests with the Indians. Every man had a rifle, always kept in good order; his flints, bullet moulds, screw-driver, awl, butcherknife and tomahawk were fastened to the shot-pouch strap or to the belt around the waist. Target shooting was much practiced, and shots were made by the hunters and settlers with flint-lock rifles that cannot be excelled by their descendants with the improved breechloaders of the present day. At all gatherings, jumping and wrestling were indulged in and those who excelled were thenceforward men of notoriety. Cards, dice and other gambling implements were unknown. Dancing was a favorite amusement. It was participated in by all. At the shooting matches which were usually for the prize of a turkey or a gallon of whisky, good feeling generally prevailed. If disputes arose they were settled often by a square stand-up fight, and no one thought of using other weapons than fists. They held no grudges after their fight, for this was considered unmanly; it was the rule that if a fight occurred between two persons the victor should pour water for the defeated as he washed away the traces of the fray, after which the latter was to perform the same service for the former.

The early settler that became a permanent fixture or attachment to this county was of a peculiar type. As before explained, some of these localities were settled by colonists, others by neighborhoods coming from the same locality in other states, and with these they brought many of the customs of the particular locality from which they came. Some of them were fond of hunting, others of horse-racing. I am told that in an earlier day the horse-racing gatherings were great

occasions, that people would come from all parts of the county to a horse-race, and much time, money and energy were spent upon this class of amusement, but with the men fond of horse-racing and other amusements came also the church-goer, and those who delighted in assembling for religious worship. True, they had no church houses, but the home of the Christian settler was readily converted into a place of religious worship, and his larder not unfrequently supplied the attendants on such occasions. The Sabbath day was duly observed by many of these people, and the man of God, with his bible in his hand, was an instrument for doing good, and in fact did much in the education and training of the young.

We can refer to two men of central Illinois, who were typical preachers of that day: Peter Cartwright and Aaron Vandever—and while they differed much in their habits and type, yet they were both strong-minded, fearless ministers, and went about doing much good, with but little remuneration.

Vandever was a resident of this county, Cartwright of Sangamon, and these men more than once put to shame and routed "the common bully," who prided himself in being a terror to the community in which he lived; while the ministers, of which these mentioned were two types, were not highly educated, yet they were men of good sense, sound judgment, with a deep-rooted conviction of right from wrong, and just such men as were needed for the building of this county; too much cannot be said in praise of the early settler who revered the laws of God, and sought to do unto others as he would they should do unto him.

It is said that the Rev. Aaron Vandever and the Rev. Peter Cartwright had often heard of one another, but had never met.

It was customary in those days to travel on horse-back, and almost every person had a pair of saddlebags that he threw on the back of his saddle. As they were riding along in the same direction, Cartwright overtook Vandever; they conversed for some time; each concluded that the other was the man he wanted to see, and finally Vandever turns to Cartwright and says: "I would take you, sir, to be a Methodist preacher." "Ah," said Cartwright, "and why?" "Well, from the tone of your conversation and the white cravat you wear." Without making any answer, and after riding a little further along, Cartwright says to Vandever: "And I would take you to be a Baptist preacher." "And why?" says Vandever. "Well, from the tone of your conversation and the bottle I see sticking out of your saddlebags." It must be remembered that Vandever was a Baptist preacher of the old persuasion, and with that denomination at that day it was not uncommon for them to take a little for the stomach's sake, but did not use it to excess.

The lands of Christian county were not all registered for entry in the same office. Some of them were registered at Springfield, some Edwardsville and some Vandalia; the selecting and entering of the better lands by the earlier settlers and speculators was in that day one of the leading business interests of this locality, and was to some remunerative.

The records of the county disclose that some speculators entered thousands of acres, purchased at a very low price; it often happened that on account of the location, beauty or fertility of a particular tract of land observed by different persons at about the same time, that great racing contests were had as to who should reach the land office first and enter that tract of land, something sim-

ilar to the contests that have been going on in the territories for the last few years, which have attracted the attention of the whole world.

An amusing incident is told of two old settlers near Clarksdale, W. T. Hewitt and Y. B. Clark, who were leading citizens in that locality. A spirit of emulation, if not rivalry, grew up between these men; each of them desired to be the more prominent, to obtain the larger landed estate, and this at times led each of them to oppose the other in obtaining what he desired; it is said that there was a nice tract of land located near Clarksdale that Mr. Hewitt wanted and Mr. Clark also desired this piece of land, and by some means he had learned that Mr. Hewitt was going the next day to the land office to enter it, so Mr. Clark, instead of waiting until the next day, started that night, rode all night, reaching the land office early in the morning and obtained the much coveted prize. They were both hearty, strong-minded, level-headed, active men, and while they were not classed among the earlier settlers, they came here at a day when the county needed such men, and both did a great deal towards the advancement of the part of the county in which they lived.

The wolves, other wild game and malaria were not the only things dreaded by the early settler. After the biting frosts had killed the prairie grass, then there was nothing more dreaded than the prairie fires; it is said by some of those who witnessed them that, at times when the wind blew a good strong breeze, the fire would run so rapidly through the prairie that it would be impossible for persons caught out in the midst of the prairie to escape from the fire by running, even on horseback; much property was frequently destroyed and sometimes human life by these great prairie fires, people who had

homes that were in possible range of these fires took the precaution to burn a large strip of grass around their homes to prevent their destruction. Mr. Goodrich tells me that the early settler in attempting to cross these prairies always went prepared to protect himself in case a fire should break out, and if, while traveling along in the midst of a large scope of prairie grass, he discovered fire coming towards him, he would begin where he was and burn out a large scope of grass and then when the fire came up would protect himself by standing in the midst of the tract that he had burned off; this he says was common and proved effectual.

Major Wm. T. Vandever tells me that at one time just prior to the civil war there was but one Democrat in the town of Rosemond; his name was Joshua Pepper—they were having quite a hotly contested campaign in the county. The Democrats predominated in most of the towns; Vandever's father (who was then an officeholder of the county) and some of the other political leaders concluded that they would have a Democratic rally at Rosemond to please Mr. Pepper. The day was fixed and Wm. T. Vandever was sent by his father all over the county to notify the people of the great Democratic rally in Rosemond. The Democrats from all parts of the county gathered, with their wagons and other modes of conveyances, at a point near Rosemond, and made a grand parade, and had a big time, and while they failed to make Rosemond Democratic, they pleased Mr. Pepper with their efforts upon that occasion, but Major Vandever says he never was as tired riding horseback in his life as when through his trip over the county gathering the people in, and did not care to repeat the effort to make Rosemond Democratic.

The state road, which passed from Terre Haute to Springfield, and which passed through the town of Mt. Auburn, was one of the great thoroughfares of the travelers from the states east of Illinois to the great west; it is said that thousands of Mormons who first went to Nauvoo and afterwards to Salt Lake City passed through the county at an early day; one of the old settlers visiting Salt Lake City a few years ago met while there many people who had stopped over night with him (Mr. Goodrich) and they recalled the beauties of this locality and the field that was apparently open for prosperity here.

They failed, however, to take advantage of the great opportunities offered to them here—they were religious enthusiasts seeking a kingdom backed by Joseph Smith and his apostles—and to live a life in conformity with the creeds of the Mormon church.

At the organization of the county the people voted *viva voce*; this plan by many was considered as the most independent one; others viewed it in a different light; if the system had no other merit it certainly gave a controlling influence to intriguing politicians; with the admission of the ballot system their power was dwarfed. While the ballot system of that day may have been an improvement, under the old mode of voting, the people can congratulate themselves that the Australian ballot system of the present day is a decided improvement over the old mode of balloting.

The voter of today by the Australian ballot can absolutely vote as he chooses without being intimidated by any person or body, and when the system of voting machines is perfected, which is being done, so that the ballot can be registered as deposited, and the dishonest and unscrupulous "ward heeler" prevented from changing the

ballot after deposited in the box, this will be an additional improvement upon our voting system, and will give additional faith and credit to the ballot box. Independence and purity of the ballot should be encouraged and the ballot box safely guarded.

The political and business interests, religious and moral sentiments of the people of this country today are so diversified and so many different interests to consult the independent voter is more numerous and the difficulty of either party securing an election without reference to the qualifications and standing of the candidate is becoming more and more hazardous, but it is said "in this county at that early day there were two large family connections by the name of Durbin and Young that composed a large part of the voting population; it was not an uncommon remark that as these two families voted, so went the election.

Politically, they were in sympathy with each other, and with the Whig party. Galvin Ralston, a old-line Whig, and a candidate for the office of county commissioner, being interrogated as to his prospects for election, replied: "Very good, as both the Durbin and Young wing are with me in a solid column." It is scarcely necessary to say he was elected.

Daniel Goode and Wm. O. Brents, both old settlers and political leaders, exercised great influence over the political parties.

The constitution of 1848 substituted the ballot for the *viva voce* system. This worked well and the people have been enabled to vote their honest convictions without being branded as turn-coats. The old parties were well disciplined and very powerful. If a member of either broke ranks he was soon hounded down.

At this remote day it is difficult to secure anecdotes of that early day, because

of that generation having all passed away and for the reason we here repeat a few of the anecdotes and incidents given by Dr. Goudy in a former history of this county. and while we have not deemed it necessary to verify these, we have been told that in most instances they actually occurred as given.

In the trials before the justices of the peace in the county many amusing incidents and anecdotes have occurred.

About forty years ago, in the region of Bolivia, in the northwestern part of this county, lived one John S. Thompson, a justice of the peace. He was a large, stout, big-fisted Kentuckian. Sam Smith was brought before him on a charge of assault and battery. Sam soon became boisterous and began to abuse the justice. Esquire admonished him to keep quiet, but all to no purpose. Sam grew worse and worse, until the burly esquire's patience was exhausted. "Sam," said the esquire, "I know but little about the power the law confers in keeping order in court, but I know very well the power the Almighty has given me, and so shall you." Suiting the action to his words, the esquire seized a chair and sent Sam whirling to the floor, and then at the end of his boot relieved the office of his presence. Smith then went before another justice, filed an affidavit of assault and battery and had Esquire Thompson arrested. The defense set up a plea that the justice was a relative to the prosecutor, which point was adjudged well taken, and the justice entered a judgment of acquittal. Not satisfied with the decision, Smith filed another affidavit before Esquire C. ———. Thompson was again arrested and arraigned before the justice. He employed counsel, who moved for his acquittal on the ground that he "could not be put in jeopardy twice

for the same offence" under the constitution. The esquire, after consulting various evidences, sustained the plea, and Esquire Thompson was again triumphantly acquitted. From that time forward there was as good order in the office of Esquire Thompson as in the supreme court room of the state of Illinois.

In another case, about thirty-five years ago, in the western part of the county, a suit was instituted before Esquire John R. ——— against John W. ———, then residing within three miles of Hillsboro, in Montgomery county. Summons issued to Constable William Torrance, with instructions to serve the same, which he accordingly executed, and judgment was entered up by the esquire for forty dollars and costs of suit.

The execution was issued in due time and Constable Torrance, who again entered Montgomery county, made a levy, took a delivery bond and in time made the debt and returned the execution satisfied, neither party knowing the force of the county line between them.

It was told the writer by an old settler that at another time an execution was issued and delivered to a constable in this county, whose name he did not know, and the constable was directed to levy upon a bunch of hogs but was told that a mere pen and ink levy was not sufficient; that he must actually seize the property and do such acts as would constitute a trespass, so the constable, with the writ in his hand, went to the pen, lit astride a hog, took out his execution and says, "Now, Mr. Hog, I levy on you," and so on, until he struck a male hog, which showed fight, and dangerous to catch, so the constable took out his execution and said, "Now, Mr. Hog, d—n you, I levy on you at a distance."

It is useless to say that this levy was not questioned, and brought satisfaction to the execution.

#### A PATHETIC SPEECH SPOILED.

In the case of M——, arraigned for larceny, his lawyer, from Springfield, a bombastic speaker, informed his client that the case was desperate, and that he must be governed strictly by his directions. Said he: "My speech will be divided into four parts. First, historical; second, argumentative; third, the reply; fourth, the pathetic. You and your wife and children must sit quiet until I come to the fourth, or pathetic, part, and then I want you all to burst out aloud and cry, groan and take on as I proceed to the close. The moment I stop, arise and throw your arms around your wife's neck and kiss the baby." The trial was opened; the jury empaneled and evidence heard. The prosecuting attorney opened the case with a speech of great power. Lawyer Bombast arose with all eyes centered on him, and began as follows: "If the court please, gentlemen of the jury, look at my client; look at his poor wife and little babe; look at the afflicted parents, weighed down with sorrow and grief, sinking as it were to their graves. Oh, gentlemen of the jury, can you find it in your hearts to send him to the penitentiary?"

As he uttered these last words the prisoner set up a loud howl, threw his arms around his wife's neck, and kissed the babe, while the rest of the family joined in the chorus. The lawyer was dumbfounded; the court looked in astonishment, the jurors looked at each other and wondered what it all meant, but the bombast took in the situation at a glance and explained: "Nothing only a mistake of my client, your honor and gentlemen of the jury. He mistook the 'his-

torical' for 'pathetic' part of my speech." The blunder lost his case.

A number of very interesting and humorous stories are told of William M. Thomas, J. P., two or three of which we will relate. In a trial before him a man by the name of Gunn was a witness. The man hesitated not a little and seemed unwilling, after much persistent questioning, to tell what he really knew, when the esquire became impatient and said: "Come, Mr. Gunn, don't hang fire." After the examination closed the bystanders were convulsed with laughter by the old esquire adding, "Mr. Gunn, you can go off; you're discharged."

The esquire is also credited with the following decision: "The fact is, Peter Smith, the jail is an old rickety affair, as cold as an iron wedge. You applied to this court for release on bail, giving it as your opinion that you would freeze to death there. It is the desire of this court to be humane, and as the weather has not moderated and to keep you from freezing, I will direct the sheriff to hang you at 4 o'clock this afternoon."

In another case before Thomas ——, James Funderburk vs. Sam Brents—In trial of Right of Property. It was a jury case, composed of old Dicky Simpson and others. Capt. H—— suggested to the plaintiff to take a jug of good old bourbon and treat the court and jury. Funderburk acted on the suggestion and it proved to be a happy thought. The court drank; the jury drank; and all felt good. The esquire gave an inkling of his decision in advance. He said: "There's no use going into trial in this case, for the Right of Property is not in Sam Brents, and he is subject to the execution by G—d, sir."

The jury nodded assent, as they were in a nodding mood. The constable retained

possession of the property and the plaintiff, Funderburk, got his money.

Another case before Esquire Thomas, in which Benjamin Williams was defendant. The trial did not result to the satisfaction of said defendant, and he charged that the esquire did not do him justice. His insulting remarks were overheard by the esquire, and on his coming out of the court house he gathered hold of a hoop-pole, exclaiming: "By God, sir, I'll give you more substantial justice," and lampooned him most unmercifully.

Le Roy Hill, of Sangamon, was a defendant in a suit instituted before Thomas. He asked for a change of venue, giving as a reason that "he didn't like to be tried by steam," over which the esquire became wrathly, and "by the eternal," swore a perfect streak. However, the change was granted and the case taken before another justice.

#### THE "BULL PEN" OR PUGILISTIC TIMES.

No sooner had the county seat been located than it became a rallying point for all the belligerent spirits of the county. Ben W—— and William W—— had a fight a few minutes after the "locating peg" had been driven by the commissioners. This was the inauguration of affrays, which continued for several years at the county seat, greatly to its discredit. Persons harboring ill-feeling or any grievance against a neighbor would, on meeting him, throw out a challenge to meet on "muster day" or some other public occasion and settle the matter. Time did not seem to abate their hostility; the hate once engendered still rankled in their bosoms, and public opinion deferred to this mode of settling old grudges, and it required no little moral courage to withstand it. The combatants at the appointed

time would, with their friends, be on hand; draw their coats, gird their loins and enter the "bull pen," which at that time consisted of the public square, in the absence of a "stray pen." It was not uncommon for a half dozen such cases to be adjusted in one day. On such occasions large crowds often assembled and there was usually on hand a bountiful supply of "sod corn."

Capt. H—— was sure to be present with his two-wheeled cart, containing a cask of "tanglefoot," and his stentorian voice could be heard far and near to repeat, "Ho, all ye thirsty, come and drink. It is warranted to keep you cool in the summer and warm in the winter. Indians say there are 'fifty fights in every barrel of fire water.'"

There were times when some of the most prominent men in the county would be engaged in these melees. It was on one of these memorable occasions when Gabriel and others were engaged that Thomas ——, county collector, supposing himself clothed with the necessary authority, mounted the court house steps and in tones of thunder "commanded the peace." His admonitions not being heeded, he threw off his coat, waded in, exclaiming that he would "be d—d if he didn't have peace" and made for Gabriel, when he suddenly "right about faced" and left on "double quick," with his long ringlets streaming in the air, as the excited crowd and the captain's commissary closed in the rear. These sovereigns would suffer no interference on these war-like occasions. It was looked upon as cowardly to use knives and pistols, and it was very seldom that such was the case.

#### THE MILITIA SYSTEM.

In the earlier history of the county the military spirit ran high, and many aspirants for position used it as a "stepping-stone"

to power. Previous to the formation of the county the people had to travel fifteen or twenty miles to Rochester to do military duty. This was a great inconvenience, and at length the county was laid off into military districts. Elections were ordered in each of the company districts for one captain, one first lieutenant and one ensign. Soon after the organization of the county the following order was issued:

"Militia in Dane, Notice:

Lieut.-Col. White's regiment, including all the county of Dane, will parade for review and inspection at Taylorville on Friday, June 27, 1839.

By order of                      A. G. HENRY,  
Springfield, Ill.                      Brigade Major."

By this order the captains were required to be in the field with their respective commands, "armed and equipped as the law directs." The great and memorable day came. The parade ground was early filled with waving plumes and crowds of anxious citizens. The ground where Taylorville had been located a month previous was dotted with white tents. Soon the adjutant, on a splendid charger, came galloping into the field with orders: "Officers, to your places, marshal your men into companies, separating the barefooted from those who have shoes, placing those who have guns, sticks and corn-stalks in separate platoons, and then form the line ready to receive your superior officers." Thomas P. Bond had been elected colonel of the regiment. The order was executed. Col. Bond was seen coming in the distance, accompanied by the old lieutenant colonel, with his aides. The lines were wheeled into a column and made to perform some fine military evolutions, and were eventually brought into position for review by the colonel and his staff.

The grand column then moved with the

colonel at its head to a field half a mile west of town, with its bayonets, sticks and corn-stalks glittering in the sunshine.

After exhibiting a fine military display they formed into line of battle, under the command of the gallant colonel, and a sham battle, with corn-stalks, was fought, with great fury, much to the delight of the bystanders.

Sam Brents was placed under arrest by his commanding officer for disobedience of orders, in not poising his corn-stalk at an angle of forty-five degrees, in accordance with military usage. A guard was placed over him, who was compelled to hold an umbrella over his head to protect him from the intolerable heat of the sun, then 96 degrees F. in the shade.

#### A DEEP SNOW.

One of the mile-stones or epochs of Christian county and Central Illinois was the period of the deep snow which fell in the winter of 1830-31. For many years the period of the deep snow was referred to for the purpose of determining who were and were not old settlers, at the old-settlers' meetings held a quarter of a century ago, the question frequently asked was, "Was you here before the deep snow?" If so, then you are entitled to all honors of an old settler. This probably more than any other event made a lasting impression upon the minds of the people who lived in Christian county and Central Illinois at that time. We have grown so far from that period, however, that if the old settlers are to be designated as those living here during the deep snow, then they are becoming very few, as that generation is practically gone.

From the accounts given of this period and the hardships endured by those living here at that time, it is not remarkable that

the snow created such an impression upon the minds of the inhabitants; nothing like it has been seen since and probably not before.

It is said that the Indians had a tradition that about seventy-five years before a snow fell which swept away the immense herds of buffalo and elk that roamed the prairies, but this tradition, like many others of the Indians, may have been greatly magnified as it was handed down from generation to generation, yet the immense quantity of buffalo and elk bones found on the prairies when first visited by the white man may have been an evidence of these animals having been starved to death by reason of some calamity and it may have been a deep snow.

It is said that this snow began falling early in the autumn and continued at intervals throughout the entire winter. A fall of snow would frequently be succeeded by heavy sleet, forming crusts of ice between the layers of the snow strong enough in many places to bear up people and animals, and permitted them to travel on the top of the snow or crust.

It was a dark, dreary, cold winter, and so intense was the cold that the snow did not melt even on the sunny side of the buildings; it is said by those who lived here at that time that during the winter the snow had obtained a depth of five feet on the level, and many places drifted to a depth of twenty feet or more, frequently drifting up against the house to such a depth that they were compelled to burrow out under the snow to secure a passage of ingress and egress to the house; these, of course, were seldom, but it serves to illustrate the depth of the snow fall. By reason of the depth of the snow the inhabitants, when they began to travel, were enabled to drive any-

where regardless of the fences, driving over them without even knowing they were there, but for weeks the people were blockaded or housed up, and remained so until starvation compelled them to go forth in search of food.

In a former chapter we have given an incident of the difficulties and suffering endured by the settler during this snow in endeavoring to procure food for his family. Before that time deer, prairie chickens, quails, rabbits and other birds and animals had been abundant and furnished the settler with a good supply of meat, but for years afterwards game of all kinds was very scarce, having perished in the snow. It is not easy to perceive why nature should require a people so illy prepared to bear the burdens of such a phenomena, but it is no less difficult to determine why nature should give such a down-pour of rain as to cause the valleys of the Mississippi to overflow and the great crops growing thereon destroyed, and at the same time permit the plains of Nebraska, Kansas and other regions to be dried up and parched, but we all know such things to transpire in nature.

The period of the deep snow of 1831, with the cold and suffering following in its wake will never be forgotten by those who witnessed it, and it is well that an event of this magnitude should be so chronicled and inscribed upon the pages of history that generations yet unborn may know the powers of nature and learn as best they can as they journey through life to prepare for such events, for what nature has done she may again do, for according to the tradition of the Indian that a snow of this kind had fallen seventy-five years before it may be that an epoch of snow may come upon us within a short period, not in the course of tradition, but as a result of a disturbance of the

elements by the changes in the great planetary system.

#### THE SUDDEN FREEZE.

One of the natural phenomena that is more wonderful than that of the deep snow is said to have occurred a little after noon one day in January, in the year 1836, and is known as the sudden freeze.

A lady who is an old settler has left the following record of her recollections of this wonderful change in the atmosphere. The lady says "she and her family had finished the noon-day meal, and were sitting around and in front of the old fashioned, large, open fire-place, enjoying its generous warmth, chatting and discussing the state of the weather, as during the morning it had been snowing and raining a little; presently the lady, in looking from the window in her cabin, noticed a heavy black cloud lying off to the west, which seemed to be rapidly approaching. Needing some water, she took a bucket and went to the well, at a distance of about one hundred yards, lowering the bucket with a long 'sweep,' then used in drawing the water, filled it, and started home. Before reaching the house the wind and rain struck her; blew and upset a portion of the water on her clothing; the cold air seemed to cut like a knife and before she reached the house her dress and apron were frozen stiff in a solid sheet of ice. Ponds which a moment before were free from ice were frozen over in a few minutes. Many persons were frozen to death who happened to be caught away from home, and many others before they could get to a place of shelter had their faces, ears, hands and feet frozen. Immediately preceding the storm the ground had been slightly covered with snow, which from rain falling in the morning had become 'slushy.' Cattle that were

in the fields were held fast by the 'slush' freezing about their feet, and it was necessary to cut away the ice to liberate them. Ducks and geese were imprisoned in the same way. It was scarcely ten minutes after the cold wave swept over the place until the water and melting snow was hard enough to bear up a man on horseback."

#### THE RAINY SEASON.

During the years of 1876 and 1877 Christian county was confronted with two of the rainiest seasons that had ever been known in the history of this locality. Prior to this time and since, people have witnessed many freshets and heavy rain-falls, but they were of short duration, and the waters falling soon moved away and left the farms in fair condition for the raising of their crops, but during the years 1876 and 1877 very early in the spring and until very late in the season, the rains were continuous, the streams were all swollen and the farms all flooded. In most localities the farmers were unable to plant their land to corn, except on the high patches; all the low lands that were planted were never cultivated, and the crops never matured. As a farmer remarked to me this morning, in many instances they would not be able to get ten bushels of corn off of eighty acres of land that had been planted, and this succession of bad crops had a terribly depressing influence upon the farming interests of Christian county, so much so that tenants by the hundred moved from off their farms, leaving the whole of their crops to the landlord to pay the rent, and out of the whole of it he obtained but a scanty rent. Many of the owners of land who mortgaged them prior to the rainy season, owing to the want of crops, were unable to meet their payment, and as a result, mortgages were foreclosed

upon hundreds of farms in the county, and many good and valuable homes sacrificed. Lands that, prior to this, had been worth from \$35 to \$40 an acre dropped in value from \$15 to \$25 per acre, and much of the land that could have been purchased at that price is now worth \$100 to \$125 per acre.

After the railroads were installed in this county it looked as if the time had come when the farmers and those interested in agricultural pursuits would reap a rich harvest and lands did, in fact, rapidly advance in value, but the county lacked drainage; even open drains were very few; tile drains absolutely none, so that when the rains of these wonderful seasons of '76 and '77 came farmers were unable to get the water from their lands and as a result the crops were wholly destroyed.

Drainage was one of the absolute necessities for Christian county, and its improvement and the thorough drainage system which has since been adopted in several townships in the county and treated of in another chapter, will in all probability avert another calamity like that of '76 and '77.

Those who were able to withstand the struggle and hold on to their homes were well rewarded, for during the year 1878 and 1879, such wonderful wheat crops and other crops as were grown in this county had never been seen, and lands in a short time almost doubled in value.

Men who had bought farms during the time of depression realized enough off of one wheat crop in many instances to pay for the farm, and much of this money was utilized in the drainage of the lands and placing them beyond the probability of having their entire crops destroyed in consequence of a rainy season.

Christian county at that time looked almost solely to her agricultural products for

its income, and as a result the depression felt in these years was not confined to the farmer, but was visited upon the merchant and laborer as well. Many people who had before this time supposed themselves to be in a position that would enable them to battle with and survive any ordinary disaster, were horrified and amazed at the depressing influence of these years upon the community. It is said that everything works together for the common good of all, and perhaps it is well that these scourges are inflicted upon us at times to remind us of our weakness and of the necessity of economy and thrift in more prosperous times. Every young man and woman should learn from these lessons that "in times of peace they should prepare for war"—that in times of thrift they should so economize and husband their resources that they may be able to bear their burdens in times of adversity and want of prosperity that happiness, independence and manhood are not acquired by the wasting of the whole of their earnings; while no criticism can be offered in any endeavor to make life comfortable and happy, it is at all times to be praised, yet a squandering and wasting of the products of our labor is at all times to be condemned.

In the journey of life we are almost certain to meet with disappointment and misfortune through natural causes, or otherwise, that call upon us for the preservation of our health and an economy in the management of our affairs in life to be able to withstand these misfortunes when they befall us, ever remembering that old adage "that a wilful waste makes a woeful want."

#### THE CYCLONE OF 1880.

Near the hour of sunset of Saturday, April 24, 1880, the western part of Chris-

tian county was visited with a terrible cyclone, which swept everything in its path and was very destructive of life and property.

The storm entered Christian county about four or five miles northwest from Morrisonville and traveled in a northeasterly direction, crossing the south fork of the Sangamon river at Willowford bridge, and thence passing about two miles west of Taylorville to a point about five miles north of Taylorville, where it apparently lifted up and passed away.

In its course it passed over and destroyed many comfortable homes and much valuable property.

News of the storm was received at Taylorville, shortly afterward, and the excitement that prevailed among the inhabitants was simply wonderful. There was a great demand for horses and rigs of every kind and character to visit the scene and care for those who were injured, but owing to the darkness of the night and the downpour of rain, it was almost impossible to obtain any definite results until daylight on Sunday morning.

As soon as it was possible, the wounded and dead were cared for, and the scene of destruction was visited on Sunday by thousands of people, and with one accord it was acknowledged by all to be by far the greatest and most destructive storm that ever visited this section of the country.

The unsightly waste and evidences of the power of the cyclone made the stoutest hearts quail and wonder at the power of the destructive forces of nature.

After the storm reached the prairie, the cloud became more visible to those in and near its path than while in the heavy timber.

The writer has learned from Mr. E. A.

Miller, who was in the path of the storm and watched it for some distance before it reached his place, many important facts observed by him with reference to this cyclone. He says he observed it first at a distance of two or three miles moving in a direct line of his premises; that it appeared to be a cloud of funnel shape and of the density of the darkest coal smoke, relieved by streaks of light which were taken to be electricity; it had a rotary motion as well as a forward motion, and while the rotary motion must have been exceedingly rapid, the forward motion did not exceed perhaps 30 miles an hour, and it apparently traveled in a straight course. There accompanied it a rumbling sound resembling somewhat that of a heavy train passing over a wooden bridge. As it reached Mr. Miller's place it passed to the west of his residence and over a tenant house that was occupied by Mr. Andrew Oyler.

The rotary motion seemed to have covered the space of about  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a mile, and the cyclone moved from right to left, or from east to west, through the north, the eastern side of the cyclone drawing the property and trees and human beings forward and towards the centre, the west side of the cyclone drawing the property backward and toward the centre. The house occupied by Andrew Oyler was on the west of the centre of the storm, was entirely destroyed, but a portion of the roof and the chimney of the house were carried backward the distance of about seventy-five yards, and there dropped in a pile in the wake of the storm as if they had been dumped from a wagon. At a hedge fence running east and west north of Mr. Miller's residence in the track of the storm on the east side of the centre of the storm, the debris was deposited on the south side of the hedge and on the west side of the storm centre, the debris was depos-

ited on the north side of the hedge, and the exact centre of the storm could be observed as it passed over fields by a light line of litter of husks, corn shucks and things of that character of the width of about three feet.

Mr. Miller had a beautiful maple grove through which the storm passed, and on the east side of the centre of the storm the trees were blown down and turned to the north and northwest, while on the west side of the centre the trees were blown down and twisted and turned to the south and south-east.

The well at the tenant house of Mr. Miller was curbed in two sections, the upper section being of the length of about 10 feet; this section was drawn from the well by the storm and utterly demolished.

There were standing in the barn at this tenant house occupied by Mr. Oyler, two horses; one was tied to the manger and the other to a post that was set in the ground; the barn was entirely destroyed and every vestige of it swept away, except the one post at which the horse was tied. The horse tied at the manger was picked up by the storm and carried the distance of about 30 rods northeast and badly crippled while the horse tied to the post remained there and was not injured. In the wake of the storm Mr. Miller found chickens, rattlesnakes, together with many other objects of interest, and he says the feathers were picked from the chickens as close as though they had been prepared for market, but it was a mystery where the rattlesnakes came from, evidently carried there from the timber.

A neighbor living north of him had cattle pastures upon the south side of a large hedge fence; some of these cattle were picked up and actually carried over the top of this hedge fence, a distance of many rods,

and dropped upon the other side, many of them being killed, some badly injured.

Smith Oyler's residence was completely torn down, and carried away; yet a cone shaped wood-pile cut into stove lengths and being within the same distance of the storm centre as the house was not disturbed. A new wagon upon the place of Mr. Miller was utterly demolished, the wagon spokes separated from the hub of one wheel, while the tire of this wheel was found wrapped around a tree further along in the line of the storm.

In the track of the storm for some distance upon each side of the centre the ground was in most places swept perfectly clean, in places had the appearance of a swept street; where it passed through the wheat field of Andrew Oyler, the wheat which was about eight inches high was cut and cleaned up so that you could scarcely observe that anything had ever been planted there.

At the home of Mr. T. J. Langley, who resided near the timber, the family sought protection by running to the orchard, lying down upon the ground and taking hold of trees; one of his sons, a boy of the age of about seven years, was picked up by the storm and carried out over the trees the distance of about 200 feet, and there dropped in a wheat field; the boy was crippled, but not killed, and he says that as he was being carried away he observed by the streaks of light in the storm cloud the trees below him as he passed along; the mother of the boy, Mrs. Langley, was killed, and Mr. Langley and the other son were badly crippled, and Mr. T. W. Brents, our present sheriff, was there at the time and was also injured. His head was badly cut and hand broken.

Mr. Langley says they were all of them literally covered and plastered with mud, so much so that they could scarcely open their

eyes after the storm had passed by, and Mr. Brents and Mr. Langley both describe the storm passing over them as if there was a terrible weight resting upon them.

At Mr. Cutler's, two children were killed, and Mrs. Cutler badly crippled; at Frank Peters', the family took refuge under a manger in a log stable, and the storm blew down this log stable even with the top of the manger and the family miraculously escaped. The storm swept over and destroyed the home of Mr. Thomas Smith by lifting his house from the foundation and partially turning it around; the home of Mr. S. W. Hawkins, a little further north in the course of the storm, was badly wrecked and almost entirely demolished, but the family, having gathered in a southeast room, miraculously escaped injury.

The home of the widow Carlton was not disturbed, except the roof was blown away. It seems that as the storm passed along it would raise and lower at places.

The residence of Mr. Edward Leigh was entirely swept away, together with much property, but the family escaped by seeking refuge in the cellar; likewise the house of Mr. John Gessner, but the family was preserved by having gone to the cellar for safety. The home, barn, orchard and everything surrounding the home of Mr. T. J. Langley were totally destroyed, and the family injured as above described.

It is said that Mr. A. Elliot had several ribs broken, and that Mrs. Elliot, with a mother's devotion, sought to shield her offspring from harm by clasping the children under each arm, and with another in her lap waited the onset; that the children were unhurt, and that Mrs. Elliot was severely wounded.

The escape of Rinaldo Carlton and his wife, was simply miraculous; they attempt-

ed to hold the door from being blown open by the storm, but being unable to do so, rushed out into the storm and the house was entirely destroyed. Fortunately they received only slight injuries.

The Willowford bridge was totally wrecked and many of the heavy timbers caught up and carried a distance of a mile. At the residence of Mr. J. J. Williams he and his family sought refuge in a cave and avoided injury, but the house and buildings were entirely destroyed.

Mr. J. J. Cutler lived a quarter of a mile north of Mr. Williams, and at the time of the approach of the storm attempted to reach his home, but was overtaken by the hurricane, and found himself amidst flying rails, boards and timbers, and on nearing his home he saw the tornado lift the house from the ground, and the form of his little daughter carried away high above the tree tops. The body was found the next morning quite a distance from the house in a brush pile with the upper part of the head gone and the skull crushed, and his little son was found a short distance from the house horribly mutilated and dead.

Frank Peters and his family were saved by taking refuge in a log stable. The home was entirely destroyed.

At the home of John Hayes the house was lifted from over the heads of himself and family, leaving them on the floor; no one was seriously injured, except Mr. Hayes, who received a fracture of the skull; also at the home of William Welsh the roof was taken off the house, but the family was uninjured.

Mr. and Mrs. George Higgins were found a few hours after the storm had subsided, a quarter of a mile away from where their house had stood, locked in each other's arms,

covered with mud, insensible, bleeding and horribly mutilated.

James Watts and wife were both seriously injured, and their home and effects entirely destroyed; the home of Mrs. Holfner was also destroyed, and she, with her five children, were caught in the falling building; Mrs. Holfner and two of the children were seriously injured.

At Frank Harket's, one end of the house was blown out and the roof lifted, leaving the other end of the house and the occupants uninjured.

Buildings were also destroyed and the farms of Mr. Miller, Mr. Oyler, Mr. Jonas Kemmerer and Mr. Perkins; also the school house known as the Perkins' school house was completely demolished, and here near the Perkins home is where the storm seems to have lifted up and sailed away, and so far as the writer has been able to ascertain, no other damage was inflicted by this storm.

The writer will not attempt to make any deductions from this great and wonderful phenomena of nature, but has sought to give in detail, as best he could, the peculiarities of this wonderful cloud, with its movements and effects, and such incidents as appear strange or peculiar, so that every one who reads this article may study and determine for himself, if he can, how or why nature moves in such wondrous ways.

The writer has not attempted to give a description of the entire amount of property that was destroyed, but it is sufficient to say that in this county hundreds of valuable animals and much valuable property, amounting in all to probably hundreds of thousands of dollars, were destroyed by this wonderful cyclone.

The impressions made by this storm upon the minds of the inhabitants residing in this vicinity perhaps never will be eradicated;

the people prepared caves and regulated their cellars for protection, and for years afterwards, upon the approach of almost every storm, the people sought refuge in these caves and cellars, and it is well, for there seems to be no protection from them except by taking refuge in a cave or cellar.

#### CHRISTIAN COUNTY'S HEROES IN WAR.

The people of this locality, before and after the county was organized, have always shown themselves to be loyal, brave and true to the interests of their county, and have at all times been ready and willing to make all necessary sacrifices for the good of the country. She has furnished her quota of soldiers for the Black Hawk war of 1832, the Mexican war, the Civil war and the Spanish war, and no history of the county would be complete without giving a detailed history of those of its citizens who engaged in these recent wars. While it is true, it is to some extent a matter merely of statistics, yet these are very dear to the hearts of many of the people of our county, and should be recorded, even though lengthy.

These statistics have been collected by a former historian of this county, for all of the wars except the Spanish-American war, and will be given as therein designated with the addition of the soldiers of the Spanish war.

Before entering into detail of the causes and results of the Black Hawk war, we give our readers a brief sketch of the celebrated warrior who figured so conspicuously in those sanguinary campaigns. Macuta Mahicatah is the Indian name for Black Hawk. He was born in the Sauk village in the year 1767, and was an Indian of considerable talent and sagacity, shrewd and eloquent in council; he, however, deported himself in

that demure, grave and formal manner incident to almost all Indians. It is said he possessed a mind of more than ordinary strength, but slow and plodding in its operations. In comparison he could not be classed with the great Indian characters, such as Philip, Brant, Logan, Tecumseh and such illustrious men. By the portraits of him now extant, the reader of character will readily observe in his large, high forehead and the lines worn by care in his face, massive jaw and compressed lips, a character indicative of more than ordinary ability. His ambition was to distinguish himself as a great warrior; yet he was merciful to the weak, the women and children. The only road for an Indian to distinguish himself and become a great man is in war. So soon as he kills an enemy he may paint on his blanket a blood hand, which will entitle him to a seat in the councils. In 1810 and 1811 Black Hawk and comrades were "nursing their wrath to keep it warm" against the whites. A party of Sacs, by invitation, went to see the prophet of Tippecanoe. They returned more angry against the Americans. A party of Winnebagoes had massacred some whites, which excited for murder the Sac band headed by Black Hawk. A part of his band and some Winnebagoes attacked Fort Madison in 1811, but were repulsed. Black Hawk headed the Sacs in this attack.

In 1812 emissaries from the British arrived at Rock Island with goods and secured Black Hawk with five hundred warriors to go with Col. Dixon to Canada. When they reached Green Bay there were assembled there bands of the Ottawas, Potawatamies, Winnebagoes and Kickapoos, under the command of Col. Dixon. Black Hawk and band participated in the battle of River Raisin, the Lower Sandusky and

other places, but, getting dissatisfied with the hard fighting and small amount of spoils, he and twenty comrades left for the Sauk village at Rock Island, where he remained for many years at peace, with the exception of a small battle on the Quiver river settlement in Missouri, in the present limits of St. Charles county, where one white man and an Indian were killed.

The principal cause of the Indian troubles in '31-'32, better known as the Black Hawk war, was the determination of Black Hawk and his band to remain in their ancient village, located on Rock river, not far from its junction with the Mississippi. The government, having some time previously, by various treaties, purchased the village and the whole country from the Sac and Fox tribes of Indians, had some of these lands surveyed, and in 1828 some of the lands in and around the ancient village were sold; the collision between the two races for the possession of the property produced the first disturbance between the Indians and the government. Seeing that war was inevitable, the Governor of Illinois made a call on the militia of the state for seven hundred men on the 26th of May, 1831, and appointed Beardstown, on the Illinois river, as the place of rendezvous. The call was responded to with that promptness characteristic of the early pioneers of this state. Their habits of life were such that all were familiar with the rifle. After marching eight days, the mounted militia reached a point a few miles below the Sac village on the Mississippi, where they joined the United States forces under Gen. Gaines and encamped in the evening. The next morning the forces marched up to an Indian town prepared to give the enemy battle, but in the night the Indians had escaped and crossed the Mississippi. This ended Black

Hawk's bravado and his determination to die in his ancient village. The number of warriors under his command was estimated at from four to six hundred men. Black Hawk and his band landed on the west side of the Mississippi, a few miles below Rock Island, and there camped. Gen. Gaines sent a peremptory order to him and his warriors that if he and his men did not come to Rock Island and make a treaty of peace he would march his troops and give him battle at once. \* \* \* In a few days Black Hawk and the chiefs and head men to the number of twenty-eight appeared in Fort Armstrong, and on the 30th of June, 1831, in full council with Gen. Gaines and Governor John Reynolds, signed a treaty of peace.

#### THE BLACK HAWK WAR IN 1832.

During the winter of '31 and '32 rumors were rife that Black Hawk and his band were dissatisfied, restless and preparing for mischief. A chief of the Winnebago Indians, who had a village on Rock river, some thirty miles above its confluence with the Mississippi, joined Black Hawk, who was located on the west bank of the Father of Waters. The chief had great influence with Black Hawk and his band. He made them believe that all the tribes on Rock river would join them, and that together they could bid defiance to the whites. By this unwise counsel Black Hawk resolved to re-cross the river, which he did in the winter of 1832. That move proved to be their destruction. Through his influence and zeal, Black Hawk encouraged many of the Sacs and Foxes to join him at the head of his determined warriors. He first assembled them at old Fort Madison on the Mississippi; subsequently marched them up the river to the Yellow Banks, where he pitched

his tent April 6, 1832. This armed array of savages soon alarmed the settlers, and a general panic spread through the whole frontier from the Mississippi to Lake Michigan. Many settlers in terror abandoned their homes and farms, and the Governor decided, on the 16th of April, to call out a large number of volunteers to operate in conjunction with Gen. Atkinson, who was in command of the regular forces at Rock Island. The Governor ordered the troops to rendezvous at Beardstown on the 22d of April.

Among those who enlisted from Christian county were Samuel Wydick, John S. Sinnet, Martin Hanon, Jake Gragg, Jesse Gragg, John Baker. Shadrack J. Campbell was a soldier of the war of 1812, and also was a volunteer in the Black Hawk war in the campaign of 1832.

The force marched to the mouth of Rock river, where Gen. Atkinson received the volunteers into the United States services and assumed command. Black Hawk and his warriors were still on the Rock river.

The army under Atkinson commenced its march up the river on the 9th of May. Gov. Reynolds, the gallant "Old Ranger," remained with the army, and the President recognized him as a Major-General, and he was paid accordingly. His presence did much toward harmonizing and conciliating those jealousies which generally exist between volunteers and regular troops. Major John A. Wakefield and Col. Ewing acted as spies for a time in the campaign of '32 to discover the location of the enemy if possible. A Mr. Kinney acted as guide for them; he understood the Sac dialect. On the 14th of May, 1832, Major Stillman's command had a sort of running battle with the Indians at or near what is now known as Stillman's Run, a small sluggish stream;

in the engagement eleven white men and eight Indians were killed. Black Hawk and his warriors fought with the spirit born of desperation. Black Hawk says in his book that he tried at Stillman's Run to call back his warriors, as he thought the whites were making a sham retreat in order to draw him into an ambushade of the whole army under Gen. Whiteside.

The hasty retreat and rout of Stillman and his army was, in a measure, demoralizing to the entire force; undoubtedly the cause of the defeat was a lack of discipline. When Gov. Reynolds learned of the disaster of Major Stillman, he at once ordered out two thousand additional volunteers. With that promptitude characteristic of the old "War Governor," he wrote out by candle-light on the evening of Stillman's defeat the order for the additional troops, and by daylight dispatched John Ewing, Robert Blackwell and John A. Wakefield to distribute the order to the various counties. The volunteers again promptly responded. On the 10th of July the army disbanded for want of provisions. Gen. Scott arrived soon after with a large force at the post of Chicago, to effect if possible a treaty with the Indians. Small detachments of Black Hawk's warriors would persistently hang on the outskirts of the main body of the army, thieve and plunder, and pounce upon and kill the lonely sentinel or straggling soldier. On the 15th of July the soldiers were reviewed and those incapable of duty were discharged and returned home. Poquette, a half-breed, and a Winnebago chief, the "White Pawnee," were selected for guides to the camp of Black Hawk and band. Several battles and skirmishes occurred with the enemy, the principal of which was on the banks of the Mississippi, where the warriors fought with great des-

peration; over one hundred and fifty were killed in the engagement and large numbers drowned in attempting to swim the river. After the battle the volunteers were marched to Dixon, where they were discharged. This ended the campaign and the Black Hawk war. At the battle of the Bad Axe, Black Hawk and some of his warriors escaped the Americans and went up the Wisconsin river, but subsequently surrendered himself. Fort Armstrong, on Rock Island, was the place appointed where a treaty would be made with the Indians, but before it was effected that dreadful scourge, the cholera, of '32 visited not only the regular army, depleting its ranks far more rapidly than the balls of the Indians had done, but it also sought out its many victims in the dusky bands of the Black Hawk tribe. On the 15th of September, 1832, a treaty was made with the Winnebago Indians. They sold out all their lands in Illinois and all south of the Wisconsin river and west of Green Bay, and the government gave them a large district of country west of the Mississippi and ten thousand dollars a year for seven years, besides providing free schools for their children for twenty years, oxen, agricultural implements, etc., etc.

September 21, 1832, a treaty was made with the Sac and Fox tribes, on which they ceded to the United States the tract of country out of which a few years afterwards the state of Iowa was formed. In consideration of the above cession of lands, the government gave them an annuity of twenty thousand dollars for thirty years, forty kegs of tobacco and forty barrels of salt, more gunsmiths, blacksmith shop, etc., etc.; six thousand bushels of corn for immediate support, mostly intended for the Black Hawk band.

The treaties above mentioned terminated





### SOLDIERS' MONUMENT

Erected at Rosemond Grove Cemetery, near Rosemond, Illinois. Consisting of a pedestal formed from a single granite block, surmounted by figure in bronze, after the design of Charles J. Mulligan, sculptor. The gift of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Kitchell, of Pana, Ill. Dedicated October 29, 1903.

"In memory of the Union Soldiers and Sailors and of their Beloved Commander in Chief and Noblest Friend, Abraham Lincoln."

favorably and the security resulting therefrom gave a new and rapid impetus to the development of the state, and now enterprising towns and villages and beautiful farms adorn the rich and alluvial prairies that before were only desecrated by the wild bands who inhabited them.

#### THE MEXICAN WAR.

In the war with Mexico in 1846-47 Illinois furnished six regiments of men as follows: First regiment, commanded by Col. John J. Hardin; Second regiment, commanded by Col. William H. Bissell; Third regiment, commanded by Col. Ferris Forman; Fourth regiment, commanded by Col. Edward D. Baker; Fifth regiment, commanded by Col. James Collins; Sixth regiment, commanded by Col. Edward W. Newby.

As the records have not yet been transcribed from the War Department at Washington, we have had to rely solely on the facts furnished by those now living in the county who served in the war.

This county had no regular organization in that war, but had several volunteers, who enlisted in other regiments. A company was raised and reported by its captain, H. M. Vandever, but it was not accepted as the companies and regiments were all organized. Several of her sons, however, entered the ranks and did good service for their country in helping forward the cause in which they were enlisted. H. M. Vandever became assistant quartermaster, with the rank of captain. He was at the battle of Buena Vista on Gen. Wool's staff, and bore Gen. Taylor's famous dispatch, "A little more grape, Capt. Bragg." Among those who went to that war from this county (and some others who have been residents of this county) may be mentioned Dial Davis,

John Sanders and Wesley White, who enlisted in the Fourth regiment, Company C, commanded by Capt. Isaac C. Pugh; George Horworth, enlisted in Company A, same regiment; Christopher C. Hollier, enlisted in Company E, Fourth regiment; Henry Sanders and J. W. Wise in Capt. Roberts' company; A. P. Miller, enlisted in Capt. Hurt's company; others were Reuben Wilkinson, Joseph Wydick, Henry Sharp, John Sharp, Fletcher Haines, James C. Christian, Henry Ferguson, John Craig.

#### THE WAR OF THE REBELLION.

The War of the Rebellion commenced with the firing on Fort Sumpter in April, 1861, and ended with the surrender of Gen. Lee and his army to Gen. Grant, near Richmond, Va., on the 9th of April, 1865. The war over, at once the reduction of the army began. Illinois had in the field 156 regiments of infantry, seventeen regiments of cavalry, and two regiments of light artillery. The total aggregate force in the field was: in infantry, 185,941; cavalry, 32,082; artillery, 7,277—making a grand total of 225,300 men. Apprehensions were expressed by many that the disbanding of so many soldiers among the people, fresh from the army, and the withdrawal of all military restraint and control over them would be productive of disorder, misrule and crime to an unprecedented degree in the country. But time has shown that all such anticipations and fears were groundless; for with a wonderful rapidity these vast armies of the Union melted away and returned to their varied peaceful pursuits of civil life; and the "legions that a few years ago, in number, in solidity, discipline and proof were without antetype in the world's history, may today be found in the work-shop, at the bench, in the busy marts of trade, in the

manufactories and on the farm; and their members have manifested to the world that, as citizens at home, they know as well how to respect the nation's laws as they know how to vindicate them in the field against armed rebellion or invading forces."

#### DRAFT.

At first it was determined to rely upon the spontaneous movement of the people to furnish the necessary quotas of soldiers by volunteering, but this was found inadequate, and the magnitude of the contest made it necessary to resort to the draft. This was very unpopular and distasteful to the people. Every appliance was made to evade it. Desertions were not infrequent. But the strong arm of the government enforced the measure. The draft was based on the census of 1860. Christian county had a population of 10,475. Several enrollments were made. The first, in 1863, showed a force of 2,155 persons subject to military duty in this county; a second enrollment in 1864 showed 2,512 men. The latter enrollment was viewed with distrust and looked upon as excessive, inasmuch as it exhibited a marked increase, when, during the same time, the county had been depleted of large numbers who had already entered the service.

The officers in charge of the duty, acting under instructions, took in all classes between the ages of 21 and 45; the blind, the halt and the lame, without regard to their manifest unfitness for military duty; thus putting them to unnecessary trouble and expense to be excused. A revised enrollment was demanded, and made January 1st, which reduced the number to 1,532 men.

President Lincoln called for 300,000 men October 18, 1863; for 500,000 February 1,

1864; for 200,000 March 4, 1864; for 500,000 July 18, 1864; for 300,000 December 19, 1864—in all 1,800,000. Illinois' quota, 177,747. Christian county's quota, 1,449; raised by volunteers and draft 1,369—leaving a deficit of 80 when the war closed, and recruiting ceased by order of the Secretary of War, under date of April 13, 1865.

The first draft was ordered to be made September 19, 1864, in the several precincts in the county where the quota had not been filled by volunteers. Silas Chadwick and James M. Crabb were among the conscripted from the Taylorville precinct. Silas Chadwick was killed soon after the battle of Franklin, Tennessee, and James M. Crabb furnished a substitute at a cost of \$500, paid by himself. The county did not come to the relief of those first drafted, but reserved its charity for the benefit of those taken in the second draft, at Jacksonville, under the call of December 19, 1864. The course adopted was manifest injustice to those first drafted. All drafted men in the county should have shared alike in its benefits.

The quota of Christian county, under the call of December 19, 1864, was 257, apportioned to the precincts as follows:

Sub. Dist's.

No.	Precincts.	Quotas.
19.	Buckhart .....	38
20.	Stonington .....	18
21.	Pana .....	12
22.	North Fork .....	42
23.	Tacusa (Assumption) .....	19
24.	Rosemond .....	9
25.	Lower Bear Creek.....	19
26.	Taylorville .....	51
27.	Nevada .....	12
28.	Upper Bear Creek.....	12
29.	Lower South Fork.....	16
30.	Locust .....	9
	Total .....	257

The County court in special session February 20, 1865, adopted measures looking to the relief of the 257 conscripted men of this county. They ordered a tax of \$2.50 on the one hundred dollars' worth of taxable property of the county, and directed a bounty of \$350 to be paid to any volunteer or drafted man until the quota of the county was filled. The bonds were issued in March, payable in one year. The war closed, and all recruiting was ordered by the war department to be suspended on April 15, 1865. But 149 bonds had been issued, aggregating a cost to the county of \$52,150, and interest of \$5,215. The public mind was restive about the bonds. The County court, at their December term, 1865, appointed H. M. Vandever and Jas. C. Morrison as agents to examine the records and ascertain the number of men furnished by this county, who would legally be entitled to the war bonds. When Richmond fell on the first of April, 1865, not a bond had gone out of the office of the county clerk. Prominent men of the county urged the withholding of the bonds for a few days to see the issue of events. But it was not heeded. Those in charge of the matter at Jacksonville managed, in the course of ten days, to throw out 149 war-bonds, and burden the county, at their maturity, with a debt of \$57,365. These agents were appointed to probe the matter to its bottom. They reported to the court that "they had made some progress in regard to the number of bonds issued, but they encountered difficulties at Springfield, as Col. Oakes had packed up the papers to send to the war department, but proffered all the aid he could furnish in the premises."

A tax was levied by the County court, and the bonds paid off at maturity in 1866, without the citizens seemingly feeling it.

#### SOLDIERS' AID SOCIETY.

A society under this caption was organized by the ladies of Taylorville. Its object was to furnish mittens, socks and articles for the hospital, for the use, benefit and comfort of the "sodger boys gone to the wars" from this portion of the county. Their object was laudable; and it was very natural for a mother's heart to feel for her boy as the cold, bleak days of winter began to approach. How cold would be his hands as he bore his musket in the weary marches of the day. They held their meetings frequently, and entered on their work with commendable zeal, and soon had a box of these necessary articles prepared and sent forward to the front. The "boys in blue" were then camped at Rolla, Mo., and were glad to think they were held in dear remembrance at home; but the United States commissary had anticipated the ladies in furnishing these comforts.

The officers of the society were Mrs. Dr. Goudy, President; Mrs. W. W. Anderson, Vice President; Mrs. Dr. Rockwell, Secretary; Mrs. W. A. Goodrick, Treasurer, and Hattie Goodrick, Mrs. Maj. Shumway and Mrs. Paden, Directresses.

#### 14TH INFANTRY.

This regiment was organized under the call of May 15, 1861, and was mustered into the United States service for three years at Jacksonville, Ill., on the 25th of May, 1861. It remained at Camp Duncan, Jacksonville, until the latter part of June, for instruction, when it moved to Quincy, and thence to Missouri, July 5th, where it did good service. It left Rolla, Mo., for Jefferson City, under Gen. Fremont, on his memorable campaign to Springfield, Mo., after Gen. Price, and went into winter quar-

ters at Otterville. In February, 1862, it was ordered to Fort Donelson, and arrived the day after its surrender, and was placed in Gen. S. A. Hurlburt's brigade. Col. Palmer was promoted to brigadier-general, and Major Hall was made colonel. It was in the sanguinary engagements of the 6th and 7th of April, 1861, when the regiment first smelled gunpowder from the enemy. Here it lost half its number. The colors had forty-two bullet holes through them, which attest the dangers and gallantry of the command. It was in the last grand charge, in the advance led by Col. Hall, on the evening of the 7th of April, that Gen. Veatch, in his official report, says: "Col. Hall, of the 14th Illinois, led his regiment in that gallant charge on Monday evening, which drove the enemy beyond our lines and closed the struggle of that memorable day."

The regiment took an active part in the siege of Corinth. After the evacuation it proceeded to Memphis, and thence to Bolivia, Tenn. It was in an eight-hours fight on the Hatchie river, and went into winter quarters, 1862-3, at Lafayette, Tenn. Early in the spring it was ordered to Vicksburg, where it took part in the siege of that stronghold, until its final fall on the 4th of July, 1863. It was at the siege of Jackson, Miss. In August it moved to Natchez, and from thence across the swamps of northern Louisiana to Harrisonville, on the Wachita river; captured Fort Beauregard and accompanied Gen. Sherman on his raid on Meridian, Miss.

After its return, a large portion re-enlisted as veterans, their time being nearly out. The veterans were furloughed, and many returned home. On their return they formed part of the army in advance on Atlanta. Here the 14th and 15th Illinois, who

were together since the fall of 1862, sharers of each others' sorrows and joys, weary marches and honorably earned laurels, were consolidated into the

#### 14TH AND 15TH ILLINOIS VETERAN BATTALION.

In October, 1864, rebel Gen. Hood attacked Gen. Sherman's rear forces, guarding the railroad, when a large number of the battalion were killed, and the major part of the balance were taken prisoners and sent to Andersonville prison. Those who escaped capture were mounted and acted as scouts on Gen. Sherman's grand march through Georgia to the sea, and were at the battle of Bentonville, N. C.

At Goldsboro, N. C., in the spring of 1865, the battalion organization was discontinued; and seven one-year companies, new recruits were assigned March, 1865, from the north to fill up the two regiments. Col. Hall was again assigned to the command of the 14th regiment. It was in the grand review of Sherman's army at Washington City, May 24, 1865. It then proceeded by rail and river to Louisville, Ky.; thence by rail to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas; thence marched to Fort Kearney and back. It was mustered out at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, September 16, 1865, arriving at Springfield, Illinois, September 22, 1865, where it received final payment and discharge. The commanding officer at the close of service was Brevet Brig.-Gen. Cyrus Hall, and the aggregate strength since organization, 2,015.

The aggregate number of men who belonged to the 14th regiment was 1,980, and the aggregate mustered out at Fort Leavenworth was 480.

During its four years and four months of arduous service the regiment marched

4,490 miles, traveled by rail 2,380 miles, and by river, 4,490 miles—making an aggregate of 11,360 miles.

In this regiment was Company H, from Christian county, commanded by Capt. Andrew Simpson, who was wounded at Pittsburg Landing, in the battles of the 6th and 7th of April, 1862—and in consequence thereof resigned October 4, 1862. This company participated in all the hardships and battles before described.

The company was organized, under many adverse circumstances, after the fall of Fort Sumter. It was then styled "The Christian Union Guards."

The *Independent Press* of April 19, 1861, says of it: "Immediately upon the receipt of Gov. Yates' proclamation, calling out six regiments of volunteers, several chivalric young men of Taylorville, inspired with patriotic ardor, promptly set about forming a light infantry corps; and, upon the fact becoming known about town, the annexed candidates for martial glory came forward and signed the muster roll:

Andrew Simpson, Edward Percy, John Durbin (Biscuit), Robert E. Doyle, John McKenzie, D. R. Jay, John W. Hartley, Silas B. Root, Reuben A. Beard, John G. Haines, A. F. Barnes.

"Mr. John W. Hartley is acting as a recruiting officer during the absence of Mr. Simpson, who has gone to Springfield to see Gov. Yates on matters pertaining to the organization of the company. On Mr. Simpson's return, Mr. Hartley assures us the Light Infantry corps will have a 'grand rally.'"

One of the men who signed the call was not in sympathy with the cause, and probably did it in burlesque as will appear from the following published in the *Press* of the same date:

"A CARD TO THE CHRISTIAN PUBLIC."

"Mr. Editor: To put myself right before the world, I deem it due alike to my character as a man and my standing as a democrat and a patriot to state that I signed the muster roll of the Light Infantry company, now forming at Taylorville, only conditionally. I will state my conditions, and leave it to impartial posterity to pronounce me 'sound upon the goose.'

"1st. I will not join the army of coercion if Dick Yates appoints the officers.

"2d. I will join if the members of the company are allowed the privilege of electing their own officers—company and regimental.

"3d. I will continue with the company 'for and during the war'—provided I am elected captain.

"4th. If I am not elected captain of the company, I'll see 'the institution' d—d first, before I budge a step from Taylorville. I have no idea of setting myself up as a target to be shot at for the insignificantly-contemptible sum of \$11 a month, rations and medical attendance thrown in. No-sir-ee, Bob; not in the day time.

"R. A. BEARD.

"P. S.—If the above arrangement is not entirely satisfactory to my brave companions in arms of the Taylorville Light Infantry corps I shall remain at home and continue, as usual, to build houses and stairs—cheap for cash or country produce.

"R. A. B."

Taylorville, April 19, 1861.

Whilst this chivalric gentleman of temporary residence in Christian was sending forth broadcast this ironical patriotic letter, tending to embarrass Capt. Simpson in his recruiting efforts, on the same day a class of his way of thinking were shooting down a portion of a Massachusetts regiment in Baltimore, on their way to Washington City to protect the capitol of the nation from seizure by the enemy.

A union meeting was held in Pana, April 22, 1865, at which Rev. H. R. Lewis pre-

sided, and addresses were made by J. H. O'Connor, Geo. E. Pease, J. E. Southwick and others. A series of resolutions were passed without a dissenting voice. The *Independent Press*, in commenting on it, says: "The fourth smells strongly of gunpowder and subjugation." It further says: "John B. Butler, well and favorably known to the people of Christian, has abandoned the peaceful pursuits of life, donned a military attire, and like a 'bowld sojer boy,' as he is, gone off to the wars, gaily singing as he went the patriotic old ditty of—

" 'Come all ye brave Americans,  
I'd have you for to know  
That for to fight the enemy  
I'm goin' for to go.' "

But Capt. Simpson succeeded in raising his company, composed of 12 officers and 65 privates. They were duly organized and ready for the march on the 10th of May, 1861. The citizens of Taylorville gave them a sumptuous collation on that day at the courthouse. On that occasion the ladies were more than soldiers, vieing with each other in doing honors for the brave boys. Speeches were made by H. M. Vandever, C. Goudy, D. T. Moore, D. E. Hall and Wm. Singer. A select choir, under the direction of A. S. Rockwell, sang the beautiful airs, *Star Spangled Banner*, *Red, White and Blue*, *Auld Lang Syne*, on the courthouse steps; after which D. T. Moore, on behalf of the ladies, presented a beautiful flag, accompanied with a neat and appropriate speech. Maj. D. D. Shumway, as expressive of his good wishes, presented to the company, through Capt. Simpson \$20 in gold.

The company marched to Pana on that day and took the cars on the Central railroad. A good dinner was served up to the

boys in blue at Pana. They moved by rail to Decatur the same evening, where they were jammed into two freight cars and rolled away to Jacksonville. The company was mustered into service on the 25th of May, 1861, and went into quarters at Camp Duncan. The boys then opened the "Mysterious box" sent along with the commissary department filled with cake and other nice things. This disposed of, the company gave "three cheers and a tiger" to the ladies of Taylorville.

The 14th regiment, Illinois volunteers, as sworn into the United States service at Jacksonville, Ill., May 25, 1861, for three years. Jno. M. Palmer, colonel.

Muster-roll of Company H:

Andrew Simpson, captain, resigned October 4, 1862; John W. Hartley, 1st lieutenant, resigned May 21, 1862; Oliver P. Squiers, 2d lieutenant, promoted captain; Z. Payson Shumway, 1st sergeant, promoted 2d and 1st lieutenant, mustered out 1864; James W. Reed, sergeant, drowned July, 1861; Henry McKenzie, sergeant, mustered out October 31, 1864; Edw. W. Percy, sergeant; Charles Poleman, corporal; John C. Isbell, corporal; Elias C. Banning, corporal; John Durbin (Biscuit), corporal; Edwin A. Salter, corporal, killed at Shiloh April 6, 1862; Robert M. Logan, corporal, dropped from the rolls October 29, 1863; Geo. M. Lunison, corporal; Charlesworth Powel, wagoner, promoted 1st lieutenant, then adjutant; Edgar Chapman, musician; Morris Ray, musician, re-enlisted as veteran; Wm. T. Brawley, private, died July 30, 1862; Andrew U. Behimer, private; Uriah Baroff, private; Wm. W. Baldman, private, mustered out October 21, 1864; Christopher C. Bonds, private, mustered out October 31, 1864; John D. Bankston, private; James M. Bisby, private, re-enlisted as veteran; de-

served 1865; Wm. T. Blythe, private; Wm. C. Broadshaw, private; Almond F. Barnes, private; Chas. W. W. Clark, private; Henry Cundiff, private, re-enlisted as veteran M. O. July, 1865; Henry H. Campbell, private, re-enlisted as veteran; Robert E. Doyle, private; William Drory, private; William Thomas Elam, private, promoted corporal, killed at Shiloh April 6, 1862; East. Cincinnatus, private; Joseph Freeman, private; William George, private; Lafayette George, private; Owne Gillon, private; Archibald Hatchett, private; Christian K. Hamel, private; Benjamin F. Halford, private, re-enlisted as veteran; Harmon H. Hatfield, private; Henry H. Higbee, private; W. John Herstin, private; Daniel R. Jay, private; James Kelso, private, discharged September 2, 1862, disability; Samuel Logan, private, re-enlisted as veteran; Alfred Lovejoy, private; Levi Loser, private; John McKenzie, private; Samuel McKenzie, committed suicide May 19, 1863; Thomas Meeter, private; Cyrus Murphy, private; Lyttle McCracken, private, transferred to Inv. Cor. Oct. 21, 1863, and mustered out Oct. 25, 1864; Edmond Malony, private; Jefferson Osborn, private; Eli Parry, private, discharged Oct. 13, 1862; wounds; Silas H. Polly, private, re-enlisted as veteran; James S. Ruby, private, dropped from rolls Oct. 29, 1862; Cyrus Rush, private, transferred to Inv. Corps, M. O., May 25, 1862; Mortimer Rice, private; Silas B. Root, private; Corwin Shephard, private, discharged Sept. 28, 1862; James M. Stewart, private, re-enlisted as veteran; Wm. O. Stephens, private, discharged Sept. 28, 1862; wounds; Absalom Stine, private, died in Andersonville prison, Oct. 2, 1864.

No. of Grave 10828:

Charles Seelover, private, killed at Shiloh, April 6, 1862; Albert B. Taylor, pri-

ate; Alexander Thompson, private; Charles B. Tettrick, private; Franklin M. Truster, private; Alfred Westbrooks, private; Ridley Westbrooks, private; Edward Branch, recruit; Simon Bartley, recruit; Robert Burris, recruit; Paul Connor, recruit; Holston, recruit; John Meeter, recruit, see Co. A, veteran battalion; John McCracken, recruit; David McLaughlin, recruit; Anthony Mansfield, recruit, died Sept., 1862; Jerry Miller, recruit; Jesse McKenzie, recruit, transferred to Inv. Cor., Oct. 21, 1863; Matthew Persinger, recruit; Isaac Rutledge, recruit, transferred from 2d Kansas Co. F, Aug. 28, 1861; Sidney Sweet, recruit, deserted June 25, 1865, from veteran battalion; Morris Ray, recruit, five major in 14th re-organized infantry.

#### FORTY-FIRST INFANTRY REGIMENT.

Company G, of this regiment, Francis M. Long, captain, was from Christian county. The officers of the regiment were: Isaac C. Pugh, of Decatur, colonel; Ansel Tupper, of Decatur, lieutenant colonel, killed at battle of Pittsburg Landing, April 6, 1862; Capt. Francis M. Long, of Taylorville, promoted major and killed in action, near Jackson, Miss., July 12, 1863; William C. B. Gillispie, of Grove City, in this county, adjutant from March 17, 1862, till his time expired, August 20, 1864; John Baughman, of Christian county quartermaster from September 4, 1863, till his time expired, August 20, 1864.

This regiment was organized by the secretary of war, in July, 1861, at Decatur, Ill., on the 9th of August, 1861. August 7, Captain Long's company, with the regiment, moved to St. Louis, Mo.; the 29th, moved to Bird's Point, Mo., and was assigned to the command of General Prentiss; September 8, moved to Paducah, Ky.; assigned to

Gen. C. F. Smith's command November 6, 1861; marched to Melbourne and returned; to Lovelettsville and returned November 19, 1861; to Crown Point and returned December 31, 1861.

Three members of Company G died at Paducah, Ky.: Corporal Wm. M. Petty, October 13, 1861, of typhoid fever, was brought home and buried, on Bear Creek, aged 23 years; Private John M. Jordan, of the same company, died of measles, December 22, 1861; deceased were two of the five who volunteered from Bear Creek; Jordan was buried at Paducah, Ky.; Geo. B. Ryan, of Taylorville, died at Paducah, Ky., April 5, 1862; was brought home and now sleeps close to his captain in the Oak Hill cemetery, near Taylorville.

February 5, 1862, the regiment took up its march for active service to Fort Henry, and on the 11th marched to Fort Donelson, and was engaged in the siege under Colonel McArthur, on the 13th, 14th and 15th days of February, 1862. None of Company G were killed in this fight, and only eight wounded. Their names were: Ben L. Bowles, of Rosemond, in his leg; Curtis Kimmerman, of Bear Creek, in the leg; Sergt. Robert W. Hopper, of Buckeye Prairie, in foot; James Brown, of Taylorville, in finger, and the others slightly. Fort Donelson surrendered on the morning of the 16th of February, 1862.

The regiment immediately after the surrender of Fort Donelson moved up the Tennessee river. The following letter from J. B. Young, a private in Company G, under date of March 26, 1862, to a friend in this county, we take from the Independent Press:

"We are now encamped within a mile and a half of Pittsburg, Tenn., near the lines of the states of Mississippi and Alabama. There are about 100,000 men here

in the heart of 'Dixie,' ready to move at an hour's notice upon the enemy. The Confederates are fortified, about 80,000 strong, at Corinth, twenty miles west of us. If the do not evacuate their position soon you will, perhaps, hear of a battle, compared with which that of Fort Donelson was child's play. When 200,000 men meet in conflict 'somebody will get hurt.' Our course, in all probability, will be westward to the city of Memphis. This, however, is but the speculation of a 'high private' in Uncle Sam's army-rear rank. The boys, from exposure to wet, fatigue, hard crackers and bacon, are not in as good trim for the fray as might be desired. But the warm spring weather and the forwardness of vegetation (for the peach trees have been in full blossom for the past ten days and the May apples nearly ready to bloom) is invigorating, and the health of the troops shows a marked improvement since we landed at this point.

"We were nine days aboard the steamboats, exposed to drenching rains most of the time. There were one hundred and thirty-two steamboats of the largest class in the line, conveying the troops and military stores up the river—the 41st Regiment and Company G among the number. The country is rolling and heavily timbered. In the valleys and bottoms there are canebrakes and cypress swamps.

"On the 24th, General Buell's division of the army, from Cumberland Gap, by the way of Nashville, formed a junction with General Grant's forces, at Savannah, fifteen miles below us, on the Tennessee river. If we succeed in taking Island No. 10 in the Mississippi, which we will, most likely, Corinth will be evacuated for the purpose of strengthening Fort Randolph and Memphis. 'We shall see what we shall see.'"

The battle of Pittsburg Landing, or Shiloh, as named in official reports, was fought on Sunday and Monday, April 6 and 7, 1862. It was a long and desperate conflict. Lient. John B. Butler, of Company G, correspondent of the *Independent Press*, of Taylorville, gives the following graphic account of the two days' battle:

"General Grant has been concentrating his forces at this point for the last four weeks, preparatory to an advance upon the enemy's stronghold at Corinth, Miss. We were only waiting a junction with the troops under General Buell to commence the work. The enemy, reported 130,000 strong, endeavored to cut us off before General Buell's arrival, and thereby command the navigation of the Tennessee river, give his troops the spirit and eclat of a victory, cheer and encourage the despondency of the enemy, replenish their exhausted ordnance and commissary stores, and fight General Buell at their leisure. They have been signally disappointed, although they fought like devils incarnate for thirty-six hours.

"On Sunday morning, about 4 o'clock, the enemy drove in our pickets, and the cannonading commenced with round shot, shrapnel, shells and other projectiles, grape, canister, etc. The enemy in force were in the camps almost as soon as were the pickets themselves. Here began scenes which hardly have a parallel in the annals of war. Many, particularly among the officers of the army, were not yet out of their beds; some were dressing, others washing and cooking, and a few eating their breakfast. Many guns were unloaded, accoutrements, lying pell-mell, ammunition was ill-supplied—in short, the camps were completely surprised—and taken at almost every possible disadvantage.

"The first wild cries from the pickets rush-

ing in, and the few scattering shots that preceded their arrival, aroused the regiments to a sense of their peril; an instant afterward, rattling volleys of musketry poured through our tents and before there was thought of preparation there came rushing through the woods, with lines of battle, sweeping the whole fronts of the division camps and bending down on either flank, the fine, compact columns of the enemy.

"Into the just-aroused camps of the union forces, thronged the Confederate regiments, firing sharp volleys as they came, and springing forward upon our laggards with the bayonet; for while their artillery, already in position, was tossing shells to the further side of the encampment, scores were shot down, as they were running without weapons, hatless, coatless, towards the river. The searching bullets found other poor unfortunates in their tents and these, unheeding now, they slumbered, while the unseen foe rushed on. Others fell, as they were disentangling themselves from the flaps that formed the doors to their tents; others as they were vainly trying to impress on the critically exultant enemies their readiness to surrender.

"Officers were bayoneted in their beds and left for dead, who, through the whole two days' fearful struggle, lay there gasping in their agony, and on Monday evening were found in their gore, inside their tents, and still able to tell the tale.

"Thus the battle raged by 8 o'clock in the morning. The roar of musketry and rifles, the infernal din of two or three hundred thousand small arms continued all day and ceased not until darkness put an end to the strife. We halted in line of battle and remained there during the night, notwithstanding it rained torrents throughout the latter part of it.

"Colonel Pugh commanded the First Brigade of the Fourth Division, Company G, with the Forty-first regiment, in the Fourth Division, took their position in line of battle by 8 o'clock a. m., the enemy showed himself, and commenced firing upon our battery, which replied promptly, and for two hours they kept up a most incessant roar. About 12 o'clock our battery changed position right in front of Company G, of Forty-first Regiment, Illinois Volunteers, and for fifteen minutes kept up a brisk fire; but the enemy disabled one gun, killed several gunners and horses, when the battery retired. This had drawn the grape and canister upon us and several men were killed out of Company G—not all, however, from Christian county—close by my side and in my rear.

"Our division was posted near the left wing of our lines. For two hours and a half our regiment presented the appearance of a young volcano; nor did it give one inch of ground until our ammunition was exhausted, when we retired behind the second line, refreshed ourselves with water and replenished our ammunition. Lieutenant-Colonel Tupper, of the Forty-first Regiment, was killed early in the action. The command then devolved upon Major Warner, who led us during the remainder of the fight on Sunday afternoon.

"The enemy outflanked us on the left, and drove us in until 5 o'clock in the afternoon, when one or two brigades of General Buell's command landed from the boats, and a masked battery of heavy guns was planted, which opened in easy range; and such a cannonading from that time till dark was never excelled, if equalled, in modern warfare. The enemy's batteries were silenced, and they were forced to retire some distance for the night. General Buell's forces continued landing all night and taking their

position in the field, and as soon as daylight made its appearance they 'cried havoc, and let slip the dogs of war,' and kept it up till three in the afternoon of Monday, when the enemy broke and retreated from the field. Col. Pugh's brigade, on Monday, the second day of the fight, were posted in support of the right wing, and here it was that the heaviest fighting was done. The enemy had erected breast-works of fallen timber, from behind which they kept up a severe firing for a long time, but we routed them at the point of the bayonet. In fact a great proportion of the fighting in the afternoon was with the bayonet.

"Among the prisoners were several officers of distinction; and among the dead were the bodies of Gen. A. Sidney Johnson, of Virginia fame, and Gen. Bragg, of battery notoriety at Buena Vista. We lost many prisoners on Sunday, at the commencement of the battle. The enemy took many of our guns on the first day, but were retaken on the day following, together with forty of the enemy's guns.

"Tuesday and Wednesday after the battle were occupied in burying the dead. The battle ground was covered, more or less, for three or four miles in diameter, with dead and wounded, men and horses. Some twenty-five or thirty miles were fought over. The country was hilly and cut up by deep ravines. The enemy had the advantage of a thorough knowledge of the country, of its geography and topography, which our men had not, with the exception of the commanding generals.

"About five o'clock of the first day's fighting, when we were marching to the right wing, to take position, Gen. Hurlburt paid the 41st regiment a very high compliment; many regiments were broken

and in confusion, and the General seeing us all in ranks in line of battle, called out 'What regiment is this?' '41st Illinois,' was the response. 'That is as it should be—the 41st is in line. I expect always to find them in line.' ”

The following letter was written by Capt. F. M. Long, on the 8th of April, 1862, after the battle, to his aged father in Taylorville, Illinois:

“Forty-six of my company G, went into the fight; and sixteen of the number were killed and wounded. The names of the killed were: Geo. C. Funk, John C. Wright, Wm. J. Johnson, Wm. H. Ready and Charles A. Cramer. The wounded were: Capt. F. M. Long, slightly in the foot; Lieut. John W. Cox, mortally, in the right thigh, died April 9th; Capt. Leander East, severely in the right shoulder; Gabriel McKenzie, slightly in the head; Gabriel C. Butt, seriously in the back; Wm. L. Miner, slightly in the head; George Stanley, slightly in the face; Geo. Cabill, slightly in the ear; James Brown, slightly in the breast; Edmund Wilson, severe wound in the left arm and bone broken, and Wm. J. Sisson, flesh wound in the leg.

“The killed fought bravely till they fell. The rest of my men went through unharmed; every one did his duty. I passed over the battle-field the next morning after the dreadful contest and such a sight I never beheld before; dead men are lying all around over the ground for miles.”

After the battle of Shiloh, the regiment was next engaged in the siege of Corinth, Miss., July 6, 1862, marched for Memphis via Holly Springs, Lagrange and Grand Junction; arrived at Germantown 20th, and at Memphis 21st July, where it remained till the 6th of September, and then marched for Bolivar, arriving on the

14th of September; on the 19th marched to the Grand Junction, and returned October 4, and marched to Hatchie river. On the 5th of October, 1862, was reserved during the battle of Corinth. On the 6th marched to Bolivar; on the 7th marched from Bolivar, arriving at Lagrange Nov. 3. On the 6th of November in Colonel Pugh's brigade; moved out on a reconnoissance to Lamar on the 8th and Somerville on the 24th; Nov. 28, 1862, again marched to Lamar; on the 29th to Holly Springs; on the 30th to Waterford; Dec. 10, 1862, to Beaver Creek; on the 11th to Yocono Creek, passing through Oxford and crossing the Tallahatchie; on the 22d marched from Yocona to Water Valley, and returned via Oxford, Beaver Creek, Tallahatchie, and arrived at Holly Springs, Jan. 5, 1863.

The 41st Regiment was in the first brigade, Colonel Pugh; fourth division, Brigadier-General Lauman; right wing, General McPherson; 13th army corps, Major-General Grant. The regiment went into camp at Moscow, Tenn., and remained until March, 1863. On March 5, 1863, ordered to Memphis, Tenn., where it arrived on the 10th. The regiment before this had been transferred from the 13th army corps, Major-General Grant, to the 16th army corps, Major-General Hurlburt commanding.

On the 12th of April, 1863, proceeded on an expedition to Hernando, Miss. At Cold Water, seven miles beyond the latter place, met the enemy, under General Chalmers. Here the 41st was under a heavy skirmish fire for about seven hours. On the 16th returned to Memphis. Valentine Hinkle, of Company G, died at Memphis, April 28, 1863; moved to Vicksburg; disembarked at Young's Point; on the 19th transferred to

General McClelland's command. Was engaged in the siege of Vicksburg.

July 5, 1863, moved towards Jackson, Miss.; engaged in the battle of Jackson. The loss of the regiment in this action was 40 killed upon the field and 122 wounded. Major F. M. Long fell, mortally wounded, while gallantly leading his men into action. This great sacrifice of life was by a mistaken order of General Lauman's. It was uncalled for and effected nothing. Among the killed were Corp. Elijah J. Shirrell, John H. Williams, William B. Russell, John A. Orr, William N. Robinson. Names of the wounded could not be obtained. After this disaster the regiment returned to Vicksburg on the 25th of July.

November 18, 1863, moved to Natchez, Miss., and remained until the 28th, when it returned to Vicksburg; Dec. 3, 1863, marched to Big Black river, where it remained and erected winter quarters; the 41st regiment being in the 1st brigade, Gen. Thomas Kirby Smith; fourth division, Gen. M. M. Crocker; 17th army corps, Major-Gen. James B. McPherson, commanding veterans and recruits on the 41st Illinois, consolidated with the 53d regiment.

The 41st mustered out Aug. 20, 1864, at Springfield, Ill.; number in the regiment, 1,211.

Such is a brief and hasty sketch of the movements of the 41st Illinois regiment, in which was company G, Capt. F. M. Long, from Christian county.

A brief account of the early formation of this company and the obstacles it had to encounter may be a matter of interest. Capt. F. M. Long, on his own motion, commenced recruiting for a company in July, 1861, to be attached to Colonel Pugh's regiment, forming at Decatur. The Independent Press says:

"A meeting to further the interests of the movement was held in the courthouse on the afternoon of the 26th of July, 1861. Addresses were made by Elder A. McCollum, Captain Vandever and Dr. Goudy. It was stated that the pay would be liberal—320 acres of land; a bounty of \$100, besides the regular wages in the army. The boys of the company styled themselves 'Uncle Sam's Nephews.' Among those enlisting was Samuel Wydick, an old settler of this county and 81 years old. He reported his age at 41, and passed muster. He was in the war of 1812; and also in the Black Hawk war. He is apparently as active as any man in the company, and endured the hardships incident to a life in the tented field with as much spirit as most of his younger companions in arms. He died in the hospital at St. Louis on the 22d of April, 1862. Peace to the old warrior's ashes."

#### MUSTER ROLL

of Company G, of the 41st Regiment of Illinois Volunteers, as sworn into the United States service, at Decatur, Ill., Aug. 5, 1861, for three years: Francis M. Long, captain, promoted major; Daniel K. Hall, captain, promoted; Thomas J. Anderson, captain, term expired Aug. 20, 1864; John B. Butler, 1st lieutenant, resigned June 18, 1863; Charles G. Young, 1st lieutenant, term 3 years, expired Nov. 11, 1864; John W. Cox, 2d lieutenant, died April 9, 1862, at Shiloh; James M. Boyd, 1st sergeant, term expired Aug. 20, 1864; George Hall, sergeant, M. O., term expired Aug. 20, 1864; Lander East, sergeant, discharged Jan. 29, 1863; W. B. Russell, sergeant; John J. Benope, sergeant, time M. O., Aug. 20, 1864; Elijah J. Sherill, corporal, killed at Jackson, Miss., July 12, 1863; Andrew J.

Bailey, corporal, died at Memphis, Tenn., April 20, 1863; John H. Williams, corporal, killed at Jackson, Miss., July 12, 1863; John C. Young, corporal, re-enlisted as veteran; Robert R. Earnest, corporal, discharged Nov. 28, 1862 (disability); William R. Russel, corporal, promoted sergeant, killed July 12, 1863; William M. Petty, corporal, died at Paducah, Ky., Oct. 13, 1861; Thomas Dowling, musician, mustered out April 20, 1864; John Brannon, private, re-enlisted as veteran; Elias F. Bowman, private, died at Vicksburg, July 7, 1863; Gabriel C. Butt, private, M. O., Aug. 20, 1864 (wounded); Dias Butt, private, M. O. Aug. 20, 1864 (wounded); Benjamin L. Bowls, private, M. O. Aug. 20, 1864 (wounded); James Brown, private, re-enlisted as veteran; John D. Clawson, private, discharged Aug. 15, 1862 (disability); Benjamin F. Cheney, private, discharged Nov. 29, 1863, to accept promotion as 2d lieutenant, 7th La. A. D.; DeWitt C. Cowgill, private discharged for disability; John H. Cooper, private, re-enlisted as veteran; Henry L. Clapp, private, discharged Oct. 22, 1862; William W. Durbin, private, re-enlisted as veteran; Frederick Drind, private, discharged April 6, 1863 (disability); George C. Funk, killed at Pittsburg Landing, April 6, 1862; George W. Gilbert, private, discharged Sept. 13, 1863; Elijah E. Gimlin, private, M. O. Aug. 20, 1864 (wounded); Anderson Gray, private, mustered out Aug. 20, 1864; William Goodan, private, mustered out Aug. 20, 1864; William C. B. Gillispie, private, promoted commissary sergeant; Robert W. Hopper, private, Aug. 20, 1864, as sergeant; Abram Halderman, private, discharged Oct. 10, 1862 (disability); Leonard Hoover, private, mustered out Aug.

20, 1864; William J. Johnson, private, killed at Shiloh, April 6, 1862; John M. Jordon, private, died at Paducah, Ky., Dec. 22, 1861; James T. Jones, private, discharged Dec. 16, 1863 (disability); Curtis Kimmerman, private, discharged Sept. 19, 1862 (disability); William S. Knott, private, deserted Sept. 13, 1861; Joseph Lev-anther, private, mustered out Aug. 20, 1864; Thomas J. Langley, private, discharged Aug. 14, 1862 (disability); Daniel E. McGarrah, private, mustered out Aug. 20, 1864; Thomas Marshall, private, discharged Sept. 18, 1862 (disability); William L. Miner, private, mustered out Aug. 20, 1864; John H. Peppers, private, re-enlisted as veteran; Benjamin Pilate, private, deserted July 30, 1862; George B. Ryan, private, died at Paducah, Ky., April 5, 1862; William Rutledge, private, deserted Sept. 28, 1861, and went into 115th regiment, killed at Chickamauga; Thadeus T. Smith, private, discharged March 5, 1862, as corporal; Theodore F. Storey, private-corporal, died at home, September, 1862; George Stanley, private, mustered out Aug. 20, 1864; Eli S. Scribner, re-enlisted as veteran; Augustus Weller, private, re-enlisted as veteran; David Wooley, private, died at St. Louis, March 19, 1862; Edmund Wilson, private, discharged June 12, 1862; David F. Welch, died at Mound City, April 15, 1862; George W. Waddell, transferred to invalid corps Sept. 12, 1863; Samuel Widock, private, died at St. Louis, April 22, 1862; John Wheeler, private, mustered out Aug. 20, 1864; John B. Young, private, M. O. Aug. 20, 1864; John Brannon, veteran, transferred to Co. A, Veteran Battalion; James Brown, veteran, transferred to Co. A, Veteran Battalion; John H. Cooper, veteran, transferred to Co. A, Vet-

eran Battalion; William W. Durbin, veteran, transferred to Co. A, Veteran Battalion; Gabriel McKenzie, veteran, transferred to Co. A, Veteran Battalion; John H. Peppers, veteran, transferred to Co. A, Veteran Battalion; Eli S. Scribner, veteran, deserted May 12, 1864; Augustus Weller, veteran, transferred to Co. A, Veteran Battalion; John C. Young, veteran, transferred to Co. A, Veteran Battalion; John B. Butler, recruit, promoted 2d lieutenant; Valentine Hinkle, died at Memphis, Tenn., April 28, 1863; Charles Langley, recruit, discharged June 21, 1862 (disability); Gabriel McKenzie, recruit, re-enlisted as veteran; Wright Nash, recruit, transferred to Co. A, Veteran Battalion; Robert R. Ryan, recruit transferred to Co. A, Veteran Battalion; Alfred Spates, recruit, transferred to Co. A, Veteran Battalion; Robert S. Simpson, recruit, discharged April 4, 1862 (disability); John Throckmorton, recruit, transferred to Co. A, Veteran Battalion; Thomas Whitton, recruit, transferred to Co. A, Veteran Battalion; James R. Williams, recruit, transferred to Co. A, Veteran Battalion; William Westley, recruit, transferred to Co. A, Veteran Battalion; Joseph Catherwood, 1st lieutenant, Co. E, 4th Reg., term expired Aug. 21, 1864.

#### MUSTER ROLL

of Company D, 33d Regiment, Illinois Volunteers, more familiarly known as the "Normal Regiment" of Teachers. It was organized at Camp Butler, Ill., Aug. 15, 1861, Charles E. Hovey, colonel. Company D was made up in the western part of Christian county, by Henry H. Pope, its captain: Henry H. Pope, captain, promoted major and lieutenant-colonel; William W. Mason, 1st lieutenant; term expired Aug. 28, 1864; Hiram V. Algur, 2d lieu-

tenant, resigned Sept. 18, 1864; Abiel Rosengrant, 1st sergeant, promoted captain Oct. 11, 1864; Thomas Mason, corporal, killed in Mississippi, May 28, 1862; John Kuykendall, corporal, wounded, M. O. Oct. 11, 1860; George Griffon, wagoner, re-enlisted as veteran; Ephraim G. Allen private; Henry Boden, private, re-enlisted as veteran; Louis Compton, private, re-enlisted as veteran; Charles Chorndor, discharged Sept. 4, 1865 (disability); John Connor, private; William Earles, private, died at Ironton, Mo., Dec. 13, 1861; John J. Hawk, died at St. Louis, Oct. 18, 1862; William Hennesy, private; Daniel C. Matthews, died Jan. 28, 1865, near Buckhart; Alfred McCoy, private, discharged April 3, 1862; Lucas Michael, private, killed at Vicksburg, May 20, 1863; John C. Noe, private, mustered out Nov. 24, 1865; James Reed, private, discharged April 8, 1861 (disability); George W. Robinson, private, discharged Oct. 31, 1862 (disability); Timothy Regan, private, re-enlisted as veteran; Thomas Simondson, private; George Smith, private, died at St. Louis, March 24, 1863; Henry Smith, private, discharged Jan. 16, 1864 (wounds); Henry Shaw, private, re-enlisted as veteran; Charles Wallace, died at Ironton, Mo., Nov. 4, 1861; Marion Berry, recruit, M. O. Nov. 24, 1865; Wm. H. Crain, veteran recruit, M. O. Nov. 24, 1865, as corporal; Joseph S. Cook, recruit, discharged Nov. 8, 1862 (disability); Adam Coffman, recruit; John Durbin, died at River Station, Mo., April 22, 1862; Jasper N. Good, recruit; William G. Ginger, recruit, discharged March 8, 1865 (term expired); Henry Jodence, recruit, mustered out Nov. 24, 1865; Augustus C. Johnson, recruit; Charles Miller, died at Terre Bonne, La., Jan. 12, 1865; Napoleon B. Pherigo, veteran recruit, M. O. Nov. 24,

1865; Hiram H. Painter, recruit, M. O. Nov. 24, 1865; Montgomery Shaw, recruit, discharged April 9, 1863 (disability); James Thomas, veteran, died at Terre Bonne, Sept. 17, 1864; Joseph Walden, killed, accident N. O. & O. R. R., March 2, 1865.

#### MUSTER ROLL

of Company 1, 41st Regiment, Illinois Volunteers. Was organized in Decatur, in Colonel Pugh's regiment, and sworn into the United States service, Aug. 5, 1861. This company was recruited at Mt. Auburn, in the northern part of Christian county, in the month of July, 1861, by Capt. Benjamin B. Bacon. This company was in the same regiment with Capt. F. M. Long. They styled themselves "Mt. Auburn Tigers": Benjamin B. Bacon, captain, resigned March 4, 1862; Francis M. Green, captain, term expired Aug. 20, 1864; Benjamin R. Parrish, 1st lieutenant, resigned Sept. 25, 1862; Leander Green, 1st lieutenant, term expired Aug. 20, 1864; Philip J. Frederick, 2d lieutenant, term expired Aug. 20, 1864; William Batterson, 1st sergeant, died at LaGrange, term expired March 11, 1863; George C. Baugh, 1st sergeant, died at Memphis, April 9 (wounds); William Cochran, 1st sergeant, M. O. Aug. 20, 1864; James R. Dickson, sergeant, died May 14, 1862 (wounds); Melcher Repp, sergeant, died home, April 5, 1863 (prisoner); Henry C. Porter, sergeant, mustered out Oct. 20, 1864; Robert W. Richards, corporal, re-enlisted as veteran; Benjamin Blankenbaker, corporal, M. O. Aug. 20, 1864; George C. Baugh, corporal, wounded, promoted 1st sergeant; Hiram Hoagland, corporal, mustered out Aug. 20, 1864; Marion R. Shade, corporal, M. O. Aug. 20, 1864, as sergeant; David Crompton, cor-

poral, killed at Ft. Donelson, Feb. 15, 1862; Michael Clark, corporal, deserted Jan. 28, 1862; Joseph White, musician, discharged Nov. 25, 1861 (disability); Lewis White, discharged Sept. 25, 1861 (disability); Frank A. Lindsley, wagoner, killed at Jackson, July 12, 1863; Jeremiah Barchell, private, M. O. Aug. 20, 1864; John Baughman, private, M. O. Aug. 20, 1864, as corporal; Henry Batterton, private, died April 24, 1862; Isaac Borley, private, M. O. Aug. 20, 1864, as corporal; James H. Bibler, private, mustered out Aug. 20, 1864; John Baughman, private, promoted commissary sergeant; Paul Baughman, private, mustered out Aug. 20, 1864; William H. Copley, died at LaGrange, Tenn., July 12, 1862; Henry C. Crawford, private, mustered out ———, 1864; John Churchill, private, re-enlisted as veteran; William Clink, private, re-enlisted as veteran; Benjamin F. Crand, private, re-enlisted as veteran; Barney Conner, killed at Ft. Donelson, Feb. 15, 1862; Henry Campbell, discharged Jan. 1, 1863 (accidental wounds); William Dickerson, died March 26, 1862 (on furlough); Barney Druin, private, mustered out Aug. 20, 1864; Abraham Decker, private, re-enlisted as veteran; Samuel Erwin, mustered out Aug. 20, 1864; James D. English, private, re-enlisted as veteran; John G. Fletcher, private, mustered out Aug. 20, 1864; George W. Fowks, private, died July 22, 1863 (wounds); Jonathan Grider, private, discharged Jan. 20, 1862, as corporal; John Goodrich, private, re-enlisted as veteran; Chauncey G. Goodrich, private, M. O. Aug. 20, 1864; Charles Henderson, private, mustered out Aug. 20, 1864; Randolph Haveroner, private, re-enlisted as veteran; Joseph Hill, private, mustered out Aug. 20, 1864; John B. Hopkins, private, mustered out

Aug. 20, 1864; John Harmon, private, mustered out Aug. 20, 1864; John D. Humphrey, private, mustered out Aug. 20, 1864; George Harworth, private, re-enlisted as veteran; Henry Linder, private, died at Vicksburg, June 4, 1863; John H. Loutzenhouse, private, M. O. Aug. 20, 1864; John Lawton, private, mustered out Aug. 20, 1864; Eliel T. Lee, private, re-instated as veteran; Charles Morgan, private, killed at Ft. Donelson, Feb. 15, 1862; Harrison Miller, private, re-enlisted as veteran; John McKaig, private, mustered out Aug. 20, 1864; Alexander Marshall, private, mustered out Aug. 20, 1864; Charles McCluskey, private, discharged April 25, 1862 (died); John Murry, private, died at Ft. Donelson, Feb. 15, 1862; Jacob McCoy, private, discharged Jan. 27, 1862 (wounds); Charles Modcalf, private, died at Paducah, Ky., Jan. 15, 1863; James L. Nance, private, M. O. Aug. 20, 1864, as sergeant; James Osborn, private, mustered out Aug. 20, 1864; Peter Patrick, private, transferred to Invalid Corps, Sept. 15, 1863; Henry L. Patrick, private, re-enlisted as veteran; William R. Pete, private, deserted Feb. 10, 1862; John Pontis, private, mustered out Aug. 20, 1864; Martin Pharis, died at Nashville, Tenn., Jan. 30, 1864; Jacob Ransomer, private, mustered out Aug. 20, 1864; Theodore Sherman, private, M. O. Aug. 20, 1864, as sergeant; Davis Shanafell, private, M. O. Aug. 20, 1864, as sergeant; James W. Stobaugh, private, mustered out Aug. 20, 1864; Alfred Shatza, private, re-enlisted as veteran; Lerhan Swisher, died at Fort Donaldson, March 3, 1862; Michigan C. Scott, private, mustered out Aug. 20, 1864; Andrew J. Sergeant, private, mustered out Aug. 20, 1864; Wesley Taylor, private, mustered out Aug. 20, 1864; Aaron Troxel, private,

killed at Ft. Donelson, Feb. 15, 1862; George Wilcox, private, died at Memphis, Tenn., April 28, 1863; John B. Williams, at Annapolis, Oct. 2, 1863 (was prisoner); Joseph Watbrook, private, discharged June 10, 1862; John Wilhelm, mustered out Aug. 20, 1864; Carlis Ware, killed at Jackson, Miss., July 12, 1863; William Clink, veteran, transferred to Co. B, Veteran Battalion; Abraham Decker, veteran, transferred to Co. B, Veteran Battalion; James D. English, veteran, transferred to Co. B, Veteran Battalion; John Goodrich, veteran, transferred to Co. B, Veteran Battalion; George Harwith, veteran, transferred to Co. B, Veteran Battalion; Harrison Miller, veteran, transferred to Co. B, Veteran Battalion; Maxwell M. Miller, veteran, transferred to Co. B, Veteran Battalion; Henry L. Patrick, veteran, transferred to Co. B, Veteran Battalion; Robert W. Rickard, transferred to Co. B, Veteran Battalion; Robert W. Blankenship, transferred to Co. B, Veteran Battalion; Daniel Baughman, recruit, transferred to Co. B, Veteran Battalion; Jacob Henshie, recruit, transferred to Co. B, Veteran Battalion; Presley D. Housley, recruit, transferred to Co. B, Veteran Battalion; Henry G. Miller, recruit, transferred to Co. B, Veteran Battalion; Maxwell M. Miller, recruit, re-enlisted as veteran; Francis M. Miller, recruit, transferred to Co. B, Veteran Battalion.

A letter, written just after the battle of Fort Donelson, by a private in Captain Simpson's company, referring to the manner in which some of our Christian county boys bore themselves in that memorable engagement, states that George Funk fought like a hero; Benjamin Pilate stole off before the fight and was never seen until the fort was surrendered. Captain Bacon of the Mt. Auburn company ran like a coward.

He has been sent home. Lieut. John Davis (Job's John) had command of his company and he went in with a Sharp's rifle, coolly giving orders to his men and laughing all the time.

One Hundred and Fifteenth Regiment Illinois Volunteers, Gen. Jesse H. Moore, colonel in command.

Company A of this regiment was recruited from Christian county, by Capt. J. W. Lapham, and others, at Camp Butler, Sept. 13, 1862. The regiment was organized and sworn into the United States service Sept. 19, 1862; ordered into the field on the 4th of October, 1862; reported to Major-General Wright at Cincinnati, Ohio, on the 6th of October, and on the same day crossed the river into Kentucky and reported to Gen. A. J. Smith; marched through Kentucky and reached Nashville, Tenn., Feb. 10, 1863. The regiment moved to Tullahoma and held that post till Sept. 5, 1863. September 14, by a forced march across the Cumberland mountains, reached Rossville, Ga., five miles south of Chattanooga; remained four days. On the 18th of September, 1863, engaged the enemy on the extreme left, upon the field of Chickamauga. In this engagement the regiment lost six men. September 20, crossed to the support of General Thomas, on the extreme right, leaving camp at sunrise; engaged the enemy on Thomas's right at 1 o'clock P. M. with Steadman's division, 10th Regiment's reserve corps; after a most fearful struggle held the ground till night. Half the entire command was cut down. Colonel Moore and his regiment were commended for their bravery in orders. It participated in all the engagements around Chattanooga and Mission Ridge. The regiment lost in killed, wounded and captured, in the campaign around Chattanooga, in the fall of 1863,

about 235 men and 10 officers. About 21st of February, 1864, marched with a detachment of the Army of the Cumberland, under General Palmer against Dalton, Ga.; spent ten days feeling the enemy, and returned to camp near Cleveland, Tenn. The regiment lost six men; remained here till the 3d of May, when, with General Sherman's grand army, started on the Atlanta campaign. The 115th regiment, on the 7th of May, led the charge upon Tunnel Hill, Ga., driving the enemy through Buzzard Roost Gap. The 15th and 16th of May engaged in battle at Resaca, Ga.; sustained stubbornly a charge upon the left flank, for which the regiment was commended in orders; lost in this contest about thirty men and officers.

All the principal engagements of the military divisions of the Mississippi were inscribed by orders, upon the regimental banner. The regiment lost during the Atlanta campaign about 100 men. When General Sherman marched to the sea, General Thomas' command was detached and ordered to Tennessee, to watch the movements of General Hood. The 115th Regiment was with this force in the second brigade, first division, fourth army corps. The regiment took an active part in the engagements, which, in November and December, 1864, resulted in the destruction of Bragg's old veteran army, known as the "Army of the Tennessee," and then commanded by Confederate General Hood. The brigade to which the 115th Illinois Regiment belonged for nearly two years, without material alteration, was known throughout the department as the "Iron Brigade," and was, for the most part, up to the 23d of December, 1864, commanded by Gen. Walter C. Whitaker, of Kentucky,

who neglected no opportunity to win distinction for himself and his command.

On the 23rd of December, 1864, while pursuing General Hood, in his retreat from Nashville, Col. J. H. Moore, of the 115th Illinois Regiment, took command of this splendid brigade, and continued its commander till it was mustered out of the service, at the close of the war. Colonel Moore was breveted brigadier-general before leaving the army.

General Hood, having been driven, after his defeat at Nashville, Tenn., with the remains of a broken army, across the Tennessee, the 115th Regiment, with the Fourth Army Corps, marched to Huntsville, Ala., and went into camp on the 5th of January, 1865; marched thence, on the 14th of March into East Tennessee, thence expecting to move by the way of Lynchburg, Va., to assist in the capture of Richmond. But while in the vicinity of Greenville, Tenn., Richmond fell, and General Lee surrendered.

The regiment then moved with the Fourth Army Corps and went into camp near Nashville, Tenn., and there remained until mustered out of the service, June 11, 1865. Arrived at Camp Butler, Ill., 1865, and received final pay and discharge June 23, 1865.

Thus it will be seen that Company A, from Christian county, was engaged in many hard-fought battles, and did honor to itself and the county which gave it birth. Captain Hanon and Lieut. J. B. Gore were taken prisoners.

#### MUSTER ROLL OF COMPANY A.

J. W. Lapham, captain-major, M. O. June 11, 1865; Jesse Hanon, Jr., captain, mustered out June 11, 1865; Arthur C. Bankston, 1st lieutenant, resigned Dec. 30,

1862; Joseph B. Gore, 1st lieutenant, mustered out June 11, 1865; William F. Gore, M. O. June 11, 1865, as 1st sergeant; William J. Jones, sergeant, discharged July, 1863; Sandford G. Hammer, sergeant, discharged April 30, 1863; Edward W. Paine, sergeant, transferred to the V. R. C., May 1, 1864; William Young, corporal, discharged March 18, 1863; Ferdinand F. Young, died Richmond, Ky., Dec. 25, 1862; Horatia N. Keep, corporal-sergeant, died Oct. 4, 1863 (wounds); David J. Denton, corporal, mustered out June 11, 1865; Edwin Young, corporal, mustered out June 11, 1865; James McSpates, corporal, mustered out June 11, 1865; George Large, corporal, M. O. June 11, 1865, as sergeant; Christian D. Cowgill, musician, discharged April 30, 1863; Joseph Large, musician, M. O. June 21, 1865 (prisoner); Francis M. Sherrill, died at Covington, Ky., Oct. 22, 1862; Samuel L. Allen, private, mustered out June 11, 1865; Robert S. Alamon, private, mustered out June 11, 1865; Samuel T. Anderson, private, drowned Sept. 24, 1863; John M. Baker, private, M. O. June 11, 1865; Martin V. Baker, died at Lexington, Ky., Oct. 10, 1862; Joshua B. Bankston, discharged April 25, 1864 (wounds); Winfield S. Bankston, private, discharged Feb. 4, 1863; Joshua Bowman, private, M. O. June 11, 1865; Leander Bradley, private, M. O. June 11, 1865; William Bugg, private, M. O. June 11, 1865 (furlough); James Broderick, private, M. O. June 11, 1865; Bonaparte Coffey, died at Danville, Ky., Jan. 23, 1863; Isham Coffey, private, M. O. June 11, 1865; Achilles R. Calloway, discharged March 25, 1865 (accidental wound); Edward D. Cowgill, died Chattanooga, Tenn., Sept. 30, 1863 (wounds); William H. Childs, private, M. O. June 19, 1865 (war

prisoner); Edwin Clark, died Philadelphia, Tenn., March 24, 1865 (wound); Thomas Chastain, Jr., private, M. O. June 11, 1865; James Devine, private, discharged May 25, 1865 (wounds); Micager Denton, private, M. O. June 22, 1865; Micager Denton, mustered out June 11, 1865; Leonard Demming, died at Richmond, Ky., Jan. 14, 1863; Joseph Easley, private, discharged July 19, 1864 (wounds); Jerome B. Fralley, private, discharged May 11, 1863 (disability); Benjamin Flemming, private, M. O. June 11, 1865; John Gore, private, M. O. June 11, 1865; Charles W. German, private, M. O. June 11, 1865; Francis M. Hanon, private, discharged June 4, 1863; John H. Hatfield, private, M. O. June 11, 1865; George Haslett, private, died Cleveland, Tenn., March 28, 1864; Charles Hill, private, M. O. June 11, 1865, as corporal; John Jones, private, discharged Jan. 19, 1863 (disability); David Jarvis, private, M. O. June 11, 1865, as corporal; James D. Johnson, private, discharged Dec. 10, 1864 (wounds); Isaac Johnson, private, died at Lexington, Ky., Nov. 11, 1862; Stanton Kelsay, private, transferred to Engineer Corps, July 29, 1864; Jasper N. Kelley, private, discharged April 20, 1863; Daniel L. Ketchan, private, M. O. June 11, 1865, as corporal; John Large, private, M. O. June 11, 1865; Alfred Langley, private, M. O. June 11, 1865; James Lawton, private, M. O. June 11, 1865; Richard Lee, private, M. O. June 11, 1865; Alfred B. Leeper, private, M. O. June 11, 1865, as sergeant; Daniel Lane, private, transferred to V. R. C.; James Morrow, private, M. O. June 11, 1865; James McElroy, private, M. O. June 11, 1865; James McCrary, private, June 11, 1865; James H. McCoy, private, June 11, 1865; Wm. McCune, private, killed by guerrillas, March 11, 1865; Jesse G. Milligan,

private, M. O. July 11, 1865; Daniel M. Mitchell, private, absent (wounded); Wm. A. Morris, private, absent, sick at M. O. of regiment; Nicholas C. Madison, private, M. O. July 11, 1865; Samuel G. McDonald, died Frankton, Tenn., April 27, 1863; Vincent Messler, died at Chattanooga November 4, 1863 (wounds); Samuel M. Orr, private, discharged June 19, 1863; Anson Raine, private, discharged April 20, 1863; Joseph Russell, private, M. O. June 11, 1865; James Shaw, died at Nashville, Tenn., Feb. 21, 1863; Edward F. Sowers, private, M. O. June 11, 1865; Thomas Spindle, private, discharged April 20, 1863; Jeremiah Shetler, private, M. O. June 11, 1865; John Sullivan, private, M. O. June 11, 1865, war prisoner; Robert M. Shaw, private M. O. June 11, 1865, as sergeant; David Throckmorton, private, M. O. June 11, 1865, as corporal; Enos Watkins, private, M. O. June 11, 1865; Wm. B. Williams, died at Nashville, Tenn., March 24, 1863; Benjamin F. Willard, private, M. O. June 11, 1865; Philip Barnhart, recruit, M. O. December 16, 1865; Geo. W. Bradley, recruit, transferred to 21st Illinois Infantry; James M. Chastain, recruit, transferred to 21st Illinois Infantry; Charles Demass, recruit, transferred to 21st Illinois Infantry; Alvin Haverfield, died at Huntsville, Ala., March 5, 1865; Daniel A. Halloway, recruit, transferred to 21st Illinois Infantry; Jno. L. Jeffrey, recruit, M. O. December 16, 1865; Thomas J. Langley, recruit, transferred to 21st Illinois Infantry; Newton J. Russell, recruit, transferred to 21st Illinois infantry; Andrew J. Stevens, recruit, transferred to 21st Illinois Infantry.

## MUSTER ROLL OF COMPANY E.

Captain Lane; Captain Whitaker; Benj. Ramsey, corporal, died at Danville, Ky.,

June 17, 1863; Michael Ramsey, died at Lexington, Ky., November 11, 1862; Randall A. Adams, corporal, M. O. June 11, 1865; Geo. N. Junken, corporal sergeant, wounded and missing in action Chickamauga, September 20, 1863; Wm. H. Horesley, M. O. June 11, 1865, as sergeant (prisoner); Jno. T. Stark, M. O. June 11, 1865, as sergeant (war prisoner); John Cummings, private, absent, sick, M. O. of regiment; Geo. W. Crooks, private, died in Christian county November 6, 1865; John Crafton, private, died at Nashville, Tenn., March 4, 1863; John O. Darmer, private, discharged May 15, 1865 (wounds); Wm. C. Darmer, private, M. O. July 1, 1865 (was prisoner); Alfred H. DeAsty, died at Nashville, Tenn., March 3, 1863; Joseph R. Edmonds, private, M. O. June 11, 1865; Ira Goodrich, private, M. O. June 11, 1865; Oliver P. Goodrich, died in Christian county, Illinois, October 16, 1862; Frederick S. Gilhousen, private, M. O. June 11, 1865; Robert L. Green, died at Nashville, Tenn., February 1, 1865; Wm. G. Henry, private, M. O. June 11, 1865; Shelby Hollingsworth, transferred to Company A., 21st Illinois Infantry; William M. Hurst, discharged August 3, 1863, as corporal; (wounds); Charles B. Hammil, private, M. O. June 11, 1865; Bement Hurst, private, transferred to V. R. C. April 30, 1864; John H. Herdman, private, M. O. June 11, 1865, as corporal; Samuel L. Lovel, died at Franklin, Tennessee, May 10, 1863; Joseph W. Long, private, M. O. June 11, 1865; Eli McVey, private, M. O. June 11, 1865; Levi McVey, private, M. O. June 11, 1865; Newton W. McReynolds, private, discharged February 25, 1864 (wounds); Zachariah Pope, died at Lexington, Ky., November 10, 1862; Thomas B. Patrick, private, M. O. June 11, 1865; Daniel H.

Prettyman, private, died at Danville, Ky., February, 1863; Garrett B. Randall, private, M. O. June 11, 1865; Henry J. Ruby, killed at Chickamauga September 26, 1863; Silas Routledge, private, M. O. May 23, 1865; William Routledge, private, wounded and missing in action at Chickamauga, September 20, 1863; James Ramsay, private, died at Danville, Ky., January 11, 1863; Wm. E. Rush, private, died at Danville, Ky., January 31, 1863; Levias Ruby, private, died at Franklin, Tenn., April 23, 1863; Francis M. Rush, private, mustered out June 11, 1865; Isaac B. Smith, died at Richmond Ky., January 1, 1863; Jesse M. Stark, private, M. O. June 11, 1865; Samuel Teter, private, discharged June 24, 1863 (disability); James E. Traves, died at Franklin, Tenn., April 22, 1863; Wm. D. Thompson, private, wounded and missing in action at Chickamauga, September 20, 1863; Wm. White, private, discharged February 4, 1863 (disability); Loton G. Williams, private, M. O. June 11, 1863; Francis E. Wood, private, discharged December 27, 1862 (disability); James M. West, private, discharged July 9, 1862 (disability); Geo. T. White, private, discharged April 18, 1863 (disability); Joseph W. Waddle, private, M. O. June 11, 1863; Peter C. Young, private, M. O. June 11, 1863.

#### ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTIETH INFANTRY REGIMENT.

This regiment was organized by Col. Nathaniel Niles, at Camp Butler, in October, 1862, and mustered into service Oct. 25, 1862. Company D of this regiment was mostly from the northwestern part of Christian county. It was recruited mainly through the efforts of Capt. Daniel DeCamp, of Edinburg. The regiment moved

from Camp Butler, Nov. 10, 1862, and arrived at Memphis, Tenn., the 18th of the same month, and was assigned to Provost duty. It was moved from this point to Louisiana. Was with Gen. Banks' army bound for Shreveport, La. On marching from Alexandria up Red river, driving the enemy until Sabine Cross Roads was reached on the 8th of April, 1864, when the enemy made an attack and defeated the Union forces. The next day another battle was fought at Pleasant Hill, ending in the complete defeat of the Confederates after which Gen. Banks retreated down the river. This is known in history as "Gen. Banks' Disaster on Red River." The part Company D bore in this fight is more particularly detailed in a letter to the *Independent Press* of this county, written by Aaron V. Davis, a private from Camp Ford (near Tyler), Texas, dated April 20, 1864. It says: "The character of the fight and the fate of the 130th regiment and the part our Company bore in it you doubtless have learned ere this. Company D, of Christian county, went into the fight at Mansfield, April 8, 1864, with thirty-one men, under the command of Lieut. Paulen (as Capt. DeCamp was under arrest for some trivial offence and in consequence was not with us).

The following are the losses in killed and wounded of Company D:

Killed—Elijah J. Bankston of Edinburg. Wounded—G. W. Westbrook, badly; Cyrus Murphy, Allen Moore, Jacob E. Berry. Prisoners—Jasper Gagle, Nathan C. Potts, Alexander May, Aaron V. Ralston, Aquilla M. Council, G. W. Young, Aaron V. Davis, William Kelsey, Othniel McKenzie, Thomas W. Orr, Joseph Murray, Charles Gonzeal, Ben K. Prater and Geo. Bunn. The rest of the Company is missing, and their fate at present is unknown."

In October, 1864, the regiment was ordered to New Orleans for Provost duty. Whilst here, by an order issued Jan. 21, 1865, the 130th regiment was consolidated with the 77th Illinois Volunteers. Some of the officers were retained and others mustered out. On the 1st of March, 1865, the consolidated 77th regiment was assigned to the First Brigade, 3d Division, 13th Army Corps, and transported for duty before Mobile, Ala. The regiment was then with Gen. Canby's army during the entire siege and capture of the Spanish Forts Blakeley and Mobile, and was under fire during the entire time. The day following the entry into Mobile, the 77th regiment was with forces in their march up the Tombigbee river, in search of Gen. Dick Taylor's army. After proceeding up the river some sixty miles, it was recalled to Mobile, the Confederate forces throughout the country having surrendered.

On the 7th of July, 1865, an order was issued to revive the 130th regiment, and it was moved to New Orleans, where it was mustered out of service, Aug. 15, 1865, and arrived at Camp Butler, Ill., Aug. 26, 1865, where it received final payment and discharge.

#### ROLL OF COMPANY D.

Daniel DeCamp, Captain, resigned June 11th, 1864; Robert W. Orr, Captain M. O. at Consolidation Jan. 25, 1865; Abraham May, 1st Lieutenant, resigned Feb. 2, 1864; Jasper Cagle, 1st Lieutenant, M. O. as Sergeant, 77th Inf., Aug. 15, 1865 (prisoner of war); James B. Halford, 2d Lieutenant, discharged July 3, 1863; Samuel S. Prater, Sergeant; Jacob A. Cook, Sergeant, discharged Feb. 3, 1863; Wm. T. Crosswait, Sergeant, discharged May 5, 1864 for Pro.; Nathan C. Potts, Corporal,

M. O. June 17, 1865 (prisoner); Charles Smith, Corporal, M. O. Aug. 14, 1865; William T. Hill, Corporal, deserted Jan. 26, 1863; John Hazlett, Corporal; Alex. May, Corporal, M. O. June 17, 1865 (prisoner); Charles W. Graham, Corporal, M. O. Aug. 15, 1865; Uriah Phares, Corporal, absent, sick at M. O. Regt.; Jas. M. Redfern, Corporal, deserted Jan. 26, 1864; Rufus D. Langley, wagoner, deserted Jan. 26, 1863; Isaac Bishop, private, deserted Jan. 26, 1863; Jas. F. Berry, private; Charles Beverly, private, killed at Vicksburg, May 22, 1863; Jesse Blount, private, died at Vicksburg, June 4, 1863; Benj. N. Berry, private, M. O. Aug. 15, 1865; Nelson Burris, private, M. O. Aug. 15, 1865; Geo. Bunn, private, M. O. June 17, 1865; Aquilla M. Council, private, M. O. June 17, 1865 (prisoner); John W. Casey, private; William M. Casey, private, M. O. Aug. 15, 1865; David M. Cagle, private, M. O. Aug. 15, 1865; Leander J. Duncan, M. O. Aug. 16, 1865 as 2d Lieut.; John A. Davis, private, died Memphis, Tenn., Jan. 14, 1863; Oliver DeAnglish, private; Thomas N. Dickson, deserted Jan. 26, 1863; Aaron V. Davis, private M. O. June 15, 1865 (prisoner); Daniel N. Dodd, private, killed at Vicksburg, June 2, 1863; John W. Edwards, died at Memphis, Tenn., Jan. 12, 1863; Amos D. Finley, private M. O. Aug. 15, 1865; John M. Fleming, private, M. O. Aug. 15, 1865; Samuel Gaines, private, M. O. Aug. 15, 1865; Charles Gonzeal, private, M. O. June 15, 1865 (prisoner of war); Elam Gulden, private, M. O. Aug. 15, 1865 (furlough); John Hicks, private, M. O. Aug. 15, 1865; Charles Hildebrand, private, deserted Jan. 26, 1863; James Hanon, private; John R. Halford, died Memphis, Tenn., Jan. 8, 1863; Wm. H. Halford, private, discharged March 21, 1864; David L.

Harris, private, died New Orleans, March 21, 1864; William D. Harvey, private; Wm. M. Harris, private; William Joy, private; David Jessup, private, killed at Vicksburg, May 22, 1863; William Kelsey, private, M. O. Aug. 15, 1865 (prisoner of war); Thomas Knave, private, M. O. Aug. 15, 1865; William A. Knave, private, M. O. Aug. 15, 1865; Robert B. Kerns, private, transfer to Inv. Corps Feb. 23, 1864; Wm. H. D. Lancaster, M. O. Aug. 15, 1865 as Corporal; Wm. E. Leisure, private, died at Memphis, Tenn., 1863; Edward L. Leigh, private; Othoniel McKenzie, private, M. O. June 17, 1865 (prisoner of war); Joseph Murray, private, M. O. June 17, 1865 (prisoner of war); Levi Miller, private, died in service in Laf.; Allen Moore, private, absent, sick M. O. of Regt.; Cyrus Murphy, private, M. O. Aug. 15, 1865; Allen May, private, absent, sick at M. O. Regt.; William S. Matthews, private, M. O. Aug. 15, 1865; Thos. W. Orr, private, M. O. June 17, 1865 (prisoner of war); Benj. F. Overton, private; James H. Odell, private, killed accidentally July 15, 1865; Jesse H. Potts, private, M. O. Aug. 15, 1865; Samuel R. Prater, private, discharged Dec. 12, 1863 for promotion; James Pullen, private, deserted Sept. 28, 1863; Eliphas Prater, private, died at Memphis, Jan. 21, 1863; Peter P. Peters, private, killed at Vicksburg, May 22, 1863; John H. Richardson, private; Aaron V. Ralston, private, trans. to 77th Regt.; Hiram Randolph, private; Wm. E. Richardson, private; John W. Stamphill, private, M. O. Aug. 15, 1865; Hiram M. Smith, private, discharged Jan. 22, 1863 (disability); John B. Smith, private; Wm. J. Smith, private, M. O. June 17, 1865 (prisoner of war); Elijah T. Westbrook, trans. to Inv. Corps Feb. 23, 1864; Joseph Workman, private; Geo. W.

Young, private, M. O. June 17, 1865 (was prisoner); Elijah J. Bankston, killed on Red River, La., April 8, 1864; Godfrey P. Knave, recruit, died at Memphis, December, 1862; Perry Prickett, recruit; Richard T. Phips, recruit; Benj. K. Prater, recruit, M. O. June 17, 1865 (prisoner of war); Wm. F. Sampson, recruit, M. O. Aug. 15, 1865; Stephen White, recruit, died at Memphis, Feb. 19, 1863.

## COMPANY A—130TH REGIMENT.

Sinnet Matthews, Corporal.

## COMPANY C—124TH REGIMENT.

Alfred H. Titus, M. O. Aug. 15, 1865.

## COMPANY K.

Peter C. Rape, 1st Sergt., M. O. Aug. 15, 1865; George W. James, 3d Corporal, M. O. Aug. 15, 1865; Joseph Wagoner, 4th Corporal, M. O. Aug. 15, 1865, as Corporal; Geo. W. Easley, 6th Corporal, M. O. Aug. 15, 1865, as Corporal; Wm. B. Hankins, 7th Corporal, M. O. Aug. 15, 1865, as Corporal; John Y. Easley, private, M. O. Aug. 15, 1865, as Corporal; George Hardin, private, M. O. Aug. 15, 1865, as Corporal; Joseph B. Hardin, private, M. O. Aug. 15, 1865, as Corporal; Shephard Hudson, private, M. O. Aug. 15, 1865, as Corporal; Jacob B. Proctor, private, M. O. Aug. 15, 1865, as Corporal; Samuel Peek, private, M. O. Aug. 15, 1865, as Corporal; Wm. R. Pugh, private, M. O. Aug. 15, 1865, as Corporal; Wm. H. Craddock, private, discharged May 5, 1863 (disability); John M. Robinson, private, discharged March 20, 1863 (disability); John D. Tilley, private, discharged Dec. 13, 1862 (disability); Benj. K. Proctor, Sergt., died Jan. 23, 1864, Pawnee; Harrison T. Easley, died December 4, 1862, Black River, Miss.;

Joseph Kirk, private, died at Memphis, Tenn., March 3, 1863; Presley Peek, died of wounds at Vicksburg, June 27, 1863; Presley T. Peek, died Lake Providence, La., March 28, 1863; Wm. J. Pugh, private, died at Memphis, Tenn., Feb. 6, 1863; John W. Galyen, deserted at Vicksburg, July 31, 1863; Jasper Hudson, deserted at Vicksburg, July 31, 1863; Gilbert H. Hankins, private, died at home, Dec. 23, 1864.

## COMPANY F—59TH REGIMENT.

Joseph Logan, recruit, drafted, M. O. Oct. 16, 1865; Joseph Handle, recruit; Calvert Thompson, recruit, sub., M. O. Oct. 16, 1865; Morgan Milligan, recruit sub., M. O. Oct. 16, 1865.

## COMPANY H—59TH REGIMENT.

Reuben G. Coffey, sub., M. O. Oct. 16, 1865; Samuel Oram, M. O. July 17, 1865 (drafted).

## COMPANY K—59TH REGIMENT.

Robert M. Stockton, private, deserted Oct. 25, 1862.

## COMPANY G—62D REGIMENT.

Geo. W. Beard, died at Camp Butler, Feb. 12, 1864.

## COMPANY H—62D REGIMENT.

Jno. W. Allsman, Sergt., M. O. May 2, 1865, as private; Marquis Allsman, veteran, M. O. March 6, 1866; Thos. B. Harris, died at Duvall's Bluff, Ark., Aug. 20, 1864; Joseph Vinmore, M. O. March 6, 1866.

## COMPANY D—63D REGIMENT.

Andrew L. Anderson, veteran, M. O. July 13, 1865; Aden E. Cherington, veteran, M. O. July 13, 1865, 1st Sergt.; Com. 1st Lieut., but not mustered; Leroy

H. Cherington, veteran, M. O. July 13, 1865; Leon L. H. Cherington, veteran, M. O., July 27, 1865; Loraine C. Cherington, veteran, M. O. July 13, 1865; John A. Isaminger, veteran, promoted Sergt.-Major; William D. Orr, veteran, M. O. July 13, 1865.

#### COMPANY C—64TH REGIMENT.

John Smith, discharged Feb. 8, 1865.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

Wm. M. Provine, 1st Lieut., Company B, 84th Ill. Regt., Vermont, Ill., prisoner of war, taken at Atlanta, Ga., and confined at Columbia, he was honorably discharged May 13, 1865. Now a resident of Taylorville. W. E. Rosemond, of 1st Ohio Cavalry, Company B for one year; then promoted to 2nd Lieut. in Company A, 97th Ohio Inf. Regt.; now a resident of Taylorville. Wm. H. Kaup, private in Capt. A. Boyd Hutchinson's Company C, 49th Penn Vol.; entered Aug. 31, 1861, and honorably discharged Oct. 23, 1864; served in the Army of the Potomac, under Gen. Sedgwick; saw his general fall. James M. Taylor, of Warren county, Ill., Sergt. in Company C, 96th Ill. Regt.; in the service nearly three years; lost an arm in an engagement at "Buzzard Roost Gap," north of Dalton, Ga., in 1864; discharged March 18, 1865, as Sergeant on account of wounds; this regiment was organized at Rockwood, Ill., Sept. 6, 1862, by Col. Thomas E. Champion; James M. Taylor is now (1880) a resident of Taylorville, engaged in the practice of the law. Benj. Doinblazer, Adjutant of 46th Ill. Regt.; promoted Major and then Colonel of Regt. Brevet Brig. Gen.; now a citizen of Assumption.

#### THIRD CAVALRY REGIMENT.

The Colonel of this regiment was Eugene Carr, of the regular army. Company M, from Christian county, composed a part of it. The regiment was organized at Camp Butler, in August, 1861. Its first movement was to St. Louis, September 25th, and thence up the Missouri river to Jefferson City, and thence to Warsaw, in the direction of Springfield, Mo. Under Gen. Hunter it reached Rolla, November 19, where it remained till the 29th of December, 1861, when it moved in advance of Gen. Curtis' army for the southwest.

On the 13th of February, 1862, near Springfield, the Third Cavalry fought the first engagement and won the first victory of Gen. Curtis' campaign.

On the 14th of February, 1862, occupied Springfield, Mo. On the 15th came up with Gen. Price's retreating army and took some prisoners. On the 18th at Sugar Creek, Ark., the Third battalion participated in a cavalry charge, routing the enemy. Had various skirmishes and short marches during the summer and fall in Arkansas and west of the Mississippi river, when on the 23d of December, 1862, Company M, with other companies, reported to Brig. Gen. Steel, at the mouth of the Yazoo river, formed part of the force and did good service in the disastrous attack on Vicksburg, Miss., under Gen. Sherman. Company M was among the last to leave the field and embark on the boats after the battle.

The Battalion of which Company M formed a part, under Col. McCrillis of Springfield, Ill., took a part in the Western Louisiana campaign under Gen. Banks. In December, 1864, Major O'Conner, of Pana, took command of the Battalion and it moved to Port Hudson, and from thence to Mem-

phis, Tenn., rejoining the regiment, which had been separated into three divisions. In the month of July a large portion of the regiment re-enlisted as veterans. The non-veterans, under Major O'Conner, were stationed as garrison at Germantown, Tenn., On the 21st of August the regiment participated in the repulse of Gen. Forrest, in his attack on Memphis. On the 24th of August, 1864, the non-veterans having been mustered out, the veterans were consolidated into a Battalion of six companies. Part of Company M went into the new arrangement and the remainder were mustered out, their time having expired.

The Battalion operated below and around Nashville and took part in the battles with Gen. Hood's army in December, 1864. In May, 1865, it embarked for St. Louis, Mo., thence to St. Paul, Minnesota, reporting to Major Gen. Curtis. On the 4th of July, 1865, it was ordered on an Indian expedition over the plains of Minnesota and Dakota, north to the British lines, and then returned to Fort Snelling, October 1st, arriving at Springfield, Ill., Oct. 13th, 1865, and was mustered out of service. Such are some of the leading movements of the Third Cavalry Regiment, in which Company M largely participated.

#### MUSTER ROLL OF COMPANY M.

James H. O'Conner, Major, M. O. June 1865, as Lieut.; Geo. E. Pease, Captain, resigned Dec. 17, 1861; Shuler Vrooman, Capt. in Vet. Bat., time exp. March 9, 1865; Henry M. Condee, 1st Lieut., resigned Nov. 27, 1861; Chas. F. Russell, 1st Lieut., term expired Sept. 5, 1864; Joseph Horseman, 2d Lieut., died, commission not sent.

#### FIFTH CAVALRY REGIMENT.

This regiment was organized at Camp Butler, Nov. 8, 1861, and Hall Wilson, for-

merly of Buckhart, appointed its Colonel. Company G of this regiment was recruited partly in Pike county, Ill., by Capt. J. A. Harvey, and partly by First Lieut. Wm. N. Elliot of Pana, Christian county, Ill., September 1, 1861. Left for Jefferson Barracks, Feb. 20, 1862. On the 3d of March reached Pilot Knob. On the 27th marched to Doniphan, and arriving April 1st, had a skirmish with the enemy, captured their camp, killing three and taking seven prisoners. April 17th marched to Pocahtontas and on the 27th of June started on the march for the Mississippi river, reached Jacksonport 29th and joined Gen Curtis' army, had a fight at Cotton Plant, in which the enemy lost 300 killed and wounded. Arrived at Helena, Arkansas, July 13th, 1862. On the 22d of October, 1862, a forage train was attacked by the enemy, and Lieut. Elliott and 78 men of the cavalry (13 of these were of Company G) were captured, after losing 1 killed and 6 wounded. November 27, 1862, Company G burned bridge near Grenada, Miss. On Jan. 11, 1863, the regiment made an expedition to Duvall's Bluff, and in April Marmaduke, who was retreating from Missouri, May 29th, 1863, left Helena, Ark., and embarked for Vicksburg, and June 1st landed at Haines Bluff. June 3d made a reconnoissance to Mechanicsburg; drove the enemy ten miles, skirmishing heavily, capturing 43 prisoners losing 1 killed and 7 wounded. In July, was with Gen. Sherman's army at Jackson, Miss. Was in the expedition to Meriden, Canton, and Grenada. In August at the Yellowbush, destroyed 40 engines and 320 cars by burning. On the 21st August encountered Blythe's cavalry at Coldwater, and defeated them, the regiment losing 1 killed and 5 wounded. Arrived at Memphis 22d August, 1863. On the

29th August embarked for Vicksburg. In October with Gen. McPherson's 17th Army Corps, at Jackson, took part in a cavalry charge at Brownville, routing General Wirt Adams. In this the regiment lost two wounded and one prisoner. January 1st, 1864, many of the regiment re-enlisted as veterans. On 17th March, the veterans were furloughed till May 10th, 1864. On May 27th, Col. John McConnell, of Springfield, took command of the regiment. Eight companies dismounted and did garrison duty. Companies A, B, C and D, were fully mounted and equipped. During the months of July and September, the Battalion was at Jackson and Port Gibson, skirmishing and fighting frequently. From Natchez, with the 4th Illinois, cavalry and a battery, moved to Tonica Bend. Landed and moved to Woodville; surprised and captured a camp of the enemy. During the night the enemy advanced with three cannon and 600 men. They were met next morning by Col. McConnell, and driven in confusion, and 3 cannon were captured. Returned to Vicksburg, Oct. 11th, 1864. In January, 1864, moved to Memphis; was in an expedition to Southern Arkansas and Northern Louisiana, returning February 13th. July 1st moved to Texas via Red River; reached Hempstead, Texas, August 26th. Remained at this post until October 6th, 1865, when the regiment moved to Springfield, Ill., was mustered out, receiving final payment, October 30, 1865. The following persons in this regiment were from Christian county:

#### MUSTER ROLL.

Wilson Hall, Colonel, resigned Jan. 19, 1863; John McConnell, Colonel, promoted Bvt. Brig. Gen.; Joshua Tuthill, Adjutant,

promoted Capt. Co. A; Charles W. Sibley, Commis. Sergt., dis. Oct. 26, 1862.

#### COMPANY A.

Joshua Tuthill, Captain, M. O. as Adjutant, Oct. 27, 1865.

#### COMPANY B.

Wm. N. Elliott, 1st Lieut., M. O. Nov. 8, 1864; Charles W. Sibley, Sergeant, promoted Commis. Sergt. 2d Battalion, M. O. Oct. 26, 1865; John F. Heath, died at Pochontas, Ark., June 22d, 1862; Wm. P. Slack, bugler, discharged Aug. 17, 1862; Samuel Y. Anderson, private, discharged (disability); Stephen D. Cooper, private, re-enlisted as veteran; Allen Johnson, private, re-enlisted as veteran; Henry Johnson, private; John P. Lemons, private, discharged May 12, 1862; Henry J. Luckinbill, private, re-enlisted as veteran; William A. Skiles, private, mustered out Nov. 8, 1864; Chas. K. Slack, private, re-enlisted as Vet. M. O. November, 1864; Stephen D. Cooper, veteran, mustered out Oct. 27, 1865; Allen Johnson, veteran, M. O. Oct. 27, 1865; Henry Johnson, veteran, died at Vicksburg, Nov. 16, 1864; Henry G. Luckindell, died Sept. 25, 1863; Shelfy Cornbert, recruit, absent sick at M. O. of Regt.; Joel N. Garrison, saddler, recruit; Jas. K. P. Garrison, recruit, M. O. Oct. 27, 1865; Levi Walker, recruit, regular discharge.

#### COMPANY M.

Willard C. Davis, recruit, re-enlisted as veteran; John J. Kaddle, recruit, died at Helena, Ark., Oct. 8, 1864.

#### SIXTH CAVALRY REGIMENT.

Among the unassigned recruits is noted one from Christian county, Wm Hobbs, mustered out May 23d, 1865.

## SEVENTH CAVALRY REGIMENT.

This regiment was organized in September, 1861, with Wm. Pitt Kellogg, of Fulton county, as its Colonel. The names of a few Christian county soldiers appear in it.

## COMPANY H

James W. Patrick, re-enlisted as veteran; Americus Patrick, discharged Nov. 10, 1862 (disability); John R. Patrick, discharged June 2, 1862 (disability); Wm. R. Tabler, discharged Oct. 15, 1862 (disability); James W. Patrick, veteran, M. O. Nov. 4, 1865; Albert Fowks, recruit, discharged; James A. Tabler, died at Mound City, Ill., June 1, 1862; Peter Hamilton, unassigned, recruit, dis. May 11, 1865; Daniel Murphy; Charles D. Roberts, entered service April 15, 1865.

## EIGHTH CAVALRY REGIMENT.

This regiment was organized at St. Charles, Ill., in September, 1861, with J. F. Farnsworth, as its Colonel. Its field of operation was with the Army of the Potomac. Was in the battle of Antietam. A few names appear in it.

## COMPANY M—UNASSIGNED RECRUITS.

Joseph Bennett, entered the service April 15, 1865; John Carney, entered the service April 12, 1865; Joseph Hyzer, entered the service April 12, 1865; David Lee, entered the service April 12, 1865; John Murphy, entered the service April 12, 1865; Clarence Williams, discharged February, 1864 (disability);

## TENTH CAVALRY REGIMENT.

This Regiment was organized at Camp Butler, Illinois, Nov. 25, 1861. James A. Barrett was its first Colonel, who resigned May 15, 1862, and was succeeded by Colonel Dudley Wickersham of Springfield, Illinois.

On the 20th of December, 1861, it moved to Quincy, Illinois, and from thence to Jefferson Barracks, Mo., on the 13th of March, 1862. It operated in southwest Missouri till November 13th, when it formed a part of the Army of the Frontier, and was in line of duty from Springfield, Mo., to Cane Hill, Arkansas. It participated in the battle of Prairie Grove, Ark., Dec. 7, 1862. Was at Jacksonville, Ark., July 4, 1862; Helena, July 12, and August 7 moved to Old Town Landing. Oct. 6, 1862, returned to Helena and November 16 marched with the expedition to the mouth of White river; and on November 27th to Oakland, Miss. Had a skirmish with the enemy and returned to Helena Dec. 7, 1862.

The original service term of the Tenth and Fifteenth Regiments, Illinois Cavalry Volunteers having expired, an order of consolidation was issued January 26, 1865, for the re-enlisted men, and recruits of the same, to be formed into twelve companies, and reorganized as the Tenth Regiment, Illinois Cavalry.

The regiment was mustered out of service Nov. 22d at San Antonio, Texas, and ordered to Springfield, Ill., for final payment and discharge. The following soldiers in it are from Christian county, in different companies:

## MUSTER ROLL—COMPANY A.

Thomas Bradley, Veteran-Commis. Sergt. in Co. A, of Veterans, as re-organized; absent on detached duty at M. O. of the Regt.; Henry N. Graham, Veteran, M. O. Nov. 22, 1865; Jesse W. Holman, died at Baton Rouge, La., July 22, 1865.

## COMPANY B.

John H. Peters, mustered out Dec. 30, 1864; Fletcher Romeril, re-enlisted as Vet-

eran; George Steel, mustered out Dec. 30, 1864; Henry Steel, mustered out Jan. 6, 1865; Henry Warner, mustered out Dec. 30, 1864; Isaac N. Watts, re-enlisted as Veteran; Joseph Westbrooks, re-enlisted as Veteran; Fletcher Romeril, trans. to Co. B Vet., M. O. Nov. 22, 1865; Isaac N. Watts, trans. to Co. B. Vet., prom. 2d Lieut.; Joseph Westbrooks, trans. Co. B Vet., M. O. Nov. 22, 1865; Andrew B. Apple, died Little Rock, Ark., Nov. 19, 1863; Jno. W. Westbrooks, trans. Co. B Vet., M. O. Nov. 22, 1865.

#### COMPANY E.

Owen T. Athey, Recruit, deserted April 30, 1863; David A. Barnhart, trans. to Co. E Vet., M. O. 1865; Milton H. Clements, trans. Co. E Vet., M. O. Nov. 22, 1864; Chas. T. Bledsoe, trans. to Co. E Vet., M. O. Nov. 22, 1865; Francis M. Lowery, trans. to V. R. C., May 4, 1865; Geo. M. Markwell, trans. to Co. E Vet., M. O. Nov. 22, 1865; Jesse H. Toothaker, trans. to Co. E Vet., M. O. June 6, 1865; Wm. J. Terry, recruit, trans. to Co. E Vet.; Wm. White, trans. to Co. E Vet., M. O. Nov. 12, 1865.

#### COMPANY G.

William Elgin, recruit, re-enlisted as Veteran; Alexander Jones, mustered Dec. 30, 1864, as Corpl.; Uz. Judd, re-enlisted as Veteran; John Maloney, re-enlisted as Veteran; Wm. S. Workman, M. O. Dec. 30, 1864 as Corpl.; William Elgan, Vet., trans. Co. G, M. O. Nov. 22, 1865; Uz. Judd, Veteran, trans. Co. G, M. O. Nov. 22, 1865; John Maloney, trans. Co. G, M. O. Nov. 22, 1865; Wm. Shumate, trans. Co. G Vet., died March 3, 1865; Joseph Workman, recruit, died at Rolla, Mo., May 1, 1862.

#### COMPANY L.

James C. McGinnis, Sergeant, re-enlisted as Veteran; Francis McGinnis, Corporal,

re-enlisted as Veteran; Aaron B. Shick, Corporal, re-enlisted as Veteran; George B. Conner, Private, re-enlisted as Veteran; Wm. H. Hill, Private, re-enlisted as Veteran; Miller Kelley, Private, mustered out Dec. 30, 1864; Aaron V. Matthews, Private, mustered out Dec. 30, 1864; Floyd Peters, Private, died at Marshfield, Mo., October, 1862; Jefferson S. Smith, Private, re-enlisted as Veteran; Lorenzo J. Van Winkle, Private, re-enlisted as Veteran.

#### VETERANS.

James C. McGinnis, promoted 2d Lieut. Co. L; Francis M. McGinnis, trans. Co. B Vet., M. O. Nov. 22, 1865; Aaron B. Shick, trans. Co. I Vet., M. O. Nov. 22, 1865; Geo. B. Conner, private, trans. Co. F Vet.; William Matthews, private, trans. Co. H Vet.; John Rice, private, trans. Co. H Vet., M. O. Nov. 22, 1865; Jefferson L. Smith, trans. Co. H Vet., M. O. Nov. 22, 1865; Lorenzo J. VanWinkle, trans. Co. H Vet., M. O. Nov. 22, 1865; Samuel Bunstein, trans. Co. D Vet., M. O. Nov. 22, 1865; Horatio M. Davis, recruit, trans. Co. D Vet.; Geo. W. Feugett, recruit, re-enlisted as veteran; Geo. W. Ford, trans. Co. D Vet., mustered out Nov. 22, 1865; Egbert A. Ford, trans. Co. D Vet., mustered out Nov. 22, 1865; Henry Hinton, recruit, deserted April 7, 1863; Stephen A. Hunsley, recruit, transferred Co. D Vet., Jesse Langley, recruit, mustered out Dec. 30, 1864; William Matthews, recruit, re-enlisted as veteran; John Rice, recruit, re-enlisted as veteran; William Smith, trans. Co. F Vet., M. O. Nov. 22, 1865; Jas. M. Taylor, trans. Co. F Vet., Dis. March 29, 1865, disab.; Jno. White, trans. Co. F Vet., M. O. Nov. 22, 1865.

#### COMPANY M.

Geo. W. McDonald, private, died Ark.,

Sept. 13, 1863; William M. McDonald, private, re-enlisted as veteran; John Pummil, private, re-enlisted as veteran; William S. Peel, private, discharged Aug. 18, 1862, disab.; Wm. H. McDonald, trans. Co. C Vet., M. O. Nov. 22, 1865; John Pummil, died at Little Rock, Ark., May 26, 1864; Geo. B. Richardson, trans. Co. C Vet., Nov. 22, 1865; Edward J. Bingham, trans. Co. C Vet., M. O. Nov. 22, 1865; Matthew H. Copple, trans. Co. C Vet., M. O. Nov. 22, 1865; James M. Fleming, trans. Co. C Vet., M. O. Nov. 22, 1865; Wm. R. Goodby, trans. Co. C Vet., M. O. June 22, 1865; James H. Cowan, unassigned recruit; James H. Doroan, unassigned recruit; John T. Easley, unassigned recruit, trans. Co. E Vet.; Harrison Gregory, unassigned recruit; Charles H. Turhill, unassigned recruit, see Co. E Vet.

## 11TH CAVALRY REGIMENT—COMPANY H.

Levin Johnson, recruit, mustered out Sept. 30, 1865.

## COMPANY M.

Columbus Lenasters, unassigned recruit, mustered out May 23, 1865.

## 14TH CAVALRY REGIMENT—COMPANY E.

Isaac Steel, transferred Co. C, M. O. July 31, 1865.

## 16TH CAVALRY REGIMENT—COMPANY D.

Gaines Lamont, recruit, deserted Nov. 21, 1863.

## 1ST ARTILLERY—BATTERY D.

Jasper N. Kelley, recruit, mustered out July 28, 1865; Daniel Lockwood, recruit, deserted March 7, 1862.

## 2D ARTILLERY—BATTERY B.

Alfred C. Lovejoy, recruit, term expired June 20, 1864; promoted 2d. Lieut. Co. B, M. O. July 15, 1865.

## BATTERY C.

Wm. A. Dawson, Corporal, deserted July 12, 1862; Henry H. Belhmer, Corporal, M. O. Oct. 22, 1864; Enoch C. Belhmer, Corporal, deserted July 20, 1862; Charles Humphreys, Corporal, discharged for promotion to Lieut. in 8th U. S. Colored Heavy Artillery; Charles F. Humphreys, Corporal, promoted 1st Lieut. Co. C, M. O. Aug. 3, 1865; Henry Hardtner, Corporal, M. O. Oct. 22, 1864, as Sergt.; Geo. W. Lawton, Corporal, re-enlisted as veteran; Jno. A. Suttle, re-enlisted as veteran; George W. Lawton, veteran, mustered out Aug. 3, 1865.

## BATTERY C.

Robert Deegen, recruit, M. O. Aug. 3, 1865; Wm. T. Peters, recruit, discharged May 29, 1865, disab.

## BATTERY F.

David J. Fleming, died at Annapolis, Md., Feb. 14, 1865.

## BATTERY K.

Geo. W. Ritzman, recruit, M. O. May 26, 1865.

## BATTERY M.

Alexander Allen, unassigned recruit; John Smith, unassigned recruit.

## 29TH U. S. COLORED INFANTRY.

## COMPANY I.

Geo. Agee, M. O. Nov. 6, 1865.

## COMPANY K.

John Pillow, unassigned recruit; James Smith, unassigned recruit; Henry Van Pierce, unassigned recruit, substitute.

## 13TH U. S. COLORED ARTILLERY.

William Chandler, enlisted April 11, 1865; Charles Long, enlisted April 11, 1865.

## MISCELLANEOUS ORGANIZATIONS.

Jas. W. Anderson, Cavalry, 9th Kansas Cavalry.

## FIRST ARMY CORPS.

## ROSTER OF ENLISTED MEN OF COMPANY 10.

Assigned to Company K, 8th Regiment U. S. Veteran Volunteers:

Joseph Hoffman, M. O. April 11, 1865, as Corporal; Andrew J. Ballus, private, mustered out April 11, 1865; Almers Cochran, private, mustered out April 11, 1865; Patrick Byrne, private, mustered out April 11, 1865; Henry Knapp, private, mustered out April 11, 1865; James Kervin, private, mustered out April 11, 1865; John Paulus, private, mustered out April 11, 1865; Wm. R. Burnett, private, mustered out April 11, 1865; William Singsfield, private, mustered out April 12, 1865; William Quiesh, private, mustered out April 13, 1866; Joseph Guenther, private, mustered out April 13, 1866; Leonard Miller, private, mustered out April 13, 1866; Martin Engle, private, mustered out April 13, 1866; Howell G. Trogdon, private, mustered out April 13, 1866; John Graves, private, mustered out April 13, 1866; Jacob Hellwig, private, mustered out April 13, 1866; James Gunion, private; Wm. Jennings, private, mustered out April 13, 1866; Walter Spangler, private, mustered out April 12, 1866.

## ENLISTED MEN OF CO. NO. 12.

Christopher Brammel, enlisted April 14, 1865; Abraham Burgen, enlisted April 14, 1865; John Becker, enlisted April 14, 1865; Joseph A. Crawford, enlisted April 12, 1865; James O. Douglas, enlisted April 14, 1865; Simeon Dabozynsky, enlisted April 14, 1865; Michael Goedert, enlisted April 14, 1865; Keller Heist, enlisted April 13, 1865; John Halshizer, enlisted April 12,

1865; John Peppercorn, enlisted April 14, 1865.

## SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR.

War is to be dreaded and the governing power of any nation should never permit its people to be plunged into a terrible war unless for the preservation of the nation, its people, property and integrity. When these are attacked, war, terrible as it is, may be resorted to by any nation for the preservation of its rights and honor. The Spanish-American War of 1898 between Spain and the United States was doubtless precipitated by the blowing up of our battle ship *Maine* in the harbor of Havana on Feb. 15, 1898, and the destruction of 260 of her sailors. A history of the causes which led to this war is not necessary to be recounted here in detail, but it is sufficient for the purposes of this article to mention that the relations between the United States and Spain had been for a long time strained. The people of the United States were disgusted with the conduct of the Spanish government towards the Cuban inhabitants, especially that of Capt. Gen. Weyler, by whose orders many of the inhabitants had been driven into the towns and a large part of the island became a wilderness.

The "reconcentrados" were dying of starvation, and our countrymen, deeply moved at their suffering, began to send them food and medical aid, and while engaged in this humane effort, they were horrified to hear of the destruction of the "*Maine*." Although a court of inquiry was unable to fix the responsibility for the explosion, many people believed it had been perpetrated by the Spaniards, and to so high a tension had the feeling of hostility been wrought between our government and that of Spain, the thread snapped and war was upon us.

Immediately upon the declaration of war, a call for volunteers was made and Christian county immediately responded with Company B of the 5th Regiment of Illinois Volunteers. So readily did the boys of the North and South respond to this call that in a short time the whole quota was filled and many of the regiments were held in reserve and never went forward to the seat of war. The Fifth Regiment was enlisted at Springfield, Ill., and soon thereafter received orders to go south to Chickamauga Park, Ga., and wait disposition by the commanding officers.

This they did, but were never called upon to engage in battle, but they had experience of campaign life, and many of them became sick. Some of them died, and the remainder at last were honorably discharged and returned to their homes, and were here welcomed in the most pleasing manner by their former friends and companions and their names appear upon the muster roll as having offered themselves as a sacrifice for the maintenance of the integrity of this government. The health of the regiment was usually good. Eugene Bricker became sick and died while in the service; Abner Orr became sick in camp and died after the company was mustered out, never having recovered.

This company was officered as follows:

Chas. A. Parrish, Capt.; Clifton G. Magner, 1st Lieut.; Joe C. Michaels, 2nd Lieut.; Wm. J. Flynn, 1st Sergeant.

Sergeants—Frank O. Nicodemus, Clarence A. Parish, Leroy Anderson, Alonzo H. Ranes, Eugene E. Rucker.

Corporals—L. Jean Perkins, Homer Chastain, T. Lead Hewitt, Chas. T. Jacobs, Howard M. Raines, Charles C. Thompson, Julius S. Michels, John T. Brown, Eugene

Denton, Fred O. Edler, Harry Reitzer, Howard J. Roof.

Musicians—J. Clark Waddell, Wm. P. Minnis.

Artificer—Forest C. Carriker.

Wagoner—John Seifert.

Privates—Barton G. Anderson, Charles F. Bair, Ismer Bruce, John M. Bayly, Charles Cole, Harry G. Clay, G. Cook Caward, Joseph H. Claywell, William L. Dehart, Joy T. Danford, Charles H. Diamond, James W. Dempsey, Pharis B. Denlinger, Benjamin J. Daigh, Perry F. Easley, Claude Easley, James Ewing, William P. Ellett, Thomas V. Flock, John George Green, Clinton G. Harris, Worth Hendricks, Alvin D. Hawley, Jacob Huebner, William C. Knight, Charles Kelley, Charles C. Kesterson, Peter Larson, George McKee, George W. Matkin, Clinton Maddox, Orrie B. Nichols, James W. Neff, George S. Neer, Irwin Norred, George Oddy, Benjamin Oglesby, Abner Orr, Samuel Peabody, Lewis C. Prouty, Oscar Porter, Reuben Powel, Simon Raines, Charles A. Reeves, Manfred C. Reed, Robert Roper, Lewis Radford, John C. Stoy, Robert J. Slater, William J. Swick, Otto W. Simpson, John C. St. Clair, Frank B. Thompson, John P. Thompson, Al Tolle, William E. Welch, Fred Wilson, Emil L. Wulfmeyer, Leigh Wones, Orville Ward.

Afterwards the following were mustered in, June 18, 1898: Richard W. Alspaugh, Herbert Adams, Owen Barbre, Marcus L. Fulton, Ira A. Honefenger, George W. Hinton, Rudolph Hargis, Albert W. Huddleston, Joseph Huddleston, Chester Jones, Henry Keister, Gordon Kirkpatrick, Frank Leach, Robert H. Mason, Edgar Matthew, David A. McAdoo, Clarence Saunders, Aubrey Speer, Dwight Shehan, Mason Thompson, Cloyd H. Wallace, Tony H. Writzel.

The Colonel of the Fifth Regiment, J. S. Culver, was a former citizen of this county, and was engaged at business for many years. He afterward moved to Springfield, and was residing there at the time of the mustering of the regiment into service.

A perusal of the foregoing pages and a scanning of the several muster rolls, will demonstrate that Christian county has always been in the front ranks in the raising of her quota of soldiers for defending the rights of her people. The people of the county are proud of the war record of her soldiers, and with a deep sense of their duty to the boys who have taken up arms in defence of their country, have erected at Taylorville and other places beautiful monuments in memory of their valiant and heroic deeds. The writer, appreciating how the soldiers enlisted from this county in many wars are held in esteem by the people, ascribes to them all honor and records their names upon the pages of this history that future generations may know to whom honor is due as soldiers of Christian county.

#### THE PRESS.

It was on the 23rd day of December, 1857, that the first number of the first paper ever printed in Christian county made its appearance. And never since that time has the county been freed from the influence of this mighty engine of discord or of peace. Never since then has the voice of Christian county been hushed even in the councils of the state and nation. Never since then has there been a home so sacred but that its innermost doings may have been revealed to the gazing world through this faithful, if often mistaken photograph of a "local press." Of course this local press may often have been mistaken in its policies of national as well as local affairs, but it has

never been silent. On that day appeared before a gaping world

#### THE PANA WEEKLY HERALD.

The business of this paper was to sing the praises of this county regardless of truth, but more particularly of Pana, the new-born child whose name and fame was to be proclaimed to a sleeping world. Its editor was Milan S. Beckwith and he purchased the material for the new venture of Dr. Chenoweth of Decatur. Mr. Beckwith was at that time largely interested in real estate near the location of his paper and its pages sang of the fertility of the soil and the desirability of the climate in no uncertain tones. But it failed to record the deaths from chills or fevers unless the person so dying possessed more than a local reputation. It was independent in politics when it was first started but in 1858 it became Democratic. It lived almost two years, dying with the 41st issue of Volume two.

#### THE PANA PLAINEALER.

It was born because of the death of the *Herald*. The first number was issued October 7, 1859, by Eli F. Clittenden. He continued its publication to November 1, 1860, when it was discontinued and the office was removed to Shelbyville.

#### THE INDEPENDENT PRESS.

This paper was first issued in Taylorville on January 19th, 1858. It was the second paper printed in the county. It was published by Benjamin Winters, who was a practical printer, and he made the *Independent Press* intensely Democratic. Mr. Winters was an independent thinker and a vigorous writer and his invectives and bitter denunciation of his own party when he believed it to be wrong lost him the support of

many. When the publication ceased, which it did on November 28th, 1868, the type was worn out and most of the material was useless. The press had done duty in the office of the *Missouri Republican* as early as 1808 and in 1831 this same press was used in establishing the *Sangamon Journal* at Springfield, Illinois. It was brought from Springfield to Taylorville where it was finally broken up. Complete files of this paper are yet to be found in the county.

#### THE TAYLORVILLE JOURNAL.

It was at about this time that a paper bearing the above name appeared in Taylorville. It was Democratic but as there was one other paper published in the town bearing the same political stamp, the *Journal* soon died of want of proper support. It was born January, 27, 1859, and only appeared upon this storm tossed world of journalism nine times. The publishers were Messrs. Corr, VanKirk & Co. The office was sold under a mortgage and taken to Pana, where the

#### CENTRAL ILLINOIS DEMOCRAT

was issued from its material and presses on January 7, 1860. It was issued by E. P. Sanders as proprietor and publisher and J. B. Butler as editor. On the 23d of February W. F. Phelon was added to the editorial staff and on the 9th of November, 1860, the office changed hands and G. W. Harper and F. J. Back appeared as editors and publishers. They at once changed the name to the

#### PANA WEEKLY ENTERPRISE,

but only one paper was issued under that name and on the 24th of the same month O. F. Morrison and M. M. DeLevis purchased the office and again changed the name to the

#### PANA PUBLIC.

Mr. DeLevis was editor. It was independent in politics. The paper was well gotten up and flourished till June 1, 1862, when the office and paper were moved to Clinton, Illinois.

#### THE TAYLORVILLE FLAG.

On July 26, 1864, appeared the first Republican paper in Christian county. It was edited and managed by I. D. Munday but he remained but three weeks when he resigned and Paul Conner was placed in charge, and soon purchased the office. Mr. Conner continued as editor till April 12, 1866, when John J. Squier purchased a half interest. On November 15, 1866, Mr. Squier purchased Mr. Conner's interest and became editor and publisher. On the 24th of March, 1870, Mr. Squier changed the name of *The Taylorville Flag* to that of the

#### ILLINOIS REPUBLICAN,

which name it continued to bear for many years. On the 18th of November, 1870, Mr. Squier sold a half interest in the *Republican* to W. B. Squier, his brother, which partnership continued till March 19, 1874, when John J. Squier again became sole owner.

#### THE SATURDAY REPUBLICAN.

On August 19, 1876, Mr. Squier commenced the publication of the above journal in addition to the *Illinois Republican* and continued it several years. Some time during the year 1887 Mr. Squier sold the paper and all things pertaining to it to Joseph Torrey who continued its publication for a year or more when the plant was again sold to The Courier Printing Co., and became the nucleus around which the present daily and weekly *Courier* was built.

This occurred some time during the year 1893.

#### THE PANA GAZETTE.

The first number of this paper was issued July 27, 1865. The editors and proprietors were Richard Couch and R. M. Carr. Mr. Couch and Mr. Carr purchased some new material and added it to a job office owned by Mr. Couch and from the combination was issued the *Gazette*. On April 17, 1866, Mr. Carr purchased the entire interest in the paper and remained editor and publisher until December 11, 1868, when he sold a half interest to R. W. Coon. The partnership of Carr & Coon continued till February, 1871, when Mr. Coon retired. Mr. Carr then continued the publication of the *Gazette* till some time in 1889, when J. C. Essick, a lawyer of ability who wished to try journalism, purchased the outfit and greatly improved the plant. A year or two later he sold to Kelliger & Son, who soon sold to Burch & Merry, but in a few weeks Mr. Merry retired and Mr. Burch continued the paper for several years, when he sold to E. Gorell.

After keeping the paper but a short time Gorell disposed of the *Gazette* to W. S. Childers, who retained control of it but a short time when it passed into the hands of Mrs. Lizzie Weaver. This was some time during the year 1895. Mrs. Weaver conducted the paper for some time, but not meeting with the success anticipated, she sold the material and plant to Mr. C. N. Walls, who removed it to Assumption.

#### THE CHRISTIAN COUNTY DEMOCRAT.

This paper was established by John J. Smith and the first number appeared on August 13, 1868. He remained editor and publisher till November 20 of the same year when he sold to Jonas Suttle. Mr. Suttle

conducted the paper till September 17, 1869, when he sold the office to S. P. Davis of Belleville and F. L. Powers of Decatur. The firm of Davis & Powers continued to publish the paper till February 11, 1871, when W. S. Martin became the purchaser. On May 21, 1874, the words "Christian County" were omitted and the word "Taylorville" substituted in the name of the paper. On August 2, 1875, George W. Webber became a partner in the *Democrat* and continued so till June 1, 1877, when Mr. Webber retired and Mr. Martin continued the publication till January 1, 1880, when he sold to Benjamin A. and Philip A. Richards. In 1884 J. F. Harner purchased the plant and in 1886 V. E. Foy became owner. Mr. Foy was owner and editor for but a short time when C. N. Walls, a veteran newspaper man, became its owner by purchase. Some time during 1898 *The Taylorville Democrat* was absorbed by The Courier Printing Company and it ceased to have a separate identity.

#### THE CENTRAL ORIENT.

This paper was first issued June 20, 1866, in Pana. It was Democratic in tone and had J. F. Harner as publisher and C. S. Hilburn as editor. The *Orient* continued till May, 1868, when it was discontinued for want of proper support.

#### THE PANA PALLADIUM.

From the exit of the *Orient* Pana was without a Democratic paper till the *Palladium* made its appearance. It was first issued by S. B. Rich some time during the latter part of 1869. On April 23, 1870, Mr. Rich disposed of the office and the paper to Messrs. P. A. and J. J. Farley. After several years' connection with the paper Mr. P. A. Farley retired and the pub-

lication was continued by J. J. Farley. On March 15, 1877, A. W. Chabin became the purchaser of the *Palladium*. Three months later Mr. Chabin sold a half interest to Jacob Swallow. In three months from that time Mr. Swallow retired, and Chabin again became proprietor and so continued until March 10, 1879, when the office reverted to Farley Brothers, who sold it to Jacob Swallow. And Mr. Swallow has been the owner and publisher of the *Palladium* ever since. At this date (February, 1904) Mr. Swallow has seen the longest continuous service on the same paper of any editor in the county.

#### THE ASSUMPTION INDEPENDENT.

This paper was at first printed in the office of the *Pana Gazette* and was shipped to Assumption. R. M. Carr was the publisher and J. M. Birce the local editor. The first number was issued on April 22, 1871. Mr. Carr continued the publication till April 15, 1872, when he sold to I. V. Park sufficient material to continue the publication at Assumption, but six months later when the notes became due Mr. Park was unable to meet them and the sureties paid the notes and issued shares of stock in a printing company. They placed John M. Marnell in charge as editor and manager. He was a bad manager and the *Independent* appeared semi-occasionally. In July, 1874, the stockholders secured the services of Richard Couch and he changed the name of the paper to the

#### ASSUMPTION RECORD.

Mr. Couch published the paper one year and then A. W. Chabin assumed the management. He continued nine months and sold to A. M. Anderson and the presses and material were removed to Shelbyville.

#### THE ASSUMPTION NEWS.

Since that time H. E. Bixby conducted the *Assumption News* for something about six years and made a financial success of the venture. Mr. Bixby died and his widow and administrator continued its publication till January 1, 1904, when it was absorbed by Hodge Brothers and became a part of the

#### PRAIRIE STATE TRIBUNE.

This paper is now being managed by Hodge Brothers, who came to Assumption from Indiana. They are making a success of the *Tribune* and attained their first notoriety by publishing several books of the old testament scriptures as a serial. They have been publishing a paper in Assumption for about four years under various names and the name is never changed oftener than the moon. But no matter under what name they may appear, the paper is always newsy and reliable.

#### THE MORRISONVILLE TIMES.

The *Times* was first issued August 20, 1875, with Thomas Cox as editor and proprietor. Mr. Cox sold the *Times* to M. J. Abbott the last day of December, 1875. The latter gentleman remained owner and publisher until May, 1877, when he sold to George H. Palmer & Son. F. M. Palmer assumed editorial control. In the spring of 1878 F. Grundy became associate editor. August 16, 1879, the office was leased to Messrs. Said & Poorman. On October 2, 1879, Steen Brothers purchased the office. Later the *Times* passed into the hands of S. W. Culp, who has been conducting a consistent Democratic paper ever since. Mr. Culp has managed the *Times* for more than fifteen years.

## THE INDEPENDENT.

The first number of this paper appeared in Taylorville on March 25, 1875, with Messrs. Malloroy & Danley, proprietors, and R. V. Maloroy as editor. It died for want of support with the 13th number so far as its old editors were concerned, but Mr. Noyes B. Chapman of Stonington continued the publication with C. F. Tucker as editor and afterwards with M. A. Bates, but on January 14, 1876, it was discontinued.

## THE FARMERS' JOURNAL.

This paper first appeared on March 2, 1876. Messrs. Lewis & Brown were its first editors and publishers. The paper was published as a grange or greenback organ. On August 31, 1876, the office came into the possession of J. F. Harner, who changed its political tone to Democratic after publishing the paper for a year. After this several changes occurred in the management of the *Journal*, its name being changed to that of the

## TAYLORVILLE JOURNAL

in 1880 and its politics to Republican, with a strong greenback tendency. At one time Messrs. Sanford & Kelley were its editors and later for a short time Mr. W. H. Kelley, but in 1886 the paper came into the hands of A. D. Webb as editor and publisher and it is still (February, 1904) being published by the same party. It is Republican in politics and fearless and outspoken in its dealing with all public questions.

## THE CHRISTIAN COUNTY COURIER.

This paper was founded by the Courier Printing Co. by those opposed to the management of the Taylorville *Democrat* in the

year 1894. As a starter the job office belonging to A. O. Murphey and the material of the Illinois *Republican* formed the outfit. A new press and some type were purchased and the Taylorville *Courier* was launched with D. O. Witmer as editor and A. O. Murphey as business manager. As recorded in another place, in a few years it absorbed *The Democrat* and has been successful in printing a daily as well as a weekly edition for the past seven years. It is the best newspaper office in the county and is well equipped to do all kinds of work. It is Democratic in politics.

## THE TAYLORVILLE NEWS.

This paper was founded about the year 1896 by several gentlemen from Pawnee and vicinity. They published a daily exclusively but the venture was not a success financially and the plant was sold after publishing the first daily paper in Taylorville for less than a year. It was purchased by Messrs. Reed & Kelley, who changed its name to that of

## THE BREEZE.

This paper has appeared regularly since its first publication in 1895. Frank Reed is the editor and manager and it is run by a stock company. They publish both weekly and daily editions. It is Republican in politics and quite "breezy."

## THE WEEKLY ARGUS.

This paper was first published by A. W. Chabin on March 15, 1879. Five numbers were printed in Shelbyville and taken to Pana and distributed, after which Col. J. A. Hayward purchased material and presses and became joint owner with Mr. Chabin. The paper was Democratic in politics. The partnership continued till June 1, 1880,

when Colonel Hayward became sole proprietor and editor. He continued to publish it for several years, when the plant and paper were removed to another city.

#### THE PANA BEACON LIGHT.

Soon after Mrs. Weaver acquired the *Gazette* Mr. Childress, through the assistance of Mr. Hayward, bought a new outfit and commenced the publication of a paper, both daily and weekly, with the above title. Mr. Childress was an energetic and fearless writer. He disposed of the plant to E. O. Gilmer, an old newspaper man, who continued to publish the paper for several years with varying success. He finally sold to Arthur E. Paine & Co., who changed the name of the paper to

#### THE PANA NEWS,

and the paper has been issued for the past five years with the above management. The paper is Republican in politics and appears ably managed.

#### THE EDINBURG HERALD.

This paper was established in Edinburg on May 1, 1883, by F. T. Kauerauf, who was both editor and owner. Mr. Kauerauf is a practical printer and the paper has been a financial success from its very first issue. It is a deserving sheet and the people of Edinburg seem to appreciate it. Mr. Kauerauf has made some money with the *Herald*.

#### THE OWANECO PROGRESS.

In the spring of 1902 this paper was established by Clinton G. Griggsby, a practical printer from Taylorville. It was first published in Taylorville, but later Mr. Griggsby secured material and continued the publication in Owaneco. It is a very creditable sheet and reflects the progress of

the town in which it is located. Mr. Griggsby appears to be making some money.

#### THE MOUNT AUBURN TRIBUNE.

This paper was established by P. T. Danford in the fall of 1901. Soon after C. O. Gates purchased the plant and still continues its publication. It is a six-column quarto, well filled with advertising and appears to be well managed.

#### THE PEOPLE'S CHOICE.

This paper was published at Palmer for a year or two by H. E. Davis & Co. Mr. Davis was so unfortunate as to contract tuberculosis and was forced to leave his plant and business some time during the year 1903. The paper was discontinued and Mr. Davis has since died.

#### THE STONINGTON STAR.

This paper was established about May 1, 1896, by P. T. Danford & Son. Afterward the father withdrew and the son, H. A. Danford, continued its publication. It is neutral in politics, has a good advertising patronage as well as a good subscription list and has been of great service to the rapidly growing town in which it is located.

#### THE SCHOOL NEWS AND PRACTICAL EDUCATOR.

This is an educational journal for teachers, parents and school officers. It was established in the year 1887 by C. M. Parker, who is editor and proprietor. From a small beginning it has grown so that it now is one of the few leading educational publications in the United States. It is issued monthly, except during August. It has been a great success as a money maker. In addition Mr. Parker publishes many other books and magazines, among which are *The State Course of Study*, *Select Rote Songs* and

Elementary Music Teacher, Gala Day Stories, Persimmons, Longan's Primary Arithmetic, and others.

A review of the journals printed in Christian county since 1857 shows that the great political parties, Democrat, Whig, Republican, as well as the Independent and Greenback elements, have been ably represented by the newspapers.

The local newspapers are frequently severely criticised for the articles at times published by them, and in many instances these criticisms are well taken. Editors are not at all times sufficiently careful to ascertain the accuracy of the statements published before displaying them to the world, and too frequently does it happen that the reputation of an innocent person is injured by reason of the carelessness of the editor. In some cases he even so far forgets himself as to permit malice and revenge to enter into his publication. An able editor of a newspaper is always, or should be, high-minded and broad enough to avoid unnecessarily injuring the feelings or reputation of any citizen.

Newspapers of Christian county have for the most part been devoid of this narrow-contracted abuse of the peaceable and inoffensive citizen.

Newspapers when conducted upon the proper basis are a great benefit to the community; they are educators, putting their readers abreast of the times, and even the local papers place in the hands of their patrons the means of ascertaining what is going on in all parts of the world: an able press like that of Christian county should be encouraged and patronized by its inhabitants.

#### SCHOOLS.

Three quarters of a century have passed since the first public school was conducted

within the borders of Christian county. It was held in a log-house which stood two miles northeast of the present site of Taylorsville and which was built after the fashion of the homes of the pioneer settlers—a rude building with the fireplace occupying the most of one end of the house, a log sawed out of one side to furnish light and ventilation, its only furniture consisting of rough puncheon benches and a slat fastened to one wall for a writing desk.

During the winter of 1826-27, Elijah Hanon taught here the first school of which we have any record. The district boundary seems to have been indefinite since it is known that Daniel and Martin Miller who lived near Elgan's mill in Southfork township, fourteen miles away were two of his pupils that winter. They walked to school on Monday morning, boarded with a family near the school and walked home again on Friday evenings.

In 1831-32 Archibald McCollough, who is said to have been a fine scholar, taught at the same place, and again in 1832-33 a Mr. Crossthwaite, who was a professional teacher, conducted a school there.

The next school on record was held at Campbell's Point, in 1831-32 in a log house built on land owned by Joseph Matthews, and it is said to be the first house erected in the county, especially for a school house. The first teacher was Robert White. In the same year, Michael Archie taught a school in a house on his brother's farm in Mt. Auburn township near the Springfield and Decatur road.

In 1834-35 Hon. H. M. Vandever taught the first school in Mosquito township in a house also situated on the Springfield and Decatur road. He also taught in Southfork township.

Thus we see how the pioneers struggled

bravely to educate their children with the limited means afforded them. Whenever two or three families formed a settlement, a school was opened as soon as a teacher could be secured. Many of the first schools were subscription schools.

The work of the pioneer teacher consisted largely in teaching reading, writing and arithmetic; schools were of short duration; books were crude and scarce and the older children could attend only two or three months of the term. The salaries of teachers in those days of pioneer life ranged from eight to ten dollars per month, or a dollar and a half per pupil.

From these small beginnings has been evolved the present day system of elementary schools, and from such educational conditions, disadvantageous as they were, have come many of the most substantial professional and business men.

With the organization of the county in 1839 came the appointment of the first school commissioner, Hon. H. M. Vandever, who had been a pioneer teacher in Mosquito and Southfork townships.

The "Enabling Act" of 1818 appropriating section 16 in each township to the state for school purposes gave an impetus to education. In 1828 the Legislature authorized the sale of these lands, and borrowed the money. But the returns were too meager to support the schools and taxes had to be levied. In 1835, a county fund was created by an act of the Legislature which also provided that the teachers should not receive from the public fund more than half the amount due them, and that the surplus should constitute the principal of the county fund, which amounted to \$348,285.75 and in the same year the interest on school moneys borrowed by the state was first distributed to the counties.

In 1824, the balance of the overflowed and swamplands, after paying for drainage and levees, was granted to the counties for educational purposes. Thus gradually the state came to realize the need of fostering free public schools and gradually too improved methods for controlling them were adopted.

In Christian county the first township organized for school purposes was Southfork. In 1839 the December term of the county court appointed as trustees Robert Richardson, Sr., Benjamin Robertson and William Harvey, Esq. Council was appointed treasurer and continued in that office for many years.

In 1866 the township organization was effected and trustees of schools were appointed for the seventeen townships of the county. Each township was then divided into districts to accommodate the rapidly growing population and the log school house gradually gave place to the more comfortable frame houses.

With the incorporation of the townships came the requirement for a certificate of qualification from the township trustees before a teacher could be paid out of the school funds. Besides a knowledge of reading, writing and arithmetic, the teacher was required to have also an elementary knowledge of history and geography.

The spirit of progress was aroused and frequent legislation on school matters was demanded by an enlightened and earnest public. In 1854 the separate office of State Superintendent was created and Hon. Ninian Edwards was appointed at a yearly salary of \$1,500.

To supply the demands for more efficient teachers, the first State Normal School was established in 1857, and the Southern Normal in 1869; and since then the legislature

has established three other State Normal schools. The Eastern Normal at Charleston, Coles county, the Northern at DeKalb, DeKalb county, and the Western at Macomb, McDonough county.

In a former sketch of the schools of Christian county, given in 1880 by ex-County Superintendent R. W. Orr, and from which much of the data of the article was gathered, stress is laid upon the efforts made to encourage better and more thorough preparation for teaching by those who were engaged in the work as well as by those who expected to teach by insisting upon their attendance at county normals and institutes. But of all the excellent work done by Mr. Orr during his long term of office which extended from 1873 to 1898, with a break of only four years, the most important and most influencing act was the introduction into the elementary schools of the State Course of Study in 1889.

The Manual and Guide for the common schools had its beginning in Macon county about 1879 or 1880 with John Trainer who was then County Superintendent. His work soon spread to Piatt, Champaign, and other counties. As the idea developed it appealed to the good judgment of educators all over the state and at a meeting of the Central Illinois Teachers' Association in March, 1889, the plan was discussed and Hon. Richard Edwards, Superintendent of Public Instruction, issued a call to county superintendents to meet in Springfield April 10, 1899, to discuss the advantages of a uniform State Course of Study.

As a result of that meeting a committee of county superintendents was appointed to compile a course of study for the state, consisting of eight years' work of eight months each. This course was completed and published in time for the opening of schools in

September of that year. Mr. Orr immediately introduced the course in this county and most of the teachers strove zealously to adapt it to the needs of the schools under their control and to secure the aim which the friends of the course claim for it and which are as follows:

First: To furnish, as a basis for work, to superintendents, teachers and directors an outline of the various branches required by law to be taught in the schools of the state, arranged in the several grades, in accordance with established and approved methods.

Second: To advance pupils, step by step, through his school life, giving him credit for work done, and thereby lessening the evil effects of a too frequent change of teachers.

Third: To unify the work in the common schools of the county by furnishing the basis for a close and more effective direction and supervision, and for comparing by means of examinations or written reviews the results in the different schools.

Fourth: To enable directors and parents to know better what the common schools are accomplishing for their children and to co-operate with teachers in the work.

By means of monthly examinations, which serve not only as tests but suggest good methods of teaching, the county superintendent who can visit the schools not oftener than once or twice a year has an opportunity for keeping in touch with the schools.

For many years central examinations were held in the center schoolhouse in each township. Here the advanced pupils of all the schools in the group met and compared work. In recent years the central examination has been abandoned because of the almost unpassable road encountered in the

months of March and April. Instead the examination questions are sent to each teacher, who holds her own examination and after grading the papers recommends those who have made the required grades to the final examination held later in Taylorville.

Since the adoption of the course of study in 1889, nearly 1,000 children have graduated from the elementary schools and have a diploma of same. Since the days of the three R's, there has been an increase in the number of studies taught in school. The subject of language and grammar has become so generally recognized as important that no one now questions whether or not it should be a part of the course of study.

History and geography appeal so strongly to the child mind that every school boy now knows at twelve years of age the leading facts in American history, and the relation which the United States bears to the rest of the world.

The growing evils arising from the use of alcoholic drinks and tobacco have led the State Legislature to pass a law *requiring* that physiology and hygiene *shall* be taught in the schools of the state. Later nature study, music, morals and manners, agriculture and domestic science are finding a place in many schools. In fact the times demand that a person now to be rated as intelligent as his fellows must know something of many more subjects and facts than his father was required to know. Hence the course of study by suggesting broader and deeper lines of study has tended to improve the work done in the elementary school and bring it to the level of the work done in cities, where better teaching is usually required.

There has been a wonderful advance too in school equipment. The log school house gradually gave way to the frame house—

long and narrow—usually 26x30 feet, with three windows on a side, the stove in the middle of the room and no provision for ventilation except by the windows. These are an improvement over the log house, for they are warmer, better lighted and better furnished.

Many of these frame houses were built between 1860 and 1870 and are now become old and dilapidated, and are fast being abandoned for more pretentious houses which are not only more pleasing to the eye but are more sanitary. The puncheon benches have given place to patent seats and desks which provide for the physical rest and bodily comfort of the children.

At Willey Station in 1898 a new modern building 30x36 feet with a hall 12x24 and two porches, was erected at a cost of about \$1,200. The interior arrangements provide for the comfort and health of the children. The principal windows are massed upon one side of the room so as to bring most of the light over the left shoulder of the pupils; a jacketed stove sets in a corner of the room over a box which admits fresh air from the outside. This fresh air is heated as it rises between the stove and the jacket and is diffused evenly over the room. Ventilators set in the floor permit the passage of the impure air from the room under the floor to an opening in the ventilating flue which is a part of the chimney. There are fly screens at windows and doors, sliding doors divide the cloak hall from the main room, the woodwork is finished in oil, the walls are tinted; there are single desks, slate blackboards and organ, a well filled bookcase of reference and juvenile books, and several appropriate pictures on the wall. Since this house was built, nine other districts have abandoned their old houses and have erected new houses

somewhat after the plan of the Willey Station House.

Eagle and Hedge Row districts in Mosquito township; Davis, Blake, and Montgomery districts in Mt. Auburn township; George and Central Point in Buckhart township; Adams in South Fork, and Friendship in Taylorville township. In these buildings, the three essentials to health—light, heat and ventilation—have been carefully considered and the latest and best thought on these subjects has been considered. The buildings stand as a monument to the enterprise and advanced ideas of their respective communities.

Many other communities have greatly improved their schoolhouse by adding cloak rooms and porches, by changing the stove from the middle of the room, by putting in a ventilating system, by papering and painting and otherwise cleaning the room, by adding blackboards and libraries and pictures.

Teachers, directors and patrons have all taken pride in most districts to make the schoolhouse as clean, as healthy and as attractive as the best homes in the community.

The rapidly decreasing enrollment in many rural schools is turning the minds of the people to the subject of consolidation of districts, which will certainly decrease the expenses of schools in many townships, but which can hardly be realized in this county until the roads are greatly improved.

There is no one other item on the tax list which shows so much expenditure of public money as for the support of the public school and from no other expenditure of money is so much expected. The state has undertaken the task of educating all of the children. When shall we consider that task completed? Shall it be when the child has learned to read, write and cipher? Is

it fair that some communities furnish ample opportunities for high school privileges and others will furnish means for no more than a five months' term with an illy paid and poorly prepared teacher.

The educational demands of to-day have kept pace with the industrial and commercial demands; the boy and girl of to-day is no better prepared to meet the demands of modern life educationally after completion of a thorough course in a high school than were the boy and girl of fifty years ago prepared for the demands of life in that day who had merely learned to read, write and cipher.

"We do not seek education in order to earn money or accumulate property, but for the same reason as we seek money and property, namely, so as to possess and maintain a more complete and happy life, to escape the pauperism of an impoverished mind, a destitute personality: to become the possessors of life's highest wealth."

It is the purpose of the public school system, which includes the rural schools, the graded schools and the high schools of the county, to furnish not only the facilities for study and recitation, but, through earnest, qualified teachers, to instill those ideas of culture and good citizenship which shall repay an hundred fold for every dollar expended.

Daniel Miller, the fourth commissioner of schools for Christian county, reporting to Campbell Thomas, Secretary of State and ex-officio State Superintendent of Schools, in 1846, gives the following statistics:

Whole number of schools in county	6
Whole number of scholars attending	173
Whole number of children under 21..	1,236
Whole amount of school funds.....	\$69.03

Ave. paid male teachers per mo....\$14.00  
 Ave. paid female teachers per mo...\$10.00

The annual report of Hon. Alfred Bayliss, Superintendent of Public Instruction, for the year ending June 30, 1903:

Number of school districts.....	142
Number of school houses .....	153
Number of pupils enrolled....	7,947
Whole number of males under 21 .....	7,330
Whole number of females under 21 .....	6,851
Number of teachers employed.	236
Amount of money used for school purposes .....	\$135,356.66
Estimated value of school prop- erty .....	\$299,305.00
Average wages paid male teach- ers .....	\$55.38
Average wages paid female teachers .....	\$40 66

#### SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY SINCE ITS ORGANIZATION.

H. M. Vandever, appointed May 16, 1839.  
 John W. Wheat, elected Aug. 2, 1841.  
 Thos. S. Leachman, elected Aug. 7, 1843.  
 Daniel Miller, elected Aug. 4, 1845.  
 James C. Morrison, elected Aug. 2, 1847.  
 James C. Morrison, elected Nov. 6, 1849.  
 James C. Morrison, elected Nov. 4, 1851.  
 Richard Sparks, elected Nov. 8, 1853.  
 Jesse Hanon, elected Nov. 7, 1855.  
 S. S. Cisna, elected Nov. 3, 1857.  
 S. S. Cisna, elected Nov. 5, 1861.  
 James A. Ryan, elected Nov. 3, 1863.  
 A. McCaskill, elected Nov. 7, 1865.  
 W. F. Gorrell, elected Nov. 2, 1869.  
 R. W. Orr, elected Nov. 4, 1873.  
 R. W. Orr, elected Nov. 6, 1877.  
 Francis W. Boyd, elected November, 1881.  
 R. W. Orr, elected 1885.  
 R. W. Orr, elected 1889.

R. W. Orr, elected 1895.

D. O. Witmer, elected November, 1898.

Edith Witmer, appointed August, 1899.

Anna L. Barbre, November, 1900.

Anna L. Barbre, November, 1902.

#### CHURCHES.

As noted in a former chapter of this work, many of the early settlers were of a religious turn of mind, and believed in the due observance of the Sabbath, the establishment of churches and Sunday schools. Church organizations and Sabbath schools were formed at a very early day, in the settlements of the county, notably, the Baptist church at Stonington, the Congregational church at Rosemond, and other congregations which were established almost simultaneously with the commencement of the settlement of these particular localities. These two are mentioned because of the fact that enough people were associated in the colonies that emigrated to these places to immediately begin the church work.

The facts are that the Methodist church, the Baptist church, the Christian church, the Roman Catholic church and the Cumberland Presbyterian church, established congregations in many settlements at a very early day, and as soon as the congregations were of sufficient strength, either alone or united with other congregations, church houses were builded for the accommodation of the church-goer.

In the early settlement of the county, at proper seasons when the weather would permit, camp meetings were held in the different localities, and these camp meetings were a great source of pleasure to the religious element of the county. At these camp meetings, the families would procure a tent and go and stay for a week or ten days, services would be held in the open

air sheltered from sun and storm by a brush covering, or under a large canvas; at these meetings, preachers of notoriety visited the people, and preached to them. Prominent among the ministers of the early day that delighted the people with their learning and the expounding of the divine word were the Rev. Peter Cartwright and Elder Northcut. Soon congregations were organized and churches built at Pana, Assumption, Mt. Auburn, Taylorville, Edinburg and Rosemond and other localities in the county. As time progressed and the people prospered schoolhouses and places of worship were matters to which the attention of the people would turn. The religious sentiments of the different churches one toward the other were liberal, and in instances the same church house was used by different congregations as places of public worship. In some localities the schoolhouse was upon the Sabbath day converted into a meeting-house where Sunday school and church would both be held. People came there a great distance to attend these services. Ministers of the gospel were zealous in the cause they had espoused, and the general rule was that the ministers preached to the people because they loved them, and because they loved to expound to them the laws of God, even though they were unable to compensate them for their services.

It is true that in the earlier days, when starvation was staring the people in the face, they had practically all they could do "to keep the wolf from their own door;" they were not able to contribute to the salaries of ministers as they are now-a-days, and if a minister received a small compensation, or a few donations through the year, he was satisfied, and was content to till the soil and secure his living for the most part by "the sweat of his face." (The writer

would not be understood as condemning the payment of salaries to ministers; that is right and proper and should be encouraged as, at this day and age, the whole of the time of the minister is required in his labor, and the only means he has of subsisting is through the salary he may receive.) In those days when the meetings were held in the little log schoolhouse or log church and the people gathered in, they had familiar songs of praise that they loved to sing; many sweet and melodious voices joined together in this devotional exercise; they sang with a spirit that made the welkin ring; the service and the song were enjoyed by the happy throng; they listened with interest to the minister, who told them in plain, unvarnished language of the golden streets of Jerusalem, and the pleasures of the happy throng that would by and by gather around the great white throne.

These people were in earnest, zealous, were not there for show, but to enjoy the hour in the worship of Almighty God.

Nothing can be more conducive to a real, live religion than to have a whole congregation join with one accord in the exercises and in the songs of praise. Perhaps it would not do in this day and age for all the people to join in the song, and for all the people when church was over to meet, shake hands with one another, renew their acquaintance and have a social minute or two, but I can not see why it would not do; I can not see why the choir in the corner should be called upon to do the singing alone and for the whole congregation; I can not see why so much formality should be observed in the pulpit and with the congregation; it is not taught in the Bible; it does not engender a spirit of kindness and good feeling and is not the way, in my judgment,

to extract true happiness from a religious exercise. I do not mean by this that an exercise should consist of enthusiasm alone, but should carry with it a sufficient amount of zeal and warmth to prevent icicles from accumulating in the midst of the congregations.

The writer is not sure but what the religion of forty or fifty years ago was as pure as it is to-day, and is not sure but what the church member and minister enjoyed the religion of Christ as much in that day as they do at the present. It is not always the fine pew, the dressy pulpit and the retained choir that produce the greatest amount of happiness or good in the religious world; as the people prosper, we concede that there arises a greater demand for better churches, and more highly educated ministers. This is all right, and should be encouraged, yet with a fine church and the highly educated minister, it should be the place in which everybody should be made to feel at home, and enjoy the worship.

The growth of Christianity has kept pace with the prosperity of the county, and to-day we have many denominations over the county that are doing much good.

The Baptists have congregations and churches at Taylorville, Pana, Edinburg, Stonington and Salem.

The Methodist Episcopal church has churches at Mt. Auburn, Taylorville, Pana, Assumption, Millersville, Rosemond, Buckeye Prairie, Owaneco, Fairview, Palmer and perhaps other places.

The Roman Catholics have churches and congregations at Taylorville, Pana, Assumption, Stonington and Morrisonville.

The Christian church has congregations at Taylorville, Assumption, Edinburg, Mt. Auburn, Pana, Liberty church in Prairie-

ton township, and the Christian church in South Fork.

The Congregationalists have a church at Rosemond, erected there by the early settlers of that locality.

The German Evangelical denomination has a church at Pana, and doubtless other places in the county.

The Free Methodists and Salvation Army also have congregations in several parts of the county, which are doing good work, and there are perhaps many other churches located in different parts of the county that the writer is not apprised of, but it is sufficient to say that all of these churches are a blessing to the community. All men, whether they are Christians or not, recognize the fact that there is nothing so beneficial to a community and nothing that tends more to upbuild and strengthen a people and to invite others into a community than the fact that such community is blessed with good churches and schools.

Christian county is proud of her church record, of her Sunday school record, of her church-going people, and the many attractions and advantages induced by the religious element.

#### TRANSPORTATION.

Scarcely less important than the subject of production is the one of transportation. Without means of easy and rapid transportation the valuable products of any section would be comparatively valueless. And it is to this fact, second only to that of production, that this county owes its prominence among the counties of the state and nation. The productiveness of our soil and mines will soon be far greater than any estimates ever yet made by the mind of man, but their value depends upon the ease, rapidity and cheapness, by which they can be

transported to those who need, but have not, that which we produce in great abundance. For a portion of the year, truth compels us to state, that the wagon roads of this country are almost impassable, but they are being fast improved and it is not a vision of a speculative fancy merely, to state that in the not distant future the entire productive area of this county will be spanned by electric railroads, which will enable the products of our soil and mines to be transported from the homes of our people to an open market, both cheaply and expeditiously.

Already an electric railroad, The American Central Traction Company, has been planned and incorporated penetrating the county from east to west and from north to south with Taylorville as a center, and with the western terminus in St. Louis, that at all times of the year will place the products of this garden of central Illinois cheaply within the reach of a ready market.

This is not a vision, but a scheme that is being actually realized. But upon the completion of the electric railroad our transportation facilities does not alone depend. As early as the year 1853 the first ground was broken and the great

#### ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD

was built through this county and the cars were running the following year. The line enters the county from the north on section 36, township 14, range 1, east, traverses the county in a southwesterly direction and leaves it on section 33, township 11, range 1, east, and passes through Assumption and Pana. By an act of congress passed in September, 1850, approved by President Fillmore, an aggregation of 2,595.053 acres of land was granted to build the road. The right of way was granted and every alter-

nate section of land for six miles on either side of the road. The grant of land was made directly to the state. The legislature of Illinois, thereafter granted a charter to an eastern company to build the road with a capital stock of \$1,000,000. The legislature in granting the charter transferred to the company the lands obtained from the general government, but stipulated that 7 per cent. of the gross earnings of the road should be paid semi-annually into the state treasury, forever. This wise provision yields an immense revenue to the state. The road is one of the great trunk lines of the west, reaching from Chicago in Illinois to New Orleans in Louisiana and to Sioux City in western Iowa. The first ground was broken in 1853 and cars were running the following year. It was at this time that Assumption and Pana were located.

#### THE INDIANAPOLIS & ST. LOUIS RAILROAD, NOW THE BIG FOUR.

This road extends between the two towns indicated by its name and was completed in 1855, not far from the same date that the Illinois Central was built. It enters Christian county on the northern line of section 24 in Pana township and traverses the county in a southwesterly direction, leaving it in section 33 in Rosemond township. It was known as the Alton & Terre Haute R. R. when constructed. The stations in this county are Pana and Rosemond. The point of crossing of the Illinois Central and the Big Four railroads determined the location of Pana.

#### THE WABASH, ST. LOUIS & PACIFIC RAILWAY.

This is probably the most important railroad in the county, and does an immense business between St. Louis and Chicago

and other eastern points. The length of the line in this county is more than thirty-one miles. The principal towns in the county on this road are Taylorville, Morrisonville, Palmer, Clarksdale, and Stonington. It enters the county on section 1, in Stonington township and leaves it at Harvel, on section 4, in King township. It crosses the Baltimore & Ohio railroad at Taylorville.

The road was built under a charter granted to The Decatur & East St. Louis railroad and was commenced in 1869 and completed through this county in 1870. The Wabash is one of the best roads in the west.

#### THE SPRINGFIELD DIVISION OF THE BALTIMORE & OHIO RAILROAD.

This road runs diagonally through the county from the northwest to the southeast. It enters the county on section 10, Buckhart township, and leaves it on section 24, of Pana township. Taylorville, Pana, Edinburg and Owaneco, Sharps, Millersville and Velma are the stations. The road was formerly known as the Springfield & Pana railroad, afterward as the Springfield & Southeastern, and in April, 1875, it was sold to the Ohio & Mississippi Railroad company. It was again sold to the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad company and now forms an important branch of their trunk line. It was built under a charter obtained in 1865 and was completed in 1870. The first train entered Taylorville at 5 o'clock P. M., on Oct. 25, 1869. The first through train from Beardstown to Shawneetown was run on March 28, 1872. The first telegraph office opened in Taylorville was the office of this road and was opened on March 11, 1872.

#### THE INDIANA, DECATUR & WESTERN.

This road was extended from Decatur to Springfield, Ill., during the summer of 1901.

It extends from Indianapolis, Ind., to Springfield, Illinois. It follows the Wabash from Decatur to Boody, Ill., and then extends westward across the northern part of the county. Its most important station is the old town of Mt. Auburn, which it has been the means of reinvigorating and greatly enlarging. The stations on this road in this county are Osbornville, Mt. Auburn, Bakersville and Roby.

#### THE EASTERN ILLINOIS RAILROAD.

This line (February, 1904) is being built from Danville, Ill., to St. Louis. It is a part of the great "Friscoe" system. It enters Pana township from the east not far from the center line, runs southeasterly to Pana and then follows The Big Four railroad out of the county. It is now thought that the Big Four system may be used from Pana to St. Louis. It affords another through line from Chicago to St. Louis, and will doubtless be completed during the year 1904.

Thus it will be seen that the county is well supplied with railroads, without the contemplated electric lines which will probably be built within the next year or two. More than fifty trains daily now traverse the county transporting the freight and passengers through this fertile region to its destination. These roads, scarcely more than in their infancy, now transport millions of tons of freight and thousands of passengers annually. Over our prairies now ride the civilization and culture of the world. The future holds promises more wonderful than can be imagined. Our productive capacity has hardly been touched. Food and fuel—the two great essentials—will flow from our soil and mines as milk from the bosom of a generous mother.

Who can even imagine what is in store for this people in the future?

#### COAL.

One of the greatest industries of the county, second only to that of agriculture, while yet in the infancy of its development, is the mining of coal. It is certain that at a depth of from three to eight hundred feet an immense vein of an excellent quality of bituminous coal from six to eight feet in thickness stretches all over the more than 720 square miles of this county. Only in about a dozen places has it been reached by digging, but sufficient has been done to demonstrate the truthfulness of the above statement. It is undoubtedly true that this county possesses enough coal to supply the entire United States with a cheap fuel for a period of time, were it found necessary to use it. Beneath the ground lies this munificent but necessary commodity but it will be many years before much of this virgin fuel will ever be touched by miner's pick or drill. A vast, untold and almost unlimited field of power and wealth lies beneath us while above grows that which will feed the men while they are digging out this treasure. And as if nature had been most profuse in her gifts to this region, above these immense veins of coal is a rock covering many feet in thickness, thus insuring to the laborer beneath the surface that protection so much needed and desired by those who toil for this latent and almost limitless product, that was stored for the use of man when the earth was young. It is an ideal mining county and one which should always possess cheap fuel.

All over the county there may be obtained water in abundance, so that the three essentials to a manufacturing center, viz., cheap fuel, abundant water and cheap food, are

everywhere present. With a large home consumption for our food, and an abundance of coal there is no reason why this should not become one of the great manufacturing counties of the west. But it was not always known that we possessed these great treasures. For years most of these lands were thought to be untillable and the existence of coal in any considerable quantity was unknown.

It was not til the year 1882 or 1883 that this vast field of wealth was discovered. To be sure, small veins not to exceed 22 inches in thickness had been known to exist on Coal creek in the southern part of the county. At White's Bank on section 34, township 11 north, range 1 east, the largest vein was found and the coal was dug out by drifting into the hillside about thirty feet above the level of the creek. Another ten-inch seam was found near Greenwood's mill on the South Fork, but the coal was of poor quality. Near the North Fork mills, a 17-inch vein was known to exist several feet below low water mark.

But these evidences of coal were inconsequential and it was not until 1882 that the Pana Coal Company sunk a shaft something more than 700 feet deep, found a vein of coal from seven to eight feet thick, and in 1884 began taking out coal.

Other mines followed in rapid succession. The second shaft of the Pana Coal Company was sunk in 1887. The Penwell Coal Company sunk a shaft in 1888 and began removing coal in 1889. The Springside Coal Company was started in 1889 and coal was removed in 1890.

In Taylorville the meeting of the first stockholders to perfect the organization of a company was held on Monday, March 1, 1886. W. W. Anderson was chosen presi-

dent of the directors, A. G. Barnes treasurer and D. D. Shumway secretary.

On May 11, 1886, a contract for boring was let to S. A. Warner of Wadsworth, Ohio, to prospect for coal, but coal was not found till some time in 1887.

On January 6, 1888, a contract was made with Mr. S. Ainsworth for sinking a shaft and the shaft was completed before the close of the year.

Numerous other shafts have been sunk since that time.

One was at Edinburg and was in operation for several years, one in Assumption which furnishes a peculiarly valuable quality of coal and in 1900 the Christian County Coal Company in Taylorville, which works a large force of men.

And still others are in course of construction. A drill hole is being rapidly sunk near Clarksdale and a mine just outside the county, at Blue Mound, and still others are contemplated.

From the mines in the county about 15,000 tons of coal contribute to the uses of man daily, and many mills and factories from all over the west pour forth their smoke, telling of this immense industry in Christian county that is yet in its infancy.

From a beginning in Pana, when Mr. Julius Broehl sold the first carload of coal in 1884 and but few men were employed, now but little less than 3,000 men are kept busy and the output is transported by five or six trains of cars each day. And what of the future? Who can tell? The amount to be produced is unlimited by any conception of man. The ease with which it may be raised to the surface, the comparative safety of the location of the veins, the cheapness and the nearness of the food needed, the abundance and superior quality of the water, all proclaim this county as not only

an agricultural center, as not only a mining center, but in the near future the place where many manufactories will be located because the raw products can be turned into wares for the uses of men cheaper here than elsewhere. The rich glimmerings of prosperity now experienced are but the faint, golden glow of the richer realizations that may be looked for in the future.

#### DRAINAGE.

Back in the sixties and early seventies, if you will allow me to take you back that far in your imagination, you could have witnessed some very unusual sights, and not the least interesting of these would have comprehended a view of the flat landscape, covered literally with water, and in fact a "water-scape" if the term may be properly used. If you had happened upon the scene at a propitious moment, you could have seen George Waggoner with 16 yoke of oxen hitched to an enormous plow, one which would cut a furrow 24 inches wide and 16 inches deep—with a crew of drivers and a few onlookers, slowly wending his way along the wettest and lowest places in these prairies, and this was the beginning of drainage in Christian County. Not less than twenty-five drainage districts were begun by George Waggoner back at this early date, and by the method described. Perhaps no other man in Central Illinois has been oftener in court during later years, to testify to the beginning of these drainage enterprises, than Mr. Waggoner, and he has a faculty of recalling vividly and minutely the details of the work done by him in these early days, recounting his experiences in a very interesting manner.

Back in the early days of the settlement of this county, it was thought that most of the prairies were a waste, and not susceptible

of ever being utilized for agricultural purposes. Most of our sturdy pioneers settled along and in the timber, preferring to clear out the trees and brush rather than risk the perils of water, mosquitoes and malaria. With the advent of more settlers from the east, it became necessary that the prairie lands should be invaded, and incident to the influx of settlers came the beginning of drainage. Lands upon the prairie were cheap and abundant, a large amount thereof belonging to the Illinois Central Railroad Company, donated to it to induce it to construct a railroad through the flat prairie lands, thus connecting the prosperous and fertile country down about Cairo in Lower Egypt with the rolling prairies and prosperous communities about Freeport in Northern Illinois.

These lands were gladly disposed of to eastern and southern settlers, at from 50 cents to \$2.50 per acre, and considered "good riddance" by the railroad company. Nothing was valuable except away down in "Egypt" and the high rolling lands of northern Illinois, and except also a few timber tracts about "Hell's Half-Acre," the "Bloody Island," and the white oak bearing timber lands along the South Fork and Flat Branch generally. This has all been changed now. The redeemed swamps are now selling for from \$100 to \$140 per acre, depending upon the class of improvements they have, while the good old timber lands are worth from \$30 to \$70 per acre.

The real value of farm lands depends largely upon the character and quality of their soils, and their proper drainage depends very largely upon the character of subsoil.

This is a subject which is of very great importance, and is being investigated most thoroughly by an army of experts in the em-

ploy of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, who are collecting samples of soil from nearly every locality of the United States, for chemical analysis, reports of which can be secured free by those interested in the subject. Therefore, before entering more fully upon the subject of land drainage, it will not be amiss to glance at the origin of soils, although matters of a rather technical nature are generally not very popular.

The earth revolves upon its axis in an elliptical orbit, inclining  $23\frac{1}{2}$  degrees to the plane of the celestial equator, and which it crosses twice each year, being about the 21st of March and September respectively, or the season of the vernal and autumnal equinoxes. These "crossings" are never at the same point, but retrogress about five-sixths of one minute westward each year, which, measured at the earth's equator, would be not quite one mile. Thus, vast earth changes running through a period of 25,868 years follow, and during which time each and every point in the earth's orbit has its perihelion and aphelion passage. Now, how does all this affect the origin of soils, you may ask. Well, the eccentricity of the earth's orbit brings us 3,112,560 miles nearer the sun when the earth is at its perihelion passage about December 21st, then when at its aphelion passage six months later. By the procession of the equinoxes the time presently comes when the perihelion passage of the earth comes at a time when the earth is 3,112,560 miles farther away from the sun than it was formerly in mid-winter; then look out for a "cold snap." The hands of the geological clock will then point to the hour of universal winter. That such periods of time have come and gone and will come again is proven in the "Book of Nature" if we but read the book aright,

and during these earth-winters there have been in ages past mountains of ice and snow covering all the country from the Ohio and Missouri rivers north in places, miles in depth. It scooped away the solid mountains of the north, ground and crushed them into minute particles, and covered the face of the upper Mississippi River valley with a mantle of debris ranging from 20 to 200 feet in thickness, and interspersed with vegetable and animal remains, many of which are found every year in sinking wells in this locality. The very soil we have here owes its origin to the ice epoch, with such other forces as have been at work in nature modified by the action of running or standing water, when this sea of ice was again melted, and covered our flat prairie lands to perhaps 100 feet or more in depth at various places, and before the drainage channels were eroded.

The great lakes, holes and basins, and in many instances the stream valleys were gouged out by the plowing action of the ice in its resistless march southward during the ice age.

The soils we have here are a result of the drift brought by the ice from the northwest, a soil good, black, rich and deep. Further east, and skirting the southeasterly portion of this county, the ice brought its debris from the northeast or from Wisconsin, and the soil is of a different character and much less fertile, and in places intermingling with that brought from Iowa and the northwest. Other forces in nature have also operated to influence the composition of our soils, such as weathering, freezing, thawing, disintegrating, baking in the sun while wet, and redissolving again, mixing with vegetable litter, at such periods as when this part of the earth had eternal summer, and when vegetation flourished luxuriant-

ly, for there have been more than one cycle of recurring changes, and more than one season of eternal cold. Thus, our soils are a result of an almost endless comminution and co-mixing of materials, derived from a number of different forces in nature.

At the end of the last ice invasion, the whole country was left with a mass of debris from 20 to 200 feet in depth, brought down by ice and water, and deposited irregularly over the earth's surface. Only the high points were, at first, dry land, such as Pope's Hill, Badger Mound, Blue Mound, Mt. Auburn, and a few others, the rest of the land gradually emerging as the waters cut drainage channels throughout the land, and receded therefrom.

The highest point in Christian county is at Badger's Mound (near Rosemond) and is 750 feet above sea level. The lowest point upon the natural surface is near the northwest portion of the county, and it is 530 feet above sea level. Another point nearly equally as high as the "Badger Mound" is the West Blue Mound, in the northeasterly portion of the county. The general topography of the country largely determines its drainage, and thus we see the Mosquito creek entering the county about four miles north of the West Blue Mound and sluggishly winding its way in a westerly and northwesterly direction, until it empties into North Fork of the Sangamon river. The North Fork of the Sangamon river forms the northerly boundary of the county, and opposite Mt. Auburn makes a long detour to the north, influenced by the high land in that vicinity. In the vicinity of Rosemond, a small branch of the upper South Fork of the Sangamon river rises on either side of Badger Mound, uniting somewhat to the west thereof, and with many small tributaries running first wester-

ly and northwesterly until it strikes a high plateau of flat lands near the southwest portion of the county, then gracefully curving northeasterly until the junction with Flat Branch, then again deflecting westerly and southwesterly and finally after its confluence with Bear Creek going northerly and northwesterly to its junction with the North Fork and thence forming the Sangamon river. Many smaller tributaries, all with a general northerly, westerly or northwesterly course traverse the county. Where the streams flow westerly the drainage areas upon the north side are usually not very wide, while that upon the south side comes from quite a distance. This is again a result of the morraines thrown down by melting ice, causing a ridge of sandy and gravelly soil, mostly overlaid with a sheet or black or Sangamon soil as it is technically termed. Such a ridge starts a little southwest of Taylorville and is followed, in the main, by the Wabash railroad up to and beyond Boody, keeping somewhat to the north thereof in the vicinity of Stonington, and this slight ridge is the divide or water shed of this portion of the county.

Another example of a ridge of like character is that of the divide between Mosquito creek and the North Fork of the Sangamon river passing through Mt. Auburn. Many other examples might be named.

As stated near the beginning of this article, most of the earlier systems of drainage upon the flat lands were started by plowing a furrow or a double furrow along the line of sloughs and low lands. Later these were improved generally, by mutual co-operation, using teams and scrapers for the work at such extreme dry seasons as were now and then available for doing the work. As the lands became more in demand, and consequently more valuable,

other methods of construction were used, and organization of drainage districts employed. One of the earlier districts formed in the county was that of Taylorville No. 1, leading from near the paper mill, northerly and crossing the north lane about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles north of the city of Taylorville. The work of construction was begun in July, 1882, and was finally completed in the autumn of 1883. The cost of the improvement was about \$3.00 per acre for the lands involved, and was considered a very great price to pay for drainage. Many other re-deepenings and recleanings have been done upon this system of ditches since then, and no doubt the ditches have repaid their total cost a hundred fold. About the same time, 1882 and 1883, there were three drainage districts started in Stonington township, and after much opposition were completed in 1884. There was at time, as now, considerable opposition to these drainage districts and the subject generally misunderstood, and after prolonged litigation it was finally settled by the Supreme Court by a decision in favor of the drainage districts. The way was then well opened for this class of work. Following almost immediately upon the completion of these three districts were organized the Lake Fork District, north of Pana, another district in Stonington township, three others in South Fork township and many other ditches constructed by mutual arrangement of the parties interested. Most of the improvements made up to 1888 was by deepening and enlarging the George Waggoner plow ditches and the cost to the interested lands ranged from \$1.00 to \$5.00 per acre. Not many really perfect jobs of ditching had yet been done. The ditches were through very flat lands, could not be given good gradients or great depth, and consequently filled up with deposits

more or less and had to be frequently repaired and recleaned. The farmer land owners were nearly all yet in debt upon their lands, and felt that they could not well afford to pay out enormous sums of money for ditch construction, and the systems of drainage were generally a compromise between perfect plans for drainage on the one hand, and dollars cost upon the other, and were not always, and in fact were rarely what they should have been, in size, depth or capacity.

Of later years, as the lands have advanced in value, the improvements in the way of drainage have become of a more permanent character. Five miles of large dredge-boat ditches were constructed in Stonington and Buckhart townships; ten miles of dredge-ditch work was done in the Hog Lake, in the easterly portion of Ricks township. Seven miles of large ditches were constructed in the South D'Arcy lands in King Township with a dredge-boat; and eleven miles of large open drains in northerly King township; also seven miles of ditch reconstructed by a dredge in the upper "Big George" creek through portions of Assumption and Pana townships; the aggregate of dredge ditches in the county being about 40 miles, costing on the average \$2,500 per mile, or in all about \$100,000.

The open ditches constructed by teams and scrapers in the various drainage districts aggregate 235 miles. Those constructed by mutual cooperation number more than 100 miles, not taking into account those constructed for lateral drainage upon the lands, privately, which number into the thousands, and probably comprise over 4,000 miles more of open ditches. Thus it will be seen that the sum total spent for drainage has, in fact, been enormous, and it was, generally, well expended.

During more recent years, the demand has been for better drainage and works of a more permanent character. Thus the plan of under-drainage by tiles has now come into general use. Pipes of clay, moulded like brick, and afterward dried and burned are now generally employed. The subsoil of all these flat prairie lands is of a porous texture, being covered upon the surface, and from two to four feet in depth, with a black, decomposed vegetable soil, the underlying subsoil being of a "joint clay" whose composition is such that it is permeated with numerous partings or seams, and has a cuboidal fracture, which admits water easily into the seams, and is an ideal subsoil for the employment of under-drains. Other sections of Illinois have not always the proper character of subsoil to admit of good under-drainage, but with few exceptions, where the Wisconsin drift has left a mantle of white tile, invading our precincts from the northeast, we have an excellent top soil, fertile and inexhaustible, and underlaid with an excellent "joint clay" subsoil. It is particularly notable that such character of subsoil is an almost universal accompaniment of the low, flat prairie lands of this county.

Without going too minutely into details, the first tile drains laid in the county were in about 1878, being then employed where the gradients were, without question, excellent, and looked upon with a degree of suspicion, until time had demonstrated their effectiveness. With constant experimenting and a general advance of enlightenment the work of under-drainage has gone on until now the demands for drain tile are such that we have ten tile factories in the county, mostly engaged constantly in the manufacture of drain-tile, and besides, buy outside and ship in upon the average 600 carloads every year. The earlier open ditches are, in

many instances, being reconstructed, using large tile, going farther down stream where necessary to secure greater fall, and laying the tiles in the bed of the former open ditches. A notable example of this sort of recent construction is to be found north of Stonington, where a drain-tile 28 inches inside diameter, so large that a small-sized man can crawl into, turn about and come back from the same, was laid from the Buckhart creek northeasterly a distance of one and seven-eighths miles, at a cost of over \$7,000. This system of drainage continues for some four and one-half miles further, the tiles decreasing in size as the principal laterals enter the same, and comprises in all over fourteen miles of tile drains, all the costs having been borne by funds derived from special assessments of the lands interested, at a total cost of about \$14,000 and embracing 2,790 acres of land. The lateral drainage tributary to this includes more than 25 miles of smaller tile drains. The work and materials cost some of the land holders more than \$8.00 per acre for this improvement alone, they having previously contributed more than \$5.00 per acre for the original open drain. The land owners, some twenty-five in number, are all satisfied with the results obtained, and express their approval of completing a system of drainage which, being properly done, is done for all time, and requires no expenditure constantly to maintain the same. In like manner a very great number of drainage districts have employed tile for perfect drainage. One of the earliest districts to use tile almost exclusively was Locust and May Union Drainage District No. 1. 'Squire Mink, C. A. Stattner and others were among the promoters, and after excavating an open ditch for about one-half mile, the rest of the drainage was effected by means of tiles,

using an 18-inch and 14-inch tile for a double outlet. It comprises 12 miles of tiles of various sizes, whose outlet is upon the lands of Lee Bradley in section 1 of Locust township, thence northerly and northwesterly in an open ditch to the middle fork of Brushy Branch. The district comprises 3,390 acres of what were formerly very wet lands; has miles of lateral tiles throughout the various farms, laid in a regular network, cost about \$4.50 per acre upon an average for all the lands, has cost comparatively little to maintain the system, and that mostly for extensions, and has given general satisfaction to the interested land owners. The benefits, in the way of reclamation of swamp lands, amount to thousands of dollars and at least tenfold its cost.

These are but examples of what has been done in the way of drainage. To enter into the details fully would require more time and space than are at my command. The importance of the subject of drainage and its practical application in our county is sufficient to justify volumes being written, and its results are greater, broader, deeper and more far reaching than would at first glance be appreciated. It has made fertile fields and farms out of watery wastes. It has transformed a wilderness of slough grasses and rushes into smiling fields of corn and happy homes. Its financial results may be summed up in millions of dollars benefits to Christian county, in increased productiveness of thousands of acres of lands, other thousands of acres absolutely redeemed from prairie swamps and miasmatic pools and lakes. More than half the lands of the county were practically worthless, and one-fourth, at least, were valueless, before it was ascertained that drainage of these wastes could be accomplished. With even the first crude drainage systems, came en-

hanced values, double producing capacity, and a general betterment of health. With further and more perfect systems of drainage, has come still greater land values, better roads, and very greatly improved general appearance of the farms from elimination of the small and often irregular waste patches of swamps. By drainage the natural habitation of the mosquito has been destroyed. The mosquito, it has been shown by Dr. O. L. Howard, an eminent expert in disease germs, is the harbinger and transmitter of the malaria germ, and the drainage of the stagnant ponds has decreased by many millions the numbers of these insect pests, to say nothing of dispensing with the obnoxious and poisonous odors which formerly emanated therefrom.

There are 63 regularly organized drainage districts in Christian county, distributed among the various towns as follows: Assumption, 8; Buckhart, 4; Greenwood, 1; King, 6; Locust, 3; May, 4; Mosquito, 4; Pana, 4; Prairieton, 1; Ricks, 6; Rosemond, 3; Stonington, 9; South Fork, 3; and Taylorville, 7.

Some of these are counted twice, as they include lands frequently lying within portions of two or more towns. The towns of Bear Creek, Johnson and Mt. Auburn only have no such regular organizations, but have each done a great deal in the way of drainage improvement, either by mutual agreement of the land owners or by individual effort. The latter remark also applies to each of the other towns, there having been very many of even rather complicated systems of drainage effected without organization under the law. The time is not long past when many honest men looked upon the tile-draining question with suspicion. They affirmed that the great amount of drainage work done was the direct cause

of drouth, and during seasons of great precipitation it was the great promoter of flood conditions in the main streams of the country. There is some truth in the theory that better drainage facilities have accentuated the flood conditions, but what matter if the rivers rise an inch or two or even a foot or two higher than formerly? The sooner come the sooner gone, and the floods do not now continue so long as formerly, even if they become higher.

The 20th century farmer is a man who will use any means within his power to "make two blades of grass grow where only one grew before," regardless of what were the opinions of his forefathers, and the great and constantly increasing demand for drain-tile tells the story more forcibly than words can express.

Experience in all affairs of life is the final test, and now that we have the experience of hundreds of our best citizens, farmers, land-owners and capitalists who have tested thoroughly the various methods of drainage, who have watched its effects upon the soil and crops, and who pronounce unequivocally in favor of thorough under-drainage, the question would seem to be certainly settled.

What are the real tangible benefits of drainage? Briefly told, upon well drained lands, those with deep drains, or where under-drained by tiles, dry out earlier by days, and in some instances by weeks, than those which are not drained, thus enabling their proprietors to get out early crops at the proper season, and this of itself often means a great advantage; then where one rain is followed by another at intervals of a few days, the under-drained lands are dry within a very short time so that farming operations can proceed at the proper times, and with less loss of time. Again, where any

kind of fertilizer is used, with under-drainage and not surface drainage, all the plant-producing food is absorbed by the soil, and used for vegetable growth.

Another benefit derived from under-drainage is that crops grown upon drained land, such as described, by reason of earlier seeding, better conditions of soil and other advantages, are matured earlier in the fall, and out of the way of early frosts, which during many seasons means a very great loss to crops upon lands not under-drained. By being under-drained, the soil becomes warmer by admission of air through the soil pores, which upon undrained lands are filled with water during the early season, and the warmth with just sufficient moisture and not too much is most conducive to plant-growth. Crops upon such lands grow without intermission, and if a dry season comes are hardier and ranker, shade the ground better, thus conserving such moisture as is available from dews or slight showers during periods of drouth. Then, to sum up the benefits of tile-drainage, they are as follows: It renders the soil open and porous, makes it absorptive, thus retaining the nutritive elements, gives a circulation of air through it, thus increasing the temperature and depth of the available soil, and makes it a fit home for the roots of all plants, and last but not least, renders the land more accessible for going about upon, and more sightly to the view.

I cannot say anything more appropriate in closing this article than to quote a poem, entitled "The Tile Drain's Soliloquy" by Clayton Melville, and published some years ago in *The Drainage Journal*, with apologies to Hamlet.

"Here I am resting,  
In quiet and peace,  
At last,

Yes, and doing more good  
Lying still in the ground,  
Saying nothing,  
Than in all my existence  
Before.  
I'm fragmentary, 'tis true,  
But not broken;  
Made up of joints of burnt clay  
Called tiles;  
Yet I am one  
Drain.  
I've been talked about  
In the papers,  
And at conventions;  
Aye, even roasted.  
But care I for that, do you think?  
Not I.  
Why should I?  
I'm faithfully doing my duty,  
With no one to hinder  
Or help me;  
I'm content.  
'Still waters run deep,'  
Yes, just four feet,  
In this bit of soil  
Where I am.  
Do they think of me now,  
At the factory,  
I wonder?  
Where the man with the patent  
Kiln  
Made it hot for me,  
Thumped me soundly,  
And said,  
'That's a good tile—  
Has the right ring  
And color,  
Etc.'  
Does he care for me now?  
I guess not.  
He's selling kilns,  
And I—  
Am draining land,  
And making my owner richer  
Each year.  
I've found my work,  
And am going to  
Stick to it.  
I suppose some men  
Still talk about me

As they always have talked  
 And say  
 I cause drouths.  
 And floods in the Ohio valley,  
 And elsewhere,  
 Of course!  
 For nothing of that kind occurred  
 Before I got in  
 My work.  
 Oh, no!  
 But they'll understand  
 What I'm doing  
 Sometime.  
 I'm a Twentieth Century drain,  
 And am doing business  
 According to lately  
 Revised laws of  
 Soil physics!  
 And getting along all right,  
 Too.  
 The tile-makers likewise.  
 Time once saw me proud,  
 With few friends, and  
 Choice,  
 But now, many  
 Know me,  
 And speak well of me.  
 One is always well spoken of  
 After he's buried,  
 I know,  
 But it's true, with me,  
 That I do more good  
 Under the ground than  
 Above.  
 Far more."

## CONCLUSION.

A review of this short, though imperfect, history of Christian county will doubtless impress the reader that from a small beginning Christian county has rapidly advanced, and is now entitled to be classed among the leading and best counties of the state of Illinois; her system of drainage has rapidly developed the agricultural condition of the county, improved the health and the roads. Today the farmers are, as a rule, entirely out of debt; most of them have more or less money in the bank; almost every

farmer has his carriage or buggy, a spare team with which he can take the wife and the daughter to church or town with ease and comfort; most of the farmers are blessed with good comfortable homes; most of them have good sheds for the shelter of the stock; nearly all of the horses, cattle, hogs and sheep raised in the county are of a high order or class, from which the purchaser realizes the greatest possible profit.

The farms are cultivated by the best improved machinery, and the farmer of today can do more work, raise more grain, than three farmers of a few years ago.

Everything used by the farmer tends toward economy in time and the employment of labor-saving machinery, all of which when properly cared for and used economically tends to better the condition of the country; also the tenantry of Christian county have good comfortable houses to live in, and comfortable barns for their stock, and they too are able, as a rule, to have their separate teams and buggies to give their families more pleasure.

Merchants and business men of the county enjoy large and profitable trade; many of them have grown wealthy at the county, and many of the older merchants have retired and given place to younger men; today you can purchase in Christian county as good an article of merchandise as can be obtained in the great cities of St. Louis or Chicago.

The merchants of the cities and villages of Christian county have as fine a display of goods, as large a stock on hand as will be seen in any county or city outside of the larger class of cities. Nearly all of the cities and villages of the county have their streets lighted by electricity, using the most improved lights; modes of conveyance by electricity are being projected for the benefit of the different localities of the county. The

cities have an excellent class of buildings for business purposes, and, all over the county in every city, village and on almost every farm, can be found many beautiful homes with the most modern improvements therein; where but a few years ago the wealthiest men of the county had but a few thousand dollars, today there are hundreds of men worth more than \$100,000 and thousands of men worth from \$15,000 to \$50,000 each; this wealth has not been the result of speculation or of a sudden accumulation, but has been produced by a steady and effective growth which was brought about by bountiful crops and the development of the interests and natural resources of the county, which has produced wealth for the coffers of many of the inhabitants.

The larger cities of the county have two and three banks, and in nearly every town and village in the county there is a bank located, yet all of these banks are today overflowing with money, have more than they can use, more than they can loan, and it has all been accumulated by a deposit of the surplus money of their patrons. Christian county has grown rapidly in population and today it has a population of nearly forty thousand souls.

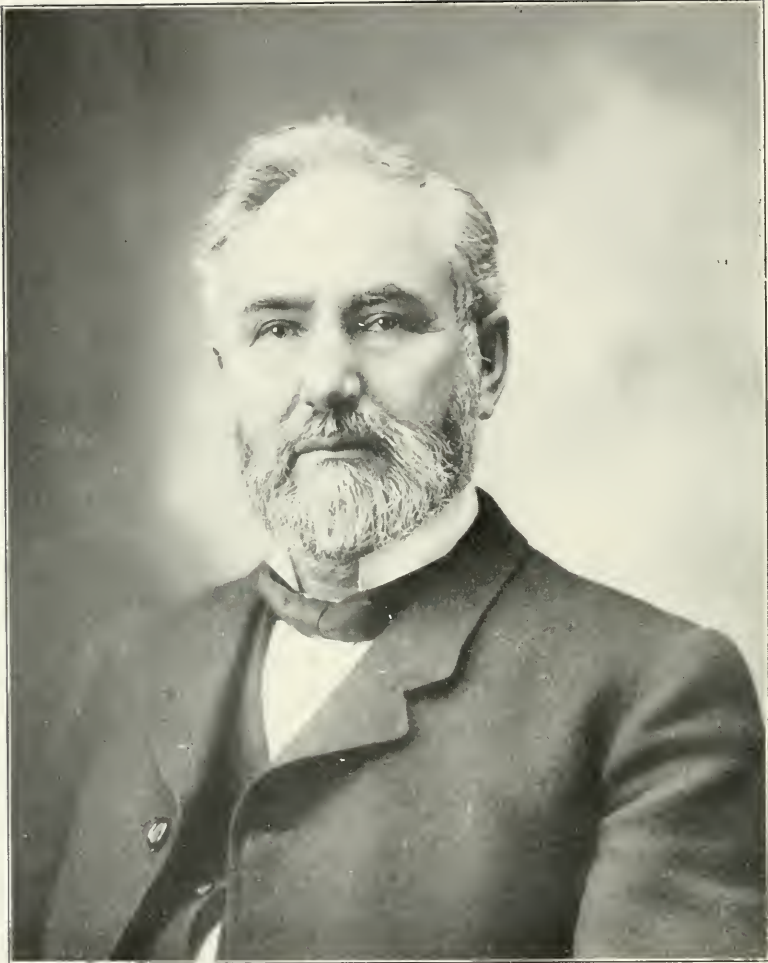
The health is good, business of every kind and character in the county is apparently prosperous; the people are law-abiding, and

while we have friction, some misunderstandings, and, as some people say, many lawsuits, yet it must be remembered that the business of the courts depends largely upon the business transacted in the county; a per cent of the business can be reckoned as resulting in litigation and this per cent will produce a greater amount of litigation where much business is done than where a small amount is transacted.

Christian county indeed has a record of which its people can be proud, its people are proud of it; and every inhabitant of Christian county is as bold to say that he belongs to Christian county as the old Roman was to say that "I am a Roman," and while many of our people have from time to time sought other communities to better their condition, very many of that number have returned to Christian, and say that they have not been able to find any country or community better to live in than Christian county. While it may not be very judicious for us to be "praising our own wares," yet as this book is intended more particularly for circulation in Christian county, and as its patrons are residents here, there can be nothing improper in confidentially saying to one another that we have one of the best counties on God's green earth.

J. C. McBRIDE.





J. C. McBRIDE

# BIOGRAPHICAL.

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J. C. McBRIDE.

The profession of law is one to which many aspire, but in which few succeed to any remarkable degree. The subject of this sketch is one of the few who have won success, and he is now recognized as one of the best attorneys in central Illinois and is the dean of the Christian county bar. Taylorville has been his home for a third of a century and no man within its borders is better known or has a wider circle of friends and acquaintances.

The McBride family is of Scotch ancestry, the great-great-grandfather of our subject coming to this country at a very early day. General James McBride, one of his ancestors, was contemporary with Daniel Boone in Kentucky, and Grimshaw, in his "Historic Days," says "General McBride antedates Daniel Boone." Thomas W. McBride, the father of our subject, however, was born in Tennessee. He married Margery A. H. Wiggins, a native of Kentucky, from which state they emigrated at an early day, locating in Macoupin county, Illinois, where he engaged in farming and stock-raising, becoming one of the leading citizens of the county. They reared a family of eight children, four boys and four girls, of whom five are yet living, James C. being the only one living in Christian county.

James C. McBride was born on his father's farm near Palmyra, Macoupin county, Illinois, July 16, 1845, and in the public

schools of the neighborhood received his primary education. Later he attended for a time the Quaker College, at Richmond, Indiana, after which he entered Lincoln University, at Lincoln, Illinois, from which institution he graduated in the class of 1869 with the degree of B. S.

In his boyhood and youth, Mr. McBride assisted in the cultivation of the home farm, but after graduating from the university he taught school in the neighborhood of his father's home for one term. While teaching he took up the study of law, and after the expiration of the term in which he was employed as a teacher, he entered the office of Judge W. R. Welch, of Carlinville, Illinois, and continued his studies for about one year, when he was admitted to the bar, being the first one admitted after the elevation of Judge H. M. Vandever to the circuit bench.

In the spring of 1871 Mr. McBride took up his residence in Taylorville and at once commenced the practice of his profession. Like young attorneys generally, he had at first a hard time to get along, clients being a little averse to giving their patronage to those untried, but by and by they began to come in, and now for more than twenty years he has stood at the head of the bar, and few cases of any great importance tried in the courts of Christian county but found him retained on one side or the other. Law with him has been a study, a profession, and

to that profession he has given the greater part of his life and energy. There has never been any incentive placed before him to make him swerve from his chosen work, although he has been associated in some outside business enterprises, but in nothing that would take too much of his time to the neglect of the law. Until the admission of his son to a partnership with him he had always practiced alone, except for a period of about three years, and his prominence has been secured by his own merits and not from the borrowed light of others. In 1898 he gave his son an interest in his practice, since which time the firm of J. C. & W. B. McBride has been in existence and has won the greatest prominence at the Christian county bar. But not alone at the bar of his adopted county, but in the supreme court of his state and in the federal courts of the nation has he been prominently identified.

For many years Mr. McBride was identified with the Taylorville Coal Company, and for some years acted as president of the corporation, but in 1896 disposed of his interest. He has also been a stockholder and director in the First National Bank of Taylorville for many years. With five other gentlemen he is a large landowner in Mississippi, in one of the most productive parts of the great cotton belt. He has also acquired by his own efforts several hundred acres of very productive land in Christian county.

On the 17th of May, 1871, Mr. McBride was united in marriage with Miss Mattie Wheeler, of Lincoln, Illinois, daughter of Aaron and Almira Wheeler, of that city. She has been truly a helpmeet to him and encouraged and assisted him in all his undertakings. They became acquainted while they were students in the Lincoln University. Their union has been an exceed-

ingly happy one, and four children came to bless it. Willis B., now the partner of his father, married Miss Rose Schultz, and they have one child, Katherine. He is a graduate of the Ada, Ohio, University, and has a bright future before him. Horace is now a resident of Carlinville, Illinois, and is manager of the Shale Brick & Tile Works. He married Miss Belle Wheeler, and they have one child, Clarabel. Elma is the wife of Adelbert Buckley and is the mother of one child, Helen Elizabeth. He is a business man in Taylorville. Marcella is at home with her parents.

In politics Mr. McBride espouses the principles of the Democracy, and is a fearless advocate of them upon the stump. He has never aspired to, nor would he accept public office outside the line of his profession, preferring to give his time to his business affairs. As a delegate he has been in many conventions and was one of the Illinois delegation to the national Democratic convention at Kansas City in 1900. As city attorney, he served several years with satisfaction to the citizens of his adopted city. He also served as master in chancery for two years and some years ago was nominated by his party for circuit judge but was gerrymandered out.

Fraternally Mr. McBride is a member of Mound Lodge, No. 122, A. F. & A. M., of Taylorville; of Taylorville Chapter, No. 102, R. A. M., and of Elwood Commandery, No. 6, K. T., of Springfield. He is now past master of the blue lodge. For many years he has been a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and in 1900 he received a veteran jewel for having been a member in good standing for twenty-five years.

Mr. McBride stands deservedly high among the legal fraternity, his ability being

recognized by all. He is the peer of any man at the bar in central Illinois, and the ability of the members of that bar is unquestioned. He is able, painstaking and conscientious in his work, and to secure him as an advocate the man is indeed fortunate. He has many warm friends, and it is possible some enemies, as what man has not that possesses any force of character. As a citizen he is ever ready to assist in any and every thing that will tend to the advancement of his adopted city and county, and evidence of that interest is shown on every hand.

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#### J. N. C. SHUMWAY.

One of the most prominent and influential citizens of Taylorville is J. N. C. Shumway, who has been and is actively connected with its business affairs. He belongs to that class of representative men who while promoting individual interests also advance the general welfare. Energetic and progressive in business life he has at the same time been active in public interests and has represented his district in the state senate. He is now the secretary of the Taylorville Savings & Loan Association, of which he was the organizer and of which he has been secretary from the beginning. In 1889 he was made secretary and manager of the Taylorville Electric Light Company, which office he still fills and he was one of the original directors of the First National Bank, with which he is still associated.

Mr. Shumway was born in Christian county on the 28th of September, 1850, his parents being D. D. and Emily R. (Rountree) Shumway, a sketch of whom will be found on another page of this volume. He acquired his education in the schools of

Taylorville and afterward spent four years as a student in the United Presbyterian College of Iowa. When nineteen years of age he went to Nebraska in company with his sister and brother-in-law, who journeyed in a covered wagon, while Mr. Shumway drove a sulky. They were five weeks upon the road but ultimately reached their destination and our subject assisted in improving his brother-in-law's land there. At a later date he returned to Taylorville, where he remained up to the time of his father's death in 1870. He then went to Lincoln, Nebraska, and opened the first exclusive carpet store in that city. He spent three years there and afterward went to South America, but in January, 1875, he again came to Taylorville, where he took up the study of law under the direction of W. M. Provine, with whom he remained two years. For a similar period his reading was directed by J. G. Drennan, but because of ill health he was obliged to abandon the law and with Mr. Drennan engaged in the real estate and other business interests. In the year 1877 he was elected justice of the peace, which position he filled for twelve years, during which time he tried between five and six thousand cases. His rulings were strictly fair and impartial and his official career was one which gained him the high commendation of the public. In 1884 he organized the Taylorville Savings, Loan & Building Association, of which he has since been secretary. This company has been largely instrumental in improving the city, many houses having been erected through the assistance gained from the organization. In 1889 Mr. Shumway became secretary and manager of the Taylorville Electric Light Company and still acts in that capacity. He has also been one of the directors of the First National Bank since its organization. He has been engaged

in the real estate and insurance business in Taylorville for the past twenty-six years.

In February, 1877, occurred the marriage of Mr. Shumway and Miss Lilly Rothchild, of Salem, Illinois. Unto them have been born two daughters: Nemmie R., the elder, at home; and Genevieve G., who is now attending the Forest Park University at St. Louis, Missouri.

In his social relations Mr. Shumway is a Mason, his membership being with the lodge in Lincoln, Nebraska. He is also connected with the Knights of Pythias fraternity and with the Red Men at Taylorville. In politics he is an earnest Democrat and in 1898 he was elected upon that ticket to the state senate, where he was active in support of much important litigation, being largely instrumental in the restoration of the old garnishee law, which had been on the statute books since the adoption of the first constitution of Illinois, but which had been greatly changed to the detriment of the working classes. In 1903 Mr. Shumway was appointed Illinois commissioner for the Louisiana Purchase Exposition and served as a member of the committees on buildings, mines and minerals, and was chosen chairman of the committee on grounds, interior and exterior decoration and furnishing of building.

Mr. Shumway purchased the corner lots in Taylorville where the old Long Hotel once stood and erected thereon a good brick building, in which he has his office. He also owns property on the west side of the square and other real estate in various parts of the town. He has ever been public spirited, taking a deep and helpful interest in that which pertains to the public good. In business he has been active, energetic and progressive and as the result of his carefully

directed efforts he has gained a place among the substantial and representative citizens of Taylorville.

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#### W. J. SALING, M. D.

Dr. W. J. Saling, who is engaged in the practice of medicine in Stonington, was born in Marshall county, Kentucky, April 9, 1865, and is a son of W. J. and M. J. Saling. The father was born in Edmonson county, Kentucky, in the year 1819 and there followed farming and mercantile pursuits throughout his business career. He died in the year 1890, while his wife passed away in 1891.

Dr. Saling obtained his early education in the schools of Kentucky and prepared for the practice of medicine as a student in the medical department of the University of Louisville, Kentucky, where he was graduated with the class of 1892. Well qualified for his chosen calling, he entered upon the practice at Smithland, Kentucky, where he remained for three and a half years, gaining broad experience through the varied practice that comes to a member of the medical fraternity in a small town. He afterward removed to Ellsworth, Illinois, where he remained until 1899, when he came to Stonington. It was not long before he gave evidence of his thorough understanding of the science of medicine and his correct application of his knowledge to the needs of suffering humanity. A liberal patronage has therefore been accorded him by the public and he has now a large practice which has assumed profitable proportions. He is continually studying to enhance his proficiency and his broad reading, experience and investigation have made him one of the able members of the profession in Christian county. He has been particularly successful in

the treatment of typhoid fever and of chronic cases. He is now medical examiner for the John Hancock Life Insurance Company, of Boston, Massachusetts, also the Franklin Life Insurance Company, of Springfield, Illinois, and the Illinois Life Insurance Company. He has written a number of articles for publication in the Medical World and he belongs to the Christian County Medical Society. His entire time and attention has been devoted to his chosen calling and he has a well equipped office, in which he does considerable microscopic work, taking a great interest in it.

In March, 1892, Dr. Saling was united in marriage to Miss Alice Webl, of Litchfield, Kentucky, and unto them was born a daughter, Edna, who now resides at home. On the 10th of May, 1900, the Doctor was again married, his second union being with Angeline Solliday, a daughter of Mrs. J. H. Solliday. The Doctor and his wife are valued members of the Reformed church and the hospitality of the best homes of Stonington and the surrounding district is extended to them. He has recently completed a beautiful residence which cost thirty-three hundred dollars. It is heated with furnace, supplied with a hot and cold water system and excellent sanitary arrangements and is a most modern home in every particular. Fraternally the Doctor is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America, the Fraternal Army and the Court of Honor. In his political affiliations he is a Democrat, but he has never sought or desired office, preferring to devote his time and energies to his chosen profession, in which he has met with signal success. In manner he is kindly, in disposition genial and the sterling traits of his character are such as win for him the good will and confidence of those with whom he has been brought in contact.

#### ALLEN PEABODY.

Allen Peabody is the owner of an excellent farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 16, Prairieton township, and the improvements on the place are largely a monument to his enterprise and business capacity, for he has developed the farm to its present prosperous condition. A native son of Christian county, he was born in 1865. His parents were Dr. E. S. and Sarah Peabody, the former a native of Connecticut and the latter of Kentucky. The father was born in 1812 and came to Illinois in the early '30s. He was a physician and surgeon and practiced his profession in Springfield for a time, after which he removed to Danville and in 1860 came to Christian county, where he purchased four hundred and eighty acres of land. Abandoning the practice of medicine, he turned his attention to the occupation of farming, which he followed until his death, which occurred in 1900. His widow still survives him and now makes her home in Taylorville.

Mr. Peabody of this review pursued his education in the schools of Decatur and of Taylorville and manifested considerable aptitude in his studies, so that, at the age of seventeen years, he was qualified for teaching. Securing a school he was identified with educational work in this county for three years, after which he spent one year in Kansas and then returned to Christian county. He has since been engaged in farming. He bought one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 16, Prairieton township, where he now lives and began the improvement of the property, carrying on the work of cultivation until he has to-day a very fine farm. The fields are rich and productive and yield a golden tribute to the owner for the care and labor he bestows

upon them. He has tiled his land, built fences, dividing the place into fields of convenient size and carried forward his work in a most progressive manner, resulting in making him one of the leading agriculturists of the township.

In 1888 Mr. Peabody was united in marriage to Miss Dora Oliver, a daughter of Michael Oliver, a native of West Virginia. Unto our subject and his wife have been born nine children, but only two are now living, Grace and Verna. Mr. Peabody gives his political support to the men and measures of the Democracy, and is now serving as supervisor of Prairieton township. For one year he was tax collector in his township and in all public positions of trust and responsibility he has been most faithful, prompt and accurate in the discharge of his duties. Fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America.

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#### HENRY DAVIS.

The present generation owes a debt of gratitude to the pioneers of the Prairie state that can never be repaid. The trials and hardships endured by them to make the state what it is to-day, one of the foremost in all the Union, cannot be realized by those enjoying the present comforts of an advanced civilization.

Henry Davis was a pioneer of Sangamon and Christian counties, one who, in early life, knew nothing of present day comforts, and who, in his boyhood and youth, never dreamed that there was much else in this life but hard work and a struggle for existence. He was born within six miles of Nashville, Tennessee, April 24, 1817, and when three years of age came with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Davis, to Sangamon county,

Illinois, the family locating on a farm near Mechanicsburg. Here he grew to manhood, receiving his education in the old log school-house so often pictured by the old pioneer in relating his life's struggles to his children and grandchildren, but from whose doors went forth some of the grandest men that ever walked the earth, and whose names are written high on the roll of fame.

Mechanicsburg and Mount Auburn townships, within whose boundaries the greater part of the life of Henry Davis was passed, was not, in that early day the highly cultivated, the prosperous section now known, but was covered in greater part by a heavy growth of timber that had to be cleared away that in its place might be planted the corn and sown the wheat that has made Illinois famous throughout the whole civilized world. In that work the boyhood, youth and early manhood of our subject were passed, and those that were personally acquainted with him know how well he applied himself to the work and with what results. At the age of twenty-three years, on the 29th of May, 1840, he was united in marriage with Caroline Kipper, a native of Lexington, Kentucky, born near the beautiful city of Lexington, July 23, 1820, and daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Kipper, pioneer settlers of Christian county.

Mr. and Mrs. Davis began their married life with little of this life's goods. They waited not to acquire large possessions before entering the matrimonial state, but with love in their hearts one for the other, and a steadfast determination to at least acquire for themselves a comfortable home, they commenced life's journey together. He had health and strength, ambition and great natural ability. Together they worked hard, lived frugally, sometimes even denying themselves what are considered the neces-



*Harry Davis*



saries of life, but they had the satisfaction of seeing their possessions accumulate, the boundaries of their farm reach out, and to know that in old age they would be secure from want and have the means to secure the luxuries denied them in early life.

After living on a farm in Mechanicsburg township, Sangamon county, for some years, Mr. Davis acquired a farm in Christian county, to which he removed with his family. In general farming and stock-raising he became extensively engaged and success crowned all his efforts. In 1868 he moved into the village of Mount Auburn, where he remained for about six years and then moved to Springfield, Illinois. From there, in 1877, he went to Detroit, Michigan, where some years were spent and later took up his residence in Lafayette, Indiana, where his death occurred Sunday, February 3, 1901. His last moments were peaceful and his mind was clear until a few hours before he died, when he lapsed into unconsciousness. He was survived by his wife and two children, Henry Davis, Jr., of Springfield, Illinois, and Mrs. David Hoover, of Taylorville. From Lafayette his remains were taken to Taylorville, and from the Christian church, which is a memorial to his generosity, he was laid away to rest.

After the death of her husband, Mrs. Davis removed to Taylorville, where she made her home until she, too, "fell asleep in Jesus," Thursday, June 12, 1902. She was a faithful wife, a loving mother, and her life work, her untiring energy in deeds of righteousness, together with her beautiful character, blends well with the ever exemplary career led by her husband. She was a charitable woman, a devout worker in the Christian church, and was imbued with all the characteristics of a noble woman.

In his political views Henry Davis was a staunch Democrat, and he was not only a life-long friend of Stephen A. Douglas, but was also an intimate friend of Abraham Lincoln, Judge Logan, Milton Hay, Ninian Edwards and other prominent men of Illinois. As a citizen he was ever ready to discharge any duty devolving upon him, and while advancing his own interests he also materially aided in promoting the general welfare of the community in which he lived. His death removed a strong, commanding, unique figure from life, but while he has "passed on before" his memory will be held in lasting remembrance by those who knew him best, and his life is well worth emulating.

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#### W. W. MORRISON.

One of the most highly esteemed and honored citizens of Pana is the gentleman whose name introduces this review. He was born on the 8th of April, 1835, in Concord, New Hampshire, of which state his parents, William and Roxana (Wilson) Morrison, were also natives. By occupation the father was a farmer. In 1838 he brought his family to Illinois, making the journey in a covered wagon and located in the western part of Pike county, where he built a home on the prairie and converted a wild tract of land into a good farm. At that time there were many wolves and deer in this part of the country, while prairie chickens and other feathered game was very numerous. In those early days Mr. Morrison took a very active and prominent part in public affairs and served as supervisor of the county for about twenty-five years. He was born in 1799 and died at the age of eighty years, and his wife, who was born in 1800, passed away in 1875. They were most estimable people

and were highly respected by all who knew them. Of their seven children only our subject and his older sister, Mrs. Mary Jane Corey, of Baylis, Pike county, are now living.

W. W. Morrison was only three years old on the removal of the family to this state and amid pioneer scenes he grew to manhood upon the home farm, being educated in the public schools of Pike county. His early training well fitted him for teaching and he successfully engaged in that pursuit for several years, devoting his time and energies to that occupation through the winter months, while he followed farming during the summer season. For two winters he drove three and a half miles to and from school each day.

On South Prairie, Pike county, Mr. Morrison was married February 9, 1859, to Miss Eleanor Megaw, a daughter of James and Elizabeth Megaw. She was born in Harrison county, Ohio, October 18, 1835, and was there reared and educated. By her marriage she became the mother of two children but George F. died at the age of eleven months and Mary Elizabeth died of consumption at the age of sixteen years after a lingering illness.

Mr. and Mrs. Morrison began their married life upon a farm in Pike county, where they remained until 1865, when they came to Christian county and located three miles north of Rosemond. For ten years our subject continued to engage in agricultural pursuits but in March, 1875, took up his residence in Pana, where he engaged in the grocery business for two years. He then sold out and took his family to Wisconsin with the hope of benefiting his daughter's health. He did all in his power to prolong her life, employing the best medical skill and trying different climates, but all to no avail

and she finally passed away in her sixteenth year, leaving a vacancy in the home which never can be filled. Mr. Morrison still resides in Pana, where he owns property and where he is now living retired, enjoying the fruits of former toil. He still has a good farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Rosemond township, another of two hundred seven and a half acres in Pana township, and a third of two hundred and forty acres in Fayette county, Illinois. He has a nice modern residence at the corner of Maple and East Second streets, Pana.

While living in Pike county, Mr. Morrison served as town clerk for several years but has never sought political honors. Both he and his wife are prominent and influential members of the Methodist Episcopal church and take a very active part in its work. Mr. Morrison was secretary and treasurer of the building committee at the time the new house of worship was erected in Pana and is now chairman of the board of trustees and superintendent of the Sunday-school. He has filled the latter office many years, being superintendent of the Sunday-school at Rosemond and a member of the building committee at that place while living in that locality. He is also greatly interested in missionary work and does all in his power to promote the moral and social welfare of his community. Both he and his wife greatly enjoy the company of young people and are loved and respected alike by old and young, rich and poor.

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#### BENJAMIN H. HAILEY.

For a third of a century Benjamin H. Hailey has been numbered among the progressive and energetic citizens of Christian county and is at present successfully engaged in the grocery business at Palmer.

Following in the footsteps of his father, who was a soldier of the Black Hawk war, he fought for over three years in the Rebellion, participating in some important engagements. In years of peace, no less than in those of war, he has bravely performed his duty and is justly entitled to a place on the nation's roll of honor.

A native of Illinois, Mr. Hailey was born in Sangamon county, January 9, 1841, and is a son of Thomas J. and Melvenia M. (Higgins) Hailey. His paternal grandfather was Edmund Hailey, who spent his entire life in Virginia and died at the age of seventy-six years. He was twice married and was a soldier of the war of 1812. William Higgins, the maternal grandfather of our subject, was also a native of Virginia and was twice married, becoming the father of eighteen children. In 1831 he came to Illinois and died in Sangamon county at the age of seventy-five years. He served in Anthony Wayne's campaign.

Thomas J. Hailey, our subject's father, was born in the Old Dominion and during boyhood removed to Tennessee with the family of the man to whom he was apprenticed to learn the carpenters' trade, which he followed in early life. In 1830 he became a resident of Sangamon county, Illinois, and assisted in putting on the first shingle roof in Springfield. He took part in the first Black Hawk campaign in 1832. In 1871 he came to Christian county and made his home in Palmer until called to his final rest in 1887 when nearly eighty-two years of age. He first married Miss Narcissa Moore, by whom he had two children but only one is now living—Mrs. Emeline E. Thomas, who is now a widow. For his second wife Mr. Hailey married Miss Melvenia Higgins, who died in 1885, at the age of sixty-eight years. The two children born

of this union were our subject and his brother Edward, who died in 1864 shortly after being discharged from the army on account of disease contracted in the service. He was a member of Company A, Third Illinois Cavalry.

During his boyhood and youth Benjamin H. Hailey lived on a farm in Sangamon county six miles from Springfield. When the country became involved in civil war he offered his services to the government, and at the age of twenty years enlisted in Company A, Third Illinois Cavalry, with which he served for three years and fourteen days, taking part in the battles of Pea Ridge, Chickasaw Bayou, Arkansas Post, Champion Hills, Black River Bridge, the sieges of Vicksburg and Jackson, and in over forty skirmishes. For thirteen successive days he was engaged in the skirmishes of Green's cavalry. Fortunately he was never injured or confined in the hospital but has always been extremely healthy and strong and never applied for a pension. He was mustered out as quartermaster sergeant.

Returning to his home in Sangamon county, Mr. Hailey engaged in farming for one year and then, feeling the need of a better education to qualify himself for his future life work, he attended the Illinois State University at Springfield for three terms and also took a commercial course at Bryant & Stratton Business College of that city. Forming a partnership with George E. Stake, he opened a general store at Cotton Hill and was afterward appointed postmaster, serving in that capacity for a year and a half. In 1869 the business was removed to Palmer and about two years later Mr. Hailey bought his partner's interest and has since continued in business alone, with exception of a year and a half during the panic of 1873. He soon surmounted all dif-

ficulties, however, and is to-day enjoying an excellent trade.

On the 29th of June, 1871, Mr. Hailey married Miss Mary E. Wood, a native of Ohio and a daughter of George and Sarah (Hodge) Wood, of Blue Mound, Illinois. Her father is a native of Virginia, while her mother claims Ohio as her birthplace. Of the five children born to Mr. and Mrs. Hailey, two, Frances E. and Elenora E., died in infancy. Those still living are Lillian C., wife of Ed H. Shake, of Springfield; Stella May, wife of J. H. Hill, of this county; and Cora E., deceased, who was killed in a runaway in September, 1895.

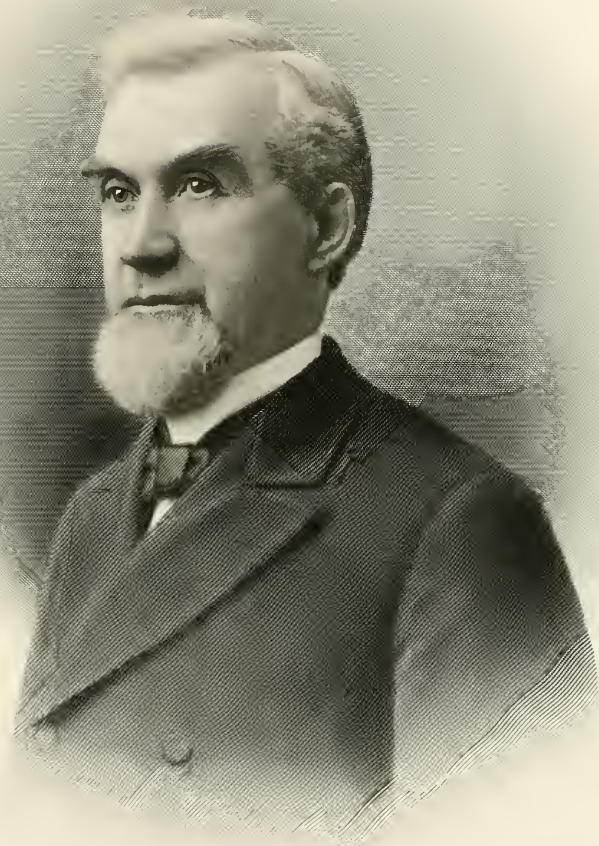
Mr. Hailey is an honored member of William A. Higgins Post, No. 400, G. A. R., and served as its commander for seven years. By his ballot he supports the Republican party and its principles and his fellow-citizens recognizing his worth and ability have called upon him to fill several important official positions. He was town clerk for two years and president of the village board at one time. For four years during Harrison's administration he served as postmaster of Palmer, retiring from that office on his own accord in June, 1893. For several years he has been notary public and in 1887 was a popular candidate for the position of sheriff and only missed the nomination by one vote. He was again appointed postmaster in May, 1897, and is still serving in that office. His public and private life are alike above reproach and he has left office as he entered it with the entire confidence and respect of his fellow-citizens. He is emphatically a man of enterprise, indomitable energy and strict integrity and is thoroughly identified in thought and feeling with the growth and prosperity of his town and county.

### HENRY N. SCHUYLER.

Henry N. Schuyler, a well known banker and prominent and influential citizen of Pana, of which city he has been mayor for six terms, was born on the 4th of February, 1844, in Montgomery county, New York, and is a son of George S. and Clarissa (Van Schaick) Schuyler, both of Holland descent. The father, who was a farmer by occupation, spent his entire life in Montgomery county, New York. Politically he was identified with the Republican party from the time that General Fremont was a candidate for president, and religiously he was a member of the German Reformed church. In his family were seven children, namely: Sarah, now deceased; Jacob, a resident of Montgomery county, New York; Henry N., of this review; and Nettie, Frederick, Anna and Frank, all residents of Montgomery county, New York.

During his boyhood Henry N. Schuyler remained on the home farm, assisting his father in its operation, and his early education was acquired in the public schools of his native county. He was twenty years of age when he left the parental roof and started out in life for himself. In the fall of 1864 he made his way westward and after spending a few months in Iowa came to Illinois, locating in Hillsboro on the 7th of March, 1865. For three years he was in the employ of the American Express Company at that place and for one year was with the Merchants Union Express Company. At one time he was associated with a partner in the establishment and conduct of a lumber yard at Greenville, Illinois, which proved a profitable investment.

Coming to Pana, in March, 1870, Mr. Schuyler embarked in the hardware business with John A. Hayward, who sold out two years later and they then formed a partner-



*W. D. M. [Signature]*



ship and entered into the real estate business and the loaning of money for three years. At the end of that time the firm opened a private bank, which was organized in 1876 under the style of Hayward & Schuyler and was capitalized for fifty thousand dollars with a paid up capital of forty thousand dollars. Two years later Mr. Schuyler purchased his partner's interest in the bank, which he has since carried on with marked success, it now having a paid up capital of two hundred thousand dollars. In 1896 he admitted his son to a partnership in the business and the firm name has since been H. N. Schuyler & Son. Although he gives his attention principally to his banking business, he is interested in other enterprises and is the owner of considerable valuable property, including lands in Kansas, Nebraska and Illinois.

On the 25th of February, 1874, Mr. Schuyler was united in marriage to Miss Adelaide H. Hayward, a native of Illinois and a daughter of John S. Hayward. Her father was born in Massachusetts and at an early day came to Illinois, being one of the pioneer settlers of Hillsboro, where he made his home until his death, which occurred May 3, 1869. For many years he was actively identified with business affairs and at one time owned fifty thousand acres of valuable Illinois land. The old Hayward homestead in Pana was built under his direction but was never occupied by him and now belongs to his son, William E. Hayward, a resident of Indianapolis, Indiana. In his family were four children but only William E. is now living. Another son, John A. Hayward, was our subject's former partner. He died in 1879 in Pana, where his widow still resides, and left three daughters. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Schuyler were born two children: George Hayward, the

elder, was born in Pana, January 8, 1875, and died of appendicitis in New York city, February 22, 1904. His early years were spent with his father in Pana, where the rudiments of his education were acquired. His college preparatory course was taken at the Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, and he was graduated at Yale University in 1896. He entered the Harvard Law School in the fall of 1897 and received his degree therefrom in 1900. After a few months spent in Pana, he located in New York city the same year and began the practice of his chosen profession. He gave his constant and unremitting attention to its duties and was succeeding to a degree not only satisfactory to himself but which justified the hopes of his friends that his efforts would be crowned with the highest success. He was endowed by nature with a vigorous mind, retentive memory and a strong physical constitution, aided by habits of temperance. Planting his feet firmly at every successive step, he was led onward and upward by a laudable ambition to achieve honorable distinction through his own efforts, by industry, patience and the use of means fair and praiseworthy, but his career was cut short at its very threshold. His death was a terrible blow to his father, whose hopes had long centered in his almost idolized son. The only surviving child is Ruth, the wife of Dr. Albert M. Cole, of Indianapolis, by whom she had one child, H. S. Mrs. Schuyler, who was an earnest member of the Presbyterian church, died on the 10th of November, 1877, leaving many friends as well as her immediate family to mourn her loss.

For thirty years Mr. Schuyler has been connected with the Masonic fraternity, belonging to the blue lodge and chapter at Pana. In politics he is a staunch Republican

and has ever taken an active and prominent part in public affairs. He has been a delegate to all county conventions of his party since coming to Pana with one exception and was also presidential elector for McKinley in 1896. In 1876 he was first elected mayor of Pana and so acceptably did he fill the office that he was called upon to serve in the same capacity for four consecutive terms. Later he was re-elected and again in 1903 he was chosen chief executive of the city, making six terms in all. The reins of city government were never in more capable hands, for he is pre-eminently public spirited and progressive and does all in his power to promote the general welfare. He stands high in both political and business circles and is regarded as one of the most prominent citizens of Pana.

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#### J. W. MURPHY.

The occupation of farming has always claimed the attention of J. W. Murphy, who is an extensive and successful raiser of grain on section 18, Taylorville township. He was born in Glasgow, Kentucky, in 1832, and has been a resident of Illinois since 1836. His paternal grandfather was a native of Ireland and was of Scotch-Irish lineage. He emigrated from the northern part of the Emerald Isle to the new world, being obliged to leave that country on account of religious persecution. Settling in America in colonial days he joined the colonists in their struggle to win liberty and valiantly aided in obtaining independence for this nation. During the Revolutionary war his wife killed a Tory, who had entered their house and was trying to overpower her husband. Grasping an old gun barrel she struck the man a blow which terminated his life.

Dr. J. R. Murphy, the father of our sub-

ject, became a resident of Illinois in 1836, settling about two and a half miles from Crows Mill on Sugar creek in Sangamon county. There he lived for two years and on the expiration of that period removed to Carlinville. He continued in the practice of medicine at Chesterfield up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1859. As one of the early pioneer physicians of the county he deserves great credit for what he did for his fellowmen. The practice of medicine at that time necessitated much hard work for the physician who had to make long rides in all kinds of weather. His sacrifice of personal comfort was frequently as great as that endured by the soldier upon the field of battle.

J. W. Murphy acquired his education in a private school in Chesterfield, which he attended through three winter seasons. On completing his education he began work as a farm hand, being at the time but sixteen years of age. He worked upon a farm which was held for him by his sister until he attained his majority. He remained near Chesterfield until 1867, when he came to the farm on section 18, Taylorville township, on which he now resides. He has always given his attention to agricultural pursuits and his labors have been attended with a gratifying measure of success. His mother resided with him until the time of her death and now his niece, Mrs. E. A. Brayden, is acting as his housekeeper. His farm was unimproved when he took possession of it—a tract of wild prairie land on which not a furrow had been turned or even a fence built. With characteristic energy, however, he began its development and cultivation and in the course of years has made a splendid property, now supplied with all modern equipments and accessories. He formerly devoted his attention to the raising of both

grain and stock, but now gives his energies largely to the cultivation of the cereals best adapted to soil and climate. His place comprises one hundred and twenty acres.

At the time of the Civil war Mr. Murphy was a member of the Union League. He could not enter the army because of impaired eye sight. The Union League was formed as an opposing society to the Knights of the Golden Circle, which advocated the Confederate cause. In his political views in early life Mr. Murphy was a Whig, but when the Republican party was formed to prevent the further extension of slavery he joined its ranks and cast his ballot for Lincoln. He was well acquainted with the martyred president and would often sit in the office of the law firm of Yates & Smith in Springfield and listen to Mr. Lincoln as he would entertain his auditors with stories.

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#### HENRY T. GARDNER.

Henry T. Gardner, who is now serving as supervisor of Buckhart township, was born in Maury county, Tennessee, on the 12th of June, 1841. His father, Nathan Gardner, was born in the same state in 1817 and was a son of Briton Gardner, an old settler of Tennessee. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Frances Harris and was a daughter of Richard Harris, a native of Virginia. Her birth occurred in 1818 and in June, 1831, in Tennessee she gave her hand in marriage to Mr. Gardner. They began their domestic life there and remained in Tennessee until ten years had passed, when, in 1841, they came to Illinois, taking up their abode in Fayette county, where they resided until 1856, when they came to Christian county. Here they established their home in Buckhart township and Mr. Gardner continued to engage in farm-

ing up to the time of his death, which occurred on the 22d of January, 1889, his wife surviving him until July 3, 1896.

Henry T. Gardner is the third in order of birth in a family of eleven children, of whom four sons and two daughters are yet living. When he was an infant his parents came to Illinois, where he remained until he attained his majority. He obtained his education in the common schools and acquired a good knowledge of the branches of learning which fit one for the practical and responsible duties of business life. His training at farm work was received from his father and he early learned the value of industry and perseverance in the active affairs of life.

Mr. Gardner was married in August, 1864, to Miss Clarinda Doak, who, however, died the same year. He was again married July 18, 1866, to Miss Harriet Ward, a native of Macon county, Illinois, and a daughter of Lewis Ward, a prominent farmer of that county. Unto them have been born three sons: William, born April 19, 1867; Louis, March 5, 1869; and Franklin, June 15, 1871. The former married Ada Whitmer of this county and they have two children—Russell R. and Orelia Alberta. Louis married Etta Young of Taylorville, and their children are Mervel L. and Ural H. Franklin married Grace Hedden, of Buckhart township, and they have a little daughter, Nola Gladys.

Mr. Gardner owns one hundred and sixty acres of land and continued its cultivation until 1897, when he removed to Edinburg, while his sons now carry on the farm. Their main products are corn and hay but they also feed cattle for the market. The farm has always been a very productive one, and from its cultivation Mr. Gardner derived the competence which now enables him to enjoy

rest from further active labor in the line of agricultural pursuits. In politics he is a staunch Democrat, never faltering in his allegiance to the party and its principles and in various public offices he has served, being elected on the Democratic ticket. For fifteen years he was road commissioner. On the 1st of January, 1903, he was appointed to fill the position of supervisor left vacant by Henry Minnis, who had been elected to the state legislature. In April of the same year Mr. Gardner was elected supervisor and is now serving in that capacity, being most faithful in the discharge of his official duties. For twelve years he has been the agent for the Mosquito Township Mutual Fire & Lightning Insurance Company. Fraternally he is connected with Blueville Lodge No. 647, A. F. & A. M., and also belongs to the Royal Arch Chapter No. 102, in Taylorville, while he and his wife belong to Edinburg Lodge of the Order of the Eastern Star. They also hold membership with the Bethel Baptist church and their influence is strong on the side of right, justice and truth. In all life's relations and under all circumstances Mr. Gardner has been found true to manly principles and he stands to-day an excellent example of the highest type of our American manhood.

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#### ERVEL W. HIGHT.

Throughout his entire business career Ervel W. Hight has been connected with the banking interests of Christian county and is to-day the efficient and popular cashier of the Illinois State Bank of Assumption, of which he is one of the leading stockholders. He entered business life as an employe in his uncle's establishment, having no special advantages because of his kinship; on the contrary winning his advancement because

of his close application, ready adaptability and earnest purpose. He has built up a reputation that has made his name a synonym for integrity and probity in the business world, while the substantiality of the institution with which he is connected is everywhere acknowledged in banking circles, the enterprise having made a most creditable record throughout the twenty years of its existence.

The Hight family has long been a prominent and influential one in public life and business circles in this part of the state. R. W. Hight, father of our subject, is one of a family of five brothers, three of whom are living in the village of Macon—Robert Hight being seventy-eight years of age. His brothers, J. L. and William, are both retired. Another brother, B. F., the organizer of the first bank of Assumption, died December 18, 1899, and J. R. Hight died in Decatur in 1903. All became well-to-do citizens and reared large families. The residence of Robert W. Hight is one of the finest in Macon county, Illinois. He is a native of Rockbridge county, Virginia, as is his wife who bore the maiden name of Martha J. Wonroe. In their family were six children.

Ervel W. Hight, the third in order of birth and the eldest son, was born, reared and educated in Macon county, save that he completed his studies by a commercial course in the Springfield Business College, of Springfield, Illinois. On the 15th of December, 1888, he entered the employ of his uncle, B. F. Hight, who was associated with S. D. Moore in a private banking concern, the first enterprise of the kind in Assumption. He began work as a bookkeeper at a salary of one dollar per day, but gradually he was advanced as he mastered the business. He is to-day the oldest banker, in

years of continuous service, in Assumption, and has made a record which reflects credit upon the banking circles of the state. The Bank of Assumption began business in the Chestnut street building now owned and occupied by W. T. Wallace as a music store. This was erected by the banking firm and was occupied by them until 1889. In the meantime the site of the present building was purchased from the Illinois Central Railroad Company and a new two-story business block was erected, into which the business was moved. This building was occupied by the bank for more than ten years, or until January 1, 1900, when it was destroyed by fire. It was quickly succeeded by the present handsome structure, one of the most commodious and best equipped modern bank buildings in central Illinois. It has large vault space, also a safety deposit vault with a large number of boxes for the use of private individuals. The bank was reorganized on the 1st of July, 1897, under the name of the Illinois State Bank, with B. F. Hight as president; D. Lacharite, vice-president; E. W. Hight, cashier; and J. A. Lacharite, assistant cashier. At the death of B. F. Hight, D. Lacharite succeeded to the presidency and R. W. Hight became vicepresident. He retained that position, however, only until January, 1900, when he retired and was succeeded by Wade F. Johnson, the present incumbent, one of the wealthy farmers of Assumption township.

The deposits of the bank now amount to more than a quarter of a million dollars and are continually increasing, while the surplus is more than twenty-five thousand dollars. The institution is thus placed in the rank of the most prosperous banking concerns in the state and now ranks seventh. From the day when B. F. Hight and S. D. Moore opened a bank in Assumption down to the present

time it has enjoyed an era of unbroken prosperity and has the entire confidence and trust of the public. It issues letters of credit which are honored throughout the world and the citizens of Assumption are justly proud of this institution.

Mr. Hight is not only one of the largest stockholders of the bank, but is also interested in many other business enterprises and is a wide-awake, energetic and thorough-going business man. As a citizen he is deeply interested in public progress and not alone by promoting prosperity through business interests, but also in many other ways has he contributed to the improvement and development of Assumption.

On the 16th of June, 1893, Mr. Hight was married to Miss Margaret Morrison, daughter of Robert Morrison, of Assumption, chairman of the board of supervisors of Christian county and one of its leading and influential citizens. Mrs. Hight was educated in the public schools and after completing her high school course engaged in teaching. They now have one child, Ervel Wayne. Mr. Hight is a member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity, the Modern Woodmen Camp, of which he is now serving as clerk, the Royal Circle and Court of Honor. Few men in the county are better known than is Ervel W. Hight, and none have the regard of their fellowmen in a higher degree. He has utilized his time to the best advantage, made the most of his opportunities and in business circles-as well as in social life has become prominent and popular.

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J. S. EATON.

J. S. Eaton is one of the native sons of Christian county and throughout his business career has been identified with enter-

prises which have not only promoted his individual success but have also advanced general prosperity. Among the most energetic and public-spirited citizens and business men of Owaneco he is numbered, for in him are embraced the characteristics of an unabating industry, unfaltering perseverance and inflexible probity.

Mr. Eaton was born in Prairieton township, January 22, 1847, and is a son of William K. and Elizabeth (Peter) Eaton. The mother was a direct descendant of James Peter, a missionary who was sent to this country by John Wesley to preach the doctrines of Methodism. William K. Eaton came to Christian county in 1845, when it was still a frontier district, the work of improvement and development being largely in the future. He secured a tract of land and engaged in school teaching in addition to farming, leading a very active and useful life. He was the first supervisor of Prairieton township and a man prominent and influential in public affairs, aiding in the early development of the county along lines that have led to its present progress. He died in 1867 and his wife, long surviving him, passed away in the year 1900.

In the district school of the neighborhood J. S. Eaton pursued his education and through the summer months he worked on the home farm, early becoming familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. When he had completed his studies his entire attention was given to the farm work and he continued the operation of the old homestead with excellent success until 1901, when he came to Owaneco and established the Eaton Brothers' Bank, a private banking institution with which he is actively connected, conducting it along lines that awaken public confidence and therefore secure the public patronage.

He is quick to see the business needs and possibilities and his enterprise has been of marked value to the community. He is now interested in the Eaton Telephone Company, affording telephonic communication with surrounding towns as well as with the different homes of the city. He also has valuable realty holdings, including part of the old homestead of one hundred and eighty acres in Prairieton township and one hundred and sixty acres in Macon county. He built a nice brick two-story building, in which his bank is located, and also erected a fine modern residence of nine rooms, supplied with a bath room, heating plant and a gas plant for illuminating purposes. It is a most attractive residence and would be a credit to a city of much greater size.

On the 2d of September, 1903, Mr. Eaton was united in marriage to Mrs. Maggie Large, a daughter of Andrew Barrett, one of the pioneer settlers of Christian county. Both Mr. and Mrs. Eaton are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and he belongs to Owaneco Lodge, No. 623, A. F. & A. M. He is very loyal to its teachings and is regarded as one of the leading representatives of the craft in his town. His public-spirited interest in the general welfare, his honorable business record and his deference for the opinions of others, combine to make him a popular citizen of Christian county.

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#### ROBERT W. ORR.

For twenty-one years Professor Robert W. Orr was the county superintendent of schools in Christian county and ranked with the leading educators in the state. His interest in his work was deep, sincere, zealous and unabating and the present splendid school system of the county is a monument to him, more enduring than any tablet of

granite could be. His labors were progressive and practical in character and proved of the greatest benefit to the county. During his educational career he resided in Taylorville. True to every public and private trust reposed in him, he led an honorable, upright and useful life and his memory is enshrined in the hearts of many who knew him and benefited by his efforts for the intellectual development of the county.

Professor Orr was born in St. Clairsville, Ohio, September 30, 1833, and was the eldest child of Andrew and Ann (McNary) Orr, who were natives of eastern Ohio. In 1854 the family left that state and became early settlers of Christian county, Illinois, settling on Buckeye prairie in Locust township, where the father carried on agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred two years later when he was fifty-seven years of age. He lived a quiet, unassuming life and had the esteem of all who knew him. His wife spent the last ten years of her life in Pana, Illinois, and died in 1882, at the age of seventy-four years. By the death of her husband she was left with the care and support of their nine children, but though it was a hard struggle to provide for them she nobly took up her burden discharging it to the best of her ability. Well was she worthy the filial love and devotion given her by her sons and daughters. The members of her family were: Margaret L., the wife of Henry Kirk; Mary J., the widow of G. W. Turnham, of Springfield, Illinois; John, of Pana; Thomas A., of Mancos, Colorado; Andrew J., of Warren, Ohio; Kate M., who is living in Denver, Colorado; Samuel, who died at the age of fifty years; and Hugh, who was a soldier of the Civil war and died when home on a furlough, at the age of twenty-six years.

Professor Orr of this review began his

education in the public schools of his native state and later attended the seminary at Bloomingdale, Ohio, in which he spent one year. He began teaching in Ohio and when twenty-one years of age he came with his parents to Illinois, assisting his father in the operation of the home farm until the latter's death. He also followed teaching in this state and successfully carried on the work of the schoolroom until the time of his enlistment in the Union army, in the Civil war, on the 14th of August, 1862. He joined Company D, One Hundred and Thirteenth Illinois Infantry and on the organization of the company at Edinburg was elected orderly sergeant. The regiment went into camp at Taylorville, later was sent to Camp Butler and in October of that year joined the army at Memphis, Tennessee, where the troops went into winter quarters. The One Hundred and Thirteenth Illinois joined Grant's forces and participated in the siege of Vicksburg and the battles of Champion Hills and Black River Bridge. After the surrender of Vicksburg the troops proceeded to Jackson, Mississippi, and thence to New Orleans. While at New Orleans there came an order for Professor Orr to return to Springfield on recruiting service and there he remained until May, 1864. On the 1st of March of that year he was commissioned first lieutenant and subsequently commanded his company as captain. During his absence in Springfield many of his company were killed or captured at Sabine Cross Roads, Texas, the regiment losing so heavily that it was divided into three divisions, Captain Orr being given command of Companies A, F and D. In February, 1865, the regiment was consolidated with the Seventy-seventh Illinois Infantry, under which consolidation Captain Orr was mustered out of service.

Returning to Illinois he resumed his work in the schoolroom and successively taught in the schools of Sharpsburg, Owaneco and Taylorville, having charge of the west side schools of this city for three years. He then returned to his farm in Locust township and while there residing was elected county superintendent of schools in the fall of 1872, filling the office for nine years. He then retired from the office and after an interval of four years he again spent one year on the farm, following which he was once more elected to the position of county superintendent. In 1890 he was again chosen and by re-election was continued in the position until his incumbency covered a period of twenty-one years. The cause of education indeed found in him a warm friend. With a just appreciation of its value as a preparation for life's responsibilities, he made it his constant aim to so improve the schools that the instruction would be of the greatest possible benefit to the young. He was continually promoting the standard of the schools until Christian county has every reason to be proud of her educational system, which is most thorough, practical and beneficial.

Professor Orr was married July 13, 1871, to Mrs. Harriet E. Shumway, the widow of Z. P. Shumway, of Taylorville. She was born in Connecticut and bore the maiden name of Harriet E. Pray, being a daughter of the Rev. Paris Pray, who came here on a ministerial mission and about 1858 organized the Taylorville Baptist church, of which he was the pastor for many years. By her first marriage Mrs. Orr had a daughter, Lou A. Shumway, now a teacher in the public school. Unto the Professor and his wife were born four children: Lillie, the wife of George W. Zimmerman; Daisy, the wife of Frank Wheeler; Frank W., who is

engaged in the mail service; and Charles R., of Taylorville.

Professor Orr was reared in the faith of the United Presbyterian church but became a member of the Baptist church, in which he served as a deacon, while in the church work he took an active and helpful part. He was a Royal Arch Mason, having been initiated into the blue lodge in Taylorville in 1867, and he also belonged to the Grand Army of the Republic. He voted with the Democracy but was extremely popular among the Republicans, numbering many of his warmest friends among the representatives of the latter party. He passed away in Taylorville, March 26, 1903, and high tribute of respect was paid to his memory, while resolutions were passed by the teachers of the city and county as well as by the fraternal organizations with which he had been connected. He was a man whom to know was to respect and honor. His broad humanitarian principles were manifest in his devotion to the general good, whether as a soldier upon the field of battle, a private citizen or as the official in charge of the educational interests of the county. His name stands as a synonym of all that was honorable in his relations with his fellow-men and thus his memory is cherished by those who knew him, and his acquaintance was extremely wide.

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#### YOUNG B. CLARK.

To the Taylorville *Courier* we are indebted for the following brief sketch of Young B. Clark, who was one of Christian county's most honored pioneers and highly esteemed citizens.

In the death of Y. B. Clark, of Clarksdale, which sad event occurred at the late residence Thursday morning, January 5,



B. BLAIR



1899, at 8:05. Christian county suffered the loss of one of its most widely known citizens—a man of unique though remarkably strong personality. He was one of the county's earliest settlers and from the time he came here until his fatal sickness overtook him he stood second to no man in the exertion of individual force as applied to material advancement of humanitarian responsibility. His business sense and capacity were remarkable. This trait in his character was apparent to all with whom he came in contact. His grasp of affairs, his keen insight into men and things, his virile intellect and great physical power attracted the attention and admiration of his fellows, and the strict sense of justice which controlled all his actions won him their respect and confidence. A man of great determination of purpose he was persistent and even aggressive in his opinions, but in all the relations of life he strove earnestly for the right, never wilfully wronging any man. The philanthropic side of his character was well developed and probably no man who ever lived in the county extended more charity to the poor or more assistance to the struggling unfortunate. He was as widely known for his beneficencies as for his great business ability. His purse was ever open to the needy and his practical wisdom at the disposal of any one who sought it. A vital force—material and philanthropic—went out to the community with the death of Boley Clark. One of the county's great characters has passed away.

His family was a remarkable one. His great-grandfather, Bolin Clark, was killed by the Indians, probably in North Carolina, before the Revolutionary war. He left six sons, all of whom served with General Nathaniel Greene in the southern campaign. They were in Greene's retreat before Corn-

wallis and two of them were killed in the memorable battle of Guilford Court House. The other four survived the war and drew pensions as Revolutionary soldiers. One of these sons was Joseph Clark, the grandfather of our subject.

Y. B. Clark was born in Christian county, Kentucky, September 9, 1821, and was married there November 2, 1843, to Tabitha W. Hardy. Shortly after his marriage he went to Arkansas and from there, in September, 1845, he came to Christian county, Illinois, entering forty acres of land a half mile east of Clarksdale. His was the first house built on the prairie, the settlers of that period building in the timber or close to it. His display of remarkable business ability began on this forty acres. Reverses came of course but his courage and energy readily overcame all obstacles and at his death he owned about sixteen hundred acres of land and a large amount of personal property. From 1845 up to the time of his death, a period of fifty-three years, he lived within a mile of his first habitation. He laid out Clarksdale and built the depot there and gave it with its ground to the Wabash Company.

By his first marriage ten children were born, three of whom are living, as follows: Mrs. Ann America Gladish, of Kansas City; C. A. Clark, of Taylorville; and Mrs. Lou C. Caldwell, of Clarksdale. His first wife died September 21, 1859, and on the 11th of March, 1860, he married her sister, Ellen A. Hardy. One child was born of this union but died at the age of one year. His second wife died May 22, 1861, and on May 29, 1862, he married Melinda M. Anderson, of this county, by whom he had five children, but only one of them, James T. Clark, of Clarksdale, is now living. His third wife died in September, 1871, and on October 28, 1873, he married Elizabeth S. McGinnis,

of Sangamon county. Three children were born of this union, as follows: Henry T. Clark, Sallie Clark and Inez Clark, all of whom are at home with their mother.

Mr. Clark's illness was of ten days' duration. Up to Tuesday eve his mind was clear but he suffered a good deal and an opiate was given him to induce sleep. He never woke to consciousness from that sleep. His lungs filled and hardened and at 8:05 o'clock he breathed his last.

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### J. J. CALDWELL.

J. J. Caldwell, a well known and highly esteemed citizen of Clarksdale, was born in Vinton, Iowa, on the 23d of October, 1860, and is a son of Daniel and Elizabeth Caldwell, also natives of that state, where the mother continues to make her home. The father died in 1900. Our subject was reared and educated in Iowa and on starting out in life for himself at the age of sixteen years went to Cedar Rapids and engaged in the hotel business, having charge of the Northwestern Hotel at that place until 1891. He then went to Quincy, Illinois, and conducted the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad eating house for eight years, at the end of which time he came to Taylorville and carried on the Antlers Hotel for one year. At present he is not actively engaged in any business but is living on his farm, which is a valuable tract of two hundred and eighty acres in Bear Creek township near Clarksdale, his home being in the village where he owns a nice residence.

On the 2nd of February, 1884, Mr. Caldwell was united in marriage to Mrs. Lou C. Moffat, a daughter of Young B. Clark, whose sketch appears on another page of this volume. Having no children of their own they adopted a nephew, Roy Ed O'Neil,

a son of Robert E. and Mildred O'Neil, both of whom are now deceased. Roy is now a telegraph operator. Both Mr. and Mrs. Caldwell are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and are people of prominence in the community where they reside.

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### C. D. WINKLEPLECK.

After years of active labor, mostly devoted to agricultural pursuits, C. D. Winklepleck is now living a retired life on his farm on section 11, Locust township. He was born on the 22d of March, 1838, in Ohio, of which state his parents, James and Barbara (Resler) Winklepleck, were also natives. The mother died in 1848, and the father, who long survived her, passed away in 1883. The first of the Winklepleck family to come to America was a native of Germany who crossed the Atlantic in 1732 and located in Pennsylvania. Our subject's paternal grandfather, Christian Winklepleck, was born in that state and from there removed to Ohio in 1806. There he continued to make his home until his death, which occurred in 1857.

In the state of his nativity C. D. Winklepleck was reared and educated and after leaving school at the age of seventeen years he commenced learning the miller's trade, which he followed for twelve years. He then rented a farm in Ohio and operated the same for eight years. At the end of that period he came to Illinois and settled in Christian county, purchasing at that time eighty acres of his present farm in Locust township. He has since bought an adjoining eighty-acre tract and to-day has a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres, well improved with good buildings. Although he continues to reside upon his farm he has

retired from its active management and is now enjoying a well-earned rest.

Mr. Winklepleck was married in 1863 to Miss Sarah Helwig, a daughter of Samuel Helwig, of Ohio, and to them were born six children, as follows: Carrie, at home with her father; Horace, who died at the age of thirteen years; Alice, wife of Charles Dorr, who is living on our subject's farm; Ida, wife of Herman Schmidt, a farmer of Christian county; Bertha, who died at the age of two years; and Bird, at home. Mr. Winklepleck has been called upon to mourn the loss of his estimable wife, who died on the 5th of February, 1902. She was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church, to which her husband and children also belong. Since casting his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, Mr. Winklepleck has supported the Republican party and its principles. Since 1873 he has been a resident of Christian county and in that time he has made a host of warm friends who esteem him highly for his sterling worth.

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#### HENRY J. YARNELL.

Henry J. Yarnell, one of the representative and prominent citizens of Mosquito township, his home being on section 22, is a native of Illinois, born near Carlinville, Macoupin county, January 8, 1844, and is the fourth in order of birth in a family of seven children, whose parents were Isaac A. and Rebecca B. (Bonham) Yarnell. His father was born near Knoxville, Tennessee, on the 13th of December, 1810, and came to Illinois in 1833. It was not until 1867, however, that he became a resident of Christian county, where he spent the remainder of his life, dying here August 7, 1887. His wife passed away in 1851. Her parents were

Benjamin and Olive Bonham. Our subject's paternal grandfather was Mordecai Yarnell, who was born April 17, 1767, and died July 30, 1846. The great-grandfather was a soldier of the Revolutionary war.

As soon as he had attained a sufficient age Henry J. Yarnell entered the public schools of this state, where he pursued his studies until eighteen years of age. By that time the country had become involved in civil war and he resolved to strike a blow in defense of the Union. Accordingly he enlisted on the 8th of September, 1862, as a private in Company K, Ninety-first Illinois Volunteer Infantry, for three years. His first service was in Kentucky and he was later taken prisoner at Elizabethtown, Kentucky, by John Morgan, December 27, 1862. He was sent to the parole camp at Benton Barracks, St. Louis, where he was exchanged June 3, 1863, and on the 7th of the following July went to Vicksburg. On the 14th of August they arrived in New Orleans and later were sent to Morganza, Louisiana, but afterward returned to New Orleans, where they embarked on transports for Texas. They crossed the Gulf of Mexico and after a voyage of ten days landed at Brazos, Santiago Island. They next went up the Rio Grande river to Brownsville, Texas, where they remained for some time and then returned to New Orleans. About the close of the war they were ordered to Mobile, Alabama. The march to that place was a very difficult one as there were many streams and swamps to cross and the soldiers were forced to building bridges and corduroy roads along the way. They were in an engagement near a station on the Mobile & Ohio Railroad, which is said to be the last fight east of the Mississippi river. Mr. Yarnell was under fire at Spanish Fort for fourteen days. The war having ended and his services being no

longer needed he was honorably discharged on the 12th of July, 1865, and returned home.

Mr. Yarnell then attended a private school at Scottville, Illinois, for one term, and for sixteen years thereafter he alternated farming with school teaching, devoting the summer season to the former occupation, while during the winter months he taught. In 1867 he came to Christian county and located on his present farm in Mosquito township, where he has since carried on agricultural pursuits with marked success.

On the 4th of April, 1872, Mr. Yarnell was united in marriage to Miss Jane A. Wilkinson, a daughter of Thompson and Mary Wilkinson, who were early settlers of Macoupin county, Illinois, and were from England and Vermont, respectively. Our subject and his wife have two children: Oscar, a physician of Cerro Gordo, Illinois, who is now pursuing a special course of study in the line of his profession in Berlin, Germany; and Maud, who is attending the home school. The son is now married.

Religiously the family hold membership in the Baptist church and socially Mr. Yarnell belongs to the Masonic Lodge No. 682 and the Grand Army Post, both of Blue Mound. Although a staunch Republican in his political views he is now serving his third term as supervisor of Mosquito township, which is strongly Democratic, a fact that plainly indicates his popularity and the confidence reposed in him by his fellow-citizens. During his incumbency the court house at Taylorville was completed. His official duties have been most promptly and faithfully discharged, winning for him the commendation of all concerned. No trust reposed in him has ever been betrayed in the

slightest degree and he well merits the confidence and high regard in which he is held.

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#### WILLIAM CHAMBERLAIN.

William Chamberlain was one of the most respected and esteemed residents of Taylorville and the county owes much to him for what he did in its behalf along lines of material upbuilding and intellectual and moral advancement. As the day with its morning of hope and promise, its noontide of activity, its evening of completed and successful effort, ending in the grateful rest and quiet of the night, so was the life of this man. He left the impress of his individuality upon public thought and action and the world is certainly better for his having lived.

Mr. Chamberlain was born on Christmas Day in 1844 in Rochester, Indiana, and died on the 1st of September, 1903. His residence in Taylorville covered more than thirty years. He pursued his early education in the common schools and spent his boyhood days in his parents' home, remaining there until after the inauguration of the Civil war, when his patriotic spirit was aroused and he joined the army, although but eighteen years of age at the time when he donned the blue uniform of the nation. He fought valiantly to protect his country's flag until the close of the memorable struggle and displayed valor equal to that of many a veteran of twice his years. After his return home he determined to prepare for a business career and to this end entered Bryant & Stratton Business College in Chicago. There he completed a regular course and soon afterward was given employment in the wholesale dry goods house of John V. Farwell. A contemporary biographer in speaking of his early business experience said: "As an evidence that Mr. Chamber-



*William Chamberlain*



lain early in his career displayed the traits that afterward made him a success in the business world—when A. G. Barnes, of this city, sent to John V. Farwell for a ‘sober, industrious and capable young man’ to give a partnership in his dry goods house, Mr. Farwell picked out Mr. Chamberlain from more than a hundred clerks and sent him to Taylorville. Taylorville people have seen the success that has attended the Chamberlain & Barnes dry goods house and to Mr. Chamberlain’s able management was the success due. He certainly sustained the confidence Mr. Farwell reposed in him.” In the conduct of his store he always followed progressive methods, studied closely the wishes of the general public and endeavored to meet the demands of his patrons in every possible way. His business methods, too, were strictly honorable and straightforward. He was also one of the organizers of the Taylorville Coal Company and held considerable stock therein. Mrs. Chamberlain worked with her husband in the store for twenty-seven years, so that its success may also be attributed to her earnest efforts and co-operation.

It was on the 25th of July, 1871, that Mr. Chamberlain was united in marriage to Miss Sadie L. Phelps of Logansport, Indiana, a daughter of Hiram and Messina Phelps. Her father was a native of Virginia and her mother of Kentucky, while Mrs. Chamberlain was born in Portsmouth, Ohio. She was a maiden of eleven summers when she accompanied her parents to Indiana and in the seminary in Logansport she was educated. By her marriage she became the mother of two children: Roy and Flossie, but both died in childhood. Mrs. Chamberlain has always taken an active part in social and public life in Taylorville and her influence has been a potent factor along lines

of intellectual and moral culture. She was the first worthy maiden in the Eastern Star here and she has also been a member of the grand chapter. Deeply interested in the cause of education and anxious for the advancement of every improvement along that line, she made the speech placing Mrs. Laura B. Evans in nomination for the position of a trustee of the State University at Champaign. Her speech was delivered at the convention in Springfield and is spoken of as one of the most brilliant oratorical efforts ever made by a woman in Illinois. At all times Mrs. Chamberlain supplemented her husband’s efforts along benevolent and moral lines and they also worked together in perfect harmony as they did in business life. The relation which existed between them was largely ideal and theirs was a most happy union.

In matters pertaining to the public progress and upbuilding Mr. Chamberlain was very prominent and influential. He was among those who labored earnestly and indefatigably for the establishment of the water-works system and secured this public improvement in the face of strong opposition. A co-operant factor in many measures for the general good Taylorville owes much of its advancement to him and his efforts. In Masonic circles he was prominent and honored. He belonged to the Royal Arch chapter in Taylorville and to Elwood Commandery, K. T., at Springfield. He held most of the offices in the blue lodge and all in the chapter, being high priest for a number of years, and for twenty years prior to his death he acted as marshal at every Masonic funeral held in Taylorville. If we would investigate his life record, however, and find the real secret of his worth and the motive that prompted his honorable actions we will find it in his religious faith. He was

a member of the Baptist church and served as one of its deacons. He took a most active part in its work, contributed generously to its support and gave of his time for the advancement of the cause. The church was very dear to his heart and his Christian principles permeated all that he did, shaping his every relation with his fellow men. He did not regard religion as merely attendance upon church services but as a guide for every-day life and he closely followed the golden rule. He won success in business, but he gained it so honorably that the most envious could not grudge it to him. He also used it worthily and many a needy one has profited by his benevolent spirit and kindly sympathy. In speaking of his demise one of the papers of Taylorville said: "The passing of Mr. Chamberlain removes a prominent figure from the business, church and social life of Taylorville. He had been identified with Taylorville and its best interests so long that his departure will be keenly regretted and his place difficult to fill. Since coming here more than thirty years ago he had been a leading factor in nearly every movement that tended toward the improvement of the town, both commercially and morally. Of excellent judgment, enterprising, conscientious and charitable—he proved himself a valuable citizen and earned the right to be esteemed and respected by every one."

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#### ROBERT JOHNS.

Few men are more prominent or more widely known in the enterprising city of Pana than Robert Johns. He has been an important factor in business circles and his success in all his undertakings has been so marked that his methods are of interest to the commercial world. He is energetic, prompt and notably reliable, and tireless

energy, keen perception, honesty of purpose, a genius for devising and executing the right thing at the right time joined to every-day common sense are the chief characteristics of the man. His success in business from the beginning of his residence in Pana has been uniform and rapid and he has persevered in the pursuit of a persistent purpose and gained a most satisfactory reward, being now numbered among the capitalists of Christian county.

Mr. Johns was born January 4, 1850, near Greencastle, Indiana, a son of Stephen M. and Sarah (Parks) Johns. His father was a native of Pennsylvania, while his mother's birth occurred in Ohio. They were married near Oxford, Ohio, and the father engaged in the operation of a flour and saw mill in that state for a time. He afterward turned his attention to farming and stock-raising and in the year 1869 he came to Illinois, settling in Pana township, Christian county. He was, however, not long permitted to enjoy his new home for his death occurred in 1870. In the family were eight sons and two daughters and all are yet living with the exception of one son, whose health was undermined by the arduous experiences of a soldier of the Civil war.

Robert Johns obtained his early education in Indiana and in the year 1866 came to Litchfield, Illinois, being at that time a youth of sixteen years. He was a resident of Indiana at the time of Morgan's raid through that state. In the fall of 1866 he resumed his education, begun in the public schools of his native county, in the old Lawrence building in Pana, and in 1870-71 he was a student in the State University at Champaign. He afterward attended night school in Nokomis, and thus gained a broad and practical education well fitting him to cope with the responsible and intricate duties of a business

career. During a part of his school life he was connected with the lumber business and in 1870 he and his brother became proprietors of a lumber yard in Nokomis, which they conducted successfully until 1879, when they sold out to the Paddock Lumber Company. In 1876 their yard was destroyed by fire, causing a loss of about twenty thousand dollars. This disaster left them with an indebtedness of seventeen thousand dollars, but with renewed energy and strong purpose they set to work to retrieve their lost possessions and in course of time had their business again upon a good financial basis. After selling the lumber yard in Nokomis Mr. Johns and his brother, S. P. Johns, became proprietors of a similar enterprise in Pana and were engaged in its management until 1881, when our subject purchased the interest of his brother, who then removed to Sedalia, Missouri, where he is now engaged in the conduct of lumber business in connection with his sons.

Robert Johns continued in the trade at Pana and was also in the management of his yard until 1896, when he sold out to the Phelps Lumber Company. In connection with the trade he had the largest stock of lumber and building materials in central Illinois and his annual sales reached an extensive figure. Previous to this time he had become extensively interested in the electric light plant of Pana and eventually purchased the controlling interest. On his retirement from the lumber business he took charge of the electric light plant, of which he is now the owner. This is one of the best equipped plants in central Illinois and has a capacity of eight thousand lights. As the years have advanced and his financial resources have increased Mr. Johns has also made large investments in real estate and his holdings to-day are greater than those of any other

individual in Pana. He owns a number of business houses and dwellings in the city and has contributed in marked degree to the material improvement of the city. When he came to Pana there were only two brick buildings in the town and he hauled a part of the lumber used in the construction of the East schoolhouse. He has been the direct cause of building more residences than any other one man in Pana and he certainly deserves great credit for what he has done for the city in this direction. He built the first telephone line in this part of the country extending between Pana and his sawmill. He is a man of resolute purpose and unfaltering determination and carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes. The word fail has no place in his vocabulary and through his unfaltering perseverance and industry he never fails to win the success which is always the goal of his efforts.

In 1880 Mr. Johns was united in marriage to Miss Nora Ekridge, a daughter of Mrs. Mary S. Ekridge, of Pana. Fifteen months later a son was born unto them and both mother and child died. In 1890 Mr. Johns was again married, his second union being with Miss Augusta Flemming, a daughter of J. B. and Mary Flemming, of Pana. They have two daughters: Ruth and Helen, aged twelve and four years respectively.

Mr. Johns is a Mason in his social affiliations and belongs to the Knight Templar commandery at Mattoon, Illinois. He also holds membership with the Knights of Pythias at Pana and his wife is connected with the auxiliary organization. In politics he is a stalwart Republican and has served both as city treasurer and as mayor of Pana.

In matters pertaining to the general welfare he is always progressive and his efforts have

been of marked value in promoting the welfare of his city along political as well as material lines. He find his chief source of recreation in fishing and hunting, taking great interest in both. Mr. Johns started out in life for himself when about thirteen years of age, working for twelve dollars per month. By the time he had attained his majority he had saved his money, but this he gave to his father and again started out in life empty handed. As has been truly remarked after all that may be done for a man in the way of giving him early opportunities for obtaining the requirements which are sought in the schools and in books or the advantages of wealth, he must essentially formulate, determine and give shape to his own character, and this is what Mr. Johns has done. He possesses untiring energy, is quick of perception, forms his plans readily and is determined in their execution and his close application to business and his excellent management have brought to him the high degree of prosperity which is to-day his.

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#### WILLIAM W. ANDERSON.

William W. Anderson figured so conspicuously and honorably in connection with the public interests, business activity and substantial development of Christian county for many years that no history of this locality would be complete without the record of his career. To say of him that he arose from comparative obscurity to rank among the most successful men of this portion of the state is a statement that seems trite to those familiar with his life, yet it is but just to say in a history that will descend to future generations that his business record was one that any man might be proud to possess. Beginning at the bot-

tom round of the ladder he steadily advanced step by step until he occupied a position of trust and prominence reached by few. Throughout his entire business career he was looked upon as a model of integrity and honor, never making an engagement that he did not fulfill, and standing as an example of what determination, combined with the highest degree of business integrity, can accomplish for a man of natural ability and strength of character. He was respected by the community at large and honored by his business associates.

A native of Henderson county, Kentucky, William W. Anderson was born October 27, 1825, and died in Taylorville, on the 11th of December, 1893. The Anderson family is of Scotch-Irish extraction and although the early history of the family in America is not definitely known, it is thought that the first representatives in America settled in Virginia. Both the paternal and the maternal grandfathers of our subject were patriots of the Revolutionary war and valiantly fought for the independence of the colonies, while George H. Anderson, the father of our subject, served under General Jackson in the war of 1812 and was present at the engagement at New Orleans. Not long after his return from the army he was married in Tennessee to Miss Nancy Mann, and soon they removed to Henderson county, Kentucky, where they made their home for ten years. In 1830 they became residents of Illinois, settling on a farm in Montgomery county. The father developed his land, made a comfortable home for his family and took an active part in shaping the pioneer development of that section of the state. He was honored with a number of local offices, for which his ability well fitted him and throughout the community was known as a valued citizen. He died at the



*J. W. Anderson*



age of sixty-one years, and his wife survived him about twelve years.

William W. Anderson, the sixth in order of birth in a family of twelve children, spent his boyhood days on the home farm and early became familiar with all the duties and labors incident to the development and cultivation of a new farm in a pioneer district. His educational privileges were limited but he spent some time as a student in one of the log schoolhouses of Montgomery county. At the age of seventeen years he started out upon an independent business career, entering the employ of Judge Hiram Rountree, of Hillsboro, with whom he remained for eight years, first working on the farm, then in the store and afterward assisting in the office of the circuit clerk of Montgomery county.

While working for the Judge, Mr. Anderson also wooed and won the daughter of the household—Miss Nan B. Rountree, the marriage being celebrated in August, 1850. Removing to Christian county the following year, Mr. Anderson began farming about four miles east of Taylorville but did not find this occupation as congenial as mercantile life had been, and after three years devoted to agricultural pursuits he abandoned the plow and went to Taylorville, where he soon secured a position as a salesman in the dry-goods store of Shumway & Cheney. On the death of the junior partner, in January, 1854, he was succeeded by Albert Satley, who later sold his interest in the store to Mr. Anderson and thus was formed the firm of Shumway & Anderson, a connection that was maintained for two years, when Mr. Anderson became sole proprietor. His adaptability to the needs of the business was soon manifest and a constantly growing trade demanded his care and attention. His was a general store in which

he carried all lines of goods demanded by a city and country trade, from farm implements to the finest household furnishings. Not only in times of general prosperity but also in the eras of wide-spread financial panic, did Mr. Anderson conduct a profitable business, a fact which demonstrated his keen foresight, capable management, marked enterprise and indefatigable industry. He made for himself a most enviable reputation among the wholesale houses to which he gave his patronage and in Taylorville and throughout the surrounding country was known for his strictly fair and honorable methods in dealing with his patrons. After fifteen years he sold an interest in his business in order to devote a part of his time and attention to other lines. He was a man of resourceful ability, quick to recognize and improve an opportunity, and his judgment was rarely, if ever, at fault in an estimate of business opening or trade transaction.

It was in 1871 that he established the banking house of W. W. Anderson & Company, his partner in the enterprise being D. D. Shumway. For twelve years this association was pleasantly continued and then Mr. Shumway retired and was succeeded by Hiram R. Anderson. He was a young man of brilliant mind, a close student and a general favorite with the patrons of the bank, but death claimed him after a short time. Mr. Anderson continued at the head of the institution and associated with him his son, Fred W. Anderson. The safe conservative policy which he inaugurated has always been followed. He soon placed the bank upon a substantial foundation and it has long ranked as one of the most reliable financial institutions of this part of the state. In banking circles, as in all other relations of life, Mr. Anderson sustained

an unassailable reputation because of his business capacity and unswerving probity. Intricate business propositions he seemed to comprehend at a glance and he mastered everything he undertook, carrying forward to successful completion every business interest which engaged his attention. He made judicious investments in property from time to time until he became the possessor of valuable interests.

Only four years after his marriage Mr. Anderson was called upon to mourn the loss of his first wife. He did not marry again until 1860, when he wedded Mrs. Martha L. Wright, the widow of Dr. Wright of Carlinville. They travelled life's journey happily together for about a quarter of a century, and then Mrs. Anderson was called to her final rest, August 2, 1884, at the age of fifty-four years. She was a woman of estimable character and proved a valuable companion and helpmate on life's journey. About nine years passed and then, on the 11th of December, 1893, he, too, was called from this life.

For many years he was very prominent in public affairs, aside from his business interests. He served for two years as the president of the board of supervisors. He had firm belief in the future of Taylorville, not only as the county seat and because of its extensive country trade, but as a coal producing point, and one seemingly destined to become an important manufacturing center. He invested largely in business property and was the owner of one half of the frontage on the south side of the square. He always advocated the advantages of railroad facilities and was one of the promoters and at one time one of the directors of the Ohio & Mississippi Railroad, now the Baltimore & Ohio, which passes through this county, forming direct connection with the

east. Every measure for the advancement of Taylorville along material, social and intellectual lines received his endorsement and encouragement, and to him in no little degree is due the present advantages which the city enjoys in its excellent system of electric lights, its waterworks and its ample hotel accommodation. His means, advice and energy were often called upon and freely given when the extensive coal fields were being developed and thus a permanent basis of growth and prosperity was assured the city. Prospering to an unusual degree he became blessed with ample means, which he liberally devoted to progressive uses. A member and trustee of the Methodist Episcopal church, he was a ready supporter of church interests. A Royal Arch Mason, he was held in high esteem by his brethren of the craft. Politically he was a life-long supporter of the Democratic party, but preferred the activities of business life to those of the political stage. The strong traits of his character were such as endeared him to all with whom he came in contact. He was the soul of honor and integrity in business life, was a man of broad humanitarian principles, and the deserving poor always found in him a friend. He gave generously for the public good, was faithful in friendship, devoted to his family and stood as a high type of our chivalrous American manhood.

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#### FRED F. WEISER.

Fred F. Weiser, who for eighteen years has been connected with the grain trade in Stonington, is a well known, enterprising and progressive business man, and, starting out in life for himself at the age of thirteen years, he has since been dependent upon his own resources, gaining all that he now pos-

sesses through his own energy and business ability.

Mr. Weiser was born in Cass county, Illinois, in 1855, a son of Philip and Margaret Weiser, both of whom were natives of Germany. After their emigration to the United States the father engaged in farming in Cass county, Illinois, and in 1870 he removed to Christian county, where he engaged in the manufacture of tile and also conducted a general mercantile establishment in Stonington. For ten years he followed those pursuits and on the expiration of that period he devoted his attention to the grain trade, buying and selling grain for twelve years. His death occurred in 1902, and his wife passed away in 1901.

Fred F. Weiser obtained his early education in the public schools of Taylorville and later continued his studies in the business college at Springfield, Illinois, where he was trained for the responsible and practical duties that come as one enters business life. He began to earn his own living when but thirteen years of age as a clerk in a clothing store in Taylorville, where he remained for ten years, when he came to Stonington and joined his father in business as a merchant and tile manufacturer. During the last ten years he has been engaged in the grain business and has handled a large share of the grain raised in this locality. In 1902, upon his father's death, he sold the business but remained as its manager, in the service of the McNelly Grain Company.

In 1881 Mr. Weiser was united in marriage to Miss Louise Kreeger, a native of Sangamon county, Illinois, and unto them have been born three children: Pearl, Lucile and Fred F., all of whom are under the parental roof. Mr. Weiser owns his own home in Stonington and it is celebrated for its charming and cordial hospitality. He

and his wife are members of the German Reformed church. Called to public office he has been found most trustworthy in all positions of a public character. He was town collector for four years, was supervisor for fourteen years and in 1900 was the candidate of the Democratic party for the position of circuit clerk. Having spent almost his entire life in Christian county, he has a wide acquaintance within its borders and the strength of his character, his honorable conduct and his fidelity to manly principles have made him one of the representative and valued citizens.

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#### A. M. SMITH.

A. M. Smith, who is engaged in general farming on section 14, South Fork township, was born in the city of Washington in 1836, his parents being Messer and Catherine Smith. Both were natives of Germany, whence they emigrated to America at an early day. The father was the second German to settle in South Fork township. He bought school land there and began its cultivation and continued to engage in farming until eight years prior to his death. He then retired from active business life and his remaining days were spent in the enjoyment of a well-earned rest.

A. M. Smith was reared on his father's farm and early became familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. He also assisted in the arduous task of developing a new farm and throughout his life he has followed the pursuit to which he was reared. He started out in life on his own account when twenty-five years of age, receiving forty acres of land from his father and the cultivation and care which he bestowed upon this soon made it a valuable tract. As his financial resources

increased he added to it from time to time until he is now one of the extensive land-owners of the county, his realty possessions aggregating five hundred and eighty-two and a half acres. He also has seven lots in Taylorville. All of the improvements on his home farm were made by him, these including substantial buildings and well-kept fences. He uses modern machinery in cultivating his land and harvesting his crops and everything about his place is indicative of his careful supervision and energy. He has given the greater part of his attention to the feeding of stock.

Mr. Smith married a Miss Adams, a native of South Fork township, and unto them have been born two children, but only one is now living: Lizzie, the wife of William Taylor. After losing his first wife Mr. Smith was again married, his second union being with Miss Julia Rogers. This wedding occurred in 1901. Mrs. Smith is a member of the Methodist church and a most estimable lady, esteemed by many friends because of her sterling traits of character. Mr. Smith gives his political support to the Democracy. He served his township as supervisor for one term and was also road commissioner. As one of the early settlers of the county he is familiar with its history from the pioneer epoch down to the present day of advancement and progress. He has always been very fond of hunting and in pioneer times he had ample opportunity to indulge his love of the sport because there were great quantities of wild game in Illinois. He has seen as many as twenty-five deer in a single herd. His life has been characterized by unflagging energy and diligence and has therefore been crowned with a gratifying measure of success. In early manhood he ran a breaking team for three years and for four years he

operated a threshing machine. He has, however, made the greater part of his money from the sale of stock and in this way has gained a very desirable competence.

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#### HOWARD M. POWEL.

While "the race is not always to the swift nor the battle to the strong," the invariable law of destiny accords to tireless energy, industry and ability a successful career. The truth of this assertion is abundantly verified in the life of Howard M. Powel, of Taylorville, who has been identified with a number of business enterprises here and elsewhere.

He was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on the 22d of July, 1839, and comes of good old Quaker stock, his parents, Richard and Sarah Powel, being members of the Society of Friends. They were reared in Philadelphia and continued to make their home in that city for many years. The father was born in 1801 and in early life learned the cabinet-maker's trade, his apprentice papers, issued in 1816, being now in possession of our subject. From Philadelphia he removed to Parkersburg, West Virginia, in 1840, and in 1851 came to Illinois. After living for a time in Springfield, he removed to Taylorville in 1853, where he followed his trade of cabinet-making and also conducted a furniture store for several years. After a useful and well-spent life he passed away in September, 1875, honored and respected by all who knew him.

Howard M. Powel was principally educated at Springfield, Illinois, and at the age of sixteen years started out in life for himself. The following year he commenced teaching school and successfully followed that pursuit for six or seven years. Forming a partnership with W. W. Watkins, he next engaged in merchandising in Taylor-

ville until 1865 when he sold his interest in the store and removed to Lincoln, Illinois, where the following five years were passed. On his return to Taylorville in 1870, he engaged in contracting and building for a few years and in 1874 opened a lumber yard, which he carried on until 1881, when he disposed of the same. He was next engaged in the hardware business from 1885 until 1889, but at present gives his attention principally to the oil industry, being interested in the Inter-State Oil & Gas Company, which has over ten thousand acres of valuable leases in Chautauqua county, Kansas. They own two hundred and sixteen acres in fee simple and have over seventy wells, the production from which is eight hundred and eighty barrels of oil per day. Mr. Powel is president and treasurer of this company and gives much of his time to the enterprise, the success of which is due almost entirely to his well directed efforts and sound business judgment. He owns considerable property, including a plumbing shop and some houses in Taylorville, and also has a valuable farm of three hundred and twenty acres in Taylorville township.

In 1864 Mr. Powel was united in marriage to Miss Sarah J. Young, who was born and reared in Montgomery county, Illinois, and died on the 4th of January, 1870, leaving three children, namely: Warren A., who married Lois Fox, a daughter of Dr. Fox, and is engaged in the plumbing business in Taylorville; and Harriet and Sarah J. Mr. Powell was again married December 25, 1872, his second union being with Mrs. Emily (Palmer) Anderson.

Religiously Mr. Powel is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church, and fraternally has been identified with the Masonic order at Taylorville since 1864. His political support is given the men and meas-

ures of the Republican party and he has taken an active interest in public affairs, serving as alderman and as a member of the school board. During the time of his residence in Springfield he lived next door to Abraham Lincoln and was a warm personal friend of the great man. He occupies a leading position in business circles and he to-day enjoys the reward of his industry.

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#### G. F. BARRETT.

Among the wide-awake, energetic business men of Owaneco is numbered G. F. Barrett, whose activities cover many lines of business. He is especially well known as a grain dealer, and his watchfulness of business opportunities, his unfaltering perseverance and his well known reliability are the elements which form the secret of his prosperity.

Mr. Barrett was born in LaSalle county, Illinois, June 4, 1857, a son of Andrew and Margaret Barrett, both of whom were natives of Ireland. The hope of enjoying better privileges in the new world led them to cross the Atlantic to America and in the year 1869 they became residents of Christian county, establishing their home in Locust township, where they were identified with farming interests for a number of years. Through the exercise of his energy and capable management Mr. Barrett acquired a comfortable competence which now enables him to live a retired life, and he and his wife are now residents of Owaneco.

To the district school system of the state Mr. Barrett is indebted for the educational advantages which he enjoyed. His boyhood was devoted to his school work, to the labors of the fields upon the home farm and to the pleasures in which the boys of the period in-

dulged. Thus passed the years and when he had attained his majority he started out in life on his own account by renting a tract of land on which he carried on general farming until 1892. He then resolved to concentrate his business energies in the village and took up his abode in Owaneco, where he was connected with the grain trade until January, 1904. He is the leading auctioneer in this section and has cried many important sales, so managing the disposal of property as to produce results that are satisfactory alike to seller and purchaser. His investments are represented by financial interests in the Barrett Brothers harness shop, the J. B. Cole & Company tile and brickyard of Owaneco and The Metzger Hill Company, of which he is the president. This is a commission company of Cincinnati, Ohio. He also buys and sells stock and his varied interests are remunerative.

On the 21st of April, 1881, Mr. Barrett was united in marriage to Miss Emma C. Fry, a daughter of George Fry, of Shelby county. Two children grace this union: Alvin W., who is now a student in Cincinnati, Ohio; and Walter, at home. Mrs. Barrett is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Barrett has membership relations with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Court of Honor. In politics he is an earnest Republican, deeply interested in the success of his party and well informed on the issues and questions of the day. He served as township collector for two years, two years as assessor, and was supervisor for four years, filling the latter position when the new courthouse was begun. Local advancement and national progress are causes dear to his heart and in citizenship as in business he is alert and enterprising.

#### W. H. SHAW.

W. H. Shaw, who is engaged in the live stock business, making extensive purchases and sales, and who is recognized as one of the most enterprising and progressive citizens of Stonington, was born in Pickaway, Ohio, on the 12th of April, 1853. His parents were Samuel and Virginia Shaw. The father, a native of Franklin county, Ohio, became a veterinary surgeon, and in the year 1865 removed to Illinois, locating in Christian county upon a farm. He took up his abode in Taylorville in 1881, where he engaged in the practice of his profession until 1895. In 1901 he removed to Ramsey, Illinois, where he has now lived retired for two years.

To the common school system of Christian county Mr. Shaw is indebted for the educational privileges he enjoyed in his boyhood. He was trained to farm work upon his father's farm, early becoming familiar with the labors of field and meadow, and he continued to assist in the operation of the old homestead until 1879, when he removed to Blue Mound, Macon county. There he began buying and shipping stock in 1881, and in 1896 he came to Stonington, where he continues in the same business, being now one of the largest buyers and shippers of the county. He is an excellent judge of stock and is therefore able to make judicious purchases and profitable sales. The extent of his business brings to him a good financial return and he has become, through his own efforts, one of the men of affluence in his community.

On the 12th of October, 1878, Mr. Shaw was united in marriage to Miss Mary E. Reimer, a daughter of Richard Reimer, who was born near Akron, Ohio. Four children grace the union of our subject and his wife:

Maud, Otis, Cloyd and Eldo, aged respectively twenty-two, nineteen, sixteen and thirteen years. The mother and daughter belong to the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Shaw has recently completed a beautiful home in Stonington, and he puts forth every effort in his power to enhance the happiness of his family. Fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America and with the Odd Fellows society. While residing in Macon county he filled the office of collector of his town and is now serving as a member of the board of aldermen of Stonington.

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#### HENRY M. GRAHAM.

Henry M. Graham, an honored and highly esteemed citizen of Rosemond, Illinois, was born on the 8th of April, 1835, in the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, his parents being E. W. and Mary (McIlhaney) Graham, both natives of Pennsylvania. By occupation the father was a railroad contractor, and as such aided in the construction of the first road over the Alleghany mountains. He was a son of Alexander Graham, who was of Irish descent and a tailor by trade. Our subject's maternal grandfather, Henry McIlhaney, was also of Irish parentage and made farming his life work.

Henry M. Graham, of this review, is the fourth in order of birth in a family of eight children who reached man and womanhood and six of the number are still living. In early life he attended the common schools of Chester and Perry counties, Pennsylvania. It was his ambition to become a soldier, but finding this impossible at that time he obtained a position on a canal boat running between Pittsburg and Columbia, Pennsylvania, across the Alleghany mountains, over which the boats were conveyed by trucks.

He was thus employed during the summer months from the age of thirteen until twenty years old.

In December, 1855, Mr. Graham came to Illinois and spent five years in Mercer county. In the meantime he was married in Pike county, this state, in September, 1859, to Miss Mary W. Ewing, who was born in Jefferson county, Illinois, December 2, 1840, a daughter of Alexander and Susan Ewing, and was eleven years old on the removal of the family to Pike county. By this union were born thirteen children, eight daughters and five sons, but the latter all died in infancy. The daughters are Mary C., now a resident of Jacksonville; Cora Isabel, wife of C. A. Covert, of Jasper county, Missouri; Laura Matilda, who was married March 31, 1889, to J. H. Klinefelter, of Webb City, Missouri; Ida Metta, who was married January 20, 1891, to P. M. Klinefelter, of Greenwood township, this county; Lillian May, who was married September 30, 1896, to J. A. Boyd, a merchant of Palmer, Christian county; Nora H., who was married November 2, 1902, to E. D. Boyd, of Greenwood township; and Grace and Emma, both at home. The children have all had good educational advantages.

In the fall of 1860 Mr. Graham came to Christian county and settled on the prairie near where the Buckeye church now stands, leaving his wife and two children there when he entered the army during the Civil war. He enlisted in Rosamond township in September, 1863, and remained in the service until hostilities ceased, being mustered out at San Antonio, Texas, on the 22d of November, 1865. His was a frontier regiment and was under the command of General Merritt. On his return home Mr. Graham resumed farming and for twenty years he also engaged in shipping stock. In 1868 he

took up his residence on section 16, Rosamond township—the school section—and to the improvement and cultivation of that farm he devoted his energies for many years. He erected all of the buildings and planted all of the trees now found thereon. Having decided to retire from active labor he sold that place and in October, 1902, removed to the village of Rosemond, occupying one of the pioneer homes of the county, it having been built about 1854. Besides his residence he owns other town property.

Mr. Graham is the third oldest settler living in Rosamond township and is one of the most highly esteemed citizens of his community. He is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal church, to which his wife and children also belong and he assisted in building all of the churches in his and adjoining townships. While residing on the farm he served as trustee and steward of the church with which he was connected. Fraternally he is an honored member of Pope Post, No. 411, G. A. R., of Pana, and politically he is identified with the Republican party. He has been called upon to fill a number of positions of honor and trust. He was elected tax collector in 1866 and served in that capacity for nine years. He was also justice of the peace four years, supervisor two years and assessor two years, and he proved a most capable and trustworthy official.

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#### ROBERT LITTLE.

Among the early settlers of central Illinois, it is hardly too much to say, that there was none who exercised throughout his life a stronger influence or has left a more enduring impression on the minds and hearts of his associates and acquaintances than Robert Little. He was born near the

village of Goffstown, New Hampshire, on the 25th of January, 1809, and was the third in a family of eight children, not one of whom now survive.

At the age of twenty-one years, moved by a desire to accomplish more than the opportunities of his native village afforded, Mr. Little went to Brookline, then about three miles from Boston, Massachusetts, and for about ten years worked for wages in the employ of different citizens of that place. For years an attempt had been made by some of the Boston people to found a new settlement in what is now Montgomery county, Illinois, which should, in time, become the center of a new county. Mr. Little had heard and read much of Illinois and looked longingly that way. In Boston was a young man, enjoying the confidence of the Audubon Land Company, who intended to come to Illinois and he heard of a young man in Brookline who also talked of going thither and he paid the latter a visit and formed his acquaintance. The result of this interview was that John S. Hayward, Robert Little and his friend William Pike started for Hillsboro, Illinois, in the fall of 1838, making the tedious voyage of the lakes and entering the boundary of the promised land at Chicago, proceeding thence by stage to Hillsboro, and from that point Mr. Little and his friend took passage by stage to the new settlement of Audubon. Liking the prospects, Mr. Little bought land and he and his friend built themselves a cabin in the woods and during the winter that followed cut down trees and split rails to fence the land. In the spring of 1839 they broke prairie and planted their first crop of corn, and during the summer cut and hauled to mill at Audubon the logs to be sawed into lumber for a house and before the frost had touched the leaves Mr. Little



*Robert Little*



had a comfortable dwelling house to which he could welcome his future bride.

That fall he returned to New Hampshire and on the 30th of September, 1839, was married to Charlotte Pike. The newly married pair came westward by the slow methods of travel then prevailing. Reaching Pittsburg, a flatboat brought them to Cincinnati and the remainder of the journey was made by stage and private conveyance until the new home on the prairie was reached. For a quarter of a century that was their home, and though pleasant in its surroundings, the railroad that had been projected to run near it failed to reach that point, and the village of Audubon, which was to have been a county seat, was fast losing its population. Mr. Little fixed his eyes on a pleasant mound five miles to the northeast and in 1864 built and moved to that home, some two miles south of Rosemond in Christian county.

During the period of his stay at the old farm and for some years after he came to the new one, he had the close companionship of his younger brother, Otis Little, whose farm was near the first home; and how close, intimate and cordial were their relations is well known to many of the old residents of that vicinity. That tender relationship was severed by the death of the latter in the year 1872, when Otis Little was buried in the Rosemond cemetery.

Sixty-five years have passed since the cabin was built which sheltered the two friends during the long first winter in the new settlement. How marked the change! The wild deer in herds no longer roam the uncultivated prairies; and many a strong arm and stout heart has yielded to the struggle, battling to subdue the wilds of nature, and after that to preserve for future generations the state and nation from the

threatened grasp of slavery. The part which he took in these struggles, the labors and successes, the many acts of kindness, the deeds of charity and benevolence, the words of cheer and hearty advice, the daily toil, the temperate and consistent life of Robert Little are matters of history and recognized by all who knew him. Of many of these noble acts there is no record, except in the memory of those who best know of them, yet not a few are still living that can speak of them. Not a few there are who could say that to his kindness and indulgence they were indebted, in a large degree, for the homes they possessed and for their success in life. His heart and hand were ever open, and no needy and deserving applicant was ever refused help that was in his power to consistently bestow. Settling here in an early day in the history of his adopted state, he contributed much in making it what it is—desirable for situation.

Mr. Little died at his home on the 13th of June, 1887, and it was the subject of remark when two days later his body was laid to rest, that the funeral procession was one of the largest ever witnessed in that part of the state, there being one hundred and sixteen carriages and wagons in the procession, reaching the entire distance from the residence to the Rosemond cemetery, the place of interment.

For fourteen years he was survived by his widow, Charlotte P. Little, who was born in the village of Hebron, New Hampshire, June 22, 1808. She was the daughter of William and Ruth Pike and the granddaughter of Elijah Blood, a Revolutionary soldier. The earlier years of her life were spent in the Society of Friends or Quakers, and the impress of such surroundings was witnessed in her habits and methods. Quiet, cheerful, patient, frugal, industrious, unselfish, de-

voted to her husband and daughter, passionately attached to her home, which she rarely left, void of ostentation and continually employed in services for the comfort of her family and those who from surrounding circumstances most needed her assistance, doing deeds of kindness and charity, the even tenor of her life was prolonged beyond the allotted span. She died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Mary F. Kitchell, in Pana, whither she went for the last time in the fall of 1898, remaining there until her death, which occurred June 19, 1901, at the advanced age of ninety-two years, eleven months and twenty-eight days. She was one of nine children born to her parents, the father dying in New England in 1835. After her marriage she brought her mother to the new western home. A brother, William Pike, before mentioned, had already preceded her the year before and had bought and improved land in the vicinity of Audubon, where he lived to a ripe old age. The mother continued to reside with her daughter the remainder of her days, and died on the 3d of January, 1879, at the advanced age of ninety-three years, four months and twenty-seven days, and was buried in Rosemond Grove cemetery.

The sole offspring and survivor of Robert and Charlotte P. Little is their daughter Mary F. Kitchell, the wife of John W. Kitchell, now residing in Pana.

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#### JOHN W. KITCHELL.

John Wickliffe Kitchell, who is engaged in the practice of law in Pana, represents an ancestry honorable and distinguished. He is a descendant of Robert Kitchel, the leader of a band of Puritans who emigrated from England in 1639 and who joined themselves together in a "Plantation Covenant,"

and settled at Guilford, Connecticut. Robert Kitchel afterward went to New Jersey, where many of his descendants are to be found. Aaron Kitchel was a member of congress from 1799 to 1807 and was then chosen United States senator.

John W. Kitchell was born in Palestine, Crawford county, Illinois, May 30, 1835, a son of Wickliff and Elizabeth (Ross) Kitchell. His father was born in the state of New York in the year 1789, going thence in early youth to New Jersey, and after his marriage at Newark in 1812 determined to cast his fortunes in the newly developing west, proceeding through Pennsylvania to Pittsburg and thence by flatboat to Cincinnati and settling near the Whitewater river. Wickliff Kitchell subsequently removed to Indiana, where he engaged in farming and at the same time read law at night by the light of a faggot. He served as sheriff of his county at one time. He continued to move westward until the year Illinois was admitted to the Union, when he brought his family to this state and became a resident of Palestine. He was appointed register of the land office at that place and was destined to still greater prominence in connection with the new commonwealth, always taking a great interest in public affairs. To secure better educational advantages for his then numerous children, he removed to Hillsboro, Montgomery county, in the fall of 1838, and there continued in the practice of his profession, being contemporary with and pitted against the ablest members of the bar in southern Illinois, such as Fields, Shields, Gillespie, Linder, Constable, Ficklin and later Lincoln, Douglas, Trumbull and Thornton. He served as state's attorney in his circuit and was attorney general of the state in 1839 and 1840. In politics he was a Jacksonian Democrat, but inde-



*J. Mitchell*



pendent and fearless in the advocacy of his somewhat advanced doctrines, opposed to trickery and to the gigantic system of internal improvement inaugurated in the state. He was elected to the state senate in 1828 and 1838 and was twice elected as a member of the house of representatives. He began to break away from the Democratic party at the period of the war with Mexico. A determined enemy to the extension of slavery, he was adverse to the repeal of the Missouri compromise, was an anti-Nebraska Democrat and participated in the formation of the Republican party, being present at the famous Bloomington convention. In 1846 he removed to Iowa but returned to Hillsboro in 1853. He died in Pana in 1869. An elder brother, Joseph Kitchell, was receiver of the public land office at Palestine, a member of the first constitutional convention which met at Kaskaskia and afterward a member of the first senate which convened after the adoption of the constitution.

Of the ten children born to Wickliff and Elizabeth (Ross) Kitchell, three sons grew to maturity and shared the political opinions and adopted the profession of their father. The eldest, Alfred Kitchell, after obtaining his license settled in the then small village of Olney, Richland county, Illinois, where he remained for many years, having attained success and prominence as a lawyer and in the building up of his town. He was state's attorney for several successive terms and was subsequently elected judge of the circuit court and was a member of the constitutional convention of 1848. He died at Galesburg, Illinois, in 1866. The next oldest son, Edward Kitchell, after a trip across the plains with an ox team in 1852, to California, returned to Illinois and took up the study of law with his brother Alfred at Olney. He

was an ardent patriot and entered the Union army in 1862 as lieutenant colonel of the Ninety-eighth Regiment of Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which regiment he commanded during the greater part of its service and which formed a part of the famous Wilder Brigade of Mounted Infantry. At the close of his service Edward Kitchell was brevetted a brigadier general. He was a presidential elector on the Republican ticket in 1868 and for a time was revenue collector for his congressional district. He died at Olney, Illinois, July 11, 1869.

The youngest of the family and the only one now living is John W. Kitchell. When in his sixteenth year his school education ended at the Hillsboro Academy, which he attended but for one year and then returned to his father's home then at Fort Madison, Iowa. There he entered the law office of Miller & Beck, eminent practitioners of that state, and passing an examination received a license to practice at the age of seventeen years. Soon afterward the family returned to Hillsboro, Illinois, and at the age of nineteen he formed a partnership with Hon. E. Y. Rice, subsequently judge of the circuit court and member of congress. During the following winter he was chosen to a clerkship in the Illinois house of representatives at Springfield and served as reading clerk during that term, when Lyman Trumbull was elected to the United States senate. Mr. Kitchell occupied a like position in the session of 1860-61 when Shelby M. Cullom was speaker of the house and Richard Yates, Sr., was governor of the state. He has always taken a lively interest in public affairs, casting his first vote for Fremont for president. He was successively the nominee of the Republican party for the state senate and for congress but both times was

unsuccessful by reason of the strong Democratic majorities. In 1892 he was a delegate to the Minneapolis convention which nominated Benjamin Harrison for the presidency the second time.

Mr. Kitchell has not given the law practice his undivided attention. While still a young man he embarked in the newspaper business at Hillsboro, editing and publishing the *Montgomery Herald*, and for eighteen months during the years 1859 and 1860, while temporarily residing in Charleston, Illinois, he was the editor of the *Charleston Courier*, a Republican newspaper. Having returned to Hillsboro, where his aged parents still resided, he enlisted in Company H, Ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, at the first call for volunteers in April, 1861; was chosen first lieutenant, and afterward became adjutant of the regiment; on the promotion of Captain Phillips to the majorship he had command of the company as captain until the end of his three months' service. At the second urgent call for troops in 1862 he was again about to enter the service, but the sudden serious illness and subsequent death of his mother detained him at home until the regiment was filled and mustered into service. He then established and took charge of the *Union Monitor*, a paper devoted to the interests of the soldiers and the Union cause, taking strong grounds against resistance to the draft. Having publicly declared that if drafted he would go in person and not furnish a substitute and his name being one of the first in the drawing made to fill the quota from his town, he at once abandoned his business and again entered the service in 1864, remaining until discharged at the close of the war. Having failed to encounter the hardships and dangers of the war, Mr. Kitchell feels that he

owes a special duty to the comrades who bore the brunt of battle and he has sought to do their memory honor, having contributed a bronze group for the Soldiers' Monument erected at Linwood cemetery near Pana in 1895, and he and his wife have presented to the Rosemond Grove cemetery a splendid soldiers' monument, the granite pedestal bearing the figure, heroic in size, of Abraham Lincoln, after the design and modeling of Charles J. Mulligan, sculptor, of Chicago, a work which has already achieved national fame and a cut of which will be seen elsewhere in this publication. The paternal grandmother and two uncles of Mrs. Kitchell lie at rest in those grounds, to which Mrs. Kitchell has recently added fifty acres as a future permanent addition to the cemetery, which for natural beauty and attractiveness in its surroundings is unsurpassed anywhere in the west.

Mr. Kitchell has devoted much of his time to matters connected with the growth of the city in which he resides, having had faith in its future. He invested largely of his means in the development of two of the four coal mines which form so important a part of its industries, but parted with his interests in the mines when their success was assured. He came to Pana in the fall of 1866. He is now in a measure retired from the active practice of his profession. He is a member of the Grand Army Post and is serving his second term as commander. He has been president of the Pana Public Library Board since its organization. In the management of his farming interests, in the transaction of such matters as daily devolve upon a lawyer who does principally an office business and in the varied duties pertaining to his position as a citizen at large he finds his time fairly occupied.

## C. O. GATES.

One of the prominent representatives of the journalistic profession in Christian county is the gentleman whose name heads this brief notice, the well known editor and proprietor of the Mount Auburn Tribune. He is numbered among the native sons of Illinois, his birth occurring in Sangamon county, May 12, 1868. His parents, Fines M. and May A. (Shelton) Gates, were natives of Kentucky and came to Illinois in 1864, locating in Sangamon county, where the town of Thayer is now situated. The father became one of the leading contractors of that locality and died there on the 24th of December, 1872. The mother is still living and is now the wife of A. M. Jenkins, of Muhlenberg county, Kentucky.

During his boyhood C. O. Gates attended the district schools and on attaining his majority started out in life for himself as a farmer. He subsequently went to Monmouth, Illinois, where he worked for the Monmouth Mining & Manufacturing Company for two years, and then removed to Divernon, Sangamon county, buying out the Divernon Star, which he published for two years. After selling that paper he started the Chapin Record, which he sold in 1898, and then returned to Divernon, where he worked in the mines until the fall of 1902. He then came to Mount Auburn and purchased The Tribune, which he has already made one of the leading papers of the county, its circulation having greatly increased since it came into his possession. He has now erected a business block in the village where he has opened a first class book and stationery store. He is a very energetic business man and well deserves the success that has come to him.

On the 2d of March, 1893, Mr. Gates was

united in marriage to Miss Edith V. Colliflower, a daughter of John Colliflower, of Divernon, and to them have been born three children: Hazel O., Phineas C. and Daisy Mae. By his ballot Mr. Gates supports the Democratic party. He takes an active interest in civic societies and is now serving as chancellor commander of Racy Lodge, No. 629, K. P., of Mount Auburn. He also belongs to Grove City Lodge, No. 275, I. O. O. F., and Mount Auburn Camp, No. 2849, M. W. A.

## JAMES H. ALEXANDER.

James H. Alexander is serving as justice of the peace in Morrisonville, a position which he has filled for fifteen years with credit to himself and satisfaction to his constituents. He is thoroughly impartial in meting out justice, his opinions being unbiased by either fear or favor, and his fidelity to the trust reposed in him is above question. He is regarded as one of the leading and most highly respected citizens of Morrisonville and it is therefore consistent that he be represented in a work whose province is the portrayal of the lives of the prominent men of Christian county.

Mr. Alexander was born in Rush county, Indiana, October 9, 1840, and is a son of Reuben Alexander, who was born March 4, 1814, and is still living. The latter, who was a successful farmer throughout his active business life, is now living retired. His father was James Alexander, who lived to be ninety-six years of age, while his sister, Mrs. Nancy Spence, was a centenarian. In fact the family is noted for longevity. The family is of Scotch origin and was founded in the Carolinas in colonial days.

In the county of his nativity James H. Alexander continued to make his home until

January 7, 1883, and to its public schools he is indebted for the educational advantages he enjoyed. In early life he learned the carpenter's trade and after becoming an expert workman he engaged in contracting and building for some time. Two winters he engaged in teaching school in Shelby county, Indiana, and then returned to Indianapolis, Indiana, where he worked at his trade for seven years, and was next employed in a foundry for the manufacture of car wheels at Lafayette, that state, until coming to Morrisonville, Illinois, in 1883. Here he worked at the carpenter's trade and engaged in contracting for four years, at the end of which time he was elected to his present position and has since given his attention to the duties of that office. During his incumbency he has never had a decision reversed by the superior courts, which could probably be said of no other justice in the state who has served as long as he has. He is now doing some fire insurance and from both sources he derives a good income.

During the dark days of the Civil war Mr. Alexander enlisted August 6, 1862, and followed the varying fortunes of war in the campaign from Lebanon, Kentucky, to Munfordsville, that state, where he was taken prisoner on the 17th of September, 1862, but was paroled forty-eight hours later and sent to Indianapolis, where he was kept until exchanged in April, 1863. Being taken ill he was sent to the hospital at Stone River, July 3, 1863, and was later transferred to hospital No. 9 at Louisville, Kentucky. Subsequently he was detailed to go to New York, but was again taken ill and returned to the hospital at Louisville, where he remained until discharged from the service August 4, 1863. All this trouble was caused by measles and his lungs being affected.

While a prisoner of war Mr. Alexander

was married October 19, 1862, to Miss Charlotta Humphreys, a daughter of George and Elizabeth (Hardsley) Humphreys, who belonged to old Kentucky families. By this union the following children have been born, namely: Elmer E., who died at the age of sixteen years; Josephine, who married J. B. Davenport and has three children, Gail, Ralph and Carrie; Harvey G., who resides in Chicago and is connected with a wholesale seed store in that city; Emma B., who married William H. Davenport and has two children, Marie and Hattie; Sherman and Sheridan, twins, the former a plasterer of Kokomo, Indiana, and the latter a member of the Third United States Cavalry, who was stationed at Asynaboynne, Montana, for a time, but is now in Evanston, Illinois; and Mrs. Carrie Tyler, who lives in Morrisonville and has two children, George and Ralph.

Besides the office of justice of the peace Mr. Alexander has served as mayor of Morrisonville and as assessor of the township. He is public spirited and progressive and takes a deep interest in the welfare of his adopted county, doing all in his power to advance her interests. In all the relations of life he has been found true and faithful to every trust reposed in him.

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#### C. A. MANNERS.

In the history of the men of the past and present who have figured prominently in Taylorville in connection with its public affairs, its substantial progress and its up-building C. A. Manners should be mentioned. He was a leading railroad builder of this part of the state and his active and honorable career won him the unqualified confidence and esteem of those with whom

he was associated. He was born in Somerset county, New Jersey, on the 2d of August, 1827, and was a son of John and Penelope Manners. When quite young he went to sea, spending eight years on the water, after which he returned to New Jersey and completed his education in the schools of that state. Manifesting special aptitude in his studies he soon became qualified for teaching and followed that pursuit for two terms.

On the expiration of that period Mr. Manners resolved to try his fortune in the west and made his way to Illinois, locating in Christian county in 1851, among its early settlers. From that time until his death he was an active supporter of all measures for the general good and as a business man he became well known. In the year of his arrival he was elected county surveyor of Christian county and acted in that capacity for three years. In 1859 he became connected with the surveying department of the United States, to fix the boundary between the states of Kansas and Nebraska, and he continued upon the public surveys of the latter state until 1860. In that year he returned to Illinois and in 1862 he was elected sheriff of Christian county, which position he filled with promptness, fidelity and fearlessness for two years. Mr. Manners then began contracting for the construction of railroads and was one of the oldest and most successful railroad builders of the west at that time. He thoroughly understood the mechanical principles underlying railroad construction and the work which he performed was always of a most satisfactory character. It was his custom to carry forward to successful completion whatever he undertook and as a result of his business ability, careful management and unfaltering energy he accumulated a very desirable competence. At one time he

went to Leadville, Colorado, where he was engaged in mining for a number of years, after which he returned to Christian county and here spent his remaining days.

On the 2d of October, 1861, Mr. Manners was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth A. Long, a daughter of Major Thomas Long, of Taylorville, who built the first hotel in this city. He won his title by service in the Black Hawk war. His son, Francis Monroe Long, enlisted in 1861 in the Union Army, became captain of Company G of the Forty-first Regiment of Illinois Volunteers, was later promoted to the rank of major, and in 1863 died of wounds sustained on the field of battle. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Manners were born two children: Frances C., now the wife of G. T. Horner, of Taylorville; and Thomas J., who died in 1887.

Mr. Manners held membership with the Masonic fraternity in Taylorville, and in politics he was a Democrat, believing in the principles of the party which he therefore staunchly advocated. A self-made man, he deserved the highest praise which that term implies. He was resolute and industrious and he utilized his time to the best advantage. As the years passed his labors resulted in bringing to him splendid success and he also gained an untarnished reputation by reason of his fidelity to the ethics which control commercial and industrial life. He passed away in 1887, leaving to his family an untarnished record. His widow now owns fourteen hundred acres of land near Taylorville and also the residence occupied by herself and her brother. Her farming interests are very valuable and return to her a splendid rental, which enables her to enjoy all of the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

## DORICE DWIGHT SHUMWAY.

Prominent among the energetic, farseeing and successful business men of Taylorville is the subject of this sketch. Integrity, activity and energy have been the crowning points of his success, and his connection with various enterprises and industries has been of decided advantage to the city and county, promoting their material welfare in no uncertain manner.

A native of Christian county, Mr. Shumway was born on a farm, about four miles east of Taylorville, December 19, 1845, and is the second son and third child in the family of D. D. and Emily R. A. (Rountree) Shumway. He spent the first few years of his life on the farm where he was born, and his education was begun in the country schools. After the removal of the family to Taylorville, he attended the city schools for a short time, also the academy at Hillsboro.

Mr. Shumway began his business career at the age of twelve years. In the spring of 1857, he entered the store of W. W. Anderson as clerk. He worked for Mr. Anderson until the fall of 1860, at the same time serving as deputy postmaster of Taylorville. His health failing, he returned to his father's farm and remained until the fall of 1863, when he entered the State University at Normal, Illinois, remaining during the winter of 1863 and 1864, but failing health again caused him to abandon his studies. He taught a country school in the winter of 1864 and 1865.

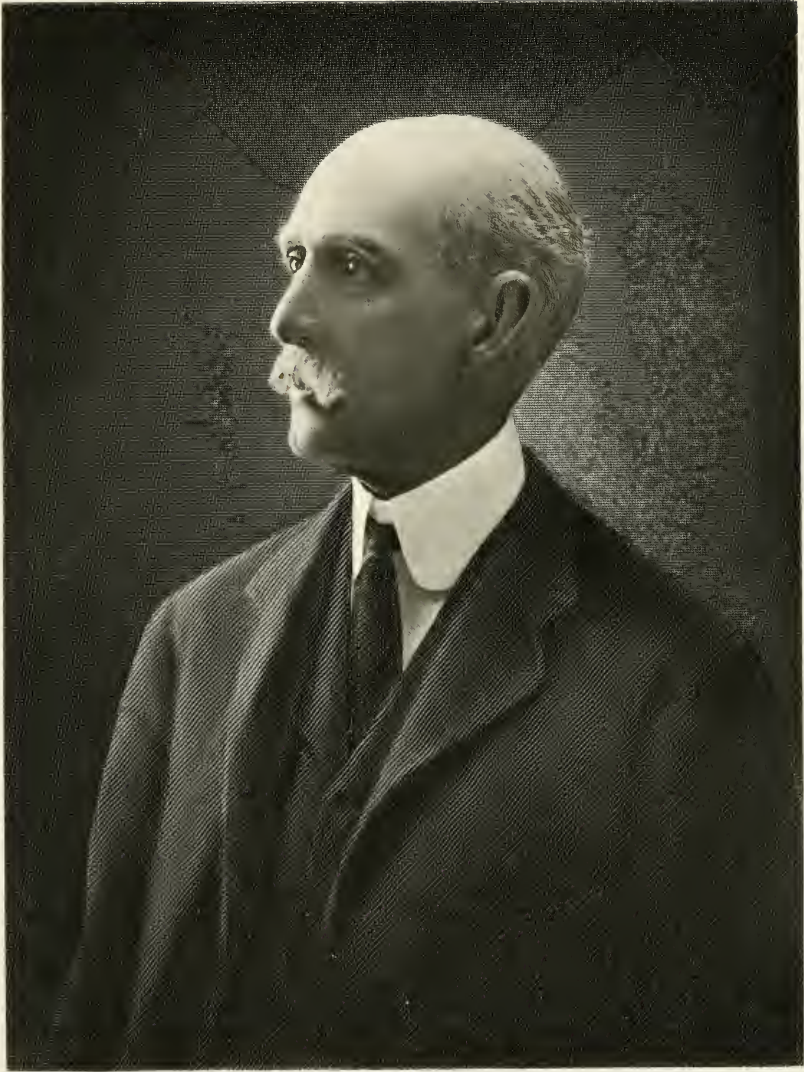
It was in 1866 that Mr. Shumway commenced business on his own account, forming a partnership with his uncle, A. H. H. Rountree in merchandising at Hillsboro, which connection was maintained until the 1st of January, 1869, when Mr. Shumway sold his interest in the store to his partner

and returned to Taylorville to become a partner in the firm of Shumway & Sons, proprietors of a general store. The death of his father, which occurred in the spring of 1870, necessitated the closing out of this business. During the following summer, our subject and his brother, H. P. Shumway, compiled the first set of abstract books made in Christian county. These books are now in use in the abstract office in this city.

In 1871 Mr. Shumway became interested in the banking business, in partnership with W. W. Anderson, under the firm name of W. W. Anderson & Company, and in 1874 they opened a branch house at Pana, Illinois, under the name of Anderson & Shumway, which was transferred later to Messrs. Hayward & Schuyler of that place. On his return to Taylorville, Mr. Shumway assumed the management of the banking business here, and continued in charge until 1882, when he retired from the firm.

He subsequently opened a grocery store, which he carried on until 1889. On the organization of the Taylorville Coal Company, in 1887, he became one of the stockholders and was made its secretary. In 1890 he was made president and general manager and retained that position until its merger with the Springfield Coal Mining Company in January, 1903. Mr. Shumway retained an interest in the Springfield Coal Mining Company and is vice president and treasurer of same. The Springfield Coal Mining Company is operating six coal mines in Sangamon and Christian counties, having an annual output at this time of more than a million and a quarter tons annually. This company has nearly two thousand men in its employ and ranks one of the largest coal producers in the state.

Mr. Shumway does not confine his attention alone to the coal industry, but is also



*D. I. Hummery.*



engaged in farming and stockraising; is president and largest stockholder in the Christian County Implement Company and The Henson & Cheney Hardware Company, both of these concerns doing a large and lucrative business; is stockholder, director and vice president of the First National Bank, and also owner of nearly all the stock in the Citizens Gas Light & Fuel Company, which is operated by his son G. F. Shumway, who is president and general manager. Mr. Shumway also owns an interest in and is treasurer of the Taylorville Electric Company.

Mr. Shumway was married September 25, 1877, in Salem, Illinois, to Miss Mary Ida Finley, the only child of Dr. W. M. and Lucy W. Finley, of that place. She was born in White county, Illinois, and comes of one of the pioneer families of southern Illinois. Three children have been born of this union, namely: Glenn Finley, Hiram McLain and Dorice Dwight. Mrs. Shumway takes a leading part in all social functions in the city, being prominent in woman's club work. She is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church.

For two years Mr. Shumway served in the city council and was chairman of the board of water works, which had charge of the construction of the present efficient system now in use. He is public spirited in an eminent degree and never withholds his support from any enterprise which he believes calculated to advance the interests of city and county. He has an extensive circle of friends and acquaintances throughout the state.

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#### REV. JOSEPH DECHENE.

Rev. Joseph Dechene, pastor of St. Mary's Catholic church at Assumption, was born on the Rhine, at Aix-la-Chapelle, Ger-

many, May 29, 1852, a son of Joseph C. and Theresia (de Beus) Dechene, the former born in Aix-la-Chapelle, February 1, 1816, the latter born May 1, 1821. The grandfather, Egidius Dechene, was archivist in the courthouse at Aix-la-Chapelle for forty years and died in 1849, at the age of eighty-two years. The mother's people were of French birth. Unto the parents of Rev. Dechene were born eight children, of whom he was the seventh in order of birth. He is now the only one living, having survived his parents, two sisters and five brothers. His father was a shoe merchant.

Rev. Joseph Dechene pursued a college course at Aix-la-Chapelle and afterward became a student in the University of Louvain, Belgium, in which institution he completed the courses in philosophy and theology and was graduated on the 1st of July, 1878. After leaving college he pursued the study of architecture and mechanism at the Polytechnicum in Aix-la-Chapelle, having an opportunity to receive instruction in those branches without cost. His time was thus largely occupied in 1869 and 1870. He was ordained to the priesthood in the cathedral at Mechlin, Belgium, on the 16th of June, 1878—two weeks before his graduation from the University of Louvain. His entire education was received in Europe and in October, 1878, he came to America to enter upon the work of the church in the new world. In November he was sent to take charge of the congregation of St. Mary's in Assumption, where he remained until May, 1880, when he resigned. In May of the following year he returned to Europe and became an assistant pastor in Aix-la-Chapelle, but in 1883 he again came to the United States, and has at different times been pastor of Catholic churches in central

Illinois, at Springfield, Litchfield, Mount Sterling and Assumption.

In 1894 Father Dechene made an extended trip to Europe, visiting Germany, Belgium, Holland, France, Italy, Spain and Portugal. He went especially for historical purposes and remained abroad for about six months. In October, 1897, he again became pastor of the church in Assumption, where he has since remained. In the same year he took out naturalization papers and became an American citizen, and since that time his views and efforts have been democratic in the true American sense of the word. He is a confirmed opponent of socialism and of anarchy and on the contrary is a lover of public order, as prescribed by his church, country and state. Since October, 1892, he has been an active member of the Society for the Propagation of Christian Art, the headquarters of which are at Munich, Germany. A man of scholarly attainments and wide learning he speaks several languages and is thus able to read the literature of many countries in the original. He is a most zealous and earnest worker for his church and people, and under his guidance St. Mary's has made rapid and substantial advance in membership and spiritual growth.

In this connection it will certainly be interesting to know something of the history of the church. The first Catholic colony was established at Assumption in 1857, by Hon. E. E. Malhiat, who had bought a large tract of land in this locality from the Illinois Central Railroad Company. The first resident priest was Father Charles Gonant, who had been ordained only a short time before in the cathedral at Alton, Illinois, by Rt. Rev. J. T. Junker, first bishop of Alton, in 1858. The next priest was Father Detour, the third Father Bedard, the fourth Father Recouvreur and the fifth Father Jacques.

Up to the year 1870 the temporal affairs of the church were managed by the priest with the assistance of a committee variously appointed. In 1870 a board of trustees was regularly incorporated under the state law passed by the Illinois legislature in 1869. The first board of trustees of the Roman Catholic congregation of Assumption was composed of the following gentlemen: Rt. Rev. P. J. Baltes, second bishop of Alton; V. Rev. J. Jansen, chancellor and vicar general; Rev. J. A. Jacques; David Bourdelais, Sr., and John Cashin. The papers of incorporation were signed in the presence of 'Squire Rains and duly recorded in Taylorville. On the 7th of June, 1871, the second annual board of trustees came into power, being the Rt. Rev. Bishop, the vicar general, the officiating priest and David Bourdelais, Sr., and Joseph Turgeon. These two gentlemen were appointed by the bishop to serve on the board until the 1st of January, 1873, as found in the church records.

The first general subscription for a new church was made January 15, 1867. The subscriptions, fairs and festivals provided the means required for building the new church. By September 1, 1872, the church was under roof, but without doors and windows, unfloored and unplastered, the lot unfenced and a debt of seven hundred dollars, bearing ten per cent. interest, had been incurred. There was neither priest house nor schoolhouse until June, 1874, when the first priest house was built, the following gentlemen constituting the committee having this in charge: Patrick Foley, Edmund Trottier, Michael Krebs, Alie Michael and David Lacharite. The house was put up for eight hundred dollars. For want of funds the stairs and many other things were left unfinished. Toward the end of 1874 Father Jacques left the congregation.

In the spring of 1875 Rev. Caspar Withoph, born in Germany, educated for the priesthood in the American College at Louvain, Belgium, took charge of the congregation, remaining until August, 1878. There was a long succession of bad crops in this state and thus funds could not be secured to carry on the work of improvement in the church property. The church was still without plastering or ceiling and the house in a very unsatisfactory condition when Rev. Dechene took the place in 1878, as the successor of Rev. Father Kempen. Under the administration of Rev. Father Dechene, however, many improvements were made, the church being plastered and ceiled, the house painted and furnished. The funds for these improvements were raised by subscription and fairs. In May, 1880, Rev. Dechene resigned and in November of that year Rev. Adam Leufgen became pastor of the congregation. He took up a subscription and bought a new bell for two hundred and fifty dollars. In May, 1881, illness compelled him to go to the hospital and the congregation remained without a rector for six months. Rev. P. J. Virnich, of Hillsboro, Illinois, said mass a few Sundays in the church during those months. Rev. A. J. Pennartz, like his three immediate predecessors, was a native of the Rhine province of Germany and like them also a pupil in Louvain. He became rector in October, 1881. He found some three hundred dollars in the hands of the trustees intended for the building of a steeple, but the woodwork and roof of the church needing repairing it was decided to use the money in that way. In 1888 Father Pennartz was promoted to the rectorship of St. Peter's and Paul's church, at Springfield, Illinois, and was succeeded by Rev. H. Ader, whose administration was quite successful as he made many improvements and greatly increased

the financial strength of the church. In 1895 Father Mahoney took charge and in February, 1897, was succeeded by Rev. Thomas Carroll, a zealous and very successful young priest, who left the congregation in October of that year, when Father Dechene again became its pastor, taking charge a second time, after an absence of sixteen years. During his administration the parochial school has been established with one hundred and fifty pupils in attendance. A commodious schoolhouse of beautiful design was erected in 1900 and in 1903 a new residence for the Dominican Sisters who have charge of the school. The same year the new pastoral residence was built—a credit to the congregation and an ornament to the city. The aggregate cost of these improvements was twelve thousand dollars, almost all paid down and the balance being secured by subscriptions, so that St. Mary's church is one of the best equipped in the way of improvements and financial standing in central Illinois.

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#### OTIS LITTLE.

Otis Little, deceased, was numbered among the honored pioneers of this section of the state, having come to the Mississippi valley when this region was wild and unimproved. In the work of development he took an active part in early days and aided in opening up the country to civilization. As the years passed he faithfully performed his duties of citizenship and his interest in the welfare and progress of the community never abated. Becoming widely and favorably known he made many friends and his death was a loss to the entire community.

Mr. Little was born in New Hampshire on the 22d of August, 1815, and was one of a family of eight children, all now deceased.

One of his brothers was Robert Little, whose sketch appears on another page of this volume. Between the two there was the deepest love and sympathy and a companionship that was only broken by the hand of death. Our subject was reared in the east and educated in the schools of Ohio. In 1838 he joined his brother Robert, who had settled at Audubon, Montgomery county, Illinois, in the fall of 1838, and there he developed a good farm, which continued to be his home until called to his final rest on the 2d of February, 1872. His remains were interred in the Rosemond cemetery.

On the 3d of April, 1850, Mr. Little was united in marriage to Miss Charity L. Smith, a daughter of Dr. Stephen and Sarah K. (Whitmore) Smith, who were natives of Vermont and New Hampshire, respectively. For some years the father was engaged in the practice of medicine at Wheelersburg, Ohio, at which place he died when Mrs. Little was only two years and a half old. Her brother Stephen was born three days after the father's death. In the family were three children, the eldest being Jane, who married Perkins Mills and died in Pana, leaving two children: Hiram M., now principal of a school at Delaware, Ohio; and Sarah J., wife of Clinton Howard, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work. Stephen M. Smith, the youngest of the family, was married in Ohio to Nancy Thompson and subsequently made his home in Pana, Illinois, where his death occurred. Of his six children two are still living: J. Will, who is also represented in this volume; and Mrs. Elizabeth J. Weaver, of Pana. On the 14th of April, 1848, Mrs. Little came to Illinois in company with her mother and brother, the journey being made by steamboat to St. Louis and thence across the country by road to Audubon, Montgomery county. Mrs.

Smith took up a farm on the prairie, and for the second time assisted in the development of a new state, as she had gone to Ohio about 1814 and settled on what was known as the first grant. While a resident of that state she saw the first steamboat that ever went down the Ohio river, it being built at Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. From her early home in New Hampshire she made the trip to Ohio in a spring wagon. She was related to Nathaniel Whitmore, who went to sea at the age of nineteen and continued on the water for nineteen years. He steadily arose from the position of cabin boy to owner of a vessel. His father was a shipbuilder.

Mrs. Little was reared and educated at Wheelersburg, Ohio, and was a young lady on coming to this state. After the death of her husband she sold her farm and removed to Pana, where she has since made her home, occupying an elegant brick residence on South Locust street. She is well preserved for one of her years and possesses a remarkable memory. She has been an eye witness of the wonderful transformation that has been wrought in Montgomery and Christian counties in the last fifty-five years, having witnessed their development from a sparsely settled wilderness into a thickly populated district containing fine farms and thriving towns. She is widely known and is held in the highest regard by a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

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#### I. T. KRAMER.

I. T. Kramer, who is now successfully engaged in general farming and stock-raising on section 1, Bear Creek township, was born on the 4th of July, 1862, in Sangamon county, Illinois, where his parents, John E. and Eliza Jane (Beam) Kramer, still continue to reside. The father is a native of

Pennsylvania. In the county of his nativity our subject was reared and educated in much the usual manner of farmer boys, pursuing his studies in the district schools and early acquiring a good knowledge of every department of farm work.

At the age of fourteen years Mr. Kramer commenced working by the month as a farm hand and was thus employed until he was nineteen years old, when he rented a farm in Curran township, Sangamon county, and engaged in its operation from 1882 until 1886. He then removed to Prairieton township, where he was engaged in cultivation of two hundred and forty acres of farm land. He next removed to his present place in Bear Creek township and is engaged in the cultivation of two hundred and forty acres. He also gives considerable attention to the raising of stock and the success that has attended his efforts is due entirely to his own industry, perseverance and good management for he started out in life empty-handed and has made his own way in the world unaided from the age of seventeen, when he gave his father a horse and fifty dollars in cash for his time. He has worked hard and well deserves the success that has come to him.

In 1882 Mr. Kramer was united in marriage to Miss Lydia Kelly, a daughter of John Kelly, who was a native of this state. She died in March, 1889, leaving four children, namely: Birdie E., Grover Leslie, Frank and Ruth F. Fraternally Mr. Kramer is an honored member of the Masonic lodge at Moweaqua, and also belongs to the Court of Honor and the Modern Woodmen of America. He is a supporter of the Democratic party and takes quite an active and prominent part in local politics. While a resident of Prairieton township he served

as highway commissioner, and is now filling the offices of school director and county supervisor from Bear Creek township.

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#### JOSEPH MARION LITTLE, B.S., M.D.

Dr. Joseph M. Little, who is successfully engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery at Rosemond, was born near Ramsey, Fayette county, Illinois, on the 18th of January, 1868, and is a son of Andrew Lawson and Mary E. (Gray) Little. The father, who was a native of Virginia, died in 1891, at the age of sixty-one years, but the mother is still living and now makes her home in East St. Louis. Of the eight children born to them seven reached years of maturity and six of the number are still living, five sons and one daughter. Four of the sons are physicians and are graduates of St. Louis colleges, while the other is now attending medical college.

In this family Dr. Joseph M. Little is the fourth in order of birth. His early education was acquired in the district schools of his native county, where he was graduated with honors in 1887, ranking the highest in his class. This class was the first to be graduated from any public school in the county. After receiving his certificate he was enabled to carry out his chosen desire to teach school and successfully followed that pursuit in Fayette county for three years. He then entered the normal school at Valparaiso, Indiana, where he was a student for four years and a half, and from which institution he secured five diplomas in the different departments—the teacher's, commercial, penmanship, elocution and scientific. It also conferred upon him the degree of B. S. He has some highly prized souvenirs of his college days at Valparaiso, one of which is a scroll of his own penmanship representing

Diana of the Chase, and the other is the Lord's Prayer in a beautiful design. As an elocutionist he ranked high and was president of the literary society of the college, presiding at the final exercises. He was afterward principal of the schools of Virginia City, Montana, one year. Having decided to enter the medical profession, he then matriculated at the Missouri Medical College in St. Louis, where he was graduated in a class of eighty in 1899, and immediately afterward came to Rosemond, Illinois, where he purchased the office and practice of Dr. G. S. Wilson, who moved to Nokomis. Here our subject began practice on Decoration Day, 1899, and his skill and ability is attested by the liberal patronage which he now enjoys and which ranks him as one of the leading physicians of the county. He is a member of the District Medical Society and is local examining physician for the Modern Woodmen of America, the Mutual Protective League, the Court of Honor, the Fraternal Army of Loyal Americans, the Yeoman of America, the New York Life Insurance Company and the Mutual Life Insurance Company.

On the 6th of November, 1902, Dr. Little was married in Rosemond to Miss Maud Richards, who is a graduate of the Rosemond high school, after which she took a course in music and history at the Illinois Woman's College at Jacksonville. She has served as organist in the Congregational church for several years and is an active worker in the same. Her father, C. G. Richards, is one of the substantial citizens of Rosemond township. He was born near Canton, Stark county, Ohio, March 21, 1839, a son of Abraham and Anna (Garber) Richards, who were married near that city. On reaching manhood C. G. Richards was married October 3, 1867, to Lucy Yant,

a daughter of Daniel Yant, and to them were born four children, one of whom died in infancy and Arthur died at the age of six years. Mrs. Little is the next of the family. Blanch, the youngest, is at home with her parents. Mr. and Mrs. Richards are active members of the First Congregational church of Rosemond and are held in high regard by all who know them.

In national affairs Dr. Little always supports the Democratic party, but at local elections is not bound by party ties, voting for the men whom he believes best qualified to fill the offices. Wherever he goes he wins friends and has the happy faculty of being able to retain them. His popularity has made him a great favorite in all circles.

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#### HAYDEN and ALLEN ETTINGER.

Hayden and Allen Ettinger, brothers, are well known and prominent residents of Christian county. They spend much of their time in Taylorville, but are closely connected with the agricultural interests of the county and have extensive and valuable realty possessions. The former was born in Taylorville and the latter in May township, this county.

Their maternal grandfather, Stephen Willey, now deceased, was a leading and influential citizen of Christian county, coming here when the district was a frontier region in which the work of progress and upbuilding had scarcely begun. For nearly a quarter of a century he was active in everything pertaining to the good of the community and his co-operation proved a beneficial factor in many measures for the public good. He was a native of Hamilton county, Ohio, born June 7, 1827, and was of French and English lineage. His boyhood and youth were passed in the place of his nativity and

in 1843 he came with his parents to Illinois, at which time he took up his abode in Christian county, where he spent his remaining days. He laid out and founded the town of Willey and he was particularly active in the agricultural development of the county. On the 26th of December, 1849, he was united in marriage to Miss Nancy Blunt, who was born in Tennessee, March 10, 1831, and in her girlhood days came to Christian county with her parents. She was of English and Irish descent. In his business affairs Mr. Willey prospered, capably conducting his interests so that they brought to him a splendid financial return, making him one of the prosperous residents of the community.

In the Willey family were two children. The daughter, Mary, became the wife of William Ettinger, who was a native of Dauphin county, Pennsylvania, his birth occurring October 17, 1841. For a number of years Mr. Ettinger conducted a harness store in Taylorville and was an enterprising business man of the city. At the time of the Civil war he joined the Eighteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry for service in the Union Army and for nearly four years was with that command, participating in forty-two engagements, never faltering in the performance of any duty whereby the Union cause was advanced. He died in 1882.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Ettinger were born three children. Hayden, the eldest, was born July 1, 1873, and secured a good education, after which he remained with his mother until her death and is still living on the farm. Jessie, born July 10, 1877, died in 1897. Allen, born May 6, 1881, was educated in Christian Brothers College at St. Louis and is now associated with his brother in business, his home being in Taylorville. They own four hundred and forty acres of valuable land in May township, constituting

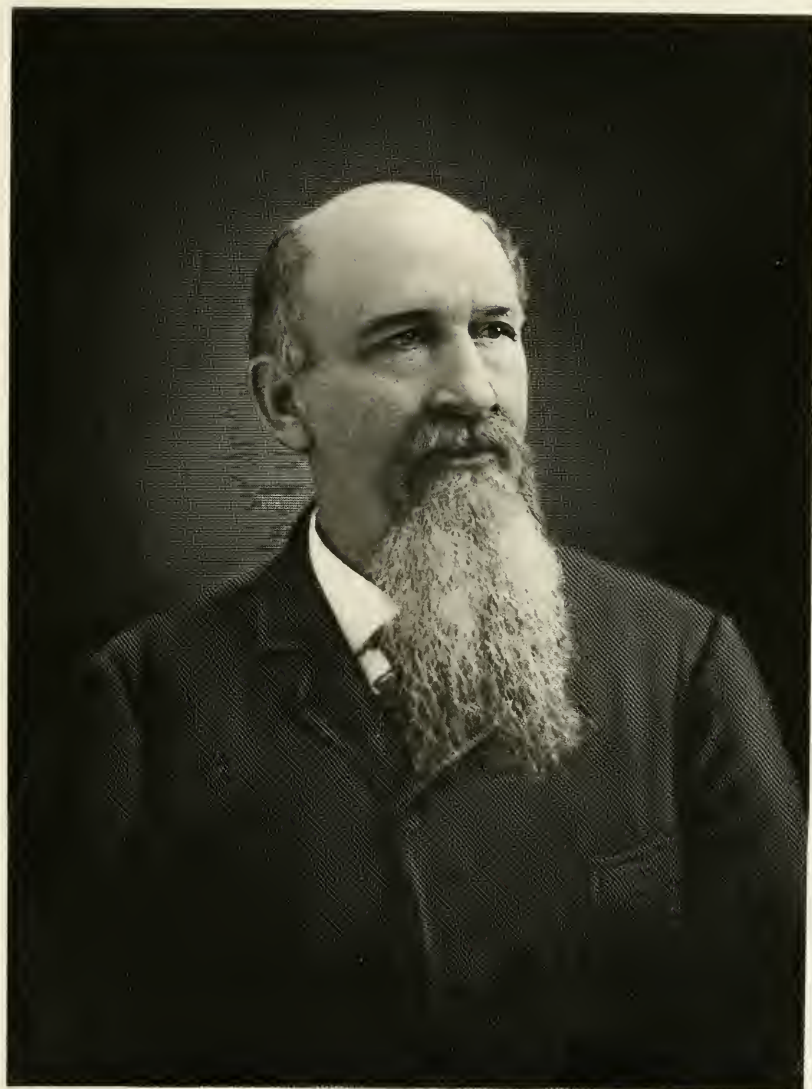
one of the best farms in the county, and also have eighty acres of land in Taylorville township. They spend most of their time superintending their property interests.

Mrs. Ettinger was born on a farm near Taylorville, this county, March 15, 1851, and pursued her education in the public schools here and a private institution at Springfield, Illinois. On the 28th of February, 1871, she was married to William Ettinger and was to him a faithful companion until his death in 1882. After that sad event she took charge of the farm and successfully continued its management. Through her own well directed efforts she became a person of influence, both in the agricultural world and the financial standing in Christian county. She was a woman of excellent business ability and by her own industry amassed a large fortune and estate, being the wealthiest woman in the county at the time of her death. She possessed many admirable qualities and her loving disposition and kindly ways won for her a host of friends. Few women would have been able to achieve the wonderful success that Mrs. Ettinger did under the same circumstances. She resided on the farm until 1897, when she took up her residence in Taylorville and there maintained her home until her death. She passed away September 20, 1899, at Springfield, Illinois, where she had gone to seek expert medical and surgical treatment. Her remains were interred in Oak Hill cemetery and her demise was mourned by all who knew her.

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#### SMITH OYLER.

Smith Oyler, a well known agriculturist of Taylorville township, now living on section 9, was born in Alabama on the 12th of October, 1840. His father, Daniel Oyler,



J. H. K. K. K.



Carolina, in 1780; and was a son of Andrew McCormick, Sr., who emigrated to this country from Ireland some time between 1746 and 1750. It was thought that he was born in Scotland and was undoubtedly of Scotch descent. In Pennsylvania he met and married Catharine Adams, a daughter of John Adams, who was born either in Holland or one of the German provinces, and while still a youth he and a sister came with a colony of Calvinist Protestants to America, locating in New Jersey. After his marriage Mr. Adams made his home on or near the Delaware river, not far from Philadelphia, until the fall of 1776, when that part of the country was overrun by Cornwallis' army, and then removed to Pennsylvania and still later to Virginia. About the close of the year 1777 he located permanently in Rowan county, North Carolina. He had six children: John, Peter, Jacob, Mrs. Mary Groves, Mrs. Hannah Lowrance and Mrs. Catharine McCormick. The last named was the mother of seven children, of whom Andrew McCormick, Jr., the maternal grandfather of our subject, was one. His older brother, Joseph McCormick, removed from North Carolina to Washington county, Missouri. One of his sons, James Robinson McCormick, now living in St. Francois county, Missouri, is a physician by profession and has served as state senator, congressman and a general in the Union army during the Civil war. Andrew McCormick, Jr., had two other brothers and three sisters, namely: David and John, who both died without heirs; Elizabeth, wife of Enos Sherrill; Catharine, wife of John Alexander; and Mary, wife of A. T. Alexander, who was a brother of Catharine's husband. The McCormicks have been mostly farmers, stock-raisers, merchants, bankers and lawyers, with an occasional physician and Presbyterian

preacher, but few office holders either civil or military. A large number have been ruling elders in the Presbyterian church. In early manhood the grandfather of our subject married Sarah Steele, who was born in Lincoln county, North Carolina, in 1775, and belonged to a wealthy family of that day and one noted for great force of character. For some cause they opposed her marriage to Mr. McCormick and therefore little is known of her ancestry. She had three brothers, one of whom was named Henry. Mr. McCormick died in Christian county, Kentucky, in 1822, and she subsequently married a Mr. Howard, who died four years later. She then made her home with her daughter, Mrs. Rebecca S. Long, until called to her final rest at the age of eighty years. Her other children by her first husband were as follows: Joseph Manson McCormick was married in Christian county, Kentucky, and immediately afterward removed to Texas, which had not yet entered the Union. The opportunities being favorable he became a wealthy man. His only son, Andrew Phelps McCormick, served as United States circuit judge for the fifth circuit in Texas and also sat in the circuit court of appeals at New Orleans from the middle of November until the following June for some years. The other children born to Andrew and Sarah (Steele) McCormick were Eliza, wife of Joseph Causey; Juliet, wife of James Boyd; Zillah A., wife of Alfred Boyd, who was a brother of Juliet's husband; Rebecca S., the mother of our subject; and her twin brother John, who died in infancy. Both the Boyd families removed from Christian county, Kentucky, to Christian county, Illinois, and became prominent and influential citizens of this locality.

John Culbertson Long, the father of our

subject, was a temperate man and an earnest Christian, being an elder in the Presbyterian church for many years. His wife joined the same church when quite young and throughout life took an active interest in its work. She was a very large woman, weighing nearly three hundred pounds at one time; possessed considerable force of character and was a great reader. She died on the 16th of March, 1881, having survived her husband about twenty years as his death occurred July 11, 1861. This worthy couple were the parents of nine children, five sons and four daughters, as follows: Andrew McCormick died in infancy. John Turner, who died December 28, 1902, in Danville, Tennessee, was married in 1862 to Mrs. Elvira R. (McCraw) Luck and to them was born a son, Lucian Clyde. Sarah Ann was married in 1859 to Benjamin Scott Pickard, who died in 1866, leaving four children, Herschel W., Ida May, Minnie Lee and Benjamin Scott, and ten years later she wedded John A. Myers, of Danville, Tennessee, by whom she had two children, Hattie Belle and Dora Pearl. She and Omer died in 1888 and Mr. Myers is now deceased. James Marion was married in 1867 to Carrie McCraw, a niece of Mrs. John Turner Long, and they have four children, Drucilla Ann, Jimmie Lou, Oscar Woodson and Birch. He died November 17, 1902. Eliza died when about three years of age. Isabella Washington was married in 1867 to James B. Radford and died in 1874, leaving two children, Edgar Clarence and Viola Mattie. Mr. Radford subsequently married Amelia Park and now lives in Christian county, Kentucky, and they have two children, George and Mattie May. Eudora Clementine was married in September, 1877, to William G. Williams and died the following year, while her husband died about

a year later. Winston Leander, of this review, was the next of the family. Fidelia M. died when about one year of age.

The early life of our subject was passed on a farm in his native county, and after his father's death, which occurred when he was only ten years of age, he assisted his mother in the operation of the farm, attending the country schools as the opportunity afforded. Being his mother's main dependence, he was obliged to leave school at the age of sixteen and assume the responsibilities of the farm and family. In this way he developed those traits of industry, integrity and thoughtfulness for the good of others which characterized his entire life. The Civil war coming on the year of his father's death, the freeing of the slaves and the depreciation of values generally, consequent upon the war, left his mother in very straightened circumstances, which financial embarrassment made it trying for so young a farmer. His advantages were very limited until the age of eighteen, when he entered the male academy at Garrettsburg, Kentucky, his teacher being no less a personage than that most profound scholar and instructor, Q. M. Tyler, whose name is dear to so many men who were boys in southern Kentucky and northern Tennessee. After two years spent at that school Mr. Long returned to the home farm. For several years it was his ambition to enter the medical profession, but his education not being entirely satisfactory and his mother and two sisters being dependent upon him, he remained at home. However, he began making arrangements to enter mercantile business and in 1874 bought an interest in his brother James' store at Roaring Springs, Kentucky, his brother retaining almost entire control. A year or so later it became necessary, according to the terms of his father's will, to sell all real estate belong-

ing to the deceased and our subject bought the homestead but soon afterward sold it to his brother James.

In the spring of 1877, Mr. Long came to Christian county, Illinois, and forming a partnership with his cousin A. E. Boyd embarked in the dry-goods business at Palmer. This connection was dissolved in the fall of 1878 on Mr. Boyd's retirement from business and Mr. Long conducted the store alone until 1883, when he sold out and went to Sully county, South Dakota, where he had landed interests. Two years later he returned to this county and settled in Morrisonville, where he owned a general store in partnership with his brother-in-law, A. M. Hewitt, under the firm name of Hewitt & Long. He continued to carry on business at this place until 1894, when he sold out but again resumed business in 1896, and continued it until May 16, 1902, when he retired.

On the 19th of June, 1878, Mr. Long was united in marriage to Miss Hannah L. Hewitt, of Taylorville, the ceremony being performed by Rev. E. P. Rankin, a Presbyterian minister of Morrisonville. Her parents were William T. and Anna (Gibson) Hewitt, her father being a pioneer settler and one of the most widely known men of this county. He was born in Stafford county, Virginia, January 15, 1816, and when sixteen years of age removed to Christian county, Kentucky, where he married Anna Gibson, who was born there in 1821 and died June 8, 1857. She was a woman of piety and was noted for her benevolent and amiable disposition and for her charity to the poor. In 1842 Mr. Hewitt came to Christian county, Illinois, where he became a wealthy farmer and stock-raiser. He was a well educated man, of sterling integrity, and in his death, which occurred November 24, 1890, the community realized that it

had lost a valued citizen. About three years after the death of his first wife he married Mary R. Wilcockson, a daughter of Colonel John H. H. Wilcockson, of Christian county, Illinois. Three children were born of this union: William T., who died in 1872; Lee D., who married Ella Russell; and Omer B. The children of the first marriage were Francis M., who died in 1872; Olive C., wife of Joseph S. Wallace; Aurelius M., who married Florence Anderson; James Byron, who died in 1869; Laura J., wife of J. L. Boyd; and Hannah L., now Mrs. Long. The last named was born in this county September 23, 1856, and was only eight months old when her mother died. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Long were born two children but the elder died in infancy. The other, Troy Lovell, was born December 27, 1881.

In politics Mr. Long was a Democrat and he was honored with numerous local offices, including that of supervisor of Ricks township. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity in high rank and at his death, which occurred May 28, 1903, he was laid to rest in the Taylorville cemetery with Masonic honors. He was a fine looking man, of strong personality and firm determination, was broad minded and liberal in his views, and had a high sense of honor. Added to these qualities, he was a loving husband, a kind and indulgent father, generous and hospitable, a liberal supporter of charitable and church work, and a successful business man. His death occasioned the deepest regret throughout the community and Christian county thereby lost one of its most valued citizens. Mrs. Long is an earnest worker and active member in the Presbyterian church and occupies a position of social prominence in the city where she makes her home.

## GEORGE V. PENWELL.

For many years George V. Penwell made his home in Pana and was prominently identified with her upbuilding and prosperity, especially along commercial and industrial lines. He is a man of superior business ability and sound judgment and has won that prosperity which is the merited reward of honorable effort. As a citizen he was always thoroughly interested in whatever tended to promote the welfare of the community in which he resided.

Mr. Penwell was born in Laporte, Indiana, on the 6th of February, 1846, and came to Pana in January, 1869. He was first clerk and afterward manager of a store owned by Kleeman Goldstein of Shelbyville, Illinois, and in 1870, in partnership with Benjamin Goldstein, purchased the branch store belonging to his employer at Pana. The firm finally became George V. Penwell & Sons and so exists to-day. As his financial resources increased Mr. Penwell extended his efforts to various fields of business, all of which he successfully operated. In connection with Messrs. Kitchell & Overholt he organized a coal mining company and sunk a shaft to the coal vein in March, 1888. In December of the same year he bought the interests of his associates in this enterprise and called the property the Penwell mine, under which name it has since been worked. His sons becoming interested in the business the company was incorporated on the 4th of January, 1904, as the Penwell Coal Mining Company with the following officers: George V. Penwell, president; Claude T. Penwell, vice president; and Warren Penwell, secretary and treasurer.

In 1893 Mr. Penwell of this review removed to Chicago and from that point has since superintended his invested interests, which have become extensive and valuable.

He assisted in organizing the Citizen's Building & Loan Association of Pana, of which he was treasurer for sixteen years. He is still connected with the store of George V. Penwell & Sons at Pana and the Penwell & Klar Mercantile Company, of Hillsboro, Illinois, and is also interested in iron mining in Michigan.

On May 21, 1867, Mr. Penwell was united in marriage to Miss Isabel Warren and to them were born four children, of whom three are still living, namely: Warren, whose sketch follows this, is the oldest. Orville E., who married Eva Brown, is manager of the store of George V. Penwell & Sons at Pana, is treasurer of the Citizens' Building & Loan Association of the same place, and a director of the Penwell & Klar Mercantile Company of Hillsboro. Max H., who married Florence Perryman and has two children, Bruce and Kenneth, is connected with the store at Pana, being a member of the firm. Mrs. Isabel Warren Penwell died March 31, 1873, and Mr. Penwell was married in May, 1874, to Myra Tutt, by whom he had one son, Claude Tutt Penwell, now superintendent of the mines at Pana.

Mr. Penwell is a self-made man. He came to Pana practically empty-handed and has been one of the leading factors in the upbuilding of the town, controlling business enterprises of magnitude that have largely promoted public prosperity as well as advanced his individual success. His business methods have been straightforward and his wealth has been won through the utilization of opportunities and through the exercise of his native talents and acquired ability. He has always given his political support to the Republican party but has never consented to hold office, save that of president of the school board.



Yours Truly  
Geo. W. Russell



## WARREN PENWELL.

Warren Penwell, a coal operator living in Pana, is managing important and extensive business interests which are of value to the community as well as to the owners because of their promotion of commercial and industrial activity, whereon the prosperity of any town or city depends. The name of Penwell has long figured prominently in the trade annals of this part of the state and because of his active connection with various important enterprises Warren Penwell has become a leading citizen of Christian county.

A native son of Pana, he was born February 6, 1869, a son of George V. and Isabel (Warren) Penwell. He acquired his early education in the schools of Pana and pursued a business course in Springfield, Illinois, after which he matriculated in Blackburn University, at Carlinville, this state, therein continuing his studies for one year. Upon his return to Pana he entered his father's office in April, 1889, and has since been connected with the coal mining interests. When his father removed to Chicago he took charge of the mine and has since been its manager in connection with his brother, Claude T. The business has been incorporated under the firm style of the Penwell Coal Mining Company with George V. Penwell as president; Claude T. Penwell, vice-president and superintendent of the mine; and Warren Penwell, secretary and treasurer. Our subject also has charge of the office. Three hundred men are now given employment in the mines. There is a large annual output, in connection with which much business has to be transacted in placing the product on the market.

Mr. Penwell is a young man of resourceful business ability and in addition to his mining operations he is now the president

of the Paddock Lumber Company; one of the directors of the Pana Building & Loan Association; is treasurer of the Pana & Christian County Telephone Company; and is also treasurer of the Pana Fair Association.

On the 14th of June, 1898, Mr. Penwell was united in marriage to Miss Lora Hayward, a daughter of J. A. Hayward. She was reared and educated in Pana and at Mrs. May Wright Sewall's school, Indianapolis, Indiana, and by her marriage has become the mother of two children: Isabel and Ione Hayward. Mrs. Penwell is a member of the Presbyterian church and Mr. Penwell is connected with the Modern Woodmen Camp and the Knights of Pythias Lodge at Pana. In politics he is a Republican, giving an unfaltering support to the principles of the party, and he has filled some local offices, having served as city treasurer from 1893 until 1895 and as mayor of Pana from 1897 until 1899. During his administration and through his efforts the first brick street-paving was done. In business circles he occupies an enviable position, not only on account of the success he has achieved, but also because of the honorable straightforward business policy he has ever followed. It is true that he entered upon a business already established but in controlling and enlarging this he has displayed excellent executive force and keen discernment and his policy is such as neither seeks nor requires disguise.

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B. F. WINTERS.

B. F. Winters has spent his entire life in Christian county and is now actively engaged in merchandising in Stonington as proprietor of a grocery and hardware store. While there have been no exciting chapters

in his history there are lessons which will appeal to the man who recognizes the force of energy, industry and integrity in the affairs of life, for it has been due to these elements in his character that Mr. Winters has won his success and become one of the leading representatives of the business circles of his adopted city.

Mr. Winters was born April 14, 1860, in Taylorville and is a son of Benjamin and Jane Winters. His father, a native of Pennsylvania, was born on the 8th of January, 1822, and died on the 5th of November, 1870, in the city of Taylorville. He arrived in Christian county in 1858 and established the Independent Press, which was one of the first newspapers ever published in Christian county. This he conducted until his death. The printing press used was the one on which the first edition of the Missouri Republic was printed and which would to-day be worth a great deal of money because of its historic value, had it been preserved, but Mr. Winters, of this review, assisted in cutting it up for kindling wood when it was replaced by a more modern machine. Benjamin Winters was very active in all public affairs, promoting the welfare of the county along material, intellectual and moral lines and to the Democratic party he gave an unfaltering support. In his family were three daughters, two of whom reside in Christian county.

B. F. Winters, the only son of the household, obtained his preliminary education in the schools of Taylorville and started out to make his own way in the world at the age of thirteen. He was first employed upon a farm and in 1881 he came to Stonington, where he secured a position in connection with the elevator, spending two and a half years in this way. For eight years he worked in a drug store and then, resuming

agricultural pursuits, was engaged in the operation of a rented farm near Stonington for three years. On the expiration of that period he embarked in business on his own account, having acquired the necessary capital through untiring labor and careful management. He opened a grocery and hardware store in the building now occupied by the Slaughter store and in 1899 he purchased the building in which he is now conducting his enterprise, carrying a large and well selected stock of groceries, queensware and hardware. He has made a close study of the demands of the public and by reason of his earnest desire to please his patrons and his honorable dealing he has secured a very liberal and gratifying patronage. In addition to his store he owns some land in Stonington and recently he has purchased eighty acres of land in Kansas.

In March, 1884, was celebrated the marriage of B. F. Winters and Miss Mary E. Emerson, a daughter of Richard Emerson, an early settler of Christian county who in pioneer times entered land near Stonington from the government. Unto him and his wife have been born two children: Earl E., who is now a student in the high school of Taylorville; and Ethel, who is also pursuing her education here. Mr. Winters and his family belong to the Methodist Episcopal church and in social circles occupy an enviable position. Recently he has erected a fine residence of nine rooms on the main street of the town. It is heated by furnace, supplied with a bath room and is modern in every particular, and not the least of the charms of this home is its gracious and free-hearted hospitality. Mr. Winters' views upon the temperance question have led him to give an earnest support to the Prohibition party. He has served as tax collector and has been a member of the town board of

Stonington. In public affairs he is progressive, desiring the substantial upbuilding of the city along beneficial lines and has been a co-operant factor in many measures resulting in the public good. He represents one of the old and honored pioneer families of Christian county and in this section of the state, where his entire life has been passed, he is known as a man of firm purpose, of unquestioned integrity and of marked strength of character.

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#### PROFESSOR W. E. ANDREWS.

The name of Professor W. E. Andrews, of Taylorville, is well known in educational circles throughout the state and all who are acquainted with his work or have listened to his clear, practical and progressive ideas as advanced before county and state educational associations, speak of him in terms of highest praise. He is indeed an active factor in intellectual development in Christian county and Illinois. In the city where he makes his home and where his social nature is best known, he is a most popular gentleman; the circle of his friends being almost co-extensive with the circle of his acquaintances.

Professor Andrews is a native of Macoupin county, Illinois, and his early education was acquired in its public schools. This was supplemented by a study in an academy at Brighton, Illinois. There he was fortunate in being under the instruction of a learned and capable educator, who was a graduate of Dartmouth College and a former principal of the schools of Lynn, Massachusetts. His collegiate work was done in Blackburn University, from which institution he was graduated with the class of '84. He was honored with the presidency of the class and while he made marked advance in his

studies, his genial nature rendered him a favorite with his fellow students. He displayed special aptitude in mathematical work and because of this was chosen in 1884 by the board of trustees of his alma mater as assistant instructor in mathematics. For three years he engaged in teaching higher mathematics, analytical and descriptive geometry and differential and integral calculus. He also had charge of classes in botany, Cicero De Amicitia and De Senectute and Horace. In 1887 he was chosen to fill the chair of natural science as the successor of one who had occupied it for eighteen years. Professor Andrews was then a young man of twenty-four years, but he discharged the duties of the new position with marked capability and occupied that chair for ten years. In 1888, because of advanced study and work in connection with his specialties, he was awarded the degree of Master of Arts.

In 1894 a shrinkage in the endowment of the college made it necessary to decrease the salaries proportionately, so Professor Andrews accepted the principalship of the township high school of Taylorville. A contemporary publication, in speaking of this step in his life, said: "He was induced to accept this position because of his conviction that this school presents a great opportunity to one who seeks a useful career." Under his principalship the corps of teachers has been strengthened, the enrollment continually increased, absence and tardiness reduced to a minimum, and the school has been accepted as a preparatory school by the leading state universities and the best colleges. In addition to a large working library in natural science Professor Andrews has an extensive equipment of scientific apparatus and appliances and a large collection of plants and birds. He has done much

original investigation in the physical sciences and was among the first in the state to repeat Roentgen's experiments with the X-rays. In the midst of busy summers of research and study, he has twice pursued post-graduate work in Harvard University. At his first examination for a state teacher's certificate he was awarded the life certificate in Illinois. He has held a license as conductor of teachers' institutes in this state under the last three state superintendents, and for the past fifteen years has done most able work in different county institutes. He enrolled in the non-resident graduate department of the Illinois Wesleyan University, and in 1899, having passed the required examinations, the degree of Doctor of Philosophy was conferred upon him. He has frequently contributed valuable papers to the teachers' association in Springfield and also to the Central Illinois Teachers' Association. His experience as a teacher, though extending over a number of years, has embraced connection with but two schools, a fact which stands in incontrovertible evidence of his marked ability and the appreciation of his services by the public. He is a man of scholarly attainments, wide research and broad humanitarian principles. He always regards his work as worthy his best efforts. He will always be a student and is now an active member of the St. Louis Academy of Science, the National Educational Association and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Professor Andrews was married in 1887 to Miss Alberta Taggart, of Carlinville, Illinois, and they have two children: Virginia, a high school student; and Alberta, who is attending the graded schools. Mrs. Andrews is a member of the Woman's Club of Taylorville and is chairman of the educational department. She is also a director of

the new Carnegie Library. Professor Andrews is a Royal Arch Mason, belonging to the blue lodge and chapter of Taylorville. In the Presbyterian church he is serving as elder and for several years has been Sunday-school superintendent.

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#### JOHN WHEELER BROWN.

J. Wheeler Brown was born in North Stonington, Connecticut, September 17, 1838, being the oldest of three children. His father, John Denison Brown, was born in North Stonington, March 23, 1809, and was the oldest son of John and Sally (Denison) Brown. His ancestry, however, traces back to Lady Ann Bordell, a member of the English nobility, who took quite a prominent part in the early settlement of this country. After arriving at years of maturity the father of our subject was joined in wedlock to Mary Ann Wheeler, who was the third in a family of twelve children born to Peres and Desire (Wheeler) Wheeler. The mother of our subject traced her ancestry back thirty-five generations through Godfrey I; Henry II; Lambert of Lorain I; Charles, Duke of Lorain; Louis III, King of France; Charles III, King of France; Louis II, King of France; Charles II, King of France; Louis I, King of France; to Emperor Charlemagne, born in 742, A. D. The Wheelers were also connected with the Grant family, of whom General U. S. Grant was the most illustrious member. The Grants, Wheelers, Denisons and Browns were represented in the Revolutionary war.

In 1839 John Denison Brown came to Christian county and located on a farm in Stonington township which now belongs to his son J. Wheeler. Upon that place two daughters were born: Mrs. Mary Desire Forrester, who is the mother of James II.



J. M. Brown



Forrester, now county judge, and Mrs. Dr. Mally, of Galesburg; and Mrs. Sally Ann Mulberry, who died, leaving three children: Mrs. N. D. Bond, Grace Pearl Mulberry and Frank B. Mulberry, who is now connected with J. W. Brown & Company's bank at Mount Auburn. When thirty-two years of age John D. Brown, together with his wife, united with the Baptist church at Stonington, Illinois, and seven years later was chosen one of its deacons, in which capacity he acted until his death in 1879. He was active to the last in anything that concerned the church and its welfare. His first wife died in 1854 and two years later he married Miss N. C. Wentworth, sister of Erastus Wentworth, a missionary to China and for several years editor of the Ladies' Home Journal, published by the Methodist Book Concern at Cincinnati. She died in 1870 and after the marriage of his daughter Sally and the death of his mother in 1877, Mr. Brown then made his home with our subject until he, too, was called away in 1879.

J. Wheeler Brown had but limited educational advantages during his youth, attending school only three months each year. His first teacher was the late Judge William Hammer, who died in Decatur a few years ago, and under his instruction Mr. Brown pursued his primary studies during the winter of 1843-4. His best mental training, however, was received continuously from his father, who was a well educated man, taking an active interest in educational affairs, and who, in connection with Judge William S. Fink of Taylorville, was instrumental in securing the services of two teachers from the school of Governor Slade, of Massachusetts, Miss Burnham teaching in Stonington and Miss Holland in Taylorville for one year. Mr. Brown grew up much as other boys in

a new country, working on his father's farm and going from home but little and then only to the nearest towns. He never went any farther than Springfield until nearly grown.

On the 30th of September, 1862, Mr. Brown was united in marriage to Miss Rebecca T. Catherwood, a daughter of Joseph and Lydia Catherwood and one of a family of ten children. Four of the number, Catherine, Joseph, Allen and Mrs. Brown, are now deceased, the living being John, William T., Mrs. Eliza J. Bonnel, J. Steele, Lydia A. and Mrs. H. Emma Powell. Mrs. Brown was born in Union county, Ohio, and when quite young removed with her parents to Guernsey county, that state, where her father died. The family afterward removed to Shelby county, Illinois, in 1857, and two years later came to Stonington, Christian county.

For twenty-eight years after they were married Mr. and Mrs. Brown lived on their farm and the old homestead which his father purchased in 1839. In September, 1890, they removed to Normal, Illinois, where they spent two years, in order that the two younger children might attend the State Normal School, the two oldest having married previous to this. On the 1st of August, 1892, they became residents of Moweaqua, Shelby county, and in connection with the late D. P. Keller and William C. Miller, now of Decatur, Mr. Brown established the Commercial Bank, under the firm style of Miller, Brown & Keller. This institution opened its doors for business on the 2nd of December, 1892. Mr. Brown remained in Moweaqua until the 1st of May, 1896, when he came back to Blue Mound, having in connection with Ralph Ayers purchased the bank of J. M. Brownback & Company. About the 1st of May, 1900, he purchased his partner's interest in the bank at Blue

Mound, and in turn sold his interest in the Commercial Bank at Moweaqua. He then transferred one-third of the Blue Mound bank to his son, John Arthur Brown, and the present firm of J. W. Brown & Company was established.

After the removal of the family to Blue Mound, Mr. Brown was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died on the 2d of October, 1896, and was laid to rest in the old Stonington cemetery. Her mother, Mrs. Lydia Catherwood, died the following spring in Taylorville. She was noted for her strong religious character and upright life. In the fall of 1867 Mrs. Brown was converted and immediately united with the Nebraska Schoolhouse Class, which at that time was an auxiliary of the Methodist Episcopal church of Moweaqua. In 1890 she transferred her membership to the church at Normal, and after the removal of the family to Moweaqua she joined the Methodist church at that place, remaining a consistent member there until her death. She took great pleasure in aiding in the work of the church to which she and her husband belonged, being especially active in the Ladies' Missionary Society, and as long as health permitted she faithfully attended church and worshiped at all its services. She was a devoted and loving wife and mother and her loss was very deeply felt, not only by her immediate family but by many friends throughout the county.

Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Brown. Mary Ann, the eldest, is now Mrs. J. Riley Anderson, and is the mother of eleven children, seven of whom are living. They reside on Mr. Anderson's farm one mile south of Taylorville, where they carry on farming on scientific principles with much pleasure and profit. As soon as qualified their children enter the high school of Tay-

lorville, where Ralph, the eldest, will graduate in 1904. L. Grace, our subject's second daughter, is the wife of O. E. Briggs, who lives three miles east of Stonington in Prairie-ton township, and to them have been born five children, but one is now deceased. Mrs. Briggs has always lived in the same neighborhood and is a member of the old Stonington Baptist church. S. Agnes is now keeping house for her father. She attended the Normal School for four years, and at one time held a position in the Commercial Bank of Moweaqua. She has spent much time in travel, visiting all parts of the United States, and is a member of the Eastern Star, the Daughters of the American Revolution and contemplates joining the Descendants of the Mayflower. John Arthur, our subject's only son, married Miss Cora Hubbard, of Evanston, Illinois, and they have one son, Tom Hubbard Brown. He is the junior member of the banking firm of J. W. Brown & Company, of Blue Mound, and also of Mount Auburn, where they have a bank, Carl D. Miller being a member of the firm and cashier, assisted by Frank B. Mulberry, a nephew of our subject, the only son of his youngest sister.

The bank of J. W. Brown & Company at Mount Auburn have new quarters, occupying a fine two-story building of red pressed brick, which was built in the summer and fall of 1903, and is a credit to the town. Mr. Brown has always given his political support to the Republican party, casting his first vote for Abraham Lincoln in 1860. He has held nor sought no office save township positions. While living upon his farm he was called upon by his fellow citizens to serve in a number of local offices, was supervisor, assessor and justice of the peace. He also served as school director for seventeen years. In May, 1845, he became one of the charter

members of the Sunday-school organized at Old Stonington—the first Sunday-school formed in Christian county. In November, 1850, he united with the Baptist church at that place and has held membership there-with continuously since. Fraternally he is a Royal Arch Mason. In his business life he has prospered and in connection with his banking interests in Blue Mound and Mount Auburn he still owns six hundred acres of land in Prairieton township, Christian county—the old homestead,—and also six hundred acres in Stoddard county, Missouri. He was only about a year old when the family came to Illinois, and in this portion of the state he has spent almost his entire life. He is therefore well known to its citizens, and his history has been such as to win for him many friends, especially among the older people who were early settlers of this great fertile county, more dear to them perhaps for the remembrances of the privations of its earlier days before roads, fences, tile ditches and the many advantages that have since sprung into existence were known.

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#### JOSEPH T. LAMBERT.

Joseph Theophile Lambert is now filling the position of mayor of Assumption and is one of its most prominent and progressive citizens. As a merchant he has been actively identified with business circles here for many years, and moreover he was an occupant of the first house erected in the town, it having been built by his father. From the very beginning of the town therefore he has been a witness of its growth and has ever been deeply interested in its welfare, a fact which is evident in his progressive administration as chief executive of the city.

Mr. Lambert was born at Port Levi, Som-

erset, Canada, July 12, 1852, a son of Benjamin and Felicite (Deverenes) Lambert, who were also natives of Canada. The father was a carpenter and followed his trade in the employ of the Richelieu & Ontario Navigation Company. In March, 1857, he came to Christian county, Illinois, and in June of the same year his family came with a colony that made their way to Tolomo and thence to the present site of Assumption. There was nothing here at the time but the railroad warehouse and for a few days the colony were sheltered in that. Mr. Lambert, being a carpenter, erected the first house in the town and it is still standing on Samuel street. His wife had learned the English language in Canada but was the only one of the emigrants who could speak it. However they were a resolute people who had come to this new district to make homes, and they founded an enterprising town which stands as a monument to their labors and perpetuates their memory. The father of our subject continued to follow his trade until 1860, when he removed to a farm in Assumption township and there he died in August, 1861. The mother passed away about 1889, at the age of seventy-four years. In the early days of Assumption their home was the place of entertainment for all travelers. All products were hauled to the Taylorville market, but as the years passed the pioneer conditions were replaced by those of an advanced civilization. In the family were twelve children, eight of whom reached mature years, while five are yet living, namely: Mrs. Bridget Ostel, of Carlinville, Illinois; Davis, who is married and is foreman of a large wagon manufactory at Kankakee, Illinois; Cassimire, who is married and lives in Donaldson, Louisiana, where he owns a large sugar plantation and is doing an extensive business; and Joseph T.

The last named pursued his education in the district schools and in the high school of Assumption, and while pursuing his education he was also employed in a store for seven months. He then entered the store of A. Cazalett as a clerk and also boarded with him and after the establishment of the firm of Cazalett & Lacharite he continued as a salesman in their establishment and assisted in the growth of the business by his loyalty to his employers' interests. In the spring of 1876 he joined a Mr. Ophir in the grocery business, being thus associated for eight months, at the end of which time he bought out his former employer, Mr. Lacharite, and the firm of Cazalett & Lambert continued the business until 1880, in which year the present firm of Lacharite & Lambert became owner of the store, which they have since carried on with excellent success. The store occupies two floors of a large and well lighted brick building, and they carry an extensive and well selected line of dry goods and groceries. Their trade is a paying one for their business methods are honorable and they have therefore secured an extensive patronage.

Mr. Lambert has been twice married. In 1875, in Assumption, he wedded Ann Louisa Griffith, who died in 1895, leaving two sons that are yet living. Rolland is married and is a bookkeeper in the Illinois State Bank; and Sydney is attending school. Cora, aged twenty, and Mabel, aged seventeen years, died within four months of each other. For his second wife Mr. Lambert chose Emma A. Hoover, of Indiana, and they were married in 1897. They now have a daughter, Florence.

Mr. Lambert is recognized as a leader in public affairs here and his loyalty in citizenship and his progressive ideas well qualify him to take a prominent place in public life.

He served as alderman for two years, was for three years a member of the school board and in the spring of 1903 he was elected on a citizens' ticket to the office of mayor. The best element in Assumption, desiring a clean, businesslike administration, gave him its support and he is now the incumbent in the highest office within the gift of his fellow citizens of Assumption and his course is one which demonstrates that he is well worthy the confidence and trust reposed in him. In national politics he is a Republican. Mr. Lambert is a charter member of the Modern Woodmen Camp of Assumption and also belongs to the Fraternal Army. He is likewise a charter member of Tecumseh Lodge, I. O. O. F., of which he is now treasurer and he has been a representative to the grand lodge of the Modern Woodmen of America in Springfield. In all life's relations he is reliable and honorable and his salient characteristics are such as command respect and beget confidence in every land and clime.

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#### GEORGE RITSCHER.

In every community there are found men who by reason of their inherent force of character, their ability, devotion to the public good and well known probity become leaders in public life and exert a strong and beneficial influence in public affairs. Such a man is George Ritscher, who is president of the village board of Owaneco, and is an active business man, engaged in dealing in grain and lumber.

A native of Germany, he was born on the 27th of October, 1858, and is a son of Charles and Maria Ritscher, who were also natives of that country. The father came to Taylorville, Illinois, with his family in 1874 and spent his remaining days in Chris-

tian county, passing away in 1892. His wife's death occurred in the year 1872.

George Ritscher attended the public schools of the fatherland until thirteen years of age when he began working at the cabinet-maker's trade. He was employed in that way in Germany until 1874, when at the age of sixteen years he came with the family to the new world. He benefited by the change for he found in the business conditions of the growing west the opportunities he sought for advancement. After being employed at wagon-making in Taylorville for three months, he went to St. Louis, Missouri, where he clerked in a grocery store, remaining in that city for a year. On the expiration of that period he returned to Taylorville and secured employment in the Ritscher & Lenhart wagon and carriage shop, with which he was connected until 1884. He next located in Stonington, and joined J. W. Boyle as a dealer in farm machinery, wagons and carriages, continuing the partnership until 1895, when he sold out to Mr. Boyle and came to Owaneco. Here he aided in forming the firm of Ritscher Brothers, dealers in grain and lumber, and for seven years they were associated in business, at the end of which time Mr. Ritscher purchased his brother's interest and has since been alone in business. He makes large purchases and shipments of grain and also conducts a lumber yard, selling to local patrons, who find him a straightforward, enterprising business man, careful, watchful of his own interests, yet never taking advantage of his fellow men in any trade transaction. He is also a stockholder in The Metzger-Hill Company, doing a commission business in Cincinnati, Ohio.

In 1883 occurred the marriage of Mr. Ritscher and Miss Sarah R. Daigh, a daughter of William Daigh, one of the pioneer

residents of Christian county. They have three children, two sons and a daughter, Emmet, Neta and Herbert. They occupy a pleasant home in Owaneco, which is the property of Mr. Ritscher. He is a member of the Lutheran church, his wife of the Reformed church. His political support is given the Republican party and upon that ticket he has been elected to several local offices. He served as town clerk of Stonington for five years and has been a trustee of the board of Owaneco since the incorporation of the village, while at the present writing he is serving as its president. His aid and cooperation are never sought in vain in behalf of beneficial public measures and his influence is ever on the side of right, justice and improvement.

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#### ANDREW D. BALSLEY, D. V. S.

Andrew D. Balsley, who is successfully engaged in the practice of veterinary surgery in Morrisonville, was born in Montgomery county, Illinois, July 1, 1873, and is a son of John and Sarah E. Balsley, representatives of old Virginian families. On the paternal side his ancestors came from Holland, while his mother's people were of Scotch and Irish descent, though both families were founded in this country during the early part of the seventeenth century. Our subject's father was born in Virginia and throughout his active business life was extensively engaged in farming and cattle dealing, owning and operating between five and six hundred acres of valuable farming land. He is still living at the advanced age of eighty-five years, and his father, who was also a tiller of the soil, reached the extreme old age of one hundred and two years.

Dr. Balsley, of this review, was reared upon his father's farm and received his educa-

tion in the public schools of his native county. After leaving school he began the study of veterinary surgery with Dr. Osborn, of Montgomery county, and in three years became thoroughly competent to practice. Since then he has devoted his entire time and attention to his profession and has met with marked success in practice wherever he has gone. In 1900 he came to Morrisonville, where he at first met with competition but as he soon gained most of the practice he has had the entire field to himself for the past three years. His skill and ability have become widely recognized and he now receives calls from twelve to eighteen miles in every direction around Morrisonville. Purchasing three lots in the city he has erected thereon a neat and substantial residence and is now building a hospital stable, where he can treat all chronic diseases of horses to much better advantage than at their homes.

In 1898 Dr. Balsley was united in marriage to Miss Cornelia McReynolds, and to them have been born three children: Marion Andrew, Milferd G., and Milton Derward. Socially the Doctor is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Modern American of Morrisonville, and during his residence in that city has made a host of warm friends.

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#### BENJAMIN A. TURNER.

Among the native sons of Christian county who have won success and occupy an enviable and prominent position in business circles, is Benjamin A. Turner, who is now engaged in banking at Edinburg. His salient characteristics are determination, diligence and keen sagacity and upon these he has builded his prosperity, winning high and well merited measure of success. He is a

son of John L. Turner, a highly respected citizen of Taylorville. The birth of our subject occurred in Taylorville on the 23d of July, 1868, and he was educated in the public schools, continuing his studies until he was graduated in the high school with the class of 1886. He then further prepared for the practical and responsible duties of life by pursuing a commercial course in the Jacksonville Business College, in which he was graduated in 1887. On completing his studies there he came to Edinburg, where he entered the employ of George P. Harrington, a banker with whom he continued until Mr. Harrington's suspension of business in 1893. In April, 1894, Mr. Turner organized a bank of his own in Edinburg and has since conducted it, meeting with a much greater measure of success even than he anticipated. He now has a very large patronage and the bank is recognized as one of the reliable financial concerns of this part of the state. He maintains a sound conservative policy that has won public confidence and at the same time his methods are progressive. He also has a half interest in the grain firm of Firey Brothers & Turner, doing a general grain business and operating an elevator at Edinburg and also one at Roby, Illinois. His property interests include the bank building and the implement house of Firey Brothers on the west side. The bank proper consists of two rooms and is supplied with modern fixtures, fire proof vault, burglar proof safe and safety deposit boxes. In connection with the bank Mr. Turner has a commodious and fine residence.

On the 24th of June, 1890, Mr. Turner was united in marriage to Miss Lydia B. Swigert, a daughter of John F. Swigert, a retired farmer of Edinburg. They have three sons: Homer Amos, who was born

June 8, 1891; Ellis Keith, born September 24, 1894; and John Benjamin, born July 26, 1898. Mr. Turner has served as township school treasurer since 1894 and has been a notary public since 1890. He is a member of Electric Lodge, No. 505, K. P., is connected with the Modern Woodmen and with the Fraternal Army of Loyal Americans. He is a typical American citizen, wide-awake, alert and enterprising, carrying forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes and making opportunity for advancement if none seems to exist. Thus he is continually working his way upward and already he has attained a very creditable and enviable position in the business circles of Christian county.

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#### GEORGE W. ADAMS.

Prominent among the business men of Moweaqua is numbered George W. Adams, who has been a resident of Christian county throughout life, his present home being just over the line from Shelby county. All his interests from boyhood have been closely associated with this locality and no man in the community is better known. He has a well established business as a dealer in wagons, carriages, and farm machinery and is one of the leading auctioneers in this part of the country.

Mr. Adams was born in Christian county, May 11, 1858, and is a son of Hon. Joseph Adams, who was for many years one of the most prominent and distinguished citizens of this locality, his home being in Prairie-ton township. He was a native of Kentucky, born in 1833, and was only three years of age when brought to Christian county. Here he grew to manhood and as a life work followed farming. His fellow citizens, recognizing his worth and ability, called

him to public office and he served his district in the state legislature in the winter of 1881, being one of the memorable one hundred and one. He also occupied nearly all of the local offices within the gift of the people, serving as supervisor of Prairie-ton township for twenty years and as school trustee for thirty-four years. After a useful and well spent life he died on the 11th of February, 1903. In 1856 he married Nancy Widick.

George W. Adams received a good practical education in the schools of Bloomington and Decatur, and when not in school gave his father the benefit of his labors during his minority. At the age of twenty-one he took charge of a part of the home farm and in connection with its cultivation engaged in stock-raising, carrying on that work until his removal to Moweaqua in 1892. For six years thereafter he engaged in buying and shipping stock and then embarked in his present business, as a dealer in wagons, carriages and farm machinery. He is also interested in buying and selling horses and as an auctioneer his services are often in demand. Success has attended his well directed efforts and besides his village property he now owns a good farm of one hundred and eighty acres on section 11, Prairie-ton township.

On the 6th of October, 1884, Mr. Adams was united in marriage to Miss Essie Ayers, a daughter of Martin Ayers, one of the leading business men of Moweaqua, and to them have been born three children: Glen, now a clerk in the Review office at Decatur; Ralph and Ruth, both at home. The mother and children are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Adams is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America. His political support is given the Demo-

cratic party, and for four years he served as supervisor of Prairieton township. He is a man of genuine worth and stands high in the community where he has so long made his home. Those who know him best are numbered among his warmest friends and no citizen of Moweaqua is more highly respected.

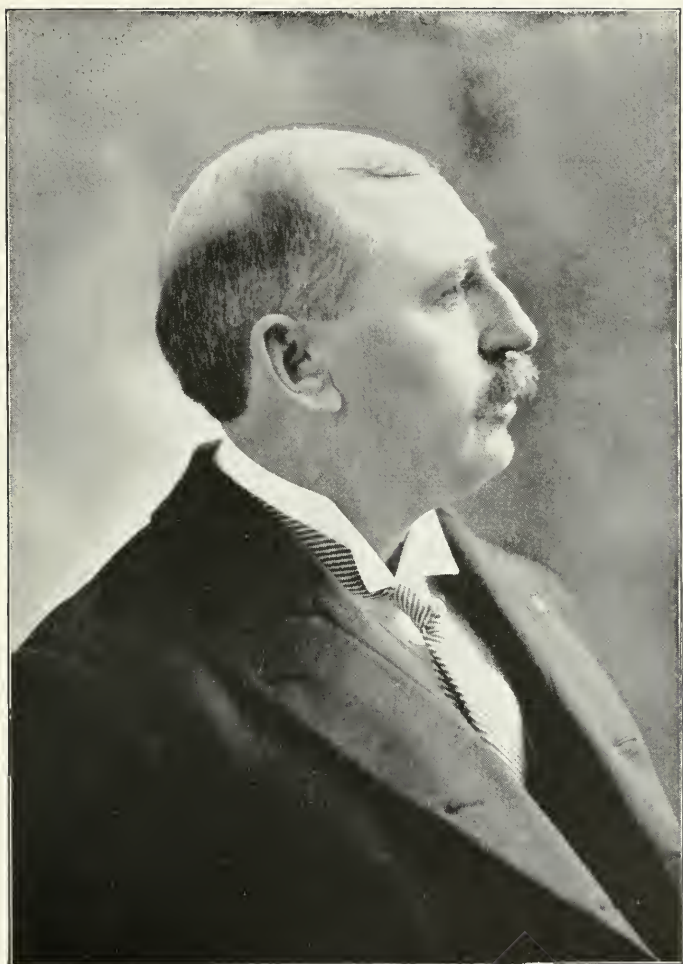
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### JOHN BOND RICKS.

The student of history does not need to carry his investigations far into the annals of Christian county ere he learns of the important part which the Ricks family has taken in the improvement and development of this section of the state. In both the paternal and maternal lines the Ricks family is of English origin and the ancestors of the subject of this review came to America prior to the Revolutionary war, establishing homes in the Carolinas. Richard Ricks, the paternal grandfather, was a soldier of the Revolution, valiantly espousing the cause of the colonists and rendering effective aid toward securing the independence of the nation. At a later date the family removed to Kentucky, where William Skinner Ricks, the father of John Bond Ricks, was born. He resided in that state until 1835, when he came to Christian county, Illinois, settling in Bear Creek township, on section 34, town 12, range 3, west. He had purchased land there of his brother-in-law, Thomas P. Bond. He afterward entered large tracts of land in other parts of the township and county and devoted his attention to agricultural pursuits for many years. He remained upon his farm until he had reached an advanced age, when he removed to Hillsboro, Illinois, and subsequently took up his abode near Springfield, where he died on the 7th of March, 1873. He was

a very prominent and influential man in his locality, especially during the early period in the history of the county. He was largely instrumental in having Christian county set off from adjoining districts and organized, and was chosen the first sheriff of the county, after which he was re-elected for a second term. In 1844 he was called upon to represent his district in the state legislature and while a member of that body he was the roommate and intimate friend of Lyman Trumbull. His sagacity and public spirit made him the champion of many measures for the general good and he left the impress of his individuality upon much of the legislation of that period which has proven of material benefit to the commonwealth. He married Miss Margaret U. Bond, who died in 1865. By this marriage there were eleven children: Richard W., Martha, Elizabeth, Myra, John Bond, Quintus, Marcella, Nancy, William T., Margaret and Newell Douglas, all of whom are now deceased. In 1867 Mr. Ricks wedded Edith Gibson, of Kentucky, and unto this union was born one child, Thrace, who is now living in Kentucky.

John Bond Ricks, the fifth of the family, was born in Trigg county, Kentucky, on the 4th of November, 1833, and was therefore only about a year and a half old at the time of the removal of his parents to Illinois. He attended the country schools of Christian county, receiving such instruction as they afforded at that time, and he also spent one term in the seminary in Mechanicsburg, Sangamon county. Subsequent to that time he entered the McKendree College at Lebanon, Illinois, where he pursued his studies for two terms. Upon his return home he engaged in the stock business and became the most extensive dealer and shipper in the county. He was always enterprising and



JUDGE J. B. RICKS



industrious, and his strong determination also proved a salient feature in his very successful career. He continued in business until 1873, and through his capable management and marked energy won a splendid competence.

Like his father, John Bond Ricks was influential in the public affairs of the county and was honored by political preferment on various occasions. His strong mentality and marked individuality rendered him a natural leader of thought and opinion and at all times his labors were actuated by unfaltering devotion to the general good. In 1865 he was elected sheriff of Christian county, and in the following year he was nominated by acclamation for the office of representative. In November the election was held and he was chosen for the position by a handsome majority. While a member of the general assembly he served on several important committees, including the committee that was appointed to investigate the conditions of the insane asylum at Jacksonville and all other public institutions. He was also one of the committee that accepted the site for the state house and made strenuous effort toward placing it in its present location. In 1868 he was elected to the office of circuit clerk and in 1872 was re-elected, continuing in the position until 1876, when he retired from the office as he entered it—with the confidence and good will of all. In 1882 he again represented his county in the state legislature, being elected to the thirty-third general assembly. He took an active part in the business that was transacted in the council chambers of the state, and his course was ever above suspicion, being characterized by unfaltering loyalty to the general welfare. He commanded the respect of the members of the legislature and at home, in the county of his adoption,

where he was best known, he inspired personal friendships of unusual strength and all who knew him had the highest admiration for his good qualities of heart and mind.

On the 24th of December, 1851, Mr. Ricks was united in marriage to Miss Docia B. Haynes, a native of Kentucky, but at the time of her marriage a resident of Sangamon county, Illinois. Five children were born of this union: James B., Henrietta I., Laura B., Margaret E. and Quintus A. Three of the number are still living. The wife and mother died July 19, 1888, and Mr. Ricks survived her about seven years, departing this life September 7, 1895. He is classed among those who have been active in promoting the development and molding the policy of Christian county and is now numbered among its honored dead.

James B. Ricks, the eldest son of John Bond Ricks, was born near Taylorville in Bear Creek township, December 23, 1852. At the age of twelve years he accompanied his parents on their removal to the county seat, where he attended the public schools and in the year 1869 he entered the Wesleyan University at Bloomington, Illinois, where he pursued his studies until 1872. He began the study of law with Judge Andrew Simpson and John B. Jones, attorneys of Taylorville, and after successfully passing the required examination was admitted to the bar of Illinois in June, 1874. Immediately afterward he entered upon the practice of law, remaining alone until 1885, when he formed a partnership with J. C. Creighton, which relation was long continued. No dreary novitiate awaited him, for he soon demonstrated his power to handle intricate legal problems and a large and growing clientage was accorded him.

On the 23d of December, 1872, Judge Ricks was united in marriage to Miss Pam-

mie L. Gettmacher, of Bloomington, Illinois, and unto them were born six children, three of whom are living. Agnes is the wife of Dr. W. H. Houser, a practicing physician of Taylorville, and unto them have been born two children, of whom one is living, Byron Ricks Houser. Jesse J., who was graduated at the Taylorville township high school in June, 1897, entered the University of Michigan in the following September, and was graduated on the completion of a literary course in the class of 1901. He then entered the law department of the same university, and was graduated in 1903. He successfully passed the Illinois state bar examination and was admitted to practice in October of that year, since which time he has resided in Chicago. Glenn A., the youngest child, is also a graduate of the Taylorville high school, having completed the course at that institution in June, 1903. In September of the same year he entered the University of Michigan, where he is at present pursuing a course in civil engineering.

Judge Ricks has been active and influential in community affairs and his influence has also extended to the interests of the state along political and fraternal lines. He is a distinguished member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity, in Illinois served as grand chancellor in 1885 and 1886, and is now a past grand chancellor. His local membership is with Mystic Lodge No. 64, K. P., in which he has passed all of the chairs. He is also a member of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, being affiliated with Springfield Lodge.

His political allegiance is given to the Democratic party, and he has taken a very active interest in campaign work, doing everything in his power to promote the interests of the Democracy. Frequently

he has been selected to fill positions of public trust. He spent three years in Washington as supervising examiner of the pension bureau from the Hudson district, and in that office had about one hundred special examiners under his charge. In June, 1892, he served as a delegate to the national Democratic convention in Chicago and strongly advocated the nomination of Grover Cleveland. In 1889 he was elected mayor of Taylorville, serving for a term of two years. His administration proved to be a prosperous era in the history of the city. During his term the electric light system was established and many other works of public improvement were put in operation. Mr. Ricks started the petition for the establishment of waterworks. While reading law in the office of Mr. Jones he drew plans, which changed the old town to a village and after one year drew up a petition to make Taylorville a city, which was done. When a candidate for mayor he plainly stated that he would not accept the office unless the waterworks system was strengthened during his term, and this commendable work was accomplished. The water supply was doubled. The original plant worth twenty thousand dollars was supplemented by one worth fifty thousand dollars, and a number of miles of mains were laid. Along other lines of progress and improvement his influence and co-operation were felt and he fully exercised his official prerogatives in support of the material upbuilding and substantial development of his city. On the 12th of April, 1901, he was nominated at the Litchfield convention for the office of justice of the supreme court of the second judicial district of Illinois to fill the unexpired term of Jesse J. Philipps, deceased, and was elected on the 21st of May, 1901, receiving a majority of eighty-three hundred

and forty-six. Already he has proven himself to be the peer of the ablest members of the court of last resort. His decisions indicate strong mentality, careful analysis, a thorough knowledge of law and an unbiased judgment. The judge on the bench fails more frequently, perhaps, from a deficiency in that broad-mindedness which not only comprehends the details of a situation quickly and that insures a complete self-control under even the most exasperating conditions than from any other cause; and the judge, who makes a success in the discharge of his multitudinous delicate duties is a man of well-rounded character, finely-balanced mind and of splendid intellectual attainments. That Judge Ricks is regarded as such a jurist is a uniformly accepted fact.

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#### EDWARD C. WATSON.

Edward C. Watson, who was formerly identified with educational interests in Illinois and is now efficiently serving as post-master of Assumption, was born in Academy, Ontario county, New York, June 8, 1862, and is descended from English ancestry, his paternal grandparents, Francis and Josephine (Price) Watson, being natives of Yorkshire, England. The former was born in 1795 and was provided with most liberal educational advantages, being a graduate of Oxford University. In 1822 he crossed the Atlantic, locating in Luzerne county, Pennsylvania. He was an excellent Greek, Hebrew and Latin scholar and at one time was identified with some work in connection with the translation of the Bible in New York city. By profession, however, he was a civil engineer and surveyor. His death occurred in New York in 1867.

Theodore T. Watson, the father of our

subject, was born in Pittston, Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, March 8, 1835, and died August 14, 1885. He was a farmer by occupation and followed that pursuit in New York and Illinois. In the former state he married Ann Eliza Cahoon, whose birth occurred in New York, April 13, 1837, a daughter of Hiram and Adeline (Henry) Cahoon, both of whom were natives of western New York. With his family Theodore T. Watson removed to Illinois in January, 1867, settling in Fidelity, Jersey county, and there he engaged in farming. In September, 1868, he removed to Christian county and after living for a short time in Assumption removed to a farm near Radford, where he carried on agricultural pursuits until 1883. He then retired to Assumption where he made his home until his death, two years later. His widow is still living in Assumption in her sixty-sixth year. Their children were six in number. The eldest, Mrs. Ada Prall, died in Parsons, Kansas, in 1892, leaving two sons, Roy and Newton. Josephine, named for her paternal grandmother, is the wife of Frank Snell, of Moweaqua, Illinois. Edward C. is the third. Lyda died at the age of ten years and two died in infancy.

Edward C. Watson began his education in the district schools and spent one year as a student in Assumption and two years in the State Normal School at Valparaiso. His own education being completed, he then engaged in teaching with success for several years, first having charge of a district school in Cherokee county, Iowa, and the second year of the school in his old home district in Christian county, where he had previously been a pupil. The next three years were spent in the Assumption school, being principal of the same the last year. He then became principal of the school of Towerhill, Shelby county, Illinois, after which he re-

turned to Assumption and accepted the position of chief clerk with the Assumption Coal & Mining Company, serving in that capacity in a most commendable manner for ten consecutive years. On the 8th of March, 1902, he was appointed postmaster of Assumption and has since had charge of the office, conducting its affairs in a systematic and businesslike manner which gives general satisfaction to its patrons. He also served as village clerk of Assumption in 1886 and at all times has been found loyal to the trust reposed in him. For sixteen years he has been a director of the Assumption Building & Loan Association and for a time was also its treasurer.

Mr. Watson was married in Assumption, May 15, 1890, to Miss Laura Travis, a daughter of Thomas M. and Jane G. (Barrett) Travis, the latter a daughter of M. L. Barrett, who was one of the pioneer settlers of Christian county, settling here in 1858. Mr. Travis was a native of Pennsylvania and in 1855 removed westward, settling in Shelby county, Illinois. M. B. Travis, of Chicago, Byron Travis, of Assumption, and H. C. Travis are brothers of Mrs. Watson. Unto Mr. Watson and his wife have been born two sons: Leland and Myron.

A valued member of several fraternal organizations, Mr. Watson is now actively identified with Brownwell Lodge, No. 451, A. F. & A. M., and has filled all of its offices, serving as its master for four terms. He also belongs to Tecumseh Lodge, No. 683, I. O. O. F.; to the Modern Woodmen of America; the Fraternal Army of Loyal Americans; and the Mutual Protective League. In the Presbyterian church, of which he has long been an active and leading member, he is now serving as elder and is the superintendent of the Sunday-school.

#### D. A. GRISWOLD.

D. A. Griswold, who is now living in Blue Mound, has for many years been one of the most successful and prosperous agriculturists of Mosquito township, owning a well improved and valuable farm under a high state of cultivation. He is a native of Illinois, his birth having occurred in Greene county, this state, on the 31st of October, 1855, and is a son of Edgar and Lucy (North) Griswold, who were natives of Vermont and Illinois respectively. The father came to this state in 1831, and here he prospered in his farming operations, becoming the owner of fifteen hundred and sixty acres of land, which he drained and improved. Five hundred and sixty acres of this was in Christian county.

D. A. Griswold is the sixth in order of birth in a family of eleven children. During his boyhood he attended the common schools of Greene county and completed his education in the high school of Greenfield. He aided his father in the operation of the home farm until twenty years of age and then came to Christian county, where he cultivated his father's land for some time. He is now the owner of two hundred and forty acres of fine farming land in Mosquito township, where the family resided for twenty-eight years, but they are now living in Blue Mound, where he has residence property. He also owns six hundred and forty acres of land in southeastern Missouri. Recently he has become interested in the Axle Skein Nut Lock Company, a new manufacturing concern of Pana. A man of keen discrimination and sound judgment, he has met with excellent success in business affairs and is accounted one of the most substantial citizens of his community.

Mr. Griswold was married on the 11th of July, 1875, to Miss Etna Baldwin, who was



D. A. GRISWOLD AND FAMILY



born in 1856, a daughter of Francis and Agnes (Bowman) Baldwin. Her father was a native of Ohio and was one of the early settlers of Greene county, Illinois, but her mother was born in Tazewell county, this state. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Griswold have been born five children, as follows: Lewis E., born in Greene county, has been employed as a government surveyor in Louisiana and South Carolina, where he is now located. Lucy Agnes, born in Christian county, is the wife of Scott Davidson, a farmer of this county. Marcus A., also born in Christian county, died at the age of twelve years. Harry E., born in Christian county, is at home. Charles L., also born here, died at the age of two years. The family are members of the Christian church and are people of prominence in the community where they reside. By his ballot Mr. Griswold supports the men and measures of the Republican party, and for several terms he has efficiently served as school director.

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### JULIUS SCKOWSKA.

Julius Sckowska, who is a representative agriculturist of Christian county, was born in Prussia in 1852, a son of John and Eve Sckowska, both of whom were natives of the same country. The son obtained his education in the schools of his native land and also in the common schools of America, having come to the United States in 1867 when a youth of fifteen years. He first located in Springfield, Illinois, and there began earning his living by working in a brick yard. Subsequently he was employed as a stone-mason for two years, but desirous of entering upon an independent venture he rented a farm in Sangamon county, which he operated for three years, when he removed

to Christian county. He lived upon one rented farm here for three years and then rented three hundred and twenty acres near Blue Mound in Macon county, where he carried on agricultural pursuits for twenty years. On the expiration of that period he bought two hundred and sixty acres of land in Stonington township. The splendid appearance of his place is due entirely to his enterprising efforts for he has made all of the improvements upon it. He now has a very valuable farm, the soil being rich and productive so that he annually harvests good crops. The buildings are substantial and commodious and everything about the place is neat and thrifty in appearance, being in keeping with the modern progressive spirit. Mr. Sckowska also has an interest in manufacturing business in Pana, Illinois. His career has been characterized by success owing to earnest and persistent labor and now he is numbered among the substantial residents of his adopted county.

In March, 1873, Mr. Sckowska was united in marriage to Miss Ellveria Kregar, also a native of Prussia, and their union has been blessed with four children: John, who married Clara Clemons and is living in Decatur; Bertha, Fred and Henry, all at home. The family are all identified with the Lutheran church and in the community where they reside they are respected because of their sterling worth. At one time Mr. Sckowska was a member of the drainage board. In starting out in life he had to borrow money with which to come to the United States and to-day he is one of the leading and substantial men of the county, his life history showing what can be accomplished by perseverance in the land of the free, where opportunity is not hampered by caste or class. There is no more loyal citizen of Christian county than this adopted son, who is deeply inter-

ested in everything pertaining to general improvement and is most faithful in all public duties.

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#### ALLEN B. SMITH.

Among the leading young business men of Christian county should be numbered Allen B. Smith, who has been identified with the grain trade for several years and to-day owns and operates an elevator at Rosemond. In his special line of business he has met with good success and by the energy and zeal which he has manifested he has won the confidence and esteem of the public.

Mr. Smith was born in Norwood Park, Chicago, on the 16th of December, 1871, shortly after the great fire in that city, and is a son of Alexander and Harriet L. (Hemingway) Smith, natives of Pennsylvania and Connecticut, respectively. By occupation the father was a contractor. In his family were four children, three of whom are still living, namely: Allen B., of this sketch; Florence, wife of James Meikle, of Chicago; and Frances, wife of Harry DeVelde, of the same city.

During his boyhood Allen B. Smith attended the public schools of Chicago and was graduated in the class of 1884. After leaving school he entered the employ of Morris Plummer, a wholesale druggist of that city, as errand boy and city buyer and remained with the firm one year. During the following three years he was connected with the freight claim department of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company and for a year and a half was with the James H. Walker wholesale dry goods house. On account of failing health he left the city and traveled through the west, finally coming to Rosemond, Illinois, in 1893.

On the 6th of September, 1893, Mr. Smith

was married in Rosemond to Miss Mabel R. Dodge, a daughter of P. L. and Marie A. (Chase) Dodge, now of Pana. Her father was born in Montgomery county, New York, June 10, 1843, and was married in 1869 to Miss Marie A. Chase. Her birth occurred in Schuyler county, Illinois, and her parents were William A. and Mary M. (Cook) Chase, the former a native of Massachusetts, the latter of Baltimore, Maryland. Mr. Dodge was treasurer of the Congregational church at Rosemond for many years, was also school treasurer about twenty-five years and was prominent in the affairs of both village and township. As a grain merchant he carried on business at Rosemond for several years and at the time of his retirement and removal to Pana was the oldest representative of that line of industry in the town. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Smith have been born three children but Chase died in infancy. He was given Mrs. Dodge's maiden name. Those living are Frances E., named for her aunt in Chicago; and Marie Antoinette, named for her maternal grandmother.

After his marriage Mr. Smith removed to Chicago but in May, 1894, returned to Rosemond, where he was in the employ of his father-in-law in the grain and hay business until about 1897, when he assumed control of the enterprise. He owns an elevator, which has a capacity of fifteen thousand bushels and which has been greatly remodeled by him by the putting in of new machinery, including a car-loader and automatic scale. He has also built a new barn for the storage of baled hay. Mr. Smith is now a stockholder and one of the board of directors of the Metzger Hill Company, of Cincinnati, Ohio, and on the 1st of October, 1903, began acting as receiver and shipper of grain and hay for that corporation,

shipping the first month two hundred car-loads. He is a very energetic and enterprising, business man and these qualities combined with industrious habits have brought to him a well merited success.

Since attaining his majority Mr. Smith has affiliated with the Republican party and has served as school treasurer of his township since he began business for himself. He is also filling the office of justice of the peace at the present time. Both he and his wife are earnest and consistent members of the First Congregational church of Rosemond and she takes a very active part in all church work. Socially Mr. Smith belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and Court of Honor at Rosemond and the Masonic order at Pana. He is popular in both business and social circles, being a pleasant, genial gentleman, and he has the respect and confidence of all who know him.

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#### FRED W. ANDERSON.

Honored and respected by all there is no man who occupies a more enviable position in the financial and commercial circles of Taylorville than does Fred W. Anderson, the president of the First National Bank. This is not alone on account of the brilliant success he has achieved but also because of the straightforward, honorable business policy he has ever followed. It is true that he entered upon a business already established but in enlarging and expanding the enterprise many a man of less resolute spirit would have failed but at all times his ambitious and progressiveness have been evenly balanced by sound judgment and to-day he is conducting an institution which may well be termed one of the most reliable financial concerns of this part of the state.

Mr. Anderson is a son of the late W. W. and Martha L. (Wright) Anderson, who are represented on another page of this volume. His father was for many years one of the distinguished citizens of this part of the state. His mother, at the time of her marriage to Mr. Anderson, was the widow of Dr. Wright of Carlinville, Illinois, and her father was Richard Randle, a physician and a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church, riding the circuit in southern Illinois at an early period in the development of this state. He was born in Georgia in 1800 and died in Taylorville in 1896, at the extreme old age of ninety-six years. Mr. Anderson of this review was one of five children, and two of his sisters are now living: Grace E., the wife of Fred C. Hawley, of the Paddock-Hawley Iron Company, of St. Louis, Missouri; and Julia W., of Taylorville. Both are stockholders in the First National Bank. Hiram R. Anderson, the brother, died September 4, 1891, and Nannie W. died in childhood.

A native son of Taylorville, Fred W. Anderson was born September 19, 1865, and pursued his early education in the public schools while later he attended the Wyman Institute in Alton, Illinois, and the Wesleyan University, in Bloomington. He then became a student in the Peekskill Military Academy, in Peekskill, New York, and in 1885 he entered upon his business career as a bookkeeper in his father's bank. Through this institution he has gradually advanced as he has mastered all the details of the business until he has attained the presidency. On the 1st of January, 1889, he was elected assistant cashier. His brother Hiram was the first cashier of the institution but was obliged to resign on account of ill health and was succeeded by our subject on the 2d of January, 1890. He filled that po-

sition until after the death of his father in 1893, when he assumed the duties of the presidency, and on the 10th of January, 1894, he was formally elected. As the head of the bank he has instituted a policy that has met with public approval as indicated by the liberal patronage accorded the institution, and during his presidency the surplus and undivided profits have increased from fifteen thousand to eighty thousand dollars and the deposits from two hundred thousand to five hundred and fifty thousand dollars. The bank has always paid good dividends and the First National is an enterprise of marked value to Taylorville and the surrounding country. The interior was entirely remodeled in 1903 and it is now one of the most modern institutions of the kind in the state. There is a safety deposit vault for the private use of customers. The office fixtures are of marble and enameled steel. Mr. Anderson is also a director in the Pana National Bank and has been the president of the Taylorville Electric Company since 1894, succeeding his father in that position.

On the 26th of June, 1901, Mr. Anderson was united in marriage to Miss Adelia B. Sanders, of San Antonio, Texas, and the hospitality of their beautiful home makes it the center of a cultured society circle. Mr. Anderson belongs to Mound Lodge, No. 122, A. F. & A. M.; Mystic Lodge, No. 64, K. P. For several years he has been the president of the Commercial Club of Taylorville and is always associated with the most enterprising citizens in the promotion of any movement for the welfare, progress and expansion of the city. He is a man of unusual social qualities, being royally endowed with those traits of character which win and extend friendship. He is a gentleman in the truest and highest sense of the term and Taylorville numbers him among her honored sons.

## LEWIS BARTLETT.

The deserved reward of a well spent life is an honored retirement from business, in which to enjoy the fruits of former toil. To-day, after a useful and beneficial career, Mr. Bartlett is quietly living at his pleasant home in Mount Auburn, surrounded by the comfort that earnest labor has brought him. For many years he was actively engaged in agricultural pursuits and he and his wife still own a large and valuable farm in this county.

Mr. Bartlett was born in Mississippi, on the 22d of December, 1849, and is a son of Elijah and Marcella (Jones) Bartlett, who were natives of Kentucky and Alabama, respectively. The father died in Mississippi and the mother and her children subsequently removed to Kentucky and in 1856 came to Illinois, locating near Mechanicsburg. She married again, her second husband being Peter Hooper. They located on Mosquito creek in Christian county, where they made their home until 1863. By her first marriage Mrs. Hooper had five children, four of whom are still living, namely: Martha, the wife of William Hunter, now living in Iowa; Mary, who is the widow of John Patrick, and makes her home near Hammond, Illinois; William, who lives on the Sangamon river in Christian county, Illinois; and Lewis, of this review.

Lewis Bartlett acquired but a limited education in the district schools near his boyhood home, but his training at farm work was not so meager and he aided in the operation of the home farm until twenty-two years of age. On the 9th of March, 1881, he was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Cannon, a daughter of John and Martha Jane (Hunter) Cannon. Her father was a native of Ohio, but her mother was born in Illinois. On first coming to this state Mr.





LEWIS BARTLETT.



JOHN CANNON



Cannon located in Macon county, but afterward removed to Christian county, settling on a farm four miles north of Mount Auburn in Mosquito township. He purchased one hundred and forty-four acres of wild prairie land which he converted into a good farm, erecting all of the buildings thereon, and he made his home there until his death, which occurred in March, 1874. His wife died in 1868. They were the parents of three children, all daughters, of whom Mrs. Bartlett is now the only survivor. A daughter was born to our subject and his wife, but died in infancy.

The first farm that Mr. Bartlett owned was in Kansas, where in 1871 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of government land. On his return to Christian county, he traded that property for forty-five acres of land in Mosquito township and then purchased forty acres more. He has since added to his lauded possessions from time to time until he and his wife now own four hundred and fifty-one acres of fine farming land, she having inherited her father's farm. To the cultivation and improvement of his place Mr. Bartlett devoted his time and energies until October, 1903, when he removed to Mount Auburn, having purchased four lots in that town and built thereon a nice nine room residence with modern conveniences and also a large barn. Here he is now living retired, enjoying a well earned rest.

Fraternally Mr. Bartlett is a member of the Masonic Order, and politically he is identified with the Democratic party, though at local elections he generally votes for the man whom he believes best qualified for office, regardless of party lines. He and his wife are widely and favorably known in the county which has so long been their home, and those who know them best are numbered among their warmest friends.

#### WILLIAM E. SANDS.

William E. Sands, whose home is on section 21, Mount Auburn township, belongs to that class of men whom the world terms self-made, for commencing life empty-handed he has conquered the obstacles in the path of success and has not only secured for himself a good home and competence but by his efforts has materially advanced the interests of the community in which he lives.

Mr. Sands was born in Clermont county, Ohio, September 27, 1838, a son of Reuben and Elizabeth (Irwin) Sands, who were also born in the east. The father died before the birth of our subject and the mother subsequently removed to Kentucky, where she passed away in 1849. Thus Mr. Sands was left an orphan at the age of eleven years and having no relatives to care for him he went to live with strangers for whom he worked as a farm hand. He had accompanied his mother on her removal to Kentucky but at the age of fifteen he returned to Ohio and located in Bethel, where he worked at grinding bark in the tanyard belonging to the father of General Grant, receiving three dollars per month for his services.

After three years spent in this way Mr. Sands came to Illinois with the hope of collecting money which his mother had left with people living in Schuyler county but he never received a cent of what was due him. He then located in Cass county, this state, where he worked on a farm during the summer and attended school for about two months during the winter, working in the early morning and at night for his board. He remained there until 1862 and for one year engaged in farming on his own account upon rented land. Coming to Christian county, he rented land of James C. Conklin throughout the greater part of the time until 1881,

operating a farm on section 12, Mount Auburn township, where the village of Mount Auburn is now located. He took up his residence upon his present farm in 1881, having the year previous purchased one hundred and twenty acres on sections 21 and 22, which he has placed under a high state of cultivation and improved with good and substantial buildings, which stand as monuments to his thrift and enterprise. He has a nice home, where surrounded by all the comforts which make life worth the living, he is now living retired, having laid aside the active duties of the farm about thirteen years ago.

Mr. Sands was married in 1861 to Miss Jane Dunn, a daughter of Thomas Dunn, who was one of the early settlers of Mount Auburn township, having located there in 1856. She is one of a family of six children, three sons and three daughters, the others being Mary, Joseph and Anna, who all died in England; John, a resident of Mount Auburn township, this county; and Richard, a resident of Mosquito township. Mrs. Sands was born in Cornwall, England, February 4, 1836, and was twenty years of age when she came with the family to Illinois. She was visiting a cousin, Luke Dunn, in Cass county, when she became acquainted with Mr. Sands. They have three children: Edwin, who is married and follows farming in Ricks township, this county; Charles, who is married and is a member of the firm of Sands, Miller & Company, of Stonington; and Cora Belle, the wife of J. W. Coleman, who now rents and operates our subject's farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Sands are faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church and are most estimable people. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and is identified with the Republican party, casting his first vote for Abraham Lincoln. In 1858

he drove across the country to Rushville in order to hear Lincoln speak. A black flag floated over the courthouse in which he made his speech, it being called the emblem of the Republican party by the Democrats at that time. For twenty-one years Mr. Sands filled the office of school director and has ever taken an active interest in those measures calculated to advance the public welfare. He is a man respected and honored wherever known and most of all where he is best known.

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#### FRANKLIN P. SAILSBERY.

Franklin P. Sailsbery, whose well improved farm on section 3, Stonington township, is the indication of the life of thrift and enterprise which he has led, was born April 30, 1852, in Ohio. His parents were Elias and Sally Ann (Clemons) Sailsbery, both natives of Ohio, and the latter a daughter of Chesterfield and Fannie Clemons, who were born in New York. In 1867 the parents of our subject came to Illinois, locating in Christian county, where Mr. Sailsbery, Sr., purchased eighty acres of land. Later he bought twenty acres of timber land and also one hundred and sixty acres in Kansas. In his business affairs he prospered, enjoying the success which comes as a reward of energy, diligence and determination. Unto him and his wife were born ten children, of whom our subject is the sixth in order of birth. The mother is still living at the advanced age of eighty-one years and yet enjoys good health. She makes her home with her son Franklin.

In the district schools of Indiana and Illinois Franklin P. Sailsbery acquired his education and under the parental roof he spent the days of his early boyhood. He started out to earn his own living, however, when a

young man of nineteen years, working by the month as a farm hand. He was thus employed for three years, at the end of which time he purchased eighty acres of land, where he now resides. As his financial resources have increased he has added to his property from time to time until he now owns four hundred acres of very valuable farming land, all of which is well improved. At one time he engaged in operating the land upon which the town of Stonington now stands, farming that property for four years. He had but forty-five dollars when he was first married and with this meager capital he started out in life gradually working his way upward until he is now one of the prosperous and enterprising agriculturists of his county. He has just completed a fine large barn upon the home place and the other improvements there are in keeping with this structure. When his farm came into his possession the land was all raw and unimproved, but with characteristic energy he began its development and as the years passed he has made his farm one of the best in all this section of the state.

On the 28th of January, 1875, Mr. Sailsbery was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Deckert and unto them were born twelve children: Willie C., who married Miss Sarah Ellen Durbin and is now engaged in farming in Burkhart township, Christian county; Oscar, deceased; Franklin E., who is married and resides near Greenville, Illinois; George V., who died at the age of two years; Evert M., who is living at home; Pearl E., the wife of Chester L. Diveley, who is engaged in the confectionery business in Chicago, Illinois; Bemine D., Stella R., Milas P., Roy and Ray, twins, and Rogers E., all living at home. The mother passed away on December 12, 1893, and on May 10, 1894, Mr. Sailsbery was again

married, his second union being with Miss Harriet Beihl, who was born May 3, 1863, a daughter of John and Margaret (Powels) Beihl, both of whom were natives of Germany, whence they came to the United States in 1842. They first located in St. Louis, but after six months removed to Beardstown, Illinois, where Mr. Beihl purchased eighty acres of land and engaged in farming. He died July 30, 1876, while his wife, long surviving him, passed away September 22, 1902. By the second marriage of Mr. Sailsbery there are two children: Hazel M., born October 4, 1896; and Fern Viola, born September 4, 1900.

Mr. Sailsbery and his family are members of the Reformed church in Stonington and he belongs to the Modern Woodmen Camp. His is a most creditable life record and he receives the respect of his fellow men because of what he has accomplished. In all his business dealings he has been strictly honorable, never taking advantage of the necessities of his fellow men in any trade transaction. Moreover, he has been extremely diligent, laboring earnestly year after year with unrenmitting zeal in order to win success. He started out with no family or pecuniary advantages to aid him and placed his dependence upon earnest, persistent effort, which is the real foundation of all prosperity. In this way he has gradually advanced until he now occupies a very creditable and honorable position among the most substantial farmers of his county.

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Z. F. BATES.

With the farming and stock-raising interests of Locust township this gentleman has been identified for over a third of a century and is to-day numbered among the leading agriculturists of the community. His

home is on section 30. A native of Illinois, he was born in Sangamon county, on the 12th of January, 1836, and is a son of Oliver and Charity (Buckman) Bates, who were natives of Massachusetts and Vermont, respectively. In 1833 they came to Illinois and continued to make their home in this state until called to their final rest, the father dying in April, 1865, and the mother in March, 1873.

The district schools of this state afforded our subject the educational privileges he enjoyed during his boyhood and youth. After leaving school he worked on his father's farm and took care of the stock during the winter until thirty-three years of age. He then located on his present farm in Locust township, where he first purchased three hundred acres of land in 1866. Since then he has extended the boundaries of his farm and now has three hundred and forty-two acres. The well tilled fields yield abundantly and the neat and thrifty appearance of the place indicates the supervision of a careful and painstaking owner.

Mr. Bates was married in 1868, the lady of his choice being Mrs. Joanna S. Ellis, a daughter of J. H. and Catherine Murry, of Ohio, and to them have been born the following named children: Roxanna C., now the wife of Lyman G. Gundy, of Taylorville; Mary M.; Josephine, the wife of Brace D. Shrantz, now living in Calcutta, Indiana; Z. F., Jr.; Oliver C.; Edward H.; Harriet H., who is attending high school in Taylorville; Charles C., who died at the age of twenty years; and Elizabeth A., who died at the age of one year. Mrs. Bates is an earnest member of the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Bates holds membership in the Masonic lodge, No. 623, of Owaneco. The Democratic party finds in him a staunch supporter of its principles and

he has held many public positions of honor and trust, having filled most of the township offices. For seven or eight years he served as supervisor and his official duties were always performed in an able and satisfactory manner.

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#### DANIEL DOYLE.

Daniel Doyle is a retired farmer of Taylorville and one of the extensive landowners of Christian county, his property possessions aggregating nine hundred acres. His has been an active and useful career and one that should serve as a source of inspiration and encouragement to others, for it proves what can be accomplished by one who starts out in life empty handed if possessed of earnest purpose and unfaltering determination.

Mr. Doyle is a native of the Emerald Isle, his birth having occurred there in June, 1831. His parents were Patrick and Margaret Doyle, and the former died in Ireland in 1844. The mother afterward came to this country with her son Daniel, who settled in Sangamon county, Illinois, the year of their emigration being 1851. He had obtained his education in the schools of his native country and he started out upon his business career by working by the month. He was thus employed for a number of years and when he felt that he could profitably engage in farming on his own account he rented land in Sangamon county, where he lived for eighteen years. He then came to Christian county in September, 1868, and purchased one hundred and forty acres of land in Stonington township. As his financial resources increased he added to his property from time to time until his landed possessions now aggregate nine hundred acres, which are very rich and valuable. For many years he continued farming and

his methods were progressive, practical and therefore were crowned with good results. In 1896, however, he decided to put aside further business cares and spend his remaining days in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former toil. He had devoted his attention to the raising of grain and to feeding stock and in both departments of his business he gained success. On leaving the farm he took up his abode in Taylorville, where he now resides—one of the respected and esteemed citizens of the county and state.

In 1858 Mr. Doyle was united in marriage to Miss Mary Kerwin, who was born in Ireland in 1836, and at the time of her marriage was a resident of Waverly, Illinois. This union has been blessed with eight children: Patrick, now deceased; James, who is married and lives in Springfield, Illinois; Margaret and Johanna, who have also passed away; Lawrence, who resides in Stonington, Illinois; Jerry J., who is married and lives at home; Daniel D., who is married and is located in Stonington; and Mollie, the wife of Tony May, a resident of Morrisonville.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Doyle hold membership in the Catholic church. In politics he is an earnest Democrat and has been honored with several public positions by his fellow townsmen, who recognize his worth and ability. For nine years he served as road commissioner, was for nine years a school director and is now serving as alderman in Taylorville from the third ward. He was well acquainted with both Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas while a resident of Sangamon county. Mr. Doyle is numbered among the early settlers of Illinois. When he first went to St. Louis, Missouri, there was no railroad there and the work of progress and improvement in this portion of the country was still in its primi-

tive stage. He has taken an active part in public advancement along agricultural lines and while winning a splendid success for himself his efforts have been also of value in promoting the general welfare. Strictly honorable in all his dealings he has won his prosperity by methods that will bear the closest investigation and scrutiny.

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#### JAMES H. DOWNS.

No history of Christian county or this portion of the state would be complete without mention of James H. Downs, for many years a leading agriculturist and now living a retired life. He was identified with the state in pioneer times, shared in the hardships and privations incident to the establishment of a home upon the frontier, and to-day, having gained prosperity through well directed and honorable effort, he is enjoying the well earned rest from further labor and owns and occupies the most beautiful home in Assumption—a residence which would be a credit to any city.

Mr. Downs was born in Delaware county, Ohio, on the 4th of May, 1837. His father Election Downs, was born in Virginia, October 13, 1803, and soon afterward the family removed to Maryland and later to Ohio. The grandfather died at the home of his son Election in Ridge township, Shelby county, Illinois. The latter resided successively in the different states mentioned and became one of the pioneer settlers of Shelby county. He married Miss Mary Ann Stiffler, who was born in Washington county, Maryland, October 26, 1800. Her mother, who bore the same name, lived to the very advanced age of one hundred and four years. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Downs resided for a time in Hagerstown, Maryland, and then removed to Delaware county, Ohio, where

they resided until 1845, when they settled in Ridge township, Shelby county, Illinois. For many years the father carried on farming there and assisted in the pioneer development of the locality. He died August 18, 1873, and his wife passed away July 29, 1881.

Our subject was the seventh in order of birth in their family of eight children and was eight years of age at the time of the removal of the family to Illinois. He was educated in a subscription school, held in a little log building, attending for about three months in the cold season of the year, while throughout the remainder of the year he worked on the home farm. The country was all wild and his father entered his first land, a quarter section, at a dollar and a quarter per acre. He had to go fifty miles to Springfield to mill and drove his hogs to the St. Louis market, it being necessary to take some teams in order to haul feed for the hogs. Often on these trips they had to camp out in the snow at nights. Mr. Downs has used a wooden moldboard plow and reap-hook when working in the fields in an early day. The family raised their own flax, made their own thread, sheared their sheep and carded and spun the wool and wove the cloth from which the dresses of the girls were made. Game of various kinds was plentiful and Mr. Downs has seen as high as twenty-four head of deer at a single time. He has killed two wild geese with a single shot and has also brought down prairie chickens in the same way. There were also many wolves on the prairies. The home farm which his father secured is still in possession of our subject, also the land which was entered by his wife's father in 1840. Besides these tracts he owns an interest in two coal shafts in Christian county, twenty lots in the city of Decatur, and prop-

erty in Ridge and Flat Branch townships, Shelby county, together with one thousand acres on the Mississippi river, his holdings aggregating twelve hundred and thirty acres in Shelby and Christian counties, exclusive of his property interests in the south.

Mr. Downs was united in marriage to Miss Jane Oller, a daughter of William and Eliza (Johnson) Oller. The father was born in Virginia, May 5, 1818, and the mother in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, September 22, 1821. In 1840 he settled in Shelby county, Illinois, where he entered a quarter section of land at a dollar and a quarter per acre, adjoining the tract on which the Downs family settled. He, too, underwent all the experiences of life in a frontier district. He plowed his land for his first crop of corn with but a single ox, but the fields yielded fruitfully as he harvested from sixty to seventy bushels to the acre. He died July 31, 1874, and his wife passed away in Shelbyville, Illinois, April 6, 1899. In the family were eight children, six of whom reached adult life, while five are still living. Henry, the eldest, died May 18, 1903. Eunice died in early girlhood. Mrs. Downs is the next younger. Margaret is the wife of John N. Warner, of Illinois. Olive F. is living in Fort Worth, Texas. Mrs. Downs pursued her education in a log schoolhouse, seated with slab benches, and she, too, became familiar with pioneer conditions and experiences such as came to the Downs family.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Downs were born four children: Jennie, now the wife of Dr. A. P. Rocky, of Assumption, by whom she has one daughter, Stella, born on the 18th of May, 1886; William E., who died in infancy; Dora A., the wife of John J. Smith, of Ridge township, Shelby county, and the mother of three children—Ruth, Daniel, named for his grandfather, and John J., for his father; and

Ora B., now the wife of W. S. Ridgely, of Taylorville.

While residing in Shelby county Mr. Downs served for six years as township trustee and was always actively interested in measures for the public good although his attention was chiefly directed to his farming pursuits. He always had his pastures filled with a good grade of stock, and he developed one of the finest farms of his part of the state. He built thereon a splendid brick residence at a cost of five thousand dollars—one of the most magnificent country homes in Shelby county. At length, however, wishing to spend his remaining days in retirement from labor, he removed to Assumption, where he built a modern home. It might well be termed a palatial residence. The house, which is surrounded by a large veranda, is the finest in Assumption. It is finished throughout in hard wood, is lighted by electricity and has all the modern improvements of the most advanced home of the city. The plans were drawn by his daughter and submitted to an architect and builder of Decatur. The interior decorations are most tasteful, including everything that wealth can secure and refined taste suggest, and the walls of the house are adorned with many beautiful paintings which are the work of his daughter. Concrete walks are around the house and the lawn is splendidly kept and adorned with beautiful flowers and trees. Such a home does Mr. Downs and his estimable wife well deserve, for he has led a very active life, characterized by integrity and straightforward dealing, and she, too, has borne her part in managing the household affairs.

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#### EDWIN RUBY.

Edwin Ruby is a resident farmer of Taylorville township, his home being on section

16. He was born in this township in 1855, a son of John Ruby, who came to Christian county in the spring of 1851. He removed to Ohio from Pennsylvania eleven years prior to that time and located near Springfield, that state, whence he came to the farm on which his son Edwin now resides in Christian county, Illinois. His wife bore the maiden name of Leah Klindfelder and she, too, was a native of Pennsylvania. In his farming operations Mr. Ruby was very successful and was the owner of the farm of two hundred and twenty-two acres of rich land upon which Edwin Ruby now resides. He used frequently to tell tales of how wild the country was when he first entered it, also of its swampy condition, for the work of cultivation and improvement had scarcely been begun. There were many wild deer to be seen on the prairies and wild game of various kind was to be had in abundance. It was the work of such enterprising and diligent early settlers as Mr. Ruby that led to the present prosperous and improved condition of the county as we find it to-day. In the family three sons who served in the Union Army gave their lives for the Union cause. Henry was killed at the battle of Chickamauga; Washington, after being incarcerated in Andersonville prison for eighteen months, was paroled and started home, but ere reaching his destination he became ill and died and his family have yet been unable to discover where he was buried; Levi while serving in the Union cause, became ill and died at Franklin, Tennessee. There are also four living sons of this family: Edwin, J. W., Albert and Zachariah.

In taking up the personal history of Edwin Ruby we present to our readers the life record of one who is widely and favorably known in Christian county for he has always lived within its borders. He was reared to

farm work, no event of special importance occurring to vary the routine of that life for him in his boyhood days. In December, 1878, he was united in marriage to Miss Annanda Hill, a native of Bloomfield, Davis county, Iowa. Her parents were at one time residents of Gallia county, Ohio, living near Rodney, whence they emigrated westward about 1843 and cast in their lot with the early settlers of Iowa. In 1874 they removed from that state to Kansas. The father was a farmer and brick maker and by following these pursuits provided for his family. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Ruby have been born four children who are yet living, while two have passed away. Those who still survive are Orvil, who has spent three years as a student in the high school of Taylorville; Effie, at home; and Elmer and Elanora, who are in school.

The parents hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, contribute liberally to its support and take an active and helpful interest in its work. Theirs is a most congenial marriage relation and their home is largely an ideal one. The interest of both Mr. and Mrs. Ruby centers there and it seems that neither can do too much to enhance the personal welfare and happiness of the other. Politically Mr. Ruby is a Democrat and keeping well informed on the questions and issues of the day is thus enabled to support his position by intelligent argument. He has served as a school director since 1897 and the cause of education finds in him a warm friend. He belongs to the Anti-Horse Thief Association, to the Fraternal Army, to the Court of Honor and the Modern Woodmen of America. He is a man of strong purpose, fearless in advocacy of his honest convictions, active and straightforward in business and loyal in citizenship.

W. T. BRIDGES, M. D.

In the ranks of the professional men in Christian county stands W. T. Bridges, who occupies a foremost place as a representative of the medical fraternity. He has always kept abreast with the times, having a zealous and active interest in his profession and as the years have advanced he has constantly increased his efficiency through reading, investigation and experience. He was born March 21, 1860, in Fayette county, Illinois, a son of James and Sarah Jane (Sturgeon) Bridges. The father was born in Louisville, Kentucky, and in 1850 came to Illinois. He was a farmer by occupation and for many years engaged in agricultural pursuits, but is now living retired in Ramsey, Illinois.

Upon the home farm Dr. Bridges was reared and his early education was acquired in the public schools of Fayette county. He afterward became a student in the State Normal School of Indiana at Valparaiso, and subsequently he began teaching in Fayette county, following that profession for about four years, a part of which time was spent in Montgomery county. Deciding, however, to make the practice of medicine his life work, he entered the office of Dr. W. P. Gordon, of Carlisle, Illinois, who directed his reading for three months, at the end of which time he was taken ill with typhoid fever. He afterward continued his studies with Dr. Gordon for a year and in 1885 entered the Missouri Medical College at St. Louis and completing the regular course there was graduated in the class of 1888.

Dr. Bridges began practicing in Walnut Hill, Illinois, and subsequently removed to Aviston, Illinois, where he remained for fourteen months. He next established his home in Illiopolis, this state, where he re-



DR. W. T. BRIDGES



mained for five years and then, seeking a broader field of labor, he came to Stonington, where he arrived on the 17th of December, 1894. During the nine years of his residence in this place he has won the public confidence for his skill and ability and also by reason of his fidelity to the ethics of the profession.

On the 1st of May, 1891, Dr. Bridges was united in marriage to Miss Mammie P. Constant, a daughter of J. W. Constant, and a native of Illiopolis, Illinois. They held membership in the Baptist church and the Doctor became a charter member of the church in Stonington, in which he is yet actively interested, serving as one of its deacons, while in the Sunday school he acts as a teacher. His political support is given to the Democracy and he has served as town clerk for one term. Socially he is connected with the Knights of Pythias fraternity, with the Court of Honor, the Fraternal Army and the Royal Circle. Matters pertaining to the public progress and improvement elicit his attention and many times receive his hearty co-operation. The Doctor owns the independent telephone system of Stonington which now operates one hundred and thirty phones. He is progressive in all life's relations and no more so than in his profession, in which he has made continual improvement and advancement. He is now a member of the County Medical Society, is serving as its secretary and treasurer, and was the original organizer. He also belongs to the Decatur Medical Society and the District Medical Society, which holds its meeting in Pana, Illinois. He likewise is a member of the State Medical Association and the American Medical Association and he keeps thoroughly informed concerning any ideas advanced by the profession, readily adopting such as he believes will prove

of material benefit in his work of alleviating human suffering. The Doctor is examiner for the Court of Honor, the Royal Circle; Fraternal Army of Loyal Workmen, the New York Life Insurance Company, Franklin Life Insurance Company of Springfield, and Aetna Life Insurance Company, New York.

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#### LOUIS SCHLIERBACH.

Louis Schlierbach was a young man of but eighteen years when he came from his native country, Germany, to America dependent upon his own resources. From that time he has steadily worked his way upward and is now one of the successful business men of Pana, as well as one of its most highly esteemed and respected citizens. He was born September 4, 1831, in Germany, his parents being Louis and Sophia Schlierbach. His father, a native of Germany, came to the United States in the year 1855 and took up his abode in Madison county, Illinois, where he remained for ten months. He then came to Pana in 1856 and was one of its earliest settlers. He afterward worked in a harness shop with his son and his last days were spent in this city.

Louis Schlierbach acquired his education in schools of the fatherland and there learned the harness-making trade, which he followed in connection with his father until 1849. Believing that he might have better opportunities in the new world, he then made arrangements to cross the Atlantic to America. Taking passage on a westward bound sailing vessel he landed at New York, where he worked at his trade until 1856. In that year he came to Pana and opened a harness shop, in which he was joined by his father. The business has since been carried on without interruption and Mr. Schlierbach is one

of the leading harness dealers in this county. In 1869 he built a brick building, which he now occupies. He carries a complete line of harness and saddlery and seven years ago he added to his stock a line of buggies, wagons and farm implements. His trade is now quite extensive and his business therefore yields him a good remuneration. He has won his prosperity through honorable methods, careful management and judicious purchases and there is much that is commendable in his business career.

In 1858 Mr. Schlierbach was united in marriage to Miss Louise Bucksenschutz, and after her death he wedded her sister, Minnie, the latter marriage being celebrated in 1860. There are four children of this union: Theodore, who is now living in Chicago; Louise, who is married and resides in Minneapolis; Henrietta, who is married and is living in Pana; and Fred, who makes his home in Springfield.

Mr. and Mrs. Schlierbach belonged to the Presbyterian church and socially he is connected with the Masonic fraternity and with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Pana. In his political affiliations he is a Republican, having supported the party continuously since its organization. He is one of the oldest settlers of Pana, there being nothing but a railroad crossing when he located here. He had to build a house to live in because there was none that could be rented. In fact, there was only one house in the town and grain was growing where beautiful homes and substantial business blocks are now standing. Mr. Schlierbach has always taken an active interest in everything which he believed to be for the welfare of the town. He had only one dollar and a half when he landed in New York and therefore all that he possesses has been acquired entirely through his own efforts. He

has earned for himself an enviable reputation as a careful man of business and in his dealings is known for his prompt and honorable methods which have won him the deserved and unqualified confidence of his fellow men.

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#### E. A. HIGGINBOTHAM.

Over twenty years have passed since E. A. Higginbotham became a factor in mercantile circles in Clarksdale, where he began business on a small scale as a grocer. He has steadily increased his stock to meet the growing demands of his trade and now has a store which would do credit to a place of much greater size. His business reputation, too, is unassailable, for his enterprise and honorable methods have commended him to all.

Mr. Higginbotham was born in Christian county, Kentucky, December 24, 1861, a son of Aaron and Martha (Gladish) Higginbotham. His father, who was a farmer by occupation, died in February, 1873, and the mother departed this life in 1863 when our subject was only two years old. On the 9th of February, 1877, he came to Christian county, Illinois, and was reared and educated in Taylorville, pursuing his studies in the east ward school. At the age of sixteen years he began earning his own living, by working as a farm hand by the month and in this way gained a start in life. Having saved one hundred and fifty dollars he embarked in the grocery business at his present location in Clarksdale on the 7th of March, 1883, though the old store building has been replaced by a nice modern structure, sixty by twenty-four feet and two stories in height with a basement. This was built in April, 1903, and is stocked with a good line of general merchandise. He carries ev-

everything usually found in a general store, including hardware, and also conducts a meat market. Prosperity has attended his well directed efforts and besides the store building which he himself occupies, he owns the adjoining store and as a member of the firm of Larkin & Higginbotham has eight lots in the northern part of the village, three residences and an acre of land just at the edge of town.

On the 19th of May, 1884, Mr. Higginbotham married Miss Minnie L. Clark, a daughter of Lee A. Clark, one of Christian county's most distinguished citizens. He served as county judge for some years and filled nearly all of the other county offices. He was a native of Kentucky but the greater part of his life was passed in this state, where he died in 1867. His widow is still a resident of Taylorville. Mr. and Mrs. Higginbotham have eight children, namely: Ida P.; Jessie M.; Eddie Lee; Edna A.; Rachel E., who died at the age of eleven months and twenty-four days; Byron and Laura, twins; and Hulda H.

Religiously Mr. and Mrs. Higginbotham favor the Methodist Episcopal church, and socially he belongs to Mound Lodge, No. 122, A. F. & A. M., of Taylorville, and also to the Fraternal Army of America and the Modern Woodmen of America. Politically he is identified with the Democratic party. He takes an active interest in educational affairs, having served six years as school treasurer, and is now one of the school directors. His time, however, is principally devoted to his business interests and it is through his own industry and perseverance that he has succeeded in life for he had no capital with which to aid him when he began his business career and the success that has attended his efforts is certainly justly merited.

#### A. P. ROCKEY, M. D.

Dr. A. P. Rockey, who, since 1886, has engaged in the practice of his profession in Assumption and is making a specialty of surgery, is so well qualified in his chosen calling that he has long since left the ranks of the many to stand among the successful few, and is to-day one of the leading physicians of Christian county. He realizes that the profession is continually advancing and close study and thorough research have enabled him to keep abreast with the onward march.

Dr. Rockey was born in Baltimore, Fairfield county, Ohio, a son of L. L. and Sophia Rockey, both of whom were natives of Ohio and were representatives of pioneer families of that state. In their family were eight children, of whom the Doctor is the eldest. He attended the public schools of his native town and continued his education in Delaware and Pleasantville, Ohio, and also pursued a commercial course in Eastman's Business College, at Poughkeepsie, New York. A thorough preliminary training well prepared him to take up the preparation which would fit him for professional life as a practitioner of medicine and surgery. He attended his first course of lectures in the Columbus Medical College, and afterward entered the Ohio Medical College, at Cincinnati, where he completed his studies by graduation. He entered upon the practice in Hinton, Shelby county, Illinois, April 3, 1876, and in 1886 came to Assumption, where he has since remained, being now the senior partner of the firm of Rockey & Crow. He is a member of the County, District and State Medical Societies and through the interchange of ideas and experience in those meetings he adds to his knowledge as well as through extensive private reading and

study. He makes a specialty of surgery and is most thoroughly conversant with the component parts of the human body, their uses and the onslaughts made upon them by disease. In his practice his labors have largely been attended with success and he is therefore accorded a very liberal patronage. He has served as a member of the board of health of Assumption.

On the 22d of November, 1879, Dr. Rockey was united in marriage to Miss Jennie Downs, the eldest of the three children of James H. Downs, a capitalist of Assumption and one of the most influential and prominent citizens of the county. Unto Dr. Rockey and his wife has been born a daughter, Estella D. Rockey, who is a graduate of the high school of Assumption and is now pursuing a classical course and also a musical course in Indianapolis. The Doctor and his wife have a pleasant and hospitable home in Assumption and the circle of their acquaintance widens. While interested in all that pertains to the welfare of the town, Dr. Rockey takes little active part in public affairs as the duties of his profession make constant demand upon his time. He and his partner now have a splendidly equipped office over the First National Bank of Assumption—large and well furnished rooms, equipped with all the latest devices for surgery in its various branches. There is also an X-ray machine and the members of the firm are able to care for the most intricate surgical cases as well as those which demand the services of the general medical practitioner.

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#### THOMAS SIMPSON.

Thomas Simpson, now deceased was for many years an honored and highly esteemed citizen of Rosamond township, his home

being on section 24, where his widow still resides. He was a native of Ohio, born in Harrison county, November 9, 1833, and was a son of Mathew and Susan (Orr) Simpson and a grandson of John and Margaret Simpson. Both his father and grandfather followed the occupation of farming. In the family of the latter were four sons and three daughters, of whom two sons and three daughters married and reared families of their own.

Thomas Simpson was only five years of age when, in 1838, he accompanied his parents on their removal to Pike county, Illinois, and there he grew to manhood and was educated. During the '60s he made a trip to California and after spending two years on the Pacific slope again took up his residence in Pike county, Illinois, where he engaged in farming until December, 1868, —the date of his arrival in Christian county. He first located four miles north and west of the village of Rosemond in Rosamond township, where he and his wife began to acquire a competence. Upon that farm he continued to live until 1885, when he sold it and removed to the place on section 24, the same township, at the edge of the village of Rosemond, now occupied by Mrs. Simpson. This is a well improved farm with a neat modern residence well furnished and beautiful evergreens adorn the lawn.

On the 2d of April, 1868, in Pike county, Mr. Simpson was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Pine, who was born in that county, October 8, 1839, and was there reared and educated. Her parents were William and Nancy (Tedrow) Pine, the former a native of New Jersey and the latter of Pennsylvania. Mr. Pine died July 25, 1878, and his wife passed away on the 6th of March, 1862. In their family were thirteen children, two of whom died in in-





THOMAS SIMPSON



MRS. E. P. SIMPSON



fancy, while the others reached maturity. Three of the five daughters still living are residents of Pike county, Illinois, but the sons are widely scattered, one being a resident of Nebraska, another of Kansas and the third of Missouri.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Simpson were born five children, as follows: Sylva M., the eldest, died at the age of eleven months. Ella M. is now the wife of C. E. Anderson, of Rosemond, and they have four children: Lela E., Vera E., Harold E. and J. Everett. Mary is the wife of F. E. McKee, who now operates the home farm, and they have four children: Clyde, Paul, Ethel and Florence. Eva died at the age of four years. Orpha Grace is at home with her mother. The children were all given good educational advantages and the family is one of prominence in the community where they reside.

For over twenty-two years Mr. and Mrs. Simpson traveled life's journey happily together but at length the husband was called to the better world, dying April 12, 1890, at the age of fifty-six years, five months and three days. As a public-spirited and enterprising citizen he took an active interest in the upbuilding and development of his adopted county and never withheld his support from any measure which he believed would prove of public benefit. He filled the office of school director a short time and was township school trustee for a number of years. In early life he was a Republican in politics but being a strong temperance man he became an earnest advocate of the Prohibition party and its principles. He was a member of the Good Templars Society and by his honorable and upright life he gained the confidence and high regard of all with whom he was brought in contact either in business or social affairs. At the age of fifteen years Mrs. Simpson united

with the Methodist Episcopal church, of which she has since been a loyal and devoted member and it was largely through her influence that her husband was brought to Christ. She is prominently identified with the missionary work of the church and does all in her power for the uplifting of her fellow-men. She has divided the property left by her husband equally among her children and in the midst of her family and many friends she is spending her declining days in ease and comfort. Her cozy farm residence is on the hill just east of the church which she attends and of which she is such an active worker.

As a fitting tribute to the memory of Mr. Simpson we quote the following from the *Budget*, now the *Baylis Guide*, of Baylis, Pike county: "On Sunday morning, April 6, 1890, he was holding a colt for his nephew, Alex Hillman, to ride. The colt reared and striking him about the heart knocked him down and stepped on his stomach and bowels with both feet, injuring him internally. He lived until the following Saturday morning when death came to his relief. During his week of illness he arranged all his business matters and made all the necessary arrangements in regard to his funeral. Above all he sought for and found peace with God, leaving a bright testimony behind him. He chose for the text for his funeral discourse Psalm XXIII, verse 4, 'Yea though I walk,' etc. He desired the pallbearers to wear badges expressing their determination to meet him in Heaven. The only thing that he desired to live for was that he might do something for Christ in the way of exhorting the young people all around him to not live as he had done, but to consecrate themselves in youth to God and His cause. He said to his wife: 'Why do you weep, I think you ought rather

to rejoice that my name is written in Heaven and that I am now walking in the channel where you always wanted me to walk.' He said he never knew before how easy it was to trust in Jesus when he have made a full surrender to Him of all we have and are. About two hours before his death he had his wife pass bread around to all who were present so that he could ask a blessing the way his wife had always wanted him to do. He said he always felt it his duty to return thanks at the table but never had the stamina to do so. The funeral services were held in the Methodist Episcopal church in Rosemond on Monday afternoon, April 14, 1890, and the immense throng present showed the high regard his neighbors had for him, over seventy-five vehicles following the remains to the Rosemond Grove cemetery. Elder A. T. Orr, of Mattoon, delivered the discourse."

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#### JAMES E. SHARROCK.

It is only under the stimulus of opposition and the pressure of adversity that the best and strongest in man are brought out and developed. The self-made man is largely a product of the new world and America has every reason to be proud of her sons who have through inherent force of character and indefatigable industry overcome obstacles and wrested fortune from the hand of fate. Mr. Sharrock is one deserving of much credit for what he has accomplished for with no special family or pecuniary advantages to aid him at the outset of his career he has steadily advanced until he now occupies a prominent position among the leading lawyers of Taylorville.

He was born in Towerhill, Illinois, May 15, 1858, and is a son of James and Ruth (Lawton) Sharrock. The father was a na-

tive of Pennsylvania, but long lived in Ohio and in 1858 came to Illinois, where he successfully followed farming. At the time of the Civil war he enlisted in the Ninth Illinois Cavalry under Colonel Jesse Phillips, and died in the army when forty-five years of age. It is there that his remains were interred near Paducah, Kentucky. His widow afterward married again and died in 1897, at the age of sixty-nine years. In a family of five children the subject of this review is the youngest, the others being John W., David L., Anna A. and George A. The sister is now the wife of D. B. Russell.

James E. Sharrock received but little educational privileges. He was forced to leave school when twelve years of age in order to provide for his own support and he followed various kinds of work. He was employed for two years as a farm hand prior to the time he attained the age of eighteen years. Many hardships, trials and privations fell to his lot, but he possessed strong determination and resolved that he would win success if it could be accomplished through honorable effort and persistent purpose. His tastes lay along professional lines and, wishing to become a member of the bar he began reading law in Shelbyville, Illinois, in the office and under the direction of Caleb R. Torrence. After largely mastering the principles of jurisprudence he was admitted to practice in 1886 and established an office in Cowden, Illinois. There he remained until 1893, when he removed to Taylorville and here opened an office, since which time he has engaged in the general practice of law in this city. For two years he was associated with ex-Judge Lyman G. Grundy under the firm name of Sharrock & Grundy, but the relation was terminated in August, 1903, and Mr. Sharrock has since been alone in practice. He is known as one of the most

able orators in this part of the state and in that connection his services are continually in demand. At the bar he has gained a distinctively representative clientage and now occupies a leading position as a member of his profession in Christian county. His success came soon because his equipment was unusually good. Along with those qualities, indispensable to the lawyer,—a keen, rapid, logical mind plus the business sense, and a ready capacity for hard work,—he brought gifts,—eloquence of language and a strong personality. An excellent presence, an earnest, dignified manner, marked strength of character, a thorough grasp of the law and the ability to accurately apply its principles are factors in Mr. Sharrock's effectiveness as an advocate.

In his political views Mr. Sharrock is a stalwart Republican and an active worker in the interests of the party. His fitness for leadership has occasioned his election to positions of trust and responsibility. He was a member of the state legislature during the sessions of the thirty-ninth and fortieth general assemblies and carried his county which is usually Democratic by a majority of seven hundred and sixty-four votes, a fact which indicates his personal popularity and the confidence reposed in him by his fellow men. He placed William E. Mason in nomination for United States senator, seconded the nomination of Edward Curtis for speaker of the house in the thirty-ninth assembly and in the thirty-eighth assembly seconded the nomination of Shelby M. Cullom for United States senator. He also made the presentation speech when a diamond ring was presented to John A. Reeves, the reading clerk of the house. A master of the art of oratory, he is especially happy in his way of presenting any subject and at times is a most forceful and logical speaker, while on other

occasions his addresses are most entertaining and interesting. At all times, however, there is a substratum of thought, feeling and strong purpose that is undeniable. He has held minor offices and is now the city attorney of Taylorville.

Mr. Sharrock was united in marriage to Flora A. Christie, of Cowden, Illinois. Fraternally he is connected with Cowden Camp, Sons of Veterans, of which he is a charter member and he also belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen Camp. He is a man of indomitable will and firm purpose and these have been salient features in his work. He is, however, never bitterly aggressive and his deference for the opinions of others together with his genial disposition and cordial manner have made him a popular citizen of Taylorville.

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#### W. M. STATTNER.

W. M. Stattner, a well known blacksmith of Millersville, was born on the 8th of October, 1867, in Shelbyville, Illinois, and is a son of Charles and Lucy Stattner. The father is a native of Germany and is now living a retired life in Millersville, honored and respected by all who know him. The mother of our subject died in 1883.

During his boyhood W. M. Stattner attended the district school and after completing his education commenced learning the blacksmith's trade at the age of eighteen, serving a two years' apprenticeship. During the following two years he worked on a farm and then resumed work at his trade, being employed in a shop in Millersville for two years. At the end of that time he went to Fremont, Nebraska, where he worked in a horse-shoeing shop for three years and then returned to Millersville and embarked

in blacksmithing on his own account at his present location. He does horse-shoeing and general repair work of all kinds and being an expert workman and a good reliable business man he commands a fair share of the public patronage.

In 1895 Mr. Stattner was united in marriage to Miss Sadie Corneil, a native of Christian county and a daughter of Samuel Corneil, and to them has been born one son, Rodell. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and are highly respected and esteemed by all who know them. In politics Mr. Stattner is a Democrat.

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#### DAVID LACHARITE.

Practical industry, wisely and vigorously applied, never fails of success; it carries a man onward and upward, brings out his individual character and acts as a powerful stimulus to the efforts of others. The greatest results in life are usually attained by simple means and the exercise of the ordinary qualities of common sense and perseverance. The every-day life, with its cares, necessities and duties, affords ample opportunity for acquiring experience of the best kind and its most beaten paths provide a true worker with abundant scope for effort and for self-improvement. It is along such lines that Mr. Lacharite has won a place prominent in business circles in Christian county and is now known as one of the most respected and honored, as well as most successful, citizens of Assumption. He is there engaged in merchandising, in banking and in the operation of coal fields, and the extent and importance of his business interests make him a very prosperous man.

Mr. Lacharite was born in Maskinonge, Canada, November 28, 1839, of humble parentage. He is a son of Henry and

Agatha (Mason) Lacharite, who were born near the old historic city of Montreal and they became the parents of eleven children, eight of whom reached years of maturity, while two died in infancy and one in later life. David Lacharite is the eldest and in the common schools of Canada he obtained his education. After leaving school he began clerking for an uncle and after two years spent in the mercantile field, he worked at the carpenter's trade for two years. In 1856 he removed to Minnesota, where he followed various pursuits and while there he mastered the English language, having spoken French up to this time. For four years he remained in Minnesota and from 1860 until 1863 was in Louisiana.

In the latter year he came to Assumption, where he followed his trade as a journeyman carpenter, being thus employed for a year. He then engaged in contracting until 1869, when he turned his attention to merchandising, in which he has since engaged, meeting with splendid success and adding to the general prosperity by the establishment of a large and thriving enterprise. He first entered into partnership with A. Cazalet and the firm of Cazalet & Lacharite continued until 1873, when our subject purchased his partner's interest, continuing alone until 1877. Joseph Lambert then bought out Mr. Lacharite and became an associate of his former employer, Mr. Cazalet. The store was thus conducted until 1880, when the firm of Lacharite & Lambert became proprietors and have since conducted the business. They carry a very large and carefully selected stock of general merchandise and have one of the best equipped stores of the county. The firm is known far and near for its honorable business dealing and enjoys a large patronage which is constantly



MR. AND MRS. DAVID LACHARITE



increasing. The building in which the store is located is well constructed, being built of brick, and is finely lighted. It is the property of Mr. Lacharite, who may well be classed among the substantial citizens of the county. He is the president of the Illinois State Bank, in which position he succeeded B. F. Hight, the first president and organizer of the institution. He maintains the safe, conservative policy which was inaugurated at the establishment of the bank and has also introduced various progressive methods which have added to its success. He is the treasurer and one of the large stockholders of the Assumption Coal & Mining Company and he has extensive and valuable farming interests, including his residence and other realty and several farms in Assumption township.

On the 14th of February, 1865, Mr. Lacharite was married in Assumption to Miss Lenora Lambert, a sister of his partner in the mercantile business. She came to this county with her parents when but five years of age and has since resided here. Unto this marriage have been born seven children: Mrs. Mary Fear, who is now a widow and has two children; Clara, at home; J. A., who is assistant cashier in the Illinois State Bank, of Assumption; Henry B., who in October, 1903, purchased an interest in the elevator and grain business at Assumption and is now devoting his energies to that enterprise; Ella, at home; Herman C., who married Alta Hight, a daughter of B. F. Hight, and who recently graduated from the Chicago Dental College, since which time he has engaged in the practice of his profession in the Illinois State Bank Building; and Leah, who is yet under the parental roof. The family are all members of St. Mary's Catholic church of Assumption.

In local politics Mr. Lacharite has taken an active part and has been elected to several official positions. He has been a member of the board of supervisors of Assumption township and of the county board, and was the president of the former for a number of terms. For ten years he was one of the county commissioners and has done more than any one man to secure good roads throughout the county. He is a staunch Democrat but places the welfare of the county above party prejudice. For twenty years he has been school treasurer and the cause of education finds in him a warm friend. He has seen Assumption and the surrounding country grow from primitive conditions, having come here when the town contained nothing but frame buildings, while the country was full of sloughs and ponds and much of the prairie was still uncultivated. His business interests have been an important factor in the development of this part of the state, and at the same time he has won gratifying success. His reputation in business circles is such as any man might be proud to possess. He has never incurred an obligation that he has not met, nor made an engagement that he has not fulfilled, and wherever known he is respected and honored.

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#### W. T. SHORT, M. D.

Although one of the younger representatives of the medical fraternity in Christian county the age of the Doctor does not seem a bar to his success for he has attained a position in his profession that many an older physician might well envy. He was born July 27, 1872, in Fillmore, Montgomery county, Illinois, and is a son of H. S. and Sarah M. Short. His father, a native of North Carolina, took up the study of medi-

cine in Cincinnati, Ohio, and has engaged in practice in Fillmore, Illinois, for thirty-five years. He is one of the prominent and influential residents of that part of the state and has a practice that is indicative of the unqualified confidence reposed in him by his fellow townsmen.

Dr. Short spent his boyhood days in his parents' home and at the usual age began his education in the public schools, continuing his studies in Fillmore until he had mastered the branches of learning usually taught in the school system of the state. Resolving to follow in the professional footsteps of his father he began reading at home and soon afterward entered the Marion Sims Medical College, in which he was graduated with the class of 1897. After the completion of his course he returned to Fillmore and for a time practiced with his father. Later he spent three years in Grove City, Illinois, and has now been located in Stonington for two years. His business is steadily increasing and in partnership with Dr. Coe he is enjoying a good patronage. They have a well equipped office and the calls made for their professional services are continually growing more numerous—a fact which indicates that in public regard Dr. Short has steadily advanced, winning the confidence of his fellow citizens through marked skill and ability in his chosen work.

On the 12th of December, 1900, occurred the marriage of Dr. Short and Miss Rena Neer, a native of Christian county. This union has been blessed with an interesting little son, Hiram Coe, born on the 23d of December, 1901. The Doctor and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and fraternally he is a Mason and an Odd Fellow. He is also identified with a number of other organizations of a similar character and he gives his political allegiance

to the Republican party. In the line of his profession he is connected with the Christian County, the Decatur, the Central Illinois and the Illinois State Medical Societies and in attending these bodies has gained many valuable ideas through the interchange of opinions and experiences. He is always deeply interested in anything that tends to solve the intricate problem which continually faces the physician and in his practice readily adopts any innovation that he feels will prove of practical benefit in his work of restoring health.

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#### FRANK W. HOWELL.

Frank W. Howell, the popular proprietor of the St. Charles Hotel, of Pana, was born on Buckeye Prairie in this county, July 23, 1874, and is a worthy representative of a family that has been identified with the up-building and development of this region for almost half a century. His parents were John and Maria J. (Law) Howell, the latter a daughter of James and Lucretia (Stevens) Law, who were natives of Ohio. Our subject's maternal great-grandparents were William and Lovina (Harris) Law, who came to this state from Ohio and settled in Christian county in 1856. William Law purchased a tract of wild prairie land between Taylorville and Buckeye Prairie and to the improvement and development of that place he devoted his energies until called to his final rest on the 1st of September, 1861. His wife died in October, 1863. They had four children, namely: William; Ada; James, the grandfather of our subject; and George, all now deceased. When the family first located here the country was wild and unbroken and covered with ponds and sloughs. There were no roads and fences and the deer roamed over the prairies.

James Law, our subject's grandfather, became a very successful farmer and the owner of considerable land, accumulating enough property to give his children all good farms. He gave liberally to the erection of churches and schoolhouses on Buckeye Prairie and in other ways was actively identified with the upbuilding of the locality in which he lived. He was reared and educated in Ohio and throughout life followed agricultural pursuits, dying upon his farm in Locust township, August 27, 1880. For his first wife he married Lucretia Stevens, who died in 1857, leaving four children: Mrs. Lena Reynolds, who has three children, two living on Buckeye Prairie; Nancy, the widow of Charles Wood and a resident of Pana; Maria J., the mother of our subject; and James, who married Ollie Orr and died leaving two children. James Law's second union was with Letitia Churchman, who still survives him. Of her three children two are living.

Mrs. Maria J. Howell received from her father a nice farm of one hundred and sixty acres of very productive and choice land. The corn crop from this in 1903 yielded seventy bushels to the acre and other grain in proportion. During Mrs. Howell's girlhood wheat was the principal crop and the children of the family used to gather the sheaves and shock it. She often dropped corn by hand and assisted in the harrowing. She has also shelled corn by hand and helped in the harvest field, being thoroughly familiar with farming in all its branches. She remembers well the conditions of early days, when one could see nothing but straw stacks for miles, there being no fences or hedges of any kind, but plenty of open prairie. At that time there were many wolves and rattlesnakes, while wild turkeys, prairie chickens and cranes were thick.

On the 29th of October, 1872, at Pana,

was celebrated the marriage of John Howell and Maria J. Law. The former was born in Indiana, August 25, 1841, a son of John and Margaret (Rutherford) Howell, while the latter was born in Noble county, Ohio, October 29, 1853, and was a mere child when brought by her parents to Christian county. After their marriage the young couple located in Pana, where Mr. Howell worked at his trade of coopering in the spring and fall, principally manufacturing barrels for flour. For two years he and his wife lived on her farm on Buckeye Prairie and then removed to Kansas City but returned to Christian county in 1880 and located permanently in Pana, occupying the same house for twenty-three years. During his last years Mr. Howell was an invalid, being afflicted with asthma and other diseases contracted in the army, from which he died on the 30th of November, 1903.

It was on the 1st of December, 1861, that Mr. Howell enlisted from Christian county to serve three years and was mustered into the United States service at Anna, Illinois, February 18, 1862, as a private in Company H, Fifty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, under the command of Captain Ed Roessler and Colonel Thomas W. Harris, who was later succeeded by Colonel Greenville M. Mitchell. The regiment was organized at Camp Dubois, Anna, Illinois, as a part of the Kentucky Brigade and February 24, 1862, was ordered to Cairo. On the 14th of March they moved to Columbus, Kentucky, and three companies were stationed at Humboldt, Tennessee, during the fall of 1862 and the following winter were on duty in the vicinity of Jackson, taking part in a skirmish at Union City, Tennessee. In the spring of 1863, having moved to Vicksburg, Mississippi, they were assigned to the Third Brigade, Second Di-

vision, Sixteenth Corps, Army of the Tennessee. During its service the command took part in the following engagements; the siege of Corinth, Haines Bluff, siege of Vicksburg, Steele's expedition against Little Rock, Arkansas; the attack on copperheads at Charleston, Illinois; the pursuit of the rebel General Joe Shelby from Little Rock to Clarendon, Arkansas; and the engagement on the Memphis & Little Rock Railroad, where almost the entire command was captured by Shelby after fighting his vastly superior force of more than four thousand for five hours and until their hay breastworks were burned by the rebel shells and they were driven out by the extreme heat. Companies F and H were not attacked, however, being at that time detailed on service at a distant station. The captured men were paroled and sent to Benton Barracks, St. Louis, Missouri, where they were exchanged December 5, 1864, and went to Hickory Station on the Memphis & Little Rock Railroad, where they performed guard duty until June 6, 1865, when the command moved to Pine Bluffs, later to Fort Smith and Little Rock, Arkansas. Here Mr. Howell was taken ill and sent from Vicksburg to Paducah, Kentucky, where he remained about three months, returning to his regiment at Little Rock. He was also in the hospital at Jackson, Mississippi, for about a month. At all other times he was with his command and performed most faithful and meritorious service. He was honorably discharged at Springfield, Illinois, February 17, 1865, by reason of expiration of service, and for a number of years he was a member of Henry A. Pope Post, No. 411, G. A. R. His widow belongs to Pope Corps, No. 190, W. R. C. His brother, James W., served in the same company and

regiment as himself and re-enlisted as a veteran.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Howell were born five children, namely: Frank W., of this review; Mertie Belle, deceased; Margaret L., who is the wife of Bert Guenette and has one child, Evadna P.; Leona Gertrude and John C., both at home with their mother. They all received good educations.

Frank W. Howell was educated in the public schools of Pana and was a member of the junior class of the high school when he laid aside his books and entered upon the more arduous duties of business life at the age of sixteen years. He was first employed as night clerk in the hotel, of which he is now proprietor, it being then owned by Mr. Dalton, for whom he worked for five years. He then engaged in clerking in the store of G. V. Penwell until the spring of 1897, when he returned to the St. Charles Hotel, remaining with Mr. Dalton only a short time, however. He next accepted a position with the Illinois Central Railroad as assistant road supervisor and was in the company's office at this place for two years. On the 7th of October, 1899, he purchased the St. Charles Hotel, Mr. Dalton having died in the meantime, and at once took charge of the place as proprietor. Mr. Howell owns the building, furniture and fixtures and has enlarged and remodeled the place, making it the best dollar a day house in the county. It is a favorite stopping place with commercial travelers and is also headquarters for Assumption merchants, as well as for the railroad men connected with the Illinois Central, Big Four, Baltimore & Ohio and Frisco Railroads. Mr. Howell has eight persons in his employ and under his capable management the business of the hotel has rapidly increased. When it came under his control only about one

hundred and seventy were served with meals each day but this number has been increased to over five hundred. Pleasant and obliging in manner, he has proved a very popular host and is a business man of more than ordinary ability. To some extent he deals in real estate, buying and selling residence property and is a stockholder in the Pana National Bank.

On the 28th of October, 1896, Mr. Howell was united in marriage to Miss Orpha May Chapman, a daughter of Thomas and Margaret (McKee) Chapman, of Rosemond, Illinois. She was born in Christian county, December 5, 1874, and was educated in the public schools of Pana. She is an accomplished musician and prior to her marriage was a good stenographer and compositor, being employed on the *Paladium* paper. Mr. and Mrs. Howell have an interesting little daughter, Marcella Eileen, born August 9, 1899. In his social relations Mr. Howell is a member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity and the Modern Woodmen of America, and is a man well liked by all who know him.

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#### S. W. CULP.

Few men are more prominent or more widely known in the city of Morrisonville than S. W. Culp. He has been an important factor in business circles and public affairs and his popularity is well deserved as in him are embraced the characteristics of an unbending integrity, unabating energy and industry that never flags. He is public-spirited and thoroughly interested in whatever tends to promote the moral, intellectual and material welfare of Morrisonville.

Mr. Culp was born in Meigs county, Ohio, April 22, 1845, and is a son of Jacob W. Culp, who was born in Pennsylvania of

Pennsylvania Dutch parentage. For some years the father was engaged in farming in Ohio and in 1865 removed to Montgomery county, Illinois, where he purchased eighty acres of land and resumed farming. There his death occurred in 1894. The mother of our subject passed away in 1880. S. W. Culp received his early education in the public schools of his native state. Coming to Illinois in 1865, he taught school here until the fall of 1871, when he entered the university at Carlinville and continued his studies there until his graduation in 1873. He then served as principal of a high school in Macoupin county, Illinois, until his removal to Christian county in 1876, at which time he accepted the position of principal of the Nokomis schools and was in charge of the same for one year, after which he removed to Morrisonville and had charge of its schools for six years. In educational work he met with excellent success and proved a very competent and thorough instructor.

In 1882 Mr. Culp purchased the drug stock of Leroy Martin, who was proprietor of the oldest store in that line in the city, and he is to-day known as the leading druggist of the place. He bought the building in which he carries on business in 1883, it being twenty by one hundred and forty feet in dimensions, with his office and dispensing room in the rear of the main store room and a large wareroom in the back. In addition to a full line of drugs, he now carries jewelry and in that department of his business has formed a partnership with J. L. Mullen, who is a practical jeweler. Mr. Culp does not confine his attention wholly to his store as he has become interested in newspaper work, having purchased the *Times* in 1887. This he conducts as a non-partisan paper and since it came into his possession the circulation has been doubled, there being

now between seven and eight hundred subscribers. He has made it one of the leading journals of the county, it being a bright, newsy sheet, full of local and foreign news. Mr. Culp owns the building in which the paper is printed and besides his business property has a fine residence in the Pence addition to Morrisonville, which is modern in all its appointments and is an honor to the city.

In 1886 Mr. Culp was united in marriage to Miss Nina M. Dunning. Her father, Andrew J. Dunning, was a native of New York and was a railroad conductor in the east for some years. In 1884 he came to Christian county, Illinois, and purchased a farm of two hundred and forty acres in Bear Creek township, to the cultivation and improvement of which he then turned his attention. There he spent his remaining days, dying in 1891.

Always a consistent Democrat, the party acknowledged his services by appointing Mr. Culp postmaster of Morrisonville during President Cleveland's administration, and he filled that office in a most creditable and satisfactory manner. He has also served as town collector and has been a member of the school board for six years. He has been president of the Business Men's Association and is a charter member of the Morrisonville Building & Loan Association, of which he is now president. Fraternally he is a member of the Masonic lodge in Morrisonville and belongs to the chapter in Taylorville and the Litchfield commandery. He is a charter member of the Modern Woodmen of America at Morrisonville and has passed through all the chairs in that order. His influence and labors have been of marked effect in promoting the interests of his adopted city and he stands deservedly high in the esteem of his fellow-men.

### D. W. JOHNSTON.

Among the prominent and representative citizens of Taylorville is numbered D. W. Johnston. He has been an important factor in her business circles for some years and is a man whose worth and ability have gained him success, honor and public confidence. He enjoys the well-earned distinction of being what the public calls a self-made man and an analyzation of his character reveals the fact that enterprise, well directed effort and honorable dealing have been the essential features in his prosperity.

Mr. Johnston was born in Madison county, Ohio, October 13, 1839, and is a son of Alexander and Susan Johnston. His father was a native of Ireland, but being brought to this country at an early age was principally reared in Pennsylvania. In 1854 he came to Illinois and settled in Christian county, where he became the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of land, which he operated quite successfully up to the time of his death in 1872. The mother of our subject was born in Ohio.

In the schools of his native state D. W. Johnston began his education and continued his studies here after the removal of the family to Illinois. At the age of twenty years he commenced farming and continued to follow that occupation for several years. He spent about seven years in the gold mines of Colorado, Montana and Idaho, and then turned his attention to the cattle business, driving his stock from Texas to Kansas. He dealt in southern cattle for about four years and in 1872 returned to Christian county, his time being taken up by his farming interests in Johnson township during the following seven years. At the end of that time he removed to Taylorville and has since been identified with several business enter-

prises that have proved successful. He is president of the Christian County Coal Company of Taylorville and vice president of the Farmers' National Bank of this city. He owns considerable property, including twenty-six hundred and sixty-five acres of fine farming land in Christian county and over one thousand acres in Mississippi. While residing on his farm he gave considerable attention to the raising of stock for the market and found that business quite profitable.

Mr. Johnston was married in 1879 to Miss Sarah E. Wilson, who was reared in this state, and to them have been born two children: Roy A. and Cleona. Mr. Johnston is a member of the Masonic fraternity. As a Democrat he has taken quite an active and prominent part in local politics and for eight terms served as supervisor of Johnson township. He was also president of the board of education for three years. The record of Mr. Johnston is that of a man who by his own efforts has worked his way upward to a position of affluence. His life has been one of industry and perseverance, and the systematic and honorable business methods he has followed have won for him the confidence and respect of all.

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#### B. P. WINDSOR, M. D.

Dr. B. P. Windsor, who follows scientific methods in the practice of his profession and whose knowledge and capability rank him among the foremost representatives of the medical fraternity in Christian county, has made his home in Mount Auburn since 1899, and during this period has gained a very gratifying patronage. He was born in McLean county, Illinois, on the 15th of July, 1874, a son of E. B. and Mary Alice (Grant) Windsor. About fifteen years ago his father removed to Horton, Kansas, and

for thirteen years was foreman of the round-house of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific and the Chicago & Alton Railroad Companies. For three years he was in the master mechanics' office and three years ago he took up his abode in Mount Auburn, where he has recently been appointed postmaster, so that he is now discharging the duties of that position.

Dr. Windsor, having mastered the preliminary branches of English learning, continued his studies in the high school of Horton, Kansas, and also in Creighton University, at Omaha, Nebraska, in which institution he prepared for the practice of medicine and won the Doctor of Medicine degree with the class of 1895. Further preparation for the important duties of the profession was received through six months' hospital experience in St. Joseph's Hospital, at Omaha, and in 1897 he went to Chicago, where he was assistant to Professor Sanger Brown in the Post-Graduate Hospital for a year. He also served for six months in the United States Marine Hospital at Omaha, Nebraska, and on the 25th of October, 1899, he came to Mount Auburn to make his home.

Dr. Windsor then purchased of W. K. Wright four acres of ground, on which he has built a fine modern residence of eleven rooms, supplied with all up-to-date equipments. He has his own gas plant, hot and cold water, bathroom, and the house is heated by hot water. He has his office in his residence and also the central office of the Independent and Bell Telephone Companies. His home is most tastefully and beautifully furnished and an air of gracious and hearty hospitality pervades the place. Dr. Windsor has also erected a modern six-room house in which his father is living.

On the 26th of May, 1897, Dr. Windsor

was united in marriage to Miss Litia Carter, a daughter of Dr. A. H. Carter, a practicing physician of Council Bluffs, Iowa. Unto the Doctor and his wife were born, on the 29th of June, 1898, twin boys, Bennet P. and John Clark, but the former died in infancy. Dr. and Mrs. Windsor are members of the Christian church, and he is a valued representative of several fraternal organizations. He belongs to Kedron Lodge, No. 340, A. F. & A. M.; Racy Lodge, No. 629, K. P., of Mount Auburn; and the Modern Woodmen Camp, No. 2849. His uniform courtesy and kindly disposition have gained him many friends outside those whom he has met professionally and he is a popular citizen of Mount Auburn. His attention, however, is chiefly given to his profession, which makes heavy demands upon his time, his patronage continually increasing. In addition to a large private practice he is now examining physician to the John Hancock Life Insurance Company, the Aetna, the New York Mutual and the New York Life Insurance Companies. He is a member of the Christian County Medical Society, the Decatur Medical Society, the Illinois State Medical Association and the American Medical Association. He has unfaltering regard for the ethics of the profession and enjoys the highest respect and confidence of his brethren of the medical fraternity as well as of the general public.

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#### JUDGE LYMAN G. GRUNDY.

He is actively connected with a profession which has important bearing upon the progress and stable prosperity of any section or community, and one which has long been considered as conserving the public welfare by furthering the ends of justice and maintaining individual rights. His

reputation as a lawyer has been won through earnest, honest labor, and his standing at the bar is a merited tribute to his ability. He now has a very large practice, and his careful preparation of cases is supplemented by a power of argument and a forceful presentation of his points in the courtroom, so that he never fails to impress court or jury, and seldom fails to gain the verdict desired.

The Judge was born in Macoupin county, Illinois, near Virden, in 1861, a son of Harry and Ellen M. (Smith) Grundy, who are now residing near Morrisonville, in Christian county. The paternal grandfather of our subject was Henry Grundy who came to America from England in the year 1853. Establishing his home in Bureau county, Illinois, he there engaged in business as a stock man. He married Ruth Gladstone, a lady of Scotch descent, and both have now passed away. The maternal grandfather of our subject was John G. Smith, a native of North Carolina, whence he removed to Jersey county, Illinois, in the early '30s. He wedded Polly Ann White, a daughter of Jacob White of Jersey county. In the vicinity of Virden John G. Smith made his home and carried on farming for many years. He was one of the supervisors of Macoupin county and took an active part in public affairs, being recognized as one of the leading and influential citizens of his community. Harry Grundy was born in Lincolnshire, England, and, crossing the Atlantic to America when a young man, located in Bureau county, Illinois, in 1850, as one of its pioneer settlers. He assisted in building the railroad and was engaged in working in the lumber woods until the time of his marriage, which occurred in 1860, the lady of his choice being Miss Ellen M. Smith, a native of Jersey county. The



L. G. GRUNDY



young couple began their domestic life upon a farm in Macoupin county and in 1863 removed to Christian county, where they have since resided. In the family are three sons and a daughter: Lyman G., Charles N., George G., and Maude, the wife of Louis Rittger.

In the common schools of Morrisonville Judge Grundy acquired the rudiments of his education, and spent one year as a student in the Jacksonville Business College at Jacksonville, Illinois, and two years in Monmouth College. For seven years he engaged in teaching school, being for three years a teacher in Ricks township, and for a similar period he was principal of the high school of Pana. He also served as principal of the schools of Morrisonville for one year and was known as a capable educator who imparted clearly, readily and concisely to others the knowledge that he had gained. He followed that profession until 1890, when, wishing to make the practice of law his life work, he began reading in Pana and subsequently he pursued a course of study in the law department of the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, where he was graduated with the class of 1893. The same year he located in Taylorville, forming a partnership with Ex-Judge Rufus M. Potts. This relation was maintained until the succeeding year, when Mr. Grundy was nominated for the position of judge of Christian county on the Republican ticket, securing election by a majority of nine hundred and forty, although the usual Democratic majority is seven hundred. No higher testimonial of his personal popularity and the confidence reposed in him by his fellow-citizens could be given. On the bench his decisions were always fair and impartial and were a correct application of legal principles to the points in litigation. He won high

encomiums from the bar and proved a capable officer. On his retirement from the bench he resumed the practice of law in Taylorville. While on the bench he tried the first case involving the Australian ballot law in this state, which was brought up under the name of *White versus Orr*, being an election contest case for county superintendent of schools of Christian county. The construction put upon the statute by Judge Grundy was sustained and affirmed by the supreme court of Illinois and has been the leading case of the kind in this state. After his retirement from the bench the Judge became a member of the law firm of Sharrock & Grundy, but this connection was dissolved in August, 1903, and our subject has since been alone in practice. He is patient and persevering, possesses an analytical mind and one that is readily receptive and retentive of the fundamental principles and intricacies of the law. He is fearless in his defense of any cause he may espouse and at the bar has won many notable victories.

On the 2d of June, 1897, Judge Grundy was united in marriage to Miss Roxy C. Bates, a daughter of Zura F. Bates, of Locust township, Christian county, and they now have a son, Harry Bates Grundy. Socially the Judge is connected with the Masonic fraternity and the Knights of Pythias order and is past chancellor commander of the latter lodge in Taylorville. He is also a member of the Presbyterian church and his life has ever been actuated by sterling principles and characterized by close fidelity to every cause, measure or improvement which he believes to be right.

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#### WILLIAM E. TURNER.

William E. Turner, who is occupying the position of cashier in the bank of B. A. Turner in Edinburg, is one of the native sons

of Christian county, his birth having occurred in Taylorville on the 27th of February, 1872. His preliminary education, acquired in the public schools, was supplemented by a course of study in the business college at Quincy, Illinois. From 1890 until 1897, he engaged in teaching in the district schools and proved a most capable instructor, imparting clearly and readily to others the knowledge that he had acquired. From 1897 until 1899 he was principal of the public schools of Good Hope, Illinois, and in July of the latter year he accepted the position of cashier in the banking house of his brother, B. A. Turner, of Edinburg, in which capacity he has since served. He is a popular official and to his efforts may be attributed not a little of the success of the institution.

On the 27th of July, 1897, Mr. Turner was united in marriage to Miss Edith F. Hitchcock, a daughter of the Rev. W. H. Hitchcock of Lewiston, Fulton county, Illinois. They have an adopted daughter, Hazel Evelyn. Mr. and Mrs. Turner are widely and favorably known in this city and enjoy the warm regard of a large circle of friends, while the hospitality of the best homes is freely accorded them. In public matters Mr. Turner is prominent and influential and in April, 1903, he was selected president of the village on the anti-license ticket. Everything pertaining to the welfare of the community receives his endorsement and co-operation and he is exercising his official prerogatives in support of whatever tends to benefit his community.

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#### OLIVER LEE CROW, M. D.

Dr. Oliver Lee Crow, the junior member of the firm of Rockey & Crow, physicians and surgeons of Assumption, was born in

Blue Mound, Illinois, October 16, 1878, and is a son of E. W. and Nancy Jane (Dealty) Crow, who were also natives of Blue Mound. By their marriage they became the parents of seven children who are yet living.

Dr. Crow spent his boyhood days under the parents' roof in Macon county and at the usual age began his education as a pupil in the public schools of Blue Mound. Subsequently he attended the Illinois State Normal School at Bloomington for a year, and then turned his attention to teaching, which profession he followed for three years in the district schools of Christian county, giving excellent satisfaction by reason of his easy and accurate manner of imparting to others the knowledge that he had acquired. When twenty years of age he began to study medicine, having resolved to make its practice his life work. He spent four years in St. Louis, Missouri, as a student in the College of Physicians & Surgeons, and during his college days he was also under the preceptorage of Dr. A. C. Foster, now of Bement, Illinois, and Dr. William Barnes, of Decatur, Illinois. He made a splendid record while in college. He won first honors in the first, second and fourth years and was valedictorian of his graduating class. He has a gold medal won for scholarship during his senior year, and he was graduated on the 8th of April, 1903, a member of a class of sixty-one, fifty-nine of whom made grade. Aside from his regular course in medicine and surgery he also pursued a six months' course in pharmacy, and thus he was particularly well equipped when he came to Assumption to enter upon the difficult and arduous duties of the medical profession. Forming a partnership with Dr. Rockey he has already won the public confidence in a large degree and has secured a very liberal patronage for a young and newly established

physician. His high standing in college argues well for a successful professional career.

Dr. Crow was married December 24, 1902, to Miss Ida Kester, a daughter of I. K. Kester, a farmer living east of Macon, Illinois. She was born in Christian county, March 3, 1880, attended the Taylorville schools, the Decatur high school and Christian College, at Columbia, Missouri. She made a specialty of the study of music and has engaged in teaching that art. Both the Doctor and his wife have already made many warm friends in Assumption, where they have a pleasant home, noted for its gracious and charming hospitality. He is a Republican in his political views.

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#### MRS. LAURA B. EVANS.

Mrs. Laura B. Evans, who is serving as a trustee of the state university and as president of the library board of Taylorville, is one of the most prominent and influential ladies of this portion of Illinois and her efforts have been effective in promoting educational advancement. She was born in Weston, Missouri, and is a daughter of Urbane Neill and Elizabeth (Malson) Twadell. Her father was born on the 12th of April, 1830, at Springhill, Logan county, Ohio, and died in the year 1864. He went to Kansas at the time of the great struggle concerning its admission as a free or slave state. He was married there and afterward removed to Missouri, where in 1862 he offered his services to the government, enlisting in St. Louis, in the Eleventh Missouri Cavalry. His family then went to Clinton, Illinois, where his wife's parents were living. Mr. Twadell remained in the army until 1864, when he died from a congestive chill.

Mrs. Evans and her mother and brother,

Charles N. Twadell, afterward removed to Waynesville, where her later girlhood days were passed. In 1877 she gave her hand in marriage to Charles E. Evans, who was born in Waynesville in 1855, and is a son of James W. and Elizabeth Evans. He was serving as postmaster at the time of their marriage and Mrs. Evans was at once installed as deputy. In 1879 they removed to Kansas and subsequently came to Taylorville, Illinois, where Mr. Evans accepted a position with S. S. Sprague & Company, grain dealers, with whom he remained for twelve years or until the elevator of the company was destroyed by fire. He then became bookkeeper for Price & Wilkinson and yet occupies this position. He is an expert accountant and is now acting as auditor in connection with the Boyd case which is in court. He is a representative of the Houser family, one of the oldest and most prominent families of the state.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Evans have been born three children: Nonna, who died in 1898 at the age of sixteen years; Bessie, who was born in 1885 and is now a student in Forest Park Seminary of St. Louis, Missouri; and Kenneth, who was born in 1882 and is now a student in the State University of Illinois at Champaign. He is a member of the class of 1904 and he belongs to the Beta Theta Pi. Both Mr. and Mrs. Evans hold membership in the Presbyterian church and he is a valued member of the Woodman Camp, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Loyal American Legion and the Court of Honor.

Mrs. Evans received her education in Waynesville Academy and was actively connected with public work in the city of Waynesville. When but fourteen years of age she was chosen to present a flag to the Republican club of the city. After removing to Taylorville she joined the Women's

Relief Corps, the Eastern Star, the Rebekah Lodge, the Tribe of Ben Hur and the Court of Honor and has exerted a strong influence in all of these organizations. She was the president of the Women's Relief Corps when in 1892 it erected a monument to the old soldiers in the cemetery here. This monument was unveiled by her daughter Bessie in the presence of the largest crowd ever assembled in Taylorville. In 1900 the family removed to Champaign in order that the son Kenneth might attend college there. They were there two years and while there the friends of Mrs. Evans insisted upon her becoming a candidate for the position of a trustee for the state university. The convention was held in Springfield, Illinois, and two hundred and fifty of her Taylorville friends went to that city to secure her nomination. She was placed in nomination by Mrs. S. L. Chamberlain in one of the best speeches ever made by a woman in Illinois and in 1902 she was elected to the position upon the Republican ticket. Mrs. Evans early became identified with the Womans' Club, which was organized in 1897 with the object of establishing a library here. She became chairman of the library committee and was one of six ladies who collected eight hundred volumes and presented them to the mayor and council for the city on the condition that the city would furnish a room for library purposes in the city hall, which was readily agreed to. Mrs. Evans is now the president of the library board. The library has received a donation from Carnegie of twelve thousand dollars and the institution has become one of great value and of prominence in Christian county. Mrs. Evans is a woman of broad mind, of liberal culture and of innate refinement and her influence is strong and forceful; her efforts in behalf of intellectuality and educational advance-

ment have been far-reaching and beneficial; and her work in other lines has been of great benefit to her fellow-men.

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#### I. B. GORDEN.

Prairieton township probably has no more honored or highly respected citizen than the gentleman whose name introduces this sketch. He was born on the 2d of February, 1843, in Montgomery county, Kentucky, of which state his parents, William V. and Lydia E. Ribelin Gorden, were also natives. They were married December 7, 1841, and in their family were the following children: I. B.; William R.; Randall R.; Thomas J.; John M.; Joseph A.; Sarah J.; Mary A., deceased; and B. F., also deceased. Coming to Illinois the family located in Christian county on the 5th of March, 1862, and here the mother died two years later, passing away on the 10th of January, 1864. The father, who long survived her, died at the old homestead in Christian county, February 22, 1899. He was a son of Randall R. and Rachel (Baber) Gorden, natives of Virginia. At the age of nine years, however, Randall R. Gorden went to Kentucky, floating down the Ohio river on a flatboat and landing on the present site of Maysville, where he located. On the trip he was shot at by the Indians who were then very hostile to the white settlers. He was only eighteen years of age at the time of his marriage, while the bride was a girl of fifteen.

In the state of his nativity I. B. Gorden was reared and educated, pursuing his studies in an old log schoolhouse. He was twenty years of age at the time of the removal of the family to Christian county, Illinois, and two years later he started out in life for himself as a farmer, operating rented land for three years. At the end of that time he purchased eighty acres on sec-





I. B. GORDEN AND FAMILY



WILLIAM V. GORDEN, MAUD AND CELIA GORDEN



tion 20, Prairie-ton township, where he now resides, and has since added to his property until he now has two hundred and forty acres, which is under a high state of cultivation and well improved with good and substantial buildings. The pleasant residence is surrounded by fine shade trees, all of which were set out by Mr. Gorden, and the neat and thrifty appearance of his place plainly indicates the supervision of a progressive and painstaking owner.

On the 26th of January, 1865, Mr. Gorden was united in marriage to Miss Effadilla Workman, a daughter of Stephen B. Workman, who came to this county at an early day. She died March 29, 1897, leaving the following children, namely: Charles, who is married and is engaged in farming in Macon county; James W., who is married and lives in Cincinnati, Ohio; Mary L., wife of Albert Ziegler, a farmer of Prairie-ton township, this county; Maggie M., wife of Hiram Bilyeu; and Louis L., Estella Grace and Thomas L., all at home. The family hold membership in the Christian church and the hospitality of the best homes of the community is extended to them, for they have many friends and are held in the highest regard by all who know them. Mr. Gorden uses his right of franchise in support of the Democratic party and its principles, and he has capably filled the offices of township collector and school trustee, serving in the former capacity four years and in the latter nineteen years. He has recently returned from Kentucky, where he went to purchase the burial plot in which the remains of his grandparents were interred.

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#### G. B. CLAUSSEN.

G. B. Claussen through much of his life has resided in Christian county and is to-day the owner of a valuable farm of two hundred

and forty acres of well improved land on section 10, Stonington township. He has resided here continuously since 1867, and the excellent improvements upon the property are an indication of his diligence, enterprise and progressive spirit.

Mr. Claussen was born in Montgomery county, Illinois, on the 15th of April, 1843, and is a son of E. H. and Sarah (Lingo) Claussen. His father was a native of Denmark and in 1834 came to the United States. He landed in New Orleans, where he remained for but a year and then removed to Bond county, Illinois, in 1835. In the early years of his residence in this country he was engaged in school teaching. He was a very well educated man, a fine linguist, and taught three different languages. In Bond county he married Miss Sarah Lingo, and they afterward lived in Madison, Montgomery and Jefferson counties, successively. In the last named county Mr. Claussen died on the 23d of July, 1849, at the age of thirty-five years.

Our subject's mother was born in St. Charles county, Missouri, February 19, 1817, and is a daughter of James and Jane (Thompson) Lingo, the former born in Virginia, July 5, 1777, and the latter in Kentucky, January 30, 1790. Her paternal grandfather, James Lingo, Sr., was a member of Washington's army during the Revolutionary war and fell in battle in 1780 or 1781. His widow was left with three small children, the oldest being a girl and the second James, Jr. She died when the latter was only twelve years of age and the children were then bound out to different persons in Virginia as their property had been destroyed by the Tories during the war. James Lingo, Jr., remained a resident of that state until grown and then went to Kentucky, where he was married in 1810 to

Jane Thompson. Her ancestors migrated to Kentucky when that region was inhabited only by the savage Indians, being a member of the same colony with Peter Cartwright's father. They had to corral their wagons and some of the number stood on guard with their guns while the others work, building homes in the forests. At that time the state was not laid out into counties and sections. William Thompson, Mrs. Lingo's father, settled at a place known as the Flag Spring and there established a postoffice. It was at that place that Mrs. Lingo was born. Her father was a soldier of the War of 1812, under the command of General William Henry Harrison, afterward president of the United States. He died when about eighty years of age. In 1811, the year following his marriage, Mr. Lingo and his wife removed to Missouri. They went up the Mississippi river in what was known as a keel boat and stopped at St. Louis, which was then a small village, inhabited mostly by French and Spaniards. During their sojourn in Missouri they lived a part of the time in St. Charles county and the remainder in St. Louis county. Much of the time they were in great peril on account of the hostile Indians, who would often kill whole families. The early settlers would build their houses without windows so that no light could be seen at night that might be a guide to the Indians. In 1824 Mr. Lingo brought his family to Illinois, our subject's mother being then seven years of age, and settled in Madison county. They crossed the river at St. Louis in a ferryboat propelled by horses. At that time herds of deer were often seen on Looking Glass prairie and the large number of wolves made it dangerous for children and even grown folks to venture out alone, especially after night. Thrilling tales were told of people being torn to pieces by

the ferocious wolves. They would come round the houses at night and eat the scraps that were thrown out. Amid such surroundings Mrs. Claussen grew to womanhood. Her father died August 11, 1835, and her mother passed away August 11, 1845. About six years after the death of her first husband Mrs. Claussen married Ira Hewett, and in 1867 they came to Christian county, where he died on Christmas day of that year, after twelve years of married life. Mrs. Hewett is still an esteemed resident of Christian county. She is a member of the United Baptist church and has lived an earnest and consistent Christian life.

By her first marriage Mrs. Hewett had nine children but two died in infancy. The others are as follows: James married Louisa Bateman, who died in Jackson county, Illinois, April 5, 1888; William married Elizabeth Arthur and is now farming in Christian county; Newton wedded Mary Tuberman and is engaged in agricultural pursuits in Minnesota; G. B. is the next of the family; Jasper is married and engaged in the grocery business in Indian Territory; Alexander married Mansey Fanning and resides at Scottville, Illinois; and Malvina became the wife of John Yockey and died January 4, 1885.

G. B. Claussen pursued his education in the district schools of Jefferson county, Illinois, and when twenty years of age he went to California. He afterward made his way to the state of Washington but in 1867 returned to this state, establishing his home in Christian county, where he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of good land. He then began farming and from time to time as his financial resources have increased he has added to his property until he now has two hundred and forty acres of well improved land, constituting one of the fine

farms of the locality. The tract was all raw and unimproved when it came into his possession, but with characteristic energy he began the work of plowing and planting and soon golden harvests rewarded his labors. He also worked for five years in the construction of the Wabash Railroad and the Eagle Grove branch of the Northwestern Railroad, but with this exception he has ever given his attention to agricultural interests, in which he has met with well deserved prosperity. In politics he is a Republican. He has always lived with his mother, caring for her in the evening of life and by filial devotion repaying her for the love and care which she bestowed upon him in his youth.

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#### E. A. HUMPHREYS.

One of the best known and most prominent lawyers of central Illinois is E. A. Humphreys, who is now serving as state's attorney in Pana, filling the position for the second term. He was born November 20, 1852, in St. Louis, Missouri, and is a son of E. A. and Martha J. Humphreys. His father was a native of Coventry, England, born in 1821, and when seventeen years of age he came to this country, settling in what is now New York city. He became a resident of Christian county in 1861, taking up his abode in Pana, where he followed the plasterer's trade, which he had learned in early life. He died in this city and his widow is still living here. He took a very active and helpful part in the upbuilding of Pana, was a member of the city council and also served on the board of education. Anything pertaining to the welfare and progress of the town elicited his attention and won his earnest co-operation. He belonged to the Methodist Episcopal church and gave

his political support to the Republican party until 1872, when he joined the organization known as liberal Republicans. In the family were four sons and two daughters, who are yet living.

E. A. Humphreys is indebted to the public school system of Pana for the educational privileges he enjoyed. He was but nine years of age at the time of his parents' removal to this city and here he mastered the elementary branches of English learning. On attaining his majority he started out upon an independent business career and pursued the study of law under the direction of the firm of Kitchell & McMillen. Later his preceptor was Mr. McMillen and when he had sufficiently mastered the principles of jurisprudence to pass an examination he was admitted to the bar and entered upon the practice of law in Pana, where he has remained continuously since. He is thus actively connected with the profession which has important bearing upon the progress and stable prosperity of any section or community and one which has long been considered as conserving the public welfare by furthering the ends of justice and maintaining individual rights. The favorable judgment which the world passed upon him in his early years has never been set aside or in any degree modified. It has on the contrary been emphasized by his careful conduct of important litigation, his candor and fairness in the presentation of his cases, his zeal and earnestness as an advocate, and the generous commendation he has received from his contemporaries, who unite in bearing testimony as to his high character and superior mind. In 1873 he was elected city attorney and that he proved a most capable officer is indicated by the fact that he was continued in the position by election for sixteen years. In 1896 he was elected state's attorney and

was re-elected in 1900 for a second term of four years, so that he is the present incumbent in that office.

Mr. Humphreys is also engaged in stock farming and has one of the largest droves of full-blooded registered English Berkshire hogs in America. He also owns a herd of registered Aberdeen Angus cattle. He ships hogs all over the central portion of the country and has made an excellent reputation for handling only pure-blooded animals. In this business he is associated with his son and their stock farm, comprising one hundred and sixty acres, is pleasantly and conveniently located near Pana. Mr. Humphreys, however, gives the greater part of his time and attention to the duties of his position as state's attorney. He owns considerable business and residence property in Pana in addition to his farming lands and he has ever enjoyed quite an extensive and important law practice.

In 1877 occurred the marriage of Mr. Humphreys and Mrs. A. C. McMillen and they had one son, Arthur, who is associated with his father in the stock business. For his second wife Mr. Humphreys chose Miss Clara E. Trower and they were married on the 30th of September, 1899. Mrs. Humphreys is a member of the Presbyterian church, while Mr. Humphreys has membership relations with the Knights of Pythias, the Woodmen, the Fraternal Aid Association, the Fraternal Army and the Mystic Circle. In his political views he has ever been a Democrat and he takes an active interest in the growth and success of his party, believing strongly in its principles. His private life and official career commend him to the confidence and respect of his fellow-men and all who know him entertain for him warm regard.

#### ARCHIE TILDEN GIBSON, M. D.

Among those who devote their time and energies to the practice of medicine and have gained a leading place in the ranks of the profession is Dr. A. T. Gibson, of Morrisonville. He was born in Bellflower, McLean county, Illinois, on the 23d of April, 1873, and is a son of F. M. and Mary J. (McWilliams) Gibson. On the paternal side his grandfather was a native of Virginia and of Scotch parentage. The family was founded in America in the early part of the seventeenth century and for some years made their home in the Old Dominion. Many of its members still show characteristics of their Scottish ancestry. Our subject's mother was of Scotch-Irish descent, the McWilliams family having come to this country from the north of Ireland. They became loyal citizens of their adopted land and participated in the Mexican and Civil wars.

F. N. Gibson, the Doctor's father, was born in 1834 in Indiana and in 1848 came to Illinois, locating at Bellflower. Having considerable confidence in the future of his adopted state, he purchased large tracts of land near that place, real estate being then quite cheap and as it was improved and rose in value he became quite wealthy. He disposed of a part of his property at an excellent profit but still retains a portion of his land, and although he is now practically living a retired life he still has charge of his landed interests. He makes his home in Bellflower, surrounded by all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life which were acquired through former toil. In his family are five sons and three daughters, of whom three are physicians, these being J. W., H. C. and Archie T., of this review. John D., another son, has been in the employ of one railroad for many years and is now



A. T. GIBSON, M. D.



ticket agent in Chicago, while Frank M., the youngest son, is still at home and assists his father in the management of his property. The maternal grandfather of our subject was the architect who planned the state house at Jefferson City, Missouri, built in 1836-7, and it still stands as a monument to his skill and ability.

During his boyhood Dr. A. T. Gibson spent much of his time on the home farm, though he also lived in Bellflower a part of the time and had the advantages of the city school. He completed his literary education in the high school of that place and then began the study of medicine under the direction of his brother, Dr. J. W. Gibson. Later he matriculated at the Barnes Medical College of St. Louis, where he was graduated in the class of 1895. He entered upon the practice of his profession at Fort Dodge, Iowa, where his skill and ability soon won recognition and he built up a large country practice, but having decided to return to Illinois, he located in Morrisonville in 1897, purchasing the practice of Dr. W. A. Britton. His success was assured from the start and his practice soon went beyond his expectations. He is undoubtedly the leading physician of Morrisonville, although there are two other representatives of the medical profession at that place and his patronage reaches out into the country twelve miles in every direction. He has purchased a building on Main street, twenty-five by one hundred and forty-eight feet in dimensions, and has fitted it up as an office with a reception room, drug and consulting room and an operating room. He has the best selected medical library in the city and has all the latest improved instruments needed in his profession.

The Doctor is a Democrat in his political views and has been alderman of Morrison-

ville for two terms. While serving in that capacity he was a member of several important committees and always discharged his official duties in a most creditable and satisfactory manner. Fraternally he belongs to the Masonic Lodge of Morrisonville, the Knights of Pythias, No. 387, and is a charter member of I. O. O. F., No. 459, in which he has filled all the chairs. He is examining surgeon for the Modern Woodmen of America, the Fraternal Army, the Loyal Americans, the Court of Honor and the Royal Neighbors. He has met with marked success in his chosen profession, for which he is well fitted by nature and education, and he possesses those admirable traits of character which make him a favorite in the sick room. Wherever known he is held in high regard and has made a host of warm friends since coming to Morrisonville.

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#### ISAAC S. CORZINE.

Isaac S. Corzine, whose home is on section 15, Prairieton township, is one of the representative farmers of Christian county. Thorough, systematic and progressive, he has met with success in his chosen calling and by his own unaided efforts he has risen to a position among the substantial citizens of his community, being now the owner of a well improved and valuable farm of three hundred acres.

A native of Ohio, Mr. Corzine was born in Guernsey county, February 8, 1861, his parents being Allen and Mary Ann (Warren) Corzine. On the paternal side he is of Dutch descent, his grandfather having come to this country from Holland at an early day when quite young. He settled in New York city and at one time owned sixty acres of land along Wall street, which is to-day one of the most valuable sections of that great

city. The father of our subject was born in Pennsylvania in 1816 and during boyhood removed to Guernsey county, Ohio, making his home in the Buckeye state until 1868, when he came to Christian county, Illinois.

Isaac S. Corzine was but seven years of age when he accompanied his parents on their removal to this state and here he grew to manhood, his education being acquired in the public schools of Christian county. On attaining his majority he rented a farm of two hundred and forty acres, which he operated quite successfully for five years and in the meantime saved enough to purchase a farm. He sold that place in 1887 and bought one hundred and sixty acres in Prairieton township where he now resides. As time passed he continued to prosper and at one time owned one hundred and forty-five acres of land near Eagle Grove, Iowa, which he sold at the end of two years and then purchased one hundred and sixty acres in Wright county, that state. He disposed of the latter tract a few years ago and in 1900 bought one hundred and forty acres more in Prairieton township, this county, so that he now has three hundred acres here of as fine farming land as is to be found in this section of the state. He has made all of the improvements upon his place and they stand as monuments to his thrift and enterprise.

On the 27th of January, 1886, Mr. Corzine was united in marriage to Miss Sadie Coffman, a daughter of James D. Coffman, who was one of the leading farmers of this county and died here in 1885. To our subject and his wife have been born three children, namely: Lela, Edith and Eva, all at home and attending school. The family hold membership in the Willowdale Methodist Episcopal church and are people of prominence in the community where they

reside. In his political affiliations Mr. Corzine is a Republican and he takes an active interest in public affairs. His life has been one of industry and usefulness and due success has not been denied, it being but the just reward of honest labor for all that he has acquired through his own efforts.

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#### RUBEN K. PENCE.

The list of the leading citizens of Christian county contains the name of Ruben K. Pence, one of the representative and honored citizens of Morrisonville. He has been an important factor in the development of the city and has been identified with the agricultural and business interests of the county for over forty-four years. He is a man of recognized ability and generally carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes.

Mr. Pence was born in Butler county, Ohio, on the 31st of March, 1822, and in early life removed with his parents to a farm near New Paris, that state, where he lived until eighteen years of age, receiving in the meantime a good common school education. After leaving home he was engaged in different enterprises until 1850, when he came to Illinois. In 1857 he became a resident of Litchfield, this state, where he spent two years, and then removed to Christian county, locating two miles north of Morrisonville, where he opened up a farm. He has cut wheat on the present town site of Morrisonville and continued to prosper in his farming operations until 1888, when he purchased fifty-three acres of land adjoining the city, had it surveyed and laid out in town lots, forming the Pence addition to Morrisonville. This has since become one of the finest residence portions of the city and here he now makes his home.

Mr. Pence is a representative of an old Virginian family and his grandmother was closely related to General Price, being a member of the same family. On the 10th of May, 1848, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Pence and Miss Louisa Watts, a daughter of John Watts and a direct descendant of James Watts. Nine children blessed this union, namely: Mrs. C. C. LeMasters is a resident of Taylorville. James M. lives two miles west of Morrisonville and has three children, Thomas R., J. Randolph and Robert R. Mrs. Daisy D. Large also has three children, Roxana, George and John. Mrs. F. P. Gordan lives in Tecumseh. John died in infancy and Della also died when small. Calvin K. went west and has never been heard of since. Mrs. J. D. Lowis makes her home in Morrisonville. Mrs. George W. Kerr is a resident of Marshall, Oklahoma.

Since voting for General Fremont in 1856 Mr. Pence has supported every presidential nominee of the Republican party but at local elections votes for the man whom he believes best qualified for office, regardless of party lines. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, being the oldest Mason in good standing in the county. It was in December, 1846, that he joined the order and has since been a member in good standing. He also belongs to the chapter in Morrisonville. In 1845 he was made a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and was a contributing member of the same for over forty years. He has lived peaceably with all men, having never had a lawsuit, and he has been a liberal contributor to charitable enterprises. For many years he has been an active and consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church and by his upright honorable life he has gained the confidence and respect of all who know him. He is a

good neighbor, a kind friend and a devoted husband and father. Everything pertaining to the public good receives his hearty endorsement and he is justly numbered among the leading citizens of the community in which he lives.

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#### SAMUEL PICKER.

Samuel Picker, dealer in clothing and men's furnishing goods in Assumption, stands as a type of the representative American citizen who owes his advancement to his own efforts, and who, despite the fact that there are many obstacles and difficulties to be encountered in the business world resolutely set to work to achieve prosperity, and has advanced to a very enviable position in trade circles in his adopted county.

Mr. Picker was born in Russian Poland, May 23, 1873, a son of Henry and Ada Picker. The mother died in her native country when the son was but eleven years of age and he then started out to make his own living and has come off conqueror in the world's broad field of battle. At the age of fifteen he emigrated to America, paying his passage with what he had saved from a weekly salary of fifty cents. He had heard very favorable reports concerning opportunities in the new world and has never had occasion to regret the step he took in 1888. Landing in New York he at once sought employment, entering the service of the Wal-ter Shirt & Pants Company, in which house he remained for two years, during which time he learned the cutter's trade. In 1890 he came to the west and worked at various points in Illinois. He arrived in Assumption in 1897 with a capital of eighty dollars, but he possessed thorough business ability, is methodical in his habits and correct in his judgments. Here he opened a "racket"

store in the Commercial block and after a few months removed to the old Armstrong building on South Front street, where he remained until high rentals caused him to remove to the building on the opposite corner now occupied by the bank. This was in 1898 and in 1900 the building was demanded for banking purposes.

In the meantime Mr. Picker's business had grown to such proportions that he removed to a store two doors north of the Illinois State Bank—the site of his present location. There in November, 1901, together with a large number of the other business men of Assumption, he suffered a heavy loss by fire, his entire stock being destroyed. However, the building was quickly replaced but even before that time Mr. Picker had opened up a small stock in the east room of the Columbia Block on First street. There he remained until September 7, 1902, when he was again able to occupy the North Front street store, where he is now to be found. Mr. Picker is a very successful and enterprising business man. His knowledge of the real worth of materials enables him to buy advantageously and to sell at a profit that is fair alike to the customer and the merchant. His business has annually grown and developing from small proportions has become one of the leading mercantile concerns of the city.

On the 30th of May, 1894, Mr. Picker was united in marriage to Miss Hattie Lewis, of Springfield, Illinois, a daughter of H. and Molly Lewis, the former a merchant of Springfield. They now have three bright and interesting children: Edna, Paul and Reta.

While America is the home of the "self-made man," no less credit and honor is due the individual because he is one of a large class, on the contrary we should be proud

that the advantages of America are such as draw to her shores men of ambition, resolution and energy, men who advance in the business world and at the same time become loyal, progressive citizens, doing much for the substantial improvement and development of the localities in which they reside. Such a one is Mr. Picker, who only about fifteen years ago was a poor boy, landing on the shores of the new world without capital. To-day he stands among the well-to-do and respected residents of Assumption. He was one of nine children and, with the exception of one who was drowned in childhood, all reached years of maturity and the six sons were left to battle with the world at an early age. David, the eldest, is married and lives in New York, where he is connected with the Mutual Life Insurance Company. Louis is also married and lives in New York. Victor is married and is machinist in the employ of the Illinois Central Railroad at Clinton, Illinois. Myron and Osup are graduate druggists of New York, obtaining their diplomas by studying evenings. It is certainly a creditable family record.

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#### HON. RUFUS M. POTTS.

The life record of the Hon. Rufus M. Potts stands in contradistinction to the old adage that a prophet is never without honor save in his own country, for the subject of this review is a native son of the county in which he has directed the efforts of his career. He was born in Christian county, September 3, 1870, and has back of him an ancestry, honorable and distinguished. In the paternal line he comes of Welsh descent. His great-great-grandfather was David Potts, a famous general of the English Army. The family was established on this

side of the water at an early period in the development of the country and Joel Potts, the grandfather of the Judge, having become a pioneer of the west, served in the Black Hawk war of 1832. Two of the uncles of the Judge were valiant defenders of the Union cause in the Civil war and the family has ever been noted for brave and loyal defense of country and of principle. The first representative of the name in America became a resident of Pennsylvania and founded the town of Pottsville in that state. Later his descendants removed to Kentucky and thence came to Christian county, Illinois, where representatives of the name have since been found and in public affairs here they have borne an important and helpful part.

In the maternal line Judge Potts comes of ancestry equally honorable. His grandfather, Colonel Preston Langley, was a distinguished pioneer and influential citizen of Kentucky and when Illinois was still a frontier district he came to this state, locating in Christian county, where the Langleys have since been worthy citizens.

When quite young Judge Potts lost his mother by death. The father was a man of considerable wealth but the son did not profit much by this fact as the father was engaged in adding to his possessions rather than in assisting the Judge to enjoy advantages, educational and otherwise, which his means might have secured. The boy attended the public schools and early manifested the elemental strength of his character. He realized early the fact that there is no excellence without labor and that there is no royal road to wealth. He soon developed industry and a laudable ambition, which was guided by sound judgment and supplemented by persistency of purpose. Wishing to enjoy better educational privi-

leges than were afforded by the common schools, he pursued a classical course of study and then continued the acquirement of knowledge,—but this time along a more specific line, as he had determined to make the practice of law his life work. Accordingly he became a student in the law office and under the direction of the firm of Palmer, Schutt & Drennan, of Springfield. He applied himself assiduously to the mastery of the principles of jurisprudence and when he had become familiar with many of the leading principles of law he was admitted to the bar, but he continued to remain with his preceptors for a few years for the purpose of preparing himself to be able to impart in the courtroom what he had learned from his books. Being a great admirer of Governor Palmer and his private secretary when a law student, he partook of the Governor's forcible style of arguing a case in court or a question on the stump, thus winning for himself a leading position at the bar and also high rank as a platform orator.

On leaving Springfield Judge Potts took up his abode in Taylorville and opening an office had not long to await a good clientele. No dreary noviate lay before him, for almost at once he demonstrated his ability in such a way as to gain a fair share of the legal business of the district. It is said that he has as many if not more clients than any lawyer in central Illinois, and yet he has not acquired wealth as rapidly as many. The law is his profession, and while he has the laudable ambition to win success and thus provide well for his family, he is, as every true lawyer should be, the exponent of justice and the conservator of the rights and liberties of the people. Many times he has been known not only to take charge of a case in which he expected no pecuniary reward, but also to personally supply the costs

for the suit. He never enters upon a case unless he has firm belief in the justice of his client's suit, and it is customary for him to advise all clients and friends of his to settle their controversies outside of court if possible. A contemporary publication in speaking of this characteristic of the Judge said: This was conspicuously noticeable during the late troubles at Pana. When called on by the miners for legal advice Judge Potts said: "Boys, keep out of court, if possible." And he left with them for Pana, where he addressed a large mass meeting of excited and indignant citizens, who were ready for any emergency and if left to their own inclinations would have precipitated troubles requiring almost endless litigation and large attorney fees. The Judge saw and knew this. However, instead of talking for his own financial interest he addressed them calmly, cautiously and with such force and power as to carry them with him to a peaceable solution of the question, winning for himself a lasting place in the heart of every miner and laboring man in Illinois.

The legal ability and loyalty in citizenship of Judge Potts won him the nomination for judge of the probate court of Christian county and he was a candidate at the time of the inauguration of the Spanish-American war. The blood of valiant soldiers flowed in his veins and his own patriotic spirit being aroused he at once resigned the nomination, tendered his services to Governor Tanner and assisted to recruit the regiment commanded by Bluford Wilson. He was elected major of the first battalion, but in the meantime the central committee had determined not to accept his resignation of the nomination and although it was expected he would leave for the scene of hostilities at any moment he was elected probate judge, and served his term.

Judge Potts was united in marriage in 1895 to Miss Wilhelmina R. Grunewaldt, a daughter of Otto Grunewaldt, one of the leading business men of Springfield. The young couple have many warm friends in Taylorville and the surrounding district and he is widely and favorably known throughout the state on account of the prominent part he has taken in political circles and because of his marked ability in his profession. Soon after his election to the bench of the probate court he was elected the president of the Illinois County and Probate Judges' Association—a fact which indicates his standing with the profession. He is yet a young man and has attained distinction that a man of twice his years might well envy. This is due to his inherent force of character, his improvement of opportunity, his strong purpose, his unfaltering fidelity to principle and his allegiance to the public good.

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#### HENRY C. BOLLINGER.

Henry C. Bollinger, one of the enterprising farmers of Stonington township, living on section 15, is a native of Maryland, his birth having occurred fourteen miles from Baltimore in Baltimore county, on the 31st of July, 1857. His parents were Ephraim and Mary Ann (Strewig) Bollinger, both of whom were natives of Maryland. The father was a millwright and carpenter and in 1869 removed to Illinois, where he was connected with building operations as a contractor. He also engaged in farming to some extent and he erected all of the buildings upon the old home place. Being an excellent workman, his services were continually in demand as a carpenter and he thus provided a good living for his family. He was killed in Stonington while crossing

the Wabash Railroad tracks by a fast train January 18, 1893, and his wife survived him until 1899, when she was also called to her final rest.

H. C. Bollinger began his education in the district schools of Maryland and was about twelve years of age when he came with his parents to Illinois. Here he also attended school to some extent, but through the months of summer his attention was given to farming work as he assisted his father in the operation of the homestead farm. When twenty-one years of age he started out in life on his own account, renting forty acres of land. His excellent business ability and capable management won him success during the first year and so encouraged him that in the second year he rented a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which he operated for two years. In that time he managed to save considerable money, which he invested in eighty acres of raw land and to this at a later date he added a tract of twenty acres. This constitutes his present farm, which is a good property, well improved with modern equipments. He has erected all of the buildings upon his place, has divided the farm into fields of convenient size by well kept fences, has secured modern farming implements and machinery in order to facilitate his work and in fact has a place supplied with splendid accessories and conveniences. His is altogether one of the best improved farms in this portion of the county and the owner is classed with the most progressive agriculturists here.

On the 22d of March, 1883, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Bollinger and Miss Keziah Coffey, a daughter of Newton and Martha (Vermillion) Coffey, both of whom were natives of Kentucky. The father was a minister of the gospel and on

his removal to Illinois settled in Christian county, where he continued his pastoral work, preaching in many districts of this county. His influence was far-reaching and beneficial and proved a potent element in the moral development of the community. He died of heart trouble when on the train on his way to Iowa in 1890. His widow still survives, making her home in Iowa. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Bollinger has been blessed with four children: Mary E., born January 2, 1884; Jessie E., born December 3, 1886; Henry E., February 4, 1890; and Willis M., born October 22, 1891. All the children are still under the parental roof and their parents have every reason to be proud of them. The family are members of the Reformed church of Stonington, Illinois, and our subject and his wife hold a very enviable position in the regard of many friends.

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#### FLORIN NEU.

One of the most enterprising and energetic business men of Pana is Florin Neu, the senior member of the firm of F. Neu & Son, proprietors of an up-to-date grocery at the corner of Third and South Locust streets. He was born in Prussia, Germany, July 17, 1833, a son of Henry and Katharine Neu, in whose family were five children, those still living being Florin; Jacob, a resident of Springfield, Illinois; and Mrs. Elizabeth Neu. Peter and Emma are deceased, both having died in Baltimore, Maryland, where the death of the parents also occurred.

In his native land Florin Neu grew to manhood and was educated in the public schools of Germany. For two years and a half he served in the Prussian army and before coming to the new world learned the blacksmith's trade. It was in 1856 that he

emigrated to America and made his home in Baltimore, Maryland, there working at his trade for four years. In 1860 he came to Christian county, Illinois, and settled at Pana, which was then a small village. Here he engaged in blacksmithing for a number of years, having a shop of his own. In 1875, on his retirement from that occupation, he embarked in the grocery business in a small way, but as his trade increased he enlarged his stock and in 1892 erected a substantial block, known as the Neu block, where he now does an extensive business. His son Harry has been admitted to a partnership in the enterprise and the firm of F. Neu & Son is now numbered among the leading grocers of the city. At the age of fourteen years Harry began to aid in the store and it was not long ere he had thoroughly mastered the business in all its details.

On the 17th of March, 1868, Mr. Neu was united in marriage to Miss Gertrude Ott. She was born in Baden, Germany, January 6, 1846, and was about seven years of age when, in 1853, she came to the United States with her parents, F. S. and Anna Mary (Brecht) Ott, the trip being made on a sailing vessel. The family first located in Cincinnati, Ohio, but in 1857 came to Christian county, Illinois. Mr. Ott secured a position as watchman at the depot in Pana and made his home at this place until called to his final rest in 1890. His wife died in 1888. Mrs. Neu is their only child. She was educated in the first school house erected in Pana, it being located on Commercial alley, and her teacher was Miss Bull. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Neu have been born nine children, namely: Harry, who is in business with his father; Flora, at home; Clara, who is a graduate of the Pana high school and has pursued a business course at Decatur;

Jennie, also a high school graduate; Lilly, who after completing the high school course attended the state normal and is now successfully engaged in teaching; Walter, who died at the age of eleven months; Gertrude, who died at the age of six years; Caroline, who died at the age of three and a half years; Edmond, who is now a student in the high school and is making a special study of history. The family is one of prominence in Pana, its members being widely and favorably known. For about a third of a century Mr. and Mrs. Neu have resided at their present home and its hospitable doors are ever open to their many friends. They are members of the German Evangelical church and Mr. Neu is also connected with the Ancient Order of United Workmen. His success in life is due entirely to his own well directed efforts and he commands the respect and confidence of all with whom he is brought in contact, either in business or social life.

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#### J. H. SOLLIDAY.

J. H. Solliday, now deceased, was for long years a farmer of Christian county and through his well directed business efforts he attained success. He also gained the warm regard of the public which is ever given in recognition of an honorable, upright career. He was born in Bucks county, Pennsylvania, on the 10th of March, 1837, and was a son of Jacob G. and Mary Solliday, who on leaving the Keystone state removed to Ohio. At a later day they became residents of Illinois, but subsequently returned to Pennsylvania, where their last days were passed.

Mr. Solliday of this review acquired his education in the public and high schools of Ohio and entered upon his business career as a bookkeeper and salesman in a store in





J. H. SOLLIDAY



ELIAS HOLBEN                      MRS. J. H. SOLLIDAY                      ANGELINE GRAGG                      MRS. THOMAS E. GRAGG



Seville, that state. Later he was employed in a similar capacity in Wadsworth, Ohio, for three years. In early manhood, desiring a companion and helpmate for life's journey, he was united in marriage to Miss Angeline Holben, a daughter of Elias and Margaret Holben. Her father was born in New York and her mother's birth occurred in Pennsylvania. Coming to Illinois he spent his last days in this state, dying January 4, 1904, at Taylorville, and was buried in Grove City cemetery. His wife died and was buried in Ohio.

Mrs. Solliday was born in Ohio, March 27, 1840, and her marriage was celebrated on the 16th of November, 1860. In the spring of the following year the young couple started for Illinois. Eventually they reached Illiopolis, this state, from which place they had to walk to Mount Auburn. They established their home near Grove City and Mr. Solliday, during the early period of his residence in Illinois, assisted his father in paying for his farm, after which he purchased for himself a tract of land of one hundred and sixty acres in Stonington township, Christian county. Later he added forty acres more and afterward an additional tract of eighty acres. When he started out upon an independent business career here he had nothing but a horse and this died not long afterward. As the years advanced, however, he prospered in his undertakings for he allowed no difficulty or obstacle to discourage him and worked his way upward, his industry and perseverance at length meeting gratifying success. The home farm now comprises two hundred and eighty acres of very fine land, all of which is well improved.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Solliday were born the following children: Rollen E., who was a graduate of the Gem City Business Col-

lege at Quincy, Illinois, and died at the age of twenty-three years; Victorine, who married J. D. Hackenberg in 1885 and is now living in May township, where her husband is engaged in farming and stock-raising; Ella H., who in 1893 became the wife of T. E. Gregg, the present postmaster of Stonington; Edson P., who died at the age of six months; Eben O., who died at the age of nine months; R. J., who was married in 1894 to May Simpson, a daughter of John Simpson of Rosamond township, and is engaged in buying and selling stock and managing the home farm near Stonington; M. H., who is a graduate of the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and is now the leading physician of Owaneco, Illinois; and Angelene M., who in 1900 became the wife of Dr. W. J. Salting, of Stonington.

Mr. Solliday was a Democrat in his political affiliations and took a very prominent and active part in local affairs, holding many township offices. For twenty-three years he served as commissioner of his township and was in office at the time of his death. He died July 12, 1890, respected by all who knew him for his had been an honorable and upright character. Mrs. Solliday still survives her husband and she and her children are all members of the Reformed church. She owns in Stonington a nice modern residence of eight rooms situated upon a lawn covering a half block of ground. To her husband she was ever a faithful companion and assistant on life's journey and the relation which existed between them was a most congenial one.

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#### CYRUS A. POTTS.

Cyrus A. Potts, who is engaged in the real estate business in Taylorville, has spent his entire life in Christian county. He is a

son of George D. Potts and a grandson of Joel Potts. The latter was a native of Kentucky and became an early settler of Cass county, Illinois. Subsequently he removed to Christian county, settling in Taylorville township, in 1850. There he followed farming until his death, which occurred in 1898, when he was about eighty-seven years of age, his birth having occurred in 1811. In early manhood he married Sarah E. Blizzard, who was born December 22, 1818, and died November 28, 1848. Their children were Mrs Maria E. Davis, Nathan C., George D. and Cyrus A.

George D. Potts was born July 17, 1845, in Cass county, Illinois, and obtained his education in Christian county. He has made farming his life work, and now resides on the old home place in Taylorville township, where he has carried on agricultural pursuits for many years. He married Lenora A. Langley, a daughter of Robert P. Langley. Her birth occurred in Taylorville township, April 27, 1848, and she died on the 14th of August, 1876, leaving four children: William A., who resides at Pekin, Illinois; Rufus M., who is an attorney of Taylorville; Cyrus A., of Taylorville; and Dempster O., who is also practicing law in this city. The father was again married on the 18th of November, 1877, his second union being with Sarah E. Flinn, who was born in Sangamon county, Illinois, February 24, 1856, a daughter of William Flinn. Their children are Tony R. and Lineal O.

Cyrus A. Potts was born in Taylorville township, January 18, 1873, pursued his education in the common schools of Taylorville township, and throughout his active business career has resided in this city. He followed abstracting and map work for about ten years and since 1900 has been engaged in the real estate business, handling

much valuable property, and negotiating many important real estate transfers. He has a thorough knowledge concerning property values in this part of the state, and secured a good clientage in his line, so that his business has now reached profitable proportions.

In 1897, Mr. Potts was united in marriage to Miss May Scarr, a daughter of Nicholas Scarr, of Monroeville, Indiana, and unto them have been born a son and daughter: Russell A. and Mary M. Mr. and Mrs. Potts are well known in Taylorville, and are held in very favorable regard. His political support is given the Democracy, and in matters of citizenship he seeks the welfare and promotion of town and county.

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#### P. O. MILLER.

The subject of this sketch is a member of the well known firm of Miller Brothers, who are now conducting the only meat market in Morrisonville. It is one of the most complete and best equipped markets in the county. The firm do their own slaughtering and kill on an average of seven or eight beeves and as many hogs per week. They have every facility for keeping the meat, having two large patented refrigerators holding six thousand pounds of ice, which will last them a week.

P. O. Miller was born in Macoupin county, Illinois, in 1865, and is the second of three brothers, whose parents were Joseph and Lucy Miller. His boyhood and youth were spent upon a farm until seventeen years of age and his education was acquired in the common schools near his home. He then started out to make his own way in the world and was first engaged in clerking in Kansas. Later he worked in a grain elevator for three months, but not liking that

state he returned to Illinois at the end of that time and has since resided in Morrisonville. For several years he continued to make his home with his father, in the meantime being employed at various occupations. In 1891 he embarked in the grocery business under the firm name of Miller & Clekner, but sold his interest a year and a half later and turned his attention to the grain trade, being employed in an elevator for five years. At the end of that time he accepted a position as traveling salesman for machinery and met with most excellent success in that undertaking, becoming second in amount of sales made among the many salesmen employed by the firm in this state. In 1900 he and his brother purchased the meat market of Dry Brothers at Morrisonville and have since successfully carried on the business, their trade constantly increasing.

In June, 1893, Mr. Miller married Miss Jennie D. Herdman, a daughter of A. B. Herdman. Since attaining his majority he has affiliated with the Democratic party and has served as township treasurer for six years, still holding that office. No other man in the county has held a similar position for so many consecutive years. Mr. Miller is president of the Opera House Association and has charge of their building. He has served other associations in the same capacity and stands high in business circles.

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#### W. M. DALBEY.

W. M. Dalbey is one of the extensive landowners of Taylorville township, having four hundred acres of land on which he raises stock for the market. To this business he has devoted his energies for a number of years and his efforts have been followed with excellent results, so that he is

now one of the substantial citizens of the community. He was born near Columbus, Ohio, in 1838, a son of Joseph and Emaline Dalbey, both of whom were natives of Virginia. In the year 1826 the father removed to the Buckeye state, where both he and his wife remained until called to the home beyond, when well advanced in years.

Mr. Dalbey, of this review, was reared in the state of his nativity and to its public school system he is indebted for the educational privileges he received. He owes to his parents good training in habits of life that tend to make an upright character. In the fall of 1862 he came to Illinois, whither his brothers had preceded him. He had been a student in the district schools of Ohio until fourteen years of age and after that he gave his attention to the cattle business, buying and selling stock in his native state until his removal to the west. Here he again followed this pursuit until twenty-nine years of age, when feeling that his education was not sufficient to enable him to take the place he desired in the business world he entered the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, Ohio, in which he spent three years as a student. While there he became a member of the Delta Tau Delta fraternity. On completing his college work he returned to this state, where he again took up the cattle business. Throughout his career as an active factor in agricultural circles, he has raised stock for the market and has found this a profitable source of income, because he is an excellent judge of stock and is therefore enabled to make judicious purchases and good sales. In 1872 he rented a farm in the western part of the county and continued to reside thereon until 1883, when he removed to his present home, where he now owns four hundred acres.

In 1875 Mr. Dalbey was united in mar-

riage to Miss Mary Hall, who was born on the farm where they now reside. She is a daughter of Dixon Hall, who emigrated from Virginia to Christian county, Illinois, in 1835. She is also a niece of William Hall, popularly known as Uncle Billy, who was one of the earliest settlers of this portion of the state. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Dalbey have been born five children: Loraine, who is a graduate of the Taylorville high school and has also been a student in the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, Ohio, and the Northwestern University at Evanston, Illinois, is now in Chicago attending the Bible Training School for Missions. Dwight S., who is living in Jerseyville, Illinois, was graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Arts from the Illinois State University in 1902, and for one year he was a teacher in that institution. On December 23, 1903, he married Miss Virginia Lewis, of Jerseyville. Mabel Hall, a graduate of the Taylorville high school, is now a freshman in the Ohio Wesleyan University. William E. is a member of the Taylorville high school with the class of 1906. Louise, the youngest of the family, is a member of the class of 1904 in the same school.

Mr. Dalbey is an ardent advocate of the Prohibition party and its principles and does everything in his power to promote its growth and extend its influence. He holds membership in the Masonic fraternity, but is not actively connected with the order at the present time. He is, however, an interested member of the Methodist Episcopal church and his work in its behalf has been effective and beneficial. His life has long been imbued with high moral principles, which are manifested in his straightforward relations with his fellow men.

#### JAMES REUBEN HARRINGTON.

James Reuben Harrington, who is proprietor of the Electric Light & Steam Heating Plant in Edinburg, one of the leading industries of the county, was born in Taylorville, Illinois, on the 6th of September, 1877. His father, George P. Harrington, was born in Rushville, Illinois, on the 16th of August, 1849, and when but four or five years of age removed with his parents to California where the family lived for about five years. On the expiration of that period they returned to Rushville and Mr. Harrington was a resident of the city of his nativity and of Lincoln, Illinois, until about the time of his marriage. He pursued his early education in the public school and later was graduated from the Lincoln University. He then entered upon a business career as a clerk in a drug store, in which he was employed for about one year. On the expiration of that period he entered the office of the firm of Price & Wilkinson, who were engaged in the milling business in Taylorville, and remained with that house for about five years. In 1877 he removed to Edinburg, where he turned his attention to the grain and banking business, in which he was engaged until overtaken by financial disaster in 1893. While residing in Edinburg he opened the coal shaft at the town, built the opera house, erected several other brick buildings and was largely instrumental in advancing the material upbuilding and progress of his county. Prior to his failure he had interests in mining ventures in Arizona. In 1893 he went to that state and operated his mines for some time. He has since settled his obligations in Edinburg and elsewhere. He is a man of strong character and upright purpose and enjoys the respect of his fellow-men to a high degree. He was married in early manhood to Miss



GEORGE P. HARRINGTON



Emma J. Wilkinson, a daughter of Reuben Wilkinson of Taylorville, the wedding being celebrated on the 4th of June, 1873. Unto them were born five children, four of whom are now living: Essie, the wife of John Nelson, of Prescott, Arizona, by whom she has five children; James R., of this review; George Francis, who is living at Crown King, Arizona; and Helen.

James R. Harrington pursued his education in the public schools of Edinburg and in the Lincoln University. He went with his father to Arizona in 1893 and was associated with him in his mining operations in that state. In July, 1902, he returned to Edinburg, his former home, and became connected with the firm of Brownback & Company in the grain business. He was in their employ for eight months, after which he installed the electric light and steam heating plant in Edinburg. This plant he is now operating and it is one of the important industries of the county. It is well equipped with the latest improved machinery needed in such a concern and the business has secured many patrons and has entered upon a prosperous career.

On the 22d of September, 1897, Mr. Harrington was united in marriage to Miss Gertrude A. Brownback, a daughter of William H. Brownback, a capitalist and grain dealer of Edinburg. Their union has been blessed with two children but Elrena, the younger, is now deceased. She was born December 16, 1900, and died on the 13th of January, 1902. Their little son Don was born September 26, 1898.

Mr. Harrington is a Mason, belonging to Blueville Lodge, No. 647, A. F. & A. M. He has also taken the chapter degrees and is a member of Elwood Commandery, K. T., of Springfield, Illinois. He is also associated with Electric Lodge, No. 505, K. P.,

and in his political views he is a Democrat, believing that the principles of the party contain the best elements of good government. A young man, he possesses good business sagacity, keen discrimination and laudable ambition and these are elements which ever have great force in the battle of life and ultimately result in winning success.

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#### M. H. SOLLIDAY, M.D.

This is an age of specialization. The tendency of the times is to concentrate one's energies along a given line of study or labor in order to attain the highest degree of perfection. Dr. Solliday has followed this course, and while he has a good knowledge of the science of medicine, such as is demanded by the general practitioner, he nevertheless devotes his attention more largely to the treatment of diseases of women and children and has become very capable as a specialist.

Dr. Solliday was born in Stonington township, Christian county, Illinois, on the 8th of April, 1873, and having acquired his preliminary education in the public schools, continued his studies in St. Louis College, the University of Illinois, and Jefferson Medical College at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where he finished for the practice of medicine. He was graduated with the class of 1901, and received one year's hospital experience in the Jefferson Hospital, of Philadelphia, after which he came to Owaneco, establishing his office in this place in the fall of 1901. Here he has since practiced and although he follows a general practice he makes a specialty of the treatment of diseases of women and children, and is continually promoting his efficiency along that line by reading and study, consulting the books

and magazines which speak authoritatively on the subject.

Dr. Solliday was married in 1901, the lady of his choice being Miss Sylvania Pfei-ger, a daughter of Franklin Pfei-ger, who is a cigar manufacturer of Philadelphia, Penn-sylvania. Mrs. Solliday is an accomplished musician. She made a specialty of instru-mental music and took a thorough course for her own pleasure and benefit and while she is capable of imparting instruction to others she has never followed teaching as a profession. The Doctor and his wife own their own home in Owaneco, and it is blessed with the presence of a little son, Monroe Franklin. They are members of the Reformed church and he belongs to the Masonic lodge of Taylorville. His political support is given the men and measures of the Democracy, but he has never been an aspirant for office, preferring to devote his time and energies to his business affairs, in which he is meeting with creditable success for one who has just reached the third decade of life.

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#### J. A. BOWMAN.

J. A. Bowman has spent the greater part of his life in Christian county and is one of its respected and honored citizens as well as extensive landholders. His realty posses-sions aggregate twelve hundred and thirty acres in this part of Illinois. He was born in Iowa in 1846, the only child of Dr. Asa and Mary Bowman. His father was born in Washington county, Ohio, June 9, 1818, and attended the common schools of his neighborhood, where he acquired a thorough education. On attaining his majority he began teaching school and followed that pro-fession for five years, at the end of which time he determined to prepare for the prac-

tice of medicine. For four or five years he continued his reading alone and in 1843 he came to Illinois and profited by the instruc-tion of his cousin, Dr. Daniel Bowman, who was located near Greenfield in Greene county, this state. For two years his cousin was his instructor.

In the meantime Dr. Bowman was united in marriage to Miss Mary Bowman, the wed-ding being celebrated on the 7th of Novem-ber, 1844. In 1846 they removed to Ot-tumwa, Iowa, where the Doctor opened his office and entered upon practice. When two years had passed, however, he resolved to return to his native state and between the years 1848 and 1853 was a resident of Ohio. In the latter year he once more came to Illi-nois and rented a farm in Greene county. He planted his first crop and having then determined to make a permanent home in this state he went to Springfield, where, through the land office, he invested in three hundred and twenty acres in Stonington township, Christian county. As his choice of a location fell upon Christian county, he cast in his lot with its early settlers of a half century ago. He took up his abode near Stonington in May, 1857, in order to im-prove his land, and in 1858 he turned the first furrow on the farm where he continued to reside until called to his final rest. Splen-did improvements were made by him and he became the owner of a very valuable or-chard, his fruit and forest trees covering forty-five acres. Although he engaged in general farming for a long period he made a specialty of the production of fruit for a number of years prior to his death. His business affairs were capably conducted; his labors were of a practical nature; and he was also progressive in everything that he undertook, so that as the years advanced he won creditable success. In politics he was

an earnest Republican for a number of years and afterward became a supporter of the Greenback party. For seven or eight years he served as township supervisor and during a part of that time was chairman of the board. At the time of his demise he was one of the oldest residents of Stonington township. In every respect a self-made man he won his own way to a place among the respected and substantial farmers of central Illinois through industry and energy. In the later years of his life it was the annual custom to celebrate his birthday, and on these occasions a large number of friends and relatives would gather to spend the day happily with him. He was called to his final rest March 6, 1901, and his wife passed away on the 26th of August, 1893.

John A. Bowman, whose name introduces this record, obtained his early education in the schools of Morgan and of Greene counties of Illinois, and for two years was a student in the public schools of Taylorville. Since putting aside his text books he has read broadly and his reading embraces historic and scientific subjects as well as the classical literature and thus he has become one of the best informed men of the county. He has been a special student of science for a number of years, giving much time and thought to the study of metaphysics. When he attained his majority he was given an interest in the home farm and was associated in its conduct with his father. He engaged extensively in the raising of stock until about the time of his mother's death, when he retired from that business and rented his land. Since his father's death he has resided alone upon the old homestead, his time being given to reading and to the supervision of his farming interests. He has extensive landed possessions, his holdings aggregating twelve hundred and thirty acres in Christian

and Shelby counties. His home is well equipped with all the latest improvements and conveniences and because of his excellent business management in former years he is now enabled to enjoy all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

Mr. Bowman came to Christian county at a time when there was hardly a furrow turned in what is now this richly cultivated portion of the state. There was much wild game to be had and some deer were seen, but they soon disappeared before the advancing civilization. Dr. Bowman entered the land from the government and with the aid of his son improved the farm, making it a very valuable property. In his political views Mr. Bowman is a Prohibitionist. He represents one of the most prominent families of Christian county and well deserves mention in this volume.

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#### FLETCHER HAINES.

Among the old and honored residents of Christian county none stands higher in public esteem than the gentleman whose name introduces this sketch. For almost a half century he has made his home here and his name is inseparably connected with its agricultural interests, for he has made farming his life work and is to-day the owner of eight hundred and fifteen acres of valuable land in this county, his home being on section 5, Bear Creek township.

Mr. Haines was born in Kentucky, November 5, 1824, and is a son of Christopher Haines, who was a native of Virginia and one of the early settlers of Sangamon county, Illinois, where he died in 1851. During the boyhood of our subject he accompanied his parents on their removal to Sangamon county and he was there reared and educated, attending an old-time sub-

cription school. In 1845, at the age of twenty-one, he commenced earning his own livelihood. About this time the Mexican war broke out and the following spring he offered his services to the government, enlisting in the Fourth Illinois Infantry under the command of Colonel E. D. Baker. He participated in the battles of Vera Cruz and Cerro Gordo under General Winfield Scott and when hostilities ceased was honorably discharged and returned to his home in Sangamon county. It was in February, 1854, that he removed to Christian county and purchased three hundred acres of land, to which he has since added from time to time as he found opportunity until he is now the owner of a very valuable tract of eight hundred and fifteen acres.

Mr. Haines was first married in 1848, the lady of his choice being Miss Lucinda Jane Hattler, a daughter of James Hattler, of Sangamon county, who came originally from Tennessee. Two children blessed this union: J. W., who was born in 1849 and now resides in Denver, Colorado, where he is engaged in business; and Sarah Matilda, who was born in 1850 and died when about eighteen months old. On the 4th of November, 1852, Mr. Haines was united in marriage to Miss Lydia Anderson, a daughter of Thomas and Nancy Anderson, who were natives of Kentucky and residents of Christian county, Illinois. The seven children born of this union were as follows: Thomas Theodore, who was born in 1853 and died in 1855; Edward D., who was born in 1856 and died in 1857; Millard C., who was born in 1858 and is now engaged in the grocery business in Portland, Oregon; Lizzie N., who was born in 1861 and is the wife of Wilber Hayes, of Bear Creek township, Christian county; Mary J., who was born in 1863 and was the wife of Jacob Schnepf

and died December 24, 1903; Edith, who was born in 1868 and is the wife of George Schnepf; and Sherman H., who was born in 1864 and was for some years a student in the law departments at Ann Arbor, Michigan, and Bloomington, Illinois. He is now following his chosen profession at Portland, Oregon, and is enjoying an extensive practice.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Haines are earnest and consistent members of the Methodist Protestant church. The ancestors of our subject affiliated with the Whig party and on the organization of the Republican party most of the family joined its ranks. Mr. Haines is a staunch supporter of the latter party and was personally acquainted with Abraham Lincoln, whom he met a great many times. In early life he took quite an active interest in public affairs and served as justice of the peace from 1861 until 1864, was township trustee for thirteen years, and school director for many years. He is what the public terms a self-made man, having made all that he has by hard work and careful management, being a man of exceptionally good judgment and close observation. He is a pleasing conversationalist, being well posted on the current questions of the day and he stands high in the esteem of his fellow citizens.

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#### E. G. COONROD.

E. G. Coonrod has spent his entire life in Illinois and is familiar with the history of Christian county from an early period in its development. He has witnessed all the changes that have occurred, the transformation that has been wrought, and has borne his share in the work of improvement along lines of substantial upbuilding. His birth occurred in Greene county, Illinois, Septem-



E. G. COONROD AND FAMILY



ber 5, 1832. His grandfather was George Coonrod, his father Stephen Coonrod. The latter settled in Greene county at a very early day but was a native of Kentucky and was married in that state to Candace Lee. They removed to Wayne county, Illinois, and after several years to Greene county, where the father engaged in farming. He would engage in the tilling of the soil throughout the week and on Sundays would preach, being a minister of the Baptist church. In his family were ten children who reached mature years and seven are now living. The eldest, Jefferson, resides in Greenfield, Illinois, and was eighty years of age in June, 1903. Elizabeth is the wife of T. E. Melvin, also of Greenfield. Mrs. Isabel Kincade is the next younger and was followed by our subject. S. M. is living in Colorado Springs and C. C. in Philo, Champaign county, Illinois. Nancy A., the youngest, is the widow of Washington Rice and resides in Pinckneyville, Illinois. The father carried on farming until his death, which occurred in the '70s, when he was seventy-five years of age, and his wife passed away in 1882, at the age of seventy-eight years.

The educational privileges of E. G. Coonrod were limited. He began his education in a log schoolhouse and never had the opportunity of attending for more than three months in a year, as his services were needed on the home farm at the time of plowing, planting and harvesting. In his youth the family lived in true pioneer style. They wore home-made clothing, shearing the sheep and spinning and weaving the cloth from which garments were fashioned. The only light was furnished by tallow candles, which Mr. Coonrod frequently assisted in molding. His mother would do her baking in the fireplace, using skillets, and he well

remembers the first cookstove which they had—an old-fashioned stove with three legs. Alton was the market for grain and the stock was driven to St. Louis. Mr. Coonrod used a wooden moldboard plow in his boyhood and cultivated corn with a single shovel plow.

He remained on the home farm until his marriage, which occurred February 7, 1861, the lady of his choice being Nancy Doyle, a native of Greene county and a daughter of Thomas and Mary (Coates) Doyle, early settlers of that county. After their marriage they came to Christian county, settling in Prairieton township on eighty acres of wild land, which he greatly improved and to which he added until he is to-day the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of valuable land, all in one body. In 1857 he began breaking his land with three horses and his neighbors predicted that he would kill the horses—oxen having previously been used. The prairie grass and rosin weed grew often as high as a man's head and it was a difficult task to prepare the land for cultivation. Mr. Coonrod, however, continued to engage in farming until 1893, when he retired from the hard labor incident to cultivating the soil, and removed to Assumption, where he has since enjoyed a well-earned rest.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Coonrod were born five children: Edmund D. wedded Mary Redding and resides in May township. Orton P. married Maud Long, resides on the old homestead and has three children. Rena B. became the wife of A. L. Moore, a merchant of Assumption, and died, leaving two daughters, one of whom resides with her grandfather and the other with her father. Nettie died at the age of three years. Mary A. is now the widow of George Lov-

ering of Assumption and has two children. Her home is south of her father's house.

While residing on the farm Mr. Coonrod served as township supervisor for one term, also highway commissioner and school director and he is now one of the trustees of the west school of Assumption. In politics he is a Democrat. He attends the Baptist church and has ever been an advocate of all measures for the general good and for the improvement of the county. His life has been active, his actions sincere and manly, and as one of the worthy pioneer settlers of Christian county he well deserves mention in this volume. His success has been honestly gained and his life record shows what can be accomplished by determined purpose and continued activity.

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#### AARON SAMUEL HEDDEN.

Aaron S. Hedden, who is living on section 9, Taylorville township, where he follows the occupation of farming and stock-raising, was born March 29, 1840, in Shelby county, Kentucky, a son of Simon and Salina Hedden. The father was also a native of Shelby county, Kentucky, and in November, 1855, arrived in Christian county, Illinois, making the journey in a two-horse wagon. Here he rented land and engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred in December, 1868.

Mr. Hedden, of this review, spent his early youth in the county of his nativity and acquired his education in the public schools there. He arrived in Christian county in August, 1856, and here began working by the month on a farm. He was thus employed for two years, after which he engaged in farming in connection with his father for a time. On attaining his majority he again began work as a farm laborer

by the month and followed that pursuit for three years, after which he began farming on his own account, securing a tract of rented land. He lived upon that farm for five years and when his industry, economy and perseverance had brought him capital sufficient to enable him to purchase a farm of his own he invested in eighty acres in Taylorville township, on which he lived for six years. On the expiration of that period he removed to the farm which he now owns, comprising two hundred and eighty acres of rich and arable land on section 9, Taylorville township. Here he has resided continuously since 1875 and has made nearly all of the improvements upon the place. He set out trees, erected substantial buildings, built good fences and placed the fields under a high state of cultivation. Neatness and thrift characterize the place and indicate to the passerby the careful supervision of the owner.

Mr. Hedden has been twice married. In 1864 he wedded Miss Samantha S. Holland, who died in 1867 and the two children born to them both died in infancy. She was a most estimable lady and was highly respected by all who knew her. On the 24th of February, 1870, Mr. Hedden was united in marriage to Miss Harriet Williams Ladd, a daughter of Noyes and Phoebe (Williams) Ladd, both natives of Connecticut. Her ancestors were among the Pilgrim Fathers who founded the New England colonies and she is a descendant of both Elbridge Garry and William Williams, both signers of the Declaration of Independence. In 1849 Mrs. Hedden's father brought his family to Christian county, Illinois. As there were few railroads at that time the journey was made principally by water. From Stonington Point, Connecticut, they sailed down Long Island Sound, then up the Hudson

river to Albany, but the steamer on which they first took passage was sunk near Newburgh on Mrs. Hedden's fourth birthday and four of Mr. Ladd's brothers were drowned, as were many other passengers on the ill-fated Empire State. From Albany they proceeded by way of the Erie canal to the Great Lakes, Illinois canal and Illinois river to Springfield and by wagon to Buckhart township, Christian county, where Mr. and Mrs. Ladd made their home throughout the remainder of their lives. As pioneers of the county they materially aided in its early development and improvement. During their residence in the east they were members of one of the first Congregational churches organized in the United States, it being the Old Road church of Stonington, Connecticut, and they became charter members of the first Presbyterian church of Taylorville, to which Mrs. Hedden's second mother also belonged. They always took a very active and prominent part in church work and their lives were in perfect harmony with their professions. Mrs. Hedden's mother died in 1866 and two years later her father married Miss Eliza J. Hearnard, who was one of the grand good women of this county. The father died in 1897, at the age of seventy-five years and his wife ten months later, honored and respected by all who knew them. Throughout life he made farming and stock-raising his occupation.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hedden were born five children, as follows: William Samuel married Alice M. Owens, of Indiana, and resides upon the farm in Taylorville township. Lydia Harriet and Elizabeth Jane are now attending Eureka College, and Mary Salina and Prue Anabell are at home. There is quite a romance connected with the lives of Mr. and Mrs. Hedden. Mr. Hedden's

family all belong to the Christian church, and although he is not a member he contributes generously to its support. As a citizen he is actively interested in all that pertains to the public welfare and is a helpful co-operant in many measures for the general good.

As a self-made man Mr. Hedden certainly deserves much credit for he started out in life with nothing and all that he possesses to-day he has made through hard work and good management. When he came to this county it was nearly all raw prairie and a great deal of it was under water, but it has been drained and tiled until the fields are now extremely productive and there is no richer farming country in all the broad Mississippi valley than is found in Christian county. Mr. Hedden gives his attention to the raising of both grain and stock, but has profited more largely from the former. He now owns more than four hundred acres of land in Christian county and is one of six partners who own six thousand three hundred and sixty-four acres in Mississippi. His life history shows what can be accomplished through strong determination, unfaltering energy and capable business management and it should serve to encourage and inspire others who have to start out in life as he did—empty-handed.

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#### WILLIAM H. McDONALD.

Throughout the greater part of his life William H. McDonald has successfully engaged in teaching school, but now follows farming on section 17, Johnson township. Like many of Illinois' most worthy citizens he comes from Ohio, his birth having occurred in that state on the 9th of February, 1844. His parents were John and Christen McDonald, also natives of Ohio and of

Scotch descent. The father died August 29, 1889, having survived his wife only a few months, as she passed away on the 11th of February, 1889.

In the state of his nativity William H. McDonald was reared and educated. He prepared himself for teaching at the National Normal School at Lebanon, Ohio, where he was graduated on August 15, 1867. He entered upon his duties as an instructor in the schoolroom in 1862 and continued to follow the teacher's profession most of the time up to 1900. It was in 1865 that he came to Christian county, Illinois, and he had charge of schools here until his retirement from the profession, having confined his efforts to only four districts in Johnson township. In 1874 he made his first purchase of land, consisting of a tract of eighty acres, which he subsequently sold and then bought one hundred and twenty acres in Johnson township where he now lives. This, together with the property owned by his wife, makes a good farm of one hundred and sixty acres. The well tilled fields and neat and thrifty appearance of the place testifies to his careful supervision and untiring industry.

On the 5th of December, 1867, Mr. McDonald was united in marriage to Miss Harriet V. Anderson, a daughter of Tavner B. Anderson, who came to this county in 1854. To our subject and his wife have been born the following children: John T., who is married and engaged in blacksmithing in Clarksdale, this county; Azalia, wife of J. W. Masters, a farmer of Johnson township; Herschel V., at home; Nettie V., who died at the age of three and a half years; Enona C., who died at the age of three years; Linnie May, who died at the age of fourteen years; Flora, who died at the age of eleven months; Hazel, who died at the age of eight

months; Theodore B., who died at the age of seven years; and one who died in infancy. The family hold membership in the Baptist church and Mr. McDonald is a Republican in politics. He still takes an active interest in educational affairs and is now serving as school treasurer. He has also filled the office of township clerk.

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#### H. MILO NEWKIRK, M.D.

Dr. H. Milo Newkirk, the village clerk of Owaneco and a practicing physician who has made his home in Christian county since January, 1900, was born in Shelby county, Illinois, in September, 1870, a son of William W. and Mary (Wamsley) Newkirk, the former a native of Indiana and the latter of Ohio. They came to Illinois about 1855 and remained residents of this state until called to the home beyond, the mother passing away in 1895, while the father's death occurred in 1901.

Dr. Newkirk spent his boyhood days under the parental roof and acquired his early education in the public schools. He afterward spent one year as a student in Chaddock College, at Quincy, Illinois, and then entered the Illinois State Normal University, in which he spent three years. Having obtained a good preparatory education to serve as a firm basis for professional knowledge he began preparing for the practice of medicine and surgery by matriculating in the Marion Sims Medical College, at St. Louis, Missouri, where he completed a course by graduation with the class of 1897. He then located for practice in Warrensburg, Illinois, where he remained for eighteen months, and on the expiration of that period he came to Owaneco, where he arrived in January, 1900. Here he has since made his home and in the practice he has

won very desirable success. He is continually advancing in efficiency and knowledge through study, reading and investigation and his efforts for the alleviation of human suffering have been attended with excellent results.

In 1902 the Doctor was united in marriage to Miss Lillian Cannon, a daughter of Scott Cannon, a native of Illinois, and they now have one son, Bruce Cannon. Dr. and Mrs. Newkirk own their home in Owaneco and delight to extend its hospitality to their many friends. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and he belongs to Locust Lodge, No. 623, A. F. & A. M. of Owaneco. In politics he is a Republican and is now serving as village clerk. Well known in Christian county as an able member of the profession among its younger representatives, he is also a leading citizen in his advocacy of public affairs for the general good.

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#### JULIUS BROEHL.

The discovery of coal and the development of the mines in Christian county have added materially to the wealth and prosperity of this section of the state. To-day one of the leading representatives of the coal interests of the locality is Julius Broehl, who as a partner in a company, is managing the business and in this capacity has control of a force of six hundred workmen. He was born in Atlanta, Illinois, in 1858, and is a son of Gottlieb and Anna Broehl. His father was a native of Saxony, Germany, and in 1851, bidding adieu to home and native land he sailed for America. He settled first in Galveston, Texas, and afterward came to the north, taking up his abode near Pekin, Illinois. In 1858 he removed to Atlanta, Illinois, where he first conducted a cabinet-making establishment, but later he turned

his attention to agricultural pursuits, locating upon a farm. He is now living a retired life in York county, Nebraska.

Julius Broehl acquired his education in the public schools near Lincoln, Illinois, and then desirous of enjoying more advanced educational privileges he entered the Normal University at Normal, Illinois, in 1876. In the scholastic year of 1878-9, he engaged in teaching and in the winter of 1880 he became a student in Johnson's Commercial College at St. Louis. In April, 1880, he accepted the position of bookkeeper with the coal company at Lincoln, Illinois, and in 1881 he was sent to Decatur, Illinois, to open up a set of books there in connection with the development of a new mine owned by the Lincoln Company. He remained in Decatur until the fall of 1884, when he was sent to Pana to take charge of the mine of the Pana Coal Company. In 1887 he was admitted to a partnership in the business, and in 1891 was made manager of the company. His partners in this enterprise are Messrs. Puterbaugh, Harts & Frorer. This company owns the New Bent mine at Pana and employs six hundred workmen, a fact which indicates that the business is extensive and the output of the mines large.

In December, 1884, occurred the marriage of Mr. Broehl and Miss Louise Meister, a daughter of John P. Meister, of Decatur, Illinois. Two children graced this union, Leland and Wayne. The former is now fifteen years of age and the latter a youth of ten years. The elder son is now in his second year in the high school of Pana and throughout his course has made the highest record of his class, of which his parents have every reason to be proud. Mrs. Broehl is a highly accomplished lady of more than ordinary musical accomplishments, a graduate of the Decatur, Illinois,

high school, and a prominent worker in literary clubs. She also belongs to the Presbyterian church and is an active worker in charity.

Mr. Broehl holds membership relations with the Woodmen of America, with the Masons and the Royal Neighbors. He exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the Republican party and upon that ticket he was elected to the office of city treasurer. He is now serving as a member of the school board of Pana and has ever taken a deep interest in the cause of education, doing everything possible to advance the standard of the schools and promote their efficiency. He is a self-made man who has worked his own way upward and has through hard labor secured his advancement in business life. He possesses natural mechanical skill and ability and he has ever utilized his talents and time to the best advantage. The word failure forms no part in his life history for his determination and laudable ambition have enabled him to overcome all obstacles and difficulties in his path and gradually worked his way upward to success. To him there has come the attainment of a distinguished position in connection with the great material industries of the county and his efforts have been so wisely directed along well defined lines of labor that he seems to have realized at any one point of progress the full measures of his possibilities for accomplishment at that point. The successful men of the day are they who have planned their own advancement and have accomplished it in spite of many obstacles. This class certainly has a worthy representative in Mr. Broehl, who began his life under unfavorable circumstances, but to-day stands among the distinguished representatives of industrial life in Christian county.

#### LANDALINE YOUNG.

Among the worthy citizens that Germany has furnished to the new world may be numbered Landaline Young, who has made his home in Christian county for the past ten years and is now successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits on section 23, Mosquito township. He was born in the fatherland January 29, 1853, and in 1860 came to the United States with his parents, Benedict and Cecelia Young, who were also natives of Germany. The family first located in Montgomery county, Illinois, but two years later removed to Macon county, where the father died in 1902, but the mother is still living and continues to reside in Macon county.

Landaline Young was reared in that county and was educated in its district schools. At the age of twenty-three years he started out in life for himself and has since devoted his time and energies to farming. So successful was he that at the end of five years he was able to purchase one hundred and twenty acres of land in Macon county, where he continued to reside until 1893, when he sold that place and purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Mosquito township, Christian county. Here he has steadily prospered. He purchased an additional forty acre tract and is now erecting a commodious and comfortable residence upon his place. The fields are well tilled and everything about the farm indicates the progressive spirit of the owner.

On the 8th of February, 1876, Mr. Young was united in marriage to Miss Augusta Putsch, a daughter of Frederick Putsch, who was also born in Germany. Eight children bless this union: Charles F., who is married and follows farming in Christian county; Benedict; Emma Augusta; Martha E., who died at the age of three years; Otto

F.; Edward L.; Josephine L.; and John O. The younger children are all at home. The family are communicants of the Catholic church of Stonington and Mr. Young is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. His political support is given the Democratic party and its principles and he has filled the office of school director in a most capable and satisfactory manner.

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### J. S. WALLACE.

Among the citizens of Bear Creek township none is more deserving of representation in this volume than J. S. Wallace, who has for years been connected with the mercantile and agricultural interests of the community and who has, through well directed efforts, gained a handsome competence that numbers him among the substantial men of his township. Keen discrimination, unflagging industry and resolute purpose are numbered among his salient characteristics and thus he has won that prosperity which is the merited reward of honest effort.

Mr. Wallace was born in Delaware on the 15th of January, 1841, and is a son of Thomas and Rebecca (Seaman) Wallace. The mother died in 1852 and the father subsequently came west, locating in Christian county, Illinois, in 1875. Here he passed away in 1881. Our subject was educated in the schools of Delaware and New York and at the age of seventeen years commenced teaching, which profession he followed for eight years before coming west. In 1863 he became a resident of Adams county, Illinois, where he taught school for seven years, and then removed to Taylorville and embarked in mercantile pursuits, conducting a store there until 1881. He was next engaged in the same line of business at Clarksdale until August, 1902, when he sold his store and

has since devoted his time and energies to farming and stock-raising. He owns a fine farm of five hundred and eighty acres in Bear Creek township, which he is now successfully operating, and besides this valuable property he has eleven lots, three residences and a store building in Clarksdale.

Mr. Wallace was married October 26, 1871, to Miss Olive Hewitt, a daughter of William T. and Andromache (Gibson) Hewitt. Her father was a native of Virginia and in early life followed farming and stock-raising in Kentucky and in 1851 he migrated to Illinois and located in Christian county on land now comprised within Johnson township. There he entered and purchased land to the extent of six hundred acres and lived in that locality until the death of his wife in 1857, when he removed to the old Vincent place, where his remaining days were passed. He died in 1890, at the age of seventy-five years, owning at that time nearly four thousand acres. By his first marriage he had three sons and three daughters, namely: Francis M.; Olive, wife of our subject; Aurelius M.; James B.; Laura J.; and Hannah L. The mother of these children was a most lovable and noble lady and was a consistent member of the Christian church. For his second wife Mr. Hewitt married Miss Mary R. Wilcoxson, by whom he had three sons, William T., Lee Davidson and Omer B.

The children born unto Mr. and Mrs. Wallace are as follows: Roy C., the eldest, was killed on a railroad crossing at the age of twenty-four years and eighteen days. William G. died at the age of six years. Cloyd H. married Sophia J. Bates and was killed on the Wabash Railroad March 14, 1902, when twenty-five years of age. His son, Cloyd Perry, was born the following August. Thus within six years our subject

lost two sons by being killed by the cars. Glenn, the next of the family, is now with the Koken Iron Works of St. Louis. Wanita Olive and Joseph S. are both at home.

Mrs. Wallace is an earnest member of the Christian church and is a most estimable lady. Fraternally our subject is connected with Mound Lodge, No. 122, A. F. & A. M.; and also belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and the Fraternal Army of America. His political support is given the Democratic party and he has filled the offices of deputy sheriff and postmaster of Clarksdale, serving in the latter capacity for twenty years. A public-spirited and progressive citizen, he has done much to advance the interests of his township and county and he justly merits the esteem in which he is uniformly held by his fellow men.

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### EDWARD FORRESTER.

One of the worthy citizens that Ireland has furnished to the new world is Edward Forrester and in his life he exemplifies the sterling traits of character of the people of the Emerald Isle. His birth occurred in Roscommon county, on the 17th of March, 1831, his parents being Matthew and Mary Forrester. They came to the United States about 1838, locating in Laporte, Indiana, where the father gave his attention to agricultural pursuits. He and his wife spent their remaining days in that locality, the former passing away in 1860, while Mrs. Forrester, long surviving her husband, died in the year 1888.

Edward Forrester was a resident of the Emerald Isle for only about seven years and then accompanied his parents on their removal to the new world. He was reared under the parental roof in Indiana and in

his boyhood days attended the public schools, there acquiring his early education. He worked for his father until twenty years of age and then he, his brother and two other young men rigged up a team, went to St. Joseph, Missouri, whence they drove across the country to Placerville, California. On the 17th of August, 1850, they arrived at Placerville and Mr. Forrester was there two years, engaged in mining. He then turned his attention to farming, which he followed for three consecutive years. The return trip was made by boat to New York city and thence across the continent to the Mississippi valley.

In March, 1856, Mr. Forrester came to Illinois and for two years thereafter was employed as a farm hand by the month. He then engaged in clerking in the store of Mr. Garwood at Moweaqua, where he resided for three years. When his industry and economy had brought to him sufficient capital to enable him to purchase land he became the owner of a tract of one hundred and sixty acres, which is still in his possession. This formed the nucleus of his present fine farm, for as opportunity has offered he has added to his first farm from time to time until he is now the owner of four hundred acres. This was raw prairie land when it came into his possession, but it is now well improved and the farm is one characterized by rich fields that yield good harvests in return for the care and labor of the owner.

On February 10, 1864, Mr. Forrester was united in marriage to Miss Mary Desire Brown, a daughter of John D. Brown, of Stonington. Unto them have been born six children, four of whom are now deceased. Catherine, deceased, was the wife of Jacob Corzine of Taylorville; James H., is now county judge, making his home in



EDWARD FORRESTER



Taylorville; and Clara Augusta is the wife of Dr. Maley, of Galesburg, Illinois.

Mr. Forrester is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, while his wife belongs to the Baptist church. They have a nice home in Taylorville, where they reside, but he is still operating his farm in Prairie-ton township and there spends much of his time. In politics he is an earnest Republican and was filling the position of township supervisor at the time of his removal to Taylorville. There is in his life record much that is worthy of commendation, for he had no special family or pecuniary advantages to aid him at the outset of his career, placing his dependence upon the more substantial qualities of earnest purpose, diligence and determination. These salient characteristics have made him a leading resident of Christian county, his prosperity being the merited reward of his well-directed labor and business capacity.

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#### DANIEL SYLVESTER BOLLINGER.

One of the leading citizens of Stonington township is Daniel S. Bollinger, who owns and operates a good farm on section 14. He was born in Baltimore county, Maryland, not far from the city of Baltimore, on the 16th of December, 1863, and is a son of Ephraim and Mary Ann (Strewig) Bollinger, also natives of that county, where they continued to make their home until our subject was about six years of age. There our subject's grandparents, who were of German descent, spent their entire lives. Farming has been the principal occupation of the family.

It was in 1869 that Daniel S. Bollinger was brought by his parents to Christian county, Illinois, and here he was reared and

educated, pursuing his studies in the Ireland school during the winter months, while through the summer season he aided in the work of the home farm and thus early became familiar with the occupation he has chosen as a life work. He remained with his father until the latter's death, which occurred on the 18th of January, 1893, and subsequently the farm, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, was divided between them, they having purchased the interests of the other heirs. Our subject now operates his tract of eighty acres and in partnership with his brother is successfully engaged in the raising of stock of all kinds. Besides his farm he also has some town property in Stonington.

At Petersburg, Illinois, September 24, 1902, Mr. Bollinger married Miss Christina Jennetta Blome, who was born on the 22d of April, 1876, in Menard county, eight miles north of Petersburg. Her parents, George and Anna (Morrell) Blome, were both natives of Germany and coming to America during childhood settled near Petersburg, Illinois, where the father is now engaged in farming. He is a Democrat in politics and a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. In his family are nine children, all living, namely: Lizzie, wife of Lewis Braner, who is engaged in farming near Oakford, Illinois; Henry, who married Mary Neel and resides in Stonington township; Mary, wife of Amiel Gephardt, now living in Nebraska; Rosa, wife of Henry Gebhart, of Stonington township, this county; Charles, who wedded Mary Stahl and resides in Menard county, Illinois; Tildie, wife of Jacob Stahl, of Stonington township; Christine, wife of our subject; George, who married Mattie Caldwell and lives in Iowa; and Emma, at home with her parents. Mr. and Mrs. Bollinger have one child, Verne E.,

born June 28, 1903. By his ballot Mr. Bolinger supports the Republican party and is a member of the Reformed church.

### ROSCOE C. NEFF.

One of the members of the Christian county bar is Roscoe C. Neff, who as a practitioner of Taylorville has in recent years been connected with much of the important litigation tried in the courts of this district. He is also a leading member of the Republican party of this portion of the state and his influence has been widely felt in political as well as professional circles. Born in Sangamon county, Illinois, on the 14th of December, 1870, he is a son of Sardine W. and Amanda (Parish) Neff. The Neff family is of German ancestry, while the Parish family comes of Scotch-Irish descent. The paternal grandfather, Christopher Neff, came from Germany about 1835 and settled near Olney, Illinois, while James Parish, the maternal grandfather, located in Indiana, whence he removed to Illinois prior to the Civil war. In this state he engaged in farming near Athens and there died in 1875.

The father of our subject was born near Olney, Illinois, and during his early business career resided in Iowa, but spent the last twenty-five years of his life in Sangamon county. Prior to the Civil war Mr. Neff was a staunch Abolitionist and was associated with Abraham Lincoln during the campaign of 1861. He was strong in argument and a most able debater and he took a lively interest in discussing political questions. His forceful logic and his earnest utterances never failed to carry conviction to the minds of his hearers and his labors in behalf of the party were not without good results. Throughout his business career he carried on agricultural pursuits and at length

he was killed by a log falling upon him in 1876. His widow, who yet survives him, now resides in Sharpsburg, where she removed with her family of seven children the year after her husband's death. The members of the family are as follows: Frank E., now of Athens, Illinois; Rev. John S., a minister of the southern Wisconsin conference of the Methodist Episcopal church and located at Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin; George H., a teacher of Christian county; Roscoe C.; Luella, the wife of Charles Eiklerberry, who resides near Taylorville; Ada, the wife of Charles Phillips, a ranchman in Kansas; and Anna N., of Sharpsburg.

Roscoe C. Neff received but limited school privileges and is therefore largely a self-educated as well as a self-made man. At the early age of nine years he began working on a farm, where he did chores for his board during the winter months. He was allowed to attend school to some extent until eighteen years of age, but a few months each winter in the course of these years. However, he displayed special aptitude in his studies, made the most of his opportunities and in 1892, having qualified for a teacher, began teaching in Mount Zion school near Stonington, Illinois. For five years, from 1892 until 1897, he followed that profession with success and during the last two years he also conducted a farm in addition to his labors in the schoolroom. He began as a teacher at a salary of forty dollars per month and each year his wages were increased five dollars per month. He soon won rank with the leading educators of this part of the state and one year his pupils carried off prize No. 1 and at other times won prizes Nos. 2, 5 and 6 in a class of over two hundred. Mr. Neff did much hard work to accomplish this and his zeal and interest in educational matters inspired

and encouraged those under his direction. About 1897, desirous of promoting his own education, he went to Valparaiso, Indiana, where he attended the Northern Normal school, completing the work of the junior and senior years in eighteen months. On the expiration of that period he returned to Taylorville and began reading law under the direction of Joseph B. Colegrove, with whom he was associated in practice under the firm name of Colegrove & Neff until November 1, 1903. On the 5th of March, 1899, he passed a successful examination at La Salle and was admitted to practice that year. He first located in Oklahoma City, but after a short time there spent returned to Taylorville and entered into a partnership with his former preceptor, on the 1st of August, 1899.

Mr. Neff is a stalwart Republican in politics and because of his oratorical ability he is frequently sought to address campaign meetings. He is likewise the orator of the day on occasions of picnics and other public gatherings. Greatly opposed to misrule in municipal affairs or to any trickery in political work, he has labored for honesty in politics and has been largely instrumental in securing the candidacy of capable men for office. He is prominent in the conventions of his party and has frequently served as the delegate to the county, state and congressional conventions, where his opinions carry weight in political councils. Often has he been chosen to act as chairman of different committees or to make the nominating speech before such conventions. His oratorical ability is indicated by the fact that he was selected as class orator by a vote of one hundred and sixty-six; while attending Indiana State Normal, his opponent receiving one hundred and thirteen votes.

On the 1st of August, 1894, Mr. Neff was

united in marriage to Miss Lillian Ladd, a daughter of Noyes Ladd, a prominent farmer of Sharpsburg, Illinois. They now have one child, Venus, born June 19, 1899. In addition to the practice of law Mr. Neff is interested in the raising of cattle and hogs and takes great delight in having fine stock. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and entertain broad views on religious questions, placing Christianity before dogma. A man of strong temperance principles Mr. Neff does everything in his power to promote advancement in that direction and he uses his influence ever on the side of moral development and of progress in church work. He was formerly associated with the musical department of the Christian church. Of literary taste, he possesses a fine library, covering a wide range of historical, educational and scientific works as well as fiction. A gentleman of scholarly attainments he has read broadly and assimilates what he reads. Few lawyers have made a more lasting impression upon the bar of the county both for legal ability of a high order and for the individuality of character which impresses itself upon a community. He possesses broad legal learning, an analytical mind and readiness with which to grasp the points at issue. Earnest effort, close application and the exercise of his native talents have won him prestige as a lawyer in Christian county.

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#### H. H. HERDMAN.

H. H. Herdman, formerly president of the First National Bank of Morrisonville, has done much to promote the commercial activity, advance the general welfare and secure the material development of the city and surrounding country. As a business man he has been enterprising, energetic and

always abreast of the times and due success has been accorded him.

A native of New York state, Mr. Herdman was born on the Hudson river, March 25, 1841, and during childhood removed with his parents, William J. and Jemima (Hunter) Herdman, to Randolph county, Illinois. His father was born in Belfast, Ireland, of Puritan stock, his ancestors being Scotch Presbyterians. His sons have all become successful business men and prominent in the affairs of life.

During his boyhood H. H. Herdman attended the common schools and on starting out in life for himself turned his attention to the mercantile business, but finding that too confining he embarked in the grain trade. Removing to Morrisonville in 1871, he and his brother, A. V., bought an elevator at this place with a capacity of twenty-five thousand bushels and began buying grain of the farmers living in the surrounding country. A few years later they became interested in the manufacture of flour but on account of the exorbitant freight charges that venture did not prove a success and they have since turned the mill into a grain repository, so that they now have a storage capacity of seventy-five thousand bushels of grain. When they first started in business here wheat was the principal cereal raised and marketed but there is now more corn shipped. By fair dealing and close attention to business the firm has met with most excellent success and to-day they rank among the leading grain merchants of this section of the state. They also handle coal, supplying a large number of customers with that commodity.

In 1903 H. H. Herdman became interested in the banking business and is to-day a director of the First National Bank of Morrisonville. This bank has a capital stock

of twenty-five thousand dollars and owing to its capable management it is now in a flourishing condition. The bank building is a modern structure with all the latest improvements and occupies the best business corner in the city.

In 1871 Mr. Herdman was married at Brighton, Illinois, to Miss Gilson, who is descended from good old Revolutionary stock and is now a member of the Daughters of the Revolution, being connected with the chapter at St. Louis. Unto our subject and his wife were born five children, three sons and two daughters, but one son and one daughter died in infancy and Marian G. died soon after her graduation at Monticello Seminary. Hugh H., Jr., the older son, is a graduate of Columbia College of New York and now occupies the chair of literature in Portland Academy at Portland, Oregon. Albert M. is attending Wabash College and will graduate in 1906.

In business circles Mr. Herdman occupies an enviable position and he has a wide reputation as a most capable financier. In manner he is pleasant and cordial, which, combined with his sterling worth, makes him one of the popular citizens of his adopted city.

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#### W. J. JORDAN.

Few indeed are the residents of Pana whose connection with the city antedates that of Mr. Jordan, for he arrived in the year 1856, finding here but a small village with few modern improvements and yet capable of the development which is so characteristic of western towns. Establishing his home within its borders he became a most active and important factor in business circles, instituting many enterprises which have largely promoted commercial prosperity here. Far-sighted in behalf of his in-



W. J. JORDAN AND FAMILY



dividual interests and of the public welfare, he has labored not alone for the present, but looking beyond the exigencies of the moment has planned for the future and has co-operated with others in the movements which have resulted in the expansion and substantial upbuilding of his adopted city. Many business enterprises have felt the stimulus of his energy and labor, and now at the age of three score years and ten he is enjoying a well-earned rest.

Mr. Jordan was born in Virginia, September 9, 1831, a son of Spotswood and Mary Jordan. His father, also a native of the Old Dominion, was a shoemaker by trade and after following that occupation for a time he turned his attention to farming. He removed from Virginia to Kentucky, where he engaged in general agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred in 1890. His wife passed away many years before, dying on the 1st of August, 1836.

When five years of age W. J. Jordan accompanied his parents on their removal to Shelby county, Kentucky, where he was reared and acquired his education. At the age of nineteen years he started out to make his own way in the world, first working as a farm hand in the employ of his father and afterward in the employ of his uncle. Since that time he has depended continuously upon his own resources and whatever success he has achieved is due entirely to his own efforts. At length leaving farm life he learned the plasterer's trade, which he followed for five years. In 1856 he arrived in Illinois, settling in Pana, so that he is now one of the oldest citizens here. He has throughout the intervening years been closely connected with the business development of the city and has also been prominent in public life, filling many offices, the duties of which he

has discharged with promptness and fidelity. In 1857 he was elected constable and deputy sheriff and served in that capacity for twenty-five years. In the meantime he had turned his attention to the furniture business and conducted a store, which brought to him a good financial return. He likewise operated in real estate for some time and for a number of years was associated in this with G. Ladd, the partnership proving mutually pleasant and profitable. For several years he was also in the livery business and while thus engaged carried the first surveyors through to Taylorville to make the survey for the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. In 1879 he began farming about two miles south of Pana, and placed his land under a high state of cultivation, so that the fields returned to him golden harvest. For four years he operated his land and then sold out. Again he took up farming in 1892, settling on a farm north of Pana, where he remained until 1901, when he returned to the city and has since lived a retired life.

In the meantime Mr. Jordan was called upon to serve in various offices. He was the first mayor of Pana, being chosen to the office on the 8th of March, 1867, under the provisions of a special charter. He was also the first tax collector of Pana township, was trustee of the schools for a number of years and was also president of the school board in 1902. He was supervisor for a number of years and has filled other county offices, having in 1879 been elected county treasurer, which office he filled for three years. When the books were examined on the expiration of his term it was found that the county was indebted to him to the amount of eleven dollars, an unusual occurrence, the indebtedness being generally on the other side of the ledger. After his retirement from that office he again resumed real estate oper-

ations, and bought and sold considerable property and negotiated many important realty transfers. He was also president of the First National Bank of Pana for about three years and a director ten years, and his varied connection with trade interests shows him to be a man of resourceful business ability, enterprising, resolute and progressive, the spirit of advancement being strongly marked within him.

Mr. Jordan has been married twice. On the 1st of October, 1857, he was united in marriage to Miss Ursula Brockman, a daughter of William Brockman, of Ohio. She died in 1885 and Mr. Jordan was again married, his second union being with Miss Clara E. Dunn; who was born in Greenwood township, Christian county, on the 25th of December, 1860, a daughter of James A. Dunn, who is still living in this city. Her uncle, Sanford Petty, was the first assessor of Christian county. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Jordan have been born two children: Mayella H. and Mary E., both students in the public schools of Pana.

The family are all members of the Baptist church and Mr. Jordan is one of the oldest members of the Masonic fraternity in Pana. When he arrived in this place it contained only a few houses and he has therefore witnessed almost its entire development, giving his support to all measures calculated to conserve the public good. His business grew and developed with the town. He had a capital of only eight dollars at the time of his arrival, but taking advantage of business opportunities, and utilizing his time and means to the best advantage, he has won for himself a place prominent among the substantial citizens of the community. His life has been honorable, his actions manly and sincere and he has gained for himself a reputation as a careful,

straightforward business man who has well earned the rest which is now vouchsafed him.

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#### ROBERT MARSHALL.

This gentleman is one of the highly esteemed citizens of Mount Auburn now living retired from active labor. He was born on the 21st of June, 1829, in County Down, Ireland, of which county his parents, James and Sarah (Brom) Marshall, were also natives. About 1851 they took passage on a sailing vessel and after a voyage of several weeks' duration they landed in New York city. The father worked at the stone-mason's trade in the Empire state for a few years and in 1858 came to Christian county, Illinois, where he made his home with our subject in Mosquito township throughout the remainder of his life, dying there October 11, 1859. His wife had passed away on the 18th of December, 1854. Both were consistent and faithful members of the Presbyterian church and Mr. Marshall was also connected with the Masonic fraternity. In politics he was a Republican. His family consisted of three sons and seven daughters, all of whom reached maturity and married, but only three of the number are now living, these being Robert, of this review; Mary, wife of John Marshall, a resident of County Down, Ireland; and Agnes, wife of James Long, of Mosquito township, this county. The oldest son, James, came to America in 1847 and located on a farm in New York state, where he made his home until his death. The other son, William, took part in the Civil war and died in Mosquito township, this county. Our subject's grandparents spent their entire lives in County Down, Ireland.

During his boyhood and youth Robert

Marshall attended the public schools of his native land and assisted his father in the work of the home farm. In 1849 he emigrated to the United States, joining his brother in New York, where he spent about four years, and then went to California, where he was engaged in gold mining for the same length of time. On his return east he took up his residence in Mosquito township, Christian county, Illinois, where he purchased forty acres of partially improved land for seventeen dollars per acre. To the cultivation and further improvement of his place he devoted his energies for many years, and added to his property, so that he now owns a good farm of one hundred and sixty acres on sections 17 and 20, Mosquito township. There he resided until February, 1903, when he put aside business cares and removed to Mount Auburn, where he is now enjoying a well earned rest.

On the 2d of October, 1861, in Mount Auburn township, Mr. Marshall was united in marriage to Miss Mary Ann Wilcock, who was born in Yorkshire, England, October 25, 1842, and is a daughter of George and Mary Ann Wilcock, natives of Derbyshire and Doncaster, respectively. In 1843 she was brought by her parents to America, the family locating in Mount Auburn township, this county, where Mr. Wilcock purchased a farm of one hundred acres. There he died September 5, 1844, and his wife departed this life on the 25th of September, 1888. They were buried in Mount Auburn cemetery as were the parents of our subject. In religious belief they were Methodist and in politics Mr. Wilcock was first a Whig and later a Republican. Of their four children only Mrs. Marshall is now living.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Marshall have been born ten children, namely: George B., now assistant chief of police at Decatur, Illinois,

married Belle Auger and has two children, Glenn and Fay. Margaret Ann died September 8, 1877, at the age of thirteen years. Clara Jane is the wife of Harden Tankersley, a farmer of Mosquito township, and they have three children, Grace, Chester and Bessie. Mary Florence is the wife of Philip Schempf, living near Oberon, Benson county, North Dakota, and they have one child, Frank. William James, a resident of Edmond, Oklahoma married Della Young and has one child Fern. Alice Caroline is the wife of Bruce Bramel, who lives on the old homestead farm in Mosquito township, and they have three children: Homer, Eva and Hazel. Sarah Etta is the wife of Otis Hofer and resides in Mount Auburn. Charles Francis and John Edward are still under the parental roof. Myrtle Agnes is the wife of George Richard Hardy, a farmer of Mosquito township.

By his ballot Mr. Marshall supports the men and measures of the Republican party but has never cared for office. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity and both he and his wife are earnest and active members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Mount Auburn, of which he is now one of the trustees. They are widely and favorably known throughout the county where they have so long made their home and their circle of friends is extensive.

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#### JOHN C. MONTGOMERY.

John C. Montgomery, who resides on section 26, Mount Auburn township, owns and operates a valuable farm of three hundred and twenty acres, whose neat and thrifty appearance well indicates his careful supervision. Substantial improvements are surrounded by well tilled fields and all the ac-

cessories and conveniences of a model farm are there found.

Mr. Montgomery was born on the 9th of August, 1849, in Sangamon county, Illinois, and is a son of John and Sarah (Snider) Montgomery. On the paternal side our subject is of Irish descent, his great-grandfather, J. R. Montgomery, having been born in Ireland in 1790. Having served under the British crown in the English army and growing tired of army life and also having heard of the splendid possibilities for a young man in America, he deserted and came to this country. John Montgomery, our subject's father, was born in Pennsylvania, May 24, 1817, and in early manhood married Sarah Snider, whose birth occurred in Maryland, January 26, 1821. It was in 1848 that they came to Illinois, and after living in Sangamon county for some years they took up their residence in Christian county in 1860.

The subject of this sketch was principally educated in the Montgomery district school of this county and he remained under the parental roof until twenty-four years of age. Since starting out in life for himself he has engaged in farming. His first purchase of land consisted of a tract of eighty acres in Mosquito township, which he operated for eight years and then sold, removing to his present location in Mount Auburn township at the end of that time. He rented the place until 1895, when he purchased one hundred and sixty acres and has since bought one hundred and sixty acres more. This he has under excellent cultivation and improved with good and substantial buildings.

In 1874 Mr. Montgomery married Miss Mattie J. Pettus and to them have been born five children but Birdie died at the age of four years, and James at the age of fifteen months. Those still living are Leonard,

Harold and John, all at home with their parents. Mrs. Montgomery is a daughter of George and Margaret Pettus, both natives of Virginia, whence they came to Illinois about 1840. Her father was born July 10, 1826, and died August 5, 1865, and her mother was born December 14, 1823, and died December 22, 1899. The former was a son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Jones) Pettus, born March 30, 1790, and February 17, 1795. Thomas Pettus died April 2, 1852. He was a son of William Pettus, whose death occurred on the 15th of October, 1824.

The Republican party finds in Mr. Montgomery a staunch supporter of its principles and he takes a deep interest in public affairs. In his farming operations he has met with the success that usually follows the industrious and enterprising man and he is held in high regard by all who know him.

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#### JOHN S. BILYEU.

Among the leading citizens of Christian county none is more deserving of representation in this volume than the gentleman whose name introduces this sketch. He is one of the most extensive landowners of Prairieton township and in his farming operations is meeting with excellent success. Throughout life he has engaged in agricultural pursuits, and now makes his home on section 9, Prairieton township, the neat and thrifty appearance of his place giving evidence of his careful supervision. He has been a resident of this county since 1841 and has therefore seen almost its entire growth and development.

Mr. Bilyeu was born in Miller county, Missouri, on the 21st of January, 1834, but was only three years of age when his parents returned to Illinois. His father, John H.



MR. AND MRS. JOHN S. BILYEU



Bilyeu, was a native of Kentucky and from that state removed to Tennessee with his father, Peter Bilyeu, who was of French descent. There his youth was passed and on arriving at a suitable age he was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Workman, who was also a native of Kentucky. The young couple came to Illinois and settled in Sangamon county, where Mr. Bilyeu carried on farming for several years. They then removed to Miller county, Missouri, but after living in that state for four years they removed to Sangamon county in 1837, and a few years later Mr. Bilyeu entered and bought land on Flat Branch, now comprised within the limits of Prairieton township, Christian county. Here he opened up a farm of over twelve hundred acres and to its improvement and cultivation devoted the remainder of his life, passing away on the 15th of May, 1867. His wife, who long survived him, died on the 21st of September, 1900. In their family were nine sons and three daughters, all of whom reached years of maturity, but three sons and two daughters are now deceased.

John S. Bilyeu remained under the parental roof until twenty-one years of age, early becoming familiar with the labors of the farm, while his literary education was obtained in the schools of the neighborhood. On starting out in life for himself he located upon a part of the old homestead, it being a tract of raw prairie land about one hundred acres in extent, and he at once proceeded to convert it into a well cultivated farm. He was a young man of industrious habits, and his diligence, good management and excellent business ability soon brought him success. He fenced and tilled his land and made many other improvements thereon, and as time passed he added to his property until he now owns seven hundred acres

and has one of the best homes in the township.

On the 22d of January, 1854, Mr. Bilyeu married Miss Melinda Workman, a native of Illinois and a daughter of Stephen Workman, who was one of the early settlers of Christian county. By this union the following children have been born: John H. J., who is married and follows farming in this county; Mary Ann, wife of David Workman, of this county; Josiah, who is also married and follows farming in Christian county; Elizabeth and Peter, both deceased; Lydia, wife of William O. Workman, a farmer of this county; Hiram and Edmund, who are married and engaged in farming in this county; Isaac, at home with his parents; and six others now deceased. The family hold membership in the Christian church and are people of prominence in the community where they reside. By his ballot Mr. Bilyeu supports the men and measures of the Democratic party, and for three terms served as road commissioner. In all the relations of life he has been found true to every trust reposed in him and he justly deserves the high regard in which he is held. In business affairs he is prompt, energetic and notably reliable and to these qualities may be attributed his success.

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#### EDWARD J. RHODES.

On the roster of county officials in Christian county appears the name of Edward J. Rhodes, who is serving for the second term of four years as circuit clerk. He is a capable official, prompt and reliable in the discharge of his duties and ever meeting every obligation which devolves upon him. A native son of Illinois, his birth occurred in Pana on the 6th of November, 1865, his parents being Amos A. and Dora (Jageman) Rhodes.

Back to an early epoch in colonial history in America can the ancestry of the family be traced. A great-great-grandfather of our subject was Hezekiah Rhodes, who fought for the independence of the colonies in the Revolutionary war. He was of Scotch-Irish lineage. Jesse Rhodes, the great-grandfather of our subject, was a native of North Carolina, but became one of the pioneer settlers of Shelby county, Illinois, and was actively interested in the early development and progress of that portion of the state. He left the impress of his individuality for good upon the work of advancement, his labors being practical and beneficial. He was one of the commissioners appointed by the governor to select a site for the county seat of Macon county and chose the site of Decatur for this purpose. A Democrat in his political views, he was honored with a number of public positions, the duties of which he fully discharged most capably. His son James M. Rhodes, the grandfather of our subject, was born in Wilson county, Tennessee, and Amos A. Rhodes, the father of our subject, was a native of Shelby county, Illinois, born on the 23d of May, 1841. Well worthy of mention as a valued citizen of Illinois Amos A. Rhodes is represented on another page of this volume.

In the public schools of Pana, Edward J. Rhodes acquired his education and after putting aside his text books he accepted a position as deputy circuit clerk under his father, who was then filling the office in Christian county, Illinois. This was in 1884 and he served for four years under his father and for one year under Joseph R. Edmonds, his father's successor. On the expiration of his present term Mr. Rhodes will have been connected with the office for twenty years with the exception of a period of three

years when his time was spent as a book-keeper for the Taylorville Coal Company. On leaving that employ he became deputy clerk under W. B. Cashin, with whom he remained for four years and on the expiration of that period he was elected to the office, in which he has served continuously since. After four years spent in the office he was re-elected, so that his present term will continue until December, 1904. Mr. Rhodes has long been recognized as a very active, prominent and influential factor in political circles. He has always given his allegiance to the Democracy, taking an active part in local politics, laboring for the success of his party and exerting his influence in its conventions for the nomination of men best qualified for office. He has been a delegate to the county and judicial conventions and his opinions carry weight in their councils. In 1888-9 Mr. Rhodes served as city clerk of Taylorville and his official career has always been attended by the highest measure of success, owing to his unfaltering fidelity to duty. He is systematic and methodical in his work and has performed all public service in a manner that has won him the commendation of the opposition as well as of his own political party.

On the 9th of December, 1886, occurred the marriage of Mr. Rhodes and Miss Mary Kittle, a daughter of John and Sarah (Carpenter) Kittle. Her father was coroner of Christian county for four years. Mrs. Rhodes is one of a family of five children, namely: Millie, the wife of G. W. Long, of Beecher City, Illinois; Carrie L., who is living in Taylorville; Ella, the widow of John W. Hamer of Shelbyville, Illinois; Minnie, the wife of John C. Stamm of Pana; and Mary, the wife of our subject. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Rhodes has been blessed with four children: Aimee,

born January 11, 1888; Stella M., born April 10, 1889; Dora S., December 1, 1891; and Haslemere, July 15, 1894. Mr. and Mrs. Rhodes enjoy the hospitality of the best homes in Taylorville and occupy an enviable position in social circles. His social relations connect him with Taylorville Lodge, No. 413, I. O. O. F.; Birchwood Camp, No. 130, M. W. A.; Peerless Lodge, No. 42, A. O. U. W.; the Royal Neighbors and the Red Men. He has served in all the appointive and elective positions in the Odd Fellows lodge except that of Noble Grand. He is likewise a member of Phenix Club, a social organization of Taylorville. A man of pleasing personality, he is recognized as one of the popular and valued citizens of Taylorville and enjoys in a high measure the regard, confidence and esteem of his fellow men.

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#### S. D. MOORE.

The business development of any town or city does not depend upon the efforts of a single individual, but results from the combined labors and enterprise of many. There is, however, usually a few who are leaders and who know best how to utilize not only their own energies but so direct the labors of others as to produce results of far-reaching importance in mercantile life. Such a one is S. D. Moore, a man of affairs, strong in his discrimination and sound in his judgment. He has been the promoter of many enterprises of vast importance to Assumption and is to-day a prominent representative of coal mining interests in central Illinois.

Mr. Moore is a native of Scott county, Illinois, born on the 28th of November, 1844, and is a son of Thomas and Lucy (Hudson) Moore, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Kentucky. In their family were

three children. The brother of our subject was George Thomas Moore, who was killed in the Civil war in front of Atlanta. The sister Mary is now the wife of J. M. Israel, of Whitehall, Greene county,\* Illinois.

S. D. Moore acquired a public-school education, beginning his studies in a log school building which was furnished with slab seats. The greater part of his education, however, was acquired in the public schools of Whitehall. At the age of seventeen he responded to his country's call for aid, prompted by a spirit of patriotism that was manifested in loyal and effective service in behalf of the Union cause. He enlisted in Greene county, Illinois, as a member of Company I, Ninety-first Illinois Volunteer Infantry and served for almost three years under the command of Captain Dennis and Colonel H. F. Day. He participated in a number of important engagements, including the latter part of the siege of Vicksburg and the battle of Elizabethtown, Kentucky. He was there taken prisoner by John Morgan and was in the Red river expedition but did not participate in the fight. His company crossed the Gulf of Mexico and landed at the mouth of the Rio Grande river and proceeded up that stream in order to capture Fort Brown at Brownsville, Texas. The men afterward went to Mobile, Alabama, and Mr. Moore participated in the siege of that city for thirteen days. During the war, because of his excellent penmanship, he was given charge of the pay rolls and did much clerical work in connection with the army. After the close of hostilities he was mustered out at Mobile, Alabama, and received an honorable discharge at Camp Butler at Springfield, Illinois, in 1865.

Mr. Moore then returned to his home in Greene county and on the 28th of March, 1867, he was married and removed to Ma-

con county, Illinois. There he purchased a farm north of the village of Macon and engaged in agricultural pursuits until about 1874, when he took up his abode in the village and purchased a lumberyard, which he conducted until 1883. In that year he came to Assumption and joined B. F. Hight in the organization of a private bank, which was conducted under the name of the Bank of Assumption by Hight & Moore. On the 1st of March, 1894, the Merchants' Bank was organized and on the 1st of July, 1897, these two institutions were consolidated under the name of the Illinois State Bank. At this time Mr. Moore's connection with the banking business ceased and he turned his attention to the management of a brick and tile factory, in which he had previously become interested. He devoted his entire time and attention to the operation of this enterprise until the incorporation of the Brick, Tile & Electric Light Company with C. C. Corzine as its president. Mr. Moore is now one of the leading stockholders of that company and is also one of its directors. He is now actively and extensively connected with the development of the coal interests of central Illinois.

The Assumption Coal & Mining Company owes its origin to a suggestion made by Joseph Edmunds of the company who mentioned the idea while Mr. Moore was in the bank. Entering that institution he made a remark about sinking a shaft. Mr. Moore and Mr. Hight afterward discussed the suggestion and Mr. Hight drew up the papers in order to get the enterprise in working order, while Mr. Moore took upon himself the task of securing subscribers, who would purchase stock. He was very successful in the undertaking and a short time afterward the company was incorporated with a capital of forty thousand dollars. After the business

was placed in operation T. J. Armstrong, a most thorough and competent man, was employed as superintendent and he remained with the company for four years. Upon his suggestion Mr. Moore went out upon the road, selling the product of the mine in car-load lots. This was entirely new business to him, but he was very successful in placing orders in the small towns all along the line of the Illinois Central Railroad. In February, 1899, in company with his son, J. D. Moore, of Decatur, and E. G. Rasbach, of Chicago, he purchased land in Williamson county near Johnston City for mining purposes and commenced sinking a shaft there in June, 1900. There is now a hoisting and air shaft. The company was organized and incorporated under the state laws as the New Virginia Coal Company, with Mr. Moore as the president, his son as vice president and E. G. Rashbach as secretary and treasurer. The output of this company is now about five hundred tons daily. The same company with Mr. Moore as president; Judge W. T. Hart, of Benton, Illinois, as vice president; E. G. Rashbach as secretary; and W. W. Williams as treasurer; is now sinking a shaft in the town of Frankfort, Franklin county, Illinois, in which they have recently struck the vein of coal, and this promises to yield an excellent output. Mr. Moore has also dealt in real estate for a number of years, purchasing and selling considerable property in and around Eagle Grove, Wright county, Iowa. He now devotes his time and attention, however, to his mining operations.

Mr. Moore has been three times married. In Greene county, Illinois, he wedded Mary Doyle, a member of an old family of that locality, her parents being J. M. and Henrietta (Shanklin) Doyle. Unto this union were born two children: J. D. Moore, now

a leading dentist of Decatur, Illinois, who married Gertrude McGill, of Clinton, this state; and Mary H., who is a student in Millikin University at Decatur. The wife and mother died in August, 1883, and in 1885 Mr. Moore was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Emily H. Johnson, the widow of Edward Johnson. She bore the maiden name of Corzine and her people were early settlers of Christian county. By this marriage there were also two children: Lloyd, born October 23, 1888; and Emily H., born January 1, 1890. Mrs. Emily Moore died January 9, 1890, and in 1892 Mr. Moore wedded Mrs. Martha (Corzine) Burdick, the widow of Charles Burdick, and a cousin of his second wife.

Mr. Moore and his present wife are members of the Methodist church. He has served as supervisor for two years, has been a member of the town board for several years and for a long period has served on the board of education in Assumption. While political honors and emoluments have had little attraction for him he is, nevertheless, always willing to perform his duties of citizenship and many public measures have benefited by his active co-operation. He belongs to the Grand Army Post at Assumption, Illinois; to Bromwell Lodge, A. F. & A. M., while in Masonic circles he has attained to the Knight Templar degree.

Mr. Moore is not indebted to fortunate pecuniary or family advantages received in boyhood, but owes his success to the fact that he fully realized that the present and not the future holds his opportunity—that the successful man is he who utilizes his advantages as the hour brings them and does not wait for greater opportunities at a later date. He is, however, always wide-awake, has quickly recognized business openings and as the years have advanced has so directed

his labors and also the work of those whom he has employed that success in large measure has come to him. His business methods have ever been honorable and straightforward and will bear the closest investigation and his record as a man and citizen are alike above reproach.

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#### CHARLES H. HILL.

Among the pleasant rural homes of Christian county is that of Charles H. Hill on section 23, Rosamond township, the culture and artistic taste of its occupants being reflected in its appointments, while a gracious hospitality adds a charm to its material comforts. Here Mr. Hill is now living retired in the midst of all that goes to make life worth the living.

A native of New Hampshire, he was born in Northwood, July 10, 1826, and is a descendant of one of three brothers who emigrated from England to America in 1680 and established the Hill family in the colonies. One of these, Samuel Hill, held a grant from King George III for the entire site of the city of Boston. From a genealogical history of the Hill family, compiled and published by Edmund J. Lane, of Dover, New Hampshire, we learn that the Hill name runs back to John Rogers, the martyr.

Benjamin Hill, the great-grandfather of our subject, was born in Brentwood, New Hampshire, and in early life married Betsey Dudley, of Stratham, New Hampshire, by whom he had eight children. On the 18th of March, 1752, he removed with his family to Northwood, New Hampshire, taking up land which has ever since been occupied by the Hill family, its present occupant being Frank R. Hill, a lineal descendant of Benjamin and of the fifth generation from him. During the Revolutionary war Ben-

jamin Hill was drafted for service and, not wishing him to go alone, his son, Nicholas Dudley, also enlisted. The former was killed at Ticonderoga and the son then returned home, being his mother's main dependence.

Nicholas Dudley Hill was born at Brentwood, New Hampshire, and was the eldest in his father's family. He married Mary Crockett and to them were born eight children, of whom John, the father of our subject, was the second in order of birth and was born at Northwood, New Hampshire, March 21, 1785. He wedded Miss Susan Pearl, who was born in Farmington, the same state, March 31, 1785. Her father, Ichabod Pearl, was also a native of the Granite state and was of English lineage. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Mary Young, was born in the same locality as her husband and her ancestors came from the same family. The Pearl family was descended from the Earl of Northumberland, who was the father of Lady Jane Grey, who made claim to the throne of England. In early life the parents of our subject both engaged in school teaching but during the war of 1812 the father abandoned that profession and removed to Middleton, New Hampshire, where he opened a store and tavern. They were the parents of eight children, four sons and four daughters, all of whom grew to manhood and womanhood, namely: Mary E. wedded James Wild and died June 17, 1886; John C. died in 1843; Caroline G. became the wife of Timothy Vibbard and died January 23, 1886. Susan L. married Stephen Ridgley, who willed one hundred thousand dollars to build a public library in St. Louis and it was named in honor of his wife, Susan Lucretia Ridgley, who died in that city March 1, 1879. Sophronia E. died in Cambridge, Massachusetts, November 5, 1857. David C. died August 24, 1849, while a

member of the senior class at Dartmouth College, New Hampshire. George W. and Charles H. were twins. The former married Hattie Gibson and died at Proctor, Vermont, in April, 1900, leaving a widow and one son, George W. C. Hill, an orthodox preacher of Proctor. Charles H., our subject, is the only survivor of this large family. When he was quite young the family removed to Great Falls, New Hampshire, where the father died when our subject was only five years of age, leaving the mother with eight children to support.

At the early age of nine Charles H. Hill began earning his own livelihood by working for William Shaw, of North Berwick, Maine, with whom he remained for two years. He then went to Farmington, New Hampshire, where he spent two years in the employ of Benjamin Wingate and on the expiration of that period went to Milton, the same state, to make his home with his uncle Joseph Pearl, with whom he remained until he reached the age of twenty. His place of residence then changed and we find him at Natick, Massachusetts, in the family of Vice President Henry Wilson, who was reared by an aunt of our subject, Mrs. Temperance Knight, of Farmington. He lived there from 1846 until 1849 and in September of that latter year entered Gilmanton Academy, where he was a student for three years. In the winter of 1849-50, however, he taught school at Strafford, New Hampshire, returning to the academy the following spring.

On the 26th of December, 1854, in Gilmanton, New Hampshire, Mr. Hill was united in marriage to Miss Mary Frances Morgan, who was born September 1, 1831, at that place, and was the youngest in a family of four sons and three daughters. Her parents were Jeremiah and Elizabeth

(Smith) Morgan, the former a native of Brentwood, New Hampshire, and the latter of Ipswich, Massachusetts. Both were of English descent. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hill were born four children: George C. is a highly educated and well read man, as well as a deep student and a natural mechanic; Charles R. died leaving a wife and two children, George R. and Bessie W.; Minnie W. is the wife of Henry P. Denbow, of Flora, Illinois, by whom she has a daughter, Pearl I.; and Susan E. is the wife of Howard A. Koogler, of Pana.

For about ten years after his marriage Mr. Hill was in the employ of the firm of A. G. Farwell & Company, wholesale flour merchants, and in December, 1863, was appointed paymaster of the United States navy, with headquarters on the steamer Saco for three years. On the 15th of April, 1866, he left that position and was appointed constable in Massachusetts, serving as such until 1868, when he came to Rosemond, Illinois, where he has since resided and is now living retired. He has one of the best homes in the town, it being built for solid comfort and supplied with all modern conveniences, including a furnace for heating. It is beautifully situated off the main road on section 23, Rosamond township, where he owns sixty-one acres of land, and being on a hill it overlooks a large portion of the surrounding country, affording a picturesque view. One of the attractive features of the home is its library, which is very complete and contains many works not commonly found in private libraries.

Mr. Hill has ever taken a deep interest in public affairs and has filled the office of justice of the peace for four years and notary public many years, resigning the latter position only recently. He is an honored member of the Grand Army of the Republic and

is also a Royal Arch Mason, while religiously both he and his estimable wife are active members of the Congregational church and stand high in the community where they have so long made their home. As a citizen, friend and neighbor Mr. Hill has always been found true to every duty and justly merits the esteem in which he is held.

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### SAMUEL J. SNYDER.

One of the enterprising citizens of the village of Edinburg is Samuel J. Snyder, who is conducting an undertaking establishment and furniture store there. He was born in Bartholomew county, Indiana, on the 13th of September, 1854. His father, Samuel B. Snyder, was a native of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, born in the year 1827, and his death occurred in the year 1896. He wedded Miss Mary Staefel, who was also a native of Chambersburg, and they became the parents of eight children, four of whom are now living: Simon, who resides upon the old homestead in Indiana; Hannah, the wife of James Lane of Edinburg; Barbara, the wife of John Hayes, of Columbus, Indiana; and Samuel J.

The last named was reared upon the old family homestead and in the district schools pursued his education through the winter months while in the summer seasons he assisted in the operation of the home place. When he was about fourteen years of age, however, he was apprenticed to learn the carpenter's trade in Columbus, Indiana, and followed that pursuit for four years. He then engaged in the carriage and wagon-making business near Taylorville, Indiana, and conducted his work in that line for about two years. In 1874 he removed to Grove City, Illinois, where he established a carriage shop which he conducted until 1899, when

he purchased the furniture store and undertaking business of R. K. Johnson in Edinburg, Illinois. This he has since conducted with good success and during the period has had a substantial increase in trade. From 1876 until the present time he has carried on the undertaking business in connection with his other interests and has made a careful study of the profession. He attended Professor Sullivan's embalming school at St. Louis, also the school of Professor Dodge of Chicago and of Clark of Indianapolis and later he was graduated from Professor Sullivan's school of Springfield. He has also attended the instruction school at Peoria, where he received his certificate on passing the examinations and he is now prepared to conduct funerals in a manner most satisfactory to his patrons. He is a licensed embalmer and now holds a license No. 1104.

In 1876 Mr. Snyder was united in marriage to Miss Luella Burdge, a daughter of John S. Burdge, a native of Scotland, who was born in April, 1808. Her father is now a resident of North Vernon, Indiana. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Snyder have been born three children: Florence, born April 5, 1878, is the wife of Arthur Barret, a resident farmer of Mount Auburn township, Christian county, Illinois, and they have two children—Ersel and Murlin; Mabel, born June 1, 1881, is the wife of Sylvester Smith, a school teacher of Edinburg; Charles A. R., born June 28, 1884, is assisting his father in business.

Mr. Snyder has served as town clerk of Mount Auburn for ten or more years and he is identified with the Modern Woodmen. In the county where he lives he has gained a large circle of friends, his genial manner, kindly spirit and deference for the opinions of others, making him popular with his fellow men.

#### T. F. RUSSELL.

When politics is regarded as a profession and public positions are no longer considered a prize to be won for party fealty regardless of capability then will more men of marked ability and worth enter upon the discharge of official duties. There is, however, no field that is more inviting to a man of ability nor one in which his activity can be more productive of results of far-reaching importance than that of politics and the community is to be congratulated on account of having in its midst one who gives his best energies and efforts to promoting the cause of the party with which he is affiliated. Since he was first old enough to vote Mr. Russell has been one of the most industrious and consistent Democrats in Christian county and his efforts have been of great value in advancing public welfare.

He is a native of Pana, Illinois, born August 2, 1862. His grandfather emigrated from North Carolina to Kentucky and thence to Illinois, in 1818, locating near Hillsboro, this state. Both the father and mother of our subject were born in Illinois. In the common schools of Pana, T. F. Russell pursued his early education, which was supplemented by a course in the normal school at Valparaiso, Indiana, in which he was graduated with the class of 1881. Being of a studious nature he displayed special aptitude in the different branches of learning to which he gave his attention and was especially fond of history, ancient, medieval and modern. In his early manhood Mr. Russell engaged in teaching school for one term and then entered the office of the county clerk of Christian county as a deputy on the 4th of August, 1884. Since attaining his majority he has been an active factor in political circles and was chairman of the county organization of Democratic



T. F. RUSSELL



clubs in 1888. He was also chairman of the Democratic county central committee during the campaign of 1892 and he studied law while deputy county clerk, being admitted to practice at Mount Vernon in August, 1890. He, however, never entered upon active practice, but has given his entire time and energies to the discharge of official duties. On the 10th of January, 1893, he entered the office of the secretary of state as assistant corporation clerk and was promoted to corporation clerk in the month of April. In April, 1894, he was made assistant secretary of state with full charge of the office and occupied that responsible position until September, 1897. On the 1st of December, 1898, he was appointed private secretary to Congressman Caldwell and held that position until December 1, 1902. In November of that year he was elected to the office of county treasurer of Christian county for a term of four years so that he is now filling the position at the present time. His official service has been most commendable, characterized by unflinching fidelity to duty, his work being systematically performed and also with promptness and dispatch. In April, 1903, he assisted in the organization of the Pana National Bank of which he is the vice president and he still maintains his residence in the city of his birth.

On the 16th of December, 1885, in Taylorville, Illinois, Mr. Russell was united in marriage to Miss Jennie Lewis and unto them have been born two children: Wilvan and Lewis. His political career has been honorable, honest and above suspicion of evil or hostile criticism and he has won high encomiums from those whom he has served in the public positions to which he has been chosen by election. He well merits the honors that he has won for he has put forth

every effort in his power to advance the general good through the faithful discharge of the duties devolving upon him.

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#### WILLIAM E. BOLLINGER.

William E. Bollinger, who follows farming on section 14, Stonington township, has spent the greater part of his life in Christian county, arriving here when a little lad of only nine years. He was born in Maryland, fourteen miles from Baltimore, in 1860, a son of Ephraim Bollinger, who was also a native of Baltimore county, Maryland, in which place his birth occurred on the 24th of October, 1832. The family is of German lineage, although the grandparents of our subject were likewise born and reared in Baltimore county. Near the place of his birth Ephraim Bollinger spent the days of his boyhood and youth and in early life he learned the millwright's trade, which he continued to follow until after the outbreak of the Civil war. During that struggle he was employed as a teamster in and around Baltimore and he continued to reside in that state until 1869, when he brought his family to Illinois, establishing his home in Christian county. Here he secured a tract of land and gave his entire time to farming. He had started out in life empty handed and at the time of his marriage possessed very little, but as the result of his farming operation in this state he won a very comfortable competence. In the county of his nativity he was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary Ann Strewig, who was born in that county August 23, 1832. They became the parents of eight children, of whom Oliver and James W. are now deceased. The daughter, Mary E., passed away in Christian county. The others, Henry C., John T., William E., Dan-

iel S. and Samuel W., all reside in this county. John married Caroline Cooner and resides near the old homestead farm. The father was killed January 18, 1893, while attempting to cross the railroad tracks to look after some business. He was struck by a fast train near the crossing at the Stonington station and instantly killed. His remains were interred in Grove City cemetery.

William E. Bollinger pursued his education in the district schools of this county and when but ten years of age started out to make his own way in the world. He was employed as a farm hand and early learned the value of indefatigable industry and untiring perserverance in the affairs of life. He worked for others until twenty-one years of age and then joining his father in his farming operations assisted him in paying for the home place. He has always carried on agricultural pursuits and now lives on section 14, Stonington township, where he has one hundred acres of land, which is highly cultivated and improved, the neat and thrifty appearance of the place being proof of his progressive spirit.

On January 8, 1901, Mr. Bollinger was united in marriage to Miss Maggie Salisbury, a daughter of Enoch Salisbury and a native of Macon county, Illinois. They have a little son. Mr. Bollinger is a member of the Reformed church. At one time he served as a member of the drainage board, but has never been an aspirant for political office, preferring to devote his energies to his business affairs.

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#### JOSEPH NUTT.

Ireland has furnished many worthy citizens to the new world. The sons of Erin are men of ready adaptability, progressive and versatile and they have become useful

factors in various walks of life. Mr. Nutt is a representative of this class. He was born in County Antrim in the north of Ireland in 1836, a son of Lowry and Sarah Nutt, both of whom spent their entire lives in the Emerald Isle. Joseph Nutt remained there until twelve years of age and then in 1848 crossed the Atlantic to the United States. He had attended the Presbyterian schools of his native country. His mother died in early womanhood and because of this the family was broken up. Mr. Nutt's brothers and sisters came with him to the United States, an older brother sending them transportation in order to have them join him in the new world. On arriving at New York they made their way to Newburgh, in New York.

It was in the fall of 1856 that Mr. Nutt arrived in Illinois, establishing his home near Springfield in Sangamon county. In that county he attended school and afterward worked as a farm hand until the inauguration of the Civil war. He was deeply interested in the Union cause and in 1862 he enlisted in its defense, offering his services at Camp Butler in Springfield. He became a member of the One Hundred and Fourteenth Illinois Infantry under Colonel Judy, the regiment being attached to the command of General Sherman at a later date. Mr. Nutt participated in the battles of Vicksburg, Jackson and Guntown. At the last named he was captured and sent to Andersonville prison, where he was incarcerated for six months, at the end of which time he was paroled. He was then sent north to Annapolis, Maryland, where he obtained a thirty days furlough. This was spent in Illinois and on the expiration of that period he went to the parole camp at Benton Barricks, Missouri. The war closed before he was permitted to again enter the army. He

suffered great hardships while in Andersonville and yet bears the effects of his prison experience when in military life. After the cessation of hostilities he returned to Springfield, where he received an honorable discharge.

Mr. Nutt worked upon a farm in Sangamon county until his removal to Christian county in 1868. His first purchase of land comprised a tract in Taylorville township, of which he became the owner in 1874. He now owns two hundred and forty acres, constituting a very valuable farm, but he has retired from active farm life. In earlier years he gave particular attention to the raising of hogs and cattle for shipments and this business brought to him an excellent return. He greatly improved his land, fenced his fields, erected substantial and commodious buildings, planted trees and added all modern equipments and accessories such as are found upon a model farm.

Mr. Nutt was married on the 18th of December, 1866, to Miss Anna Eliza Bishop, who was a native of Lima, New York, and is a representative of one of the old Dutch families that settled on Manhattan island. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Nutt have been born five children: Hattie, who is now the wife of E. M. Piper, a farmer of Taylorville township, by whom she has two children; J. H., who married Anna Melvin, by whom he has one child, and resides in Millersville, Illinois; L. S., a resident farmer of South Fork township, who married Cora Gore and has three children; Emma, the wife of J. C. Potts, by whom she has one child; and H. L., who resides upon the old homestead farm in Taylorville township, and married Lenore Nash. In 1902 Mr. Nutt was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died in December of that year and since that time

he has made his home with his eldest daughter, Mrs. E. M. Piper.

In politics he is a staunch Republican and for many years he served as school director, but has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking as he has preferred to give his energies and time to his business affairs. Whatever he has undertaken he has carried forward to successful completion and to-day he is numbered among the prosperous farmers of Taylorville township. He came to America a poor boy when but twelve years of age and almost continually since that time has been dependent upon his own labors for what he has had and enjoyed. His force of character has enabled him to overcome obstacles and difficulties in his path and to work his way steadily upward from a humble position to one of affluence.

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#### CHARLES DWIGHT KIRK.

Charles Dwight Kirk is the proprietor of the Walnut Grove stock farm, comprising one hundred and eighty acres of land in Buckhart township. In his business affairs he is capable, energetic and reliable and has become well known as a stock dealer. He was born in Christian county on the 21st of April, 1858, at the family home, which joins the farm on which he now resides. His father, Henry Kirk, was a native of Akron, Ohio, and removed to Christian county about 1857. He first purchased a farm in Stonington township, which he afterward traded for the old homestead place of one hundred and sixty acres in Buckhart township. Before leaving Akron, Ohio, he was united in marriage to Miss Hannah B. McFarland and they had six children, three of whom are now living: Thaddeus D., however, died at the age of twenty years;

Charles D. is the second of the family; Emma became the wife of Robert F. Oplinger of Taylorville and has two children: Arthur B. completes the family. In 1869 Mrs. Kirk died and in 1870 Mr. Kirk was again married, his second union being with Margaret Belle Orr, of Taylorville. They have three living children: Hattie, now the wife of Irvin Baughman of Edinburg; Grace, the wife of John G. Hill of Taylorville; and Pearl J., who married Curtis Baughman of Edinburg. Mr. Kirk, the father of our subject, passed away in February, 1902.

After acquiring his preliminary education in the common schools Charles Dwight Kirk attended school in Taylorville, where he completed his education. He then engaged in teaching in the district schools for three years and through the summer months he also worked on a farm. He was quite successful as an educator because of the readiness with which he imparted to others the knowledge that he had acquired. In about 1888 he purchased of his father one hundred acres of land adjoining the old homestead and has since resided thereon. Here he is engaged in the raising of stock and also of grain and his fields return to him golden harvests for the care and labor he has bestowed upon them.

In 1880 Mr. Kirk was united in marriage to Miss Addie Lindsley, a daughter of Joseph Lindsley, a resident farmer of Christian county, Illinois. They have two living children: Ethel C., born in 1883; and Claude, born in 1887. They also lost one daughter, Lorena, who died in September, 1894, at the age of ten years. The wife and mother passed away in October of the same year. In November, 1895, Mr. Kirk was joined in wedlock to Miss Jennie Ladd, a daughter of Noyse Ladd, a resident farmer of Sharpsburg, Illinois, and one of the old pioneer

settlers of the county. Two children graced this marriage: Esther O., born July 30, 1897; and Glenn L., born in June, 1899.

Mr. Kirk is a leading and influential citizen and his fitness for office led to his appointment as township treasurer, a position which he has now filled for about twenty-two years in a most acceptable manner. His father also held the same office for eighteen years. Mr. Kirk belongs to the Modern Woodmen Camp, and in former years he was a member of the Christian church but in 1892 he united with the Methodist church of Grove City. His life has ever been honorable and upright, his actions manly and sincere and his influence has always been given on the side of right, of truth and of justice.

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#### HENRY HARRISON TOBIAS.

Assumption owes much of its development, improvement and upbuilding to Henry Harrison Tobias, the senior member of the firm of Tobias & Sons, contractors and builders, and also manufacturers of sash, doors and blinds. Honored and respected by all, there is no man in Assumption who occupies a more enviable position in public regard, not alone because he has achieved most enviable success but also because his business methods have ever been such as would bear the most rigid investigation and scrutiny. He bears an untarnished name and what he has done for the county makes him well worthy of mention among its representative citizens.

Mr. Tobias was born in Pickaway county, Ohio, July 1, 1840, a son of David Tobias, who was a miller of Pickaway county. The grandfather was a farmer by occupation and lived to be more than ninety years of age, while his wife reached the extreme old age of ninety-eight years. On coming to Illi-

nois, David Tobias first located in Clark county, whence he afterward removed to Tazewell county. There he purchased an improved farm and engaged in its further cultivation until he retired from active business life and took up his abode in Washington, Illinois, where his death occurred in 1885, when he was seventy-eight years of age. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Rebecca Culp, survived him for many years and passed away in El Paso, Illinois, at the age of eighty-four years, after which her remains were brought back and interred by the side of her husband in the cemetery of Washington. By her marriage she had ten children, four sons and six daughters: Daniel, sixty-nine years of age, is a widower with two children and lives in El Paso, Illinois. John, who is married and has six children, resides in Washington, Illinois. Elizabeth is the wife of Peter Shull, of Fort Scott, Kansas, and they have three children. Henry H. is the next of the family. Mrs. Henrietta Zaneis resides in Chicago and has three children. Susie, deceased, was the wife of W. Daniels. Rebecca is the wife of William King, of Fort Scott, Kansas. William, the eldest of the family, and Martha are both deceased, and one died in infancy.

H. H. Tobias acquired his education in the public schools of Washington, Illinois, and leaving school shortly after attaining his majority, he enlisted in his country's service, joining Company B, Forty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, under Captain D. L. Miles and Colonel Bryner of Peoria. The date of his enlistment was August 16, 1861, and the first winter was spent at Jefferson City, Missouri. Although he participated in twenty-one engagements, some of which were hotly contested, he never received a wound, although his hat was pierced by a bullet which grazed the skin of his head.

He served for three years and two months and was honorably discharged October 11, 1864.

On his return to Washington, Illinois, Mr. Tobias learned the carriage making trade with his oldest brother Daniel. He was married in 1865 and then turned his attention to farming, after which he removed to El Paso, Illinois. In October, 1873, he arrived in Christian county, Illinois. Settling in Assumption he opened a small carriage shop in connection with a partner, John Hildebrand, who is now deceased. In 1885 he turned his attention to contracting and building and has since gained a foremost place in the ranks of those who are identified with building operations in this county. Many of the substantial business blocks and the residences in Assumption and the surrounding country stand as monuments to his skill and enterprise. About 1893 he established a mill for the purpose of manufacturing sash, doors and blinds and other material used in their construction work. At the time the mill was put in operation Mr. Tobias admitted his sons, E. A. and I. L. Tobias, to a partnership under the firm style of Tobias & Sons and theirs is today one of the leading business enterprises in the county.

On the 26th of October, 1865, Mr. Tobias was united in marriage to Miss Mary Elizabeth Gosney, the wedding taking place in Washington, Illinois. The lady was born in Kentucky in 1839, and when a child was brought to this state by an older sister, being reared and educated in Tazewell county. Unto this marriage have been born five children, but twins died in infancy. The living are as follows: E. A., who is a member of the firm of Tobias & Sons, married Della Howard and with his wife and five children resides in Assumption. Stella is the wife of

William McKnight, of Clay county, Illinois, and they have five children. I. L., the youngest member of the firm, is a natural architect. After completing his public-school course he pursued a five years course of study through the corresponding school of Scranton, Pennsylvania, and in September, 1903, received his diploma, making a very high record in his work. He draws all of the plans of the firm and is largely associated with M. G. Patterson, an architect of Decatur. They were associated in the drawing of the plans for the high school building of Decatur and other evidences of his ability are seen in many fine structures in Assumption and other parts of the county. The firm erected St. Mary's Academy, a Catholic school, and other public buildings in Assumption and their business is extensive and profitable. The younger son was married in 1897 to Miss Maggie Lavigne, and to them were born two children.

H. H. Tobias was reared in the faith of the Democratic party, but is now a Republican. He belongs to the Grand Army Post at Assumption and thus maintains pleasant relations with his old army comrades. As an early citizen of the county he has been a witness of its development since the country was largely covered with sloughs and ponds and has been deeply interested in its improvement. Along substantial lines he has contributed to its upbuilding and to-day he is one of the prominent factors in industrial circles. The reputation of the firm is unsailable and their business is a potent factor in the commercial activity wherein the prosperity and continued well-being of every community depends.

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#### W. E. ALLISON.

W. E. Allison, passenger and freight agent for the Illinois Central Railroad Com-

pany at Assumption, is one of the progressive citizens of the town and has twice served as mayor. In public affairs he has been most active in behalf of general progress and improvement and his administration as chief executive of Assumption was most business-like. He was born on the 9th of February, 1860, a son of C. W. and Sarah J. (Jones) Allison. His mother was a representative of an old American family of Kentucky. Unto C. W. and Susan Allison were born three children, of whom W. E. is the eldest. His brother, Frank A., is now telegraph operator at Assumption, and J. E. Allison is agent for the Illinois Central Railroad Company at Vandalia, Illinois.

In the public schools of Aetna, Illinois, W. E. Allison acquired his preliminary education, which was supplemented by study in a private school in Loxa, Illinois. He afterward engaged in teaching for four terms in Aetna and was also identified with educational interests in Loxa and in Janesville. In 1883, however, he put aside the work of the schoolroom and entered the employ of the Illinois Central Railroad Company at Kappa, Illinois, where he remained for two years. In July, 1885, he came to his present position in Assumption and has since been passenger and freight agent at this place. He learned telegraphy and has made his services of much value to the corporation which he represents. He is a popular agent, always courteous to the patrons of the road and his obliging manner and business-like methods have gained for him the respect and esteem of all with whom he has come in contact, through the exercise of his official duties. He has also become interested in business enterprises of importance and is now one of the stockholders in the National Manufacturing & Electric Light Company of Assumption. As his financial

resources have increased he has also invested in real estate and to-day owns eleven hundred acres of good farming land in Texas, together with one of the best residences in Assumption.

On the 7th of October, 1885, Mr. Allison was united in marriage to Miss Louisa E. Yerion, a daughter of George A. and M. E. Yerion of Kappa, Illinois. She is one of a family of eight children and is the second in order of birth of those now living. By her marriage she has become the mother of two children: Cleo and George Edward.

Mr. Allison affiliates with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and gives his political support to the Republican party. He is a recognized leader in local political ranks and has been honored with several positions. He served as a member of the town board for two terms, has been mayor of Assumption and has been a member of the school board for several years. He was serving on the town board at the time the ordinance was passed providing for the lighting of Assumption by electricity. He has witnessed the development of this place from a small village and with a recognition of its possibilities and a desire for its future permanent development he has labored so that his efforts in co-operation with others have produced excellent results. He and his family are members of the First Presbyterian church and are well known people of the community held in high esteem by reason of their genuine worth.

#### JOSEPH WAREHAM.

Joseph Wareham, the proprietor of a livery stable in Taylorville, was born June 4, 1824, in Dorsetshire, England, a son of Daniel and Emma Wareham. His father was a woodman of England. The son was

reared in that country, where he remained until twenty-four years of age, and in 1848 he bade adieu to friends and native land and sailed for America, arriving at New Orleans after a voyage of six weeks and one day. He had pursued his education in the schools of England and he also engaged in teaching there. After arriving in this country, however, he secured employment as a farm hand and also engaged in making hoops for hay presses, at which he earned four dollars and a half per day. He followed this pursuit for one year and then returned to England for his wife. In 1851 he again came to this country and secured a position as foreman on a farm in Jersey county, Illinois, in the employ of a Mr. Tribble. That he gave excellent satisfaction and enjoyed the entire confidence and trust of his employer is indicated by the fact that he occupied that position for nineteen years. At the end of that time, having invested his earnings in real estate, he was the owner of two good farms and he then began working for himself. One farm was located in South Fork township, Christian county, and upon this he took up his abode. Later he purchased an entire section of land and began raising stock—mules, horses and sheep. On the 15th of August, 1899, he removed to Taylorville and established the livery stable which he still conducts. He also buys and ships mules and horses. In his business affairs he has been very successful and to-day owns about four hundred acres of valuable land in Christian county. He has always been interested in the raising of stock and in this branch of his business has been particularly successful.

In 1846 Mr. Wareham was united in marriage to Miss Eliza Simms, a native of England, and unto them were born eleven children, of whom two are living: Fred-

erick J. is now married and resided upon his father's farm until January 1, 1904, when he moved to Taylorville and assumed charge of his father's livery stable. Emily is now the wife of Charles Lockwood, a resident of Riverside, California.

In 1893 Mr. Wareham removed with his family to California, where he owned and operated a ranch. He made all of the improvements upon it and continued to conduct the place until 1895, when his wife died. He then gave the ranch to his daughter and came to Taylorville, where he has since made his home. Mrs. Wareham was a most estimable lady and a faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Wareham also belongs to that church and his life has ever been in consistent harmony with its teachings. In politics he is an earnest Republican and his fellow townsmen have honored him with a number of local positions, recognizing his worth and ability. He served as supervisor for fifteen years in Macoupin county and was the justice of the peace in South Fork township. As a self-made man he has worked his way steadily upward, his life demonstrating that opportunity is always open to the young man of determination and energy who is not afraid of hard work. He had only ten cents in money when he and his wife landed in this country, but he possessed a strong heart and willing hands and scorned no honest employment that would yield him a living. Gradually he added to his possessions and as the years have passed he has gained a place among the substantial residents of his adopted county, being now the possessor of valuable property interests.

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D. T. DAVIS.

Through the years of his identification with Christian county D. T. Davis enjoyed

the highest respect of his fellow citizens and his death, which occurred January 5, 1893, was deeply mourned. He was born in Warren, Pennsylvania, on the 26th of January, 1818, and was a son of John S. Davis, in whose family were seven children, six sons and one daughter. Of this number only one is now living, A. L. Davis, a prominent business man of Princeton, Bureau county, Illinois, now in California.

Our subject received a good practical education in the common schools of Warren county, Pennsylvania, and the knowledge there acquired was greatly supplemented by reading and study in later years. He was fond of good literature and in his readings kept up with the times. This made him a good conversationalist and an entertaining companion. During his boyhood he learned the pattern-maker's trade in the east and became a skilled mechanic, perfecting several good paying patents on machinery.

Leaving Pennsylvania, Mr. Davis removed to Princeton, Bureau county, Illinois, at an early day, and after working at the carpenter's trade for a time engaged in the planing mill business with his brother A. L. Davis until his removal to Christian county about the close of the Civil war in 1866. Locating in Pana he continued to carry on contracting and building for some years, having previously followed that occupation in Bureau county and here he erected many residences and some school houses. He owned two carpenter shops, one of which was blown away by a cyclone. For some years he was connected with the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad at Galesburg. Later he was in the employ of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company as a pattern-maker in their shops at Pana for a number of years and then opened a planing mill, which he conducted until his retirement



D. T. DAVIS



from active business about 1888. In search of health he visited Florida and other places in company with his wife but spent his last days in Pana.

At Galesburg, Illinois, Mr. Davis was united in marriage to Miss Frances A. Dudley, and they began their married life at Ottumwa, Iowa. Mrs. Davis was born in Wyoming county, Pennsylvania, and was educated at Galesburg, this state. Her father, J. A. Dudley, was born in Vermont and on reaching manhood married Feoda Dimmock, a daughter of Elder Dimmock, who was an old time circuit rider of Medina, Ohio, and was well known throughout that part of the country. On her father's side Mrs. Davis had an aunt, Mrs. Martha True, who made her home in Janesville, Wisconsin, and died leaving a large family, of whom Mrs. Davis is now trying to find some trace. In the Dudley family were nine children, namely: Edward, who was a passenger conductor on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad for thirty-five years and was retired from service on account of old age, makes his home in Galesburg; Mrs. Affa Slatter died in Bennington, New York; Davis was a soldier of the Civil war and died in Chicago; William H. is a resident of Los Angeles, California; Frances A. is the widow of our subject; Martha, who was named for Mrs. True, is the wife of Dan Cheney, of Brookfield, Missouri, who is in the employ of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad; Mrs. Ella Emery also makes her home in Brookfield; Solomon, a soldier of the Civil war, was killed in the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad yards at Galesburg; and a daughter died in the east before the emigration of the family to Illinois.

Of the three children born to Mr. and Mrs. Davis one died in infancy. Carrie A.

is the wife of C. B. Tracey, a photographer, and they have two children, Ralph and Ione. Charles A. married Nettie Clark and they have two children, Fred and Bertrand. At his death Mr. Davis was in comfortable circumstances and left his widow well provided for. Besides her home she owns three business blocks and other property adjoining her residence, and in the management of her affairs she has displayed good business ability and sound judgment. On their arrival in Pana, Mr. and Mrs. Davis took up their abode in a six-room frame cottage and there was not a house east or west of their home on the north side of the railroad track, while the surrounding country was nearly all wild prairie land. The first railroad shop was a small structure built about three-quarters of a mile north of the present depot. Few wagon roads had been laid out, much of the land was unfenced and wild game was very plentiful. Mrs. Davis can relate many interesting reminiscences of her early life. The wool for her dresses was all spun at home, the goods being chiefly linsey woolsey, and many pieces of these are now seen in her quilts. Her father was a presser and dyer of goods. The table linen was made of flax home grown and the house was lighted by dip candles or the old grease lamp. She has watched with interest the wonderful changes that have been made since her girlhood and has seen Pana develop from a mere village to a flourishing city. She is a well read woman of progressive ideas and is universally loved and respected by all who know her.

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#### JAMES W. LOCKWOOD.

In taking up the personal history of James W. Lockwood we present to our readers the life record of one who was well worthy of

mention among the representative men of Christian county. He lived a life of uprightness which was characterized by activity in business and by fidelity to all manly principles and thus he left to his family not only a comfortable competence won through his earnest labor, but also the untarnished name which is rather to be chosen than great riches. He was born on the 3rd of August, 1826, in the state of New York and was a son of Sylvan and Nancy (Dolbier) Lockwood, the former a native of the Empire state and the latter of Massachusetts. Both have long since passed away. Their son pursued his education in a boarding school in Bedford, Ohio, and received good educational privileges which he improved so that he was well qualified for teaching when at the age of twenty years he took his place in a schoolroom as an instructor. He followed that profession for fifteen years and then worked on a farm owned by his father.

As a companion and helpmate for life's journey Mr. Lockwood chose Miss Amanda A. Smith, the wedding being celebrated on the 3d of July, 1853. The lady was born March 1, 1831, and is a daughter of Lyman T. and Sarah (Hines) Smith, the former a native of Vermont and the latter of Ohio. The paternal ancestry can be traced back through many generations to the time of the arrival of the Mayflower, for the progenitor of the family in the new world crossed the Atlantic in that historic little vessel. In the year of their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Lockwood removed to Tennessee, where they spent one year, and for one year he occupied the position of paymaster with the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad at Lawrenceburg, Indiana. He then purchased an interest in a farm in connection with his father and operated the land until 1857, when he removed to Illinois. Settling in Christian county, he pur-

chased three hundred and twenty acres of land, where his wife now resides. He afterward bought one hundred and sixty acres, all of which was raw prairie, but with characteristic energy he began its development and improvement and as the years passed by he transformed the wild land into richly cultivated fields which annually returned to him golden harvests for the care and labor he bestowed upon it. In all of his farm work he was progressive and enterprising and his success was well merited.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Lockwood were born the following children: Charles H. is yet under the parental roof. Frank A., who is operating his mother's farm and also owns one hundred and thirteen acres in Stonington township, married Altona Smith and of the six children born to them three are still living, Flora M., Clarence R. and Stella B. William Clayton is engaged in the insurance business in Fort Madison, Iowa. Flora B. is the widow of Darwin Adams and with two of her three children is living with her mother. Her eldest child, Jennie, is now the wife of Homer Parsons, a resident of Rockford, Illinois. Stella died when only one month old. Arthur N., who follows farming in Stonington township, married Lizzie Gardner and has two children, Elmer J. and Earl N. Darwin F. died at the age of one year. James W. is still under the parental roof. The mother and children are all identified with the Baptist church and the family is one of prominence in the community, its members occupying an enviable position in the regard of friends and neighbors.

Mr. Lockwood took an active interest in public affairs, doing everything in his power to promote the welfare of his community and its substantial improvement. For many

years he served as road commissioner and took a pride in having good roads in this part of the state. In politics he was a Republican. He died June 15, 1870, and the community mourned the loss of one of its representative men, while the family lost a most devoted husband and father. He was always true to manly principle, was diligent and enterprising in business and made an excellent record. After his demise his widow continued to conduct the farm for a number of years, but now rents the land and the income derived therefrom supplies her with the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

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#### H. L. HAMMER.

Among the business men of Christian county must be numbered H. L. Hammer, who is now engaged in general merchandising at Clarksdale and is also serving as postmaster at that place. He is a native of this county, born near Taylorville on the 27th of August, 1855, and is a son of A. W. and Rebecca (Langley) Hammer, who claimed Kentucky as their native state. They were among the earliest settlers of Christian county, having located here in 1827, and were eye witnesses of its entire growth and development. The father, who was born in 1821, is still living and now makes his home in Taylorville, but the mother died in 1864.

During his boyhood Mr. Hammer attended the public schools of this county and he commenced life for himself by working on a farm by the month, being thus employed for seventeen years. In the fall of 1874 he went to Taylorville and served as turnkey at the jail for three years. At the end of that time he removed to Hayes City, Kansas, where he was engaged in farming for two years and on his return to Christian

county continued to follow that occupation for two years. During the following three years he conducted a general store at Berry, Sangamon county, Illinois, and then resumed farming, having purchased one hundred acres of land, which he cultivated for seven years. Selling that place, he bought four hundred acres of land on section 24, Bear Creek township, near Clarksdale, and engaged in its operation for five years. At the end of that time he sold the place to J. C. McBride and in August, 1902, purchased the general store of J. S. Wallace at Clarksdale, which he is now so successfully carrying on. He is a wide-awake, energetic business man, who generally carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes, and besides his town property he still owns one hundred and seventy-two acres of fine farming land two miles north of Clarksdale.

In December, 1877, Mr. Hammer was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Brown, whose father was killed in the Civil war, and to them were born four children: Myrtle, now the wife of Charles Greene, of Springfield, Illinois; Jesse, who died at the age of seventeen years; Glenn A. and Frederick, both at home. The mother of these children died in 1887, and in 1893 Mr. Hammer was again married, his second union being with Miss Lizzie J. McWard, a daughter of David McWard, a wealthy farmer of Johnson township. Three children grace the second marriage: David McKinley; Sanford G. and Hugh H.

In his social relations Mr. Hammer is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Court of Honor and the Fraternal Army of America, and in his political views he is an ardent Republican. A man of sound judgment and good business ability his suc-

cess in life is due entirely to his own efforts and he deserves prominent mention among the leading and representative business men of his native county.

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#### O. B. FRALEY.

O. B. Fraley, who is now so acceptably serving as supervisor of May township and is regarded as one of the leading citizens and prominent farmers of that locality, was born on the 30th of April, 1853, in the township where he now makes his home, his parents being John S. and Sarah J. (Wiley) Fraley, natives of Ohio, the former born June 6, 1818, and the latter May 23, 1821. They came to Christian county, Illinois, in October, 1849. Here the mother died on the 12th of April, 1866, and the father, who long survived her, passed away on the 1st of March, 1888.

As a boy O. B. Fraley pursued his studies in the district schools of May township and remained at home with his father until twenty-six years of age, aiding in the labors of the farm. He then went to Oregon, where he was engaged in farming for some time, but in 1887 returned to Illinois. He has since occupied his present farm on section 29, May township, where he has one hundred and twenty acres of very productive land, which he has placed under a high state of cultivation and improved with good buildings, having recently erected a fine new residence.

Mr. Fraley was married in December, 1901, to Miss Julia Lowrance and they stand high in the community where they reside. Mrs. Fraley is the daughter of Jonathan C. and Sarah J. (Travis) Lowrance, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of Illinois. They were early settlers of Christian county and resided in May township.

Mr. Lowrance died in 1887, aged seventy-two years, and his wife survives him, now living in Assumption township. They reared four children to maturity: Julia, William, John and George. Our subject has ever taken quite an active and prominent part in public affairs and has been called upon to fill the office of supervisor of May township for three terms, being the present incumbent. He served on the building committee during the time of the erection of the new court house. He has also served as school trustee and he has discharged his official duties with credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of his constituents.

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#### KARL HIGHT.

The Hight family is too well known in Christian county for the subject of this review to need any special introduction to the readers of this volume, and as assistant cashier of the Illinois State Bank of Assumption he has won for himself a creditable place and name in financial circles in central Illinois. He was born in Macon, Illinois, July 1, 1879, a son of Benjamin F. Hight.

The father was born at Natural Bridge, Virginia, August 12, 1845, and died December 18, 1899, at the age of fifty-four years four months and six days. His parents were Samuel and Margaret (Rapp) Hight, and he was one of five brothers, three of whom, Robert W., William and James L. Hight, are still living, the first two being residents of Macon county. When but two years of age Benjamin F. Hight was brought by his parents to Illinois and in 1855 the family removed from Greene county, where they first settled, to Macon county. In the public schools of the latter Benjamin F. Hight acquired a good knowledge of the common English branches of

learning, supplemented by a college course in Shurtleff College, at Alton, Illinois. His business career was characterized by activity and accomplishment, and while his efforts brought him prosperity they were also factors in advancing the commercial development of the community. After completing his education he was engaged in business with his brother, J. L. Hight, in Macon county, and in the fall of 1883 he came with his family to Assumption. In that year he joined S. D. Moore in founding the Bank of Assumption, now the Illinois State Bank, a financial institution of which he became the president, serving in that capacity until his death and making it one of the leading and reliable financial concerns of this part of the state. He was also associated with Mr. Moore in the establishment of the brick and tile company, an industry of importance to the community, furnishing employment to many workmen, and thus keeping much money in circulation. He was largely instrumental in sinking the coal shaft and thus developing the mining interests of Assumption. He it was who drew up the first papers in order to get the enterprise upon a working basis by the securing of subscribers to incorporate it, and become stockholders therein. He was likewise instrumental in the formation of the Assumption Telephone Company, which has so greatly facilitated business as well as proving of the greatest possible convenience to the people of the county, and he instituted the electric light plant. He was also a factor in the improvement of the cemetery and gave his aid and influence to all that seemed for the benefit of the public. Thus in brief is outlined his business career in Assumption, but not until the movements which he instituted shall have completed their fruition of good in the

world, will the real value of his work be known.

On the 5th of April, 1870, Mr. Hight was united in marriage to Mrs. Belle M. Meach, a sister of Dr. R. E. Tobey, of Decatur, Illinois, the senior member of the dental firm of Tobey & Lacharite of Assumption. By this marriage there were three children, but Charles, the first born, died in infancy. Karl is the second and Alta is the wife of Herman Lacharite, the junior member of the firm of Tobey & Lacharite, practicing dentists of Assumption. On the 28th of May, 1895, Mrs. Hight was called to her final rest, leaving behind her the memory of a noble life filled with good deeds and high purposes. On the 20th of July, 1896, Mr. Hight was again married, his second union being with Miss Amanda Huffer, a popular school teacher of Shelby county, Illinois, a daughter of Josiah and Mary (Carr) Huffer, early residents of Shelby county and both now deceased. By this marriage there is one son, Harold.

Mrs. Hight, in connection with her husband, was very active in church work. In his boyhood days he united with the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he was ever an honored and consistent member, doing much for the upbuilding of the church in Assumption and contributing liberally to the cause. No labor was too hard, no time too precious nor any sacrifice too great if it would promote the church which was so dear to him. He was an active worker in the Sunday-school and League as well as the church and put forth every effort in his power to promote the cause of Christianity. He had the greatest admiration and friendship for children, was the wise counsellor of the young and the benefactor of the poor and needy. He lives to-day enshrined in the hearts of those who knew him and the

affection in which he was held by young and old, rich and poor, is more enduring than any monument of stone or metal could be. In citizenship he was always loyal, and while he never sought public office he never shrank from the performance of any duty which his fellow townsmen wished him to assume. For a number of years he served as president of the school board of Assumption and was largely instrumental in raising the standard of the schools. When he was called from the busy scenes of life, the funeral services over his remains were held in the First Methodist Episcopal church of Assumption, Rev. W. A. Dawson and Rev. J. A. Stout officiating. Every business house in the city was closed as a tribute of respect and the merchants attended the obsequies in a body. His influence is yet felt in the business circles of Assumption and is a potent factor in the lives of many who were inspired by his example of uprightness and nobility of character.

Karl Hight, the son, was but four years of age when he came with his parents to Assumption. He attended the public schools and afterward the Gem City Business College at Quincy, Illinois. He had almost completed the course when he was called home to accept the position of bookkeeper in the Illinois State Bank, of which institution his father was president. In July, 1903, he became assistant cashier and is now filling that position, being active in the management of the institution, which is carried on along safe and conservative lines, and yet is also progressive in its methods.

In 1892 Mr. Hight was married to Miss Edith Hillabrant, a native of Christian county, Illinois, a daughter of George and Lous (Keiler) Hillabrant, who removed from Illinois to Washington, Kansas, where they are now living. There Mrs. Hight was

reared and educated. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hight has been born a little daughter, Alta E., named for his sister. The young couple are leaders in the social life of Assumption and their home is noted for its gracious hospitality. It is one of the substantial residences in the west part of the town and Mr. Hight is also the owner of a nice farm in Assumption township, adjoining the corporation limits of the city. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity and the Fraternal Army of Loyal Americans. In religious faith he is a Methodist. He has worked untiringly for the establishment of a public library in Assumption and is about to see the fulfillment of his hopes and the reward of his labors, for within a few weeks the library will be opened.

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#### MAJOR D. D. SHUMWAY.

One of the most prominent early settlers of Christian county was Major D. D. Shumway, who was born in Williamsburg, Worcester county, Massachusetts, September 28, 1813. Attracted by the glowing accounts of the far west he, on attaining his majority, emigrated from the Bay state in 1834 and settled at first in Zanesville, Ohio, where he remained until the year 1837, when he removed to Zanesville, Montgomery county, Illinois, and embarked in mercantile business.

On the 3d of June, 1841, Major Shumway was married to Miss Emily R. Rountree, daughter of Hon. Hiram Rountree, of Hillsboro, Illinois. In the spring of 1843 he removed to Christian county and on the wild prairie, some four miles east of Taylorville, improved a farm of seven hundred acres, on which he resided until 1851, when he became a resident of Taylorville.

There he engaged in mercantile business

and continued with marked success until 1858, when he retired. He expended a large part of his accumulated wealth in improving his landed property and especially in adorning and beautifying his homestead adjacent to town. He was a gentleman of culture and taste and it was one of the chief purposes of his life to make his home pleasant and attractive to his family. Soon after his retirement from the mercantile line he commenced the practice of law, the reading of which he had pursued during his leisure hours while in business. In this profession he won success and his practice at Taylorville gained for him a distinctively representative clientage.

Major Shumway was strictly a self-made man and his qualifications were such as to fit him for any pursuit or position. He possessed one of the finest libraries in the country and his fund of information on all the leading topics of the day was as ample as his collection of books was complete. He was a man of generous disposition and highly esteemed by his fellow citizens. He filled many public offices with honor. While a resident of Montgomery county he served as county commissioner. In 1845 he was elected to the state legislature from the counties of Christian and Shelby and at the following session was elected clerk of the state senate. In 1848 he was elected a member of the state constitutional convention and was prominent in the important deliberations of that body. He also served as major in the state militia. For several years he was an honored member of both the County and State Agricultural Societies. At the time of his death and for several years previous he was master in chancery of the county.

To Major Shumway is due much praise for advancing the material prosperity of

Taylorville and Christian county. By his efforts and speeches he contributed very largely to securing railway communications through Christian county. He gave liberally of his time and means to all public enterprises. While a member of the legislature he never failed to guard the interests of his own district and to advance wise and prudent legislation for all parts of this great commonwealth. The location of the Terre Haute & St. Louis Railroad through the southeastern part of the county was brought about by his untiring efforts. He was also one of the principal promoters and incorporators, and a director of the Springfield & Southeastern Railroad.

Major Shumway devoted much time to the interests of Masonry. In 1839 he was made a Master Mason and was a charter member of Mound Lodge and the Taylorville Chapter. After serving his lodge as worshipful master for eighteen consecutive years he was complimented on his retiring therefrom with a past master's jewel. He was high priest of his chapter at the time of his death and was buried with Masonic honors. He passed away on the 9th of May, 1870, and his wife died in 1886. His family consisted of seven children: Hiram P., deceased; Sarah N.; D. Dwight; August F.; John N. C.; Emily R. and Ellen R.

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#### CLINTON HOWARD.

Clinton Howard is a retired farmer residing in Pana. He was born in Madison county, Ohio, October 19, 1835, his parents being Amos J. and Rachel (Kirkley) Howard. The father was a native of New Hampshire, whence he removed to Ohio and there he followed the occupation of farming. He died upon the old home place in the Buckeye state in 1882 and the farm there is

now occupied by Marion Howard, a brother of our subject, who is an extensive landowner, his possessions aggregating twelve hundred acres.

Clinton Howard acquired his early education in the public schools of his native state and supplemented his preliminary training by a course of study in Mechanicsburg Academy and afterward in Antioch College. He started out upon his business career in 1861 as a farmer. In his youth he had become familiar with the work of field and meadow through the assistance which he gave to his father on the old home place. After beginning business on his own account his attention was directed to the raising of stock, including sheep and cattle, and he was a very successful stockdealer of his native state. In 1876, however, he sold his land in Ohio and came to Pana, where he purchased a beautiful residence and since that time has lived retired from active business cares. He still, however, retains some banking interests in Ohio.

On the 1st of January, 1861, Mr. Howard was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Jane Perkins, a native of Madison county, Ohio. Their union has been blessed with but one child, Percy. Mr. and Mrs. Howard belonged to the First Methodist Episcopal church, contributed liberally to its support and took an active part in its work. He gives his political allegiance to the Democracy and has been one of its staunch advocates since voting for Stephen A. Douglas in 1860. While living in Ohio he served as township trustee, but has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking, preferring to devote his time and energies to his business affairs. Through his connection with agricultural interests he followed practical and progressive methods, manifested

untiring perseverance and thus as the years advanced won the prosperity which now enables him to enjoy a well earned rest.

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#### ALBERT DAVIDSON.

Albert Davidson, who is one of the leading citizens of Mosquito township, has made farming his life occupation and now owns and operates a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 27. He was born in Greene county, this state, on the 19th of April, 1840, and is a son of Ellis and Margaret (Wright) Davidson. The father, who was a native of North Carolina, came to Illinois in 1829 and was actively identified with the early development of this state. It was in 1864 that he became a resident of Christian county and here his remaining days were passed, dying on the 4th of February, 1877. His wife had died in 1875.

In the county of his nativity Albert Davidson grew to manhood and is indebted to its district schools for the early educational privileges he enjoyed. In 1864 he came to Christian county and with his youngest brother bought two hundred acres of land near Mount Auburn, now the property of Stephen Sheppard. This was subsequently sold and he then purchased eighty acres of his present farm on section 27, Mosquito township, to which he has since added another eighty acre tract. It was all raw prairie land when it came into his possession, but he has converted the same into a well improved and valuable farm. He built his present home in 1868, has planted trees and made many other useful and valuable improvements to the place. He has watched with interest the wonderful changes that have taken place in the county during the last forty years and has materially aided in its development and upbuilding.



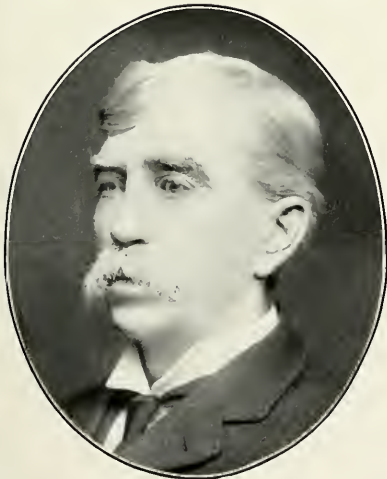
SCOTT DAVIDSON



MRS. SCOTT DAVIDSON



LOUISE DAVIDSON



ALBERT DAVIDSON



MRS. ALBERT DAVIDSON



On the 3d of January, 1867, Mr. Davidson led to the marriage altar Miss Mary S. Henderson, who was born in Madison county, this state, January 21, 1846. Her father, John A. Henderson, was a native of Virginia and came to Illinois at an early day. In 1855 he became a resident of Christian county, locating two and a half miles northeast of Mount Auburn. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Davidson were born two children: W. Scott, who married Agnes Griswold and has one child, Louise; and Alice Daisy, who died at the age of four and a half years. The son is now living on a part of his father's farm. The family is widely and favorably known throughout the community in which they live.

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#### ISAIAH POWDER.

One of the representative citizens and prominent farmers of Locust township is Isaiah Powder, whose home is on section 1. He comes originally from Ohio, his birth having occurred in Hamilton county, that state, November 28, 1831, and he is a son of Joseph and Catherine Powder, also natives of the Buckeye state, where the mother made her home throughout life, dying there in 1847. In 1862 the father came to Christian county, Illinois, where his death occurred about 1883.

Isaiah Powder spent his early life in Ohio, attending the district schools until he acquired a good practical education. At the age of nineteen he started out to make his own way in the world and was engineer in a steam mill for some time. He assisted in building two mills in Missouri, one in Indiana and another in Ohio. Subsequently he was engaged in the butcher business for two years and then came to Christian county

in 1854 and turned his attention to farming, operating rented land for nine years. At the end of that period he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of his present farm in Locust township. Prosperity attended his well directed efforts and he added to his property, now owning a fine farm of two hundred and ten acres, which is well improved and under excellent cultivation. He erected all of the buildings upon the place. In connection with general farming he is engaged in the breeding of fine stock, his specialties being shorthorn cattle, Poland China hogs and Percheron draft horses, and he has some registered stock upon his place. For twenty-five years he has devoted considerable attention to the raising of hogs and he has met with excellent success, being a good judge of all kinds of farm animals and a man of excellent business ability and sound judgment.

On the 26th of March, 1854, Mr. Powder married Miss Catherine Gresh, a daughter of John Gresh, who was a native of Pennsylvania. Five children blessed this union, namely: Albert R., who is married and is engaged in farming near Assumption; Candis, now the widow of George Herrin; Murry, who died at the age of twenty-one years; Iva, the wife of Charles Thrawl, who follows farming in May township, this county; and Frank, who is married and is also farming in May township. Mrs. Powder and her daughter, Mrs. Herrin, are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Powder is identified with the Masonic Lodge, No. 128, of Assumption. He uses his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the Republican party, and has held the offices of highway commissioner and school director. He is practically a self-made man, for his success in life has been achieved by his own industry, perse-

verance and good management and he well deserves the prosperity that has come to him.

### AMOS A. RHODES

Amos A. Rhodes was for many years identified with agricultural interests in Christian county and was also a capable county official for a number of years. His record as a man and citizen was above reproach and though he has passed away his memory is yet enshrined in the hearts of many who knew him. He was born in Shelby county, Illinois, on the 23d of May, 1841, and was of Scotch-Irish lineage. Prior to the Revolutionary war the family was founded in America, for Hezekiah Rhodes, the great-grandfather of our subject, was a member of the Patriot army. Jesse Rhodes, the grandfather, was born in North Carolina and followed the occupation of farming. Believing that he might have better business opportunities in the west he came to Illinois in 1830, settling in Shelby county. Here his force of character and fitness for leadership made him a man of considerable prominence and influence and he was honored with a number of public offices, being elected upon the Democratic ticket. He was appointed by the governor as one of the commissioners to select a site for the county seat of Macon county and they determined upon the site of the present city of Decatur. His son, James M. Rhodes, the father of our subject, was born and reared in Wilson county, Tennessee, and after arriving at years of maturity was joined in wedlock to Miss Pernetty Wakefield, whose birth occurred in Shelby county, Illinois, October 13, 1824. At the time of her death, which occurred in April, 1894, she was the oldest native citizen of Shelby

county. Her father, Andrew Wakefield, was born in Georgia and became one of the pioneer settlers of Illinois, locating in Shelby county about 1820, in the district which afterward became known as the Wakefield settlement. There he entered land from the government, establishing one of the first permanent homes of the locality. Indians were still numerous in the neighborhood and primitive conditions existed on every hand, but with the true courageous spirit of the pioneer he bravely faced all the difficulties and obstacles and in course of time developed a good home for his family. His death occurred at the age of forty-eight years. Both his father and his mother, Charles and Anna Wakefield, were born on a ship on which their respective parents were crossing the Atlantic to America.

The parents of Amos A. Rhodes were married in Shelby county, Illinois, in 1840. The father was one of the pioneer teachers there and also became extensively engaged in farming. His death occurred in Shelby county when he was forty-three years of age. In the family were two sons, Amos A. and Jesse, and the latter was born in 1844 and died in the service of his country in 1864 from disease contracted in the army. He was a member of Company G, One Hundred and Forty-third Illinois Infantry, and was a valiant defender of the Union cause.

Amos A. Rhodes, whose name introduces this review, was reared in the county of his nativity and began his education in a little log schoolhouse, in which his father was the teacher. During the period of the Civil war he was a student in Quincy, Illinois, and would have graduated there in 1863 had not the government appropriated the building for hospital purposes. Mr. Rhodes then became a factor in business life by the estab-

lishment of a grocery store in Pana in 1864 under the firm name of Eichelberger & Rhodes. For five years he was connected with that enterprise and then turned his attention to the real estate business. In the year 1873 he was called to public life, being elected county treasurer and ex-officio county collector of Christian county on the Democratic ticket. Twice he was re-elected so that he was the incumbent in the office for six years. When his term had expired in the year 1879 he retired to his farm two miles south of Pana, having resolved to live a private life, but his fitness for public office led to his selection for the position of township supervisor and he acted in that capacity for three terms. In the year 1884 he was again called to the county seat, being elected clerk of the circuit court, which position he acceptably filled for four years. Declining to again accept the nomination he then returned to his farm of one hundred and twenty acres lying just west of Pana.

On the 1st of January, 1865, Mr. Rhodes was united in marriage to Miss Dora Jageman, a daughter of Ignatz Jageman, of Madison county, Illinois. She was born in Hesse Darmstadt, Germany, and when a little maiden of six years was brought by her parents to America, the family settling in Trenton, New Jersey. The father was a prominent citizen of Furth, his native city, and there served as burgomaster, an office equivalent to that of mayor in this country. Four children were born unto Mr. and Mrs. Rhodes: Edward J., who is now circuit clerk of Christian county and resides in Taylorville; Charles A., who is secretary of the Christian County Savings, Loan & Building Association of Taylorville; and two sons that died in infancy. In 1892 Mr. Rhodes was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who passed away on the 6th of

May of that year. She had received good educational privileges in both German and English, completing her studies in the schools of New Jersey. Her natural refinement and many graces of character endeared her to all with whom she came in contact. Fraternally Mr. Rhodes was connected with Pana Lodge, No. 226, A. F. & A. M., and with Orient Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star. He was a man of firm purpose and of unfaltering fidelity to what he believed to be right, and all who knew him entertained for him warm regard. He died in April, 1902, leaving behind him an untarnished name. In all of his business affairs he was straightforward and honorable and in office was prompt and reliable, so that he won the respect of young and old, rich and poor.

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#### A. F. KRIEGER.

Among the worthy citizens that Ohio has furnished to Illinois is numbered A. F. Krieger, who was born in Darke county of the Buckeye state June 26, 1849. His parents were A. S. and Amelia (Myers) Krieger, both of whom were natives of Germany. On leaving the fatherland in 1848 they crossed the Atlantic to the United States and established their home in Darke county, Ohio, where the father continued to reside until 1864, when he removed to Elkhart, Logan county, Illinois, and remained there until called to his final rest. He passed away in October, 1869, and his widow spent her last days in Christian county, Illinois, where she died July 11, 1881.

In the county of his nativity A. F. Krieger was reared until he had attained the age of fifteen years and during that period he pursued his education in the common schools of Darke county. In 1864 he ar-

rived in Christian county, Illinois, and he continued to work upon the home farm until twenty-one years of age, when he started out in life to make his own way in the world. He worked by the month for eight months and then rented four hundred acres of land for a year. On the expiration of that period he removed to his present farm, then renting two hundred acres. He afterward purchased the one hundred and ninety-three acres of land which he now owns, becoming the possessor of this property after his mother's death in 1881. In connection with the cultivation of the soil Mr. Krieger is extensively and successfully engaged in the breeding of fine Percheron horses and has some of the finest horses in this section of the country. He has sold two-year-old colts for two thousand dollars and his stock always commands the highest market prices. Upon his farm are large barns and excellent equipments for the care of his stock and he also has a very fine residence and all modern accessories which are found upon the model farms of the twentieth century.

On the 10th of December, 1872, Mr. Krieger was united in marriage to Miss Eunice D. Hurd, a native of New York, who died April 21, 1903. By that marriage there were born seven children: Emma M., who married Earl D. Schieb, a farmer of Christian county; Grace, the wife of B. R. Pippin, now a grocer of Edinburg, Illinois; Arthur L., who married Lena Greive and is operating land in this county; Allen T., Minnie L., Augustus and Clara, all at home.

Mr. Krieger and his family belong to the German Reformed church and he is a charter member of Stonington Lodge, M. W. A. His political allegiance is given to the Democracy and he served as assessor for three terms, while throughout nearly all of his residence here he has been a school director.

The cause of education finds in him a warm friend, interested in promoting the standard of the schools and in citizenship he is always progressive and enterprising, putting forth every effort to promote general progress along substantial lines of development. A cordial, genial manner wins him friends and he is a man entirely free from ostentation or display, yet possessing many excellent traits of character which have won for him high esteem.

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#### D. O. DANIELS.

D. O. Daniels, an honored veteran of the Civil war and one of the representative farmers of Christian county, whose home is on section 13, Mosquito township, was born on the 4th of May, 1845, in Fulton county, Pennsylvania, of which state his parents, Daniel and Rachel Daniels, were also natives. In 1858 the family came to Illinois and settled in Christian county but the father is now a resident of Pawnee Rock, Kansas. The mother died about 1875.

The subject of this sketch was about thirteen years of age when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Illinois and as there were no schools in the locality where they settled his education was principally acquired before coming to Christian county. His early life was passed in a rather uneventful manner until he entered the service of his country during the dark days of the Civil war, enlisting on the 4th of February, 1865, as a member of Company K, One Hundred and Fifty-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He first went to Louisville, Kentucky, and from there to Nashville. His command subsequently started for Texas but the boat on which they sailed sank while going down the Mississippi. Mr. Daniels remained in the service for some time after

hostilities ceased and was honorably discharged in September, 1865.

Returning home he worked on his father's farm for a year and then purchased a prairie team of five yoke of oxen and a twenty-four-inch breaking plow. With this outfit he engaged in breaking prairie for three and a half or four dollars per acre and the first year saved seven hundred dollars. This he invested in forty acres of railroad land and renting eighty acres more he commenced farming on his own account, although he continued to break prairie for two years thereafter. Ten years ago he had the misfortune to lose his house by fire and then removed to his present location on the cross-roads, where he has a fine large residence and good and substantial outbuildings. He is now the owner of one hundred acres of rich and arable land and in connection with general farming he has engaged in the buying and feeding of stock.

In 1867 Mr. Daniels led to the marriage altar Miss Louisa V. Fletcher, a daughter of John G. Fletcher, who was one of the early settlers of this county. By this union the following children have been born: Anna, wife of John Marshall, a grocer of Decatur; Otis, who is married and is engaged in the transfer business in Macon, Macon county; Nona, wife of Elmer Ellis, a farmer of Christian county; John D., who is now attending a business college in Decatur; Elmer, at home; Carrie, who died at the age of sixteen years; and Daisy, who died at the age of four years.

Religiously Mr. Daniels is a member of the Christian church and politically is identified with the Democratic party. He has filled the offices of school director, constable, township clerk and collector, and his public duties have always been most faithfully and satisfactorily performed. He is one of the

oldest residents of Mosquito township, having for forty-five years made his home within its borders and he has taken an active part in its development and upbuilding.

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#### WILLIAM AUGUSTUS GOODRICH.

William Augustus Goodrich is one of the honored pioneers of Christian county. Long years have come and gone since he arrived here and great changes have occurred. The traveler of several decades ago would not recognize in the improved condition of the county to-day the district which he visited at that time for it was then a region in which the land was wild and uncultivated. There were few homes and even Taylorville was nothing save a courthouse, there being no residents there at that period. Wild game was upon the prairies and the entire work of improvement and advancement lay in the future. Mr. Goodrich has borne an active and helpful part in the work of upbuilding and deserves the gratitude of present and future generations for what he has accomplished in this way.

He was born November 24, 1818, in Pittsfield, Berkshire county, Massachusetts, a son of Orrin and Lydia Goodrich. His father was born January 15, 1771, and died on the 17th of July, 1855. For more than twenty-five years he served as a magistrate and was very prominent in public affairs, being elected to represent his district in each branch of the state legislature. He aided in molding public thought and action and his influence was felt on the side of progress and improvement. In 1793 he was united in marriage to Miss Lydia Sackett and after her death was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary Bagg. William A. Goodrich remained in Massachusetts until nineteen years of age and during the period acquired his educa-

tion in the public schools. When a young man, ambitious and energetic, he resolved to seek his home in the west and take advantage of the opportunities which are always found in a growing country. In November, 1837, therefore, he arrived in Springfield, Illinois, where he had a sister living.

There he remained for two years, being engaged in railroading. The day following the presidential election of 1840—at which time he cast his first vote for Martin Van Buren—he came to Christian county. His father had purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land near Mount Auburn, Illinois, for which he paid ten dollars per acre, and William A. Goodrich and his brother settled upon that land. They had a team of horses and two hundred dollars in money with which to make a start in the new country. They were wide-awake and progressive and for ten years Mr. Goodrich continued to reside upon that farm, laboring earnestly in its development and producing excellent results in his farm work.

On the 24th of December, 1841, was celebrated the marriage of our subject and Miss Maria N. Augur, of Mount Auburn, Illinois, who died in 1854. Unto them were born three children: Charles Francis, a farmer residing near Taylorville; Julia Helena, deceased, wife of I. N. Richardson, who is living near the county seat; and Henry Augustus, who follows farming near Taylorville. On the 17th of June, 1855, Mr. Goodrich was again married, his second union being with Miss Martha A. Ryan, of Springfield, Ohio, by whom he had one son, William R., who died in infancy. In 1898 Mr. Goodrich was called upon to mourn the loss of his second wife.

In public affairs in Christian county Mr. Goodrich has been prominent and his labors

have been very helpful and beneficial in many ways. In August, 1843, he was elected surveyor of Christian county and filled that position for seven years, or until 1850, when he was elected county sheriff on the Democratic ticket. In order to more readily discharge the duties of the position he took up his abode in the city. He served for two years and then continued as deputy sheriff under William C. Brentz. In 1854 he was again elected sheriff, but before the expiration of his second term he was appointed to take charge of the county clerk's office and was the incumbent in that position for more than four terms, being elected at four successive elections. He thus served for seventeen years and in 1873 retired from office as he had entered it—with the confidence and good will of the public. He gave his allegiance to the Democratic party in early life but in 1868 he became a supporter of General Grant and has since affiliated with the Republican party. Keeping well informed on the questions and issues of the day, he has ever been able to support his position by intelligent argument.

Mr. Goodrich became interested in real estate operations and in this line has done considerable business. He erected a number of residences in Taylorville and in 1853 laid out an addition of forty acres to the city. Fraternally he is a Mason, having become a member of Mound Lodge, No. 122, A. F. & A. M., in Taylorville, in 1852. For more than half a century he has been a worthy follower of the craft and exemplifies in his life its beneficent teachings. He has passed all the chairs of the local lodge, has been a member of the grand lodge and has also taken the degrees of the Royal Arch chapter. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Baptist church. The

residence of few men in Christian county antedates that of Mr. Goodrich. When he first arrived here he went to Taylorville to have the deed of his land recorded and there was not a building in the town save the courthouse. He stood on the courthouse steps looking for miles across the prairie and he saw deer and wolves on the present site of the city. He has taken a very commendable interest in everything that has been done here in the way of improvement and upbuilding and certainly has borne his full share in the progress of the county. His business affairs have been very carefully managed and has resulted in bringing to him success. In public office he has been fearless, faithful and honorable and over the record of his private life and official career there falls no shadow of wrong or suspicion of evil.

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#### B. F. PARRISH.

The subject of this sketch is one of the most successful and enterprising farmers of Bear Creek township, his home being on section 1. He was born on the 26th day of July, 1846, in Hampshire county, West Virginia, of which state his parents, Josiah and Mary A. (Sloanaker) Parrish, were also natives. On leaving West Virginia in 1870 the father came to Illinois and first located in La Salle county, but after residing there for two years he came to Christian county, where he spent the remainder of his life, dying here in 1893. The mother of our subject had long since departed this life, her death occurring in West Virginia in 1864 before the emigration of the family to this state.

B. F. Parrish grew to manhood in his native state and received a good practical education in its public schools. On attain-

ing his majority he started out in life for himself by working by the month on a farm and was thus employed for four years, after which he engaged in farming on rented land for five years. In 1875 he removed to Clarksdale, this county, and was there engaged in wagonmaking and blacksmithing until 1883. In partnership with his brother, D. W. Parrish, he made his first purchase of land, consisting of a tract of one hundred and five acres, and they afterward bought sixty acres more and still later a tract of forty-five acres, making two hundred and ten acres. In 1885 they divided the property and our subject has since added to his share until he now has three hundred eighty-four and a half acres. He has made all of the improvements upon the place and has converted it into one of the most desirable farms of its size in the county. He has an interest in residence property and six lots in Clarksdale and is engaged in the buying and shipping of hay at that place. In business affairs he has ever been found upright and honorable and due success has not been denied him.

Mr. Parrish was married in 1878, the lady of his choice being Miss Martha Ruckman, a daughter of Thomas Ruckman, who was a native of West Virginia. She died on the 26th of February, 1899, leaving two children, namely: Josiah, who is married and engaged in farming in Johnson township; and Maggie, at home with her father. In June, 1901, Mr. Parrish wedded Mrs. Ella Barrett, a daughter of Peter English, who was a native of Illinois. By this union one child has been born, Roy Franklin.

Fraternally Mr. Parrish is a member of the Court of Honor and politically is a supporter of the Democratic party. He filled the office of highway commissioner for ten years and was a member of the school board

for fifteen years, his official duties being most efficiently and satisfactorily performed. As a citizen he ever stands ready to discharge any duty that devolves upon him and he stands high in public esteem.

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#### JOSEPH H. BERTMANN.

Success is determined by one's ability to recognize opportunity and to pursue this with a resolute, unflagging energy. It results from continued labor, and the man who thus accomplishes his purpose usually becomes an important factor in business circles of the community with which he is connected. Through such means Mr. Bertmann has attained a leading place among the representative men of Morrisonville and his well spent and honorable life commands the respect of all who know him.

Mr. Bertmann was born on a farm in Jersey county, this state, his parents being Frederick and Antoinette (Brockamp) Bertmann, both of whom are of German descent. The father was born in Germany on the 2nd of January, 1840, and came to America in 1857, when seventeen years of age. He became a resident of Jersey county, Illinois, and although he started out for himself without capital, he is to-day a wealthy man, estimated to be worth about seventy-five thousand dollars. His time and attention have been mainly devoted to farming and in his undertakings he has been eminently successful. He has reared a large family of eleven children and provided all with good educational advantages.

During his boyhood and youth J. H. Bertmann attended the public schools near his home. At an early age it became his desire to enter mercantile life and when nineteen he became identified with the grocery business in Morrisonville, taking charge of a

store purchased by his father, and at the age of twenty-one he bought the store of his father, and although he ran in debt for it, by close attention to business and his natural ability he soon increased his trade and settled the obligation. Later he added a stock of dry goods, carpets, boots and shoes and to-day has one of the best equipped general stores in the county. During the sixteen years he has carried on the business his sales have steadily increased even during the hard times and he now enjoys a large and lucrative trade. He occupies a new double store, having five thousand square feet of floor space and he carries a stock valued between fifteen and twenty thousand dollars. He is also a director in the First National Bank of Morrisonville and is regarded as one of the most enterprising and progressive business men of the town.

In 1889 Mr. Bertmann was united in marriage to Miss Laura Fleigle, a daughter of Philip Fleigle, who was born in Pennsylvania of German parentage. Four children bless this union, namely: Frederick, Mary, Dena and Frank, all at home. The family are communicants of the Catholic church and stand high socially. Mr. Bertmann recently built a handsome residence at a cost of seven thousand dollars, it being supplied with all modern improvements. It stands in the midst of a block of ground and is an ornament to the city. In his political views Mr. Bertmann is a Democrat and was prevailed upon to serve as alderman of Morrisonville one term, but does not care for political honors, preferring to devote his undivided attention to his family and business interests. He loses no time from his business, not even for recreation. He likes, however, a good horse and keeps one, from which he derives considerable pleasure. It is by close attention to business, combined

with sound judgment and good executive ability, that he has met with the wonderful success that has crowned his efforts and made him one of the leading business men of the county.

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### R. W. JOHNSON, M. D.

Dr. R. W. Johnson is now engaged in the practice of medicine in Assumption and is also proprietor of a drug store. He is numbered among the honored citizens of Christian county, his memory forming a connecting link between the primitive past and the progressive present. He has been one of the upbuilders of Assumption and has promoted its material interest in a way that has produced results of far-reaching importance to the community. His acquaintance is so wide and the regard in which he is held is so universal that no history of the county would be complete without mention of Dr. Johnson.

A native of Hampshire county, Virginia, the Doctor was born on the 28th of February, 1850, a son of Joseph W. and Annie (Pugh) Johnson. His father became one of the early settlers of Christian county. Leaving his old home in Virginia, he traveled by way of the Great Lakes to Detroit, Michigan, and thence to Illinois, where he arrived in 1852, when his son, the Doctor, was but two years of age. The only railroad at that time in this part of the country was the Great Western, now a part of the Wabash system. Mr. Johnson continued his journey to Springfield over that road and by wagon, traversed the twenty miles that lay between the capital and his destination. He first stopped at the great historic place known as Blue Point. It was in reality but a stage station. A public house had been opened there in 1830 and supper, lodging

and breakfast and also feed for the horses was furnished for fifty cents at the Blue Point Inn. At one time Abraham Lincoln owned the land upon which the little hostelry stood. Joseph W. Johnson went out upon the prairie and erected a log cabin in Buckhart township, being one of the first to settle in that part of the county. His home was east of the present town of Edinburg and in that vicinity he improved two good farms. When he came deer were to be seen in great droves and wild game of all kinds was very plentiful. The land was largely unclaimed and uncultivated and many of the now thriving towns and villages in central Illinois had not yet sprung into existence. In his boyhood days the Doctor assisted his father in breaking prairie, using five yoke of oxen and a plow. He remembers with pleasure many of the incidents of pioneer days, although it involved much labor in order to reclaim the wild land for the purposes of cultivation. Dr. Johnson has many a time cut grain with a sickle and has assisted in cradling it. He has also cultivated corn with a single shovel plow and in those days the seed was dropped by hand and covered with a hoe. After the corn was shelled, which was done mostly at night, it was taken into the house and placed in sacks or tied up in sheets or other convenient pieces of cloth. It sold at Moweaqua for ten or twelve and a half cents per bushel. The stock was driven to St. Louis, which was the nearest market and the men often had to sleep out at nights when taking their hogs to that city. The first pair of trousers which he ever owned were made from tow and on more than one occasion he has helped to scratch flax. In those old days the sheep were sheared upon the farm and the wool was converted into clothing, the spinning wheels being operated by the mother and

daughters of the household from early morning until evening. Many men went barefooted to church for in those days the settlers had few of the luxuries and even were without many of the comforts of life of the present day. The first lamp which the Johnson family ever had was made by placing grease in an old iron teakettle lid brought from Virginia and into this the wick was inserted. Then dipped candles were made and later molds were used. In those old pioneer times a beef was killed and divided among the neighbors and the tallow was also given to each family so that candles could be made from it. Dr. Johnson was sixteen years of age before he purchased a pair of shoes at a store. Everything used upon the farm either for eating or for clothing was of home manufacture. There were many sloughs and ponds in the county and it was thought that there was no bottom to them and that the land could not possibly be made cultivable.

Dr. Johnson has made many a rail for fences and in fact has performed all the work incident to the cultivation and improvement of a farm in the early days. Great blizzards, too, would sweep over the country and the family at times were storm bound for days. In 1870 Joseph W. Johnson was elected a justice of the peace of Edinburg, before the town was incorporated. Incorporation took place in 1873 and he was then elected police magistrate and held that office for about twenty years. During the last fourteen years of his life he lived in the home of his son, Dr. Johnson, where he passed away in 1896, at the age of seventy-six years. His wife died in 1881 at Edinburg when more than fifty years of age. By this marriage there were two sons, the younger being Edward E., who is a graduate of the Rush Medical College of

Chicago and is now a prominent practicing physician of Carroll, Iowa.

Dr. R. W. Johnson obtained his early education in the log schoolhouse supplied with slab benches. School was conducted on the subscription plan and he had to walk four miles each morning and evening in order to enjoy the advantages of instruction afforded in that primitive temple of learning. During the summer months his aid was needed upon the farm and from the time of early spring planting until crops were harvested in the late autumn he worked in the fields so that there were only left the winter months, in which he might attend school. However, he was ambitious to secure an education and when a boy of about seventeen years he worked for his board in Taylorville in order that he might attend the public schools of that city. He lived with a physician and had to curry the Doctor's horse and perform other work about the place. On one occasion the Doctor gave him some pills to make. This was the beginning of his services in connection with the medical profession. He rather liked the work assigned to him and took a fancy to reading medical text-books. He says that he owes his connection with the medical fraternity to Dr. Lewis Clark, who is now living retired in Decatur. In 1869 he entered the Cincinnati College of Physicians & Surgeons and was graduated in 1872. During his collegiate days he also read and studied under the direction of Dr. J. Peebles, then of Edinburg, Illinois, but now of Nebraska.

After his graduation Dr. Johnson went to Shelby county, Illinois, and opened an office at Oconee in the fall of 1872. There he was successfully established in a good practice within a short time and continued the work there until 1877, when he came to Assumption. After five years' practice here he pur-

chased of Mr. Brown a drug store and has conducted it continuously in connection with his practice since 1882 and in the early days he rode over the country on horseback, unless the sloughs made it impossible to do even this, when he would have to cover the distance on foot. In 1877 he opened his office in the Commercial block, where he is still located. He now has a well equipped office supplied with the accessories necessary to facilitate his medical practice and surgical work and he keeps in touch with the advanced thought of the times and has been very successful in his ministrations to suffering humanity.

When Dr. Johnson arrived in Assumption it was a little village of about three hundred inhabitants, most of the people being French. Cattle were still here in the corporation limits and the houses were very few. He was the first to have laid a twelve-foot sidewalk in front of his place. He has bought and sold considerable real estate and at the present time is engaged quite largely in speculating in land. He laid out the east part of the town. He has served as supervisor of Assumption township for eight years and has been a member of the town board and of the school board and has exercised his official prerogatives for the substantial improvement of his city. He organized the Hackberry Camp, M. W. A., and remained with it as one of its charter members.

Dr. Johnson was married in Oconee, Shelby county, Illinois, March 10, 1874, the lady of his choice being Miss Augusta Hinton, who was born, reared, educated and married in that town. She is a daughter of John Hinton, a merchant and prominent citizen of Oconee and also an extensive cattle trader. He married Mary E. Whittington, also of Shelby county, the Whittingtons

being among the earliest pioneer settlers there. Both Mr. and Mrs. Hinton are now deceased. Unto Dr. Johnson and his wife have been born fourteen children, but three of the number died in infancy. The others are: Gertie, who is a popular school teacher in West End school of Assumption; Roy, who is assisting his father in the drug store; Charles, who having graduated in the Assumption schools, afterward attended Bloomington University for two years and is now a student in the College of Physicians & Surgeons of St. Louis, Missouri; Roberta, who is a nurse in Bennett Hospital of Chicago; Blanche, who is a graduate of the Assumption school; Robert; Joseph; Ivy; Marcas L.; Sadie; and Helen. Marcas was named in honor of the pioneer of Assumption, who died at the age of ninety-four years. Dr. Johnson and his family are members of the First Presbyterian church of Assumption and they live in a modern home east of the church. In Assumption they are very widely and favorably known and without invidious distinction Dr. Johnson might well be termed one of the foremost residents of Assumption and of Christian county.

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#### WILLIAM Q. WINTERS.

William Q. Winters, one of Rosamond township's best and most reliable citizens, was born on the 4th of October, 1835, in Winterville, Jefferson county, Ohio, which place was named in honor of his great-grandfather, Isaiah Winters, who was one of the first settlers in that locality and was a farmer by occupation. Our subject's grandfather, Abraham Winters, followed the same pursuit and continued to make his home in Jefferson county throughout life. That county was the birthplace of our sub-

ject's father, Wilson Winters, and there he was married to Miss Priscilla Lake. Like his ancestors he also engaged in agricultural pursuits. Two years after his son came to this county he removed thither and died here in 1873, at the age of sixty-two years. His wife, who long survived him, passed away in 1897, at the advanced age of eighty-four. They were the parents of twelve children, six sons and six daughters, all of whom reached man and womanhood, and one son and three daughters are still living.

During his boyhood William Q. Winters attended the Red school house in Wells township, Jefferson county, Ohio, and early became familiar with farm work in its various departments. He also learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed for about fifteen years, but his time and attention have mainly been devoted to agricultural pursuits. When the country became involved in Civil war he enlisted in Company D, Forty-ninth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and was in the service twelve months, participating in the engagements at Nashville, Tullahoma, Chattanooga and Stone River. On receiving an honorable discharge he returned to his home in Jefferson county, Ohio, and worked in the car shops at Steubenville, Ohio, for three years.

At Wellsville, Jefferson county, Ohio, Mr. Winters was married February 11, 1868, to Miss Elizabeth M. Kirkpatrick, a daughter of William and Sarah (Culbert) Kirkpatrick, who were natives of Ireland and pioneers of Jefferson county, Ohio. Mrs. Winters was born February 24, 1841, and is the youngest in a family of eight children, of whom two died in infancy and Albert after reaching manhood. Mr. and Mrs. Winters have six children: Isaac and Robert, both residents of Rosamond township;

Thomas, now in California; Della May, at home; Birdie R., wife of Getys Graden, who lives near Ohlman, Montgomery county, Illinois; and William W., at home.

It was on the 2d of January, 1867, that Mr. Winters came to Christian county, Illinois, and took up his residence on section 15, Rosamond township. At that time not one-third of the land of the township was under cultivation and his own tract of eighty acres was wild and unimproved but he soon placed it under the plow and he had a fine farm. He has added to his place and now has two hundred acres under a high state of cultivation and well improved with good buildings. His first home here was a small house, only sixteen by twenty feet in dimensions, and the walls were unplastered until the fall after his arrival here. The ground was so wet at that time that he had to dig down only eight or ten feet for water, which was drawn from the well by a bucket. Things have materially changed since that time and Mr. Winters has all of the conveniences and accessories found upon the well regulated farms of the present day. His present comfortable residence was erected in 1883.

Mr. Winters is devoutly religious and belongs to what is known as the Assembly of God. It matters not to this organization to what church or religious denomination one may belong for "where one or two are gathered together in My name there will I be also," and with them all people may worship. In Mr. Winters' home memorial services are held on the first day of the week and all are invited to participate. As an earnest Christian gentleman, thoroughly consistent in all things, he commands the respect and confidence of all with whom he is brought in contact.

## T. J. VIDLER.

The stock-raising interests of central Illinois are well represented by T. J. Vidler, proprietor of the Elmwood stock farm and his reputation in this direction has extended over a wide territory. He is especially well known as a breeder of pure bred Aberdeen-Angus cattle and standard bred trotting horses and his business has become a profitable one. At the same time it has been of direct benefit to the agricultural community through the raising of the standard of stock in this locality and thereby the promotion of prices paid on the market.

Mr. Vidler was born in Griggsville, Pike county, Illinois, in 1858, and is a son of John and Mary A. Vidler. The family is of English lineage. The father was born in Sussex, England, and came to the United States in 1854, settling first in Rochester, New York. He afterward went to Griggsville, Illinois, where he turned his attention to the manufacture of brick. In 1866 he came to Pana, where he began contracting and building in connection with brick manufacturing. His business grew to extensive and important proportions and resulted in bringing to him success. He died in Pana in the year 1899 and thus passed away one of the representative and highly respected residents of the state.

Thomas J. Vidler, whose name introduced this record, acquired his early education in the schools of Pana and afterward became a student in Jacksonville, Illinois. No event of special importance occurred in his boyhood days to change the course of his career and at the age of twenty-one years he started out in life on his own account. He was first employed as a bookkeeper at Dunkle, Illinois, by the firm of Dunkle Brothers and afterward he became deputy

treasurer of Christian county under W. J. Jordan, while subsequently he filled the same position under James White. The last named gentleman died while in office and Mr. Vidler was then elected to fill out the unexpired term. On his retirement from official life he entered the employ of A. G. Barnes, of Taylorville, as cashier in his bank and there remained for two years. On the expiration of that period he came to Pana and was engaged in the insurance and real estate business for some time. He was also for ten years the cashier of the First National Bank of Pana, which was organized in 1889. Mr. Vidler now owns a stock farm of three hundred acres, pleasantly and conveniently located about four miles south of Pana. He is here engaged in the breeding and raising of standard bred trotting horses and has raised and trained a number of fine animals, including Belle V., with a record of 2:22 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; Katie V., 2:21 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; and Magnolia V., 2:24 $\frac{1}{2}$ . His place is known as the Elmwood stock farm and in recent years he has given much of his time and attention to the breeding of pure bred Aberdeen-Angus cattle, of which he has a herd of sixty head. He is well known as one of the most prominent stockdealers of Christian county and has a well improved farm. Recently his barns were destroyed by fire, but he is now rebuilding them and he keeps everything about his place in excellent condition, neatness and thrift characterizing the property in all of its departments.

In 1881 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Vidler and Miss Isabelle Hogan, a daughter of J. Hogan, of Pana. This marriage has been blessed with four children, one son and three daughters, namely: Fannie, May, Paul and Lois, all yet at home. The wife and mother belongs to the Catholic church, Mr. Vidler is a very prominent

Mason, having attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish rite. He also belongs to the Medinah Temple of the Mystic Shrine in Chicago, Illinois, and his name is on the membership roll of the Knights of Pythias Lodge at Pana. In politics he is an earnest Democrat, believing firmly in the principles of the party and he filled the office of town clerk for two terms. He has also been a member of the school board for eighteen years and is filling that position at the present writing. The cause of education has indeed found in him a champion, one who is untiring in his efforts to promote the efficiency of the schools by raising the standard of instruction. He has ever taken an active and helpful interest in public affairs and his record altogether is one most commendable. He has ever discharged his duties with marked ability and fairness, for he is a most loyal, public-spirited citizen. As a business man he has been conspicuous among his associates, not only for his success, but for his probity, fairness and honorable methods. In everything he has been eminently practical and this has been manifest not only in his business undertakings, but also in social and private life.

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#### CHRISTOPH WUCHERPFENNIG.

Sound judgment combined with fine ability in mechanical lines has enabled the subject of this biography—a well-known blacksmith of Morrisonville—to attain a substantial success in life, and his history is of especial interest. He was born in Madison county, Illinois, on the 7th of December, 1848, and is a son of Henry and Margrate Wucherpfennig, both natives of Germany. The father, who was a stone-mason by trade, died at the age of forty-two years.

At the age of eight Christoph Wucher-

pfennig accompanied his parents on their removal to Montgomery county, Illinois, and the following three years were spent upon a farm there, but after the death of his father, which occurred when our subject was only eleven years old, he removed with his mother to Edwardsville, this state, completing his education in the common schools of that city. It was his early ambition to learn some trade, so at the age of sixteen he apprenticed himself to a cooper, but as that work proved uncongenial he followed it only one year. He then made a contract with one of the best blacksmiths of his day to learn that trade, the first year to receive forty dollars, the second sixty dollars and the third one hundred dollars and twenty-five more if he should remain until the term of his contract expired, which he did, accordingly receiving one hundred and twenty-five dollars for the last year's service. Wishing to make a change at the end of that time he began work as a journeyman with another blacksmith of Edwardsville and after being in his employ for a time he went to St. Louis, where he worked at his trade for about eight months. His employer in that city was a manufacturer of plows, in which line he had quite a reputation, and there Mr. Wucherpfennig learned the difficult art of setting a plow correctly, which has been of great advantage to him in later years. In 1870 he came to Morrisonville and built the first blacksmith shop at this place, where he has now worked at the anvil for thirty-three years without intermission. In 1888 he replaced the old shop by a more commodious and substantial building thirty by fifty feet in dimension, with an engine and storeroom fourteen by eighteen feet, in which he has a six horse-power engine. He has two forges and does the most extensive business in his line in the city. By his good work-

manship and honorable dealing he has built up an excellent trade and has succeeded in accumulating some nice property, including two business houses on Main street and two residences beside his own comfortable home, which is an eight-room house built by him in 1870. From this property he now derives a good income.

On the 14th of November, 1870, Mr. Wucherpennig was united in marriage to Miss Minnie Laufkestter, and they have become the parents of seven children, namely: Mrs. Anna G. Hellring, who has three children; Cornelius, Edmund and Christ; Charles H., who is engaged in the implement business in Morrisonville; Dena, who is clerking in the store of J. H. Bertmann; Joseph G., who is learning the blacksmith's trade with his father; Wilhelmina E., who is keeping house for her uncle; Mary A., who is taking a business course at the Catholic convent; and Elizabeth C., who is attending school.

Mr. Wucherpennig gives his political support to the men and measures of the Democratic party and for one term he served as township collector, but his time and attention have mostly been devoted to his business interests. He is a man whose word is considered as good as his bond and he is held in high regard by all who know him.

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#### H. A. DANFORD.

H. A. Danford is a representative of the journalistic interests of Christian county. Since 1896 he has been the owner and editor of the *Stonington Star*, a weekly paper which has quite a large circulation. Mr. Danford was born in Denver, Missouri, in 1874, a son of Peter and Nancy Danford, both of whom are natives of Ohio. Removing to Grant City, Missouri, Peter Danford

was there engaged in teaching school for nine years and in 1878 he came with his family to Owaneco, Christian county, where he again engaged in teaching for several years. In 1888, however, he abandoned educational work and entered the journalistic field, purchasing the *Farmers' Journal* of Taylorville. He published it for a year and then sold out, turning his attention to the grocery business in Owaneco, where he remained until 1896. He then bought a paper published in that town and removed the plant to Stonington. He also established another paper at Mount Auburn, Illinois, but sold it after one year—in 1901. In 1898 he disposed of his paper in Stonington and was again engaged in the grocery business for a time. He is now serving as police magistrate and notary public of Stonington and is well known in public affairs there, being a progressive and enterprising citizen. At the time of the Civil war he proved his loyalty to the government by enlisting in the Union Army, in July, 1861, as a member of Company F Eighteenth Ohio Infantry. He continued in the service until the fall of 1864 and participated in a number of important battles which contributed to the splendid success which ultimately crowned the Union arms.

To the public schools system of Christian county H. A. Danford is indebted for the educational privileges which he enjoyed. He continued his studies until fifteen years of age and then started to earn his own living by working as a farm hand, which pursuit he followed until he attained his majority. In that year he removed to Stonington and joined his father in the newspaper enterprise as the publisher of the *Stonington Star*. In 1896 he purchased his father's interest and has since been owner and publisher of this journal. In his printing office he employs

four men and is doing a paying business. The *Star* has a circulation of eight hundred. This paper is published weekly and Mr. Danford is to-day doing a prosperous business, having a larger patronage than is usually obtained in a town of the size of Stonington.

On the 25th of September, 1898, Mr. Danford was united in marriage to Miss Myrtle Horton, a daughter of Samuel Horton, a native of Flora, Illinois. Two children grace this union: Mildred, who is four years of age; and Alden, three months old. The parents are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and they are widely and favorably known in the county, having a large circle of warm friends. Mr. Danford is a progressive citizen and through the columns of his paper as well as in other ways he advocates all measures for the general good and champions every movement to advance general improvement.

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#### T. T. BERRY.

T. T. Berry, one of Mount Auburn township's most prominent and influential citizens, his home being on section 15, was born in Kentucky, February 18, 1838, and is a son of W. H. and Elvira (Taylor) Berry, also natives of that state and both now deceased, the mother having died in 1852 and the father in 1882. Reared in Kentucky, our subject attended the district schools near his boyhood home and during his minority gave his father the benefit of his labors.

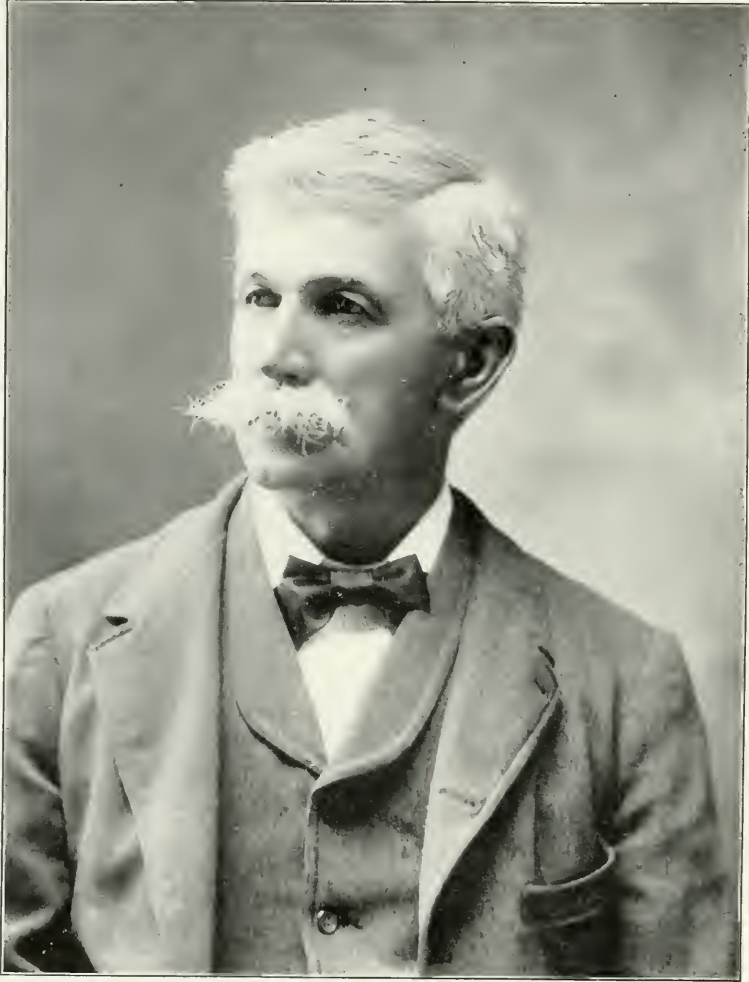
At the age of twenty-one Mr. Berry went to Pike's Peak, Colorado, in search of gold, driving across the country with ox teams, but the venture was a failure as he saw nothing but Indians and soon spent all that he had, returning home empty-handed at the end of a year. Renting a farm in Tennes-

see, he engaged in agricultural pursuits in that state until 1871, and then came to Illinois, locating first in Menard county, where he made his home until 1877. The following ten years were passed in Sangamon county and at the end of that time he became a resident of Christian county, locating on the farm in Mount Auburn township where he now lives. Here he follows general farming with good success, being a man of good business ability, as well as a thorough and practical agriculturist.

Mr. Berry was married in 1863 to Miss Sarah F. Landrum, by whom he had two children, namely: Viola V., wife of L. Hamel, a farmer of Christian county; and Ernest L., who is married and living in California. The mother of these children died in 1870, and two years later Mr. Berry wedded Miss Anna E. Worthington, a daughter of Robert Worthington, of Menard county. Her grandfather, Robert Worthington, Sr., married a sister of Edward Tiffin, the first governor of Ohio, and she is also related to Thomas Worthington, another of the early governors of that state, he being a brother of her great-grandfather. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Berry are as follows: Robert W., now a resident of Springfield, Illinois; Clarence E., who is living in Chicago; Edna W., wife of Dr. Holben, of Mount Auburn; and S. D. W. and Grover C., both at home with their parents.

The family hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church at Grove City and Mr. Berry belongs to the camp of Modern Woodmen at that place. By his ballot he supports the men and measures of the Democratic party and he has ever taken an active and prominent part in local politics. He is now serving as supervisor of Mount Auburn township, having for fourteen years





T. T. BERRY



MRS. T. T. BERRY



filled that office with credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of his constituents, and he was chairman of the board five years. He does all in his power to advance the interests of his township and county and it was largely through his instrumentality that the new courthouse was erected. He is serving his second term as school director and never withholds his aid from any object calculated to advance the moral, social, or material welfare of the community.

#### EDWARD EWING ADAMS.

Edward Ewing and Alfred Adams compose the law firm of Adams Brothers. The former settled in this county in 1899 and the latter in 1894. Their family stem is of English origin though planted in America in colonial days. Nathaniel Adams, the great-great-grandfather, was a soldier of the Revolutionary war. The exact place of his birth is not known, but when a young man he was at Baltimore, Maryland, where it is supposed that he married. His wife was Rachel Chambers and their children were Charles, Robert, Nathaniel, James, Joseph, John and two daughters. Charles, who was a sea captain, died unmarried at Charleston, South Carolina, while Robert and Nathaniel settled in Mason county, Kentucky, and there reared families. The county records show that Robert was married March 19, 1796, to Rachel Hull. James, unmarried, was hurt by a falling tree and never fully recovered. Joseph, who was born January, 1769, and died October 18, 1844, was first married to Bridget Curran and afterward to Nancy Smith, and his death occurred in Madison county, Indiana.

John Chambers Adams, the great-grandfather of the gentleman whose name introduces this review, was born in Philadelphia

in 1777 and followed the occupation of farming. His death occurred in Dallas county, Iowa, December 16, 1862. He wedded Martha Walburn, who was of Welsh descent and was born in Sussex county, New Jersey, in 1776, while her death occurred in Urbana, Ohio, about 1834. The father of John Chambers Adams removed from Philadelphia to Greenbrier county, West Virginia, where he died before 1798 and in that year John Chambers Adams removed to Kentucky, stopping first in Mason county, where he had two brothers. In 1800 he took up his abode on a farm four miles west of Springfield, Ohio. It was stipulated that he should receive the paternal estate in West Virginia on condition that he would care for his mother and brother James. They came with him to Ohio, where both died. Some slaves also fell to his lot, which he afterward sold against the wishes of his wife, who held anti-slavery opinions even at that early date and to this she always attributed whatever bad luck befell them. Their children were Robert W., John, Sarah, Mary, Rachel, Rebecca, Harvey, Wesley, Nathaniel, Isaac Newton, Minerva, Eliza and Martha. Of these Rebecca died at the age of thirteen and Minerva at nineteen years, in Springfield, Ohio, but all the others married and had families.

John Adams, the grandfather, born in Clark county, Ohio, in 1802, died in Greenville, Illinois, April 15, 1877. His wife, Mary Bacon, was born in Angelica, New York, June 3, 1804, and died April 19, 1877, at Greenville, Illinois. For a short time he was a keel-boatman on the Mississippi river but afterward became a cooper. He first resided near Springfield, Ohio, and kept the toll-gate on the pike, while subsequently he lived in Dayton, Ohio, in Tippecanoe coun-

ty, Indiana, in Alton, Illinois, and then after several other removals settled in Bond county, Illinois, in 1852, there living until his death. His children were: Jackson, who died in infancy; Nelson, who was born June 8, 1827, in Clark county, Ohio; Lemuel, who was born April 30, 1831, in Harshmansville, Ohio; Sarah Jane, who was born in the same place in 1833 and died in 1850 at Indianapolis, Indiana; John, who was born April 30, 1835, in West Point, Indiana; William, born June 5, 1838, in Tippecanoe county, Indiana, and died at Walshville, Illinois, October 21, 1865; and Harrison, born August 29, 1841, at Woodburn, Illinois.

The Bacon family was from New England. Ezra Bacon who was born February 26, 1768, died in Reading, Ohio, March 11, 1826, while his wife, who bore the maiden name of Sarah Emmons, was born January 28, 1777, in Connecticut and died in Fairfield, Ohio, August 2, 1819. Their children were: Mary; Lucinda, the wife of Alexander Porter, born November 24, 1806, and died May 24, 1889; Sarah, who was born February 11, 1809, and died in 1894, and was the wife of Andrew Wakefield; John Douglas, who wedded Mary Green, and whose birth occurred May 13, 1811, while his death occurred February 15, 1863; Ethelbert, who was born June 21, 1816, and died May 16, 1852, his wife being Jane Petefish; and Ezra Emmons, who was born July 25, 1819, and died August 11, 1839.

The following is the record of the sons of John Adams who had families. Nelson Adams, the father of our subject, has lived in Bond county since 1852. He was married January 20, 1859, to Nancy Bunch, a daughter of Lambert and Louisa (Smith) Bunch, who was born in Bond county September 8, 1839, and died there November 11, 1860. He served as a private in Com-

pany E, One Hundred and Thirtieth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, from August 12, 1862, to June 23, 1865. He was at Memphis, Champion Hills, Vicksburg, New Orleans and at other places with his regiment and at Mansfield, during the Red River expedition, was taken prisoner and thus held during the continuance of the war, at Tyler, Texas. His brothers, Lemuel and John, likewise did good service for the government. Nelson Adams was married August 17, 1865, to Rebecca Ann Green, a daughter of William and Jane (Booth) Green. She was born in Mills township, Bond county, September 14, 1842, and their children are: Charles Emerson, who was born May 27, 1866, and died January 7, 1881; Alfred, who was born August 31, 1868; Edward E., who was born December 31, 1870; Mary Olive, born December 20, 1872; Ellen Jane, born August 4, 1875, and married Ulysses Coigny; Cora May, who was born April 3, 1878, and married John H. Smith; and James Francis, who was born October 29, 1880. All were born in Mills township in Bond county.

Lemuel Adams was married on the 30th of April, 1862, to Julia Ellen Birge, who was born in Bond county, December 8, 1839, and died January 26, 1874. Her father, Ansel, with his brothers, James and Cyrus, removed from Poultney, Vermont, to Bond county, Illinois, about 1818. Ansel Birge was born in 1788 and his father David Birge was born at Litchfield, Connecticut, December 11, 1752, while the mother, who bore the maiden name of Abigail Howland, was born at Barnstable, Massachusetts, December 30, 1754. After arriving at years of maturity Ansel Birge wedded Millicent Twiss, a daughter of Eben and Amy (Clay) Twiss. She was born in Weston, Vermont, December 16, 1808, and died in Greenville, Illinois, July 12, 1896. Unto Lemuel and

Julia Ellen Adams were born three children: Emma, Edgar and Cora Alice.

Lemuel Adams was again married May 4, 1882, his second union being with Miss Anna Morris, of Milton, Indiana, who was born March 16, 1844, a daughter of John and Martha (Chappell) Morris. Her grandfather was Joshua Morris, whose wife was a Morgan and the great-grandfather was Nathan Morris, whose wife was a Bell. The parents of Martha Morris were Gideon and Mary (Squires) Chappell, the former of French and the latter of Scotch descent. Mrs. Adams' people were Friends or Quakers. By her marriage she had but one child, Martha Ellen, born May 9, 1885.

William Adams was married June 16, 1859, to Amanda Kershner, who was born at Hagerstown, Maryland, December 24, 1838, and died in Bates county, Missouri, November 2, 1884. Her parents were Jonathan and Catherine (McAhan) Kershner and her father was a son of Isaac Kershner, another early settler of Bond county, Illinois. Unto William and Amanda Adams were born the following named: Mary Alice, the wife of James Reed of Cherryvale, Kansas; and Ellen and William, who died in infancy.

William, son of James and Sarah (Hix) Green, was born in Madison county, Illinois, August 2, 1814, and died in Bond county, June 12, 1845. He was the youngest of fourteen children. His brothers and sisters were: Mrs. Nancy Laxton; Mrs. Elizabeth Weldon; Mrs. Esther Matthews; Mrs. Polly Reavis; Mrs. Matilda Green; Mrs. Sally Clary; Falby, who first married William Mains, later married William Drake, and still later James Henry Harris; Jarvis; Royal; Andrew, who married Elizabeth Potter; George, who married Martha Brown;

and James, who married Sarah Williams. The first three brothers were never married.

The Greens were originally from North Carolina, thence removing to Tennessee and afterward to Illinois. James Green, the great-grandfather of our subject, emigrated from Knox county, Tennessee, in the summer of 1811, settling near Edwardsville, Illinois, whence he removed to Bond county in 1815. This was during the period of the war with Great Britain and Indian troubles were frequent. The county records show that letters of administration were granted to his widow June 15, 1821, which is as near as the date of his death can be determined. His wife died January 1, 1846, at the age of seventy-four years. His brothers and sisters and their descendants were in Illinois at a very early day, many of them being rangers of the war of 1812 and in the campaigns against the Indians. Jarvis Green was killed by the Indians at the battle of Blue Licks, Kentucky, in 1782. He was the grandfather of the late William G. Greene of Menard county, the early friend and companion of Lincoln. George Green, another brother, settled in Greene county, Illinois, and afterward went to Menard county, where he died. He married Lucy Jones and their children were: John, William, Potter, Aaron, Elias, Keziah, Hannah, Polly, Susan and Nancy. Esther Green, a sister, married a Henson; Mary married Thomas Ratton; and another sister married Absalom Matthews; and Nancy married Robert Armstrong, who is known as "Robin." Her children were: Jesse; Rhoda; Royal; Hugh; Elizabeth; John or "Jack," with whom Lincoln had the famous wrestle; Nancy and Eliza. Royal Potter, an early settler of Bond and Menard counties, was a half brother of James, George and Jarvis Green. His wife was Rebecca

Reavis and to them were born Nancy; Edward; Elizabeth, who married Andrew Green; John; Delilah; and Royal. By his second wife, the widow Polly Cox, he had one son, Solomon.

There were born to William and Jane Green, the mother of our subject and a sister, Sarah Elizabeth, the latter born October 25, 1844. The latter was married in Laclede, Missouri, October 18, 1866, to Solomon F. Gilmore, who died in Meadville, Missouri, April 10, 1883. Her children were: Lilly May; Edward Ewing; Dorothy DeRoy, deceased; Vernia, the wife of Fred Littrell; Virgil; and Clarence. Jane Green for her second husband married Harvey E. Stout, a son of Colonel Thomas Stout, June 11, 1848. He was born January 12, 1820, and died April 9, 1865. Their children were: James E., of Brazilton, Kansas; Mary Ellen, who married John Scott and is now deceased, leaving a son Walter; Eliza J., who married Thomas L. Clark; Harlow A., who died in infancy; and John M., who died at the age of twenty-seven.

Tracing the ancestry in the line of the maternal grandmother, Edward Ewing Adams is of Irish descent. James Booth, the great-grandfather, was born in County Tyrone near Omagh, March 17, 1790. His wife, Rebecca Ager, was a daughter of James and Jane (Ewing) Ager. Mr. Booth and his wife and all of the Ager family, with the exception of William who had come in 1811, sailed for America in the ship *Lord Nelson* in 1817. There were nineteen in the party and they were wrecked off the coast of Nova Scotia near Sable river and lost everything. On the same ship was an elder half-brother of James Booth, named William White, who died near White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia. Professor Henry Alexander White, of Washington

and Lee University and author of the work entitled "*Robert E. Lee and the Southern Confederacy*," is his grandson. James Booth also had three sisters who came to America after his arrival. Sarah and Mary never married and Jane became the wife of a Mr. Jackson and removed from Virginia to Muskingum county, Ohio.

James Booth lived in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, from 1817 until the spring of 1823, and afterward in Loudoun county, Virginia, near Leesburg, from 1823 until the fall of 1829, when he removed to the vicinity of White Sulphur Springs and in 1839, accompanied by his family, made the trip in a wagon to Bond county, Illinois, where he lived until his death, on the 18th of January, 1872. His wife died at Poca-hontas, Illinois, December 7, 1858, at the age of sixty-eight years. Their children were as follows: Alexander, born on board the *Lord Nelson*, August 15, 1817, died in Baltimore in 1839; Jane, born in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, January 26, 1819, died in Kansas City, Missouri, May 18, 1883; Robert Colwell, born in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, December 5, 1821, married Hannah Isaacs, and died in Dallas county, Missouri, March 20, 1873; Sarah, born near Leesburg, Virginia, September 17, 1823, married Captain Samuel G. McAdams and lives at Greenville, Illinois; Rebecca Ann, born near Leesburg, February 25, 1826, was married to Royal Green, and died in Bond county, June 11, 1884; Isaac Eaton, born near Leesburg, August 27, 1828, died when eight months old; Mary Elizabeth, born near White Sulphur Springs, June 13, 1831, was married to Andrew McAdams and later to George S. Mills, and died near Keyesport, Illinois, July 3, 1883. The other children of James and Jane (Ewing) Ager were: William, Thomas, Henry, Rob-

ert, Alexander, Mrs. Mary Forbes and Mrs. Ann Anthony, mother of James Anthony, a well known editor of the Pacific coast and founder of the *Sacramento Union*.

Alfred and Edward E. Adams passed their early manhood on their father's farm and received their education in the common schools. Following the example of many other young men they taught in various districts until they had prepared themselves for admission to the bar. Alfred was elected clerk of Bond county in 1890 and served one term, giving excellent satisfaction. He continued to pursue his legal studies and was admitted to the bar in 1893. The same year he married Irene, daughter of James and Irene (James) Perryman and a native of Sullivan, Illinois. Her grandfather, John Perryman, who married Ann Davidson, was at one time clerk of Moultrie county. Mr. Adams practiced the profession of law at Greenville with C. E. Cook until the expiration of his term of office, after which he removed to Taylorville, where he has since lived. He has served the people of the city for four years as police magistrate. In politics he is a Republican and he has always been found true to the party which represents his principles. His family consists of four children: Lucile, Geraldine, Malcolm and Dorothea. Alfred Adams is a member of several societies and is prominent in the councils of the Modern Woodmen, having twice attended the head camp in an official capacity. He has also served on standing committees.

Edward E. Adams enjoyed a good reputation as a teacher before he was admitted to the bar in October, 1899. At an early age his studious habits were remarked by his associates and he has by his unaided efforts so risen in self-improvement that for many years he has enjoyed the respect of all who

know him. As a teacher he was not content with such a smattering as would enable him to get a position but he continued his studies until he was awarded a life certificate in recognition of his success and qualifications. Since his admission to the bar he has been associated with his brother in the practice of law. His work has been more of the office kind. His unobtrusive manners and knowledge of the law have gained for him many friends among those with whom his work has brought him in contact. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and several other fraternities. In politics he is an ardent Republican but he numbers his friends among all parties. He is unmarried.

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#### GEORGE W. MILLIGAN, M. D.

Dr. George W. Milligan, who as a medical practitioner of Edinburg has gained the confidence and support of the public by reason of his thorough training for his profession and his fidelity to the ethics of the medical fraternity, was born in Christian county, Illinois, on the 16th of December, 1853. His father, Samuel Milligan, was a native of North Carolina, and when a young man went to Missouri, but soon afterward came to Illinois and took up his abode in Fayette county. He married Miss Phoebe Cearlock, a native of Tennessee and a resident of Fayette county. They had nine children, eight of whom are now living: William H., Jacob L., George W., James A., John J., Thomas F., S. A. Douglas, Annie J. and Nancy M. The father, who was born in 1830, is still living, but the mother passed away in 1869.

Dr. Milligan received his education at Town Hall in Shelby county and at the age of twelve years went to live with Dr. George W. Fringer, of that place. While there re-

siding he became interested in medicine and began studying preparatory to entering the profession. In 1875 he secured employment in a drug store in Edinburg as clerk and in December of that year he went into business for himself, continuing in that line until the summer of 1880. At the opening of the school year in the succeeding autumn he entered the St. Louis Medical College and the following year he became a student in the College of Physicians & Surgeons at Keokuk, Iowa. In the spring of 1882 he was graduated and opened an office at Bingham, Illinois, where he practiced for three years. On the expiration of that period he returned to Edinburg in the spring of 1885 and opened his office in this place. Here he has since remained and as the years have gone by his patronage has steadily increased. In 1894 he formed a partnership with Dr. C. A. Stokes of Sharpsburg and they purchased of Mr. Harrington a private telephone line to Taylorville, but abandoned the Taylorville part of the line. They ran only the Sharpsburg connection. The people, however, demanded telephonic communication with the outside world and they enlarged their telephone system in 1902, obtaining a franchise from the town so that they are now rapidly perfecting their system which will be of the greatest convenience to the surrounding district.

On the 17th of October, 1877, Dr. Milligan was united in marriage to Miss Eliza M. Firey, a daughter of Henry and Minerva Firey, of Christian county. They have three children: Edwin L., born October 20, 1879; Clarence W., born December 29, 1885; and Eulalia M., born May 4, 1890. Dr. Milligan is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, his connection being with Edinburg Lodge, No. 631. He also belongs to the Knights of Pythias lodge of Edin-

burg, the Modern Woodmen and the Fraternal Army. He has been a member of the town board and was a member of the school board at the time of the building of the new schoolhouse. In politics he is an earnest Republican and is a citizen whose worth is widely acknowledged not only on account of the good he has done in professional lines, but also because of the active co-operation which he has given to public affairs. He keeps well informed concerning the new ideas advanced by the medical fraternity, keeps in touch with the progress that characterizes the profession and is to-day a most capable and skilled physician, his large patronage being an indication of the confidence reposed in him by his fellow-townsmen.

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#### L. F. PEEK.

L. F. Peek, a practical and enterprising farmer and stock-raiser of May township, owns and operates three hundred acres of land on section 20, constituting one of the valuable and highly improved farms of the locality. His possessions have been acquired mainly through his own efforts and as the result of his consecutive endeavor he has won a place among the substantial citizens of his native county.

Mr. Peek was born in South Fork township, January 21, 1853, and is a son of A. B. and Marian E. (Fry) Peek. His father, who was a native of Kentucky, came to Christian county, Illinois, in 1837, and was identified with its early development and improvement. For a time he leased and operated the land on which the village of Edinburg now stands. He died at that place in 1894 and his wife in 1897, honored and respected by all who knew them.

In the district schools near his boyhood home L. F. Peek received his early educa-

tion and later attended school at Taylorville. Having completed his education, he commenced teaching school at the age of twenty years and successfully followed that pursuit during the winter months for three years, while during the summer season he devoted his time and energies to farming. His first purchase of land consisted of forty acres, which he subsequently sold and then bought one hundred acres of his present farm in May township. As time has passed he has added to his property until he now has three hundred acres, which has been acquired through his own well directed efforts and careful management. In connection with general farming he is engaged in the raising of Poland China hogs and also feeds many head of cattle for market each year.

Mr. Peek was married in 1877 to Miss Josie E. Coffman, a daughter of James D. and Margaret (Settle) Coffman and sister of William D. Coffman, whose sketch appears on another page of this volume. She died in 1898, leaving five children, namely: Elbridge, who is now in Springfield, Illinois; Jessie and Allen, both of whom live in Cleveland, Ohio; Nena, who is now keeping house for her father; and Leona, six years of age. Mr. Peek is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and is independent in politics. His life has been one of industry and usefulness and he has so lived as to gain the confidence and respect of all with whom he has been brought in contact.

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#### SAMUEL N. HAVERFIELD.

Samuel N. Haverfield, who is now so efficiently serving as city clerk of Assumption, has spent his entire life in Illinois, his birth occurring in Mercer county, this state, on the 5th of January, 1855. His father, William S. Haverfield, was born in Harrison

county, Ohio, February 12, 1812, and was a son of a pioneer of that county, the family being one of the first to locate near Cadiz. The grandfather was a soldier of the war of 1812 and died at quite an advanced age in Harrison county. In early manhood William S. Haverfield married Miss Ruhama Nash, who was born in 1824 and was a daughter of Samuel Nash. Her father, who followed school teaching in Ohio, died at the comparatively early age of thirty-two years, but her mother was ninety at the time of her death. Coming to Illinois in 1854, William S. Haverfield located in Mercer county, where he engaged in farming and sheep raising until 1859, and then removed to Randolph county, this state. There he followed contracting and building, being a carpenter by trade, but after his removal to Christian county in the fall of 1863, he again turned his attention to farming, operating land west of Assumption. He subsequently followed the same pursuit in Shelby county, Illinois, and from there removed to Macon county in 1874. Five years later he went to Kansas and was engaged in farming in Rush county, that state, until his death, which occurred on the 4th of March, 1888. His widow continued to reside upon the farm there until she, too, passed away in February, 1892. This worthy couple were the parents of twelve children, eight sons and four daughters, all of whom reached years of maturity.

Samuel N. Haverfield, who is the seventh in order of birth, was reared on a farm and received his early education in the district schools of this state, afterward attending the Normal University for one term. His first step after leaving school was as a clerk in a store at Moweaqua for a short time, and after that he engaged in teaching school with good success from 1877 until the spring of

1900. During this entire time he taught in Christian county with the exception of one winter term in Shelby county, Illinois. In the meantime he also served as township and city clerk of Assumption and for the past seven years has devoted considerable attention to the fire insurance business, representing the Home Insurance Company of New York and other reliable companies.

On the 17th of September, 1875, Mr. Haverfield was married in Moweaqua to Miss Nellie Snell, a native of Shelby county and a daughter of W. H. and Jane (Washam) Snell, whose home was near Moweaqua. Of the nine children born of this union three died in infancy. Of those living Olive is the eldest. She is now the wife of William Truitt, a resident of Bloomington, Illinois, and they have two children, Carl and Muriel. Ira, who is acting as clerk for a grain firm at Assumption, married Laura Ella Carpenter, of this county. Orville, Maud, Lyle and Mabel are at home with their parents.

Politically Mr. Haverfield is a Republican and on his party ticket was elected city and township clerk, which offices he is still filling in a capable and satisfactory manner. Socially he is an honored member of the Masonic order, having served as clerk of the blue lodge for four years, and he has also been clerk of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows since joining that fraternity. He also filled the office of noble grand in the latter order. He also belongs to the Knights of Pythias and is held in high regard not only by his fraternal brethren but by all who knew him.

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#### DR. M. L. FUNDERBURK.

Dr. M. L. Funderburk, a well known veterinary surgeon residing on section 20, Mosquito township, is a native of Christian

county, his birth having occurred in Mount Auburn township, on the 6th of October, 1861. His parents are S. W. and Angeline (Warren) Funderburk, the former of whom was born in Illinois, January 20, 1834, and the latter in Kentucky, January 23, 1831. About 1852 they came to Christian county and took up their residence in Stonington township, where they continued to make their home until February, 1900, when they removed to Blue Mound. Throughout his active business life the father engaged in farming, but is now living retired, enjoying a well earned rest and the fruits of former toil.

Dr. Funderburk is indebted to the district schools of this county for the educational privileges he enjoyed during his youth and on the home farm he early acquired an excellent knowledge of agricultural pursuits. He remained with his father until twenty-five years of age and then removed to one of his father's farms, which he operated until 1890. The following two years were spent in Mattoon, Illinois, where he was engaged in the practice of veterinary surgery and also handled draft and road stallions. From there he removed to Assumption, where he bought and sold stock for six months, and then went to Blue Mound, where he lived until September, 1897. For one year thereafter he made his home in Lovington, and on the 20th of December, 1899, returned to the old home farm, where he remained until 1902. During that year he removed to his present farm on section 20, Mosquito township, which is a well improved place of one hundred and twenty acres. In connection with his farming operations he continues to engage in the practice of veterinary surgery, also buys and sells horses and does a good business as an auctioneer, his services being in constant demand. He is a man



MRS. S. W. FUNDERBURK



RUBY FUNDERBURK



S. W. FUNDERBURK



DR. M. L. FUNDERBURK



WARREN R. FUNDERBURK



MRS. M. L. FUNDERBURK



of good business and executive ability and has won a creditable success in his undertakings. His home is on a rural free delivery route and is supplied with the Odell telephone, so that he is in direct communication with those in need of his services along any line.

On the 23d of June, 1887, Dr. Funderburk was united in marriage to Miss Lizzie Gandy, a daughter of F. M. Gandy, of Assumption, Illinois, who is a native of Indiana. Seven children have been born of this union, namely: Ruby A.; Roscoe C., who died at the age of two months; Bonnie, who died at the age of one month; Samuel W., who died at the age of seven months; Marion, who died at the age of three weeks; Hesoid, who died at the age of one month; and Warren R., who was born April 6, 1903. The wife and mother is a consistent member of the Christian church and the doctor belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. Since attaining his majority he has affiliated with the Republican party and he acceptably served as constable of Blue Mound for four years. Through his business he has become widely known and he has made many warm friends throughout Christian county.

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#### JAMES L. DRENNAN.

James L. Drennan; formerly a member of the law firm of Hogan & Drennan, of Taylorville, has gained his present enviable position at the bar through strong persistency of purpose, unfaltering diligence and the careful direction of his efforts by sound, practical judgment. In the trial of civil cases he has shown marked strength as a lawyer and an intimate knowledge of the principles of jurisprudence.

Mr. Drennan is a native son of Christian

county, his birth having occurred upon his father's farm in Mosquito township, February 25, 1869. His parents were John L. and Henrietta (Wimberley) Drennan. Eli Drennan, the paternal grandfather, was a resident of South Carolina and his father, John Drennan, served his country in the patriot army in the Revolutionary war. In 1802 John Drennan removed to Caldwell county, Kentucky, and his death occurred in Princeton, that state. Eli Drennan died in 1875, at the age of seventy-five years. The family was early established in Illinois. It is said that William and Joseph Drennan, two uncles of Eli Drennan, settled in Sangamon county among its earliest pioneers and that they planted the first corn ever raised in that county. In 1820 Eli Drennan made his way to this state, was for two years a resident of Sangamon county, and helped to build the first house in Springfield. He was not favorably impressed with the county, however, because of the wild condition that prevailed at that time, and returned to his old home in Kentucky. In the family were eight children, of whom the following are yet living: Eli W., a resident of Taylorville; Eliza, the wife of William Scott, of Missouri; and Ann, the wife of John Newberry, of Christian county, Illinois.

John L. Drennan, the father of our subject, was reared upon the old family homestead in the state of his nativity and there remained until 1856, when he came with his family to Illinois, locating near Mount Auburn, Christian county. He there engaged in farming for several years and in 1864 removed to what became the homestead farm in Mosquito township, locating on section 22. He devoted his remaining days to agricultural pursuits, and in 1882 he passed away at the age of fifty-five years. In politics he was a Democrat and he cast his first

presidential vote for Lewis Cass in 1848. He never failed to support each presidential candidate of the party from that time, save in 1856, when because of his removal he could not vote. In 1866-7 he served as assessor and in 1868 was elected a member of the board of county supervisors, serving for four consecutive years by re-election and he was filling the position at the time of his death. He was the candidate for county treasurer in 1872. He was most loyal and faithful in the discharge of his official duties and because of his fitness was many times called to office. As a school trustee he did much to promote the educational interests of the community and was commissioner of highways. His advice was often sought on matters of business and cheerfully given for the benefit of those who sought his counsel. His farm was one of the first developed in Mosquito township and there he carried on the cultivation of the soil for many years. He also engaged in the raising of roadsters and owned a number of valuable animals. His first home was a log cabin and in that he lived until 1873. His social relations connected him with Mount Auburn Lodge, A. F. & A. M. He married Henrietta Wimberley, who was a native of Trigg county, Kentucky, and was one of a family of twelve children. By her marriage she became the mother of fourteen children: A. M., who is living in Los Angeles, California; Frank P., of Taylorville; John G., of Chicago; Adelia J., the wife of John F. Cole, of Taylorville; Laura A. E., the wife of James P. George, of Princeton, Kentucky; Margaret E. the wife of C. C. Clements, of Decatur, Illinois; Henry E., who died May 21, 1902; George R., who is living in Buckhart township; Henrietta A.; Cora A., the wife of Milo A. Scott, who is living on the homestead farm in Mosquito township; James L.;

Thomas M., who makes his home in Los Angeles, California; Oscar W., who died January 10, 1892, at the age of twenty-one years; and Carlotta O., wife of Francis M. Sniff, of Los Angeles. The father died in 1882, and in 1888 the mother left the farm and removed to Taylorville, where she remained until 1899, when she became a resident of Los Angeles, California, where she is now living at the age of seventy-six years. She was a typical mother, ideal in her relations with her family. Her interests centered in her home and her kind and loving disposition prompted her devotion to her children and won from them filial gratitude and devotion. She belongs to the Christian church.

James L. Drennan received only the educational privileges afforded by the country school and is truly a self-made man, owing his success to his own untiring efforts, laudable ambition and diligence. Upon his father's death he took charge of the home farm, being then thirteen years of age. At the age of eighteen he began teaching school, which profession he followed for three years. In 1891, with a desire to become a member of the legal profession, he took up the study of law in the office of John G. Drennan and John E. Hogan, of Taylorville, and in 1893 was admitted to the bar, making the best grade in a large class, a fact which indicates how assiduously he had applied himself to the mastery of the principles of jurisprudence. In 1894 he was admitted to a partnership in the firm with which he had studied, under the firm style of Drennan, Hogan & Drennan, but the following year his brother withdrew and entered into partnership with United States Senator Palmer, removing then to Springfield. The partnership of Mr. Hogan and our subject was maintained until January 1,

1904. Mr. Drennan served as chief deputy clerk in the circuit court for three years, after which he was appointed master in chancery and by re-appointment served in that position for three consecutive terms. He is now private secretary to Judge Ricks, a judge of the supreme court, having been appointed to that position in February, 1903. Although a young man he has attained an enviable place as a representative of the legal profession in Christian county, and has been entrusted with much important litigation. He is now the president of the Taylorville Building & Loan Association.

In 1890 Mr. Drennan was united in marriage to Miss Hattie M. Jones, of Mount Auburn, Illinois, who died in 1895, leaving a daughter, Margaret O. For his second wife he chose Miss Grace Clawson, of Taylorville, and their children are Ruth, John L. and Wayne C. Mr. Drennan is popular in fraternal circles. He was made a Mason in 1895 and is a member of Mound Lodge, No. 64, A. F. & A. M., while with the Knights of Pythias lodge, the Modern Woodmen Camp and the Red Men he also holds membership relations. His political views are in accord with the principles of the Democracy and he has labored earnestly to promote the growth and insure the success of his party. He has served as alderman in Taylorville and in 1902 was nominated for county judge, on which occasion he was defeated by a majority of only thirty-six—a vote which indicated his personal popularity and the confidence reposed in him by the public.

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#### O. F. GAUER.

O. F. Gauer is a leading representative of the business interests of Morrisonville, where he is now carrying on a furniture

store and undertaking establishment. Of excellent business ability and broad resources, he has attained a prominent place among the substantial citizens of this part of the county and is recognized as a leader in public affairs. He has won success by well directed, energetic effort and the prosperity that has come to him is certainly well deserved.

Mr. Gauer was born at Staunton, Illinois, November 20, 1867, and is a son of John L. and Hannah (Ablers) Gauer. The father, who was a stone mason by trade, was born in 1827, and died March 22, 1880, at the age of fifty-three years. The mother died on the 12th of February, 1874. She was a native of Bunker Hill, Illinois, and was of German descent.

Left an orphan at an early age, Mr. Gauer has been dependent upon his own resources from boyhood and has made his own fortune and character. For a time he was employed in a furniture store in St. Louis and also worked in a carriage and wagon shop, serving a two years' apprenticeship to that trade. In 1889 he came to Christian county, Illinois, and the following year established a furniture store in Morrisonville, where he still carries on business with marked success. He occupies over five thousand feet of floor space and still has not room enough for his ever increasing stock. Mr. Gauer is also interested in the undertaking business and is a skilled embalmer, being a graduate of the J. H. Clark College. He has also taken post-graduate courses at several different schools of embalming, studying under W. P. Hoeshue, of St. Louis, and Professor C. L. Barnes, of Chicago, and holds a certificate of examination from the state board. Besides his store at Morrisonville he has branch houses at Palmer and Harvel, Illinois.

Mr. Gauer was married in 1890 to Miss Katie A. Ochsner, by whom he has five children, namely: Joseph, John, Otto, Lucile and Helen. Mrs. Gauer is a daughter of Joseph Ochsner, who was born on the River Rhine in Germany and came to America in early youth. In business affairs he has met with excellent success and is to-day a large land owner. He makes his home in Morrisonville and is now engaged in buying and shipping apples to the city markets.

Religiously Mr. Gauer and his family are members of the Catholic church. He belongs to a number of secret societies, including the Camp of Modern Woodmen, No. 330, of Morrisonville, of which he has been clerk for seven years. He has also served as secretary and treasurer of the American Guild; is a charter member and has served as recorder and manager of the Royal Neighbors since its organization; is recorder of the Court of Honor, No. 105; is a charter member of General Thomas Post, Fraternal Army; and belongs to the subordinate lodge, No. 110, of the National Anti-Horse Thief Association, and also to the Bankers' Fraternal Union. He is also a prominent member of the Business Men's Association of Morrisonville and takes great interest in all of these societies, in the work of which he is thoroughly posted. The Democratic party finds in Mr. Gauer a staunch supporter of its principles. He is public spirited in an eminent degree and national progress and local advancement are both causes dear to his heart. Kindness, amiability and courtesy not only characterize his social relations but are a marked factor in his business life.

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#### W. H. ALEXANDER.

W. H. Alexander, proprietor of a first class meat market in Pana, was born in this city on the 24th of November, 1858, and is

a son of Robert and Mary Alexander. His parents were natives of Ohio and came to Pana in 1856. The journey was made across the country in a wagon, traveling thus after the primitive manner of the times. The father was a butcher by trade and established the first shop in this town. He did not only a successful and growing business, but was also active in public affairs in connection with all matters that pertained to the general welfare, progress and improvement. He was a member of the first city council, at which time Dr. Finley was mayor of the city. Both Mr. and Mrs. Alexander became charter members of the Presbyterian church, being associated with five others in the establishment of the congregation. Mrs. Alexander is now the only surviving one, and from the earliest history of the church down to the present has been one of its constant and active followers. Her husband died in Pana on the 23d of February, 1890, respected and honored by all who knew him.

W. H. Alexander is indebted to the public school system of his native city for the educational privileges which he enjoyed in his youth. He entered upon his business career as an apprentice in the employ of R. M. Carr in 1877, thus learning the printer's trade on the old *Pana Gazette*. He afterward became an active factor in journalistic circles as manager and editor of a paper owned by Jacob Swallow, at Towerhill, remaining in that place during the year 1881. He afterward worked on the *Palladium* in Pana until 1883. The following year he went to Kansas City, Missouri, and joined the baseball team known as the Kansas City Blues, of the Association Union. In 1885 he played with the ball team of St. Joseph, Missouri, and in 1886 he organized the Western League. The following year, however, he returned to Pana and embarked in the butch-

ering business, which he has since followed, becoming proprietor of an excellent meat market here. In 1895 he erected the building which he now occupies and he has the best equipped market in this part of the county. It contains a cold storage room forty feet long and twenty feet in width and capable of accommodating five hundred tons of ice. His business has grown to such extensive proportions that he employs seven men to assist him in its conduct. He carries an excellent grade of meat and his earnest desire to please his patrons combined with his honorable business methods makes him one of the successful merchants of Christian county. He was also at one time a director in the Building & Loan Association of Pana.

In 1883 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Alexander and Miss Susie Moore, who was a teacher in the public schools of Pana. Unto them have been born five children: Amy, who is a graduate of the Pana high school with the class of 1902; Hal, Grace, Belle and Susie, all of whom are at home. Mr. Alexander belongs to the Court of Honor, in which he is now filling the office of recorder. He is also connected with the Modern Woodmen, the Knights of Pythias, the Modern Americans, and the Improved Order of Red Men. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party and he strongly endorses its principles, believing that they contain the best elements of good government. In 1883-4 he served as collector of Pana and he has twice been elected to the office of city councilman, filling the position at the present time. He is also president of the Business Men's Association of Pana, an organization formed to promote the industrial and commercial development of the city. He has been a factor in advancing every movement for the general good and is well fitted for leadership in political

views and social life in his community. In whatever relation we find him he is always the same honorable and honored gentleman, whose worth well merits the high regard which is uniformly extended him.

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#### HARRY TRAVIS.

Harry Travis, who is now successfully engaged in general farming on section 12, Locust township, was born in Decatur, Illinois, on the 21st of June, 1859, his parents being Presley and Jane Travis, the former a native of this state and the latter of Tennessee. In 1870 the father brought his family to Christian county, but is now living a retired life in the village of Niantic, Macon county, Illinois. He was born in 1827.

Much of the boyhood of our subject was passed in the city of his birth and to its public schools he is indebted for the education which he enjoyed. At the age of seventeen years he commenced working on a farm by the month and was thus employed until he reached the age of twenty-six, when he bought forty acres of land in Mosquito township, which together with the forty acres owned by his wife made a good farm of eighty acres. This he successfully operated until 1901, when he sold the place and removed to his present farm, which is a tract of one hundred and sixty acres. He has recently erected a nice modern five-room cottage and has otherwise improved his property, making it a very desirable farm. It is pleasantly located about three and three-quarters miles northeast of Owaneco.

Desiring a companion and helpmate on life's journey Mr. Travis chose Miss Ida M. Pollard, a daughter of George F. Pollard, who was a native of Harrison county, Kentucky, and their marriage, which was celebrated in 1885, has been blessed by five chil-

dren: Fred, Robb, Madge, Irene and Lena Mae. The family hold membership in the Church of Christ and stand high socially in the community where they reside. In his social relations Mr. Travis is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America at Owaneeco and in politics is identified with the Democratic party.

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#### A. N. WARNER.

A. N. Warner, one of the honored early settlers of Rosamond township, where he is now engaged in farming on section 25, was born October 27, 1843, in Hinsdale, Berkshire county, Massachusetts, his parents being Benjamin E. and Rebecca (Parsons) Warner, natives of Connecticut and Massachusetts, respectively. He traces his ancestry back to Seth Warner, of Revolutionary times. The father of our subject was born June 20, 1810, and was reared on a farm but later learned the cabinetmaker's trade and engaged in that business at Hinsdale, Massachusetts for several years. Deciding to come west he removed to Christian county, Illinois, in 1856 and settled on a farm in Rosamond township, erecting one of the first houses in that locality, it being now the property of H. Graham. Here his wife died in 1865, but he is still living, being now over ninety-three years of age, and makes his home with his son, Charles B. Warner, in Vermont. In his family were six children, three sons and three daughters, and the sons all reached maturity.

The first thirteen years of his life A. N. Warner spent on a farm in his native county and in the schools of Hinsdale he began his education. In 1856 he accompanied his parents on their removal to Christian county, Illinois, and here grew to manhood, making

his home in Rosamond township ever since. He was married at Rosemond, September 20, 1865, to Miss Caroline Keep, a native of Illinois, and to them have been born six children, those still living being Nelson, who married Miss McDonald and lives in Burlington, Vermont; Mary, now a trained nurse of that city; Earl, at home with his parents; Charles Benjamin, who is married and also lives in Vermont; and Clara N., at home.

At the age of twenty-one years Mr. Warner began farming on his own account and from 1865 to 1870 had charge of the home farm belonging to his father. He is now living on section 25, Rosamond township, and is successfully engaged in general farming. During his long residence in this county he has become widely and favorably known and has made many warm friends who esteem him highly for his genuine worth.

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#### JOSEPH DE WOLF.

Joseph De Wolf, proprietor of a general store in Assumption, was born in Delaware county, Ohio, November 7, 1843, his parents being Chauncey and Elizabeth (Rhoades) De Wolf. The father, who was born in Waybrook, Massachusetts, in 1800, died in 1877, at the age of seventy-seven years, and the mother, who was born in Woodstock, Virginia, in 1819, died in 1895, at the age of seventy-five years. His ancestors first located in New York and later mingled with the Puritan stock of Massachusetts. Mr. De Wolf was a farmer by occupation and on the old homestead reared his family of thirteen children. Nine of the number reached years of maturity and seven are now living.

Joseph De Wolf, the fourth in order of

birth, pursued his education in the public schools of Ohio, where he won a scholarship entitling him to a course in the Bryant & Stratton Commercial College. This he attended and was thereby fitted for the practical and responsible duties of a business career. In early life he became imbued with the desire to enter mercantile affairs and never lost sight of that object. After entering upon his business career he traveled throughout western Ohio as a representative of a mercantile house. Later, however, he was employed as rodman with a surveying party and for two years was connected with civil engineering in the extension of the Missouri Pacific Railroad. He remained with that corporation until the completion of its line and was an expert employe, although he never pursued a course of study in engineering. He worked under General Deitzler, with headquarters at Lawrence, Kansas. He was afterward connected with the Northwestern Railroad Company under Major Howe until 1871, the year of the great Chicago fire. In that year he came to Illinois on a visit and was so well pleased with the city of Assumption and its future prospects that he resolved to make his home in this city.

In the meantime, however, Mr. De Wolf had had considerable military as well as his surveying experience. For eighteen months he was a member of the Ohio State Militia and in August, 1862, prompted by a spirit of patriotism, he enlisted in response to his country's need as a member of Company H, Fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, under Captain D. H. Straub, and for seventeen months he was with that command. With his regiment he participated in all the engagements around Petersburg. The first battle in which he took part was that of the Wilderness and he was under fire almost

continuously for twenty-one days. He took part in sixteen different battles and skirmishes and after the close of the war received an honorable discharge on the 21st of July, 1865.

After coming to Assumption in 1872 Mr. De Wolf became the owner of a farm in this portion of the state, but his life has been largely devoted to mercantile interests. He was, however, an insurance adjuster for the Home Insurance Company of New York for eight years. On the 1st of August, 1894, his present business was established. He was at first located in a one-story frame building, where he began dealing in flour and feed. From this modest beginning he has extended his field of labor, branching out in other directions from time to time until he has to-day one of the popular mercantile establishments of Assumption. His place of business is known as the A. T. C. store, in which he carries a select stock of staple and fancy groceries, queensware, notions and men's furnishing goods. He employs Frank M. Gandy as manager of this establishment. From time to time he moved his place of business northward and thus fortunately escaped the great fires which at different times have largely devastated the business district further south. For six years he has been in his present location, occupying a large brick building. In addition to this he owns two stores on Second South street, where he deals in feed, produce and poultry. This is an important and profitable branch of his business. He buys large quantities of the country produce, packing and shipping the same and thus furnishing an excellent market for the farmers, while at the same time the enterprise is proving a good source of remuneration to him.

At Towerhill, Shelby county, Illinois, Mr. De Wolf was united in marriage to

Miss Louisa Wolf, a daughter of Peter Wolf, of Page county, Iowa. She was born in Greene county, Indiana, and by her marriage has become the mother of two daughters, Lillie, who is now residing in Los Angeles, California; and Allie, who died when about seventeen years of age.

Mr. De Wolf owns town property, including his pleasant residence on Samuel street near St. Mary's church. He belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic and for nineteen years has been a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He holds membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and he gives his political support to the Prohibition party, two facts in his record which indicate an honorable, upright and temperate life. He has served as justice of the peace for eight years, has been assessor of Assumption township for three years and notary public for twenty years. At the outset of his career he had no special family or pecuniary advantages to assist him, but the strength of his character was manifest in his strong determination, close attention to his business duties and his earnest and laudable desire for advancement. Gradually he has progressed and the prosperity which should ever crown honorable, persistent effort is to-day his.

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#### CORNELIUS DRAKE.

In financial circles Cornelius Drake is well known as a man of utmost reliability as well as of business activity. He was born October 23, 1854, in Wadsworth, Ohio, a son of Hiram H. and Margaret E. Drake. His father, a native of Pennsylvania, learned the blacksmith's trade in early life in the place of his nativity and afterward removed to Ohio, where he continued to reside until 1877, when he came

to Illinois. He then turned his attention to farming, settling near Grove City, where he owned and operated eighty acres of land, continuing its cultivation until his life's labors were ended in death in March, 1898.

Cornelius Drake pursued his early education in the public schools and was afterward a student in the Mennonite College at Wadsworth, Ohio. Entering upon his business career as a teacher, he followed that profession for four years and then became connected with mercantile life as a salesman in the employ of the firm of Chamberlain & Barnes of Taylorville, with whom he remained for a year and a half. He then began business on his own account, entering into partnership with O. Z. Housley, as a general merchant at Grove City. Later they established a bank at that place, which they still own. In 1893 Mr. Drake came to Stonington, where he again embarked in merchandising and also became actively interested in banking. At a later date he disposed of his store, but has continued to conduct the bank under the firm name of Housley & Drake. This is a private banking institution which was organized in 1893 and is now the oldest, largest and strongest financial concern of the town. He is likewise a silent partner in the store of Sands, Miller & Company of Stonington. He acts as cashier at the bank and the success of this institution is largely attributable to his efforts and keen business discernment.

On the 30th of September, 1880, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Drake and Miss Estella Sadler, of Grove City, Illinois, and five children have been born to them, of whom four are now living: Ada, Ila, and Elmo and Waldo, twins. All are still under the parental roof. Mrs. Drake's parents, Samuel J. and Mary (Coover) Sadler, were both born near Bourneville, Ohio, and soon



CORNELIUS DRAKE



after their marriage came to Illinois, locating on a farm near Grove City in Christian county, where the father spent the remainder of his life with the exception of four years, when he resided in Springfield. He died in 1885 and a few years later his wife removed to Stonington, where her death occurred in November, 1891. In politics Mr. Sadler was a Republican and in religious belief was a Methodist, being an active member of that church for many years and serving as steward and trustee of the same. He was also connected with the Masonic fraternity and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In his family were ten children, of whom seven are still living, namely: Estella, wife of our subject; Flora, a resident of Stonington; Lena, widow of Irwin Drake and a resident of Stonington; Carrie, wife of A. B. Kirk, of Grove City; Wilbur A., who also makes his home in Grove City; Melvin S., who is living in the same place; and Frank P., an attorney of Chicago.

Mr. and Mrs. Drake hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and contribute generously to its support. He is the clerk of the Modern Woodmen Camp at Stonington, is the worthy treasurer of the Court of Honor, captain of the Fraternal Army, treasurer of the Royal Circle and belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In politics he is a Republican and was elected mayor of Stonington for two terms; for four terms he served on the town board; and while living in Grove City he filled the position of postmaster under President Garfield. He has been active in everything pertaining to the public good and progress of Stonington and at the same time has carried forward his business affairs in a manner that shows marked energy, diligence and business sagacity. Prosperity has attended his labors and although he began

life without family or pecuniary advantages to aid him he is now one of the substantial residents of Christian county.

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#### H. M. LANGLEY.

H. M. Langley, of Taylorville, was born April 12, 1851, in Taylorville township, his parents being Robert Preston and Minerva Ann (Pittman) Langley. The father was a native of Christian county, Kentucky, born in the year 1812, and came on horseback to this county, casting in his lot with early pioneer settlers. The year of his arrival was 1831, at which date there had been little done in the way of improvement and up-building. He purchased land here and lived on it for more than fifty years. As time advanced he prospered in his undertakings and became the owner of over five hundred acres, constituting a very valuable and desirable property. He was a successful farmer, a self-made man and was prominent in the early days of the county's development, assisting materially in the work of general improvement. He died in the year 1893 and his wife, surviving him about four years, passed away in 1897. They left three sons, the brothers of our subject being Moses D. Langley, who is living in Taylorville township; and Rufus D., a resident of Wamego, Kansas.

H. M. Langley obtained his education in the district schools of Taylorville township, which he attended when his time was not occupied by the duties of the home farm. He early became familiar with the work of cultivating the fields and assisted his father in the operation of the home place until eighteen years of age, when he left Christian county and went to the west. For a time he was engaged in driving a stage for the government in Kansas, making his head-

quarters at Dodge City, where he remained for five years. He went to that place before there was a single house in the town, but the west was being rapidly developed and great changes occurred before his return to Illinois. In 1875 he again came to Christian county and has since remained a resident of Taylorville, covering a period of twenty-eight years. He is now conducting a café in Taylorville, under the firm name of Langley & Drohan. He also owns a fine farm in Taylorville township, comprising two hundred acres of valuable land, and from this he receives a good annual income.

In 1878 Mr. Langley was united in marriage to Miss Lydia A. Brents, a daughter of William Brents, who was reared near Taylorville. Unto them have been born two children, but only one is now living: Fred E., who married Miss Sarah Caldwell, of Joplin, Missouri, and resides in Taylorville. Mr. Langley belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity of Taylorville, with which he has been identified for twenty-five years. In politics he is a Democrat, but has never sought or desired office, preferring to give his attention to his business affairs. He owns one of the best residences in Taylorville and is a public-spirited citizen, desiring the permanent growth and substantial up-building of the town.

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#### CHARLES M. HISE.

Charles M. Hise is a leading representative of the business interests of Stonington, where as a plasterer and bricklayer he is engaged in contracting and also conducts a livery stable. He is a man of good business and executive ability and has won success by well directed, energetic effort. A native of Christian county, he was born near Grove City, May 15, 1864, and throughout the

years of his manhood has been identified with the interests of this section of the state.

C. C. Hise, our subject's father, was born in Mason county, Kentucky, in 1831, a son of Philip and Hannah Hise. Leaving his native state at the age of sixteen years he went to Waverly, Ohio, where he learned the trade of a plasterer and bricklayer, and in 1856 he came to Christian county, Illinois. He first located near Grove City, but afterward removed to Stonington, where he erected a few residences, but is now living retired, being one of the oldest citizens of the town. He married Letta Howard and to them were born eight children.

During his boyhood and youth Charles M. Hise attended the public schools of Grove City and Stonington and with his father learned plastering and bricklaying, which he has since followed with good success. Since 1883 he has been a resident of Stonington and two years later, at the age of twenty-one, he commenced contracting. On the 1st of April, 1903, he purchased a livery stable which he now conducts in connection with his other business and besides this property he owns his own pleasant residence and another house in Stonington. He is a very reliable and energetic business man and his success in life is due entirely to his own industrious efforts.

On the 10th of July, 1888, Mr. Hise was united in marriage to Miss Lorena Weiser, a daughter of Philip Weiser, who was one of the early settlers of this section and was engaged in the grain and tile business in Stonington for many years. Unto our subject and his wife were born six children, namely: Clyde; Wade; Letta, who died at the age of eight years; Homer; Guy; and Freda. Mrs. Hise is a member of the Reformed church and is a most estimable lady. In his political views our subject is a Re-

publican and he has been called upon to serve as collector of Stonington township. He has always been found true to every trust reposed in him and well merits the confidence and respect so freely accorded him.

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#### A. D. MOORE.

A. D. Moore, an honored veteran of the Civil war and a successful farmer of Mount Auburn township, his home being on section 25, was born in Fayette county, Illinois, in September, 1846, his parents being William and Melinda (Nowland) Moore, natives of Tennessee and early settlers of the Prairie state. The mother died in 1856 and the father departed this life in 1862.

Mr. Moore, of this review, was principally educated at Spanglers Switch, Illinois, and also attended school in Kansas for a time, having removed to that state in 1856. During the dark days of the Rebellion he laid aside all personal interests and in 1864 enlisted in Company L, Fifteenth Kansas Regiment. He took part in the battles of Blue River, Geckman Mill and Arkansas River and after hostilities ceased was honorably discharged in October, 1865. Returning to Kansas, he remained in that state, working by the month until 1874, when he came to Illinois. He spent two years in Decatur in the employ of others, and in 1876 came to Christian county, where he has since followed farming. He operated rented land until 1900, when he purchased one hundred and sixty-eight acres, but two years later sold that place and removed to his present farm on section 26, Mount Auburn township.

In 1876 Mr. Moore was united in marriage to Miss Melinda Cook, a daughter of John Cook, who was a native of Indiana. Of the twelve children born of this union

five of the number died in infancy. The others are J. F., who is married and follows farming in Christian county; and Bryant D., Irwin, Alonzo, Mary M., Alice and Elmer, all at home.

Mr. Moore votes with the Republican party and takes deep interest in public affairs. He is an honored member of the Grand Army Post, No. 208, of Illiopolis, and is a man highly esteemed by all who know him.

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#### LEO JOHNSON.

The Johnson family is very well known in Christian county, for from early pioneer days representatives of the name have been active in agricultural circles and stock-dealing here. Leo Johnson is the youngest of the family and was born in Guernsey county, Ohio, on the 6th of March, 1847, his parents being Benjamin and Elizabeth (Foote) Johnson, the former a native of London, England, and the latter of County Cork, Ireland. The family numbered nine children and Leo Johnson was a babe of only eighteen months at the time of the removal of the parents to Greene county, Illinois. There he was reared upon the home farm and obtained his education in the common schools. The occupation, with which he became familiar in his boyhood days, he has always made his life work and has devoted a great deal of attention to the raising of shorthorn cattle, making a specialty of thoroughbreds; in fact he ranks, to-day, as one of the leading stock-dealers in this portion of the state and his business is of an important character and brings to him a large annual return.

Mr. Johnson has served as school treasurer for twenty-five years and has also filled other local positions, serving as supervisor,

as highway commissioner and as collector. In politics he is a Republican, keeping well informed on the questions and issues of the day and he never falters in his allegiance to the party which he believes contains the best elements of good government. His religious faith is that of the Presbyterian church.

On the 16th of November, 1876, in Assumption township, Mr. Johnson was united in marriage to Miss Sarah E. Moore, a daughter of J. P. and Mary (Brauherd) Moore. She was the fourth in order of birth among their children and by her marriage she has become the mother of three children: Leola, now the wife of A. C. Smith, of Mattoon, Illinois, by whom she has two children, Mary Eloise and Leo, the latter named for his grandfather; Benjamin Porter, who was named for both his paternal and maternal grandfathers; and Robert, who is at home.

Mr. Johnson took up his abode on his present farm in 1876 and after his marriage erected a modern residence supplied with every convenience, such as is found in the city. On the 18th of January, 1899, however, this desirable home was destroyed by fire and in the spring, with characteristic energy, Mr. Johnson rebuilt the place, his residence being a credit to the township, for the improvements are all of the very best. The house is supplied with comfortable and beautiful modern furniture and everything about the place is attractive, neat and thrifty in appearance. There are good barns and other outbuildings for the shelter of grain and stock and the latest farm machinery is used in the cultivation of the home place, which comprises two hundred acres of rich land, located on section 27, Assumption township. Mr. Johnson also has one hundred and sixty acres on section 20. Mr.

Johnson is one of the public-spirited citizens of Assumption township and one of its most popular residents.

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#### EDWIN EDMUNDS.

For many years this gentleman was successfully engaged in farming but is now practically living a retired life, enjoying the fruits of former toil. He has a pleasant home on section 2, Bear Creek township, where surrounded by many comforts and luxuries he is spending his declining years in ease and quiet. His boyhood home was on the other side of the Atlantic, for he was born in Northamptonshire, England, June 24, 1845, a son of William and Mary (Thornlow) Edmunds, who were also natives of that country. The father, who was a gardener by occupation, died in 1863, and the mother, long surviving him, passed away in 1893.

Edwin Edmunds was reared and educated in England and at the age of fifteen years began work in a hothouse where he was employed until April, 1867. Desiring to try his fortune in America, where he believed that better opportunities were afforded ambitious and industrious young men, he came to the new world and first located in Delaware, where he was in the employ of ex-Governor William Ross for one year. In May, 1868, he came to Taylorville, Illinois, and soon obtained work by the month on a farm, where he remained one year. The following year he operated the D. V. Adams farm and at the end of that time purchased a team and forming a partnership with Thomas Wiggins engaged in the cultivation of rented land until 1870, when they bought their first tract, consisting of eighty acres, where Mr. Edmunds now lives. In 1880 they purchased sixty acres more and five

years later bought a tract of forty acres. They continued to carry on their farming operations together until 1898, when our subject purchased his partner's interest and is now the owner of a well improved and valuable place of one hundred and eighty acres, although it was all raw prairie and timber land when it came into their possession. At present he rents the farm and is now living retired.

On the 24th of December, 1870, Mr. Edmunds married Miss Eliza C. Cannon, a daughter of Benard Cannon, who was from Ohio. She died in August, 1882, leaving six children, namely: James, a conductor on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, who is married and lives at Flora, Illinois; Joseph, who is married and is now operating his father's farm; Samuel, who is married and is also engaged in farming in Taylorville township, this county; Mary, wife of Irvin Eikelberry, a farmer of Clay county, Illinois; Thomas R., at home; and Della, wife of Robert Mason, a resident of Carbondale, Illinois.

Having been reared in the Episcopal faith, Mr. Edmunds still favors that church, and his political support is given the Republican party. For nine years he has been school director in his township and his sympathies are with his adopted country and her institutions. He deserves great credit for the success that he has achieved in life, for he has made his way unaided from an early age.

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#### WILLIAM D. COFFMAN.

William D. Coffman is one of the representative and prominent citizens of May township, where he carries on farming and stock-raising with good success, his home being on section 20. He was born in Ohio

county, West Virginia, on the 9th of July, 1845, and is a son of James D. and Margaret (Settle) Coffman, both natives of the same state. By trade the father was a blacksmith but during the latter years of his life he followed farming. In 1851 he came to Illinois and became a resident of Christian county, where he died on the 1st of November, 1885. His wife had preceded him to the better world, passing away July 9, 1872. Of their five children only our subject and his sister, Mrs. Isaac Corzine, are now living.

William D. Coffman, the oldest of the family, was educated in the common schools of this state, being a small boy on the removal of the family from West Virginia. For one year he was a student in the schools of Peoria. Until twenty-three years of age he worked for his father and then commenced farming on his own account upon a tract of land which was covered with brush and stumps. These he cleared away and after breaking the land placed it under a high state of cultivation. As time passed he prospered in his farming operations and is to-day the owner of a fine farm of two hundred and sixty-five acres in May township, on which he set out two thousand peach trees and three hundred apple trees in 1891. Four years later he realized eleven hundred and fifty-five bushels of peaches from his crop of fruit and has found the business quite remunerative.

After keeping house for himself for nine years Mr. Coffman was married on the 19th of January, 1881, to Miss Lillian Fraley, who was born December 17, 1857, and died November 15, 1896. She was a daughter of John S. Fraley, who came to this county in 1847. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Coffman were born six children, namely: Mabel E., Minnie and Mary, who are all at home with

their father; Roy, who is now in St. Louis; Ruth Irene; and one who died in infancy.

In religious connection Mr. Coffman is a member of the United Brethren church and in his political affiliations he is a Prohibitionist. For nine years he filled the office of township clerk and was school treasurer for twenty-one years. He is a man highly respected and esteemed by all who know him and his word is considered as good as his bond.

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#### JOSEPH W. PADDOCK.

Joseph W. Paddock, who is engaged in the lumber business in Pana, is a typical citizen of the central west, alert, progressive and resolute. It is to such men that the west owes its rapid advancement and the wonderful development of its business enterprises—men who watch for opportunity, utilize it when it comes and while promoting individual success also promote the general prosperity. Mr. Paddock is now the manager and one of the leading stockholders of the Paddock Lumber Company and in this connection controls one of the largest lumber yards in central Illinois.

A native son of Pana, he was born on the 4th of December, 1867, his parents being O. H. and Ann Paddock. His father was born in Woodstock, Vermont, in the year 1830, and came to Pana in 1863 as agent for the Illinois Central Railroad Company. He has since been a resident of the city, well and favorably known in business circles and is now the president of the Pana Building Association, an enterprise which has proven of marked value in the improvement and development of the city. He is also serving as police magistrate.

Joseph W. Paddock spent his boyhood days in a manner not unsimilar to that of

most boys of the period, his time being largely divided between the duties of the school-room and the pleasures of the playground. As the years progressed he completed the high school course in Pana, after which he entered the University of Illinois. He pursued the architectural course and was a member of the class of 1892. He then returned to Pana and has continuously since engaged in the lumber business, so that he is now thoroughly familiar with the trade, the grades of lumber and the demands of the public. He was for several years the manager of the O. H. Paddock Lumber Company, and in November, 1902, he organized the Paddock Lumber Company, of which Warren Penwell is the president. Mr. Paddock, however, owns the controlling interest and manages the entire business. He has the largest and best equipped lumber yard in central Illinois and his trade has constantly grown in volume and importance, until upon his books it is represented by a large figure.

On the 19th of June, 1895, Mr. Paddock was united in marriage to Miss Annie Hayward, a daughter of A. J. Hayward of Pana, now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Paddock have two sons, Howland Hayward and Oscar Hayward. They hold membership in the First Presbyterian church, are deeply interested in its work and have aided in its development. Mr. Paddock also has membership relations with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Royal Arcanum. His political allegiance is given the Republican party but while he believes firmly in its principles and never fails to cast his vote for its men and measures, he has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking, preferring to devote his time and attention to his business affairs, in which he is meeting with very gratifying success. His personal characteristics and his business record

have combined to win for him an enviable position in the regard of his many friends and of the general public.

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### HENRY J. BURKE.

Christian county figures as one of the most attractive, progressive and prosperous divisions of the state of Illinois, justly claiming a high order of citizenship and a spirit of enterprise which is certain to conserve consecutive development and marked advancement in the material upbuilding of the section. The county has been and is signally favored in the class of men who have controlled its affairs in official capacity, and in this connection the subject of this review demands representation as one who has served the county faithfully and well in positions of distinct trust and responsibility. Mr. Burke is now filling the position of county clerk, having taken the office after one of the most peculiar contest election cases ever known in Illinois, a case which not only showed that Mr. Burke had all the support that he claimed, but also that he had the allegiance of many men who were claimed by the opposition.

A native of Sangamon county, Illinois, he was born near Pleasant Plains on the 8th of November, 1873, and is a son of Michael and Bridget (Davin) Burke, who in 1876 removed to Christian county, settling in Assumption township, where they are now living. The father is a native of the Emerald Isle and, bidding adieu to that country in 1861, he sailed for the new world, first establishing his home in Sangamon county, Illinois. In the family were six children, of whom five are living.

Henry J. Burke pursued his education in the common schools and in early life served as turnkey in the Macon county jail under

Sheriff J. H. Mauzy for eighteen months. He afterward became a student in the Normal School at Bushnell, Illinois, and in the Lincoln Business College of Lincoln, this state. For a short time he engaged in teaching school and later devoted his attention to farming, which he carried on extensively, operating a large tract of land two miles west of Assumption for a period of four years. On the expiration of that time he was called to public office, serving as tax collector of his township in the year 1897-8. He was afterward deputy circuit clerk under Edward J. Rhodes of Christian county from 1899 until 1902 and in the latter year he became a candidate for the nomination for county clerk on the Democratic ticket. In the convention he received the nomination over Charles Clark, county clerk, and Thomas J. Downey, county sheriff, and at the November election he was chosen for the office by a majority of five hundred, although Mr. Downey ran upon an independent ticket. Mr. Burke received two-thirds of the Republican vote of his own township, a fact which indicates his personal popularity among the people by whom he is best known. His defeated rival for the office, T. J. Downey, then instituted a law suit, claiming that the nomination should have gone to him in the convention. The counsel for the defense made a statement that he could produce a decision by the Illinois supreme court that all contest cases in the primaries should be settled by the county committees, but the case was called and as one of the local papers said, "Downey's own testimony kills his case." Fourteen men were all who he could get to say that they voted for him and some of them were ignorant and depraved. The case proved a farce from beginning to end and strengthened Mr. Burke's popularity with the public. This

was one of the most unique cases that ever came up for settlement in the courts of Illinois and the following was the decision rendered: "Under motion to dismiss by the defendant for purpose of motion admits facts as proven to be true and so considering the matter we find by the evidence that more votes were cast for Downey than is shown by the poll books and tally sheets; we also find that a number of Republicans voted, but when all deductions and additions are made in accordance with the testimony, it does not change the result between Downey and Burke. We therefore find that the material allegations in the bill are not sustained and the case is therefore dismissed." Mr. Burke is proving a popular officer and one who enjoys in a high degree the respect and confidence of his fellow men.

Mr. Burke was married November 9, 1903, to Miss Margaret Cronin, daughter of James and Mary (Madden) Cronin, of Assumption. Mrs. Burke has served as deputy county clerk since Mr. Burke assumed the duties of his office.

#### DIAL DAVIS.

For almost seventy years Dial Davis made his home in Christian county and his entire life was passed in this section of the state for he was born near Mechanicsburg in Sangamon county, January 10, 1826. Amid pioneer scenes he grew to manhood and received such educational advantages as the times afforded. At the age of twenty years he enlisted for service in the Mexican war, becoming a member of Company C, Fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, under Captain I. C. Pugh and Colonel E. D. Baker. He was with the army for twelve months and took part in the battles of Cerro Gordo and Vera Cruz. He was within twenty yards of General Shields when that

officer was shot and was with the Illinois troops that captured Santa Ana's cork leg and treasure, but did not share in the distribution of the spoils as did those who were lucky enough to make the capture. Mr. Davis was discharged and mustered out at New Orleans and then returned to his home in Christian county.

The land warrant he received for his services he traded for forty acres of land on sections 13 and 24, town 15 north, range 2 west, but a few years later he disposed of that tract and purchased eighty acres on section 11, Mount Auburn township, only three-quarters of a mile from the village of Mount Auburn. He began his farming operations with only one horse and a yoke of oxen, but as time passed he steadily prospered, becoming one of the wealthiest farmers and stock-raisers of this county. At the time of his death he owned one thousand three hundred and eighty acres of very valuable farming land. For several years he shipped stock quite extensively and was also engaged in merchandising for a number of years.

After living alone from 1848 until 1852, Mr. Davis decided to marry and on the 4th of February of that latter year was joined in wedlock with Miss Edmonia E. Hesser, by whom he had six children, namely: Franklin P., now deceased; Sallie M., the wife of E. R. Mooney, of Mount Auburn township; Charles E., a druggist of Mount Auburn; Henry N., deceased; Dial W., also deceased; and Carrie E., wife of William L. Rasar, of Mount Auburn township. The mother of these children died on the 4th of July, 1864, and on the 5th of May, 1867, Mr. Davis married Huldah J. Stobaugh, who passed away about two weeks prior to her husband's death. By the second marriage there was one daughter, Nellie M.





DIAL DAVIS



MRS. DIAL DAVIS



After a useful and well spent life Mr. Davis died at his home in Mount Auburn, February 15, 1902, honored and respected by all who knew him, and his funeral was conducted by Rev. Sutherland, of Latham, Logan county, Illinois. Mr. Davis always took an active interest in public affairs and never withheld his support from any enterprise which he believed would promote the general welfare. He was very progressive and favored every improvement which was calculated to advance the interests of his town and county. He gave the right of way to railroads and electric roads and induced others to do the same and in order to get a telephone established in his section he purchased all the stock. The Democratic party always found in him a staunch supporter of its principles and he was quite active in political affairs. He was the first tax collector of Mount Auburn township; also filled the office of constable in his younger years; and was a member of the board of supervisors when the county was divided into townships. It is doubtful if any one was more conversant with the local history of this section of the country than Mr. Davis. He was a man of simple tastes, approachable and a fluent talker, and had a way of making one feel at home. He was charitable almost to a fault, but was still a shrewd business man and the success that he achieved in life was due entirely to his own industry, perseverance and good management. He took pleasure in promoting anything that would advance the moral, social or material welfare of the community in which he lived and took a special interest in education. It is not strange therefore that in his death Christian county realized that it had lost a valued citizen as well as an honored pioneer.

## CHARLES E. DAVIS.

For the past twenty years Charles E. Davis has been engaged in the drug business in Mount Auburn and he is a representative of that class of citizens who, while advancing individual success, also promote the public welfare. A native of Christian county, he was born in Mount Auburn township, July 9, 1857, and is a son of Dial Davis, whose sketch precedes this. Our subject was educated in the district schools of his county and here grew to manhood. In 1888 he embarked in the drug business at Mount Auburn and carried on a store there until 1893, when he received the appointment of United States Indian agent at the Colorado river agency in Arizona and filled that position until 1897. Returning to Mount Auburn he again engaged in the drug business and is now enjoying a good trade. He owns the store in which he carries on business and also a good residence here, besides a fine farm of three hundred and thirty acres in Mount Auburn township. In his business undertakings he has prospered and he stands high in commercial circles in Christian county.

Mr. Davis was married on the 17th of April, 1883, to Miss Alice A. Lusk, who was born in Meredosia, Illinois, March 31, 1861. Her father, Edward Lusk, was a native of Ohio, born at Hudson, January 1, 1812, and was a brother-in-law of John Brown. His wife bore the maiden name of Jane A. Augur, and was born in Connecticut, June 30, 1830. Mr. and Mrs. Davis have two children: Dial Winifred, born August 14, 1891; and Effie Haldeen, born March 8, 1894. The wife and mother is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and is a most estimable lady.

Socially Mr. Davis is connected with Kedron Lodge, No. 340, A. F. & A. M., of

Mount Auburn; Mystic Lodge, No. 64, K. P., of Taylorville; Grove City Lodge, No. 275, I. O. O. F.; Mount Auburn Camp, No. 2849, M. W. A.; the District Court of Honor, No. 923; and the Anti-Horse Thief Association. His political support is given the Democratic party and he filled the office of township collector for five years. He stands high in both business and social circles and is regarded as one of the leading and representative citizens of Mount Auburn.

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#### WILLIAM L. RASAR.

William L. Rasar, who is successfully engaged in general farming and stock-raising on section 11, Mount Auburn township, is a native of Logan county, Illinois, born at Mount Pulaski, January 5, 1858, and is a son of Peter and Martha (Dawson) Rasar, who were natives of Tennessee and Indiana, respectively. The father came to Illinois about 1855 and in the fall of 1867 became a resident of Illiopolis, but now makes his home in Newton, Kansas, where he is living retired. The mother of our subject died on the 29th of March, 1900.

William L. Rasar completed his education in the high school of Illiopolis, and after leaving school he worked at the blacksmith's trade from the age of sixteen until twenty-three years old. He then engaged in farming upon rented land for eighteen years and now operates the farm belonging to his wife, which is a valuable place of three hundred and twenty acres in Mount Auburn township. Mr. Rasar has placed the farm under a high state of cultivation and has made many improvements thereon, including the erection in 1902 of a fine barn, fifty-six feet square, and now, in 1903, he is building an elegant twelve-room modern residence, containing a bath-room and to be heated with

hot water. He follows both general farming and stock-raising with good success, as he thoroughly understands the occupation which he has chosen as a life work.

On the 27th of January, 1880, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Rasar and Miss Carrie E. Davis, a daughter of Dial Davis, whose biography appears elsewhere in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Rasar have become the parents of eight children: Fred Dial, now twenty-two years of age; Charles Claud, twenty-one; Carolee, twenty; Grover Cleveland, eighteen; Brice Davis, eleven; Corwin Wilford, eight; Donald Gradon, three; and Eloise Edmonia, six months. The family are connected with the Christian church and are people of prominence in the community where they reside.

Socially Mr. Rasar is a member of the Knights of Pythias, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Court of Honor, all of Mount Auburn, and politically he is identified with the Democracy. He served as collector of Mount Auburn township two terms, from 1895 to 1898; was school director of the Davis school for fifteen years; and clerk of the board for twelve years. He has always been found true to every trust reposed in him, whether public or private, and he merits and receives the respect and confidence of all who know him.

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#### E. R. MOONEY.

E. R. Mooney, residing on section 11, Mount Auburn township, is a well known contractor and builder, as well as farmer, of whose skill many notable examples are seen at various points throughout the county. Thoroughly reliable in all things, the quality of his work is a convincing test of his own personal worth and the same admirable trait is shown in his conscientious discharge of the duties of different positions





W. L. RASAR



MRS. W. L. RASAR



of trust and responsibility to which he has been chosen in business and political life.

Mr. Mooney was born August 16, 1853, in Bucks county, Pennsylvania, of which state his parents, Whitson W. and Esther K. (Smith) Mooney, were also natives. From Pennsylvania the family removed to Newcastle, Indiana, where the father died in 1863 and the mother in 1886. There our subject was reared and educated and at the age of sixteen years he began learning the carpenter's trade, which he has since followed with good success. In 1874 he came to Christian county, Illinois, and has since engaged in contracting and building, being considered one of the leading contractors of this section of the state. He also follows farming, owning and operating a fine farm of three hundred and twenty acres one mile west of Mount Auburn, where he resides.

On the 21st of April, 1880, Mr. Mooney married Miss Sallie Davis, a daughter of Dial Davis, whose biography appears elsewhere in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Mooney have three children: Mabel C., at home; Gladys W., who is now attending the Millikin University at Decatur; and Ruth M., at home. The mother and daughters are members of the Christian church, and Mr. Mooney is connected with the Court of Honor. He served as supervisor of Mount Auburn township in 1889 and has also filled the office of township collector for two terms. He stands high in both business and social circles and his success in life has been worthily achieved, it having been gained entirely through his own well directed efforts.

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#### JOSEPH COWAN.

For over a quarter of a century the Cowan family have been numbered among the honored residents of Rosamond township and

three of its representatives are still living on the old homestead on section 12, these being Joseph, Mary and Benjamin F. The parents were G. W. and M. E. (Cochran) Cowan, who were natives of North Carolina and were of Irish descent, though their ancestors came to America prior to the Revolutionary war. The paternal grandfather, Joseph Cowan, married Miss Elizabeth Swan, of Maryland, and to them were born two children: G. W., the father of our subject; and his sister. At a very early day the father left his native state and removed to Perry county, Missouri, where he began working by the day, chopping wood at forty cents per cord and boarding himself. In this way he gained a start in life and was at length able to enter a tract of land in Perry county. At that time Appleton, Missouri, which was twelve miles distant, was his nearest trading point and there he had to go for his mail also. He and his family lived in true pioneer style and underwent many of the hardships and privations incident to life on the frontier. In those days he raised his own sheep and after the shearing was done his wife, with the aid of her daughters, would prepare the wool and do the carding, spinning and knitting for her household. Besides the cloth used for clothing she made fancy coverlets, etc. Miss Mary Cowan has in her possession a coverlet which formerly belonged to her grandmother Cowan and has other souvenirs of pioneer days which she prizes highly, including an old iron kettle, which the family took from North Carolina on their removal to Missouri. During the boyhood days of our subject all of the cooking was done over a fireplace, an old fashioned crane being used to hang the kettles on. He remembers well when matches first came into use and when candles were the only means of lighting the houses.

After living in Missouri for several years, G. W. Cowan brought his family to Illinois in March, 1877, and located on section 12, Rosemond township, Christian county, where he continued to make his home throughout the remainder of his life. Here he died on the 5th of May, 1889, at the age of sixty-eight years, honored and respected by all who knew him. During his younger years he was a member of the State Militia in Perry county, Missouri, and he always took a commendable interest in public affairs. His estimable wife survived him a number of years, dying October 26, 1900, when she lacked but one week of being seventy years of age.

Unto this worthy couple were born eleven children, eight sons and three daughters, all of whom reached maturity, namely: Joseph, whose name introduces this sketch; Isaac and William, twins; Mary, who is now acting as housekeeper for her brothers; Marion, who died at the age of thirty-one years; Columbus; Emma, wife of R. A. Barbour, of Perry county, Missouri; Jennie, wife of B. I. Van Housen, of Meade county, Kansas; W. McClelland, who married a Miss Horney and lives in Wichita, Kansas; Grant, who married a Miss McNamara and resides in Meade county, Kansas; and Benjamin F., who lives on the old homestead.

Joseph Cowan was born in Perry county, Missouri, in 1848, and was reared amid pioneer surroundings on a farm in that county. Upon the place a large cottonwood now stands that was planted by the father many years ago. Our subject and his sister Mary pursued their studies in a log cabin school-house furnished in a primitive manner but later she went to school in a frame building. When not in school Mr. Cowan aided in the work of the farm and used to ride many miles to mill to have feed ground. At that

time there were no commission houses in St. Louis and all of the produce raised on the Cowan farm was marketed at Appleton, Missouri. They cut the grain with a cradle and cultivated the corn with a single shovel plow. After coming to Christian county, Illinois, Joseph Cowan assisted in the development of their new farm in Rosemond township, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, and he broke many an acre of wild prairie land, which he has since transformed into a fine farm. He is successfully engaged in general farming and stock-raising in connection with his brother, Benjamin F., and they have Shire and Norman horses and a good grade of cattle and hogs upon their place. Being good practical agriculturists and reliable and trustworthy in business, they have prospered in their undertakings and are ranked among the substantial citizens of the community. Their home is pleasantly located three miles north of the village of Rosemond.

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#### MRS. CHARLES BEAULIEU.

Mrs. Charles Beaulieu, a well known resident of Assumption, is a native of West Virginia and a daughter of Charles and Caroline Long, who were also born in that state. There the father carried on general farming until the Civil war, when in 1864 he brought his family to Illinois and settled in Christian county upon the Ennis farm on section 3, Assumption township. Here he became the owner of a half section of land, which was recently sold, the profit to be divided among his heirs. Here he and his wife worked early and late to improve the farm and they soon made it one of the most desirable places of the township. Mrs. Long often assisted her husband in the fields, dropping corn and doing other outdoor work be-

sides her household duties. Many hours each day were devoted to spinning and in the family are still a number of coverlets and blankets which she and her mother wove. The boys then wore jeans and the dresses of the girls were made of linsey woolsey. No stoves were then in use in West Virginia and the houses were lighted by a grease lamp which hung in the chimney corner. Later, dipped candles came into use and were afterward replaced by molded ones. Cooking was done over an old fashioned fireplace, the kettle being hung on a crane. Most of the baking was done either in a skillet or a Dutch oven. Settlements were then widely scattered and the Long family walked from three to four miles to attend church. On coming to Illinois they found Christian county largely wild and unimproved, much of the land being under water, and they underwent many of the hardships and privations of pioneer life. Ducks, geese, brants and prairie chickens were to be had in abundance and furnished the early settlers with much of the meat which they used. After a useful and well spent life Mr. Long passed away June 21, 1903, in his eightieth year and the funeral sermon was preached by Rev. Strain, pastor of the Presbyterian church of Assumption. His wife, who is the oldest in a family of four children and the only survivor, is now in her seventieth year. She has been a hard worker, has passed through many trying ordeals in sickness and death, and is loved and respected by all who know her. She is the mother of fourteen children, but five died in West Virginia and four in this county. Those still living are Margaret, now Mrs. Beaulieu; Andrew S., who is married and living in Fort Madison, Iowa; Mrs. Poulder, who lives on the home farm in Assumption township; Charles, who is also married and

living in Assumption township on the old home place; and Luella, wife of Walter McDonald, of Assumption.

Mrs. Beaulieu was reared and educated in her native state, her girlhood being passed on a farm. When a young woman she gave her hand in marriage to Albert Woodruff, by whom she had four children, namely: Leonora, who married and died in Spencer, Iowa, at the birth of her child who is still living; Charles H., a physician now living in Texas; Mrs. Minnie Dodson, a resident of Iowa; and Annie, who died in infancy. The husband and father died in Chicago in 1893 and Mrs. Woodruff subsequently married Charles Beaulieu. There were three children born of this union: Hattie, now deceased; and Iowa and Orville, who are still living. Mrs. Beaulieu is an earnest member of the Methodist Episcopal church and is a most estimable lady, having a wide circle of friends and acquaintances in the county where she has so long made her home.

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#### A. J. JOHNSON.

No better illustration of the characteristic energy and enterprise of the typical Swedish-American citizen can be found than that afforded by the career of this gentleman, who is now so successfully engaged in the stock business in Bear Creek township, his place being pleasantly located on section 4 near the village of Palmer. He was born in Smaland, Sweden, March 11, 1849, and is a son of Jonas and Mary Johanas Johnson, who spent their entire lives in that country, where the father followed farming as a life work. He died about 1886, and the mother passed away on the 10th of May, 1903.

Mr. Johnson, of this review, attended the schools of his native land and remained at home, aiding his father in the work of the

farm, until twenty years of age, when his father gave him money with which to pay his passage to America. It was in the spring of 1869 that he landed in the new world and at once made his way to Christian county, Illinois. His first employment was on the railroad, where he worked for four months, and then entered the service of J. M. Simpson, in whose employ he remained for ten years, working at farm labor. At the end of that time he began farming for himself upon rented land and in 1888 purchased thirty acres of land near Palmer. For some years he has engaged in the breeding of Poland China hogs and now has some very fine specimens of that stock upon his farm. He also raises, buys and sells mules and is also engaged in breeding those animals. He owns two jacks, one named King Torn, and the other Napoleon, and King Torn won the first premium in his class and also sweep stakes at the State Fair in 1903. Some of his stock he intends to place on exhibition at the World's Fair in St. Louis in 1904. His specialty in cattle is shorthorns and he feeds more stock for market than any other man in Bear Creek township.

In 1875 Mr. Johnson wedded Miss Mary Ann Marshall, by whom he had four children, namely: Charles, who married Anna Marie Grauer, a daughter of Conrad Grauer, and lives in Palmer; John and Ida Levena; and one who died in infancy. Mr. Johnson was again married September 13, 1887, his second union being with Martha Whitworth. Her father, Thomas Whitworth, was a native of Kentucky and one of the early settlers of Macoupin county, Illinois.

In religious faith Mr. Johnson is a Presbyterian, both he and his wife being members of that church, and in his social relations he is connected with Morrisonville Lodge, No. 358, A. F. & A. M.; Palmer

Lodge, No. 501, I. O. O. F., of Palmer; and Burr Oak Camp, No. 353, M. W. A., of the same place. Politically he is an ardent Republican and takes an active interest in public affairs although he cares nothing for official honor. He has served as highway commissioner and township treasurer and always gives an active support to all measures which he believes calculated to advance the moral, social or material welfare of his township and county.

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#### FRANK REED.

Frank Reed, of the Breeze Printing Company of Taylorville, was born in that city on the 12th of July, 1871, and is a son of John and Mary C. (Will) Reed, who were born of German parents near the Separatists Society near Zoar, Ohio, in 1836 and 1838, respectively. They were married there and in 1857 came to Taylorville, Illinois, where the father worked at shoemaking, making regular trips over the prairie on horseback to Mount Auburn, where he also plied his trade, waiting for approaching civilization to determine his permanent location. He early decided on Taylorville, however, and conducted a shoe store on the west side of the square until his death in 1893. He was known as the "pioneer shoe dealer" and also ran a harness shop. He was reared a Democrat but twice voted for Abraham Lincoln, the Republican candidate, and later became a Greenbacker, Knight of Labor and Populist, frequently lending his name as a candidate to make up a ticket in this county. He is survived by his widow and five sons: Jesse B., Orlando W., Ellsworth E., Frank and Manfred C.

Frank Reed received a common-school education at the West ward, attending regularly during school months and doing what

little work his father could get out of him in the harness shop during vacations. Rather than milk a kicking cow he walked to Blue Mound in the summer of 1889 and worked for a harnessmaker there. Returning to Taylorville in the fall, he entered the law office of J. C. McBride as a student on the 2d of September and passed the examination before the appellate court at Springfield May 19, 1892, but not being of age he was not admitted to the bar until the meeting of the supreme court in January, 1893. He then began the practice of law and won his only case in the circuit court, after which he formed a partnership with W. H. Kelly, a practical printer, and purchased the *Taylorville Daily News*, then on the verge of bankruptcy, by assuming a multitude of debts. This was April 30, 1894, and on the 15th of May, following, the name of the paper was changed to *The Daily Breeze*, the *Weekly Breeze* following on October 14 of the same year. Since that time the history of the *Daily* and *Weekly Breeze* is too well known in Christian county to need mention here, as is the history of Frank Reed, who has constantly been connected with these publications.

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#### CHARLEY R. OSBERN.

One of the most progressive and successful agriculturists of Christian county is Charley R. Osbern, for whom the village of Osbernvill is named. He is the owner of a large and valuable farm in Mosquito township, his home being on section 10, and his methods of farm management show deep, scientific knowledge combined with sound, practical judgment.

Throughout life Mr. Osbern has been a resident of this county, his birth having occurred in Mosquito township on the 25th of

November, 1865. His parents, Robert B. and Phoebe Osbern, were natives of Tennessee but came to Illinois in pioneer days, the father being one of the very earliest settlers of Christian county, where he continued to make his home until called to his final rest in 1879. The mother died in 1883.

Reared upon a farm Charley R. Osbern early became familiar with all the duties which fall to the lot of the agriculturist and his literary education was acquired in the district schools near his boyhood home. At the age of eighteen years he commenced farming for himself on the old home place and has since followed that occupation with marked success. He is now the owner of eight hundred acres of rich and arable land, which he has placed under a high state of cultivation and improved with a fine set of farm buildings. About 1901 the town of Osbernvill was laid out upon his farm and named in his honor. He has done all in his power to promote its interests and mainly through his efforts it has become a large grain and stock shipping point. Mr. Osbern is a very wide-awake, energetic and progressive business man and his sound judgment and keen discrimination have enabled him to attain a prominent place in business circles.

In 1885 Mr. Osbern was united in marriage to Miss Mary E. Bottrell, a daughter of Daniel Bottrell, who was born in England and on coming to America settled in Christian county at an early day in its development. Three children bless this union, Ethel G., Robert D. and Laura, all at home. In his political affiliations Mr. Osbern is a Democrat and he takes a deep and commendable interest in public affairs. He stands high in the community where he has so long made his home and he has the respect and confidence of all who know him.

## WILLIAM SWIM.

Forty-two years have come and gone since this gentleman arrived in Christian county and he is justly numbered among her honored early settlers and leading citizens. He has been prominently identified with her agricultural and business interests, and although now in his eighty-ninth year he is still engaged in the grocery business at Pana. Old age is not necessarily a synonym of weakness and inactivity. It needs not suggest, as a matter of course, want of occupation or helplessness. There is an old age that is a benediction to all that come in contact with it, that gives out of its richest stores of learning and experience, and grows stronger as the years pass. Such is the life of Mr. Swim, an encouragement to his associates and an example well worthy of emulation to the young.

Mr. Swim was born in Kentucky, August 30, 1815, a son of Nathaniel and Eunice (Maddox) Swim, who were natives of Kentucky and Tennessee, respectively. He is the oldest of their eight children and the only survivor. He was born in a log cabin, reared upon a farm and educated in an old log schoolhouse. In early manhood he was married at Batavia, Ohio, to Miss Rachel Hill, who was born in that state, March 8, 1817. Her father, Rev. John Hill, was an old-time circuit rider whose salary amounted to only two hundred dollars a year.

After his marriage Mr. Swim removed to Cincinnati, Ohio, to accept a position that had been offered him as clerk in a grocery store, having previously had some experience in a country store. Later he embarked in business on his own account as a wholesale and retail dealer in groceries and remained a resident of Cincinnati for about fourteen years. At the end of that time he removed to Pike county, Illinois, making the

journey by wagon and camping out along the way at night. The trip occupied about three weeks.

It was in 1862 that Mr. Swim came to Christian county and purchased one hundred and twenty acres of raw prairie land on Buckeye Prairie from the Illinois Central Railroad Company at ten dollars per acre. This was bought on seven years' time at six per cent. interest. Although he paid none of the principal for four years he was able to pay one-fourth of the amount at the end of that time. He feels very grateful to the company for the kind way in which they treated him as he was unable to make the last payment at the specified time and they extended the time for him, although they could have taken the property. A few months later he met his obligation and received his deed to the land. Many families secured good farms in that way. Much of Mr. Swim's land was under water, the ponds and sloughs being often so deep that a horse would have to swim across. Wild game, especially cranes, were numerous and the stock had to be penned up at night to keep them from the wolves. Mr. Swim engaged in the cultivation and improvement of his farm in Rosamond township until 1881, making it so valuable that it is now worth one hundred dollars per acre. His wife being in poor health, he left the farm in 1881 and removed to Pana, where she died on the 14th of September, 1891, at the age of seventy-four years six months and six days. She had been a devout and consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church for over sixty years and was a faithful and loving wife and mother. Her funeral sermon was delivered by Rev. Orr.

On his removal to Pana Mr. Swim embarked in the coal business and was the first to introduce hard coal into the town. In



WILLIAM SWIM, HIS SON, GRANDSON AND GREAT-GRANDSON



1892 he again turned his attention to the grocery trade, opening a store on South Locust street in partnership with his youngest son. Although now in his eighty-ninth year he arises every morning at five o'clock and walks to the store, a distance of five blocks.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Swim were born eight children, as follows: Catharine, born June 8, 1838, was married August 17, 1856, to Thomas P. Clark, now a resident of Springfield, Illinois. Louisa, born June 27, 1840, was married September 23, 1848, to James McCune, a resident of Louisiana, Missouri. Annie, born October 12, 1842, was married October 8, 1860, to John A. McElroy, who is now living in Chicago. W. Henry Harrison, born May 1, 1844, was married September 7, 1867, to Ellen Harbor. Mary, born June 23, 1846, was married October 26, 1864, to Elijah Gimlin. John Quincy, born May 30, 1848, was married April 2, 1871, to Flora J. Rosenbury and is now a retired Methodist Episcopal minister living in Texas. George A., born August 4, 1850, was married February 23, 1876, to Eunice Kimball. Edward Stickney, born March 30, 1855, was married October 8, 1876, to Josephine Kimball and is now engaged in the grocery business with his father at Pana.

In September, 1887, Mr. and Mrs. Swim celebrated their golden wedding, the ceremonies being conducted by Rev. C. P. Baldwin, assisted by Rev. C. Galener. A very happy evening was spent and the couple received a number of valuable presents, including two pairs of gold spectacles and a silver cake basket. A family reunion was held July 16, 1902, at which time Rev. M. G. Coleman was present and in behalf of the children presented Mr. Swim with a fine Morris chair. He has a group picture of forty-one, representing five generations of

the family. He has had forty-one grandchildren, thirty-six of whom are still living, and he also had nineteen great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild—Nellie Harrison, of Springfield.

Mr. Swim has recently sold his farm and town property. He cast his first vote for William Henry Harrison, the ninth president of the United States, and with the exception of 1856 has voted at each presidential election since that time. He is a staunch supporter of the Republican party and has taken an active interest in political affairs. At the last election he had fourteen grandsons who voted the same ticket, as did also their seven fathers. For over fifty-two years he has been a faithful and active member of the Methodist church, being a member of the building committee and a trustee of the first church built on Buckeye Prairie. He also assisted in raising the old Buckeye school, there being none in that locality when he settled there. He brought the first sewing machine into the community and in early life was regarded as one of the most progressive men of Rosamond township. Mr. Swim can relate many interesting incidents of pioneer days when his mother used to spin and weave all the cloth to be converted into clothes for her family and when the shoemaker used to come round once a year to make their Christmas shoes, which were highly prized and kept only for state occasions. During his boyhood he hoed corn for twelve and a half cents per day and used to cut grain with a sickle and later with a cradle. When his daughters became old enough they used to assist him in the threshing, planting and gathering of corn, and now two of his sons follow in his footsteps, being successful farmers. Bright and active in both mind and body, Mr. Swim appears much younger for nature deals kindly with

the man who abuses not her laws, and his life has ever been such as to command the respect and esteem of those with whom he has been brought in contact either in business or social relations.

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### THOMAS W. BRENTS.

Thomas W. Brents, who is identified with agricultural interests in Christian county and is now serving as sheriff, is one of the native sons of this county, born April 7, 1857, his parents being Samuel and Caroline (Keller) Brents. The father of our subject was long a resident of Christian county, where he devoted his attention to agricultural pursuits. He had a brother William who served as sheriff in this county. The Brents were the second or third family to settle in Christian county, the family home being established here about 1820, by Mrs. Brents, the grandmother of our subject, who was then a widow, and who on her removal was accompanied by her sons, William, John, Moses, Simeon and Thomas. The father of our subject has now passed away, but the mother is still living and there is also a sister, Lydia, who is now the wife of H. M. Langley.

Thomas W. Brents was reared upon the home farm and has followed agricultural pursuits throughout the greater part of his life. He was educated in the public schools of his native township and in 1878 started out upon an independent business career as a farmer of Taylorville township. In 1880 he was injured in a cyclone which passed over this locality and was thus incapacitated for hard manual labor, but he has, nevertheless, superintended his farming interests and has taken a justifiable pride in keeping his farm in the best condition possible. The land is now under a high state of cultiva-

tion and substantial buildings have been erected upon the place which is now supplied with modern equipments. His land is located on sections 17 and 20, Taylorville township and comprises one hundred and ten acres, which are rich and productive.

In 1878 Mr. Brents was united in marriage to Miss Martha A. Langley, a daughter of Robert P. and Irene Langley of this county. They now have one son, Homer. In his political views Mr. Brents is a Democrat, having always given his support to the party. He served as assistant supervisor to a Republican supervisor and was elected for three successive terms to that position. In 1898 he was a candidate before his party convention for the nomination of sheriff but was defeated by Thomas Downey. In April, 1902, however, he was nominated and was elected by a fair majority over Samuel Winters, a Republican candidate. He makes an efficient officer, being fearless and prompt in the discharge of his duties. He is cordial and genial in manner and has thus won many warm friends. His entire life has been passed in Christian county and as those who have known him from boyhood are numbered among his warmest friends it is an indication that his has been an upright, honorable career.

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### J. WILL SMITH.

J. Will Smith is one of the oldest representatives of business interests of Pana, when the term of connection with trade circles here is considered. He is now dealing in men's furnishing goods and shoes, and, carrying a good stock, meets with a ready sale, on which he makes a reasonable profit. Realizing that there is no royal road to wealth he has labored indefatigably and earnestly and is now one of the prosperous merchants of the city.

Mr. Smith is a native of Montgomery county, Illinois, born in 1861, his parents being Stephen M. and Nancy Smith. The father was born in Ohio and in 1848 came to Illinois, where he first followed the occupation of farming. About forty-one years ago, however, he abandoned the plow and removed to Pana, where he embarked in the dry-goods business, soon winning for himself a place among the foremost merchants of the city. Active and influential in public affairs, he left the impress of his individuality upon public thought and feeling. He was one of the delegates sent to secure the building of the Big Four Railroad through this place and was always identified with the business interests of the town and the work of public progress and advancement along the lines of modern civilization. His political support was given the Republican party. His death occurred January 22, 1898.

J. Will Smith was but a boy when brought to Pana and in this city he was reared, his education being acquired in its public schools. When sixteen years of age he began clerking for G. V. Penwell, and thus became familiar with mercantile methods. After several years' experience in commercial pursuits, he began business on his own account as a member of the firm of Conklin & Smith, dealers in clothing, men's furnishing goods, boots and shoes. After a few years Mr. Smith purchased his partner's interest and for twenty-six years has carried on business alone. He now carries a large and well selected line of men's furnishing goods and shoes, and his business methods have commended him to the public confidence. He not only desires to please his patrons, but is systematic and reliable in all that he does, and thus has secured the confidence of all with whom he has business

dealings. Associated with other enterprising business men he built the opera house of Pana and became secretary of the company. Later he purchased his partners' interests and was its manager for two years, at the end of which time he sold out. He owns considerable land in the vicinity of Pana and also has farming interests in Shelby, Fayette and Montgomery counties.

In 1884 occurred the marriage of Mr. Smith and Miss Emma D. Hauck, a daughter of Henry Hauck, of Springfield, Illinois. Her death occurred in 1901 and she left one child; Marie Carretta. Mr. Smith is a member of the Elks fraternity of Shelbyville, and in his political affiliations he is a Republican. His interest in public affairs has not been manifest through a desire for office, but through earnest and effective co-operation in measures for the general good and the progress of his city. He has long been a resident of Pana and his staunchest friends are those who have known him for the greatest length of time, a fact which indicates an honorable and upright career.

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#### ARTHUR BURTON KIRK.

One of the most enterprising and progressive citizens of Buckhart township is Arthur B. Kirk, who was born August 3, 1864, on the farm where he now resides and has spent his entire life in Christian county. His parents were Henry and Hannah Kirk. By occupation his father was a farmer and stock-raiser. During his boyhood and youth our subject acquired a good practical education in the district school near his home and he early became familiar with the work of the farm. He has continued to actively engage in agricultural pursuits up to the present time but for the past two years has devoted considerable attention to the selling

of pumps and to the plumbing business. He deals in all kinds of goods along that line and has built up an extensive trade in Peters double cylinder force pumps, which give the utmost satisfaction. A customer once secured is always sure to give him further patronage when anything in his line is desired. In 1903 he sold fifty-two pumps, which was one for each week, and so far this year (in 1904) his sales have been almost double that amount. Wide-awake and energetic he has met with good success in this undertaking and in business circles is regarded as a most reliable and straightforward man.

On the 7th of October, 1880, Mr. Kirk was united in marriage to Miss Carrie Sadler, the ceremony being performed at the home of her father, Samuel J. Sadler, near Grove City. Two children were born to them, Ruth and Hobart, but the latter died in infancy. Ruth was born July 28, 1893, and on the 9th of January, 1903, they adopted a little girl three years old who bears the name of Mildred Kirk. The family stands high in the community where they make their home. In his political views Mr. Kirk is an ardent Republican. On the 27th of March, 1888, he was made a Mason at Fisher Lodge, No. 585, A. F. & A. M., of Grove City, with which he still holds membership, and since October, 1882, he has been a member of the Christian church at Edinburg, Illinois.

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#### JOSEPH S. WILSON.

Joseph S. Wilson, the well known station agent at Morrisonville and one of the prominent citizens of that place, was born in Winchester, Illinois, on the 7th of August, 1850, and is a son of Dr. William H. Wilson, a physician and a noted Whig, who once en-

tertained President Lincoln at a banquet. The early life of our subject was passed in a rather uneventful manner upon the home farm until the Civil war broke out. Early in the spring of 1864 he enlisted as a musician in the One Hundred and Thirty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which was ordered to Memphis, Tennessee, to do guard duty around that city. During the middle of the following summer the rebel general, Forrest, attempted a raid on Memphis to liberate a lot of prisoners. The camp of the One Hundred and Thirty-seventh Illinois was surprised early in the morning while all were asleep, and Company E, to which our subject belonged, met with serious loss, thirteen of its members being killed by the enemy. They were shot down as they attempted to rise from their beds but soon the regiment rallied to the support of a negro battery and held the main force of the enemy in check, so that but few of them entered the city of Memphis. It was Mr. Wilson who first gave the alarm to his company. He remained in the service until late in the fall of 1864, when he was discharged and the following winter re-entered school, his education being interrupted by his enlistment.

In 1869 Mr. Wilson entered the employ of the Northern Missouri Railroad as office boy at R. & L. Junction, Missouri, and was later transferred to Jacksonville, Illinois, where he served as night baggageman on the Wabash Railroad, at the same time learning telegraphy. He remained at that place until 1875, when he came to Morrisonville and has since held the position of station agent here to the entire satisfaction of all concerned. He is very accommodating and popular and with exception of a few vacations he has always been found at his post of duty.

On the 29th of October, 1872, was cele-

brated the marriage of Mr. Wilson and Miss Medora Lyle. The lady is of French descent on the paternal side, while his mother was a descendant of Chief Justice Waite. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson have the following children: Stan H., Bessie A., Wycoff and Jo H. The last named is now in the employ of the Wabash Railroad.

Mr. Wilson has taken a very active and influential part in public affairs since coming to Morrisonville and has been honored with positions of public trust and responsibility. Three times he has served as mayor of the city, has also been alderman several terms, and has been a member of the school board, all of which offices he has filled with credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of his constituents.

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#### CHARLES HALL.

Since attaining to man's estate this gentleman has been identified with the agricultural and commercial interests of Christian county and for many years has been engaged in the grain business at Willey, where he has made his home since 1872. He is a native of this county, born in what is now May township, January 15, 1846, and is a son of William B. and Louisa (Moore) Hall. His father was born in Virginia in 1810, and removed to Illinois about 1834, becoming one of the pioneer settlers of Christian county. As a contractor and builder he erected the first church in Taylorville and in other ways was actively identified with the development of this section of the state. He died in September, 1901, and his wife passed away March 16, 1854.

Charles Hall attended the common schools of this county and Taylorville, completing his education, however, at Mount Zion, Macon county, Illinois, where he was a student

for one year. After putting aside his textbooks he engaged in farming until 1872 and then removed to Willey and embarked in general merchandising and the grain business. He sold his store in 1885 but is still dealing in grain as manager for the firm of Hill Brothers & Crow. He owns good residence property in Willey and also a nice farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Taylorville township. For the long period of twenty years he served as postmaster, railroad agent and express agent at Willey, and the duties of those positions he most capably and satisfactorily performed.

In 1883 Mr. Hall was united in marriage to Miss Mary McAdoo, a daughter of Samuel McAdoo, who was from Tennessee, and two children bless this union: William B., who is now attending business college in Decatur; and David C., at home. The wife and mother is a consistent and earnest member of the Methodist Episcopal church and the family is one of prominence in the community where they reside. Socially Mr. Hall is a member of Taylorville Lodge, No. 122, A. F. & A. M., and is held in high regard by all who know him.

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#### R. E. HOLBEN, M. D.

Dr. R. E. Holben, although one of the younger members of the medical profession in Christian county, has already attained an enviable position in its ranks, his years seeming no limit to his ability. In fact there is so much more demanded of the medical graduate of the present than in years past that the young physician enters upon his work well equipped to meet its arduous and responsible duties, and Dr. Holben has therefore won the confidence and patronage of the public.

A native son of Christian county, he was

born on the 29th of April, 1879, a son of M. A. and Margaret (Harmony) Holben, both of whom were natives of Ohio. Removing westward in the year 1870, they took up their abode in Christian county and are still living on a farm within its borders, the father having devoted his entire life to agricultural pursuits.

Dr. Holben spent the days of his boyhood and youth upon his father's farm, and when not giving his attention to the duties of the schoolroom or the pleasures of the playground he assisted in the operation of the fields, the long months of summer being passed in this way. Not desiring to make agricultural pursuits his life work, however, he continued his education preparatory to entering upon a professional career. He spent some time as a student in Washington University of St. Louis and then entered the Medical College of St. Louis, in which he completed a course and won his degree, being graduated with the class of 1901. His practical training was received in the Wabash Hospital, at Springfield, Illinois, and subsequently he was connected with St. John's Hospital, at St. Louis, Missouri, where the varied experience that comes in hospital work added greatly to his knowledge, skill and efficiency. He thus came to Mount Auburn, on the 29th of June, 1901, well equipped to take up the duties of a general practice in medicine and surgery, to which he has since devoted his time and energies.

On the 25th of June, 1902, was celebrated the marriage of Dr. Holben and Miss Edna W. Berry, a daughter of T. T. Berry, who is represented elsewhere in this work. Their social standing is high and the circle of their friends is extensive.

The Doctor and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and he be-

longs to the Knights of Pythias lodge and to the Anti-Horse Thief Association. In politics he is a Democrat and is now serving as notary public. He owns his home in Mount Auburn and at this writing in 1903 is building a fine office, which contains a suite of three rooms, that will be equipped with all the latest appliances and accessories in use by the modern physician. In addition to his private practice Dr. Holben is serving as examining physician to the Court of Honor and the Northwestern Life and the Franklin Life Insurance Companies. He is a member of the Decatur Medical Society.

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#### H. C. MILLER.

H. C. Miller, a well known farmer and stock-raiser residing on section 2, Prairie-ton township, was born in Pennsylvania, on the 19th of April, 1863, his parents being William H. and Mary E. Miller, who were also natives of the Keystone state. It was about 1868 that the family came to Illinois and here the father engaged in farming, though by trade he was a harnessmaker and had previously followed that occupation in the east. He died in 1896 but the mother of our subject is still living and now makes her home in Moweaqua.

H. C. Miller was only five years of age when brought to this state and here he was reared and educated, attending the common schools of Macon and Christian counties. While assisting his father in the operation of the home farm he acquired a good practical knowledge of agricultural pursuits and at the age of twenty years began farming on his own account upon rented land. Three years later he removed to Moweaqua, where he engaged in teaming for five years, and at the end of that time located upon his present place in Prairie-ton township. Here

he owns sixty-one acres of rich and arable land, upon which is a good residence and substantial outbuildings, and in connection with its operation he is engaged in the breeding of fine Poland China hogs.

In 1889 Mr. Miller wedded Miss Mira J. Widick, a daughter of Abner Widick, one of the leading farmers of Prairieton township, and four children bless this union: Floyd E., Zeva May, Clarence O. and Fred H., all at home. The parents are both earnest and consistent members of the Christian church, and are also members of the Fraternal Army of America. Mr. Miller's political support is given the men and measures of the Democratic party, and for three years he has efficiently served as school director. In business affairs he is thoroughly reliable and he has the respect of the entire community in which he lives.

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#### MICHAEL J. FITZGERALD.

Although one of the younger representatives of the legal fraternity in Christian county, Mr. Fitzgerald has already met with success in his chosen profession and is efficiently serving as city attorney of Assumption. A native of Illinois, he was born near the town of Nokomis, Montgomery county, July 15, 1870, and is a son of John and Mary (Raftes) Fitzgerald. His father was born in County Kilkenny, Ireland, in 1840, and was only nine years of age when he came to the United States. Landing at New Orleans he proceeded up the Mississippi river to Alton, Illinois, and from there by stage to Jerseyville, Jersey county, this state. He subsequently removed to Montgomery county and aided in the development of both counties. After a useful and well spent life, mainly devoted to agricultural pursuits, he died in 1892. His widow still

resides on the old home farm near Nokomis. Of the ten children born to them six are now living, our subject being next to the eldest of the family. The Fitzgeralds are of French origin and the name was formerly Geraldine. The family was founded in Ireland at the time of the Norman invasion and the name was subsequently changed to its present form.

Michael J. Fitzgerald received his preliminary education in the district schools of Montgomery county and later attended the Normal University at Valparaiso, Indiana, where he was graduated in the law department with the class of 1897. He was then admitted to the bar and began practice in Assumption in July, 1898. He received his first appointment as city attorney that year and in 1901 was re-appointed, serving one year each time. In 1902 he was duly elected to that office and re-elected in 1903, so that he is now serving his fourth term. He has made a careful study of all cases intrusted to him and has met with good success in practice owing to his thorough and comprehensive knowledge of the law. He is a member of the Christian County Bar Association and both as an attorney and citizen he stands high in the esteem of his fellow men. He is a member of St. Mary's Catholic church and of Decatur Council, Knights of Columbus, and in politics is an ardent Democrat. He is one of the popular young men of Assumption and makes friends wherever he goes.

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#### JOHN ORR.

John Orr is the oldest merchant of Pana when judged by the length of his continuous connection with the business affairs of the city. For thirty-one years he has conducted a grocery store here and is still its

proprietor, enjoying a trade which has continually increased as the years have gone by. His name therefore is inseparably interwoven with the commercial development of Pana, and he should in consequence find representation in the history of the county.

Mr. Orr is a native of Ohio, his birth having occurred in Jefferson county, that state, in 1847, his parents being Andrew and Anna Orr. The father, also a native of the Buckeye state, was a farmer by occupation and in 1856 removed to Illinois, where he secured a tract of land on Spring creek, seven miles from Taylorville. He afterward removed to Buckeye prairie, where he engaged in farming until his death, being one of the well known and respected agriculturists of the community.

When a young lad John Orr accompanied his parents to Illinois and was reared on Buckeye prairie until seventeen years of age. In 1868 he came to Pana, desiring to follow commercial rather than agricultural pursuits, and establishing a grocery store has since continued in that line of trade, covering a period of thirty-one years down to the present time. He carries staple and fancy groceries and his store is well appointed, while his earnest desire to please his customers, his systematic methods and his honorable dealing have secured to him a very desirable and constantly growing patronage. His father-in-law, M. J. Jones, was for twenty-one years his partner in this enterprise.

In 1872 occurred the marriage of Mr. Orr and Miss Martha J. Jones, of Oconee, Illinois. Her father was a very prominent and influential citizen of Pana for many years. Although he was a Republican in politics such was his personal worth and ability that he was called to fill the office of deputy sheriff under Josiah Hill, a supporter of the

Democratic party. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Orr have been born four children, of whom three are still living: Bessie, the wife of J. J. Pierpont, of Pana; Calla, wife of M. B. Atherton, also a resident of Pana; and Ruth, who is still at home with her parents.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Orr are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, interested in its work and active in the extension of its influence. In the Masonic fraternity Mr. Orr has attained the Royal Arch degree and he is also a charter member of the Modern Woodmen Camp at Pana, Illinois. His political allegiance is given the Democracy and he is now serving as a member of the board of county supervisors, acting at the present time as chairman of the judicial and finance committees, and also as a member of the committee on poor claims. He has likewise been a school director and alderman and in his official service is prompt and notably reliable, regarding a public office as a public trust—and no trust reposed in him has ever been betrayed in the slightest degree.

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#### R. C. McCAULEY.

R. C. McCauley, who is successfully engaged in the furniture and undertaking business in Morrisonville, is a native of Illinois, his birth having occurred in Washington county, this state, on the 3d of September, 1859. His father was John McCauley, who was born in Kentucky of English ancestry and belonged to an old pioneer family of that state. Our subject was quite small when his parents died and he was forced to go into the world without home influences. He worked at farming until twenty-five years of age, his education being limited as he was only able to attend the district schools for a short time during the winter months. He subsequently worked as a farm hand by the

month until he felt competent to carry on a farm for himself and then rented land which he operated until his removal to Morrisonville in 1884. Here he purchased the meat market now owned by J. H. Miller, and for several years successfully carried on the same. In 1892 he turned his attention to his present business, starting with a small stock of furniture worth two thousand dollars, but as he steadily prospered in this venture he has enlarged his business and to-day occupies two stores with over five thousand square feet of floor space in one and one thousand seven hundred and fifty square feet in the other. Both are filled, and he carries a well selected stock. Mr. McCauley now makes a specialty of the undertaking business and receives a liberal share of the public patronage in this line, his services being often sought throughout many parts of the county. He has a branch undertaking establishment at Harvel, Illinois.

In 1882 Mr. McCauley led to the marriage altar Miss Addie M. Dodson, a daughter of J. C. and Ann (Green) Dodson. Her father is a retired farmer of this county and is of English descent. Our subject and his wife have two children: Walter E., who is now assisting his father in business; and Emma, at home.

In his social relations Mr. McCauley is a member of the Masonic Lodge of Morrisonville, and is now past master. He also belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and the Fraternal Army and is a director and vice president of the Building & Loan Association of the city. Politically he is identified with the Republican party and served as city treasurer for one year. Public spirited and progressive, he gives a liberal support to all enterprises which he believes calculated to promote the public welfare and he never withholds his aid from

charitable undertakings. Both as a business man and citizen he stands high in public esteem.

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#### LEWIS P. LEATHERS.

The spirit of self-help is the source of all genuine worth in the individual. It enables many a man to conquer obstacles and difficulties and to advance on the road to prosperity, because he has many times passed others who perhaps started out more advantageously equipped than he. It is this element in the life record of Mr. Leathers that has made his a prosperous career. He has perhaps not won the measure of financial success that many desire, but is rich in all the qualities of an honorable manhood that win respect, confidence and admiration.

Mr. Leathers was born in Shelby county, Illinois, May 26, 1858, his parents being David and Lydia (Cowkenouer) Leathers. The father of our subject was a native of Ohio, while his parents were residents of Pennsylvania prior to his birth and removed from the Keystone state to the Buckeye state and later to Shelby county, Illinois. David Leathers volunteered for service in the Civil war as a member of Company H, Seventh Illinois Cavalry and was with his command for nearly three years. He was then wounded in the battle at LaGrange, Mississippi, and died in the hospital at Memphis when but twenty-eight years of age. During the period of his illness in the hospital his wife became ill and died a few days prior to his death. Mr. Leathers was a young man of splendid purpose, courageous in battle and ever loyal to the cause which he believed to be right, having the welfare of his country close at heart. Unto him and his wife were born four sons: Francis M.; Lewis P.; Andrew, a twin to our subject,

who died in infancy; and Jasper R. His wife was a native of Ohio and removed to Shelby county, Illinois, during the early settlement of that locality, being a representative of one of its pioneer families. The Cowkenouer family came originally from Russia.

In his boyhood days Lewis P. Leathers resided with relatives and endured many hardships unknown to boys who enjoy the privileges and opportunities of home life. He had but meager educational advantages for when still very young he began to earn his own living by working as a farm hand at ten dollars per month in Effingham county, Illinois. He was thus employed for one year and on the expiration of that period returned to Shelby county, where he continued to follow farming in the employ of others up to the time of his marriage in 1878. He then purchased eighty acres of timber land, built thereon a log cabin and began his domestic life in the midst of the green woods. He cleared away the timber, however, and cultivated a portion of his land for three years. He then removed to Cowden, Illinois, where he remained for a year, and in 1890 he came to Taylorville. Here he first engaged in general work and for some time was employed by Reuben Wilkinson. He was appointed sexton of Oakhill cemetery on the 16th of June, 1902, and is now acting in that capacity, his labors being most acceptable to the people for the grounds are kept in splendid condition and the city of the dead is made beautiful through his labors.

On the 17th of June, 1878, occurred the marriage of Mr. Leathers and Miss Bell Hoover, a daughter of David Hoover, of Shelby county, Illinois. Six children graced this union, of whom four are yet living, namely: Margaret F., Marion R., Lewis

F. and Cordia. Those who have passed away are John L., a twin brother of Lewis F., who died at the age of six months; and Gertrude, who died in infancy. Margaret F. is a graduate of the high school and is now a popular teacher in the West school of Taylorville, while Marion R. is a telegraph operator at the terminal station in St. Louis, Missouri. The younger children are yet under the parental roof.

When eighteen years of age Mr. Leathers became a member of the Methodist Protestant church, the organization being formed in a log schoolhouse in Shelby county. He retained his membership there for six years, at the end of which time the society disbanded and he united with the Christian church at Holiday, Illinois. Some years later he was ordained an elder in that church and has continuously acted in that capacity, being now an elder in the Christian church of Taylorville. His wife also belongs to the same church and they take a very prominent and active part in its work. Mr. Leathers is a leading member of the Christian Endeavor Society and has been very helpful to young men and women who are trying to lead a better life. He is also a prominent member of the Young Men's Christian Association and was the secretary of the local society for one year. He gives to every movement for the moral advancement of the community his hearty co-operation and has done his full share toward the betterment of humanity and for the advancement of church interests in Taylorville and the other communities in which he has resided.

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#### LEVEUS E. SMEDLEY

This worthy citizen of Rosamond township belongs to an old and honored New England family that originated in England

and dates back two hundred and fifty years, the deeds to the home being made out in the time of George III. The progenitors of the family in America were two brothers, John and James Smedley, the former of whom located on a farm in Litchfield, Connecticut, while the latter settled in old Virginia. Their descendants are now widely scattered throughout the United States.

Nehemiah Smedley, our subject's great-great-grandfather, was born in Litchfield, Connecticut, in 1732, and he and William Hosford were the first white men to locate at Williamstown, Massachusetts. There was a book dedicated to his honor, *Nehemiah Smedley and Colonel Simons*, compiled by Arthur Latham Perry, LL. D., professor of history and political economy in Williams College, a member of the Massachusetts Historical Society and president of the Berkshire Historical and Scientific Society. Nehemiah Smedley was twice married, his first wife being Mary Harwood, and their oldest child was Levi Smedley, the great-grandfather of our subject. He was born October 8, 1764, at Bachelor Hall, which was built by his father and which was the birthplace of four of the latter's children, the other four being born in a new and larger house that is still standing near the junction of the Green and Hoosac rivers. The oak timbers for the new house were lifted in place October 8, 1772, when Levi Smedley was only eight years old, and the Harwoods and other friends came from Bennington, Vermont, to assist in the raising. The country was then preparing for war, this being just before the Revolution and Captain Nehemiah Smedley was away from home most of the time, leaving the care of the children to his wife. After her death he was married in less than a year to Mrs. Lyman Gibbs, by whom he had one son, James, who was

born December 23, 1783. His will, dated December 17, 1789, made his eldest son, Levi, sole executor, then just past his twenty-fourth year. His bond for the sum of one thousand pounds was signed by his neighbors, Samuel Kellogg and Ira Baker, who owned adjoining farms and who, together with William Wells, had witnessed the will. The testator lived about two years after his will was drawn and it was approved by the judge of probate March 2, 1790. Tradition says that Nehemiah Smedley died of consumption at the old homestead. The place was afterward occupied by his son Levi, who was known as Deacon Smedley and who was the great-grandfather of our subject. He died in 1848 at the age of eighty-four years.

Levi Smedley, Jr., our subject's grandfather, was born in 1795 and in due time inherited the farm, where he lived a long and useful life. For one year he represented his town in the general assembly, entering upon the duties of that position in January, 1857, and he did good service in forwarding the cause of the Hoosac tunnel then before the legislature, the Boston & Albany Railroad making a strong fight against the proposition.

Chauncey Smedley, the father of our subject, was born December 24, 1819, on the old home farm, of which he afterward came into possession. After operating the ancestral acres for half a lifetime he sold the place and came to Illinois in 1870, locating near Aurora in Kane county, where he purchased a farm. He was married in Williamstown, Massachusetts, to Miss Celestia Bardwell, a daughter of Giles Bardwell and a descendant of Obediah Bardwell, who was a Revolutionary soldier. Unto this union two children were born: Leveus E., of this review; and Eliza D., who married

William R. Hobbs and died at South Bend, Indiana, leaving four sons. After coming to Illinois the father engaged in farming in Kane county until 1885, when he came to Christian county to make his home with our subject. Here he died on the 29th of October, 1885, and his wife, who was born at Sandy Hill, New York, May 28, 1821, passed away January 6, 1900.

Levens E. Smedley is of the fifth generation of the Smedley family born at Williamstown, Massachusetts, his natal day being November 13, 1846. He was educated in the public schools of that place and has made farming his life occupation as did his ancestors. It was in the spring of 1885 that he came to Christian county and took up his residence upon his present farm on section 14, Rosamond township, where he has one hundred and sixty acres of land under a high state of cultivation and well improved with good buildings. Here he is successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising, his principal crops being hay and grain.

At Williamstown, Massachusetts, March 15, 1871, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Smedley and Miss Clara Ellis Kellogg, who was born July 28, 1849, a daughter of Samuel Blair and Mary A. (Hosford) Kellogg, both representatives of old and highly respected families of that place. Her father died about 1892, but her mother is still living and now makes her home in Brockport, New York. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Smedley were born five children: Lucy, born December 2, 1871, is now the wife of C. S. Bailey, of Rosamond township. Mary A., born December 2, 1873, is the wife of James A. McKee, a merchant and postmaster of Rosemond. Samuel C., born January 7, 1879, died August 23, 1880. Julia Kellogg, born April 13, 1882, was graduated at the Rose-

mond schools in 1900, and was married in 1903 to Morris Newell, now of Richland, Michigan. Chauncey Harold, born December 11, 1889, completes the family. Both Mr. and Mrs. Smedley are earnest and consistent members of the First Congregational church of Rosemond, of which he is one of the trustees, and they are held in high esteem by all who know them.

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#### JOSIAH LESLIE BOYD.

The world instinctively pays deference to the man whose success has been worthily achieved, who has overcome the obstacles in his path and has become an important factor in business circles. This is a progressive age and he who does not advance is soon left far behind. By the improvement of opportunities by which all are surrounded Mr. Boyd has steadily and honorably worked his way upward and is to-day one of the wealthy and substantial citizens of his community. He makes his home in Palmer and is now engaged principally in farming and in buying and selling stock.

A native of Christian county, he was born near the present site of Palmer, April 25, 1850, and is a son of Alfred and Zillah A. (McCormick) Boyd, who were natives of North Carolina and Tennessee, respectively, but spent the early part of their married life in Christian county, Kentucky, where the father engaged in farming and tobacco-raising. In 1839, accompanied by his wife and four children, he came with a brother to Christian county, Illinois, the journey being made in a prairie schooner and consuming several weeks. At length they arrived at their destination and located in what is now Bear Creek township, a mile and a half from Palmer, where the father entered a tract of government land, the place being

now owned by his eldest son. He continued to reside in Bear Creek township throughout life. In November, 1880, he was killed by a train. His wife died July 9, 1897. This worthy couple were the parents of thirteen children, of whom nine reached years of maturity and eight are still living. Four of the number are residents of Christian county, these being Mrs. John F. Anderson, of Taylorville; Joseph, of Bear Creek township; and James M. and Josiah L., both of Palmer. During their early residence in this county the family endured many of the hardships and privations which fall to the lot of the pioneer and the father often went to St. Louis to do his shopping, driving an ox team across the unbroken prairies.

Our subject acquired his education in a district school situated two miles from his home and in going that distance he had to cross three swamps, so wet was the land at that time. Until twenty-one years of age he continued to attend school off and on during the winter season after the crops were harvested in the autumn. He remained on the homestead farm until thirty-one and then removed to Palmer, where he opened a mercantile establishment, carrying a full line of goods usually found in a first class general store. He retired from the active management of the same in 1902, when he sold an interest in the store to A. L. Shrout, who is now in charge. In 1897 Mr. Boyd bought the elevator at Palmer, having two years prior to this time embarked in the grain business, but he sold out in 1902 and now devotes his entire time and attention to his farming and stock dealing. He is the owner of seven hundred and eighty acres of land in Johnson, Greenwood and Bear Creek townships, all under cultivation and well improved, and he gives his personal supervision

to the operation of two hundred and sixty acres of this. He not only buys and sells live stock but he also raises and feeds considerable beef cattle for the markets, and in his business undertakings has met with marked success, being a man of sound judgment and keen discrimination.

On the 6th of May, 1875, Mr. Boyd married Miss Laura J. Hewitt, of Taylorville, and to them have been born ten children, of whom Francis A. died at the age of four years. Those still living are as follows: Anna Zillah, wife of A. L. Shrout, by whom she has one child, Helen Ione; Laura Eunice, Olive Edna, Lotus Emma, William Leslie, Velma Gertrude, Ross H., Byron B. and Ruth V., all at home.

Religiously Mr. Boyd and wife are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian church and fraternally he holds membership in Morrisonville Lodge, No. 681, A. F. & A. M., of which he is junior warden. He is a prominent Odd Fellow, having several times passed all the chairs in Palmer Lodge, No. 501, I. O. O. F. He also belonged to the encampment at Palmer, which is now abandoned, and twice served as a delegate to the grand lodge of the state. He also belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and the Fraternal Army of America. In politics Mr. Boyd is a pronounced Republican and the fact that he was elected a member of the county board of supervisors in a Democratic township plainly indicates his personal popularity and the confidence and trust reposed in him by his fellow citizens. He also served as president of the village board two terms and has been a member of the school board and clerk of the same. He is a public spirited and progressive citizen and he well merits the high regard in which he is held.

## CHARLES M. PARKER.

Charles M. Parker, editor and proprietor of the *School News and Practical Educator*, published at Taylorville, Illinois, has throughout his entire life been connected with educational work and his labors have resulted to the benefit of the school system of this and many other states. Deeply interested in the cause of education, he has made a close and earnest study of the needs and demands of the public in this direction and his ideas, as set forth in his publication, have been most practical and helpful. In this regard he may certainly be termed a public benefactor, for he who gives to man useful knowledge bestows upon him something that can never be taken from him but will grow stronger with use.

Mr. Parker was born in the mountains in the western part of North Carolina, his birth occurring in Wilkes county, near Wilkesboro, on the 17th of September, 1860. His parents were Samuel S. and Elizabeth A. (Call) Parker, the former a farmer by occupation. His father died when he was only two years of age. In 1867 he, with his mother and stepfather left the south and came to Christian county, Illinois, settling in Mosquito township. He became a student in the district schools, which he attended for a few months each winter until eighteen years of age, the summer seasons being devoted to working for farmers of the community. He spent about six months in 1880 as a student in Westfield College, of Westfield, Illinois, and in 1879 began teaching in Mosquito township, being then eighteen years of age. He attended the annual teachers' institutes in Christian and Macon counties and the work there done and the course of reading which he pursued in the Illinois Teachers' Reading Circle gave him

an inspiration in his teaching and in his efforts to secure improved methods of instruction. He had a natural love for the work and also realized that teaching afforded opportunity for study and culture. From 1881 until 1886 he taught school near Blue Mound, in Macon county, Illinois, and for two years thereafter was a teacher in the West Side school of Taylorville.

Ere severing his connection with the city schools in 1888 he began the publication of the *School News and Practical Educator* in June, 1887. This journal is now in its seventeenth year and has been continuously and exclusively under the management and ownership of Mr. Parker. He has made it what its name implies—a paper of the greatest assistance to the teacher, and from almost every county superintendent of the state he has received letters of endorsement and praise, speaking of the value of his paper. His time and attention have been given to a study of the conditions of the schools, their needs and requirements and the ideas advanced by him have been of a most practical and helpful character. From 1888 until 1897 he was an instructor in teachers' institutes in various parts of Illinois. He has thus been identified with educational work in more than thirty counties of the state and has thereby gained a broad, comprehensive and accurate view of the conditions of the schools and has planned work for their improvement, his ideas being set forth in the *School News*. The circulation of this journal is continually increasing and meets a need of the teachers of the public schools.

From U. J. Hoffman, county superintendent of schools of La Salle county, came the following: "In my judgment the *School News*, in connection with the State Course of Study, is the best help available to the teacher in the common schools. 3

cannot conceive of anything more to the point. The work of the month is outlined in the Course. The valuable suggestions here given are re-inforced every month in the *School News* in advance by the best educators of the state. A teacher just beginning the work, can, by an intelligent use of the Course of Study and the *School News*, grow into an experience in one year which would cost him five years of labor without such aid." This is but one of hundreds of such letters that Mr. Parker has received, and they not only bear testimony of his splendid work in relation to the schools, but also speak in high terms of him as a gentleman and business man, always reliable, honorable and worthy of public trust and high regard.

In politics Mr. Parker is independent, but is inclined to the Republican party on questions of finance and tariff. He has never sought or desired political office, but has been and is now especially interested in the public library movement. At the present he is a member of the board of directors of the Taylorville public library and also a member of the board of directors of the Taylorville township high school. He belongs to the State and National Teachers' Associations and is a member of the Educational Press Association of America. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the First Baptist church of Taylorville, in which he is now serving as superintendent of the Sunday-school.

On the 27th of December, 1883, Mr. Parker was united in marriage to Miss Leonora L. Wright, of Mosquito township, Christian county, and they have four children: Minnie L., Howard K., Jennie and Roy. In his home he is devoted to his family and finds his greatest enjoyment when with his wife he dispenses hospitality to

their many friends. His entire life has been given to the work of benefiting his race, and in his efforts he seems to have been imbued with the same spirit which prompted the words of Sydney Smith, who said: "The real object of education is to give children resources that will endure as long as life endures; habits that time will ameliorate, not destroy; occupation that will render sickness tolerable, solitude pleasant, age venerable, life more dignified and useful and death less terrible."

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#### MISS MATILDA TEDLIE.

For over fifty-two years this lady has been a resident of Christian county and she has therefore witnessed much of its growth and development. During the early years of her residence here she experienced many of the hardships and privations of pioneer life and is thoroughly familiar with the conditions which exist in a frontier settlement when the land is unimproved and wild game is abundant.

Miss Tedlie was born in County Londonderry, Ireland, February 6, 1826, a daughter of William and Elenor Tedlie. The father died in that country in 1848, leaving six children, namely: John, William, Henry, Esther (Murphy), Jane and Matilda. In 1836 the sons came to the United States and first located in West Virginia, but in 1850 came to Christian county, Illinois, where they were joined by their mother and sisters the following year. Here the mother died in 1861, and on the 13th of January, 1863, John passed away. Jane died February 7, 1898. William Tedlie became a prominent and honored citizen of his community and took quite an active part in public affairs, representing May township in the

board of supervisors in 1876. He departed this life on the 13th of February, 1902.

It will thus be seen that Miss Matilda Tedlie is the only representative of this worthy family now living. She is the owner of a fine farm of three hundred and fifty acres in May township, where she makes her home and is surrounded by a large circle of friends and acquaintances who hold her in the highest esteem. Her farm is now being operated by a great-nephew, B. F. Walker, who was born in Pennsylvania, July 1, 1869, a son of W. A. and Elizabeth Walker, who still make their home in that state. During his youth he learned the machinist's trade, which he followed for thirteen years, but in 1902 came to Christian county and has since had charge of the farm, which he has managed in a most capable and satisfactory manner.

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#### JOSEPH SIMONS.

Joseph Simons has since 1865 been a valued resident of Christian county, making his home in Assumption. After being identified with commercial interests for a number of years he began investing in land and is now one of the large landowners of this place. All that he has has been acquired entirely through his own efforts, and he may well be called a self-made man, for he came to America empty-handed, possessing no capital, but being endowed with courage, determination and energy. Indolence and idleness are utterly foreign to his nature and there are in his life record many elements that are well worthy of emulation.

Mr. Simons was born in Prussia, August 21, 1832, a son of Jacob and Barbara (Rumirshaugh) Simons, who spent their entire lives in that country. The mother died in 1835, and the father, who was a farmer by

occupation, passed away after the emigration of his son Joseph to the new world. There were but two children in the family, the daughter being Susanna, who lived and died in Prussia, leaving a family.

Joseph Simons acquired a common school education and afterward served an apprenticeship to the baker's trade, following that pursuit as a journeyman in his native country for four years. In 1857 he determined to come to America and took passage on a westward bound sailing vessel belonging to the Lloyd steamship line, on which he made the voyage from Antwerp to New York. It took five weeks to make the trip and for twenty-two days very severe weather was encountered. He came at once to Illinois and secured work on the seminary at Aurora, which was then being builded. He afterward spent a few months on a farm, working for thirteen dollars per month and next engaged to work for a year for one hundred and fifty dollars in Menard county, being thus employed from 1858 until the outbreak of the Civil war. In August, 1862, he responded to the call of his adopted country for aid and enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Fourteenth Illinois Infantry, with which he went to Cairo under Captain Mallory. He served throughout the Vicksburg campaign and was present at the surrender of that southern stronghold, July 4, 1863. He was in the two battles of Jackson, Mississippi, and at Guntown, January 12, 1864, he met with a serious injury, having his arm shattered by a musket ball. The member was amputated above the elbow a few days later. On account of being disabled he was also taken prisoner by the Rebels and the operation was performed by a Confederate surgeon in the hospital at Mobile, Alabama. After his partial recovery he was sent to Macon, Georgia, and thence





JOSEPH SIMONS



MRS. JOSEPH SIMONS



to Andersonville, where he was imprisoned for four months or until about the close of the war. Upon his release he made his way to Vicksburg and was there the night the news of President Lincoln's assassination was received. At the close of the war he was sent to St. Louis, thence to Camp Butler and was mustered out at Springfield, Illinois, in August, 1865. He was ever a brave and loyal soldier and his military experience is one of which he has every reason to be proud.

Returning to Menard county Mr. Simons settled up his affairs there and started out in search of a location. His choice fell upon Assumption, then a small village, in which he opened a little restaurant, December 9, 1865. The following year he began building a store and added to his restaurant a grocery department, carrying on business there until his store was destroyed by fire. He at once rebuilt, however, and resumed operations. In May, 1880, he sold out and bought a half block on Hickory street, on which he erected a fine residence in 1890-1. In 1891-2 he built two stores and also became part owner in the opera house, a mammoth brick building, which was destroyed by fire in 1901. Since then he has sold his lots in Assumption and has invested in farming lands, located in Assumption and Locust townships, Christian county. He began buying land in 1867 and now owns two hundred and sixty-six acres on section 27, one hundred and sixty on section 33, and two hundred acres on section 16, Assumption township; and one hundred and sixty acres on section 11, Locust township, his aggregate holdings being seven hundred and eighty-six acres. The first tract was all raw when it came into his possession, but he tilled and drained it and as he bought his other

farms he placed them all in a cultivable condition and they are now valuable property. His children are now living upon his five farms, and his land is considered among the best in the county, bringing to the owner a very gratifying financial return.

On the 6th of November, 1867, Mr. Simons was married to Miss Flora M. Bickner, a native of New York, who came to Illinois in her childhood days with her father, Edward Bickner, one of the earliest settlers of the county. In the family were five children: Jennie, wife of Michael Donovan, of Assumption, lives on section 33, and has seven living children and has lost one. Joseph married Mrs. White, a widow, and lives on section 16, Assumption township. Jacob, named for his grandfather, married Margaret Ryan, has three children and resides on section 27, Assumption township. Eliza is the wife of Daniel Ryan, by whom she has four children, and their home is on section 11, Locust township. William wedded Mary Betner and also resides on section 27, Assumption township.

Mr. Simons, his wife and sons and daughters are all members of St. Mary's Catholic church of Assumption. He has been one of its trustees for a number of years and assisted materially in building the new house of worship and also St. Mary's Catholic school, which is conducted by the Dominican sisters. In politics he has always been a Democrat and on one occasion served as alderman of Assumption, but otherwise has neither sought or desired public office. He started out in life for himself at the age of fourteen years, and in the business world he has achieved both success and an honorable name. He came to America to become an American citizen and no native son of this land is more loyal to the stars and

stripes and to our republican form of government than is this honored veteran of the Civil war.

#### ROBERT MORRISON.

Robert Morrison, who is one of the leading and influential citizens of Assumption and the present chairman of the board of supervisors, was born in Morris county, New Jersey, November 25, 1842, and is a son of Peter and Phoebe (Wyckoff) Morrison. The father was a native of Ireland but the mother was a Pennsylvania-German by birth. In 1855 they brought their family to Illinois and first located at Springfield, Sangamon county. In 1875 they removed to Virden, Macoupin county, where they continued to make their home throughout the remainder of their lives, the father dying in 1884, at the age of seventy-six years, and the mother in April, 1897, at the age of eighty-five. They had six children, three sons and three daughters, all of whom married.

During his boyhood Robert Morrison attended the public schools of Virden and when not in school assisted his father in the labors of the farm, remaining a resident of Virden until 1875, when he removed to Christian county. For several years he was engaged in mercantile business in Assumption, first as a member of the firm of Foster, Hutchinson & Company, and later was in partnership with S. M. Coonrod and J. C. Henry at different times. Since 1891 he has held a position with the firm of Cushing & Sons, general merchants of Assumption.

In February, 1867, at Virden, Illinois, Mr. Morrison married Miss Bridget Cooney, a native of Connecticut, and they have become the parents of two children: Mary E., at home with her parents; and Marguerite, wife of Earl W. Hight. Both are grad-

uates of the public schools of Assumption. The family is prominent socially and they hold membership in St. Mary's Catholic church.

In his political views Mr. Morrison is a pronounced Democrat and he has been honored with several important official positions, the duties of which he has most capably and satisfactorily discharged. He was a member of the old village board in early days and has since served on the city council. In 1888 he was elected highway commissioner and two years later was elected county supervisor, which office he has since filled with the exception of one term. For four terms he has been chairman of the board and is now serving as such. He has also been a director of the Building & Loan Association since its organization about fifteen years ago and has always been found true to every trust reposed in him.

#### O. Z. HOUSLEY.

O. Z. Housley is one of the strong representatives of banking interests in Christian county and sustains an unassailable reputation in financial circles in which he has won success as well as an honored name. His advancement to his present position has been continuous from a humble place in the business world, for he started out in life upon an independent venture with a capital of only forty dollars. His history demonstrates his force of character, keen discernment and recognition of business possibilities as well as a utilization of existing conditions in trade circles.

Mr. Housley is a native of Ohio, his birth having occurred near Canton, in 1851. His parents were Henry and Charlotte (Uhrich) Housley, the former a native of Maryland while the latter was born near Lancas-

ter, Pennsylvania. When their son was but five years of age they left their home in Ohio and came to Illinois, settling in Christian county in June, 1856, where he has since remained with the exception of a brief period. The father is now living retired in Taylorville. Our subject's educational privileges were limited to the opportunities afforded by the common schools of the county and to one term's attendance in a high school at Mitchellville, Iowa, near Dés Moines, when he was eighteen years of age. In the school of experience he has learned many valuable lessons, and has progressed along intellectual lines as well as in the business world, as does every typical American citizen—keeping fully abreast of the times. Not desiring to follow the plow, he conceived the idea of entering mercantile life and formulated a plan which he proposed to his parents, hoping to gain their financial assistance. In this he failed, however, and here his resolute spirit and enterprising nature were manifest. Not deterred by the failure to gain his father's help, he embarked in the hardware business upon a cash capital of only forty dollars, which he had himself earned. Soon he was enabled to increase his stock and the enterprise prospered from the beginning. When the father saw that the son was accomplishing what he had undertaken to do, he joined him in a partnership and to the hardware store were soon added various other departments and the business became a paying one of Grove City, Illinois, conducted under the name of Housley & Son. Later the father sold his interest to his brother and Dr. Harvey, of Louisville, Kentucky, also became a partner, at which time the firm name of Harvey & Company was assumed. The business prospered but in 1881 the health of Dr. Harvey failed and Cornelis Drake, coming to the west, pur-

chased his interest and the present firm of Housley & Drake was then formed. These gentlemen have since continued in business. At the time of the organization of the present firm the public demanded that they add a banking department to their mercantile enterprise and this they did. In 1893 a similar business was established in Stonington and soon the business grew to such extensive proportions that the firm found it necessary to dispose of their store in Grove City, all except the banking department in order to give more of their attention to the Stonington bank and store. Their bank, known as the Exchange Bank of Housley & Drake, was organized in 1893 and capitalized for fifty thousand dollars. The volume of the business annually transacted over their counters has reached a large figure and the establishment is recognized as one of the leading financial concerns in this part of the state.

On the 13th of October, 1873, Mr. Housley was united in marriage to Miss Victoria Reese, a native of eastern Pennsylvania, and they have four children: Maud, and Flora and Frances, twins, all living in St. Louis, Missouri; and Caretta M., at home. In 1896 Mr. Housley removed to Stonington, where he has since resided. He is not only the president of the Exchange Bank but is actively connected with interests having direct bearing upon Stonington in other lines. As a citizen he is public-spirited and enterprising and has been a co-operant factor in many measures for the public good. He is a member of the Methodist church, an exemplary follower of Masonry, belonging to Taylorville Lodge No. 122, and one of the chief officers in the Royal Circle. His genial manner, his kindly spirit, his unflinching courtesy and his deference for the opinions of others render him a popular citizen of his adopted county.

## J. J. PIERPOINT.

J. J. Pierpoint, who is engaged in the real estate, loan and insurance business in Pana, was born in Morgantown, West Virginia, November 3, 1865, and is a son of Sylvanus E. and S. A. Pierpoint. His father was also a native of Morgantown and served in the civil service during the Civil war. In the year 1868, however, he left West Virginia and made his way to Shelby county, Illinois, locating in Oconee. He is a farmer and is still living at the place of his first location, his entire life having been devoted to the tilling of the soil, so that his record is one of usefulness and activity. His wife passed away in 1894.

To the public school system of Shelby county, Illinois, J. J. Pierpoint is indebted for the educational privileges he enjoyed. At the usual age he entered school and when he was twenty-one years of age he worked his way through the Gem City Business College, of Quincy, Illinois, earning the money to pay his tuition by work as a farm hand. The elemental strength of his character and his laudable ambition were shown in his desire for an education and gave promise of a successful career in later life. On the 27th of August, 1889, he came to Pana, where he entered upon his business career in the capacity of bookkeeper for the Penwell Coal Company, which position he held for eight years. He then became secretary of the Citizens' Savings, Loan & Building Association, which position he now holds. In 1897 he began handling real estate and doing an insurance business as well. He has secured a large clientage, handles much property and has negotiated many important real estate transfers. He deals in farm lands in all parts of the United States and Canada, also handles some valuable coal and mineral

rights. He places and solicits loans and writes considerable insurance annually, so that his business has become important and remunerative.

On the 14th of December, 1893, Mr. Pierpoint was united in marriage to Miss Bessie Orr, a daughter of John Orr, of Pana, and they have one son, John Orr Pierpoint. The parents are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Pierpoint is also a leading and valuable member of the Masonic fraternity, the Order of the Eastern Star, the Fraternal Army, the Fraternal Aid and the Royal Arcanum, the Modern Woodmen and the Knights of Pythias, having become a charter member of the Royal Arcanum. His political support is given the Republican party and he keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day. For one term he served as city treasurer and although he has not been active in office he has been interested in public affairs in other ways and has co-operated in the work for the substantial upbuilding and material development of the city and county. He is one of Pana's ardent advocates and aside from his business affairs has done much for the improvement of the city. He has a large circle of friends here, many of whom have known him from his boyhood, and his social qualities render him popular with the great majority of those with whom he comes in contact.

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PHILIP EBERT.

Philip Ebert, a substantial and progressive farmer living on section 6, Rosamond township, was born in Germany, February 4, 1831, and is a son of Michael and Katherine Ebert, both now deceased. On coming to America they settled in St. Louis, Missouri. By occupation the father was a carpenter. In the family were two sons: Philip and

his brother John Henry, now a resident of California.

The subject of this sketch was reared and educated in his native land and after leaving school he worked on a farm, thus early acquiring a good practical knowledge of the occupation which he has chosen as a life work. He was fourteen years of age on the emigration of the family to America. In the fall of 1857, he removed to McLean county, Illinois, and in the spring of 1859 came to Christian county, where he has since made his home. After renting a farm in Locust township for one season he removed to his present farm on section 6, Rosamond township, the same year. When it came into his possession it was all raw prairie land with the exception of eleven acres which were under cultivation, and to its further development and improvement he has since devoted his energies, converting it into a very desirable farm. His first home here was a little shanty sixteen by thirty-two feet, which in 1873 was replaced by a good brick residence but the latter place together with most of its contents was destroyed by fire in February, 1900. Mr. Ebert at once rebuilt and now has a very comfortable and attractive home, together with good and substantial barns and outbuildings.

On the 8th of May, 1853, in Tuscarawas county, Ohio, Mr. Ebert was united in marriage to Miss Pauline Fisher, who was born in Phillipsburg, Pennsylvania, March 19, 1832, and is a daughter of Frederick and Katherine (Krets) Fisher, also natives of Pennsylvania. For a short time after their marriage they lived in Ohio before coming to Illinois. Three sons have been born to them. Frederick C., who resides on section 5, Rosamond township, married Isabel Barker and has four children: May, now the wife of Walter Stevens, a resident of

Kansas, by whom she has one child; Minnie Belle; William and Roy. Charles W., whose home is on section 6, Rosamond township, married Esther Johnson and has two children, Maud and Violet. B. F., who lives with his parents, married Eva Butterfield and has one child.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Ebert are members of the Buckeye Methodist Episcopal church and he also holds membership in Owaneco Lodge, No. 223, A. F. & A. M. During their early residence in this county they underwent many of the experiences of pioneer life. For a couple of years after their marriage Mrs. Ebert did considerable spinning and made a couple of coverlets. She made her first coverlet when only seventeen years of age. She has often sheared the sheep and then prepared the wool for spinning. During her early married life she also did considerable knitting for her family. In those days Mr. Ebert hauled most of his corn to Vandalia, camping out at night on the prairie, and on arriving at his destination could only get twenty-five cents per bushel. He made the first rail fence on Buckeye Prairie. Being a man of progressive ideas, his farm has always been thoroughly up-to-date in all its appointments. He owned the first reaper and the first binder brought to his locality and also bought the first sewing machine and the first coal oil lamp, paying fifty cents per gallon for oil at that time. His life has been one of industry and usefulness and he has not only gained for himself and family a comfortable competence but has also won the friendship and high regard of all who know him.

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#### CHRISTIAN WENZLER.

On the 17th of October, 1903, there passed away one of Bear Creek's honored and most highly respected citizens—Christian Wenz-

ler, who had made his home here for over thirty years and was prominently identified with the agricultural interests of the township. He was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, December 14, 1828, and was a son of Joseph and Monica (Haller) Wenzler, who spent their entire lives in that country. His paternal grandfather was George Wenzler, who was a cabinet maker by trade and was a fine musician. He reared a large family of children and died at about the age of fifty-five years. Joseph Wenzler, the father of our subject, was a musician in the regular standing army of Germany, and by occupation was a wood-turner and cabinet-maker. He died in his native land at the age of sixty years, and his wife passed away some years previous. Their family consisted of the following children: Christian and Paulina, both deceased; Kate; Mary Ann, also deceased; Magdalene; Bertha, deceased; Ludwig; Stephen, deceased; John; and one who died in infancy.

Christian Wenzler was reared and educated in his native land and under his father's direction learning cabinet-making and wood-turning during his youth. He continued to follow those vocations until the age of twenty-eight years, when he was obliged to abandon them on account of failing eyesight. Resolved to try his fortune in the new world, he crossed the ocean in 1850 and first located in Pike county, Pennsylvania, where he worked at his trade. In the fall of 1853 he removed to Indiana and the following year located in Springfield, Illinois, where he followed various occupations for six years. In 1860 he commenced farming on rented land in Pawnee township, Sangamon county, where he spent the succeeding eleven years. Coming to Christian county in 1871 he invested in one hundred and sixty acres of land in Bear Creek town-

ship and subsequently bought more land, having two hundred acres at the time of his death.

On the 19th of July, 1860, Mr. Wenzler was united in marriage to Miss Hester Ann Staley, a native of Kentucky and a daughter of Thomas and Jane (Fokes) Staley. By this union were born nine children: William T., Louis C., Joseph E., Mary Ann, Ida Belle, Laura, Ella, Rosetta L., and one who died in infancy. All are now deceased, with the exception of Joseph E., whose sketch follows this; and Ida Belle, who married Sheldon Fitch and now lives in Michigan. The mother of these children departed this life in 1878.

Mr. Wenzler took an active interest in public affairs and was called upon to fill the offices of commissioner of highways, school director and trustee for several years each. In his death the community realized that it had lost a valued and useful citizen, for he was highly esteemed by his neighbors and friends, and was unquestionably a man of high character and unblemished reputation.

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#### JOSEPH E. WENZLER.

Among the young men of Christian county who are successfully engaged in general farming and stock-raising is Joseph E. Wenzler, who is carrying on operations on section 35, Bear Creek township. He was born in the house in which he still lives, January 24, 1876, and is a son of Christian Wenzler, whose sketch precedes this. He was educated in the local schools and early acquired a thorough and comprehensive knowledge of all the duties which fall to the lot of the agriculturist. He is now the owner of one hundred and forty acres of fine farming land where he resides and also has an interest in the Palmer Brick & Tile Com-

pany and owns a house and two lots in the village of Palmer. In connection with the cultivation of his farm Mr. Wenzler is engaged in stock-raising, breeding Poland China hogs and white faced cattle.

On the 23d of November, 1898, was celebrated his marriage to Miss Edith B. Range, a daughter of Bruce and Elizabeth (Lemaster) Range; the former now resides in Taylorville and the latter died October 12, 1890, at the age of thirty-three years, ten months and seven days. Her father was born in Tennessee and came to Christian county in 1881, being for eight years proprietor of the Range brick and tile yard at Taylorville. He reared five children, namely: Bert G., Edith B., Wilbur N., Lucy I. and Charles S. Mr. and Mrs. Wenzler have three children, namely: Edwin Bert, Marcella Lucile and Roena.

Fraternally Mr. Wenzler is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Royal Neighbors and politically he is identified with the Republican party. He is a very progressive and energetic business man and is meeting with creditable success in his undertakings.

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#### HENRY W. JOHNSON.

Henry W. Johnson is recognized as one of the most popular residents as well as enterprising business men of Taylorville. As a real estate and insurance agent he is well known and annually does a large amount of business which has made him one of the substantial residents of this city. He was born in Christian county, Kentucky, on the 18th of August, 1844, a son of John W. and Sarah Elizabeth (Hardy) Johnson. His paternal grandfather, William Johnson, was a native of Virginia, whence he removed to Kentucky, becoming one of the pioneer set-

tlers of the state. He was a farmer by occupation and continued to engage in that pursuit in the Blue Grass state up to the time of his death, which occurred when he was fifty-seven years of age. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Blakeley, was also a representative of an old Virginia family, and died in 1852, at the age of seventy years.

John W. Johnson, the father of our subject, was born in Christian county, Kentucky, and first married Sarah Elizabeth Hardy, also a native of that county and a daughter of Lewis and Polly (Adkinson) Hardy, both of whom were natives of Virginia. She died in 1857 and Mr. Johnson afterward wedded Hollen Hardy, a cousin of his first wife. His death occurred when he was sixty-six years of age and his second wife passed away in 1878. By the first marriage he had four children: William L., who is still living in Christian county, Kentucky; Henry W.; George H., a resident of Henderson county, Kentucky; and John C. B., who was born in 1836 and died in 1868. There were two children by the father's second marriage: Sallie Elizabeth, the wife of Henry Nolan; and Thomas B., a resident of Fort Worth, Texas.

Upon the home farm in Kentucky Henry W. Johnson spent the days of his boyhood and youth and obtained his education in the public and the subscription schools. In April, 1867, he came to Christian county, Illinois, then a young man of twenty-two years, desirous of winning success in business through enterprise and strong determination. He first engaged in farming in Johnson township, following that pursuit until the fall of 1870, when he removed to Clarksdale, this county. In the fall of 1890 he was elected county sheriff upon the Democratic ticket for a term of four years and

in the office he proved himself most worthy of the trust reposed in him, by his prompt, fearless and faithful performance of the duties that devolved upon him. He had previously served as constable for four years and justice of the peace for a similar period and his official career has always been most commendable. On his retirement from the position of sheriff, he turned his attention to the real estate business and has since negotiated a number of important property transfers. He also does considerable business as an insurance agent, representing a number of the old reliable companies.

On the 29th of November, 1866, Mr. Johnson was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Angeline P. Pool, a daughter of William T. P. Pool, of Trigg county, Kentucky, and unto them have been born the following children: John William, Nora Etta, Lloyd Paschal, Ada Mabel and Walter Ross, but the last named died March 24, 1901, at the age of sixteen years. Since 1878 Mr. Johnson has been a member of the Modern Woodmen Camp. He is also identified with the Court of Honor and the Fraternal Army. He became a charter member of Clarksdale Camp, M. W. A., and for three years he was its venerable counsel. He is also a member of the Knights of Pythias lodge of Taylorville. He is a man of fine social qualities, courteous, affable and genial in manner, and he has gained a wide circle of friends during his residence in Christian county.

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#### GEORGE A. PARISH.

One of the honored and highly esteemed citizens of Mount Auburn is George A. Parish, who was for many years actively identified with the industrial and agricultural interests of this county but is now practically living a retired life, enjoying the

fruits of former toil. He was born in Bloomington, Monroe county, Indiana, September 22, 1838, and is a son of Eli H. and Eliza (Reeves) Parish, both natives of Kentucky, the former born in Bardstown and the latter near that city. They were married in Kentucky and from that state removed to Indiana about the year 1827, the trip being made by way of the Ohio river on a flatboat. They were accompanied by their respective parents, the families locating in Owen and Monroe counties, Indiana. Our subject's father was a stone-mason and brick-layer by trade, but after his removal to the Hoosier state purchased a section of land in Owen county in 1832 and turned his attention to farming for six years. He then resumed work at his trade in Bloomington, Indiana, and as a contractor erected many residences, store buildings, churches and schoolhouses at that place during the following five years. His father-in-law having died he then removed to the old Reeves homestead and was engaged in farming until 1851, which year witnessed his arrival in Illinois. He first located six miles west of Springfield, where he carried on farming until September, 1852, when he removed to Mount Auburn and purchased property at that place. There the mother of our subject died in October, 1854, but the father and children continued on the farm until 1855, when they removed to Taylorville. There the father lived retired until called to his final rest in July, 1856. He was officially connected with the Methodist Episcopal church and took an active part in its work. In politics he was first a Whig and later a Republican.

His family consisted of nine children, those still living being Benjamin, now a resident of Oklahoma; George A., of this review; Josephine, wife of Benjamin Fiefield,





of Tacoma, Nebraska; Austin, a resident of Taylorville; Robert, who makes his home in Illinois; and Charles, a half-brother of our subject, now living in Springfield.

George A. Parish began his education in the public schools of Bloomington, Indiana, and after the removal of the family to this state, attended the district schools of Sangamon county during their residence there. He was next a student in the Mount Auburn school under Professor William Sharp. On leaving school at the age of sixteen years he began learning the blacksmith's trade, serving a three years' apprenticeship under Jacob Wise, and for his services he received fifty dollars per year and his board. Out of his three years' salary he managed to save ninety dollars. The following year he worked at his trade in the employ of others and then bought a shop on the top of Mount Auburn hill of Ezekiel Sargent. There he carried on blacksmithing alone for six months and at the end of that time formed a partnership with John Mitchell, this connection continuing for two years, at the end of which time he sold out to Mr. Mitchell. He was then twenty-one years of age. After settling up his affairs he found that he had thirteen dollars remaining and on this capital he got married. He next commenced the erection of a blacksmith shop, and through the fall and winter worked there without any roof to the building, having borrowed tools of Abraham Henshie, now of Taylorville. In 1860 he bought out the firm of Wise & Barnett, the senior member being his former employer, and he then formed a partnership with Ezekiel Sargent, who was a wagon-maker. This relation was maintained until 1872, when Mr. Parish accidentally lost the sight of one eye, being struck by a piece of iron breaking from his hammer. Selling his interest in the busi-

ness to his partner's son, John Sargent, he purchased fifty-five acres of land in an unimproved part of Auburn, paying sixty-five dollars per acre for the same, which was the highest price paid for land in the locality at that time. Although he went in debt for the first payment, he had it all paid for from the profit of three crops raised thereon. Mr. Parish lost on the investment, however, as he sold the land in 1875 for fifty-four dollars per acre. He next purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land south of Mount Auburn on section 13, Mount Auburn township, and he successfully engaged in the operation of that farm until 1881, when he returned to Mount Auburn. Here he has since resided and is the owner of a nice comfortable residence.

On the 15th of September, 1859, in Taylorville, Mr. Parish was united in marriage to Miss Narcissa Stockton, who was born six miles west of Mount Auburn, August 7, 1839. Her father, Ira Stockton, was born near Lexington, Kentucky, and in that state married Ruth Fuget, also a native of that state. About 1832 they came to Illinois and after spending a few years on a farm near Beardstown, they removed to Mechanicsburg, where Mr. Stockton purchased land. About 1855 he located four miles northwest of Decatur, where his wife died three years later, but he continued to reside there until 1879, at which time he became an inmate of our subject's home, living there until his death November 28, 1891. He was an earnest member of the Methodist Episcopal church and a Republican in his political views. Of his nine children only four are now living, namely: Maranda, wife of B. F. Lanham, of Decatur; Mary, widow of John Hummel and a resident of Seattle, Washington; Narcissa, wife of our subject; and Richard, a resident of California.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Parish have been born the following children: Henry, who makes his home in Harristown, Illinois, married Fannie Lewis and has two children. Ella married Charles Tankersley and died October 2, 1902, leaving two sons. Charles, who lives on a farm near Blue Mound, married Amanda Augur and has four children. George R., who also resides on a farm near Blue Mound, married Mattie Law and has two children. Augustus married Emma Lewis, by whom he has two children and they live on a farm near Mount Auburn. James B. married Nellie Augur and resides five miles west of Mount Auburn. Nellie is the wife of John Bottrell and has two children. Their home is near Mount Auburn.

In 1860 Mr. Parish was made a Mason and is now a member of Kedron Lodge No. 340, A. F. & A. M. He served as worshipful master sixteen years and also represented his lodge in the grand lodge of the state for the same length of time. At one time he was also connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His political support is given the Democratic party and as a public-spirited citizen he takes a deep interest in public affairs, but has never cared for the honors or emoluments of office. Pleasant and genial in manner, he makes friends wherever he goes and is held in high regard by all who know him.

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#### WILLIAM H. BECK.

William H. Beck, who was successfully engaged in the photographic and insurance business in Morrisonville, was born in Louisville, Kentucky, January 13, 1867, and was a son of Frederick and Kate Beck, both natives of Germany. In the family were only two children: William Herbert and Chester Lee. Our subject spent the first fourteen

years of his life in his native city and then went to Harrison county, Iowa, where he worked on a farm and in a sawmill together with other occupation until twenty-nine years of age. He then took up photography and soon mastered that art.

In 1889 Mr. Beck came to Morrisonville, his capital at that time consisting of only three dollars and a half. He opened a photograph gallery and the first year hardly made enough to pay his board but he continued at the business and at length success crowned his efforts. He became the owner of the building in which he had his studio and which is twenty-two by one hundred feet in dimensions and two stories in height, his home being the upper story. He enjoyed a liberal share of the public patronage, his customers coming from fifteen miles in every direction. In connection with his photographic work, he was engaged in the insurance business and represented some of the best companies in the country, including the Home Insurance Company of New York; the Phoenix, of Brooklyn; the Hartford, of Hartford, Connecticut; the Springfield American Central Company of St. Louis. He did the leading business in that line in Morrisonville. He was a wide-awake, energetic business man, of progressive ideas and thoroughly reliable, and to those traits of character may be attributed his success. He was a member of the local board of fire insurance and was treasurer of the association. Fraternally Mr. Beck belonged to the Modern Woodmen of America and religiously was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he served as class-leader and special teacher in the Sunday school. He took an active part in all church work and was highly honored and esteemed by all who knew him. He died on the 22d of December, 1903. On the 24th of November,

1891, he married Miss Georgie Haines and to them were born two children: Herbert W. and Chester.

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ANDREW F. HAMMER, M. D.

In a profession where advancement depends upon individual merit and skill Dr. Hammer has won a very enviable position and in his practice shows a thorough and comprehensive understanding of the principles of the medical science and adaptability for the needs of suffering humanity. His work has received the endorsement of public opinion and he is therefore accorded a liberal patronage.

The Doctor is a native of Christian county, his birth having occurred in the city which he yet makes his home, his natal day being December 7, 1849. His parents were Addison and Rebecca (Langley) Hammer and on the paternal line he comes of German ancestry, while on the maternal line he is of Scotch-Irish descent. The great-grandmother Langley was a resident of North Carolina, to which state the progenitors of the family in America had made their way when they crossed the Atlantic from western Scotland, about the time of the second exodus of the Huguenots. John Hammer, the great-grandfather of the Doctor, was a native of Virginia, whence he removed to Kentucky, where he spent his active life as a farmer. The paternal grandparents of the Doctor were Frederick and Elizabeth (Webb) Hammer. The grandfather was born in Kentucky in 1795 and was a blacksmith by trade. He married Miss Webb, whose people were of English lineage, and removed from Virginia to Kentucky. When their son Addison W. Hammer was seven years of age the grandparents removed to Sangamon county and ten years later they

came to Prairie-ton township, Christian county, where Frederick Hammer purchased two hundred acres of land. In 1852, however, he sold that property and settled upon a farm lying in both May and Taylorville townships. As one of the pioneer agriculturists of the county he aided largely in reclaiming wild land for the purposes of civilization and became a successful farmer. He was once elected justice of the peace, but preferred rather to discharge his public duties as a private citizen than as an official. In early life his political support was given to the Whig party and upon its dissolution he joined the ranks of the new Republican party. His death occurred in the year 1866, when he was seventy-two years of age, and his wife passed away in 1870, at the age of seventy-six years. They reared a family of ten children, namely: William L., who died in Decatur, Illinois, in 1903, at the age of eighty-five years; Lucian W., of Nebraska; Addison W., of Taylorville; John, who died in 1853, at the age of twenty-three years; Mary, the widow of A. D. Norcutt and a resident of Forest, Illinois; Margaret, who died at the age of nineteen years; Silas R., who is living in Marion county, Kansas; Seth R., who died in Salem, Oregon, at the age of sixty-six years; Sanford G., who was killed on the railroad when sixty-four years of age; and James Alpheus, who died in 1855, at the age of twenty-one years.

Addison W. Hammer, the Doctor's father, was born in Kentucky, October 4, 1821, and was brought by his parents to Illinois in the fall of 1827, the family home being established in Sangamon county. He remained upon the home farm until twenty-two years of age and shared in all the hardships and trials of pioneer life and assisted in the arduous duties of developing a new tract of land. He had but limited school privileges,

attending for only a few weeks during the winter seasons. When twenty-two years of age he began working as a farm hand and followed that pursuit for a year. He then learned the blacksmith's trade under the direction of his father and for four years conducted a shop of his own in Taylorville. On the expiration of that period he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Taylorville township and turned his attention to farming, paying two and a half dollars per acre for a tract of eighty acres and five dollars per acre for the remainder. Mr. Hammer then conducted his farm until 1866, when he sold that property and bought the home farm of one hundred and sixty acres, retaining possession thereof until 1873, when he again sold and removed to Kansas, where he was engaged in the hardware business. Later he took up his abode in Berry, Sangamon county, Illinois, and there filled the position of postmaster under the Harrison administration for four years. Later returning to Taylorville, he has since resided in this city.

In the year 1848 he was united in marriage to Miss Rebecca Adeline Langley, a daughter of Josiah and Jane (Randolph) Langley. Mrs. Hammer died October 22, 1865, at the age of thirty-seven years. By her marriage she had become the mother of eight children, and the following are now living: Andrew F.; Margaret J., the wife of I. B. Jordon of Logan county, Illinois; Laura Isabella, the wife of T. H. Johnson, of Grand Rapids, Michigan; Lura, the wife of J. S. Neal, of Edinburg, Illinois; and Hugh L., who is a merchant of Clarksdale. Those who have passed away are John, who died at the age of ten years; Jerry, at the age of two years; and one that died in infancy. In the year 1852 Mr. Hammer was made a Mason in Mound Lodge, No. 122,

A. F. & A. M., and he also belongs to Taylorville Chapter, No. 102, R. A. M. In politics he is a Republican, having supported the party since its organization. His first presidential vote was cast in 1844 and in 1860 he supported Lincoln and has since been an advocate of the principles of the organization, but has never sought or desired public office.

Dr. Hammer, whose name introduces this record, was educated in the public schools, completing a high school course and then determining to devote his attention to the practice of medicine he began reading under the direction of Dr. Crouse, of Oswego, Kansas, who directed his reading from 1873 until 1876. In the meantime he taught school. He had followed that profession in 1871-2 and in 1873 he engaged in prospecting for lead and silver in Arkansas. He was dependent upon his own labors for the money necessary to meet the expenses of his professional education and when he had acquired capital sufficient to permit a college course he entered the Hahnemann Medical College of Chicago, in which he was graduated with the class of 1878. He then began practice in Berry, Sangamon county, where he remained for fifteen years, engaging in general practice. Removing to Taylorville he has since remained in this city and has become a successful member of the medical fraternity. With a nature that could never content itself with mediocrity he has advanced to a foremost position in the ranks of the profession, having the confidence and admiration of all for what he has accomplished.

In 1878 occurred the marriage of the Doctor and Miss Alice A. Dickerson, a daughter of John S. and Mary J. Dickerson, of Sangamon county, Illinois. They now have two interesting daughters: Estella

Pearl and Lena J. Both the Doctor and his wife are well and favorably known in Taylorville. They hold membership in the Christian church and he gives his political support to the Republican party, having firm faith in its principles. He is likewise a member of the Masonic fraternity, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Fraternal Army, the Loyal Army and is medical examiner for the last three. He is also a health officer and served in 1903 as the vice president of the Christian County Medical Society. He ranks high with the profession as well as with the general public and his life record shows the force of his character and the strength of a laudable ambition.

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#### L. T. MORGAN.

L. T. Morgan, now proprietor of a livery stable in Pana and at one time actively connected with agricultural pursuits in Christian county, was born in Polk county, Georgia, in the year 1858, his parents being B. F. and Sarah Morgan. The father was born in Georgia and from that state removed to Tennessee. For a time he engaged in practice of medicine, being a physician and surgeon, and during the last ten years of his life he devoted his energies to preaching as a minister of the Baptist church. His career was, therefore, given to callings which are of marked benefit in the world and his life was one of great usefulness. He died in the year 1887 and his memory is yet revered and cherished by many who knew him.

L. T. Morgan spent the first nine years of his life in the county of his nativity and then accompanied his parents on their removal to McMinn county, Tennessee, where his youth was passed. He there began his business career as a farmer and followed that occupation continuously until about ten

years ago, when he came to Pana, Illinois. He first rented three hundred and twenty acres of land near the town, the property of Mr. Cox, and lived upon this for four years, after which he rented three hundred and ten acres from Mr. Buell. He raised both grain and stock and made a success of farming, so conducting his efforts that his labors were attended with a high degree of success. On the 2d of February, 1903, Mr. Morgan took up his abode in Pana and purchased the livery barn which he is now conducting. He has the best equipped livery stable in central Illinois, having on hand a fine lot of carriages and a number of good horses. When he removed to Pana, however, ten years ago, his cash capital consisted of but thirty-seven dollars. In this decade he has been very successful and is now one of the influential residents of the city.

In 1878 occurred the marriage of Mr. Morgan and Miss Sallie Wilson, who was born in Tennessee near Kingston. Seven children graced this marriage: Frank, who is married and resides in Chicago; Gertrude, deceased; May; Annie, who married W. T. Lester and resides in Pana; Belle; Cleveland; and Pearl. Mrs. Morgan belongs to the First Methodist Episcopal church and is a most estimable lady, carefully managing her household affairs and thus proving a great assistance to her husband. Mr. Morgan belongs to the Modern Woodmen Camp, to the Fraternal Army and to the Masonic Lodge, and in his political affiliations is a Democrat. He owed his success entirely to his enterprise and industry and these qualities are salient features in his business career.

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#### JOSIAH P. HODGE.

Josiah P. Hodge was born on the 23d of November, 1853, in Pope county, Illinois, his parents being Dr. John P. and Mary

(Hillerman) Hodge. The father was for many years a prominent and successful physician of Pope county, Illinois. Our subject's elementary education was acquired in the public schools of this state and he later entered the Illinois State Normal school, where he completed the course and was graduated in 1875. For two years he taught school and then took up the study of law, being admitted to the bar in 1880. For a number of years he was engaged in the practice of his chosen profession but his life has mostly been devoted to journalism. He has edited both daily and weekly papers of prominence, including the *Daily Sun*, of Paducah, Kentucky, and the *Daily Commercial* of Vincennes, Indiana. On the 12th of August, 1875, Mr. Hodge was married in Golconda, Illinois, to Miss May Clanahan.

#### CARLETON FENIMORE HODGE.

Carleton Fenimore Hodge, the well known editor of the *Prairie State Tribune*, published at Assumption, was born in Pope county, Illinois, July 27, 1876, and is a son of Josiah P. and May (Clanahan) Hodge. The father was graduated at the Illinois State Normal University in the class of 1875 and has devoted his life to journalism and the legal profession. Our subject's paternal grandfather, Dr. John P. Hodge, was for many years prior to his death a prominent physician.

During his boyhood C. F. Hodge attended the common schools but is largely self-educated, his instruction being under the guidance of his father, who is a man of scholarly attainments. Of studious habits and literary turn of mind, our subject naturally became interested in journalistic work at an early age and entered a printing office, where he worked at the case for a number of years.

For some time he was a compositor on the *Daily Telegraph* and later on the *Daily Sun*, of Paducah, Kentucky, of which his father was editor, and after his return from the Spanish-American war was engaged for a considerable time as reporter on the *Daily Commercial*, of Vincennes, Indiana. Later he was connected with the advertising department of the *Indianapolis Sun*. With his younger brother, J. Sim Hodge, he subsequently became editor and proprietor of the *Assumption Independent*, now the *Prairie State Tribune*, on the 1st of January, 1901, and has since had charge of that paper. In the conduct of this journal he has shown marked ability and has succeeded in making it one of the most prominent and influential local papers in central Illinois. By the publication of the Bible as a serial the *Independent* became the subject of comment in prominent journals throughout Christendom and thousands of letters were received and many subscriptions from prominent church men and others interested in the new departure in journalism.

On the declaration of war against Spain, Mr. Hodge hastened from Tennessee, where he was engaged in newspaper work, to Alton, Illinois, to rejoin the Alton Battalion of the Naval Reserves, of which he had previously been a member for several years. After waiting for several weeks in hourly expectation of being called out, he grew impatient and in company with three friends, one of whom was Dr. Harry Lemen, who became regimental surgeon and in that capacity subsequently spent several years in the Philippines, joined the regular army at St. Louis and was assigned to the Sixteenth Infantry. With his command he went through the Santiago campaign, his regiment leading the famous charge up San Juan Hill, his company—F—occupying the cen-

ter of the line and reaching the top immediately in front of the blockhouse. Mr. Hodge was one of the guard detailed in charge of prisoners captured. After the battle he was on hospital duty and nursed a number of yellow fever patients, escaping that disease to suffer an attack of typhoid after reaching Montauk Point. Here he applied for his discharge, which was granted a few weeks later.

Fraternally Mr. Hodge is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Knights of the Maccabees. He formerly held the position of aide on the staff of Department Commander English, of the Indiana Department of the Spanish-American War Veterans. He is a young man of exceptional ability and is quite popular in business and social circles.

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#### MRS. ISABELL BERRY.

There is probably no resident of Johnson township who is held in higher esteem than Mrs. Isabell Berry, whose home is on section 11. She was born in York county, Pennsylvania, on the 14th of November, 1830, and was a young lady on coming to Christian county, Illinois, with her parents, Henry and Mary (Klinefelter) Baker. They were also natives of York county, Pennsylvania, the former born in 1802, the latter in 1804, and there they continued to make their home for many years. Throughout life the father followed the occupation of farming. After a useful and well spent life he died in 1880 and was laid to rest in the Clark cemetery of Johnson township. His wife had died in 1849 when in the prime of life. This worthy couple were the parents of ten children, of whom Mrs. Berry is the second in order of birth, the others being as follows: Alexander, now deceased; Matilda, the widow of Richard Johnson and a resi-

dent of Johnson township; Savilla, Jacob, William, Hester Ann and Samuel, all now deceased; Eliza, the deceased wife of Henry Ebert, who is a resident of California; and Mary, who was the wife of Matthew Stone and both are now deceased, their remains being interred in Oak Hill cemetery.

In 1850 Miss Isabell Baker gave her hand in marriage to Thomas H. Berry, who was born in Montgomery county, Illinois, in 1828, and to them were born three children: Henry H., now a carpenter and builder living in Oklahoma; John T., a well-to-do agriculturist of Johnson township, this county; and Mary Jane, who lives on the old homestead with her mother.

Mr. Berry made farming his life occupation and he was called upon to fill various local positions of responsibility and honor, the duties of which he most capably and satisfactorily discharged. Among other offices he served as highway commissioner and school director. His influence and ballot were used in support of the Democratic party. For a period of over twenty years he was a faithful and consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church and died in that faith in 1873, being laid to rest in the United Brethren cemetery. An honorable and upright man, he gained the confidence and good will of all with whom he was brought in contact and in his death the community realized that it had lost a valued citizen. He was one of the most prominent and highly respected men of Johnson township.

The home farm belonging to Mrs. Berry is one of the best in the township. It consists of one hundred and sixty acres of prairie land and forty acres of timber and in its management she has displayed excellent business ability and sound judgment. In 1892 she bought a lot and a half in Taylorville and erected thereon a nice residence,

where she lived until January, 1903, when she returned to the farm, though she still owns her property in Taylorville. She is widely and favorably known throughout the county where she has so long made her home.

#### WILLIAM K. NICODEMUS.

William K. Nicodemus, who is engaged in the transfer business in Taylorville and who is the honored mayor of the city, was born in Knox county, Tennessee, on the 26th of April, 1848, his parents being John W. and Mary E. (Ault) Nicodemus. The father of our subject came to Illinois in the fall of 1860 and with his family located in Taylorville township, Christian county, upon a farm, to the development and cultivation of which he earnestly devoted his efforts. In early life he became a member of the southern Illinois Methodist Episcopal conference, and from that time until 1898 was engaged in ministerial work. Even in his later years his deep interest in the church never faltered, although in more advanced life he was unable to take so prominent a part therein. A sincere earnest Christian gentleman, his labors were effective and helpful in promoting the cause of Christianity and his influence was widely felt for good in the communities in which he lived. He was twice married, first wedding Miss Mary E. Ault, who died when her son William K. was but six years of age. Out of the six children born of this union only two are now living, the brother of our subject being Wesley B., of Taylorville. The other four died in infancy. For his second wife the father chose Mary A. Falkner, of Knox county, Tennessee, who died in 1900 at the age of seventy-two years. John W. Nicodemus passed away on the 20th of August, 1902, at

the advanced age of seventy-eight years, leaving behind him the record of an honorable, upright life.

In the subscription schools of his native county William K. Nicodemus began his education and later continued his studies in the public schools of Christian county, Illinois. During his earlier years he remained upon the home farm and assisted in the work of plowing, planting and harvesting. On starting out upon his business career he followed the pursuit to which he had been reared and in 1868 he removed to Taylorville. Here he was employed in the lumber yard for a time, but afterward resumed agricultural pursuits, making his home upon a tract of land situated in Johnson and Taylorville townships. In 1883 he located permanently in the city of Taylorville, although he still engaged in farming for a time. In 1888 he turned his attention to the draying business in which he still continues and has a good patronage, being constantly employed in that line.

On the 19th of March, 1873, Mr. Nicodemus was united in marriage to Miss Catherine L. Fasnacht, a daughter of Edward Fasnacht, who was originally from Pennsylvania and who, entering the Union army in the Civil war, laid down his life upon the altar of his country. Mrs. Nicodemus learned the millinery business when a girl, and has followed the trade more or less since taking it up. In 1897 she opened a millinery store in Taylorville, which she still conducts. She started the business with only seventy-five dollars, but has been very successful in building up a large trade. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Nicodemus was blessed with seven children, of whom five are yet living: Dora, the wife of Charles A. Rhodes of Taylorville; Wesley L., of Edwardsville, Illinois; William W., a resident of St. Louis; and



W. K. NICODEMUS



Daisy and Bertha, who are at home. Walter E. and Pearl both died in infancy.

In his political allegiance Mr. Nicodemus is a Democrat, and has been honored with a number of local offices. He served as township collector for one year and for four years was alderman of the second ward. In the spring of 1903 he was elected mayor of Taylorville, succeeding Frank A. Zimmerman, so that he is now the incumbent in the office. His administration is business-like, practical and progressive, and while he favors all advanced methods for the benefit of the city he never encourages the needless expenditure of money, but manages the city affairs as he does his private business interests, with great precision and fidelity. Paving the city streets is an improvement started under his administration, and forty-nine blocks were put in during his term of office. He is a man of good judgment, strong in his individuality and sterling worth and well may he be numbered among the representative citizens of Taylorville.

#### LEVI ALDRICH.

Levi Aldrich, a highly respected citizen and representative farmer of Rosamond township, residing on section 26, is a native of New Hampshire, born in Franconia, Grafton county, May 30, 1837. Tradition has it that three of the name of Aldrich came to this country from Wales in colonial days, one settling in Mendon, Massachusetts, another in Maine and the third in Virginia. The first mentioned had seven sons, one of whom was the great-great-grandfather of our subject. The great-grandfather, Edward Aldrich, was a prominent man in his day and served as justice of the peace in colonial times. He was a farmer by occupation and after the close of the Revolutionary

war removed to Grafton county, New Hampshire, where in the midst of the wilderness he developed a farm. It was there that our subject first saw the light of day. His grandfather, John Aldrich, married Sarah Kaylor and spent his life on the old homestead at Franconia. In his family were six children, four sons and two daughters, all of whom reached maturity.

Edward Aldrich, the father of our subject, was the youngest of this family. He was born on the old homestead and was educated in the first school established in Franconia township, it being near his boyhood home. He was married in Franconia, New Hampshire, to Laura Parker, also a native of that state, and after living on the old homestead for about six years removed to Caledonia county, Vermont, where he continued to engage in farming throughout life. He died there at the age of forty-six years, and his wife, who long survived him, passed away in Lakeport, New Hampshire, when in her ninety-first year. Their family consisted of three children, namely: Caleb, who is unmarried and still resides in the Green Mountain state; Levi, our subject; and Laura A., wife of J. M. Drake, of Lakeport, New Hampshire, by whom she has three children. One of these is married and lives in New Hampshire, another is married and resides in New Jersey, and the other is still at home.

Reared in much the usual manner of farmer boys in his locality, Levi Aldrich received a good practical education in the public schools of Vermont, supplemented by a few terms at an academy. He is to-day a well-read man and possesses a wonderful memory, having been able to give the foregoing ancestral history without any reference whatsoever. After leaving school he came west to Illinois at about the age of

twenty years, his object being to look up a location, and he was well satisfied with this state, although he did not locate permanently here until 1864, when he took up his residence on section 26, Rosamond township, Christian county. At that time the farm was only partially under cultivation and prairie chickens and other small game were plentiful. He has made farming his life work and has met with success in his chosen occupation. He planted the trees and made all of the other improvements upon his place.

At Sutton, Vermont, October 16, 1860, Mr. Aldrich was united in marriage to Miss Ellen M. Bean, who was born at that place December 11, 1838, and is a daughter of Stephen F. and Emily (Willard) Bean, both natives of New Hampshire. She is the youngest in a family of six children, all of whom reached man and womanhood. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Aldrich were born three sons, as follows: Edward, born in Sutton township, Caledonia county, Vermont, now conducts the home farm and is a breeder of fancy stock, making a specialty of Duroc Jersey hogs, which he ships to Kentucky and other states. He was married June 1, 1899, to Anna Hersman, of Brown county, Illinois, and they have one son, Willard C., born August 11, 1902. William, also born in Sutton, Vermont, was married July 14, 1891, to Margaret Hare, of Sangamon county, Illinois, and is now principal of a grammar school in Keokuk, Iowa. George F., born on the home farm in this county, is now living in Crosby, Texas. He was married September 7, 1898, to Minnie F. Carper and has two children, Justin and Olin.

In national politics Mr. Aldrich's views coincide with those held by President Lincoln but at local elections he generally supports the Democratic party and on that ticket was elected supervisor of his township

in 1898. He also filled the office of school trustee for a number of years and has done all in his power to promote the moral, educational and material welfare of the community in which he lives. He is a deacon in the Congregational church of Rosemond, to which his family also belong, and they are among the most highly esteemed people of the township. Their home is noted for its hospitality and good cheer.

#### JUDGE VINCENT E. FOY.

Among the prominent and honored residents of Taylorville was numbered Judge Vincent E. Foy, now deceased. His life was devoted to labors wherein wealth or influence availeth little, the measure of success depending upon mentality, ability—both natural and acquired—and the broad culture of the individual. Possessing all the requisite qualities of the able lawyer, Judge Foy advanced to a prominent position at the Christian county bar and his reputation was not limited by the confines of this locality, as he ranked as the peer of the ablest lawyers and jurists of this portion of the state.

He was born in Tuscarawas county, Ohio, on the 31st of October, 1845. His father, Archibald Greenleaf Foy, was a native of Belmont county, Ohio, and was of Scotch-Irish descent. He became a farmer and throughout his entire life followed that occupation in order to provide for his family. He wedded Emeline Brisben, who was also born in Belmont county, Ohio, and was of Scotch-Irish lineage, her parents, however, being natives of Pennsylvania. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Foy were born ten children, seven of whom are now living. In 1865 the family removed to Christian county and sixteen years later took up their abode in Sumner county, Kansas, where the mother and one of the daughters died in the year 1891.

In the usual manner of farmer lads, Judge Foy spent his boyhood days, assisting in the work of the fields through the summer months, while in the winter season he attended the district schools, in which he acquired his education, save that he spent one term in the graded schools of Uhlrichsville, Ohio. He left the home farm at the age of seventeen years, in order to make his own way in the world, and in 1864 he put aside all business and personal considerations that he might aid in the preservation of the Union, enlisting in Company E, One Hundred and Sixty-first Ohio Infantry. He was mustered in on the 2d day of May, 1864, at Camp Chase and after serving at different points in the Shenandoah valley he was mustered out at Camp Chase, September 2, 1864.

It was in March of the following year that Judge Foy arrived in Christian county, where he was variously employed as a farm laborer, stage driver and school teacher until he entered upon the study of law, in which he was destined to win prominence. Borrowing some law books of J. B. Jones, an attorney of Taylorville, he began reading in 1868, and devoted his leisure hours to the mastery of the principles of jurisprudence until 1871, when he regularly became a student in Mr. Jones' law office, there continuing his reading until 1874, when he was admitted to the bar. For a year thereafter he engaged in practice with his preceptor and was then alone until 1891, when the firm of Foy & Crafton was formed. At the bar he displayed the elements of the strong lawyer, careful preparation of cases, strength in argument and logical reasoning and he soon gained the favorable regard of the public and therefore won a good clientage.

The fitness of Judge Foy for office led to his selection for official position even in the

early days of his residence in Christian county. For more than eleven years he was treasurer of Taylorville township and for one year was city attorney. In 1876 he was elected states attorney and in 1882 was chosen by popular suffrage to the bench of the county court and by re-election filled that office continuously until 1894. He ranked among the best county judges in the state, his opinions being so fair and impartial and so in harmony with legal principles that he won the commendation of the bar and of the general public. His decisions were never reversed in a higher court, which fact stands in uncontrovertible evidence of his broad knowledge of the law and his impartiality in his decisions.

For four years Judge Foy was the editor and proprietor of the Taylorville *Democrat*, which under his guidance became one of the leading papers of this part of the state, with a largely increased circulation. In citizenship he was public-spirited and progressive, co-operating in many movements for the public good, and his influence was a public factor in enhancing the general welfare. He was a member of the Taylorville Coal Company from its organization until 1891 and was a stockholder and director in the company which built the Antlers Hotel.

Judge Foy was married on the 29th of November, 1877, to Mrs. Anna Crafton, a native of Macon county, Illinois, and of German descent. With her parents she came to Christian county in her early girlhood. To her husband she was a most able assistant and congenial companion and he attributed much of his success in business life to her wise and helpful counsel, her ready sympathy and intellectual insight into affairs. Since her husband's death she has become identified with business interests in Taylorville, becoming a representative of ten insur-

ance companies in 1898. Two years later she sold her insurance business and is now engaged in the realty and loan business.

The Judge belonged to no secret or fraternal organizations save the Grand Army of the Republic. He was, however, a man of broad humanitarian principles and his interest in his fellow-men was deep and sincere. This caused him to put forth earnest effort to advance the public welfare and Taylorville benefited by his labors along many lines. While in the courtroom he fully sustained the dignity and majesty of the law, in his home and among his friends he was a most social, genial gentleman, of cordial manner and wherever he went he won friends. He inscribed his name deeply on the roll of honored and valued citizens of Christian county and although he has now passed away his memory is revered by many who knew him.

#### RICHARD JOHNSON.

Richard Johnson, now deceased, was for many years an honored and highly esteemed citizen of Christian county. He was born in Cadiz, Ohio, May 14, 1831, a son of William and Elizabeth (Orr) Johnson, both natives of Pennsylvania. In their family were six children, of whom Richard was the fifth in order of birth. The others were as follows: James died and was buried at Louisville, Kentucky; Margaret is also deceased; Albert went as a missionary to India and was killed in the mutiny in 1848 about seven hundred miles from Calcutta; Julius C. died in Ohio; and William, who spent a few years in India, was president of the Biddle Institute in North Carolina for about fifteen years and in 1901 went back to India. The father of these children died in 1837 and was buried in Cadiz, Ohio, and the mother passed away three years later.

Thus our subject was early deprived of a father's guidance and a mother's loving care, being only ten years of age when left an orphan. Being thrown upon his own resources for a livelihood, he obtained employment in a tannery and continued to work at that business in Ohio for six years. It was in 1854 that he came to Illinois and took up his residence in Christian county. Here he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits and in his farming operations he met with most excellent success, becoming the owner of nine hundred acres of valuable and well improved land.

In 1859 Mr. Johnson led to the marriage altar Miss Matilda Baker, a native of Pennsylvania and a daughter of Henry and Mary (Klinefelter) Baker, who were also born in that state, the former in 1802, the latter in 1804. From Pennsylvania the family removed to Clark county, Ohio, and in 1848 came to Christian county, Illinois. Here the mother died a year later, and the father, who long survived her, passed away in 1880, their remains being interred in the Clark cemetery of Johnson township. By occupation Mr. Baker was a farmer. He had ten children, namely: Alexander, deceased; Isabella, widow of Thomas H. Berry and a resident of Johnson township; Matilda, now Mrs. Johnson; Savilla, Jacob, William, Hester Ann, and Samuel, all deceased; Eliza, the deceased wife of Henry Ebert, a resident of California; and Mary, deceased wife of Matthew Stone. The parents of these children were of Scotch and Irish descent.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Johnson were born nine children: Margaret E., now the wife of James Hawkins, of Johnson township; William Henry, who died at the age of thirteen years; Mary, the wife of Henry Dappert, a farmer of Johnson township; Drusilla and Sophronia, who are at home with

their mother; Rebecca, who married W. B. Hawkins and died in March, 1897; Harriet, who died at the age of seven months; Matthew, who married Evelyn Donaldson, a native of Michigan; and Rachel, who died in infancy.

Mr. Johnson always took quite an active interest in public affairs and his influence was always found on the side of right and progress. He was considered one of the most enterprising farmers of his community and his death, which occurred June 10, 1903, occasioned the deepest regret throughout the county. He was a man of the highest respectability and those who were most intimately associated with him speak in unqualified terms of his sterling integrity, his honor in business and his fidelity to all the duties of public and private life. His widow now has charge of the home farm in Johnson township and is successfully conducting the business. She is a most estimable lady of many sterling qualities and has a large circle of friends.

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#### JAMES B. STEWART.

James B. Stewart, who is successfully engaged in farming on section 32, Mosquito township, claims Christian county as his birthplace, his natal day being August 28, 1863. His father, Francis Stewart, was born in County Down, Ireland, in 1837, and spent two years of his life in the city of Glasgow, Scotland. Determining to try his fortune in the United States, he crossed the broad Atlantic in 1857 and first located in New York state, where he spent three years. In 1860 he came to Christian county, Illinois, and made his home here for many years, but finally he removed to Blue Mound, where he lived retired until called to his final rest in 1897. By occupation he was a

farmer. He manifested his love for his adopted country by enlisting during the Civil war in the One Hundred and Fifty-second Illinois Infantry, with which he served for one year. In early manhood he married Miss Isabella Irvine, a native of Canada, who continues to make her home in Blue Mound, Illinois.

James B. Stewart acquired his elementary education in the public schools of Christian county and later continued his education at Dixon, Illinois. He gave his father the benefit of his labors until 1896, when he commenced farming on his own account upon the old home place, and is now the owner of a fine tract of one hundred and twenty acres in Mosquito township that he keeps under a high state of cultivation. The well tilled fields yield abundantly and he derives from his farm a good income.

In 1896 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Stewart and Miss Agnes Carr, whose father, James Carr, was an old and honored citizen of Christian county. Unto them was born one child, Lena, who died at the age of one year. The Republican party finds in Mr. Stewart a staunch supporter of its principles, and he is now efficiently serving as school director in his district. He is public spirited and progressive and is widely and favorably known throughout his native county.

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#### O. O. CORNEIL.

O. O. Corneil, a hardware merchant of Owaneco, is but a recent acquisition to the progressive business men of that town, but his ability, enterprise and upright methods have already gained for him an enviable reputation. Although he is still a young man comparatively his popularity is established on a firm basis—that of his own well tested merit.

Mr. Corneil is a native of Christian county, born September 16, 1869, and is a son of Samuel and Mary Corneil, who were born in Canada and came to this country in 1869, locating in Zenobia, Christian county, Illinois, but are now living in Shelby county, this state. After attending the public schools for some years our subject engaged in farming in this county. He remained at home with his parents until twenty-two years of age and then went to Canada, where he spent six months. On his return to Christian county he engaged in farming on rented land until March, 1902, when he removed to Owaneco and purchased a half interest in a hardware store in partnership with B. F. Corzine, but three months later he bought out his partner and is now sole proprietor. He carries a good line of shelf and heavy hardware, stoves, oils, paints, etc., and has built up an excellent trade, which is constantly increasing.

On the 1st of September, 1903, Mr. Corneil married Miss Peralee Clawson, a daughter of W. A. Clawson, of this county. Religiously they are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and socially Mr. Corneil is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and has represented the local lodge in the grand lodge of the state for the past two years. His political support is given the Democracy and he is now efficiently serving as township school treasurer and was formerly collector of his township.

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#### BENJAMIN BECKENHEIMER.

Benjamin Beckenheimer, a well known merchant of Pana, was born in Baltimore, Maryland, in 1846. His father, David Beckenheimer, was a native of Germany,

his birth having occurred in Baden. Crossing the Atlantic to America, he followed merchandising and in his business career won a fair degree of prosperity. His son Benjamin entered the business world as a clerk and was also a bookkeeper in a wholesale house. In this way he gained a start in life and eventually he embarked in business for himself in Pana, Illinois, in 1876, under the firm name of B. Goldstein & Company, the store being located in the building now occupied by the postoffice. In September, 1876, the firm erected a business block of their own and stocked it with a line of dry goods and general merchandise. Later the firm was re-organized under the name of Beckenheimer, Goldstein & Company and that relation was maintained for about ten years, when Messrs. Kleeman and Goldstein, of Shelbyville, Illinois, became partners. The new relation was continued until February, 1901, when the firm was dissolved and Mr. Beckenheimer became the sole proprietor. In 1892 he purchased of A. B. Corman the store known as the Golden Eagle Clothing House and for several years he conducted the two establishments. He now carries a very large stock of clothing, men's furnishing goods and shoes and is one of the oldest business men in Pana and is the oldest representative of his line of commercial activity. In his dealings he is very honorable and straightforward and he has won the confidence of the public to a very great degree.

In 1876 Mr. Beckenheimer was united in marriage to Miss Fannie Goldstein, a native of Baden, Germany, and they became the parents of four children, three of whom are now living: Eva, who is married and resides in Ohio; Mae and Hattie, who are still under the parental roof. Mr. Beckenheimer is a Mason, belonging to Pana

Lodge, No. 226, A. F. & A. M., and in his life he exemplifies the beneficent spirit of the craft, for he has thoroughly informed himself concerning its tenets and is imbued with its teachings concerning brotherly kindness and mutual helpfulness. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party and while he has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking he has never withheld his active aid and co-operation from any movements or measures calculating to advance the general good. Well does he deserve to be classed among the self-made men of Pana, for he started out upon his business career without capital. He possesses, however, strong determination, marked executive ability and keen sagacity and with these qualities to aid him in his career he has steadily advanced until he to-day occupies an enviable and honored position in trade circles and is enjoying a patronage which is indeed gratifying.

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#### A. G. BARNES.

A. G. Barnes, the well known president of the Farmers' National Bank, of Taylorville, is to-day the oldest business man of the city and his name is inseparably connected with the agricultural and commercial interests of Christian county. His thoroughly American spirit and his great energy have enabled him to mount from a lowly position to one of affluence. One of his leading characteristics in business affairs is his fine sense of order and complete system and the habit of giving careful attention to details, without which success in any undertaking is never an assured fact.

A native of Pennsylvania, Mr. Barnes was born in the city of Harrisburg, September 4, 1835, his parents being Daniel and Margaret A. (Richardson) Barnes. The

father was also a native of Pennsylvania and was a bookbinder for the state, securing the position by election. Coming to Illinois in 1840, he first located in Springfield, where he spent ten years, and then removed to Taylorville, being engaged in the hardware business at this place for some time. Both he and his wife died and were buried here.

During the residence of the family in Springfield, A. G. Barnes attended school and there the greater part of his education was acquired, although he was subsequently a student at Jacksonville for one year. He began his business career as a clerk at Decatur, Illinois, and in 1855 opened a clothing store in Taylorville, although his capital on coming to this place consisted of only one hundred and ten dollars. He carried on business along that line for five or six years and in 1861 turned his attention to the dry goods trade, being alone in business for nine years, at the end of which time the firm became Chamberlain & Barnes. After conducting that store for thirty-one years, he sold out to Slaten Brothers in 1902 and retired from mercantile pursuits. The building now occupied by the firm was erected by Mr. Barnes. In 1900 he organized the Farmers' National Bank, of which he has since served as president, having previous to this time engaged in private banking business for thirty-one years. He owns a number of business houses in Taylorville and also has a valuable stock farm of one thousand acres in this county, where he raises standard bred horses, including fine racers. He has one stallion with a record of 2:12¾; another with a record of 2:15¼; a mare with a record of 2:14¼; and another mare with a record of 2:15½. He has always taken a great interest in horses and he keeps a number of men to take care of his stock

and attend to the other duties of the farm. Mr. Barnes is one of six partners who have valuable landed interests in southern Illinois and timber land in Mississippi to the amount of six thousand four hundred and seventy acres. Nature evidently designed him for a business man, as every enterprise with which he is connected seems to prosper the minute he comes into control, and he has generally carried forward to successful completion whatever he has undertaken.

Mr. Barnes was married in 1860 to Miss Henrietta Branson, a native of Sangamon county, Illinois, and a daughter of Benjamin Branson. Of the seven children born of this union two died in infancy, the others being Benjamin L., who married Gertrude Hazlet and is now a general merchant and postmaster at Harvel, Illinois; Albert T., who married Florence Shumway and is living in Denver, Colorado; Hallie, the wife of George L. Banks; Clara May, wife of A. R. Adams, a hardware merchant of Taylorville; and W. E., at home.

Mr. Barnes is a Knight Templar Mason, belonging to the commandery at Springfield, and is also a member of Rose Bud Chapter, O. E. S., of Taylorville. In politics he is a Republican, and in religious faith is a Presbyterian. As a business man he has done much to advance the interests of Taylorville and he has been an eye witness of practically the entire development of the city. On locating here there was not a sidewalk in the town and he had to wade through the mud in rubber boots. As there was no railroad here at that time he rode by train to Assumption and from there he made the journey on horseback to Taylorville. He has become well known throughout this portion of Illinois as a prominent figure in business circles and he ranks among the leading citizens of his adopted county.

### JACOB BILYEU.

Jacob Bilyeu is one of Christian county's native sons, for he was born on the farm in Prairieton township where he now resides, May 16, 1865, and he is a representative of an honored pioneer family of this state. His father, George Bilyeu, was born in Tennessee in 1815, and came to Illinois in 1829, settling in Sangamon county, where he grew to manhood. He married Miss Elizabeth Workman, whose birth occurred in 1823, and they continued to make their home in Sangamon county until 1850, when they removed to Christian county and settled on the farm where our subject now lives. By occupation the father was a farmer and he continued the operation of his land until called to his final rest on the 18th of March, 1895. His wife still survives him and continues to reside on the old homestead farm.

Jacob Bilyeu passed his early life amid rural scenes and as soon as old enough to be of any assistance began to aid in the operation of the farm. He also attended the neighboring schools and after completing his education gave his entire time and attention to agricultural pursuits. Since the age of twenty-one he has engaged in farming on his own account, and he and his mother now own three hundred and twenty acres in Prairieton township, their home being on section 3. He thoroughly understands the occupation he has chosen as a life work, and being a man of good business and executive ability, he has met with excellent success in his undertakings and now ranks among the substantial citizens of his community. In connection with the cultivation of the soil, he is engaged in the breeding of fine Hereford cattle.

On the 19th of August, 1881, Mr. Bilyeu led to the marriage altar Miss Verinda Adams, a daughter of Isom Adams, of Prai-



MR. AND MRS. GEORGE BILYEU



rieton township, whose sketch appears on another page of this volume. By this union eight children have been born, namely: Eva Lena, George Isom, James, John William, Lilly May, Jacob Eugene, Charles Thomas and Clarence Wilber, all at home with their parents. The family is connected with the Christian church and Mr. Bilyeu is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Improved Order of Red Men. By his ballot he supports the men and measures of the Democratic party and has filled the offices of school director and road commissioner in a creditable and satisfactory manner.

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#### JAMES R. SHARP.

No history of this section of Illinois would be complete without mention of the Sharp family, of whom James R. Sharp is now a worthy and well known representative. He was born in Macoupin county, Illinois, near Scottsville, in March, 1852, and in May of the same year his parents removed to what afterward became the town of Sharpsburg, Christian county. He is a son of Henry H. and Clarinda (Redfern) Sharp and on the paternal line he comes of Scotch-Irish descent, while on the maternal line he is of German lineage. The Sharp family was established in America long prior to the Revolutionary war by emigrants from the old world who first settled in North Carolina, but afterward removed to Virginia. At a later date the family was founded in Tennessee during the pioneer period in the development of that state.

William Sharp, the grandfather of our subject, was born in Tennessee and was there married to Miss Barbara Hunter, also a native of Tennessee. They became the parents of nine children and in 1836 they removed with their family to Macoupin

county, Illinois, settling in the northwestern portion of that county. There another child was added to the family. In 1838 Mrs. Sharp died and William Sharp afterward wedded Miss Elizabeth Wilson, by whom he had five children. He was a blacksmith by trade and throughout his entire life he followed that pursuit. His death occurred on the 20th of June, 1875. By his first union he had the following children: Elizabeth, the wife of Joseph Montgomery; John; Henry H.; Winnefred, the wife of Gabriel Hurt; Lawson; George R.; Louisa, the wife of John Fair; William N.; Barbara, the wife of Thomas J. Fair; and Mary, the wife of Wesley Henderson. Too much cannot be said in praise of the character of William Sharp, who lived an upright honorable life, teaching by example as well as by precept. For forty years he was held as a model for the young and his life was also an inspiration for the aged. An earnest Christian gentleman, he held membership in the Baptist church, in which he served as deacon for many years. At all times he was honorable in his relations with his fellow men and his integrity stood as an unquestioned fact in his career. His second wife died about four years prior to his death.

Henry H. Sharp, father of our subject, removed to Macoupin county, Illinois, when twelve years of age. When twenty-one he enlisted for service in the Mexican War, joining the army in June, 1846, and serving until June, 1847. His brother, John Sharp, the uncle of our subject, was also a veteran of the Mexican War, accompanying his brother throughout the military service. The following fall after their discharge from the army they went to Iowa and located the land warrants which had been given them in recognition of the aid which

they rendered during the war. They secured a claim near the present site of the city of Oskaloosa and for a few months remained in Iowa, but returned the following year. On the 26th of June, 1851, Henry H. Sharp was united in marriage to Miss Clarinda Redfern, a native of Macoupin county, Illinois, and unto them were born eight children. In 1852 they removed to Christian county, settling in Buckhart township. Henry H. Sharp afterward sold his one hundred and sixty acres of land in Iowa and bought a farm in Buckhart township, comprising eighty acres, for which he paid five dollars per acre. When the Springfield & Southeastern Railroad was being constructed through this county he and his brothers, John and George R. Sharp, were instrumental in having erected a depot near their homes in order to facilitate their shipments and the railroad company gave to the little village the name of Sharpsburg. Henry H. Sharp was very prominently identified with public affairs in his township, contributed largely to the general good through his business activity and his cooperation in public interests and for many years he was an exemplary member of the Masonic fraternity. He died February 6, 1890. It is interesting to note that Henry and John were together through the Mexican war, that they lived on adjoining farms, married sisters after the war and each had eight children.

James R. Sharp, whose name introduces this record, was educated in the public schools and in Blackburn University. In 1871 he became connected with mercantile life and was traveling salesman for the R. P. Smith Shoe Company of Bloomington for five years. In 1884 he became agent for the Phoenix Fire Insurance Company and occupied that position until January, 1903.

when he became manager for the American Assurance Company of Newark, New Jersey, having jurisdiction over twenty-four counties in the state of Illinois. His experience in connection with the insurance business covers twenty years, during which time he demonstrated his excellent qualifications for the position which he now occupies. He was successful in his work and his efforts brought to him a good financial return and proved of profit to the companies which he represented.

On the 28th of October, 1875, Mr. Sharp was united in marriage to Miss Flora A. Traylor, a daughter of Thomas I. and Mary (Mahaler) Traylor, both of whom are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Sharp have a pleasant home in Taylorville and their marriage has been blessed with three children: Henry Isles, Mack H. and Flossie I. In his political affiliations Mr. Sharp is a Democrat, but has never been an aspirant for public office. For thirty years he has been a devoted and loyal member of the Mound Lodge, No. 122, A. F. & A. M., and he also belongs to Mystic Lodge, No. 164, K. P. He is a man of genial temperament and unflinching courtesy, well fitted for the line of work which he has chosen and in Christian county, where he is so widely known, he enjoys the unqualified confidence, respect and good will of all with whom he has come in contact.

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#### O. K. MICENHIMMER.

A native of Johnson township where he still continues to make his home, O. K. Micenhimmer has been identified with the agricultural interests of that locality since reaching man's estate, and he is to-day the owner of a good farm of one hundred and twenty-three acres on section 22. He was born here on the 22d of January, 1866, and

is a worthy representative of an old and honored pioneer family of Christian county, his parents being Daniel and Julia (Kellar) Micenhimmer, who located here in 1840. They were natives of Pennsylvania. The father died in this county in 1870, but the mother is still living at the age of seventy-nine years. For over sixty-three years she has made her home here and is to-day one of the oldest settlers of Johnson township. She was left considerable property at her husband's death and is still the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of land, having given the remainder to her children. A lady of many admirable traits of character, she has become widely and favorably known and her circle of friends is very extensive.

Like most farmer boys O. K. Micenhimmer aided in the labors of the fields and performed such other farm work which falls to the lot of those reared in the country and his literary education was obtained in the local schools. Having become a thorough and practical agriculturist, he commenced farming for himself at the age of twenty-one upon land owned by his mother and two years later she gave him the place he now owns and operates, consisting of one hundred and twenty-three acres. It was a wild tract when it came into his possession, but he has converted it into a well improved farm. He follows general farming and stock-raising.

Mr. Micenhimmer was married March 7, 1894, to Miss Mary Porterfield, a daughter of William and Elizabeth Porterfield, now living in Taylorville. Her father is a native of Sangamon county, this state, but her mother was born in Ohio. Mrs. Micenhimmer is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. In his political views Mr. Micenhimmer is a stalwart Democrat and he takes quite an active interest in public affairs.

#### ROBERT NEWTON.

This well known and highly respected citizen of Rosamond township, residing on section 15, was born in Tuscarawas county, Ohio, on the 23d of November, 1846, a son of Isaac and Rachel Newton, in whose family were twelve children, six sons and six daughters. By trade the father was a cooper, but followed farming in his later years. Our subject began his education in an old time log school house with a huge fireplace at one end and furnished with plank benches, but later pursued his studies in a frame building. His boyhood and youth were passed upon the home farm.

Desiring to make for himself a home, Mr. Newton left the parental roof after attaining his majority and worked by the month and year for nine years, following various occupations during that time, including farm work and coal mining, at which he engaged for two winters in Ohio. Having saved some money he then purchased a small farm on a bluff, which he afterward sold for eighty-three dollars per acre.

It was in 1881 that Mr. Newton left Ohio and came to Illinois, first locating near Oconee, Shelby county, where he spent twelve years, renting a farm of nine hundred and sixty acres. In 1893 he removed to Christian county and settled south of his present beautiful home on section 15, Rosamond township, remaining there six months. At the end of that time he located on the farm where he now resides and has since devoted his time and energies to the improvement and cultivation of his place. In 1894 he erected a substantial barn for the storing of hay and grain and later built another barn, which is really a corncrib and carriage house combined. This building also contains a complete work shop, where he does all kinds of repairing. The old house has been set

aside for a smokehouse and has been replaced by a regular city home with all modern conveniences. It was designed by Hoffman Brothers, architects of Fillmore, Illinois, though Mr. Newton assisted in making the plans. The house is heated by hot air and furnished in a most approved manner, making it a very attractive home. In connection with general farming he is engaged in stock-raising and owns a thoroughbred Shire stallion, John Jay, a famous animal with a good record, being one of the finest types of the Shire breed in this country. His blood is of the best, among his ancestors being such famous horses as Cardinal, Heart of Oal, Glory, Honest Tom and Thumper. He is a beautiful gray with long mane and weighs twenty-two hundred pounds. In competition he always carries off the laurels, having won the first prize when on exhibition in show-rings on three different occasions when competition was strong.

At Canal Dover, Ohio, September 5, 1874, Mr. Newton was married to Miss Martha Fockler, who was born December 9, 1851, a daughter of Daniel and Tamsan (Swigert) Fockler. Her mother was born in Harrison county, Pennsylvania, January 20, 1827, and during childhood was taken by her parents to Coshocton county, Ohio, where she resided for many years. On the 15th of February, 1847, she gave her hand in marriage to Daniel Fockler, by whom she had seven children, six still living. Responding to the country's call to arms during the dark days of the Civil war her husband shouldered his musket and became a brave and faithful soldier for the Union. He enlisted in 1861 in Company B, Fifty-first Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and at the close of the war received an honorable discharge. With his comrades he started joy-

fully home, happy in the anticipation of meeting wife and little ones. He was strong and hearty and had money in his pockets for the loved ones at home. He was last seen by his comrades at Port Washington, Ohio, not far from home, but there he suddenly disappeared as if the ground had opened and swallowed him and no trace of him was ever discovered. Death at such a time would have been a terrible shock to all, but this unexplained disappearance was worse than death. With Christian fortitude the widow gathered the little ones more closely about her and devoted her life to their good. She was ever the kindest of mothers and the grief of her bereavement was hidden from them in her heart. For some years her health was not of the best, but she was tenderly cared for by her children, who appreciate what she did for them in former years. She was a faithful member of the Methodist church and was ready to go when the Master called.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Newton have been born seven children, namely: Belle, now the wife of William Drain, of Oconee, Shelby county, by whom she has two children, Mildred and Harold; Edward, at home; Florence, who died at the age of one year; Maud, Lucy and Jennie, all at home; and Ray, who died at the age of three years and two months. The children have been given good school advantages and the family is one of prominence in the community where they reside. They attend the Methodist Episcopal church, of which Mrs. Newton is a very active and prominent member, being first vice-president of the missionary board, steward of the church and Sunday-school teacher.

Mr. Newton can relate many interesting experiences of pioneer life. He well remembers when the first parlor lamps used

in Ohio were the old brass lamps. He often helped to mold and dip candles and used to polish the old brass lamp. During his boyhood and youth his clothes were mostly made of linsey woolsey and jeans. At that time the family went to camp meeting in an ox cart, the grove being lighted up at night by candles fastened to the bushes. Cooking was done over the fireplace, the kettles being suspended from a huge crane. When his parents first went to housekeeping, the cooking was done in a dugout and the bread baked in a tin reflector set in front of the fireplace. Mr. Newton has eaten corn pone baked on a board before the fire. His first plow was of the old jay kind and he cultivated his corn with a single shovel plow to which one horse was hitched. To cut his grain he used the reap hook and scythe before the cradle came into use. Things have changed very materially since those times, and Mr. Newton's farm is now supplied with the latest improved machinery and all of the conveniences and accessories of a model farm are there found. Mr. Newton is a man of exemplary habits, never using tobacco or intoxicating drinks in any form, and his life has been such as to gain for him the confidence and high regard of all with whom he has been brought in contact. In business affairs he has met with success and the prosperity that has come to him is well merited, for he started out in life for himself with no capital and by industry, perseverance and good management has worked his way upward to a position of affluence.

#### THE ASSUMPTION NEWS.

The *Assumption News* is the oldest paper in Assumption and one of the oldest in Christian county. Through neglect on the part of the founders no files were kept and the early books have been destroyed. It is

known, however, that the paper is more than twenty years old. It was first started as the *Saturday Morning Herald* and ran under this name for more than ten years. Several different men had it during this period and all records were either lost or destroyed.

The paper was purchased by Herbert E. Bixby about nine years ago and the name changed to *The Assumption News*. At the same time the publication was changed from Saturday to Thursday, Mr. Bixby feeling that this date gave his advertisers a better opportunity to reach his readers in time for their week-end trading. That this move was a wise one was proved by the circulation list, this taking an almost immediate upward jump. The advertisers also showed their appreciation by increasing their space.

The *News* remained in Mr. Bixby's possession until his death in August, 1902. It was then run by the executor of his estate, E. C. Watson, until March 17, 1903, when the paper and plant was purchased by F. W. Compton, and he, in turn, sold it to Richard D. Hebb, a young newspaper man. Mr. Hebb is a Hoosier product, having been born in Terre Haute, Indiana, and receiving his early education there. He was practically reared in a print-shop, his father, George H. Hebb, having one of the largest and best equipped offices in western Indiana. Shortly after leaving school Mr. Hebb went to work as a reporter on the *Terre Haute Tribune*, and since that time has been engaged in newspaper work in New York city, Pittsburg, Chicago and Kansas City. Immediately after taking charge of the *News*, Mr. Hebb enlarged the paper from a six to a seven column, eight page paper. The *News* has always had a reputation for reliability and conservatism that speaks well for its owners and its desirability as a good home paper.

## J. W. CAMPBELL.

J. W. Campbell, the popular postmaster of Morrisonville, is a native of Illinois, his birth having occurred in Sangamon county, 1841. His ancestors came originally from Scotland, but the family was founded in this country at an early day. His paternal grandfather was killed in the war of 1812. Abraham Campbell, our subject's father, was born in Illinois in 1811 and became a Methodist Episcopal preacher, his time being devoted to the work of the ministry from 1852 until his death in 1878. His wife bore the maiden name of Phoebe Shepard and belonged to a prominent Ohio family, in which state she was born.

Mr. Campbell, of this review, began his business career as a clerk in a drug store and later applied himself to the study of medicine, being graduated at the American Medical College of St. Louis in 1877. He engaged in the practice of his chosen profession and also conducted a drug store at Ashley, Illinois, until coming to Morrisonville in 1874. Here he has made his home continuously since and has served as postmaster most of the time, being first appointed to that position in February, 1878, by President Hayes. Being a Republican he was out of office during President Cleveland's administration, but when his party again came into power he was re-appointed, which fact plainly indicates his fidelity to the trust reposed in him and the high regard in which he is held by his fellow citizens. He takes a very active and prominent part in political affairs and is a recognized leader of his party in this part of the state. He has secured four rural routes for Christian county and in other ways has done much to promote the interests of this region. Mr. Campbell has been twice elected a member of the county board and was its chair-

man. He has also served as mayor of Morrisonville and was a member of the school board for many years. His public and private life are alike above reproach for he has always been found true to every trust reposed in him and has discharged his official duties in a most capable and satisfactory manner.

Mr. Campbell was married in 1865 to Miss Elizabeth Gill, who is a representative of an old pioneer family of Kentucky, and to them have been born the following children: Nellie, deceased; Renie; Kittie, also deceased; Fannie; and Eva, who is now serving as deputy postmaster under her father.

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CHARLES A. MONTGOMERY.

Charles A. Montgomery, one of the leading agriculturists of Mount Auburn township, has spent his entire life upon the farm on section 25 where he now resides, his birth having occurred there February 8, 1863. His parents were John and Sarah (Snider) Montgomery, the former born in Pennsylvania, May 24, 1817, the latter in Maryland, January 26, 1821. It was in 1848 that they came to Illinois, and after living elsewhere for some years they took up their residence in Christian county in 1860. Our subject's paternal grandfather, J. R. Montgomery, was born in Ireland in 1790 and when ten years of age came to this country with his mother, his father being already here.

During his boyhood and youth Charles A. Montgomery remained at home with his parents and pursued his studies in the Montgomery district school. He lived with his father until the latter's death and has since had charge of the old home place, owning one hundred and fifty-five acres of rich and arable land under a high state of cultiva-

tion. He is a progressive and energetic farmer and has met with good success in his chosen work.

Mr. Montgomery was married in 1894 to Miss Margaret Kennedy, a daughter of Malachy and Mary (O'Brien) Kennedy. Her father was a native of Ireland and came to the United States in 1843. It was in 1850 that he became a resident of Illinois. He died in 1895, and his wife passed away in August, 1892. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery: one who died in infancy; Charles L.; and B. K. and Mary, twins. Mary died when only three days old. The wife and mother is a member of the Catholic church and she and her husband are highly respected by all who know them.

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#### THOMAS H. DEVLIN.

Thomas H. Devlin is occupying the responsible position of superintendent of the Assumption Coal & Mining Company. In his boyhood days he became identified with this line of work in a most humble capacity and his advancement has come to him as the direct reward of his labor, capability and honesty. He was born in Ayresshire, Scotland, on the 20th of July, 1866, a son of Thomas H. and Margaret (Spence) Devlin. The father died in 1892 in Scotland and the mother's death occurred in Spring Valley, Illinois, in 1893. Mr. Devlin, Sr., was for many years examiner in the iron and stone mines of the Baird Company of Scotland and was filling that position at the time of his demise. In his family were six children, of whom three died in infancy. The others are Elizabeth, the wife of Joseph Warnock, of Spring Valley, Illinois; Thomas H., of this review; and Margaret, the wife of Andrew Sweninger, of Assumption.

Thomas H. Devlin attended the public schools of his native country to a limited extent, but his educational privileges were somewhat meager. After coming to America he became a student in the night schools in Spring Valley, Illinois. While still in Scotland he became connected with mining interests at the age of thirteen years. He worked in the shaft in his native country until 1881, when on the 25th of March of that year he sail for America with his mother. After reaching the new world he engaged in farming for two years and later was connected with mining operations in the Braidwood district in Will county, working in every department within the mines. He afterward became an employe of the Spring Valley Coal Company and while in that service was promoted to the position of driving boss. On the 25th of January, 1897, he accepted a position as mine manager, and in the fall of the same year he assumed the responsibility of the position which he now occupies, as superintendent of the Assumption Coal & Mining Company. In this capacity he has supervision over about two hundred workmen, of which number one hundred and forty are miners under ground. Since assuming the management he has made considerable improvement in the mines and their method of operation. He found a number of leaks and repair work was also called for in other directions. The mine, of which he has charge, is one thousand and four feet deep from the surface of the ground to the surface of the coal veins and extends three-fourths of a mile to the south and west, covering about twenty acres of territory. It is necessary to follow the valley in order to obtain the product. There is an average of from four hundred and fifty to four hundred and seventy tons of coal taken out daily and the output finds a ready

sale on the market, bringing to the mine owners an excellent financial return. Plans are now being perfected whereby mules that have been used in hauling will be superseded by electric power. The main road is operated by electricity for over twelve hundred feet from the shaft bottom. One of the largest J. M. Christy box car loaders is being placed in the plant, and a new fourteen-foot fan is also being placed in position. Throughout his entire life Mr. Devlin has been connected with mining interests, with which he is thoroughly familiar in all of the peculiar workings and his excellent qualifications well entitle him to the position which he is now acceptably filling.

In Monroe, Iowa, on the 29th of September, 1885, Mr. Devlin was united in marriage to Miss Orma E. Wood, a native of Jasper county, Iowa, and a daughter of Eli F. and Elizabeth (Fudge) Wood. The former was a native of Indiana and the latter of Pennsylvania, but both are now deceased. Mrs. Devlin belonged to a family of eight children, four of whom are yet living. She has three sisters who are married and reside in Iowa, and all their families. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Devlin have been born five children, but Archibald, the eldest, died at the age of two years and eight months. The others are Alexander, Mabel, Charles and Statia, all at home.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Devlin are members of St. Mary's Catholic church and he is a Democrat in his political affiliations. He is now a member of the library board of Assumption and is interested in all that pertains to the substantial improvement of his adopted city. He owns a pleasant home in the southwest part of the town which is the visible evidence of his life of thrift and industry. He has indeed been a busy man and from early boyhood days has labored un-

tiringly, making his way upward in the face of competition, winning advancement through ability and as the result of his close application and industry. His fellow townsmen accord him their respect by reason of what he has accomplished and his life record is a splendid illustration of the opportunities which America offers to her citizens.

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### JOHN MORAN.

John Moran, who has operated considerably in real estate and dealt in fine horses in Assumption, is also the leading retail dealer in wines, liquors and cigars. He was born in Wayne county, New York, August 12, 1852, a son of James and Nora (Donovan) Moran, the former a native of Queens county, Ireland, and the latter of County Cork, Ireland. In 1835 James Moran crossed the Atlantic to the new world on a sailing vessel, which was three months in completing that voyage, encountering severe weather and facing many perils ere reaching port in safety. He took up his abode in Canada, settling amid the forest, at a place called Brock, now the prosperous town of Brockville, Ontario. On arriving there he purchased a small tract of land and erected a little shanty around which the wolves would gather at night, howling dismally. They would often at times get upon the shanty. His sister also lived there with him and later on he sent for his younger brother. While aboard the vessel, however, this brother contracted ship fever and on reaching his destination was severely ill. James Moran lived at such a distance from a town that he took his sick brother and started in search of a physician, walking four miles in order to secure medical aid. After receiving some medicine they started on their homeward journey, but the brother soon became utterly helpless and



JOHN MORAN







JAMES MORAN



MRS. JAMES MORAN



James Moran started to carry him on his back. Long before reaching home, however, the brother died and placing him at the roadside Mr. Moran had to walk several miles in order to get a wagon in which he might haul the remains of his deceased brother home. Later the sister also died and the two members of the family lie buried side by side on the old farm in the midst of the Canadian forest. The hardships endured by the father of our subject if written in detail, would make a long chapter and one of deep interest. He had three brothers and a sister who lived to be eighty years of age or over, but all are now deceased.

About 1849 James Moran left Canada and crossed the border into the United States, going to New York. He was first employed on the Erie canal and was a very hard working man. About 1850 he met and married Miss Nora Donovan, who also crossed the ocean on a sailing vessel, being about three months on the water. In 1854 James Moran removed with his family to Illinois, settling in Christian county. He at first bought forty acres of unimproved land adjoining the corporation limits of Moweaqua. Later he purchased thirty-seven acres on the prairie in Moweaqua township, and in 1866 bought one hundred and forty-four acres in Flat Branch township Shelby county. Hard labor was required in the clearing and developing of his first tract, which was known as the Eastman farm. He had an ox team to assist him in his work and from early morning until late at night he continued the labor of clearing the fields and preparing them for the plow. All was wild and unimproved in this region at that time. Deer were to be seen in droves and there were many ducks, wild turkeys, geese, cranes and prairie chickens. Moweaqua was the only place that contained a mill and people

would go from Bloomington and other long distances to that mill, making the journey in wagon. At the beginning of the Civil war corn sold at ten cents per bushel, but ere the close of hostilities it brought one dollar per bushel. Until 1885 the father of our subject continued to engage in farming, when he determined to put aside the more active cares of business life and remove to Assumption, where he lived in honorable retirement from further labor until called to his final rest, August 18, 1901. His wife and the mother of our subject passed away April 18, 1898, and both are buried in St. Mary's Catholic cemetery. His life was one of great activity and energy and he certainly deserved great credit for what he accomplished.

Unto James and Nora Moran were born seven children: John, whose name introduces this review; Dennis, who is proprietor of a saloon in Kenney, Illinois; Mary, who died at the age of thirteen years; Kate and Bettie, who are living with their brother John; Nora, who also lives with the family; and Belle M., now the wife of Joseph Mahiot, who is proprietor of a saloon in Assumption.

John Moran has been a resident of Illinois since two years of age. In the public schools of Moweaqua and Assumption he pursued his education and was reared upon the home farm, there remaining until 1888, when he came to Assumption. Here he secured employment as a bartender and in 1891 he opened a saloon south of his present place of business. In 1892 he established a branch store in Moweaqua and in 1893 a third at Edinburg. The same year he opened his present place of business, which he has since conducted. He retails wines, liquors and cigars and conducts his establishment upon straightforward business

methods and has a well equipped saloon. In November, 1901, in company with a large number of business men of Assumption, he lost heavily through fire, but he soon rebuilt his store, erecting a fine brick block north of the Illinois State Bank.

Mr. Moran is a lover of good horses and now owns three registered roadsters, including Laura Anderson. He has also speculated to some extent in real estate and owns a half block of lots in the eastern part of the town, together with two good farms, for one of which he paid seventy dollars per acre and for the other one hundred dollars per acre. One is located in Flat Branch township, Shelby county, and the other in Assumption township, Christian county. Mr. Moran has now practically retired from business, leaving the control of his saloon to employes. He is ever ready to help in the work of improvement for the benefit of the city and he gives his political support to the Democratic party, while religiously he is connected with St. Mary's Catholic church. He is a gentleman of affable manner, genial and courteous to all.

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#### FRED WHEELER.

Fred Wheeler was born in Waterloo, New York, on the 26th of August, 1845. When he was a year old his parents removed to Beverly, Washington county, Ohio, where he was reared to manhood. At sixteen years of age he began learning photography and after two years of thorough and practical preparation he began business for himself, opening a studio in Zanesville, Ohio. From that time forward he has devoted his attention entirely to the art. From Zanesville he removed to Parkersburg, West Virginia, and the year 1877 witnessed his arrival in Taylorville, Illinois, where he opened a studio and has conducted a good business since

His studio is supplied with all modern equipments and accessories necessary for the successful conduct of his business and he keeps thoroughly in touch with the most advanced methods in photography.

On the 28th of March, 1882, occurred the marriage of Mr. Wheeler and Miss Alice Simpson, a daughter of J. L. and Isabel Simpson, of Taylorville. Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler are well known in this city and the hospitality of their home is greatly enjoyed by their many friends. He manifests an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community and is a public-spirited, progressive citizen, widely known in Christian county.

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#### FRANK L. TAYLOR.

One of the able representatives of the Christian county bar, now successfully engaged in practice at Assumption, is a native of Illinois, his birth having occurred in Blue Mound township, Macon county, November 10, 1860, and he is a representative of an old and prominent family of this state. His father, James Y. Taylor, was born at Rushville, Schuyler county, Illinois, September 9, 1819, while his father was from Kentucky. Throughout life he followed farming and became one of the prominent early settlers of Blue Mound township, Macon county, his home being on section 4. On the 19th of March, 1846, he married Miss Elizabeth Moffett, who was born in Sangamon county, this state, January 29, 1824, and died on the 1st of October, 1887. His death occurred May 5, 1804. They were the parents of seven children but only three of the number are now living, these being Frank L., whose name introduces this sketch; Charles M.; and Louisa, wife of John A. Barnes, of Storm Lake, Iowa.

John B. Moffett, our subject's maternal

grandfather, was one of the honored pioneers of Sangamon county, where he located in 1821 at a place seven miles southwest of Springfield. He was born in Bath county, Kentucky, and was married the year of his arrival in Illinois, to Miss P. C. Morgan, a native of southern Indiana, who died in 1826, leaving two children, Rebecca, and Elizabeth, the mother of our subject. After the death of his wife he worked at his trade—that of a wheelwright—for some time and being a natural mechanic was able to perform almost any labor. He next engaged in cabinet-making in Springfield and afterward turned his attention to contracting and building, the county being indebted to his architectural skill for its courthouse. The millwright's trade next claimed his attention and he erected a steam saw and flouring mill at Rushville, Schuyler county, Illinois, which was probably the first of the kind built in the military district, which is that part of the state lying between the Illinois and Mississippi rivers and was set part for the benefit of the soldiers of the war of 1812. With his family he located in Rushville the same year, having married in the meantime Miss Polly A. Taylor, a daughter of Judge Taylor of Springfield. In 1842 he located on a farm in Blue Mound township, Macon county, where he spent his remaining days, dying there in the fall of 1862. He erected the second schoolhouse in that township. For many years he was an elder in the Cumberland Presbyterian church and did much evangelistic work in his day. Pre-eminently public spirited, he never withheld his support from any object which he believed would advance the moral, social or material welfare of the community. The family to which he belonged came originally from Scotland and was of Scotch-Irish lineage.

Hon. William G. Moffett, an uncle of our subject, served as supervisor in Macon county for several terms and was elected to the state senate in 1870 and 1872. He became a member of the state board of equalization in 1876 but at the end of two years resigned that position to again take his seat in the state senate.

Reared upon a farm, Frank L. Taylor received his preliminary education in the district schools and later attended the Normal University at Valparaiso, Indiana, where he was graduated on the completion of a business course. After his return home he engaged in farming and also taught school for some time. In the fall of 1891 he accepted the appointment of deputy sheriff, which position he filled for six years and was bailiff in the circuit court for two years and a half. During these years Mr. Taylor read law and for three years was a student in the office of Judge E. P. Vail, now of Chicago. In May, 1902, he was admitted to the bar after a rigid examination and at once opened an office in the Opera House block of Decatur. Seeing a favorable opening at Assumption he removed to this place in June, 1903, and now has his office over the Illinois State Bank. Although his residence here has been of short duration, he has secured a good clientage, having already won a reputation for ability and close attention to business, which will eventually place him among the leading members of the Christian county bar.

On the 11th of September, 1884, at Boody, Illinois, Mr. Taylor was united in marriage to Miss Mary A. Herbert, a daughter of William and Mahala (Smith) Herbert. Her father was an extensive grain dealer of Macon county and of that county her paternal grandfather was a pioneer. She was born in Pleasant View township, Macon county,

December 9, 1865, and is the eldest in a family of six children. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor have two children: Ethel M., aged fourteen; and Guy C., aged thirteen. The latter was born in the same house and room, in Blue Mound township, Macon county, where his father's birth occurred. The parents are both members of the Presbyterian church and Mr. Taylor is also connected with the Modern Woodmen of America, while his political support is given the Republican party. He is a member of both the Macon County and Christian County Bar Associations and he stands high in the esteem of his professional brethren.

#### ISOM ADAMS.

More than a century ago Washington said "Agriculture is the most useful as well as the most honorable occupation of man," and this truth stands to-day as it did then. Farming also forms the basis of all business prosperity and the life of the farmer is the life of independence. Mr. Adams is to-day one of the most prominent and successful representatives of agricultural interests in Christian county, having an extensive farm in Prairieton township, his home being on section 21. He has resided here continuously since 1856, having succeeded to a portion of his father's old homestead.

Mr. Adams was born in Montgomery county, Kentucky, February 21, 1831, and is a son of Allerton and Elizabeth (Gorden) Adams, who were likewise natives of the Blue Grass state. The father was also an agriculturist and engaged in the tilling of the soil in Kentucky until 1833, when he came to Illinois. After residing for a few years in Sangamon county he came to Christian county in 1836 and took up his abode in the midst of a settlement now known as Adams Grove. There he secured a tract of

land and improved a large and valuable farm, upon which he reared his family.

Isom Adams was only five years of age when his parents permanently located in Christian county and here he has since remained. He was the eldest son and second child in a family of ten children, seven sons and three daughters, and with one exception all of these reached years of maturity.

Under the parental roof Mr. Adams of this review was reared and as his age and strength increased he assisted materially in the development of the home farm and at the same time acquired his education through attendance on the public schools. After arriving at years of maturity he sought a companion and helpmate for the journey of life and in 1851 was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Jacobs. He took his bride to the old homestead and continued to reside there for five years. In 1856 he removed to the place which he now operates and as the years have gone by and his financial resources have increased he has added to his farm from time to time until now within its boundaries there are comprised seven hundred and eighty acres of land. This is very arable and productive and his efforts have made his farm one of the best improved in the county. Much of the land when it came into his possession was wild, not a furrow having been turned or an improvement upon it, but with characteristic energy he began its development and as the years have passed he has transformed the raw tract into fields of great value and beauty.

In 1854 Mr. Adams was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died in January of that year. They had two children, one of whom died in infancy. The other was Nancy Isabel, the deceased wife of William Gorden of Macon county, Illinois. In 1858 Mr. Adams was again married, his



MR. AND MRS. ISOM ADAMS AND DESCENDANTS



second union being with Miss Lydia Bilyeu, a daughter of John Bilyeu, one of the prominent pioneer settlers of Christian county. Mrs. Adams was born in Sangamon county, Illinois, and has always lived in this state. Thirteen children have been born of the second marriage, but the two eldest are deceased: Allerton, who died in infancy; and Josiah, who passed away at the age of sixteen years. The others are: Elizabeth, the wife of George Crews; John, a well-to-do farmer of Christian county; Lucy J., the wife of James Workman; Sallie Ann, the wife of Alexander Mathews, also of this county; Virenda, the wife of Jacob Bilyeu; Wilber, a prosperous farmer of Macon county; James, also a farmer of this county; Minerva, the wife of Date Robbins, a farmer of Christian county; Thomas J., an agriculturist of this county; Malinda, the wife of Isom Bilyeu, also a farmer of this county; and Isom, who is yet at home.

Mrs. Adams is a member of the Christian church and an earnest worker in its behalf. Mr. Adams has always been known as a sincere and helpful friend of the cause of education and served for a number of years as a member of the school board, during which time he put forth every effort in his power to advance the standard of the schools. He has, however, never cared for political preferment, but has desired rather to give his time and attention to his business affairs, in which he has met with signal success. For a half century he resided in Christian county, being, therefore, numbered among its early settlers. He has witnessed its growth and improvement as the years have gone by, feeling a just pride in what has been accomplished here and as time has passed he has prospered in his business undertakings, until to-day he is one of the extensive landowners and prosperous farmers of this community.

### JOHN P. MOORE.

After years of active labor, principally devoted to agricultural pursuits, John P. Moore is now living retired in Assumption. He was born in Ohio and is a son of James and Margaret (Rodman) Moore. The former was born in Ohio, April 29, 1805, and died on the 30th of September, 1872, in Shelby county, Illinois. The latter was a native of Pennsylvania and was of Scotch-Irish descent. Her birth occurred February 27, 1796, and her death July 14, 1866. In their family were six children, three sons and three daughters, but our subject, who is the oldest of the family, is the only son now living. His brothers were W. R. and S. M. Moore, both of whom were married and left families. His sisters are Mrs. M. Padget, who resides in Rural township, Shelby county, Illinois; Mrs. C. D. Petzer, who is living in Assumption; and Mrs. Sarah Marrow, also of Rural township, Shelby county.

In his boyhood days John P. Moore accompanied his parents on their removal to Marion county, Indiana, being then but three years old. The family home was established in the midst of a forest in a country that was upon the frontier and as he grew to manhood he shared in all the hardships and privations of pioneer life. In 1864 he came to Christian county, Illinois, settling four miles northwest of Assumption, in Assumption township. He purchased one hundred and sixty acres of railroad land on section 28 and at once began its cultivation. He tiled and improved it, adding many modern equipments and to-day it is one of the choice farms of the county. Mr. Moore continued to engage in general agricultural pursuits until 1891, when he put aside business cares and is now living retired in Assumption, enjoying a competence which he earned in for-

mer years. His farm is now operated by a tenant.

On the 4th of May, 1848, Mr. Moore was united in marriage to Miss Mary J. Brauhard, who was born near Cincinnati, Ohio, December 28, 1827, and they became the parents of eight children: James M., born April 20, 1849, is mentioned below. Margaret H., born January 25, 1855, is the wife of B. J. Johnson, of Owaneco. Sarah E., born July 20, 1857, is the wife of Leo Johnson, of Assumption township. Caanthus H., born February 29, 1860, is a merchant of Pana; Albert L., born June 16, 1862, is also represented in this volume; Oliver M., born June 16, 1865, is engaged in the livery business in Assumption; and Frank E., born February 13, 1868, is a traveling salesman living in Pana.

Mr. and Mrs. Moore are earnest and consistent members of the First Presbyterian church of Assumption, in which he is serving as deacon, and they are held in high regard by all who know them. Mr. Moore cast his first presidential vote for James K. Polk and since the organization of the Republican party has been one of its staunch supporters, taking a deep interest in public affairs.

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#### ALBERT L. MOORE.

Albert L. Moore, who for a number of years was actively engaged in farming in Christian county and is now a hardware merchant of Assumption, was born in Marion county, Indiana, near the city of Indianapolis, June 16, 1862, a son of John P. and Mary J. (Brauhard) Moore. He was educated in the district schools of Assumption township and the Indiana State Normal School at Valparaiso, in which he completed a commercial course. He afterward returned to the home farm, where he engaged

in the work of the fields until the time of his first marriage. He then operated a rented farm for three years and later he purchased two hundred acres of land on section 29, Assumption township situated northwest of the town of Assumption. The place was only partially improved and he erected a substantial farm residence, other good buildings, tiled the land and carried on the work of improvement until he wrought a great change in the appearance of the place. He lived upon that farm for eight years and then removed to Assumption, where in connection with his younger brother, Oliver M. Moore, he opened a shoe store, which he conducted for four years. He then returned to his farm and while living there his first wife died.

In 1889 Mr. Moore had wedded Miss Rena B. Coonrod, and unto them were born two children, Lillie and Lena, the former now living with her maternal grandparents. Mrs. Moore died October 10, 1900, and on the 29th of October, 1902, Mr. Moore was again married, his second union being with Miss Louise Milligan, the only child of Jesse G. and Rebecca A. (Long) Milligan. The latter now resides with her daughter, Mrs. Moore. Mr. Milligan is deceased. He was a veteran of the Civil war, serving for three years in Company A, One Hundred and Fifteenth Illinois Infantry. His death resulted from a sunstroke in June, 1868. His parents were William and Eliza (Pollock) Milligan, and the former, a native of Pennsylvania, died November 7, 1850, and the latter in 1865. Samuel Milligan, now deceased, an uncle of Mrs. Moore, was one of the most prominent citizens of Taylorville. He platted five acres of ground known as Milligan's addition to Taylorville and erected thereon a number of desirable residences. Mrs. Moore was educated in the

public schools and in the Pana high school, also spent one term in study in the Cook County Normal. She devoted fourteen years of her life to teaching, one year being spent in Texas and the remainder in Christian county, doing excellent work in behalf of the schools.

In the spring of 1900 Mr. Moore sold all of his stock upon his farm and came to Assumption, where he purchased the hardware stock of T. W. McFarland, and has since been numbered among the leading merchants of this place, conducting a business which brings to him a good financial return annually. He owns one of the modern homes in the west part of the town and is a most progressive and public-spirited citizen. He is now serving as a member of the school board and he belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Fraternal Army and in these lodges, as in all other relations of life, he is held in high esteem, being a man of genuine worth, of genial disposition and cordial manner, so that he has become popular with his fellow men.

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#### JAMES M. MOORE.

James M. Moore, an enterprising farmer of Assumption township, living on section 30, is a native of Indiana, his birth having occurred in Marion county, that state, near where the city now stands. His natal day was April 20, 1849, and he is the eldest son of John P. and Mary J. (Brauhard) Moore. He was quite young when his parents removed to Illinois, and he pursued his education in the public schools of Christian county, while later he attended the university at Lincoln, Illinois. For almost a quarter of a century he was identified with educational work, teaching in the district schools of Christian and of Shelby counties for

twenty-three years. For nine years of this time he was a teacher in the home district and he gave general satisfaction because of his ability to maintain discipline and also to impart with accuracy and clearness to others the knowledge which he had acquired. He has devoted his attention exclusively to farming in recent years and formerly gave the months of summer to that work. He now owns eighty acres of land on section 29, Assumption township, just opposite his own farm, his residence being situated on section 30, Assumption township, where he has one hundred and twenty acres of good land. His farm is well tilled and improved with modern equipments and is a very rich and productive tract. Mr. Moore did all of the ditching himself. He had ears of corn in 1903 which measured fourteen inches. His grain crop annually yields about forty-five or fifty bushels per acre and in 1903 the yield was from sixty to seventy bushels to the acre. Mr. Moore has seen great changes in the methods of farming. He has cultivated corn with a single shovel plow, to which was hitched one horse. In his boyhood days he cut grain with a cradle, but as the years have advanced he has been able to secure the latest improved machinery and his work has therefore been carried on along progressive lines that have produced excellent results. His first home was destroyed by fire in 1893, but after two years he erected a modern and substantial residence and has recently also built a good barn upon his farm. He is engaged in the raising of graded stock, both horses and cattle, and he also feeds some stock.

On the 26th of September, 1877, Mr. Moore was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Clawson, who was born in Christian county, Illinois, on the 7th of April, 1858, and is a daughter of Josiah and Lucinda

(Ketchum) Clawson. Her mother is now deceased, but her father is living in Redlands, California, where he went about 1897, for the benefit of his health. He is an invalid, now seventy-four years of age, and at this writing Mrs. Moore is in California caring for him. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Moore have been born eight children, five of whom are yet living, namely: Maza, who is the wife of K. E. Bugg, a resident of Assumption township; Grace, at home; Arthur, who is a student in Millikin University, at Decatur, Illinois, having previously graduated from the district school near his home; and James and Ada, who are under the parental roof. Three of the children of the family died in infancy.

Mr. and Mrs. Moore are members of the First Presbyterian church of Assumption and in his political views he is a staunch Republican, believing firmly in the principles of the party. Since 1893 he has served as a school director in his district and the cause of education ever finds in him a warm friend, his efforts having been effective, far-reaching and beneficial in behalf of the school system of this county and in places where he has labored as a teacher. His life has been honorable and well spent and those who know him respect him for his sterling traits of character. He is a man who keeps thoroughly informed upon all public questions of the day and current events. He reads broadly and thinks deeply and is a man free in his judgments and unbiased in his decisions and yet when he believes a course to be right he never falters in his adherence to it.

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#### REV. CALEB PRICE BALDWIN.

Only those lives are worthy of record that have been potential factors in the public progress, in promoting the general welfare

or advancing the educational or moral interests of the community. As a Methodist Episcopal minister Rev. C. P. Baldwin labored untiringly for the betterment of his fellow-men and in his life span of over seventy-eight years he accomplished much, leaving behind him an honorable record well worthy of perpetuation.

Mr. Baldwin was born on the 9th of October, 1818, in Elizabethtown, New Jersey, and was the fifth child of Smith and Mary Parcels (Stiles) Baldwin. His father, who was a member of the company called Jersey Blues during the war of 1812, died of yellow fever at Elizabethtown, August 27, 1823, at the age of thirty-five years. In the spring of 1833 his widow and children accompanied her son-in-law, William M. Pruden, on his removal to Cincinnati, Ohio, where Mrs. Baldwin died on the 16th of April, 1848, at the age of sixty years.

The boyhood and youth of our subject was passed in New Jersey, being a resident of Elizabethtown ten years and of Moses Mills five years. He went with the family to Cincinnati in the spring of 1833, and early in the following fall entered upon an apprenticeship to the wagon-maker's trade with John R. Monroe, who was a devout Methodist. He remained with that gentleman two years and a half and on the 11th of August, 1834, was happily converted to God at a camp meeting northwest of Cincinnati. He united with the old Fourth Street Methodist church of that city, August 12, 1834, under the pastorate of Rev. J. M. Trimble, D. D., and Rev. Thompson, D. D., who some years later was elected bishop of the Methodist Episcopal church. In August, 1836, Mr. Baldwin removed to Alton, Illinois, by way of the Ohio river, and again entered the employ of John R. Monroe at Upper Alton as a wagon-maker. The fol-



REV. CALEB P. BALDWIN



lowing spring he purchased the business of his employer and continued the same at Middle and Upper Alton until the spring of 1844, when he removed to Godfrey, Madison county, Illinois, following the same occupation at that place until 1849.

On the 4th of March, 1841, Mr. Baldwin was united in marriage to Miss Mary McLean Pinckard, of Middle Alton, by Rev. William K. Deneen. She was the eldest daughter of William G. and Elizabeth (Warner) Pinckard, who moved from London, Ohio, arriving at Upper Alton November 20, 1818. She was educated at Monticello Seminary at Godfrey and was a very accomplished and devout Christian lady.

Mr. Baldwin was licensed to exhort by Rev. Nicholas S. Bastion, preacher in charge at Alton, and to preach by the Alton quarterly conference, Rev. Peter Cartwright, presiding elder, July 15, 1843. He was ordained deacon September 17, 1848, at Belleville, Illinois, by Rev. Thomas A. Morris and was received on probation in September, 1849, into the Illinois annual conference with the following class: Revs. William Barton, J. H. Dolson, I. Groves, J. C. Long, Joseph E. Cobby, B. Parish, J. H. H. Young, Henry Roth, J. W. Caldwell, J. S. Estep, Charles F. Jay, Jacob Miller, William Niedameyer, J. A. Robinson, W. S. Prentice, Pious McNeel, J. P. Dimmitt, Jacob Feisel, A. J. Kalb, C. P. Baldwin, M. M. Pallate, J. Schmidt and M. Reity.

Mr. Baldwin was ordained an elder at Griggsville, Illinois, September 26, 1858, by Rev. Thomas A. Morris, and filled the following appointments in this state: Whitehall during the years 1849 and 1850; Waverly, 1851-1852; Carrollton, 1853-1854; agent for the Illinois Conference Female College at Jacksonville, 1855-1856; was ap-

pointed to Warsaw in 1857 but did not fill the appointment and remained at Gillespie; Pittsfield, 1858-1859; Jacksonville circuit, 1860; Beardstown, 1861; chaplain of the One Hundred and Fourteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, 1862-1863; Mechanicsburg, 1864-1865; Middletown, 1866-1867; Pana, 1868-1869; presiding elder of the Decatur district, 1870-1871; presiding elder of the Pana district, 1872-1873; Whitehall, 1874-1875-1876; supernumerary, 1877; superannuated, 1878-1879; Grove City, 1880-1881; Pana, superannuated, 1882-1883-1884; Millersville and Dalton, 1885; Butler, 1886-1887-1888, during which period he lived in Pana; Pana, superannuated, 1889 to 1895, inclusive; assistant pastor of the First Methodist Episcopal church of Pana, 1896.

In 1872 Rev. Baldwin was elected a delegate to the general conference of the Methodist Episcopal church at Brooklyn, New York (this being the first general conference admitting lay delegates) with the following class: Revs. Hiram Buck, W. S. Prentice, W. E. Johnson, Preston Wood, Dr. Peter Akers, C. P. Baldwin, William McElfresh and lay delegates William Thomas and Joseph G. English.

Rev. Baldwin's first wife died in Pana, August 19, 1887, at the age of sixty-three years. She was a true Christian woman, a loving wife and tender mother. In her family were fourteen children, nine sons and five daughters, of whom the following survived at his death: William McLean Baldwin, Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Webb, Mrs. Lucy Ann Peters and Caleb Price Baldwin, Jr., all residents of Pana; Mrs. Abbie Pruden Bullard, of Olena, Arkansas; and Mrs. Maria Wood Heinlein and Thomas Pinckard Baldwin, both of Butler, Missouri. Mrs. Webb and Mrs. Peters are now de-

ceased. Of Rev. Baldwin's forty-one grandchildren twenty-six are living and of the great-grandchildren four survived him. On the 29th of May, 1890, he was again married, his second union being with Mrs. B. W. Wescott, of Butler, Illinois, who survives him. No children were born of that union.

For over half a century Rev. Baldwin labored earnestly in the Master's vineyard and when the summons came he was ready to respond. He died at Pana on the 14th of April, 1897, at the age of seventy-eight years, six months and five days. His funeral services were held at the First Methodist Episcopal church of that city, Friday afternoon, April 16, under the auspices of Pope Post, No. 411, G. A. R., of which he was a charter member. The members of Colonel P. G. Galvin Camp, No. 20, Sons of Veterans, and the Woman's Relief Corps, No. 190, were also in attendance. Rev. A. P. Stover, chaplain of the Illinois department of the Grand Army of the Republic, conducted the services, assisted by Rev. M. W. Everhart, of Carlinville, and Rev. C. Nash, of Jerseyville, Illinois. The other ministers present were Revs. C. P. Hard, of Rosemond; J. Jay Dugan, of Hillsboro; J. W. Waltz, of Latham; W. C. Lacy, of Nokomis; P. Michael, W. C. North, M. M. Durard, E. W. Clark, H. W. Thiel and Gerrit Snyder, all of Pana; Jesse Stout, of Assumption; W. A. Dawson, of Oconee; and Presiding Elder E. B. Randall, of Decatur. Letters were read from the officers of the Ladies' Aid Society of the Whitehall Methodist church, tendering the sympathy of the members of that church and society to the family of the departed, and also from Colonel J. F. King, of Riverton, Illinois, who was in command of the regiment of which Rev. Baldwin was chaplain during

the years 1862 and 1863 of the Civil war. Rev. Stover spoke of the personal friendship and high esteem in which Chaplain Baldwin was held by General William T. Sherman, who appointed him to take charge of the United States mail of his command while in the rear of Vicksburg. He also referred to a personal inquiry by General Sherman as to the welfare and whereabouts of Chaplain Baldwin only a few years prior to the General's death.

Rev. Baldwin was a man among men. He was one of the best ministers and citizens; a man of inestimable moral worth; a true patriot; a high-minded man, whom to know was to admire and respect. Such is Father Baldwin's record and it is most certainly a remarkable one and well may his relatives and hundreds of friends feel justly proud of it.

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#### W. M. & C. P. BALDWIN.

The well-known firm of Baldwin & Baldwin, of Pana, is composed of two brothers, William McLean and Caleb Price Baldwin, who as real estate, insurance and loan agents have an office at No. 102 Locust street. They are wide-awake, energetic and progressive business men and have met with most excellent success during their residence in Pana. Both gentlemen are natives of Illinois, William M. having been born in Upper Alton, September 13, 1843, and Caleb P. in Carrollton, June 15, 1856. They are sons of Rev. C. P. Baldwin, whose sketch precedes this. Their maternal great-grandfather was Rev. Nathaniel Pinckard, who as a missionary accompanied Bishop Coke to Africa and was with him at the time of his death. His wife bore the maiden name of Lucy Greene and was a sister of General Nathaniel Greene, of Revolutionary fame.

Their father being a Methodist minister, the brothers lived at various places during their boyhood and youth. They were principally educated in the public schools of this state, although William was for one year a student at Wesleyan University in Bloomington, Illinois. Like many other young men at that time he left school to enter the army, enlisting on the 25th of August, 1861, as a private in Company K, Second Illinois Cavalry, with which he served for three years, rendering his country valiant and faithful service although he had not yet attained his majority when discharged, August 31, 1864, as sergeant. From 1866 until 1889 he resided at Gillespie, Illinois, being engaged in farming most of the time. In the spring of the latter year he came to Pana, where he opened an insurance office nine years ago in partnership with William M. Warren. This connection was dissolved five years later and the firm of Baldwin & Baldwin was formed. After entering upon his business career, C. P. Baldwin, Jr., followed mercantile pursuits for a few years, and subsequently was in the employ of railroad companies for twelve years, being traveling freight agent the last five years. He has made his home in Pana since 1892. The firm represents the Equitable Life Assurance Society of New York, also fire, tornado, plate glass, burglary, fidelity, employers' and public liability, accident, health, disability and steam boiler insurance companies, and makes a specialty of buying, selling and exchanging farm lands and city real estate.

On the 29th of January, 1868, at Gillespie, Illinois, William M. Baldwin was united in marriage to Miss Emma Jane Chandler, who died in Pana, February 27, 1901. Of the nine children born of that union, five are still living, namely: Mary

E., Emma Ann, Mrs. Lucy M. Hitchcock, George L. and Thomas P., all residents of Pana. Mr. Baldwin was again married November 25, 1902, at Pittsfield, Illinois, his second union being with Miss Ella Webb Mudd, the only child of Colonel John J. Mudd, of the Second Illinois Cavalry, who was killed in battle May 3, 1864.

For eighteen years William M. Baldwin has been a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and is past commander of Pope Post, No. 411, Department of Illinois. He has also been adjutant of the same post for more than ten years and has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal church from boyhood. Politically both he and his brother are identified with the Republican party. Public-spirited and enterprising, they take an active interest in the upbuilding and advancement of their adopted city and county and they stand high in both business and social circles.

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#### C. S. BURDICK.

C. S. Burdick is identified with the farming interests of Christian county and is one of the native sons of this locality, his birth having occurred within the borders of the county in 1868. He is a son of C. D. and Isabella (Shaw) Burdick, who were natives of Connecticut and Ireland, respectively, and were married on the 16th of February, 1865. To them were born five children, one of whom died in infancy and Mary, the oldest, died at the age of thirty-four years. It was in 1838 that C. D. Burdick emigrated westward and settled in Christian county, Illinois. In this state he engaged in teaching school until thirty-five years of age and then turned his attention to farming. He assisted in the pioneer development of this portion of the state and is numbered among

the honored early residents who laid broad and deep the foundation for the present prosperity and progress of the county. For several terms he served as supervisor of his township, was also school treasurer for a number of years, and he never failed in the performance of any public duty that tended to enhance the welfare of his district. He died in the year 1880, while his wife passed away in 1875.

C. S. Burdick was only eleven years of age when left an orphan. During his boyhood he attended the public schools and when not engaged in the duties of the school-room his attention was largely given to the work of the home farm. He assisted in the labors of field and meadow until twenty-one years of age, when he began farming on his own account upon the eighty acres of land that he now owns and occupies. This farm has been his home continually since and its well improved condition is due to his diligence and laudable ambition.

In 1894 Mr. Burdick was united in marriage to Miss Maggie J. Gray, who was born in Madison county, Illinois, and moved to Christian county with her parents. For some years her father, R. A. Gray, was one of the leading farmers of Mosquito township, this county, but is now living a retired life and makes his home in Blue Mound, Macon county. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Burdick have been born four children, namely: Edna, who died at the age of five months; Iva G., now six years of age; Charles R., four years old; and Mary E., who died of scarlet fever January 20, 1904, at the age of seven months and ten days.

Mr. and Mrs. Burdick hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, are deeply interested in its success and take an active part in its upbuilding. He exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and

measures of the Republican party and while he keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day he has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking. He has, however, served as school director in his district and fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America.

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#### WADE F. JOHNSON.

Wade F. Johnson, one of the most extensive landowners of Christian county, was born in St. Clairsville, Belmont county, Ohio, on the 13th of September, 1828, his parents being Benjamin J. and Elizabeth (Foote) Johnson. His father was a native of London, England, born June 8, 1799, and the mother's birth occurred in County Cork, Ireland, in 1802. The father emigrated to America in 1823 and in early life he learned the cabinet-maker's trade, which he followed in Baltimore, Maryland, for a few years. He afterward removed to Ohio, first locating in St. Clairsville, Belmont county, whence he afterward went to Guernsey county, Ohio, where he again worked at cabinet-making for several years. While in Belmont county, he was married, in 1826, to Miss Elizabeth Foote, who had come to America in the same year in which her husband had crossed the Atlantic. In 1849 they removed to Illinois, settling in Greene county, where Mr. Johnson and his sons entered into a partnership with a Mr. Harding and engaged in farming and stock-raising for ten years. In 1860 Mr. Johnson came to Christian county and made a permanent location upon the homestead farm, on which his son Wade is now living. There he spent his remaining days, his death occurring in January, 1876, when he was seventy-seven years of age. His wife survived him for many years and died March 12, 1891, at the





WILLIAM L. MARTHA AND WADE F. JOHNSON



MRS. ELIZABETH FOOTE JOHNSON



age of ninety years. By this marriage there were born seven sons and two daughters, all of whom reached years of maturity. The eldest, Robert G., was born in Belmont county, Ohio, March 10, 1827, and died in 1900. Wade F. is the second of the family. Margaret died in 1878. Edward, who was a member of the firm of Johnson Brothers, married and died in 1882. Martha is now acting as housekeeper for her brother Wade. Walter was married and died in 1890. William L. is living on the old homestead. Benjamin is married and is a well-to-do farmer of Owaneco. Leo completes the family.

The firm of Johnson Brothers originally comprised the father and seven sons and the daughters were also financially interested in business. They bought a farm and raised stock, carrying on an extensive business for a number of years. As the sons married, however, they withdrew their interests from the firm and the present partners are Wade F., Martha and William L. Johnson. Two of the brothers of the family, Edward and William, enlisted for service during the Civil war as members of Company G, One Hundred and Sixteenth Illinois Infantry, in 1862, and served until the close of the war. They were with Sherman in some of his campaigns and took part in the operations around Atlanta and the march from that city to the sea. Another brother, Benjamin, enlisted May 14, 1864, for one hundred days' service, becoming a member of the One Hundred and Forty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was with the army for five months. Wade F. Johnson furnished a substitute when drafted.

In the public schools of Guernsey county, Ohio, Wade F. Johnson acquired his early education. The school building was erected of brick and was furnished in the primitive manner of the times, having a large fireplace

at one end of the room. School was conducted on a subscription plan, each pupil having to pay one dollar and a half per quarter. In the same school Nathan Bentz, afterward senator from Virginia, was also a student. On putting aside his text-books Mr. Johnson started out for himself and journeyed by stage across Ohio and Indiana, making his way to Greene county, Illinois, where he became superintendent of a farm of two thousand acres. He arrived in June, 1849, after eight days spent upon the road. The trip at the present time would be accomplished in about that number of hours. In 1858 Wade F. Johnson came to Christian county, where he hired five ox-teams and broke the first half section of land in the old homestead. From Assumption he hauled the lumber across all the sloughs in order to build a home. During the season it rained almost continually and, in fact, was the rainiest period ever known in the history of this state. After placing three hundred acres of his land under cultivation he rented his farm and returned to Greene county. In 1860, however, he made a permanent location on section 21, Assumption township, taking up his abode at his present home. The first part of the building was erected in 1855, the north part in 1866 and the east section in 1877. Mr. Johnson joined his father and brothers in the formation of the firm before they made the purchase and he has since continued as one of the leading farmers and stock-raisers of the county. Associated with his younger brother, he is now engaged in the raising of stock, handling about one hundred and thirty-five head of full-blooded stock annually. The corn crop yields from forty to sixty bushels of corn and in 1900 thirty thousand bushels of corn were sold from the farm. In 1902 two thousand bushels of corn from a tract of

seventy-five acres were sold. Oats average about thirty bushels to the acre. The old homestead farm, comprising six hundred acres, has been placed under cultivation entirely by Wade F. Johnson and other members of the family. Every tree upon the place has been planted by them and there are now numerous fine specimens of maple and other forest trees. There is one maple nine and a half feet in circumference, which was planted after the war, and a cottonwood measuring twelve and a half feet in circumference was planted in 1860. When Mr. Johnson arrived in this county he found it largely a tract of wild prairie. Deer were still occasionally seen and ducks, geese, cranes, brants and prairie chickens were plentiful. When but a small lad Mr. Johnson planted an acre and a half to corn and cared for the crop until it was harvested. He to-day owns ten hundred and eighty acres of rich land almost all in one body and in partnership with his brothers has several thousand acres of land. For five years he was president of the Assumption Fire Insurance Company and at the same time was its treasurer and is now the vice president of the Illinois State Bank at Assumption.

Mr. Johnson has been largely instrumental in the building of roads in Assumption township. He was the first commissioner of the township and was re-elected for three terms. For forty-two years he has served as school trustee and in the early days the Johnson family erected the school upon the home farm west of the house, furnishing the money for this purpose and giving an acre of ground. He served for ten consecutive years as highway commissioner, during which time eighty miles of township roads were laid out and opened on the section lines. He has also been township trustee for several years and he cast his first

presidential vote for Fillmore. Most of the furnishings in his house are the handiwork of his father, who was an able mechanic in his day. He cares nothing for the modern improvements or for changes, but finds comfort in his home, which is substantially built and supplied with furniture of good workmanship. The old fireplace which was built is still in use.

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#### OSCAR H. PADDOCK.

Oscar H. Paddock is one of the honored citizens of Christian county who has passed the seventy-third milestone on life's journey. For many years he has been prominently identified with the commercial interests of this section of the state and is still at the head of the O. H. Paddock Lumber Company which has yards at various places. The firm also has a store in Pana, where they do a large business as dealers in hardware and house furnishing goods. Mr. Paddock's career has ever been such as to command the respect and confidence of his fellow men and he is always mentioned among the invaluable citizens of Christian county.

A native of Vermont, he was born in Woodstock, Windsor county, June 22, 1830, and is a son of Ormond and Harriet Emmons (Howland) Paddock. On the maternal side he is descended from John Howland, the last survivor of that little band of Pilgrims who came to this country in the Mayflower in 1620. The Paddocks were of Welsh origin. During the boyhood of our subject he accompanied his parents on their removal to Iowa county, Wisconsin, locating near a new place called Peddlans Creek, now Linden. As his father was a farmer by occupation he was reared to agricultural pursuits and received but a limited education in the country schools near his home. He

was the only son in a family of four children and he assisted his father in the operation of the farm until seventeen years of age, when he went to Mineral Point, Wisconsin, and attended school for six months.

In the spring of 1847 Mr. Paddock began his business career as a clerk in a store at Mineral Point and subsequently became part owner. After several years had passed this partnership was dissolved and he went to old Fort Hamilton, becoming bookkeeper and buyer for a grain dealer whose mill was at Argyle, about three miles from Fort Hamilton. About this time the Illinois Central Railroad was built through Jo Daviess county, Illinois, and he removed to Warren, where he was engaged in the grain business with W. K. Underhill for two years or more. Mr. Paddock was next in the employ of the Illinois Central Railroad as local agent at Nora until the outbreak of the Civil war, and in 1863 came to Pana in the same capacity, holding the position of agent at this place until 1876. At that time he embarked in the hardware and agricultural implement business on Locust street and five years later in partnership with his eldest son embarked in the lumber business under the firm name of O. H. Paddock & Son, but in 1890 when the business was incorporated the name was changed to the O. H. Paddock Lumber Company. The firm has met with most excellent success and now own lumber yards at various places and are extensive dealers in hardware and house furnishing goods, the latter business being under the management of Charles O. Paddock, a well known citizen of Pana. Besides their business property they have between five and six hundred acres of farming land in Pike county, Illinois. Our subject is now president of the Pana Building Association, an enterprise which has proven of marked value in the improve-

ment and development of the city. In business affairs, he is prompt, energetic and notably reliable and generally carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes.

On the 22nd of December, 1852, Mr. Paddock was united in marriage to Miss Ann Threadgold, who was a native of Sheffield, England, and on her emigration to the United States became a resident of Wisconsin. By this union thirteen children were born, as follows: Fred O., now an extensive grain dealer of Toledo, Ohio; Harriet E., wife of Charles W. Tomlinson, the division general freight agent for the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company at Cincinnati, Ohio; Frank, who died at the age of twenty-eight years; Mary, a resident of Pana; Porter, who is connected with the law firm of The Paddock, Johnson & Company at Toledo, Ohio; John H., who is in the wholesale grocery business at Toledo, Ohio, as a member of the firm of Paddock, Overmyer & Company; Charles Oscar, who is in the hardware business at Pana; Clara Augusta, wife of Rev. Gerrett Snyder, pastor of the Presbyterian church of Pittsburg, Kansas; Joseph W., who is in the lumber business at Pana and is represented on another page of this volume; Cornelia A., wife of Freeman Butts, assistant postmaster at Pana; Robert Terry, who is manager of the business of the O. H. Paddock Lumber Company at Nokomis; one daughter who died in infancy; and Alma R., who died at the age of three years. The mother of these children, who was a faithful member of the Presbyterian church and a most estimable lady, died on the 10th of November, 1895, and was laid to rest in Linwood cemetery.

Mr. Paddock's paternal grandfather, Apollos Paddock, was enrolled as one of the minute men at the age of sixteen years

and served throughout the war for independence, while his brother Gaines was eighteen years of age when he entered the service. With the blood of Revolutionary heroes flowing in his veins our subject could not remain inactive when the Union was threatened and although he was unable to enter the army, having lost the sight of one eye, he assisted in organizing companies and did all in his power to insure the successful termination of the war. His political support is given the men and measures of the Republican party and he has been prominently identified with municipal affairs, serving as councilman, school director and police magistrate. He is still filling the last named office in a most creditable and satisfactory manner, his decisions being unbiased by either fear or favor. During his long residence in Pana he has championed every movement designed to promote the general welfare, has supported every enterprise for the public good, and has materially aided in the advancement of all social, educational and moral interests. He is now living in practical retirement, having by a useful and well spent life gained a comfortable competence as well as the respect and esteem of all who know him.

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#### CHARLES G. LOVERING.

Charles G. Lovering makes his home on section 32, Assumption township. He is not, however, actively engaged in farming, but practically lives retired. He devoted many years to educational work and his efforts in behalf of the schools have been of marked benefit. He is a native of New Hampshire, his birth having occurred on the 8th of March, 1827. He has, therefore, passed the seventy-fifth mile-stone on life's journey and now he can look back over the

past without regret because his has been an honorable and straightforward career. He is a grandson of Theophilus Lovering, who was a Revolutionary soldier, serving throughout the war, his valor and meritorious conduct in the field of battle winning him official rank. After that war he became a colonel in the state militia, acting in that capacity during the old training days. The parents of our subject were Gilman and Sarah (Stephens) Lovering, both of whom were natives of New Hampshire, and spent their entire lives in that state. In their family were six children, all of whom reached years of maturity. The father of our subject was a drum major in the war of 1812.

Charles Lovering obtained his early education in the village schools and later attended the academies at Kingston and at Northfield, New Hampshire, in which institutions he prepared for advanced study. He then matriculated in Dartmouth College, in which he spent two years. His collegiate course, however, was interrupted by a severe attack of brain fever, which forced him to leave school and return to his home. After his recovery Mr. Lovering engaged in teaching school in New Hampshire and in Massachusetts prior to his removal to the west. On coming to Illinois he first established his home in Greene county and he also continued teaching in Pike and Scott counties. In 1860 he came to Christian county and secured a position as teacher in a district school, while later he was connected with the town schools of this county.

In October, 1864, Mr. Lovering offered his aid to his country, enlisting as a member of Company B, Twentieth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was on detached service, but took part in the battle of Nashville, Tennessee, and was honorably discharged at Louisville, Kentucky, on the 16th of June,





CHARLES G. LOVERING



MRS. C. G. LOVERING



1865. At the close of the war he returned to Christian county, Illinois, where he engaged in general farming and also taught school in Assumption for two winters. He then settled upon the farm where he now resides, but has never been very actively engaged in farm work.

On the 30th of September, 1858, in the city of Decatur, Illinois, Mr. Lovering was united in marriage to Miss Rachel Sleeper, a native of New Hampshire, born on the 21st of February, 1829. Her parents were James and Susan (Cox) Sleeper, the former a native of the old Granite state and the latter of Vermont. Mrs. Lovering pursued her education in Hampton Academy and was also a school teacher, following that profession before she attained the age of eighteen years. He taught both in the east and in Illinois. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Lovering have been born four children: Carrie, now the wife of W. S. Leavitt, of Manchester, New Hampshire, by whom she has two sons, Charles and Arthur; Ella S., who died in 1903; George Q., who married Mary Coonrod and died leaving two children, Glenn and Clara; and Harriet, who has been a successful school teacher of Assumption township. She was educated at the State Normal University and is a graduate of the class of 1899. She then began teaching school and has since followed that profession.

Mr. Lovering has seen great changes in Christian county during his long residence, in this state. When he came to the west wild game of various kinds was plentiful. There were many deer together with ducks, cranes, geese and brants. Prairie wolves were also numerous and there were many indications that this portion of the country was yet a frontier region. The first house in which Mr. Lovering lived was a story and

a half frame structure, but it was destroyed by a cyclone about 1867 at nine o'clock in the evening. Mr. Lovering, his wife and their two children were in bed in the west part of the house. The wind came from the west and carried off the roof of the house, depositing it in the garden. None of the family were hurt, although they were greatly frightened and it was an event in their lives that will never be forgotten. There were many strange and almost incredible incidents which happened in connection with that storm. A woman was seen standing about a mile and a half northeast of the Lovering home with a light in her hand. The cyclone also struck her house and much of it was blown away, but left her standing in the position in which she was first seen, the floor remaining. Immediately Mr. Lovering rebuilt his house, erecting a one-story home. About 1888 he built his present comfortable residence which is situated a quarter of a mile west of the main road and in the midst of a fertile tract of land of forty acres in section 32, Assumption township. Here he has resided continuously since the Civil war. He is one of the best informed men of the county. Both he and his wife were popular and successful school teachers and have always kept up their reading, thus being in touch with the progress of the world in its advanced thought, action and invention.

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#### WILLIAM DE WOLF.

One of the most progressive and energetic agriculturists of Assumption township is William De Wolf, whose home is on section 16. He was born in Delaware county, Ohio, July 12, 1845, and is a son of Chauncy and Elizabeth (Rhoades) De Wolf, natives of Connecticut and Virginia, respec-

tively. Extended mention is made of the family in the sketch of Joseph De Wolf on another page of this volume. Our subject was educated in the public schools of his native county and was reared on a farm. In 1871 he accompanied his parents on their removal to Christian county, Illinois, and in connection with his father he engaged in farming on rented land for a few years.

Having accumulated some capital Mr. De Wolf purchased his present farm in Assumption township in 1876. It then consisted of one hundred and twenty acres of only partially improved land with a small old house upon it. He has drained the land and placed it under excellent cultivation; has set out an orchard; erected a nice cozy farm residence in 1883; and also built good and substantial outbuildings. He and his wife have worked hard to acquire a competence and as success has attended their well directed efforts he has been able to add another eighty-acre tract to his farm, so that he now has two hundred acres of rich and arable land, well tiled, fenced and thoroughly improved. Besides this property he also owns one hundred and seventy acres of good land in Texas, which brought him a nice income last year. Since 1888 Mr. De Wolf has given considerable attention to stock, purchasing at that time an imported stallion which he kept for several years. He raises Shire horses and a good grade of shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs, his place affording excellent pasturage for his stock. His corn crop yields on an average forty bushels to the acre but he has raised as high as eighty bushels to the acre from forty acres of land and in 1903 his crop averaged fifty bushels to the acre.

In Shelby county, Illinois, March 31, 1876, Mr. De Wolf wedded Miss Mary C. Cochran, a daughter of Isaac Cochran, who

was from Tennessee. Her mother who bore the maiden name of Nancy Henry, died when Mrs. De Wolf was quite small. The children born to our subject and his wife are as follows: Bertha, a popular school teacher of Stonington township, this county; Charles, who is married and resides in Chicago, where he is serving as bookkeeper, though he formerly engaged in school teaching; Lucy and John C., who have also taught school but are now attending the State Normal at Charleston; Donald J., a student at the same institution; and William and Stella, who are pursuing their studies in the district school. The children have been given good educational advantages and the three at normal will graduate with the class of 1904. All were born on the home farm in Assumption township.

The family attend the Christian church, of which Mrs. De Wolf is a member and an active worker and the children also belong to the church. In politics Mr. De Wolf is a Democrat and is one of the standard bearers of his party in his community. He takes an active interest in public affairs and has served as township trustee seven years and school director about nine years. Public-spirited and progressive, he never withholds his support from any object which he believes will promote the welfare of his township or county along any line. For twenty-seven consecutive years he has lived upon his present place and has not only witnessed the many changes that have taken place in that time but has aided materially in its advancement and upbuilding.

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#### JOHN SIMPSON.

For thirty-seven years John Simpson has been identified with the agricultural interests of Christian county and now owns and

operates a nice farm on section 9, Rosamond township. He is a native of Ohio, his birth having occurred in Harrison county, that state, January 13, 1836, and he is a son of Mathew and Susan (Orr) Simpson and a grandson of John and Margaret Simpson. The grandfather, who was a farmer by occupation, had seven children, four sons and three daughters, all of whom married and reared families of their own. Mathew Simpson, our subject's father, was one of the pioneers of Harrison county, Ohio, and there he continued to make his home until 1838, when he removed to Pike county, Illinois, that being his home throughout the remainder of his life. He followed general farming and died at the age of seventy years. His wife departed this life in 1860. Of the seven children born to them, five reached maturity, these being John, Margaret Jane, Mary, Isabel and Thomas, but our subject is now the only survivor. All were married and had families. Thomas was killed by being thrown from a horse.

John Simpson was only two years old when brought by his parents to Illinois and he was reared and educated in Pike county, this state, when that region was largely wild and unimproved. During his boyhood he assisted in the work of the home farm and later learned the carpenter's trade but has made farming his chief occupation. It was in 1866 that he removed from Pike to Christian county and became the owner of his present farm in Rosamond township. He had previously operated rented land. As the years have gone by he has prospered in his work and besides his farm he now owns town property in both Rosemond and Stonington.

On the 6th of October, 1859, in Pike county, Mr. Simpson was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Pence, who was born in

Preble county, Ohio, July 26, 1830, a daughter of Jacob and Julia (Berousman) Pence. In early life she removed with her parents to Pittsfield, Pike county, Illinois, where she made her home until her marriage. After many years of happy married life she passed away on the 26th of October, 1901, at the age of seventy-one years and three months. In 1857 she united with the Methodist Episcopal church and was a consistent member of that denomination up to the time of her death. She was a loving wife and tender mother and was beloved by all who knew her. A kind and helpful neighbor, she was always ready to help in time of sickness and trouble.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Pence were born the following children: A. P., the eldest, married Rose Cochran, who died leaving two sons, George and Thomas, and he subsequently wedded Mrs. Lydia (Parkinson) Barrett, by whom he has one daughter, Mildred May. The second child of our subject died in infancy. Wilda May, the youngest, is the wife of Reuben Sollday, of Stonington, and they have four children: Deborah, Horace, Reuben and Monroe Dale.

The Republican party finds in Mr. Simpson a stalwart supporter of its principles and for four years he filled the office of tax collector in his township. As a public spirited citizen he gives his support to every measure which he believes will promote the general welfare and he is regarded as one of the leading men of his community.

#### LLOYD BROTHERS.

Among the progressive and enterprising business men of Morrisonville should be numbered C. B. and J. F. Lloyd, who constitute the firm of Lloyd Brothers, now so successfully engaged in the livery business at that place. Both were born on a farm

in Morgan county, this state. Their father was James Lloyd, who came to Christian county at an early day and throughout the remainder of his life was successfully engaged in farming about three miles from Morrisonville. He died at the age of seventy-one years, honored and respected by all who knew him.

C. B. and J. F. Lloyd spent their early life upon the home farm, which they now own, and for the past four years they have given considerable attention to the buying and selling of horses and cattle, which business they have found quite remunerative. In April, 1903, they also embarked in the livery business at Morrisonville, purchasing a barn which they are at present enlarging and which when completed will be the largest livery stable in the county, the main building being ninety-four by one hundred feet and the rear addition fifty by sixty feet. They keep about fifteen good horses and all the necessary buggies, carriages, etc., needed in their business. They also run a feed stable in connection with their livery and have a sale department as they still engage in buying and shipping both horses and cattle. They are wide-awake, energetic business men and are meeting with marked success in these undertakings.

C. B. Lloyd married Miss Emeline Hill, and to them has been born a daughter, Elsie. Both brothers are members of the Presbyterian church and the Knights of Pythias Lodge of Morrisonville, and have the respect and confidence of all with whom they come in contact either in business or social life.

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#### WARREN CORZINE.

Success comes not to the man who idly waits but to the faithful toiler whose work is characterized by intelligence and force

and has the foresight and sagacity to know when, where and how to exert his energies. Thus it happens that only a small portion of those who enter the world's broad field of battle come off victors in the struggle for wealth and position. Some lack perseverance, others business sagacity and still others are dilatory and negligent, but the record of Mr. Corzine proves that he possesses all the requisite qualities necessary to cope with the complex conditions of the business world. He has been identified with a number of prominent enterprises in Christian county and has so directed his labors that he is now accounted one of the prosperous and respected citizens of the community.

Mr. Corzine is a native of Guernsey county, Ohio, born January 24, 1857. His parents, Allen and Mary Ann (Warren) Corzine, had a family of six sons and three daughters, of whom he is the sixth in order of birth. His great-grandfather, John Corzine, was a native of Holland and was a young man on his emigration to the United States. He was an officer in the war of 1812 and was killed in that struggle. At one time he owned sixty acres of land along Wall street, New York city. Our subject's grandfather, John Corzine, Jr., died in 1870 while visiting his son in this county. The father of our subject was born in Pennsylvania in 1816 and in early life went to Guernsey county, Ohio, where he purchased a tract of wild land. There he was married to Miss Mary Ann Warren, who was born in that county in 1819, of German ancestry, and they continued to make their home there until 1868, which year witnessed their arrival in Christian county, Illinois. Allen Corzine purchased one hundred and sixty-five acres of land in Assumption township and engaged in agricultural pursuits for a number of years, after which he took up his



WARREN CORZINE



abode in Assumption, where he lived retired until his death in August, 1901. In politics he was a Republican, but never cared for office, and in religious belief was a Presbyterian, his wife being a member of the same. She passed away in April, 1901. They were held in high regard by all who knew them and had a host of warm friends throughout the county.

Through the period of his boyhood and youth Warren Corzine worked on his father's farm in the summer season and during the winter months attended school. He was thus trained to habits of industry and throughout his entire career his life has been characterized by energy and persistency of purpose. For a short time after leaving home he rented a farm and later he became the owner of a tract of land near Douglas, in Otoe county, Nebraska, upon which he lived for one year. He then returned to Christian county and was engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1888, when he sold his property in Nebraska, in order to concentrate his interests here, and removed to Stonington, where for many years he was actively connected with commercial interests. For a long period he was connected with the lumber and coal trade, and in fact became the leading representative of that line of trade in the town, his sales reaching a large annual figure. He was prominent in securing the option on the coal right for the Christian County Coal Company on twelve hundred acres of land. Mr. Corzine also became half owner of a general mercantile store, but has disposed of both of these interests, selling the lumber and coal yard in 1903. In 1900 he became president of the First National Bank of Stonington and is still one of its directors. After disposing of his lumber yard he took a trip through Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, New York,

Canada, Missouri, Kansas, Indian Territory and Texas. He is now the treasurer of the Illinois Grain & Oil Company, owning fifty-five hundred acres of land in southeastern Kansas. He laid out the Corzine & Boll addition to the town of Stonington, built thereon a number of houses, and has since sold them and the town lots, securing a good financial return from his investment. He owns one brick business block there and also an interest in three others. At the present time he is not actively connected with the management of any business enterprise, giving his attention merely to the supervision of his invested interests.

In October, 1881, Mr. Corzine was united in marriage to Miss Emma Burdick, who was born in this county in July, 1863. Her father, Miner Burdick, was a native of Stonington, Connecticut, and was a member of the colony that founded Stonington, Illinois. Being a well educated man, he engaged in teaching school for some years. In politics he was a Republican. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Rebecca Boyd, was a native of Christian county, Kentucky, and was also an early settler of this county. She died in 1870, and he departed this life in 1887. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Corzine were born the following children: Maud E., who is a graduate of the Stonington high school of the class of 1902; Charles W., who is now a student in Barnes Medical College of St. Louis, Missouri; Jesse M., who is now in his second year in the Illinois University at Champaign; and Lutie Pearl and Edith, who are students in the high school of Stonington.

Mr. Corzine is a member of the Presbyterian church, while his wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. In politics he is a stanch Republican and for ten years has either been a trustee or the presi-

dent of the board of Stonington. As a school director he has done much to further the interests of education and was serving at the time the present schoolhouse was built. The welfare of Stonington is dear to his heart and his efforts in its behalf have been helpful, beneficial and far-reaching.

#### DENNIS KEATING.

Dennis Keating is one of the worthy citizens of Christian county that Ireland has furnished to the new world and he is to-day successfully engaged in farming and stock-raising on section 17, Assumption township. He was born in County Cork, Ireland, March 10, 1850, a son of Michael and Johanna (Barry) Keating, who spent their entire lives in County Cork. Of their eight children seven reached man and womanhood and four of the number are now living in America, our subject having two sisters in Chicago and one in Jacksonville, Morgan county, Illinois.

Mr. Keating was reared and educated in his native land, his boyhood and youth being passed upon a farm. Emigrating to the United States, he landed in New York on the 4th of April, 1868, and after working on a farm in the Empire state for a short time he proceeded to Jacksonville, Morgan county, Illinois, in 1869. He was then engaged in farming between that city and Virginia, Cass county, until February, 1877, when he removed to Assumption township, Christian county, spending one year near the city of Assumption. At the end of that time he removed to a farm near Radford, where he spent nine years, and then located on his present place in Assumption township. After renting for fourteen years he purchased the farm, which was only partially broken when he took up his residence

thereon and the only improvement was a small house. He has since ditched and tiled the land and converted it into a good farm. It comprises two hundred acres and in connection with its cultivation he operates a rented tract of one hundred and sixty acres. Eighty acres of his land is devoted to pasturage and the remainder is under cultivation. His corn crop usually averages forty bushels to the acre but in 1903 it amounted to sixty bushels to the acre. Most of that which he raises he feeds to his stock as he is quite extensively engaged in the raising of Hereford cattle, Shire horses and Poland China hogs, having about eighty head of cattle upon his place and over one hundred and thirty hogs. His wife takes great delight in her fine poultry, having a nice collection of Plymouth Rocks, Brahmas and Indian game chickens. They have labored untiringly to secure a home and competence and well deserve the success that has crowned their combined efforts.

On the 20th of December, 1873, in Virginia, Cass county, Illinois, Mr. Keating married Miss Ellen Dougherty, who was born in County Londonderry, Ireland, November 3, 1852, and is a daughter of Michael and Ellen (McVey) Dougherty, life-long residents of that country. Mr. and Mrs. Keating have a family of nine children, all well and hearty, their names and dates of birth being as follows: John, January 1, 1875; Mary, December 19, 1876; Edward, January 8, 1879; Thomas, October 15, 1880; Anna, January 22, 1883; Nellie, November 4, 1884; Dennis, Jr., January 4 1887; Theresa, January 29, 1889; and Emma, June 29, 1892. All are at home with the exception of John, who is single and lives in Sioux county, Iowa; and Edward, who married Anna Brule and resides in South Dakota.

The parents and children are members

of St. Mary's Catholic church of Assumption, which Mr. Keating helped to organize and of which he was one of the trustees for some time, and the family is one of prominence in the community where they reside. Mr. Keating has seen this region transformed from a wild, unsettled tract into fine farms occupied by a contented and happy people. When he first located here ducks and other wild game were quite plentiful and furnished many a meal for the early settlers. At that time much of the land was covered with ponds and sloughs and the farmers often were unable to raise enough grain to feed their stock. Mr. Keating aided materially in the making of the roads in his locality, serving as highway commissioner in his township for six years. He now holds the office of school director and is a staunch supporter of the Democratic party and its principles.

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#### WILLIAM WIDICK.

Among the honored citizens of Christian county whose lives have been devoted to agricultural pursuits must be numbered William Widick, who owns and operates a fine farm of two hundred and sixty-four acres in Prairieton township, his home being on section 2. He has made his special field of industry an eminent success and his course in life has ever been such as to gain for him the confidence and high regard of those with whom he has been brought in contact.

Mr. Widick is proud to claim Illinois as his native state, his birth having occurred in Macon county on the 28th of January, 1848. His parents, Abner and Eliza Widick, were also born in Illinois and came to Christian county in 1853, this continuing to be their home throughout the remainder of their lives. The father, who was a farmer

by occupation and one of the leading men of his community, died in 1891, and the mother departed this life in 1902.

The boyhood and youth of our subject were passed in much the usual manner of farmer boys and he early became familiar with the labors of the farm, his literary education being obtained in the public schools of Christian county. After reaching man's estate he began farming on his own account, operating his father's land until 1872, when he was able to purchase forty acres. Success attended his well directed efforts and as time passed he kept adding to his property until he now has two hundred and sixty-four acres of valuable land. Sixty-four acres of this is covered with a fine growth of timber, but the remainder of the tract was prairie land which he has placed under a high state of cultivation. The improvements, which are neat and substantial in character, have been placed there by himself and the farm is now one of the most desirable of its size in the county.

Mr. Widick was married in 1870 to Miss Minerva Workman, a daughter of Barney Workman, a well known farmer of this county, and to them have been born three children: Abner, now a bookkeeper holding a position in Decatur; Maggie, wife of August Bridgeman, a farmer of Shelby county, Illinois; and J. W., who resides at home and assists his father in the operation of the farm. The family are members of the Christian church and Mr. Widick is also connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He has taken quite an active part in public affairs, serving as township collector for twenty years and as school director for many years. His public and private life are alike above reproach and he well merits the esteem in which he is uniformly held.

## JESSE E. REESE.

Jesse E. Reese, the well known paying and receiving teller of Schuyler's Bank of Pana, was born on the 11th of November, 1853, in Franklin county, Ohio, and is the youngest son of Thomas and Elmira (Dickey) Reese. His father, who was a miller by trade, was a native of the same state, born in Fairfield county of Welsh ancestry, while his mother was a native of Montgomery county, New York, and of Irish descent. In the family were six children, namely: Leroy D., a stockman of Creston, Illinois; Egbert C., the manufacturer of Coco-Cola at Chicago; Joseph A., a resident of Comanche, Iowa; Francis, who died at the age of ten years; Seneca C., an umbrella manufacturer of Knoxville, Tennessee; and Jesse E.

The last named acquired his early education in the Central College Academy of his native county and after coming to Illinois in 1872 completed the high school course at Pana. He then secured a teacher's certificate and taught one term of school in Montgomery county, Illinois, after which he entered the post office at Pana, his brother Egbert C. being at that time postmaster, and he served as assistant for four years. During the following three years he traveled in the interest of the Austin Powder Company, of Cleveland, Ohio. In 1881 he became bookkeeper in Schuyler's Bank at Pana and held that position until 1888, when he was appointed paying and receiving teller, in which capacity he is still serving. He is also acting as local agent for the New York Mutual Life Insurance Company.

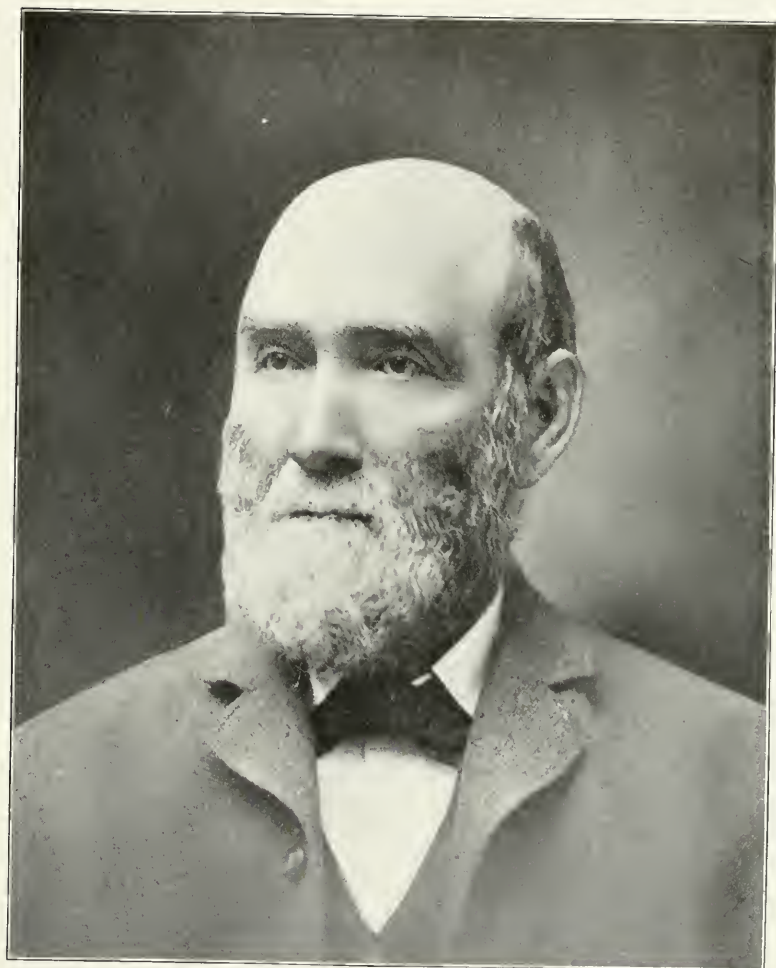
At Pana, September 13, 1876, Mr. Reese was united in marriage to Miss Eugenia Dodge, a daughter of Dr. J. H. Dodge, who was a practicing physician for many years and is now deceased. Mrs. Reese was

born in Fayette county, Illinois, and by her marriage has become the mother of three children: Nellie M., the oldest, is a graduate of the Pana high school and also of the Illinois Woman's College at Jacksonville. Cecilia E. is now attending the latter institution and is making a special study of music. Walter O. is a member of the junior class in the Pana high school, and shows a special talent in art.

As an enterprising and progressive citizen, Mr. Reese has taken an active interest in public affairs and has served as city treasurer and is now township treasurer. He is also treasurer and a director of the Pana Building & Loan Association and is a member of the Public Library board. Fraternal-ly he is connected with the Masonic order and the Modern Woodmen of America and is serving as worshipful master in the former organization. He is quite prominent in church circles, being a Methodist in religious belief, and is at present serving as secretary of the official board and president of the Brotherhood of the church. While representing the Pana church at the conference in Quincy, he was elected, out of twenty-five candidates, a delegate to the general conference held at Los Angeles, California, in May, 1904. He takes a very active and influential part in all church work and his career has ever been such as to warrant the trust and confidence so freely accorded both in business and social life. His devotion to the public good is unquestioned and arises from a sincere interest in the welfare of his fellow men.

## EDWARD OWEN SMITH, SR.

For several years during his early life this gentleman was a resident of Illinois, his home being in Decatur, and he took an active



E. O. SMITH, SR.



part in the development of Macon county. He was born in Montgomery county, Maryland, three miles west of Baltimore, April 15, 1817, and was a son of Rev. James Smith, a distinguished and popular Methodist minister of Baltimore, who died in that city, leaving six children, of whom our subject was the fourth in order of birth. After his father's death he made his home with his grandmother, Mrs. Rachel Owen, until fifteen years of age, when he went to Washington, D. C., and engaged in clerking in a store during a part of General Jackson's administration.

Mr. Smith then returned to his home near Baltimore but soon afterward carried out his cherished desire to try his fortune in the west. In the fall of 1834 he went to Ohio, which was then considered one of the frontier states. His capital consisted of but nineteen dollars and all his worldly possessions he carried in a knapsack on his shoulder. Following the old National road across the Allegheny mountains he finally reached Springfield, Ohio, a distance of five hundred miles from Baltimore, and there he learned the carpenter's trade with Samuel Price, but becoming afflicted with a throat disease he concluded to go farther west, and after spending a short time in Montezuma, Indiana, worked at his trade in Terre Haute for about a year.

In May, 1837, Mr. Smith located in Decatur, where he soon found employment, his first work being the erection of a house for Captain D. L. Allen on Water street above North street and another residence immediately south, which are now with one exception the oldest houses remaining in Decatur. In the fall of the same year he built the old Macon Hotel on the east side of the park. At that time the site of this building was in the midst of heavy timber. The fol-

lowing year he built the Spangler mill on the Sangamon river, four miles east of Decatur and although then only twenty years of age he had already gained an enviable reputation as a good business man and an enterprising builder.

Mr. Smith continued in active business in Decatur until 1853, when he made his first trip to California. He raised a company of thirty-nine young men and crossed the plains, being about one hundred days upon the road. He took with him a drove of cattle. After a stay of two years and three months on the Pacific coast he returned to Decatur, having made considerable profit from his business ventures. He then began to improve property on Water street. The entire business of that place was formerly conducted around the old square and he was the first to turn the current toward what is now the principal business thoroughfare. He erected the first business structures on Water street, two three-story buildings, and the next year in connection with Dr. J. T. B. Stapp built several stores on the south side of the park.

In 1858 Mr. Smith started on his second trip to California. This journey proved a dangerous and difficult undertaking. He proposed to take a large drove of horses and cattle, which he purchased in southwestern Missouri, through to California by way of New Mexico and Arizona, at that time a route but little traveled. With a company of forty-one young men he explored his way through a complete wilderness from Fort Gibson to Albuquerque, New Mexico. Twice in this distance his company was attacked by the Indians, who each time were repulsed without loss. The blanket which Mr. Smith carried was pierced by an arrow lance. Five hundred miles west of the Rio Grande, among the San Francisco mountains, they

encountered a party of returning emigrants who had been driven back by the Indians. Eight of their number had been killed and all of their cattle stolen. After driving off the Indians, who were still in pursuit, it was resolved to return to the Rio Grande river, winter there, and then proceed. On their march back their provisions soon gave out and for six weeks their only food was boiled beef without salt. After going into winter quarters Mr. Smith grew restless and determined to go through to California that winter. He managed to secure four men to assist him in driving the cattle. A Mrs. Brown, of Iowa, whose husband had been killed by the Indians and who was anxious to reach some relatives in California, and her four small daughters, were also members of the party. They set out in January, 1859, and after a journey of thirteen hundred miles through New Mexico and Arizona, reached San Francisco in safety without a more perilous adventure than meeting two hundred Indian warriors at Apache Pass, who, however, acted in a friendly manner, the chief bestowing on Mr. Smith a quiver of lion's skin filled with arrows, as a token of friendship. Mrs. Brown, the heroine of the adventurous journey, found her relatives and subsequently married Judge Johnson, of San Francisco, who thanked Mr. Smith with great cordiality for bringing him so good a wife. The cattle had been left behind in Arizona, and after grazing them for a while in Lower California, near the mouth of the Colorado, he brought them to San Francisco in March, 1860, two years after starting with them from Missouri. The calves had become nearly grown.

In the fall of 1860 he started from Los Angeles, California, for Texas, intending to make arrangements to raise horses in the latter state. In passing through the Apache

country his company was attacked by thirty Indians, who killed seven of their horses. Mr. Smith had six companions, one of whom was too ill to render any assistance in the fight. While crossing the Staked Plains they traveled eighty-six miles without water. On reaching a frontier town in Texas the first sight that met his eye was the Lone Star flag of the republic of Texas, and then he, for the first time, learned that Abraham Lincoln had been elected president and that Texas had withdrawn from the Union and resumed her original position as an independent republic. He expressed surprise and regret but the Texans assured him that "they meant business." Through Texas to Galveston, from that place by steamer to New Orleans and thence up the Mississippi to Cairo, nothing was heard but exciting talk regarding the preparation for rebellion. He made arrangements with two men, whom he left in Texas, to raise horses on shares, but after the war broke out he entertained little hope of reaping anything from his investment. Seven years afterward, however, his share of the horses was delivered to him at Decatur.

On his return, after an absence of three years, Mr. Smith was elected mayor of Decatur in March, 1861, and occupied that position during the first year of the Rebellion, when its duties were particularly important. Regiment after regiment of soldiers were fed at the city's expense. Personally he did everything in his power to assist the Union cause, assisted in recruiting soldiers, and for various objects in connection with the war contributed liberally of his own means. In 1864 he supported Lincoln for president, believing that his reelection would prove an effectual blow to the rebellion. After the war he could not give his approval to the congressional plan of

reconstruction and afterward affiliated with the Democratic party. In 1847 he was elected a member of the Illinois constitutional convention, representing Piatt and Macon counties, and the following year he was the Whig candidate for state senator from the district embracing McLean, Tazewell, Logan, De Witt and Macon counties, being elected by a flattering majority after a spirited canvass. One of his first efforts in the senate was to secure the passage of a joint resolution requesting the Illinois senators and representatives in congress to secure from the national government a donation of land for the construction of the Illinois Central and the Wabash Railroads. Aid was subsequently granted the Illinois Central. To Mr. Smith belongs the credit of taking the first steps which led to the successful completion of this important project. While in the constitutional convention he was identified with another measure which proved of great benefit to the state. He was one of the authors of the special provision adopted by a separate vote levying a tax of two mills to liquidate the state debt. From thirty the state bonds advanced to par, confidence in the state increased, and immigration soon afterward poured in to occupy the vacant lands. He was active in securing for Macon county several of its railroads, especially the Decatur & St. Louis (now the St. Louis branch of the Wabash, St. Louis & Pacific), of which he was one of the incorporators and original directors.

His first wife, whom he married on the 18th of May, 1843, was Miss Harriet Krone, a native of Carlisle, Pennsylvania. She was a woman of modest and retiring demeanor, a faithful wife, a devoted mother and possessed of many excellent traits of character. She died on the 13th of January, 1867, and April 15, 1867, he wedded Mrs. Catharine

Hillman, of Peoria county, Illinois. He had eleven children, of whom ten are still living, namely: Rachel R., widow of Dr. Brown, of Chicago; James D., of Napa, California; Edward O., whose sketch follows this; Lydia A., wife of G. B. McKee, of San Jose, California; M. Ella, wife of Rev. S. S. Hebbard, of La Crosse, Wisconsin; Mrs. Harriet B. Moore, of Colorado Springs, Colorado; Laura, wife of Mr. Brown, of Elmwood, Illinois; Lowell A., a resident of Milan township, Macon county; Thomas C., who died at his home in San Jose, California, in 1890; and Gertrude, wife of Elmer Hurff, of San Jose. The last named was a child by the second marriage.

In 1870 Mr. Smith returned to California, making his home on a ranch just outside the corporate limits of San Jose, the garden city of that state and the most beautiful of all rural towns. He was a member of the constitutional convention which framed the constitution of California. During his early residence in Macon county he had sufficient foresight to see that investment in real estate would prove profitable and so purchased town lots and unimproved land. It is safe to say that in his time he improved more land in Macon and adjoining counties than any other one man and also erected a large number of buildings in Decatur. Besides the structures already mentioned he built the old Smith Opera House and block on Water street and numerous residences. He was one of the most public-spirited citizens of Decatur and as a business man his characteristics were great energy, keen judgment and readiness to take advantage of every opportunity. He was benevolent and charitable in disposition and no man was more willing to relieve the wants of the unfortunate or lend a helping hand to others. He died

very suddenly of heart disease at his home in San Jose, California, March 8, 1892, honored and respected by all who knew him.

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#### EDWARD O. SMITH, JR.

Throughout the greater part of his business career this gentleman has been identified with the agricultural interests of Christian county and is now successfully engaged in farming in Prairieton township, his home being on section 24. A native of Illinois, he was born in Decatur on the 8th of July, 1858, and is a son of Edward Owen Smith, Sr., whose sketch precedes this.

During his boyhood and youth our subject secured a good education, attending the city schools of both Decatur and Taylorville, as well as the country schools of Christian county. Having decided to make farming his life work, he rented a farm at the age of sixteen years and successfully operated it for one year. At the end of that time he took charge of a tract in Macon county given him by his father, and was engaged in its cultivation until 1884, when he purchased three hundred and twenty-four acres of timber land in Christian county and at once began its improvement. After clearing away the trees he broke the land and transformed it into a fine farm. He added to his property until he now has five hundred acres of well improved and valuable land, his home being one of the prettiest in that section of the county.

In 1881 Mr. Smith was united in marriage to Miss Julia Rice, a daughter of G. F. Rice, one of the old settlers of Christian county. Five children blessed that union, namely: Harriet Edna, Hester, Frank De Loss, Walter Rice and Edward Owen, all at home. On account of the illness of his wife Mr. Smith finally left the farm and

removed to Moweaqua, where he spent three years engaged in the implement business. He then took his family to Colorado, living at Manitou and Colorado Springs for three years, and then went to California, spending some time at Los Angeles and Long Beach. He then returned to Moweaqua, where six weeks later his wife died, on the 7th of December, 1901. Mr. Smith was again married December 1, 1903, at Toluca, Illinois, his second union being with Mrs. Sallie Minturn, widow of Dr. J. W. Minturn, who was a resident of Rantoul, Illinois. Mr. Smith recently returned to his farm in Prairieton township and is now devoting his time and energies to agricultural pursuits.

The family hold membership in the Christian church and Mr. Smith is also identified with the Knights of Pythias fraternity and the Modern Woodmen of America. He filled the office of supervisor one term and was road commissioner for some time but he has never cared for political honors, preferring to give his time and attention to his business interests. Pleasant and agreeable in manner, he makes many friends and has the confidence and respect of all who know him.

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#### JAMES H. WILLIAMSON, M. D.

Dr. James H. Williamson is engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery in Assumption and has that love for and devotion to his profession which has brought to him success and won him a place among the ablest representatives of the medical fraternity in Christian county. He was born in Ashland, Kentucky, March 7, 1872, his parents being Rev. James E. and Samantha O. (Perkinson) Williamson, natives of Virginia. In their family were three children,



E. O. SMITH. JR.



of whom the Doctor is the youngest. He completed his literary education in Centre College at Danville, Kentucky, from which famous institution many noted men have graduated. After leaving school he began the study of medicine under the direction of his brother, Dr. George L. Williamson, at that time a leading physician and surgeon of Homer, Illinois, but now of Danville, this state. The brother was graduated at the Missouri Medical College of St. Louis in 1893 and recently took a special course in surgery in Europe. He also received private instruction under the celebrated surgeon, Dr. Lorenz, of Germany.

After studying with his brother for some time Dr. James H. Williamson entered the Missouri Medical College, where he pursued a three years' course and was graduated in 1898 in a class of eighty-five. Later he took a post-graduate course in the Chicago Ear, Eye & Throat College. In 1900, on visiting his father who was then preaching at Assumption, he decided to locate here and it was not long before he had built up a good practice, which is constantly increasing.

Dr. Williamson had the misfortune to meet with an accident in a runaway, badly injuring his knee, and shutting up his office he went to Indiana Springs, where he remained until his recovery. After an absence of seventeen weeks he resumed practice at Assumption and now devotes his entire time and attention to his professional duties. He is a member of the Illinois State Medical Society, the American Medical Association, the District Medical Society of Central Illinois, and the Christian County Medical Society.

On the 27th of August, 1896, at Louisville, Kentucky, Dr. Williamson was united in marriage to Miss Dora Heniken, a native of Cowling, Wabash county, Illinois,

and to them have been born two children: Holland, born March 1, 1900; and Emma, who was born June 13, 1902, and was named for her aunt.

Fraternally the Doctor is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America, and is examiner for the Fraternal Army of Loyal Americans and for the Mutual Protective League. He is also examiner for the Franklin and Prudential Life Insurance Companies and for the Bankers' Life of Des Moines, Iowa. Social and genial by nature he makes many friends and these qualities combined with his skill as a physician have gained for him the success which is his. He stands high in the esteem of his professional brethren and has the confidence and respect of all who know him.

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#### ORSON P. COONROD.

Throughout life this gentleman has made his home in Christian county and is to-day actively identified with her agricultural interests, being successfully engaged in farming and stock raising on section 18, Prairie-ton township. He was born in this county December 18, 1865, and is a son of Edmund G. Coonrod, whose birth occurred in Greene county, Illinois, on the 5th of September, 1832, and whose father, Stephen Coonrod, was of German descent. On the 7th of February, 1861, the father of our subject was united in marriage to Miss Nancy Doyle and the same year he came to Christian county, where he carried on farming for several years but is now living a retired life in Assumption, enjoying a well earned rest.

Orson P. Coonrod is indebted to the public schools of Christian county for the early educational privileges he enjoyed and he also attended business college at Atchison, Kan-

sas, for a time. On attaining his majority he began farming on his own account and for three years operated the home farm in Prairieton township. At the end of that time he removed to May township but in 1893 he returned to the old homestead, where he now resides, though he still owns eighty acres of land in May township. The farm in Prairieton township consists of three hundred and twenty acres of well improved land under a high state of cultivation, and in its management he displays excellent business ability and shows conclusively that he thoroughly understands the vocation which he has chosen as a life work. He gives considerable attention to the raising of stock, keeping a good grade of farm animals.

In 1893 Mr. Coonrod was united in marriage to Miss Maud Long, a daughter of H. B. Long, who was one of the early settlers of May township. Three children bless this union, namely: Hollis Long, Helen and Lenore. By his ballot Mr. Coonrod supports the men and measures of the Democratic party, and socially he is identified with the Masonic fraternity, the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America. He is widely and favorably known throughout the community where he resides and those who know him best are numbered among his warmest friends.

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#### SAMPSON BOTTRELL.

One of the most enterprising and progressive agriculturists of Christian county is the gentleman whose name introduces this review. Prosperity has attended his well directed efforts and he is to-day a well-to-do and substantial farmer and stockraiser. Mr. Bottrell was born in England, April 30, 1844, and was a lad of twelve years when, in 1856, he came to the United States with

his parents, Daniel and Mary Ann (Dunn) Bottrell. Making their way to Christian county, Illinois, they located in Mosquito township, where the parents continued to make their home until called to their final rest, the father dying in 1873 and the mother two years later. In England the father had practiced veterinary surgery but after coming to this country devoted his attention principally to farming.

Sampson Bottrell was educated in the schools of his native land and after coming to America he aided his father in the operation of the home farm until twenty-four years of age, when he commenced farming on his own account. Four years later he was able to purchase fifty acres of land and as time passed and his financial resources increased he kept adding to his property until he had seven hundred acres but he has since given a portion of this to his children, though he still retains five hundred acres. He has made all of the improvements upon his place, which is to-day one of the best and most desirable farms in Christian county. He has a very pleasant nine-room house and a fine set of farm buildings, including a cow barn thirty-six feet square; a cattle barn for feeding, sixty by forty-four feet; two corn cribs, forty-eight by thirty-two feet; and a hay shed forty-eight feet long, twenty-four feet wide, and twenty feet high. He has recently painted the house and all of the outbuildings, making the place very attractive in appearance. Mr. Bottrell gives considerable attention to the raising of stock, making a specialty of cattle and hogs, and he annually feeds about seventy-five head of cattle for market.

On the 5th of February, 1868, Mr. Bottrell married Miss Elizabeth Dunn, a daughter of John Dunn, who was also from England. She died May 27, 1878, leaving three





SAMPSON BOTTRELL



MRS. SAMPSON BOTTRELL



children, namely: Emma Ellen, now the wife of John Arnold, a farmer of Christian county; John D. and Harry S., who are both married and follow farming in this county. Mr. Bottrell was again married June 17, 1879, his second union being with Miss Mary C. Leeper, who was born in this county, November 17, 1856, and is a daughter of William and Catherine (Smith) Leeper, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Madison county, Illinois. She was only fifteen months old when her mother died, and her father departed this life in January, 1879. Six children have been born to our subject and his wife, namely: Mary E., Augusta J., Goldie Lucy Grace, William Henry, Thomas W. and Alice F., all at home with their parents.

The family hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church of Mount Auburn and Mr. Bottrell has always taken an active part in its work, contributing more than his share toward the building of the church. He is now serving as trustee, recording steward, collecting steward and treasurer of the same. Politically he affiliates with the Republican party and for ten years has filled the office of school director in a most creditable and acceptable manner. He has ever given an earnest support to all measures which he believes calculated to advance the moral, educational and material welfare of the community in which he resides. Starting out in life with no capital, he deserves much credit for what he has accomplished and is entitled to prominent mention in the history of his adopted county.

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#### THOMAS C. CLOYD.

Prominent among the business men of Morrisonville is numbered Thomas C. Cloyd, who is now sole owner of the elec-

tric light plant at that place, having purchased the same four years ago. He has a twenty year franchise from the city and his management of the business is giving general satisfaction as well as proving a success financially.

Mr. Cloyd spent his early life on a farm, his primary education being obtained in the country schools. His grandfather was David Cloyd, a native of Virginia and a pioneer of Illinois. He was of Scotch descent and was an active member of the Methodist Episcopal church. During the Black Hawk war he entered the service and aided in subduing the red men. Thomas G. Cloyd, our subject's father, was a successful farmer and died at the age of sixty years.

Desiring a better education than was afforded by the district schools, Mr. Cloyd took a high school course and after his graduation became a student at the State Normal School of Missouri, where he excelled in mathematics. To this day many difficult problems are brought to him to solve. For twelve years he successfully engaged in teaching school and then turned his attention to farming near Morrisonville, making a specialty of the dairy business. He has since sold his farm with the exception of four acres now within the city limits, where he and his family now make their home. He has platted an addition to Morrisonville, known as the Cloyd addition and in his real estate dealings has met with good success.

Mr. Cloyd was married on the 25th of April, 1878, to Miss Julia A. Winston, and to them have been born the following children: James, Thomas, Adelia B., Nina R., Charles D., Albert G., Nellie, Esther and Edith. Mr. Cloyd is a stanch supporter of the Democratic party, as was also his father,

and he has been honored with a number of local offices, serving as clerk of both the circuit and district courts, as assessor of his township and as a member of the county board of supervisors for four terms. He is a well informed man and proved a most capable and satisfactory official. Fraternally he is a Mason, belonging to the blue lodge and Eastern Star of Morrisonville, and he is also connected with the Court of Honor and the Fraternal Army.

#### LUZERN D. HORD.

When the tocsin of war sounded and men from all walks of life flocked to the standard of the nation, pledging their allegiance to the support of the Union cause, Luzern D. Hord also donned the blue uniform and became a defender of the stars and stripes. He is now a retired merchant, living in Taylorville and well does he deserve mention in the history of Christian county. A native of Marion county, Ohio, Mr. Hord was born in 1845, a son of Andrew J. and Mary J. (Hyland) Hord. His paternal grandfather, Nathaniel Hord, was reared in Virginia, whence he removed to Ohio, where his death occurred when he was sixty-two years of age. The maternal grandfather, Henry J. Hyland, was for many years a resident of Franklin county, Ohio, where he died at the age of seventy-two years. He was, however, a native of London, England, and a representative of one of the old families of that country. Andrew J. Hord was born in Rockingham county, Virginia, and was six years of age when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Columbus, Ohio, where he was reared and educated. He spent his active life as a farmer and thus provided a comfortable living for his family. He was quite prominent in local political circles as a supporter of the Democ-

racy, his opinions carrying weight in the councils of the party. He belonged to the Cumberland Presbyterian church and died in that faith at the age of sixty-three years. His widow, however, is still surviving and has now reached the advanced age of eighty years. Their children were as follows: Eugene L., of Kenton, Ohio; Luzern D.; Olive, the deceased wife of Cyrus Tallman; John K., of Kilpatrick, Ohio; Charles, of Needles, California; Clement, of Neoga, Illinois; Alzira, the wife of Alfred Reed, of Shelbyville, Illinois; and Rilla M.

Mr. Hord of this review received but limited educational privileges and when but a boy learned the butcher's trade, which he followed continuously until after the inauguration of the Civil war. America never had a more loyal citizen than Mr. Hord for he is to-day as true as he was during the dark hours of the country's struggle, a valiant defender of the nation's honor. President Lincoln issued a call for three hundred thousand volunteers to serve for three years or during the war. Many of the young men of the neighborhood in which Mr. Hord lived were enlisting and our subject, then a hearty youth of seventeen years, concluded to follow their example. He knew there was no use asking for parental consent for he would be told that he was too young. He, however, felt that he could serve as well as any man and slipping quietly away from home one day he made his way to the town where he saw a sight that only served to increase his patriotic ardor. Flags were waving, people were cheering in the street and every effort was being put forth to induce more men to rally around the flag. Mr. Hord decided to enlist at once and at Milford Center in Union county, Ohio, on the 7th of July, 1862, he enrolled his name as a member of Company D, Thirteenth Regiment of

Ohio Volunteers. In a day or so he was on his way to the state capital, Columbus, and he spent his first night as a soldier lying on a stone floor under the dome of the capitol building. It was not an easy couch for the boy who had been reared amid the comforts of a good home, but he did not complain and with others of the company went to Camp Dennison, near Cincinnati, where he was drilled and then came the muster in. The regiment was made a part of the Army of the Cumberland, which was in Mississippi, and the first real battle in which Mr. Hord participated was at Iuka. Following the battle of Corinth, he participated in several skirmishes and then the Army of the Cumberland entered the command of General Rosecrans and fought the enemy at Stone River, Tennessee, the rebel troops being commanded by General Bragg. The battle occurred on the last day of December, 1862, and the Union troops then, on the 2d of January, made another attack and succeeded in driving General Bragg from the field. This ended Mr. Hord's service during his first enlistment for he became ill with the measles and was taken to the hospital at Nashville, Tennessee. His father then went to that city and because he was not yet of age exercised his right of taking the boy home. On the 7th of November, 1863, Mr. Hord again enlisted, this time in Company B, Thirty-second Ohio Infantry, with which he served under General Grant and General Sherman until the close of the war. During the last year he marched with Sherman's army from the vicinity of Chattanooga, Tennessee, through Georgia to the coast, then through the Carolinas and on to Richmond and Petersburg, thence to Washington, D. C., where on the 24th of May, 1865, with the thousands of victorious troops, he passed the reviewing stand in the

nation's great capital, which was the greatest event of his life.

When the war was over Mr. Hord gladly returned to his home. He lived with Lewis Britton in his native town near Mechanicsburg, Ohio, continuing with him until the fall of 1868, when he removed to Shelby county, Illinois, where he carried on farming until 1885. He then became a resident of Christian county and was engaged in agricultural pursuits here until 1890, when he sold his farm and began dealing in general merchandising in Millersville. He also served as postmaster during three years of President Harrison's administration. In 1893 he disposed of his store and removed to Taylorville, where he has since lived retired, being the possessor of a comfortable competence.

In September, 1871, Mr. Hord was united in marriage to Miss Jennie P., a daughter of Lorenzo Fothagill, of Shelbyville, Illinois. Four children graced this union: Alvin, who married Clara Hodson; Edgar, who wedded Alta Horton; Walter, who married Katie Oler; and Rosa, at home. In the spring of 1861 Mr. Hord was converted at a large neighborhood revival and joined the Methodist Episcopal church. He became an exhorter and in 1874 was licensed as a local preacher of his denomination, while since 1893 he has held supernumerary relations to the ministry. Ever deeply interested in the cause of Christianity and its advancement, his labors have been effective and far-reaching in its behalf. His life has been honorable, his actions manly, his conduct sincere and during the years of his residence in Christian county he has won the regard and friendship of all with whom he has been associated. He is a member of F. M. Long Post, G. A. R., and has been commander of same since December, 1902.

## R. J. STONE.

R. J. Stone is well known as one of the extensive stock farmers of Christian county. He does a large annual business and his well conducted affairs have gained him very creditable success so that to-day he is numbered among the substantial citizens of his county. He was born in Somersetshire, England, October 23, 1851, and is a son of Isaac and Elizabeth (Ponting) Stone. The father was a contractor and builder and died in the year 1893, but the mother is still living, her home being in Bath, England. The son obtained his education in a boarding school of his native country and in his youth started out upon his business career as an apprentice to a modeler.

He was a young man of twenty years when he determined to try his fortune in America, believing that he might have better business opportunities in the new world. Accordingly, he crossed the Atlantic to the United States, arriving on the 1st of October, 1871. Making his way to Christian county, Illinois, he lived with his uncle, T. C. Ponting, in Stonington township, where as a contractor he did plastering and ornamental work in houses. He was thus employed for three years, but since that time has engaged in farming and stock-raising. His place is now known as the Maple Grove stock farm and it has gained a wide reputation. Mr. Stone began importing and breeding Oxford Down sheep and in this enterprise soon gained prosperity. He is one of the most successful stock-raisers of this part of the county and has gained more prizes than any other sheep man in America. He has given his attention entirely to show stock and now has about two hundred and fifty head of very fine animals. He has sold his sheep for as high as twelve hundred dollars per head and never sold one for less than

twenty-five dollars. He is an excellent judge of stock and is, therefore, enabled to make judicious purchases and profitable sales. He has put all of the improvements upon his farm and now has a fine modern sheep barn, in fact, his property is one of the best improved in the state and he has refused one hundred and fifty dollars per acre for it. Annually he displays his sheep at all the fairs and stock shows in the United States and the prizes that he has won indicate that he stands in the lead among the sheep-raisers of the great Mississippi valley.

On the 18th of October, 1877, Mr. Stone was united in marriage to Miss Frances Salome Livergood, a daughter of Henry and Margaret (Ober) Livergood. Her father was born in Lower Windsor township, York county, Pennsylvania, October 8, 1825, and was a son of Henry and Salome (Ruby) Livergood, who were wealthy residents of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, where Mrs. Stone's grandfather engaged in milling. Her father carried on merchandising at that place for some time and there married Miss Margaret Ober on the 19th of September, 1848. Mrs. Livergood was born in Lancaster, July 18, 1825, and was a daughter of Benjamin Ober. In 1850 Mr. and Mrs. Livergood came to Illinois and settled in Sangamon county, where he engaged in farming until his death, which occurred on the 29th of November, 1878. In his family were eight children. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Stone were born six children, but Myrtle died in infancy. Those still living are Jessie, who married Herbert Radwell and resides with Mr. Stone; Willie T., Francis S., Tom T. and Russell H., all of whom are still under the parental roof.

The family hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Stone is a member of the Modern Woodmen Camp at Stonington. He has served as school direc-





R. J. STONE



MRS. R. J. STONE







JAMES W. COX

tor for many terms and in the year 1902 was a candidate for county treasurer. In politics he is a Republican and, keeping well informed on the questions and issues of the day, he is enabled to support his position by intelligent argument. With a deep love for the land of his adoption no native born son of America has a more loyal attachment to this country and her interests. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to establish his home in America for here he has prospered in his undertakings, gaining success through legitimate business methods and constantly working his way upward until he is now one of the prosperous as well as respected citizens of Christian county.

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#### JAMES W. COX.

James W. Cox, a highly esteemed and honored citizen of Pana, was born in Clermont county, Ohio, near Camp Dennison, on the 24th of November, 1832, and is a son of Samuel and Jane (Barber) Cox, natives of New Jersey. His paternal grandfather was Joshua Cox, also a native of New Jersey and a farmer by occupation. He married Miss Nancy Mount, who was born in the same state, and both were of English descent. He lived to see Cincinnati develop from a village of log cabins into a large and flourishing city and died at the ripe old age of eighty-four years. Throughout life the father of our subject also followed farming. In his family were twelve children: Emily B., George, Rebecca Ann and Susan, all deceased; Joshua, who was named for his grandfather; James W., of this sketch; Daniel, a resident of Hutchinson, Kansas; Ludwell, deceased; Mrs. Elizabeth Cox, a resident of Clermont county, Ohio; Mary J. and Martha, both deceased; and one who died in infancy.

Mr. Cox, whose name introduces this review, was reared upon a farm and received his education in the district schools of the neighborhood. On the 8th of March, 1855, he was married in his native county to Miss Sarah Lucinda Orr, a daughter of William and Mary (Hill) Orr. Not long after his marriage Mr. Cox and his wife removed to Knox county, Illinois, and he purchased a farm near Abingdon, about twelve miles south of Galesburg in the military tract. The party then owning it was living in England. Mr. Cox finally traded that property for a tract of land in Pana township, Christian county, on which he located in 1862. This place was conveniently located a mile and a half from Pana and was successfully operated by him for ten years. Although he still retained the land, he removed to Pana at the end of that time and embarked in the agricultural implement business with a partner but this venture did not prove a success and since 1881 he has given his undivided attention to his farming interests. He is now the owner of three hundred and sixty acres of some of the finest land in Christian county and in his farming operations has steadily prospered as he thoroughly understands the occupation which he follows and is a man of good business ability and sound judgment.

Mr. Cox's first wife died on the 7th of July, 1895, and the only child born of that union, Sarah L., named for her mother, died at the age of three years. Our subject was again married November 26, 1896, his second union being with Dr. Elia B. Rutledge, a physician and surgeon, who was graduated at the Cincinnati Medical College in 1889. At present she is only engaged in office practice but is a very capable physician and is well informed on many subjects. Her parents were James E. and Caroline M. (Gors-

line) Rutledge, both natives of Ohio. Her paternal grandfather, Thomas Rutledge, came to this country from Scotland and was a graduate of the Glasgow University. In the immediate family are three physicians. The Gorslines were of French origin and came to America from France at the time of the French Revolution. They owned considerable property in France and brought many valuables to this country.

Since 1880 Mr. Cox has lived at his present home on the corner of Second and Maple streets, Pana, and is one of the most highly respected citizens of the place. He served as a member of the city council one term and while residing in the country held the offices of school director and trustee for some time. In politics he was originally an old line Whig but now supports the Republican party at national elections and supports the men whom he believes best qualified for office regardless of party ties at local elections. Religiously he is an active and prominent member of the Methodist church and is serving as trustee of the church. He was a member of the building committee when the house of worship was erected and at one time was superintendent of the Sunday school. In all the relations of life he has been found true to every trust reposed in him and well merits the high regard in which he is uniformly held by his fellow-citizens.

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#### H. C. BOHN.

The prosperity of any community depends upon its business activity and the enterprise manifest in commercial circles is the foundation upon which is builded the material welfare of town, state and nation. The most important in public life at the present day are therefore the men who are in control of successful business interests and such a one

is H. C. Bohn, the present mayor of Morrisonville.

A native of Pennsylvania, he was born in Franklin county, that state, October 15, 1843, and is a son of Adam and Catherine Bohn. The mother died in 1846 when our subject was only three years of age. The father was also a native of Pennsylvania and a son of Adam Bohn, who came to this country from Germany and spent the remainder of his life in Pennsylvania, making his home in Franklin county for a number of years, and dying there at the advanced age of eighty-seven. The father of our subject was a successful farmer and an earnest and consistent member of the Dunkard church. He was eighty-five years of age at the time of his death.

The early life of H. C. Bohn was passed upon his father's farm and he obtained his education in the district schools of the neighborhood. Farm work not being congenial to him, he finally left the parental roof and entered upon his mercantile career, his tastes being along that line. The success that he has since achieved shows the wisdom of his choice of occupations. Coming to Morrisonville, Illinois, in 1883 he embarked in business as a dealer in clothing, gent's furnishing goods, hats, caps, boots and shoes, his stock being valued at about seven thousand dollars. Since then he has gradually increased his business from year to year until he now carries a stock amounting to about thirty thousand dollars, his being one of the finest stores in his line in the county. In 1887 he erected the store building which he now occupies, it being twenty-two by one hundred feet in dimensions and completely filled with his well selected stock of goods. Besides this property he owns a nice modern residence occupying four lots, which was purchased by him in 1886.

On the 8th of November, 1865, Mr. Bohn was united in marriage to Miss Mary Francis, a daughter of John and Margaret Francis. Her father was of Irish descent, while her mother belonged to an old Virginian family. Mr. Bohn has been closely identified with the interests of Morrisonville since locating here, always lending his influence for the upbuilding and improvement of the city even though it temporarily injured his interests, but he could look ahead into the future and see the benefits to be derived therefrom. He has always given liberally toward any enterprise which would promote the public welfare. Both Mr. and Mrs. Bohn are members of the Presbyterian church and he also belongs to the Modern Woodmen Camp, No. 330; the Masonic Lodge, No. 681, of Morrisonville; and the chapter at Taylorville.

Since attaining his majority Mr. Bohn has affiliated with the Democratic party and has taken a very active and influential part in local politics. In the spring of 1886 he was elected mayor of Morrisonville, and so acceptably did he fill that office that he has been re-elected on six different occasions, being the present incumbent. Never but once was he defeated at the polls and that was on account of his advocating the establishment of water works. Never were the reins of city government in more capable hands, for he is a progressive man, pre-eminently public spirited, and all that pertains to the public welfare receives his hearty endorsement. He has also served as county supervisor and for nine years has been school

trustee, which fact indicates the interest he takes in educational affairs. His various public duties have been discharged with a promptness and fidelity worthy of the highest commendation.

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#### PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ASSUMPTION.

At Tacusa, Illinois, May 7, 1859, by appointment of the Sangamon Presbytery of the Presbyterian church, Rev. H. R. Lewis proceeded to organize a Presbyterian church, previous notice having been given the people of the community, who assembled at the house of Marcus L. Barrett, in Tacusa, Christian county, at two o'clock, p. m., on that day. Whereupon the following named persons were received and their names enrolled as members of the said church organization, to wit: James S. Travis, Catharine Travis, George White, Helen A. White, Sarah Travis, Anna Belle Travis, William Travis, Jane Travis (daughter of Marcus L. Barrett), S. C. Scheller, Hannah Scheller, Marcus L. Barrett, Nancy Barrett, Sarah Lanham (daughter of Marcus L. Barrett), Luceba Barrett, Daniel Gahagin, William Randolph, Clarinda C. Randolph, Margaret Simpson, John A. Calhoun, William J. Calhoun, Mary Calhoun, Martha G. Calhoun, Margaret C. Calhoun, Elizabeth Calhoun and J. Calhoun. Rev. C. Lowden succeeded Rev. Lewis, his first sermon being preached June 22, 1861, and on the same day Z. Lanham was elected ruling elder.



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