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DeKalb County, Ill.

Gross

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Past and Present
OF
DeKalb County, Illinois

By Prof. Lewis M. Gross

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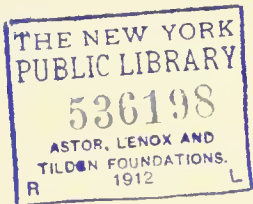
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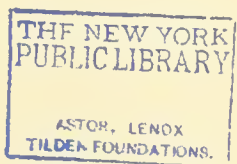
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Jacob Haish

BIOGRAPHICAL

JACOB HAISH.

Into every country where civilization has made its way the evidence of the inventive genius and manufacturing ability of Jacob Haish is to be found. It is needless to introduce him as the inventor of the barb wire, for this fact is known in domestic and foreign trade circles throughout the world. In manner and in character Mr. Haish is quiet, unassuming and somewhat inclined to conservatism, yet he has given to his fellowmen an invention of practical utility, fully meeting with the requirements which it was intended to meet, rendering effort less laborious and profits more certain. Through struggle and adversity he has made his way and today, crowned with wealth, he stands in the same relation to his fellowmen as he did in his early years when, struggling for a livelihood, recognizing and appreciating honest purpose and genuine worth and rating the individual by his merits and not by his possessions.

There is no citizen of De Kalb who is held in higher regard and esteem than Jacob Haish, who has now passed the eightieth milestone on life's journey, his birth having occurred in Brandische, near Karlsruhe, Germany, on the 9th of March, 1827. His parents were Christian and Christina (Layman) Haish, whose family numbered six children, but only three are now living, an older brother of our subject being John H., of Bucyrus, Ohio, while a younger brother, Adam Haish, is living in De Kalb. The father, a native of Baden, Germany, was reared to farm life, and in 1835 emigrated with his family to the United States, first settling in Pennsylvania, but after a brief

period he removed to Crawford county, Ohio, which was then a pioneer district with many evidences of the frontier in its uncultivated lands, its uncut forests and its unbridged streams. There the father purchased a farm and continued to make his home until the latter '40s, when he came to Illinois. After spending a short time with his son Jacob in Du Page county, he purchased a farm in De Kalb county, where he resided until late in life. He then returned to Crawford county, Ohio, settling in Bucyrus, where he spent his remaining days among the old associates with whom he had cast in his lot during the early period of his residence in America. He died when about eighty years of age. He was twice married, his first wife passing away in Pennsylvania soon after the emigration to the new world. His second wife was a Miss Shoop, whom he wedded in Crawford county, Ohio, and by whom he had five children, two yet living: Sarah, who is married and resides in Kansas; and Albert, who married a Miss Norris and is living in Missouri.

Jacob Haish was but nine years of age when brought by his parents to the new world. His education was largely acquired in the old time log schoolhouses of Crawford county, Ohio, and he attended school only when his services were not required at home upon the farm. His father was a carpenter by trade and under his direction the son mastered the business, becoming an excellent workman, for he possessed natural mechanical ingenuity and displayed ready aptitude in the use of tools. He continued upon the home farm until nineteen years of age, when the opportunities of the growing west attracted him, and he made his

way to Illinois, going first to Naperville, Du Page county. For one season he was employed at farm labor in that county and the following one was spent as a hostler in the tavern at Oak Plain, now Maywood, Illinois.

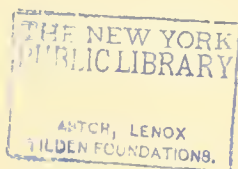
In the spring of 1847 he returned to Du Page county and there married Miss Sophia A. Brown, the daughter of his former employer, Thomas C. Brown. Theirs has been an ideal married relation. As the years have passed they have shared with each other the joys and sorrows, the adversity and prosperity of life, each making the other's happiness their chief care, their mutual love and confidence increasing as the years have gone by and growing all the stronger because of the difficulties which they encountered together. Today they own and occupy the most beautiful residence in De Kalb, surrounded by every comfort and convenience that wealth can secure and refined taste suggest.

They began their domestic life, however, upon her father's farm, where Mr. Haish carried on general agricultural pursuits for two years. He then, in 1849, purchased a farm in Pierce township, De Kalb county, to which he removed. He had resided upon that place but two years, however, when his health became impaired and he went to Kaneville, Illinois, where he followed carpentering. Although he had never served a regular apprenticeship he was skilled in handling tools and for two years he did good work in building operations at that place. In 1853 he came to Buena Vista, now De Kalb, being among its first settlers. It was just about this time that the railroad was extended to this place, the town had been scarcely more than started and contained but few buildings. Unable to find a home in which to live, Mr. Haish built a little car shanty and there he and his wife established their home in the new town. During the early period of his residence here he followed carpentering and did other work that would yield him an honest living.

At length, when he had accumulated about one hundred dollars, Mr. Haish went to Chicago to secure a carload of lumber, which he shipped to De Kalb and established a lumberyard. The new enterprise proved a profitable investment and for fifteen years he was identified with the lumber business and building operations. His trade steadily increased from the beginning and his knowledge of carpentering also enabled him to figure

closely and advantageously, so that as time passed and his trade assumed extensive proportions he accumulated considerable wealth. Complaints came to him from time to time from farmers, who said that the lumber used in fences was not sufficiently strong to resist the brute force and the farm animals were liable to break into the fields and destroy the crops. Revolving these appeals in his mind, Mr. Haish conceived the idea of a fence which would be sufficient to protect the fields. He first began by weaving osage on the fence so that the thorns would prick the stock, but this did not prove practical. It, however, contained the elemental idea which has since found crystallization in the great principle of the wire industry of the present day. Mr. Haish next conceived the idea of making "thorns" of wire, but used only one wire, but this slipped and proved unsatisfactory. This was in 1873, and his first patent on barbed wire is dated January 20, 1874. He next evolved the plan of putting two wires together. After considerable thought on the subject he succeeded in producing three rods of barbed wire fence. For three months this lay unused and unnoticed around his shop, except when he would remove it from a pile of rubbish to ponder over its utility. He did not, however, think it of practical commercial value and did not pay much attention to it. One day a farmer, F. W. Pierce, came into the shop, and, seeing the wire lying there, inquired what Mr. Haish would take for it. Fifty cents was the price asked and given, and the farmer, taking home his purchase, stopped up a gap in a willow fence with it. Several years passed and the incident entirely slipped from the mind of Mr. Haish, but it was nevertheless destined to play a large part in the history of the barbed wire industry in America.

The practical utility of the fence being proven, Mr. Haish withdrew from the lumber business and began the manufacture of the product. He continued his experiments, however, of various plans for the manufacture of the wire, sometimes abandoning and sometimes improving on these. One time he experimented with a plain wire, on which were fastened the barbs. These, however, all pointed one way and he did not wish this, but could think of no method which would place the barbs at different angles. It was thought, however, that wire would look better if it were twisted

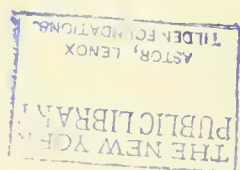




Sophia Ann Harsh



RESIDENCE OF JACOB HAISH.



and an attempt to do this was made, when lo, the barbs were turned in every direction and the difficulty was removed. Improvement after improvement was attempted and after much experimenting what is known as the S wire was made. Mr. Haish built his first factory in 1874—an unpretentious structure, which, however, was enlarged from year to year. In 1881 he erected a building one hundred by three hundred feet and two stories in height, where employment was furnished to one hundred men and thirty tons of steel barb wire was produced daily. The growth of the business is indicated by the fact that today three hundred men are employed. The barbed wire was at first made by hand and one of the early problems was how to spool and twist this. In 1877 Mr. Haish began the use of automatic machinery in working on the wire, being the pioneer in this line of work. He was also the first man to use a spool, which was commercially serviceable in the handling of the wire and was the first man to ship wire west of the Mississippi river, the wire being shipped to California wound on a spool, which was then placed in a barrel.

When Mr. Haish invented his automatic machine he was urged by his counsel to enter a caveat to secure his right, but the time ran out before he applied for a patent, thus throwing him out of his right to the patent. He then had it manufactured by a mechanic, who patented it and sold the right to Mr. Haish. In this way he secured his original machine. Previous to 1873 other applications for patents on the barb had been made and one as early as 1867, but none had proved successful. About the same time that Mr. Haish completed his invention J. F. Glidden, of De Kalb, also secured a patent on barbed wire which he successfully manufactured for some years in connection with I. L. Ellwood. Up to 1876 there had been no discord between manufacturers and all were reaping the just reward of their own enterprise and progressiveness, but in 1876 Mr. Glidden's interest was purchased by the Washburn-Moen Manufacturing Company, of Worcester, Massachusetts, which made an attempt to monopolize the business by proving that other manufacturers were infringing on Mr. Glidden's patent. Mr. Haish, being their most formidable competitor, received the brunt of the attack. The matter was taken into court and at the time affairs looked par-

ticularly discouraging to Mr. Haish. The matter came to final trial in the year of 1881. It was thought that the trial would be brought to a close unless Mr. Haish could produce some conclusive evidence that the bent barbed wire had been successfully produced and made of commercial value previous to the invention of Mr. Glidden. One day Mr. Haish was talking with Mr. Pierce, a farmer, who, in course of the conversation, mentioned that he thought he was the first purchaser of barbed wire. Mr. Haish had all these years forgotten about the three rods of wire that he had sold to Mr. Pierce, but here was the purchaser before him who said that the wire was still in use. He secured a part of it and went into court with it, where he established the fact that his invention was as early as that of Mr. Glidden and also that he was the first to prove its commercial value. A compromise beneficial to Mr. Haish was therefore effected.

In the meantime the business had been continually growing and has now gained a foremost place in the industrial circles of De Kalb county. His factory covers forty thousand feet of floor space, is steam heated, lighted by electricity and cost over one hundred thousand dollars. In the early '90s he began the manufacture of mesh wire fence in addition to the barb wire and his plant today employs three hundred men. In connection with his business interests Mr. Haish has indeed been a factor in the upbuilding of De Kalb. After the wire industry was placed upon a safe and substantial basis he also extended his efforts into other fields of activity. In 1884 he founded the Barb City Bank, which he continues and of which he is president. He also manufactures a manure spreader, farmer's gas engine and a cream separator, together with various products connected with the wire industry or of advantage to the agriculturist, including staples, nails, disc harrows, tubular steel and wood beam hustler lever harrows, barrel carts, box sleds, etc. He likewise has extensive landholdings in Dakota, Colorado, Kansas, Ohio, and city property in Chicago. In the city of De Kalb he owns more than one hundred houses, and in De Kalb township a number of fine farms.

No man is more deserving of the success that has come to him than Jacob Haish and none have used their wealth more wisely or done more to promote the welfare of the city. The cause of

education has found in him and his wife (for Mrs. Haish co-operates with him in all benevolent, charitable and helpful works) warm and earnest friends. He contributed fourteen thousand dollars for the State Normal School, and other educational institutions have profited by his timely assistance. He erected the opera house in De Kalb, which is a finely appointed structure of that character. He has erected several schools at his own expense and has assisted many church organizations, especially of the Methodist denomination, of which Mrs. Haish is a member. Their palatial residence is an adornment to the city and stands as tangible proof of the enterprise and artistic skill of Mr. Haish, who drew the plans and even made the designs for the handsome interior decorating. A man of domestic tastes, he has ever found the greatest happiness in his own home. His life has been devoted to his family, his friends and to young men who start out in life dependent upon their own efforts, and to the support of those principles which he believes to be right. His unswerving purpose, his unquestioned fidelity, his unfaltering honesty and his unchanging will have commanded the highest respect of all. While he is honored throughout the world for his contribution to invention, in his home town, where he is best known, he has that closer regard and friendship which have come in appreciation of his own genuine worth, aside from his business interests. His earlier years of earnest struggles, hardships and difficulties are with him to some extent in memory, but in the light of the present one would not wish that his course had been otherwise, for thereby has been developed a strong and stalwart manhood, a recognition of the real uses and purposes of life and an understanding of the fact that to many wealth is but a means to an end and that the real test of the individual is his intentions and his efforts to carry out honest purposes.

ABRAM VAN PATTEN.

Abram Van Patten is a retired farmer living in De Kalb. He came to Illinois in 1861 with a cash capital of thirteen dollars in gold, and today he is the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of rich and valuable farm land in Malta

township and two hundred and forty-two acres in Cortland township, in addition to his residence in De Kalb. His farming interests annually return him an excellent income and enable him to live comfortably without recourse to further labor.

Mr. Van Patten was born in Glenville, Schenectady county, New York, May 19, 1839. His father, Simon B. Van Patten, also a native of that county, was born December 5, 1801, while the mother, Mrs. Susan Van Patten, was born in Albany county, New York, August 14, 1806. The father was a farmer by occupation, thus providing for the support of his family. He passed away in 1875, while his wife died in 1880. They were the parents of seven children, of whom Abram was the fifth in order of birth. Five of the number are now deceased, the living daughter being Mrs. Sarah Bevis, who is a widow and resides in Schenectady, New York.

In the public schools of his native county Abram Van Patten acquired his education. The favorable reports which he heard concerning the middle west and its business opportunities attracted him to Illinois, and in 1861 he arrived in De Kalb county with thirteen dollars in gold in his pocket. With this as the nucleus of his present possessions he has added to his real and personal property as the years have gone by until he is today one of the large landholders of the county. As soon as he had acquired sufficient capital he made investment in a farm and for many years was a prominent and leading representative of agricultural interests here. He worked earnestly and persistently in the care and cultivation of his fields and as the sale of his crops brought him increased capital he added more and more largely to his land until his holdings now embrace five hundred and sixty-two acres in Malta and Cortland townships. He had been a resident of the county, however, for only a brief period when he offered his services to the government in defense of the Union, enlisting on the 1st of August, 1862, as a member of Company E, One Hundred and Fifth Illinois Infantry. He served for about three years, or until June 15, 1865, when, the war having been brought to a close, he was honorably discharged. He participated in the battle of Resaca, Georgia, where the larger part of Sherman's army was engaged and also in the battles of Burnt Hickory, New Hope Church,

Kenesaw Mountain, Manhattan, Peach Tree Creek and Atlanta, and also the memorable march of the Union forces under Sherman to the sea, which proved the weakness of the Confederates' position, showing that the troops had been drawn from the interior to defend the border. The news of Lee's surrender was received while the regiment was marching to Raleigh, on the 11th of April, 1865. Mr. Van Patten has always maintained pleasant relations with his old army comrades through his membership in the Grand Army of the Republic, being affiliated with Malta post, No. 124.

After the war was over he returned to his home and resumed the work of the farm, bringing the fields under a high state of cultivation and adding many modern improvements to his land in the shape of good buildings and the latest improved machinery. At length he determined to spend his remaining days in the enjoyment of a well earned rest, having acquired a competence sufficient to supply him with all of the comforts of life and some of its luxuries. He therefore left the farm and took up his abode in De Kalb, where he occupies a pleasant residence that he owns.

Soon after his return from the war Mr. Van Patten won a companion and helpmate for life's journey, being married on the 18th of October, 1866, at Sycamore, Illinois, to Miss Harriet A. Conde, who was born in Washtenaw county, Michigan, July 27, 1845, a daughter of Jesse J. and Philetta (Ketcham) Conde. Her father was born January 17, 1817, and died April 8, 1896, while the mother was born August 10, 1820, and passed away June 24, 1865. In their family were six children, of whom Mrs. Van Patten was the fourth in order of birth. By her marriage she has become the mother of five children: Mrs. Snsie P. Quincer, who was born January 13, 1869, is the wife of Martin Quincer, and they have three children: Van Patten, born October 6, 1892; Harold Martin, born July 6, 1895; and Elwyn Philip, born July 30, 1899. Mrs. Jessie E. O'Brien, the second daughter of the family, was born August 14, 1870. Herbert Abram Van Patten, was born February 22, 1874, and married Bertha May Veal, who was born December 2, 1875. They have four children: Jessie Pearl, born May 27, 1895; Mina Marie, born November 22, 1896; Vivian Fern, born February 2, 1900;

and Myrtle Ruth, born July 20, 1902. Hattie J. Van Patten, who was born December 14, 1875, died June 8, 1877. Carrie May, who was born February 23, 1884, is the wife of Guy H. Housewert, and they have two children: Frederick Abram, born April 20, 1900, and Herbert Kenneth, born January 9, 1900.

Mr. Van Patten gives his political allegiance to the republican party, of which he has been a staunch advocate since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He was commissioner of highways in Malta township for seventeen years and treasurer of the board during all that time and a member of the school board for twelve years, and his long retention in office is proof of his fidelity and capability. His life has been exemplary in many respects. Industry and honesty are numbered among his salient characteristics and constitute the secret of his success. He has ever been as true and loyal to his country in the days of peace as when he followed the old flag on southern battle-fields. He relates in an entertaining manner many items of interest concerning his experience upon the battle-fields and the fires of patriotism yet burn brightly within his breast. Indeed it is hard to find an old soldier who is not thoroughly loyal, for he knows what it means to stand by his country and protect the flag. Mr. Van Patten has made an enviable record both in military and civil life and is justly accounted one of the worthy citizens of De Kalb.

G. E. CLARKE.

G. E. Clarke is one of the leading and prosperous farmers of De Kalb county, owning five hundred and forty acres of land on sections 20 and 29, Mayfield township. He personally operates one hundred and eighty-five acres on section 29 and he also has land holdings in South Dakota. His parents, George and Amelia (Munt) Clarke, came from England to Illinois in 1846, settling in Du Page county, where they remained for two years. They then removed to Mayfield township, De Kalb county, and purchased the farm on which their son, G. E. Clarke, now resides. The latter was born upon the homestead May 5, 1858, and acquired a common-school education. He early

became familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist and when his education was completed he gave his entire attention to the work upon the farm where he was born. Here he has remained continuously since and is accounted one of the successful agriculturists of the community, thoroughly conversant with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops.

G. E. Clarke is the youngest of a family of three sons and one daughter, his sister being Lucy, wife of Orlando Drake, a resident farmer of Mayfield township. His brothers are Alfred L., an agriculturist of Mayfield township; and William E., who is also following farming.

G. E. Clarke is a staunch prohibitionist, supporting the party because of his deep interest and belief in the temperance cause. He was a member of the Mayfield Methodist Episcopal church until that organization was disbanded by the Rock river conference. While not a member of any church at the present time he contributes to the Methodist Episcopal church at Clare and withholds his co-operation and aid from no movement calculated to benefit the community along lines of material, intellectual, political and moral progress, and he has so lived as to gain the esteem and respect of a large circle of friends.

MOSES DEAN.

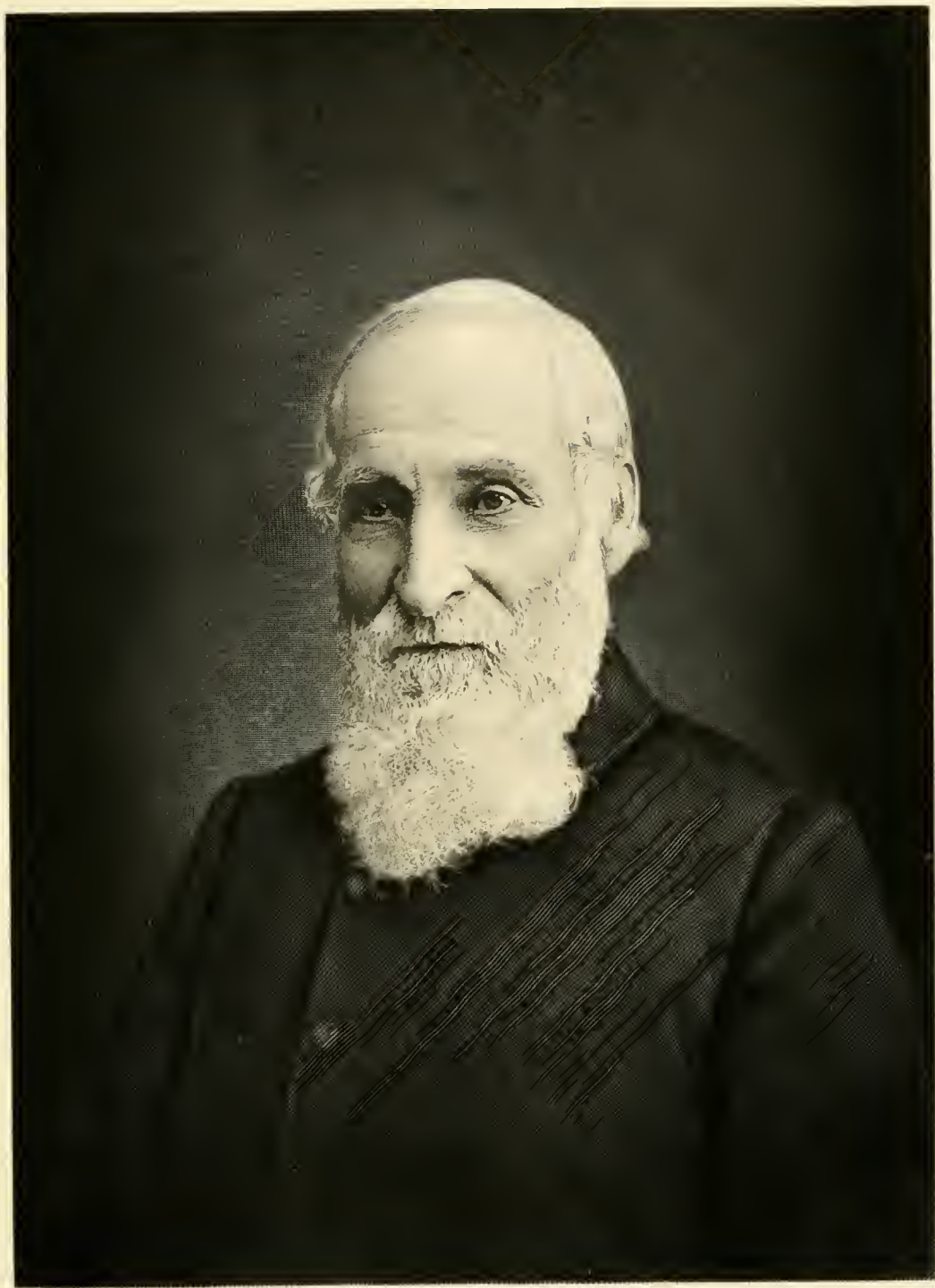
Moses Dean, who for many years was engaged in the banking and real-estate business in Sycamore and thus became a wealthy man, departed this life on the 19th of January, 1904. He was born January 27, 1815, in Sullivan county, New York. The progenitor of the family in the new world also bore the name of Moses Dean and was born in England, whence he came to this country as a young man, settling near Hartford, Connecticut. He was a preacher of the gospel and lived to the advanced age of one hundred and four years. His son, Solomon Dean, was born near Hartford and was one of a corps of trappers and miners in General Washington's army, being with the army commander at Newburgh, Brandywine, Valley Forge and at Yorktown when Cornwallis surrendered. Soon after the close of the struggle with England which won American independence, he married

Elizabeth Brown, at Newburgh, New York. He died near that place in 1787, leaving a wife and three children: Barbara, Polly and Reuben. His widow became the wife of Samuel Johnson, a soldier of the Revolution, in the year 1788, and they also had three children: Elizabeth, Sally and Rachel. Of these Elizabeth became the wife of Ebenezer Howel, while Sally married Abraham Bush.

Reuben Dean, born August 25, 1786, died at Neversink, Sullivan county, New York, December 16, 1845. He was married there December 27, 1807, to Elizabeth Divine, who was born September 2, 1791, and died February 5, 1868. They became the parents of fourteen children, all of whom reached adult age, were married and reared families with the exception of Mary. The record of their names and date of birth is as follows: Julian, March 23, 1809; Catherine, February 13, 1811; Lydia, May 14, 1813; Moses, January 27, 1815; Rachel, December 15, 1817; Johnson, January 2, 1819; Eliza, August 23, 1820; Nancy, February 23, 1822; George, January 27, 1824; Mary, December 11, 1825; Harriet, October 3, 1827; David, June 11, 1829; James, December 24, 1831; Divine, December 14, 1834. All are now deceased with the exception of Johnson, George and David.

The maternal grandfather of Moses Dean was Elezer Divine, who married Lydia Betlebrun. They were both born and reared at Pleasant Valley about twelve miles northwest of Newburgh, New York, were married at that place and removed to Sullivan county about 1796. In their family were seven children: Jane, the wife of Comfort Moore; Elizabeth, the wife of Reuben Dean; Polly, the wife of Daniel Sheley; Phoebe, the wife of David Brooks; David, who married Harriet Low; Sally, the wife of John Aldrich; and Nancy, who died at the age of sixteen years.

Moses Dean, whose name introduces this record, followed the vocation of a farmer in his native state and also engaged in teaching school and conducting a tavern. He acquired considerable property, some of which he rented. He did not come to the middle west until 1856, at which time he took up his abode at Charter Grove, De Kalb county. There he purchased a farm and as the years passed he added more and more to his landed



Moses Dean

possessions until he became the owner of thirteen hundred acres, being thus one of the most extensive landowners of the county. He loaned money to a considerable extent and was regarded as an excellent financier. After some time, however, he retired from the farm and removed to Sycamore, where he formed a partnership with Daniel Pierce in the banking business. They were associated for years in the conduct of this enterprise and Mr. Dean became known as one of the active and valuable forces in financial circles in this part of the state. He devoted his energies to banking and the real-estate business and in all that he did he prospered. He displayed a sound judgment in determining the value of property and its possible rise or diminution in price and as the years passed by he attained a gratifying measure of wealth. He resided for many years in Sycamore, his last home being the property which is now the residence of Mrs. Boynton. He owned considerable realty, both improved and unimproved, in Sycamore, and laid out Dean's addition to the city. He also bought several hundred acres of land in Story county, Iowa, and to that state he made annual trips for twenty-seven years. That property is now owned by his son, Arthur Dean, who resides there.

It was on the 13th day of June, 1840, that Mr. Dean was united in marriage to Miss Rachel Evans, who was born January 26, 1816, at Fallsburg, Sullivan county, New York, and who died April 26, 1884. Their children were as follows. Delia, who died April 16, 1905, was the wife of Joshua Siglin, who was supervisor of Genoa township at the time of his death, January 6, 1906. Ira, who joined the army in 1863 in the Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry, was killed in battle. Ann B. is the wife of Alexander R. Court, residing in Sycamore. Mary A., who died March 12, 1897, was the wife of B. F. Whipple of Cortland township.

Mr. Dean not only figured prominently in agricultural and banking circles in De Kalb county but also exerted considerable influence in behalf of public progress and was highly esteemed as a citizen of genuine worth. He served as mayor at one time and never withheld his co-operation from any movement which tended to prove of public benefit. He died January 19, 1904, at the

age of eighty-nine years. During a residence of forty-eight years in De Kalb county he won a splendid measure of success by reason of his watchfulness, his close application and his laudable ambition. Although more than three years have passed since he was called from this life he is yet remembered by many citizens here as a man of sterling worth, whose success was never gained at the cost of other men's losses and who realized and fulfilled his obligations in citizenship.

FRED S. MOSHER.

The business stability and enterprise of Sandwich have been greatly promoted through the efforts of Fred S. Mosher, president of the Castle bank and also of the Sandwich Manufacturing Company. He is likewise connected with other corporate interests and his efforts have been so discerningly directed along well defined lines of labor that he seems to have accomplished at any given point in his career the possibilities for successful accomplishment at that point. He was born in Ballston Spa, New York, July 18, 1841. His father, Silas B. Mosher, also a native of that place, spent his entire life there, carrying on business as a contractor and builder. He married Caroline E. Castle, who was born in Albany, New York, and both died at Ballston Spa. Their children were as follows: Sarah, the wife of Charles W. Betts, a capitalist of Alexandria, Minnesota; Cynthia C., the deceased wife of Samuel Gould, of Ballston Spa, New York; Elizabeth, the wife of William Garrett, of the same place; Caroline S., who married John W. Allison and lives at Denver, Colorado; and Mary J., the wife of Samuel J. Gould, a retired merchant of Ballston Spa.

Fred S. Mosher began his education in the public schools of his native city and afterward attended Gilmore's Academy at Ballston Spa. He next began reading law and was thus engaged until 1861, when the outbreak of the Civil war called forth his patriotic spirit and he raised a company of volunteers for service in the Union army. They joined the One Hundred and Fifteenth New York Infantry and Mr. Mosher was made first lieutenant of his company. Almost the first engagement

in which he participated was at Harper's Ferry, where eleven thousand Union troops were captured, Mr. Mosher being among the number. He was soon paroled, however, and was again in the field. At the siege of Fort Sumter he did valiant service and was also in the military action at Olustee, Florida, was present at the mine explosion in front of Petersburg, in the battle of Cold Harbor, in the siege and capture of Fort Fisher, in the engagement at Fort Gilmore, and through the Potomac campaign. Early in 1864 he was promoted to the rank of captain and was mustered out at Raleigh, North Carolina, where he was acting as judge advocate of the second division of the Tenth Army Corps under General A. Ames, division commander.

When the war was ended Mr. Mosher came to Sandwich to accept the position of cashier in the bank of M. B. Castle, of which institution he is now the president. He was also vice president of the Sandwich Manufacturing Company for years and at the present writing is its president. This corporation was capitalized for five hundred thousand dollars and the bank has deposits amounting to three hundred thousand dollars. A general banking business is conducted and this is uniformly regarded as one of the safe and reliable moneyed concerns of the county. He is likewise president of the Northern Illinois Phone Company, which has been his connection for the past three years.

Moreover, Mr. Mosher has figured prominently in public life, recognizing the needs and possibilities of the city and laboring for the adoption of those measures which can prove of the utmost benefit. He was mayor of Sandwich for two years and gave a public-spirited, business-like and progressive administration.

Mr. Mosher was married January 12, 1869, to Miss Libbie V. N. Smith, of Litchfield, Michigan, a daughter of William Smith, a farmer. Mrs. Mosher was born at Hillsdale, Michigan, and is a graduate of the college at that place. Their children are as follows: Caroline P. is the wife of James L. Warner, a merchant of Sandwich. Edward Castle, assistant secretary of the Sandwich Manufacturing Company, was born December 18, 1872, and on the 3d of January, 1896, married Jessie M. Adams, a daughter of Henry A. Adams, superintendent of the Sandwich Manu-

facturing Company. They have one child, Charles Adams, who was born May 7, 1906, and they also lost a son. Nellie Wing Mosher is at home. Mary Louise Mosher became the wife of W. H. Fairchild and resides in Anderson, Indiana. Florence I., the youngest of the family, is a student at Oberlin (Ohio) College.

Mr. Mosher has never ceased to feel a deep interest in military affairs and is now commander of Sandwich post, No. 510, G. A. R. He is likewise connected with the Loyal Legion as a member of the Illinois commandery. He is classed with the prominent and representative residents of Sandwich, being recognized as a man of keen discrimination and sound judgment, while his executive ability and excellent management have brought to the concerns with which he is associated a large degree of success. The safe, conservative policy which he has followed in his banking interests commends itself to the judgment of all and has secured to the bank a patronage which has increased the volume of business transacted over its counters, making it a financial concern of considerable magnitude for a city the size of Sandwich.

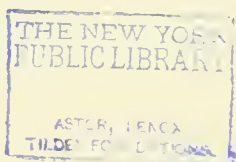
RAYMOND ROLFE.

Raymond Rolfe, who for many years has been one of the most prominent, valued and honored citizens of De Kalb, has been actively connected with its business interests and with its moral development as well. His life is exemplary in every respect and, well known and honored, he is esteemed for his genuine worth. A native of Ickford, England, he was born on the 28th of February, 1835, and in early life learned and followed the stonemason's trade. Hearing favorable reports of the business opportunities of the new world, he resolved to try his fortune in America, and in 1855 crossed the Atlantic, making his way to De Kalb, Illinois. Here he lived for about ten years, or until 1865, when he removed to Malta, where he resided for fourteen years.

In the meantime Mr. Rolfe was married in Earlville, Illinois, on the 22d of December, 1864, to Miss Delpha E. Munger, who was born in Blaine, Boone county, Illinois, December 8, 1843.



RAYMOND ROLFE.



Throughout his entire life Mr. Rolfe has engaged in business as a mason contractor and is still working at his trade. He returned to De Kalb in 1879 and many substantial structures here stand as monuments to his enterprise. He built the Wells shoe factory, the Chronicle building and the Roman building, also the first factory of the De Kalb Fence Company and other important structures.

Mr. Rolfe has been particularly active in church work and belongs to the Baptist denomination. He has served as a deacon in the church and has done all in his power to promote its growth and extend its influence. At all times his life has been actuated by high principles and lofty ideals. In his political faith he is a prohibitionist, thus exemplifying his belief in the temperance cause. His influence is ever given on the side of right, reform, progress and improvement, and his labors have been a potent element for public good.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Rolfe have been born six children, namely: Henry Edwin, born October 16, 1865; Frances, September 11, 1869; Salena, September 1, 1870; Frank Albert, May 7, 1873; Ellen Irene, November 14, 1875; and George Raymond, March 25, 1881. The first five were born in Malta and George R. in De Kalb. Two of the number, Frances and Salena, are now deceased.

Henry Edwin Rolfe, who occupies a clerical position with the Haish Wire & Implement Company, was born in Malta, Illinois, October 16, 1865. He began his education in the common schools of Malta and completed his studies in the high-school of De Kalb. After leaving school he worked in the wire factory for one year, while for fourteen years he was employed in the office of the wholesale glove manufactory of Bradt & Shipman. He likewise spent three years as foreman of the sulphate of iron department for the American Steel & Wire Company. One year ago he engaged with the Haish Wire & Implement Company, holding an important clerical position in the office.

On the 23d of December, 1891, in Sterling, Illinois, Henry Edwin Rolfe was married to Miss Nellie G. Thompson, and they are now the parents of one son, Burton Thompson, who was born in De Kalb, July 21, 1896. They occupy a pleasant home which Mr. Rolfe owns and are well known in the community. Mr. Rolfe holds membership with the Masonic lodge, No. 144, A. F. & A. M., and

with the Knights of Pythias lodge, No. 215, and he gives his political allegiance to the republican party. His entire life has been spent in this county and the fact that many of his staunchest friends are those who have known him from his boyhood days indicates that his has been an honorable and upright career.

WILLIAM W. PLANK.

William W. Plank, who is the owner of valuable farming interests in De Kalb county and makes his home at No. 150 West Main street, where he owns an attractive residence, was born in Fulton county, New York, May 26, 1823. His father, Adam J. Plank, was a son of Jacob J. Plank and a grandson of James C. Plank, who emigrated from Holland to the colony of New York prior to the Revolutionary war. Adam J. Plank died when his son William was but two years of age, leaving the little lad to the care of strangers. He is the only member of the family that ever came to Illinois. He did not have the advantages of schools in his youth and his business training has come from practical experience. In this way, however, he has learned many valuable lessons, possessing an observing eye and retentive memory, so that by observation and through the events which have marked his life he has gained a good practical knowledge.

Mr. Plank arrived in this state in October, 1851, settling first in Montgomery, Kane county, Illinois. He was there employed during the winter and in the spring of 1852 removed to De Kalb county, where he has now made his home for more than a half century. Great changes have occurred during this period, for at the time of his arrival there were still many evidences of frontier life. Becoming identified with farming interests, Mr. Plank made the best use of his opportunities, worked untiringly and persistently, lived frugally and economically, and as the years passed by he prospered. When opportunity offered he added to his land and is now one of the large landowners of the county, his possessions including three hundred and twenty acres on sections 33 and 34, De Kalb township, and one hundred and sixty acres on section 25 of the same township, all well im-

proved with those accessories and conveniences which constitute the model farm of the twentieth century. He also owns one thousand acres of land in Oceana county, Michigan, together with a fine home at No. 150 West Main street in De Kalb. His possessions are the visible evidence of a life of untiring thrift and industry. He knew no such word as fail and with determined purpose surmounted all of the difficulties and obstacles in his path.

Mr. Plank was married March 18, 1843, to Miss Nancy Frederick, a native of Johnstown, New York. Of the children born to them three died in infancy, while those still living are Mary, Marcus, Dewitt, Frank and Bert. The sons are all associated with their father in the operation of his farming lands. Another son, William, and a daughter, Emma, are both deceased.

When age conferred upon Mr. Plank the right of franchise he gave his political support to the democracy, but at the time of President Cleveland's second administration he transferred his allegiance to the republican party, of which he has since been a stalwart advocate. He belongs to the De Kalb lodge of Masons and has attained the Knight Templar degree in the commandery. Investigation into his life record shows that he is truly a self-made man and his success is due entirely to his own labors. His example in this respect is one well worthy of emulation, showing what may be accomplished even when difficulties beset one at the outset of a career. Labor is the key that will always unlock the portals of prosperity and it has been by means of his untiring industry that Mr. Plank has gained the gratifying position which he today occupies as a successful retired farmer of De Kalb county.

MARCUS W. COLE.

For a quarter of a century Marcus W. Cole has been prominently identified with the business interests of Kingston and for almost twenty years has devoted the greater part of his time and attention to banking. He was born on the 8th of February, 1836, in Lockport, Niagara county, New York, and is a son of Washington and Harriet (Stiles) Cole, the former a native of Rhode Island, born

August 12, 1810, and the latter born in New York, July 16, 1812. They were married in the latter state, where he assisted his father, who was a contractor and engineer, in building the Erie canal. In October, 1836, he removed to Illinois and settled in Marshall, Clark county, where he followed road building in Clark county on the old government road from Terre Haute, Indiana, to Jefferson City, Missouri. He continued to make Clark county his home until 1859, when he came to Kingston, De Kalb county, after which he engaged in farming. He died here on the 21st of July, 1889, and his wife departed this life January 14, 1898. They were the parents of six children, five of whom reached years of maturity.

Marcus W. Cole, the eldest of this family, was reared and educated in Marshall, Clark county, and after completing the common-school course attended the Marshall Academy, from which he was graduated. He then learned the printer's trade, but finally gave up that occupation to manage the farm of his uncle, Dr. J. W. Stiles, at Kingston, he being a prominent dentist, real-estate owner and money lender in Boone, McHenry and De Kalb counties. While engaged in farming Mr. Cole also taught school through the winter months for seven years.

On the 12th of September, 1858, Mr. Cole married Miss Anna Eliza Little, who was born in Aurora, Erie county, New York, July 24, 1840. Her parents, Henry and Amy Little, came to De Kalb county, Illinois, in 1845 and here her father followed farming until his death, which occurred in 1858. His wife survived him many years and passed away in 1891. After a happy married life of over forty years Mrs. Cole died on the 21st of April, 1899, at the age of fifty-nine, having been in ill health for a number of years. Like her husband, she was a popular member of society and was interested in all progressive movements. She was a member of the Woman's Relief Corps, the Eastern Star and the Eminent Ladies' Garrison, and she was the first worthy matron of the Eastern Star at Kingston, which was the second lodge of the kind established in De Kalb county. After her death the lodge at Kirkland was named in her honor, the "Anna E. Cole" chapter, O. E. S. Her death was deeply and widely mourned. To Mr. and Mrs. Cole was born a daughter, Alice C., now

<http://stores.ebay.com/Ancestry-Found>



Mr. W. Cole

the wife of Judge William L. Pond, of De Kalb, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume.

After his marriage Mr. Cole purchased one hundred and eighty acres of land in Kingston township, which he improved and operated until 1882, when he removed to the village of Kingston and opened a hardware store. He soon began doing a small exchange business and in 1888 entered into the banking business exclusively. In 1893 he built a good two-story brick building with a large vault attached and here he has since carried on banking, doing a large volume of business for a small town. His safe, conservative methods have won for him a liberal patronage and he has the confidence and respect of all with whom he is brought in contact, either in business or social life.

The republican party finds in Mr. Cole a staunch supporter of its principles and he has been repeatedly chosen as a delegate to state and county conventions. He served as collector of his township for seven years, as supervisor for four years, and is the present school treasurer, which office he has filled since April, 1876. He was also appointed postmaster of Kingston during President Harrison's administration and filled that office for five years. His official duties were always most faithfully and conscientiously discharged. In 1865 he joined the Masonic order, becoming a member of the blue lodge, No. 288, of Genoa; took the Royal Arch degrees in 1888; and was made a Sir Knight the same year. He served as secretary of his lodge for twenty years. In 1886 he transferred his membership to Kishawauke lodge, No. 402, A. F. & A. M., at Kingston, and has represented Genoa lodge three times in the grand lodge of the state. He is a charter member of the Modern Woodmen camp at Kingston and also belongs to the Knights of the Globe. Religiously Mr. Cole is a devout member of the Free Baptist church, to which his wife also belonged, and both took an active part in church work, he having served as trustee of the church and superintendent of the Sunday-school for fifteen years.

For years Mr. Cole has taken great delight in collecting old relics and now has a large assortment of shells, Indian arrowheads and implements of agriculture, cooking and warfare. He also has a hub of a wheel from an army wagon, which was used during the war of 1812 and which was surrendered by Hull at Detroit. This relic was pre-

sented to Mr. Cole by James Sivwright, of Mayfield. Although his life has been a busy one, he has yet found time to devote to those interests calculated to advance the moral and material welfare of his town and county and it is safe to say that no man in the community is held in higher regard or has more warm friends than Marcus W. Cole.

CAPTAIN HENRY C. WHITTEMORE.

Captain Henry C. Whittemore, one of the representative and honored citizens of De Kalb county, has figured prominently in business and public life, and his influence has been a factor in development and progress. He was born at Auburn, New York, October 31, 1841, his parents being Lorenzo and Hannah (Kelsey) Whittemore. He is a representative of one of the oldest families of New England and the ancestry can be traced still farther back to the mother country. The founder of the family in the new world was Thomas Whittemore, who came from Hitchin in County Hereford, England, in 1641, and settled at Charlestown, Massachusetts. He was the grandfather of John Whittemore, of Leicester, Massachusetts, and the great-grandfather of Lieutenant James Whittemore, who became the first sergeant of a company in the war of the Revolution. He marched with his company to Lexington on the 17th of April, 1775, and was subsequently promoted to the rank of lieutenant. His son, Samuel Whittemore, the grandfather of our subject, was born in Leicester, Massachusetts, September 15, 1769. He was a farmer by occupation and removed from Massachusetts to New York, residing for a time in Cayuga and Allegany counties. Seeking a home in the middle west, he afterward resided for a considerable period at Sycamore, Illinois, but died at Westfield, New York, in 1866, while visiting there. For about twenty years he had survived his wife, who bore the maiden name of Catherine Ranger.

Among their children was Lorenzo Whittemore, who was born in Leicester, Massachusetts, March 11, 1807. Until about 1838 he resided in New England and then removed to the state of New York. In 1848 he came to the west, settling in Sycamore, Illinois, where he resided until his

death, which occurred on the 31st of August, 1887. He was a carpenter by occupation but also learned the shoemaker's trade and was engaged in that line of business for a time. He possessed natural mechanical ability and could do almost anything with tools. Politically he was a stalwart republican and in religious faith was a Congregationalist. A large, portly man, he weighed two hundred and twenty-five pounds and he possessed the affable, genial nature which so often goes with a stature of that character. At one time he was coroner of that county, serving, however, for but a single term, as his aspirations were not in the line of office holding. His wife, Mrs. Hannah (Kelsey) Whittemore, was a native of Ulster county, New York, born on Christmas day of 1805, and died at Sycamore in March, 1879. They had but two children, Henry C. and Floyd K.

The latter was born October 2, 1844, in Auburn, New York, came west with his parents and pursued his education in the schools of Sycamore. After serving an apprenticeship in the office of the True Republican, he was employed in the office of the circuit clerk of De Kalb county, where he remained from 1861 until 1864. In 1865 he was appointed assistant state treasurer under Treasurer Beveridge, occupying the position for two years and leaving office on the expiration of the term of his superior. He then entered the banking house of Jacob Bunn, at Springfield, Illinois, as book-keeper and there received recognition of his ability, being made teller and later cashier. He served as such until the organization of the State National Bank at Springfield, when he became cashier of that institution, continuing as such for about twenty years. He was then made cashier of the United States sub-treasury at Chicago under the administration of President Harrison and in 1895 was appointed assistant state treasurer. In the summer of 1898 he received the nomination by the republican party for state treasurer and was elected to that office. He was regarded as one of the best financiers of Illinois and had much to do in shaping the policy of the state in that regard. He remained a resident of Springfield up to the time of his death, which occurred March 4, 1907, after a short illness although he had not been very well for a couple of years. He was a self-made man and met with excellent success in business, so that he left an estate valued at half a million.

Henry C. Whittemore was only seven years of age when brought to Sycamore by his parents, and the public schools afforded him his educational privileges. He entered business life as a salesman in a store and was afterward employed in the office of the circuit clerk, being thus engaged at the time of the outbreak of the Civil war. He put aside business cares and personal interests to defend his country in her hour of peril, enlisting in September, 1861. He was mustered into the United States service in October, as a member of Battery G of the Second Illinois Light Artillery, under command of Captain C. J. Stolbrand. The company was given the camp instruction until December and then went to Cairo, from which point they followed the army down the Mississippi. Mr. Whittemore was appointed ordnance officer at Cairo and had charge of the ordnance department of the Army of the Tennessee. He was with the fleet at Island No. 10, where he remained for two weeks and afterward went to Columbus, Kentucky, being engaged in keeping open the railroads there. At that place he served on the staff with General Quimby and also with General Davies and subsequently was transferred to the Army of the Cumberland. For several months he filled the position of judge advocate, after which he was with the battery in front of Fort Donelson. Later he was placed on staff duty with General Rosseau, with whom he served until the close of the war. Captain Whittemore was mustered out July 29, 1865, but this did not end his government service, for after a brief period he was sent south in the employ of the postal department for the purpose of reorganizing the postal service in southern states. His time was thus occupied until 1867, when he returned home to once more become a factor in the business life of Sycamore.

For some time Captain Whittemore was engaged in the conduct of a tannery, and in 1873 turned his attention to the hardware business as a member of the firm of Harkness & Whittemore, which relation was maintained until the death of his partner, who was then succeeded by Mr. Chamberlain and A. W. Brower, these gentlemen purchasing the interest of the Harkness heirs. At that time the firm style of Whittemore, Chamberlain & Company was assumed and on the retirement of Mr. Chamberlain the firm became Whittemore & Brower. This is a well known business house of

Sycamore. They carry a large line of general hardware, agricultural implements, carriages and wagons, and their patronage has constantly grown in volume and importance. In the conduct of their store they manifest a strict fidelity to a high standard of commercial ethics and have secured a liberal support by reason of their moderate prices and honorable methods.

Happy in his home life, Captain Whittemore, on the 14th of March, 1864, was united in marriage to Miss Amelia Martin, a daughter of Harry and Jane (Slack) Martin, both of whom were natives of Vermont. Mrs. Whittemore was born in Sycamore, to which place her parents had removed some years previously. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Whittemore have been born five children: Charles F., who was born in July, 1865, and died at the age of six years; Mary, at home; Harry M., who wedded Gertrude Chapell, and has two children, Helen and Ruth; Cora, the wife of Dr. George W. Nesbitt, of Sycamore; and Floyd, who is a graduate of the Sycamore high school and also of the Illinois University. Mrs. Whittemore holds membership in the Congregational church and is actively interested in its work.

Captain Whittemore is a stalwart republican in his political views, having always supported the party, and upon its ticket he has been chosen to a number of positions of public honor and trust. He has served as alderman of the city and as a member of the county board of supervisors. He was first chosen to that office in 1883 and has been re-elected up to the present time at each succeeding election. His service has been highly satisfactory as is shown by his long continuance in office. He was a member of the Thirty-fourth General Assembly of Illinois at the time when General Logan was elected United States senator after a most memorable contest. He was unswerving in his advocacy of the "Black Eagle," of whom he was a warm admirer. The Captain has been one of the trustees of the State Home for Juvenile Offenders at Geneva, Illinois, and he served as chairman of the building committee during the erection of the De Kalb courthouse. He has frequently been a delegate to the county, congressional and state conventions of his party and his labors in its behalf have been far-reaching and beneficial. He belongs to Potter post, No. 12, G. A. R. of Sycamore, of which he has been commander and

he has attained the Knight Templar degree in Masonry. Almost his entire life has been passed in De Kalb county and he is well known as a representative merchant, trustworthy political leader and a reliable business man. He holds friendship inviolable and is true to every trust reposed in him, whether of a public or private nature. His many good qualities have not only gained for him respect but have won for him warm personal friendship and regard, and therefore it is with pleasure that we present to our readers the life record of this man whose intense and well directed energy has gained for him a place among the representative men of the community.

ISAAC Q. BURROUGHS.

Isaac Q. Burroughs, who is now practically living retired in Genoa, has made his home in De Kalb county since 1854 and has taken an active part in its agricultural development. His early life was spent in the east for he was born in Hunterdon county, New Jersey, January 2, 1818. His father, Timothy Burroughs, was a native of the same state and was a son of John Burroughs, who was also born in New Jersey, of English ancestry, the family having been founded in that state at a very early date in its settlement. They located along the Delaware river and the great-grandfather of our subject was the first sheriff of what is now Mercer county, New Jersey. On reaching manhood Timothy Burroughs married Phoebe Green, who was born in the same state and was also a representative of an old family. Her father, Joseph Green, was a soldier of the Revolutionary war, as was also John Burroughs, the paternal grandfather of our subject. Throughout his active business life Timothy Burroughs followed the carpenter's trade but later joined his son in Illinois, where he lived retired until his death. In his family were five children, two sons and three daughters: Jeremiah, who was also a carpenter and spent his entire life in New Jersey; Deborah, who married D. H. Ball and settled in Ohio, where her death occurred; Eliza, who became the wife of Robert Smith and died in this county, whither they removed in 1854; and Mrs. Rhoda Slater, who died in 1907, in Lake Bluff, Illinois.

She was the mother of Henry Slater, a business man of Genoa.

Isaac Q. Burroughs, who completes the family, grew to manhood in his native state and there learned the shoemaker's trade, serving a five years' apprenticeship. For two years he worked at his trade in Asbury, Warren county, New Jersey, and for four years conducted a shop in Washington, the same county. At the end of that time he removed to a farm near Trenton, which he rented and operated for seven years. In 1854 he came to De Kalb county, Illinois, and after spending the first winter in Kingston, he purchased a tract of raw land on section 11, Genoa township, which he fenced and improved, breaking the prairie with both ox and horse teams. His first home here was a rude frame structure, where he lived for some years, and then built a good substantial residence, a barn and other outbuildings. He set out an orchard and made many useful and valuable improvements to the place, which he continued to cultivate for thirty-two years, or until 1887, when he sold the farm and removed to Genoa. Here he bought residence property and now owns two store buildings and a residence. From the former he derives a good income which enables him to lay aside all business cares and live retired in the enjoyment of a well earned rest.

Before leaving New Jersey, Mr. Burroughs was married in Pennington, Mercer county, in 1843, to Miss Christina Baldwin, a native of that state, who died in 1898. To them were born ten children but only four are now living, namely: Henry S. a farmer of Genoa township; David G., a business man of St. Joseph, Missouri; Phoebe, wife of James M. Allen, a business man of Chicago; and Fanny, who now acts as her father's housekeeper. Of those deceased, James Harvey was a soldier of the war of the Rebellion and died in defense of the old flag and the cause it represented. Andrew B. was married and living in Tennessee at the time of his death, which was caused by drowning. Two children died of scarlet fever within a week. Alfred died at Harvard, Illinois, and Archie died in New Jersey in childhood.

Politically Mr. Burroughs was originally an old line whig and cast his first presidential ballot in 1840 for W. H. Harrison, at the time of the log cabin and coon skin campaign, when the cry was "Tippecanoe and Tyler, too." On the organiza-

tion of the republican party he joined its ranks, voting for John C. Fremont in 1856 and for every nominee since that time with exception of one. About 1856 he was elected township assessor and continued to fill that office for a third of a century. He also served as justice of the peace for some years, was a member of the town board and police magistrate for several years. He has been a delegate to many county conventions of his party and has ever taken an active and helpful part in public affairs, doing all in his power to promote the general welfare.

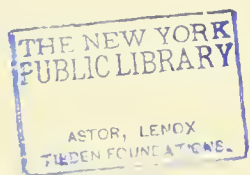
ALONZO DEXTER BLAGDEN, M. D.

Dr. Alonzo Dexter Blagden, whose knowledge, ability and devotion to his profession have made him one of the leading physicians and surgeons of Sycamore, was born at Genoa, De Kalb county, March 24, 1851. He is a son of Warren and Lydia (Tupper) Blagden, the former a native of Maine, and the latter of New York. His grandfather, Charles Blagden, and his great-grandfather, William Blagden, came from England and settled in Maine. The father removed to De Kalb county about 1850, locating at Genoa, where he made his home throughout his remaining days. However, he went to Washington for the benefit of his health and there died in February, 1888. His widow long survived him and passed away in the state of Washington in the fall of 1904. Their family numbered seven children, but only three are now living: Dr. Blagden; Mrs. Mabel Marshall, a resident of Washington; and Fred W., who is living at Goldendale, Washington.

Dr. Blagden supplemented his preliminary education, acquired in the public schools of his native town, by study in the State University, at Champaign, Illinois, and his professional training was received in Bennett Medical College, of Chicago, from which institution he was graduated with the class of 1886. He had previously studied medicine under the direction of Dr. Spears, and for three years owned and operated a drug store at Kirkland. Following his graduation in 1886 he located for practice in Sycamore, Illinois, and has since enjoyed a good patronage, being now the second oldest physician of the city. He soon



DR. A. D. BLAGDEN.



demonstrated his ability to successfully cope with many of the intricate problems which confront the physician in his efforts to alleviate human suffering and restore health, and as the years have gone by he has kept in touch with the progress which is being made by the members of the medical fraternity, as research, investigation and experiment broaden their knowledge and promote their efficiency.

Dr. Blagden was married to Miss Addie B. White, who was born in Sycamore township, upon a farm where a portion of her girlhood days were passed, while the remainder of the time was spent in Sycamore. She was educated in Sycamore and in the Northwestern University at Evanston, Illinois. She afterward removed to Genoa with her parents, Oliver and Mary (Holcomb) White and remained at home until she gave her hand in marriage to Dr. Blagden. Her mother was a daughter of Sylvanus Holcomb, who was one of the pioneers of this county, having located here in 1839. Mrs. Blagden's paternal grandfather was Edward White, a native of New York and a son of James White, who was also born in that state and served as a soldier in the Revolutionary war.

Unto Dr. and Mrs. Blagden have been born four children: Benlah Blanche, who is a graduate of the Sycamore high school and was a student at the Northwestern University, was married on the 8th of August, 1906, to Wilmer H. Stowe, an attorney of Fort Dodge, Iowa; Frank Warren, now eighteen years of age, is also a graduate of the high school; Helen Lucile, sixteen years of age, is a member of the junior class at that school; and Charles Dexter, twelve years of age, completes the family.

Politically Dr. Blagden has always been a republican and, although without aspiration for office, has ever been loyal to the interests of his party, keeping well informed on the questions and issues of the day. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Masonic fraternity and also belongs to the State Medical College. He has made a creditable professional record and in social circles has displayed those strong characteristics which win warm regard and lasting friendship. He is a man of many excellent traits of character and is well liked and popular. Mrs. Blagden organized the Eastern Star lodge at Sycamore

and has always taken an active interest in its work. She is also a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and is a most estimable lady.

EARNEST S. CHAMBERS.

Earnest S. Chambers, a resident of Sycamore, was born in Plano, Kendall county, Illinois, April 7, 1859. His father, Moses Chambers, was a native of Wayne county, Pennsylvania, born August 26, 1821, and his life record, covering a span of eighty years, was terminated March 16, 1901. His wife, Mrs. Sarah Tyler Chambers, who was born in Tompkins county, New York, April 8, 1821, died in Afton township, De Kalb county, March 16, 1880. The year 1859 witnessed the arrival of Moses Chambers and his family in De Kalb county, at which time the son Earnest was but six weeks old, a location being made on section 26, Afton township. At the usual age the boy entered the common schools and spent the greater part of his life to the age of twenty-four years upon the old homestead farm. He has one brother and one sister living, namely: Adelia, who was born January 2, 1850; and Fred S., who was born July 22, 1864, and is now living in Iowa, where he works at the carpenter's trade. A sister, Luverna, born August 29, 1848, became the wife of Henry Richmond and died in 1891.

Earnest S. Chambers early became familiar with the duties and labors that fell to the lot of the agriculturist and he remained upon the home farm, actively assisting in its cultivation until 1880, when he removed to the city of Sycamore. Four years were spent in the lumber business, after which he established a plumbing business, in which he has since continued.

On the 20th of December, 1882, occurred the marriage of Mr. Chambers and Miss Phena S. De Forest, a daughter of Lansing E. and Lurena De Forest. Her father was born in Southville, Herkimer county, New York, May 10, 1832, and her mother at German Flats, Herkimer county, December 31, 1831. They became farming people of De Kalb county, Illinois, although the father was a carpenter by trade and followed that vocation to some extent after removing to the middle west. He is now deceased but his widow still sur-

vives. In their family were seven children: Ella M., who was born October 24, 1852, in Oneida county, New York, and died in 1904; Elizabeth A., who was born in Oneida county, December 25, 1855; Eugene A., born February 17, 1854; Irena B., who was born in 1857 and died July 9, 1866; Phena S., born in October, 1861; Carrie M., born January 1, 1864; and Lettie E., born July 3, 1870. Mr. and Mrs. Chambers are the parents of one son, Lynn De Forest, who was born July 28, 1887, and is now in the employ of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company.

Mr. Chambers belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp, to the Knights of the Globe and the Royal Arcanum, and he is likewise a member of the Commercial Club of Sycamore. In politics he is an earnest republican. He owns a residence at No. 227 North California street in Sycamore in addition to his plumbing business. He and his wife are numbered among De Kalb county's best citizens, having the respect of all who knew them and the warm friendship of many with whom they have come in contact.

CHARLES H. SALISBURY.

Charles H. Salisbury, as vice-president and secretary of the Haish Wire & Implement Company, is one of the prominent representatives of business interests in De Kalb county. His rise to his present responsible position has been a gradual development, in which he has thoroughly mastered every task that he has undertaken and in each forward step he has gained a broader view and wider outlook, leading to greater possibilities. The elemental strength of his character was early shown forth in the determination and ready adaptability which he displayed and as the years have gone by he has risen superior to every difficulty and obstacle that he has encountered, thus making his business career a victorious one.

Mr. Salisbury was born in Barton, Vermont, July 23, 1841. His parents were Henry and Caroline M. (Blake) Salisbury, the former a native of Barton, Vermont, and the latter of Sutton, that state. Both were of English parentage. They came to Illinois in 1856, locating at White Rock, Ogle county, Illinois, but in the fall of the same year removed to De Kalb county. The mother died

in Iowa, while the father's death occurred in the south.

Charles H. Salisbury was a youth of fifteen when he came with his parents to this state. His time was divided between work upon the home farm and in a store and the duties of the schoolroom. He also attended Professor Webb's Academy at DeKalb in 1859 and subsequently was a student in various institutions of learning which fitted him for a larger field of usefulness. When Jacob Haish first commenced business in DeKalb Mr. Salisbury entered his employ and remained with him until the opening of the winter term of school. In the spring of 1861 he entered the postoffice as assistant postmaster under Ira V. Randall, filling that position during the early part of President Lincoln's first administration, or until he responded to the country's call for further aid to crush out the rebellion in the south.

On the 6th of August, 1862, he joined the army as a member of Company K, One Hundred and Fifth Regiment of Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was immediately appointed sergeant of his company and remained at the front for almost three years, or until honorably discharged on the 7th of June, 1865, after the cessation of hostilities. He participated in all of the engagements as the Union forces proceeded from Chattanooga to Atlanta, and was with General Sherman on the march from Atlanta to the sea, and from Savannah to Raleigh, North Carolina, where the main body of Sherman's army was encamped when peace was declared. He was never absent a day from his company except on special duty. At frequent intervals he commanded the company in important engagements and was in full command during the march to the sea and through the Carolinas, and at the close of the war he was brevetted lieutenant by reason of his valor and efficiency. At Washington, D. C., he received an honorable discharge on the 7th of June, 1865, and with a creditable military record returned to his home. He was then but twenty-four years of age and had had three years of arduous military service.

In the winter of 1865-6 Mr. Salisbury returned to the employ of Mr. Haish, who at that time was a lumber dealer, contractor and builder. His advancement came soon because of his capability and fidelity. He has proven himself a most able as-



B. H. Salisbury

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sistant to Mr. Haish and his tact, practical experience and business capacity have been a strong element in the success of the enterprise and in the work of carrying it forward to its present extensive proportions. He is today the vice president and secretary of the Jacob Haish Company, which has become known throughout the world, having a large domestic and export trade. During the long and fiery litigation through which the Haish Manufacturing Company passed the pen and pencil of our subject were frequently brought into requisition for advertising purposes. In the drafting of cartoons and in his readiness to dash off burlesque poetry, he has had few superiors. The fight between the different barb wire manufacturers was very intense, and every effort was made by each to push his wire to the front. In one of his advertisements Mr. Salisbury says:

"Well, perhaps you may be dreaming,
Perhaps you're in a whirl;
Yet somehow Haish's fence is winning
The plaudits of the world."

Some of the opponents of Mr. Haish tried to have a little fun at his expense, because of the fact that he was a "Dutchman." In reply to this Mr. Salisbury writes:

"The June bug has gaudy wings,
The lightning bug has fame;
The 'Dutchman' has no wings at all,
But he gets there just the same."

These rhymes, written by Mr. Salisbury, which were often accompanied by cartoons, created great interest throughout the country and brought the Haish barb wire into considerable prominence. Many were the conjectures made as to who was the writer of the rhymes and the draughtsman of the cartoons, and to this day few people know who was the author. One of the elements in his success has been his ready adaptability, a power that has enabled him to adjust himself quickly to every circumstance and condition and make the best possible use of these. In addition to his connection with the Haish Company Mr. Salisbury is the owner of much valuable property, including city real estate in DeKalb and farming lands and timber in Florida. He has thus by his honesty, industry and enterprise accumulated a nice fortune.

In his fraternal relations Mr. Salisbury is a prominent Mason, belonging to the lodge and also

to a Sycamore commandery, No. 15, K. T. He has ever been a stalwart champion of the republican party which stood as the defender of the Union in the dark days of the Civil war, and for one term he served as a trustee of DeKalb, but has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking. He also served two terms as one of the county supervisors, being a member of the board when the new courthouse was built. The cause of education finds in him a stalwart champion and for two terms he was president of the school board of De Kalb. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Methodist Episcopal church.

On the 1st of May, 1876, Mr. Salisbury was married in DeKalb to Miss Laura M. Wilder, who was born in Vermont, February 12, 1843, a daughter of Oliver and Lamira Wilder. From the age of fifteen years he has made his home in this county, so that his life record is largely familiar to his fellow townsmen, who recognize in him the essential qualities of a successful business man, possessing the typical enterprising spirit of the age. He has displayed in his business career a clearness of mental perception, a stability of purpose and an indefatigable energy, and these inherent and intrinsic qualities are wholly incompatible with failure. He stands today strong in his honor and his good name, in his business and social positions, his life record awakening the admiration of his associates in business and the respect of all who know aught of his career.

GEORGE STEWART MURPHY, M. D.

Dr. George Stewart Murphy, who is conducting a private hospital in Waterman for the exclusive treatment of surgical cases, was born in Chicago, November 28, 1868. His father, John A. Murphy, was a native of Canada and was of Scotch-Irish descent. He came to the United States in 1864, locating in Chicago, where he engaged in business as a contractor, meeting with excellent success, for he possessed considerable ability. He is now living at Vinton, Iowa, at the age of seventy years, having removed to that state in 1904. He is still in active business and his entire life has been characterized by unfaltering enterprise and diligence. He married Catherine L. Wright, who was born

in Canada and is now fifty-eight years of age. She is of Scotch descent and is a member of the Presbyterian church. In the family were three children, George, Maude L., and Henry, the last named being interested in mines in Butte, Montana.

Dr. Murphy of this review was a student in the public schools of Chicago and afterward entered Cornell College. He read medicine with Dr. T. B. Lacey, of Council Bluffs, and entered the medical department of Creighton University at Omaha, Nebraska, in 1893, there pursuing a three years' course, after which he was graduated in the class of 1896. He was externe in St. Bernard's and the W. C. A. hospitals of Council Bluffs during his student days and thus added broad practical training to his theoretical knowledge.

When his college course was completed Dr. Murphy located for practice at Macedonia, Iowa, where he remained for two years and then settled at Burr Oak, Kansas, where he also spent two years. In 1900 he established an office in Chicago, where he continued for two years, also acting as assistant to Dr. O. Beverly Campbell, abdominal surgeon at the post-graduate hospital, and as assistant to other physicians in the same hospital. In August, 1902, he came to Waterman, where he has built up a very successful practice both in medicine and surgery. He left the city on account of his wife's health, but has not found the change unprofitable, for a liberal patronage is accorded him here. In 1904 he established a private hospital, which has more than met his anticipations. It has had many patrons from the beginning and in it he treats surgical cases exclusively. The hospital is well equipped for this work, having all the necessary instruments and appliances, and Dr. Murphy's broad experience and skill well qualify him for this department of practice. He has membership relations with the County and State Medical Societies and also with the American Medical Association.

On the 28th of January, 1897, Dr. Murphy wedded Grace Egiria Bartlett, who was born in Chillicothe, Ohio, June 20, 1876. They now have two children, J. Bartlett and Mary Louise. Dr. Murphy is an Episcopalian in religious faith, while his wife is connected with the Presbyterian church. In politics he is independent, voting for men and measures rather than party. He has no aspiration

for office, preferring to give his undivided time and attention to his professional duties, which he discharges with a marked sense of conscientious obligation.

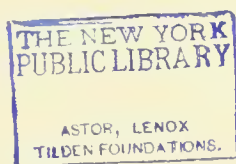
JOHN MAC QUEEN.

John MacQueen is one of the well known and prominent business men of DeKalb county, carrying on a very large stock feeding and shipping business at Kirkland. He was born in Scotland, September 2, 1867. His father, James MacQueen, also born and reared in Scotland, was there married to Miss Isabella Drummond, a Scotch lady. The father was manager of a large stock business in his native country for a number of years, and ere the emigration of the parents to the new world three of their children were born. James MacQueen crossed the Atlantic to the United States and joined his son in DeKalb county in 1898. He now resides upon a farm near Kirkland and is classed with the enterprising agriculturists of the community. His daughter, Mrs. John Edwards, is a resident of Wales, England, while one son, Colin MacQueen, is with a live-stock commission merchant of Chicago.

John MacQueen, the other member of the family, was reared to manhood in the land of hills and heather and acquired good common-school advantages there. He afterward served for five years with McDonald & Frazer, the largest stock-commission firm in Scotland, and during that time he became thoroughly acquainted with the business in principle and detail. For two years he had charge of the firm's offices at Inverness, Scotland, and then, thinking to enjoy better business opportunities in the new world, he came to the United States in 1888, bringing with him a lot of Clydesdale horses and Shetland ponies which he sold in Chicago. Locating in Oregon, Wisconsin, he there imported and dealt in horses for two years. Subsequently he spent one year in California, where he was engaged in the sheep business, and in 1891 came to Illinois, settling first in Kane county, where he fed and dealt in sheep, establishing the first sheep feeding sheds and business in this part of Illinois. There he remained for five years and both exported and im-



JOHN MAC QUEEN.



ported fat sheep and also dealt in horses. In 1896 he came to Kirkland, where he made a permanent location. He purchased land, upon which he has sheds for the shelter of the sheep and also has large feeding capacity for thirty thousand sheep. He now feeds, handles and ships a million and a half head of sheep annually and is one of the most extensive dealers in Illinois. He has purchased land adjoining the town and owns sixteen hundred acres, which he uses for pasture and as meadow land. It is divided into several well-improved farms and the Kishwaukee river drains the land for a distance of two and a half miles and also affords an ample water supply for an extensive stock business. Mr. MacQueen is one of the most progressive and public-spirited citizens of the county and his extensive business interests have been an element in its general prosperity. At Kirkland he put in an electric light plant, which he owns and operates. It was established in 1897, is a well equipped plant and gives an all-night service.

Mr. MacQueen was married in Kirkland, in July, 1898, to Miss Hortense Erickson, who was born in Rockford, Illinois, and is of Swedish and Norwegian parentage. She was reared and educated in her native city. Mr. MacQueen has built a neat and attractive residence in Kirkland and is there most comfortably situated. While he and his wife have no children of their own, they have adopted a son, Wallace MacQueen, to whom they are much attached, rearing and educating him as their own child.

Politically Mr. MacQueen is a staunch and unfaltering republican. He has served for several terms on the town board of Kirkland and has been again re-elected. He served as central committeeman for his district for two terms and has twice been a delegate to the state conventions. He takes a most active interest in the success of his party and his opinions have carried weight in its local councils. Both he and his wife are members of the Kirkland Congregational church and he contributes liberally to its support. He gave to the church a large bell as a Christmas present on the 25th of December, 1906. He has taken an active and helpful part in all the enterprises that tend to upbuild and benefit the community and his labors have been effective and far-reaching. He is a

member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to the lodge at Kirkland, to the chapter at Geneva, the commandery at Sycamore and the consistory at Freeport, Illinois, having thus attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish rite. He is also connected with Medinah Temple of the Mystic Shrine at Chicago and he has served through all of the chairs in the blue lodge, being at present worshipful master.

In the transaction of his business interests Mr. MacQueen has crossed and recrossed the briny deep thirty-one times. He exported sheep and imported horses for many years. In the conduct of his business he employs a large number of men, having a pay-roll of over one thousand dollars per month. He commenced life for himself without a dollar when but sixteen years of age and for the first year received the munificent sum of two dollars and a half per week and boarded himself! The second year he received four dollars per week and the third year five dollars, and during the last two years of his service with the big commission house of Scotland he received seven dollars per week. However, he obtained a practical and thorough business training and today is known as one of the largest dealers in sheep of the Mississippi valley, his reputation extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific. He well merits the success which has come to him, as it has resulted entirely from his perseverance, unfaltering labor and unabating energy. Moreover, he has never selfishly hoarded his wealth, but has kept it in circulation and has responded generously and freely to calls made upon him for co-operation in movements which have been directly beneficial to the county.

JOHN W. HUBER.

John W. Huber, who owns and operates three hundred and forty acres of land in De Kalb county, was a son of Gottlieb and Elizabeth (Heiderscheid) Huber, who came from Germany to the United States in 1855. They located in Malta township, De Kalb county, where the father still lives but the mother passed away in 1898. He has been very successful since coming to this county and in his farming operations has made a place

among the substantial residents of this part of the state.

John W. Huber was born on the old family homestead in Malta township, December 21, 1861, and at the usual age entered the public schools, where he acquired a fair English education. He remained on the farm with his father until twenty-four years of age, when he went to work on the Great Western Railroad, there remaining for three and a half years. He was next identified with the St. Charles Milk Condensing Company at St. Charles, Illinois, where he also spent three and a half years, and on the expiration of that period he invested the money which he had earned in land in De Kalb township, purchasing the farm upon which he now resides and which he has since owned and operated. It comprises three hundred and forty acres of very rich and productive land and he raises the crops best adapted to soil and climate, annually gathering rich harvests. Everything about his place is kept in good condition and he is both practical and progressive in his methods.

In March, 1892, Mr. Huber was married to Miss Amy Searles, a daughter of Stephen and Elmira (Ropps) Searles. Her father is a contractor and builder of St. Charles, Illinois, and both he and his wife are living there. Mr. and Mrs. Huber have four children: William, Etta, Joseph and Fred, three of whom are in school. The parents are well known in De Kalb township and enjoy the warm regard of many friends. Mr. Huber has been an ardent republican for many years but has never aspired to political honors or office. His attention has been devoted to the farm and in the management and control of his property he has displayed good business ability, being justly accounted one of the leading agriculturists of his locality.

HON. MILES BEACH CASTLE.

An enumeration of those men of the present generation who have won honor and public recognition for themselves and at the same time have honored the state in which they belong would be incomplete were there failure to make prominent reference to the one whose name initiates this

sketch. He gained distinctive precedence as a leading business man of marked ability and as a statesman, in which connection he bore himself with such signal dignity and honor as to gain him the respect of all. He was distinctively a man of affairs and wielded a wide influence. A strong mined individuality so entered into his make-up as to render him a natural leader of men and a director of opinion, and this was manifest in both his business and political life.

Mr. Castle was born August 11, 1826, and his life span covered the years up to the 10th of August, 1900. He was a native of Albany, New York, and was a descendant in the third generation of Gideon Castle, who came from England about 1700. The family at one time owned ten thousand acres of land in New York state, and one Gideon Castle was noted during colonial times as a member of the staff of General Washington, filling the position of commissioner with the rank of captain when the commander-in-chief was in New York during the struggle for independence.

Elijah Castle inherited from his father a farm in Dutchess county, New York, which was valued at ten thousand dollars. This he later sold and entered business circles at Albany, New York. He married Deborah Beach, of Dutchess county. Their son, Miles Beach Castle, was reared upon a farm and pursued his education in the academy at Jonesville, New York, from which he was graduated when about twenty years of age. He then accepted a clerkship in a dry-goods store at Glens Falls, New York, and subsequently became general manager of the store which he conducted with success until 1855, which year witnessed his removal westward to Chicago. In 1856 he came to Sandwich, Illinois, and opened a lumberyard. From that time forward he was closely associated with the business interests of the city. He also established the Sandwich Bank in 1856 and continued active in the management and control of both until his death, making them important commercial and financial enterprises of the city. In 1870 he founded the Kendall County Bank at Yorkville, and in 1878, associated with his son, J. B. Castle, he established the *Sandwich Argus*, which is now conducted and owned by his son. He operated his banks with great success for forty-five years and became recognized as one of the foremost, enter-

prising and reliable representatives of financial interests in this part of the state.

It was not alone in business circles, however, that made Miles B. Castle a prominent resident of De Kalb county. He also figured conspicuously in political circles and was known as one whose allegiance was unswerving in support of the cause or movement which he believed to be right. He allied his interests with those of the republican party, becoming an earnest worker in its ranks, and in 1872 was elected upon that ticket to the office of state senator. In 1874 he was re-elected and served as a member of the upper house of the Illinois assembly for six years. He took an active and helpful part in much important constructive legislation and gave careful and earnest consideration to each question which came up for settlement. He was appointed chairman of the committee on public buildings and grounds and as representative at large of the executive mansion and the new capitol at Springfield. Among other bills which he introduced and succeeded in passing was the first bill for the protection of the fish interests in Illinois. He was a member of the republican state central committee, was for years chairman of the executive committee of the Illinois State Equal Suffrage Association and belonged to other organizations which have had direct and far-reaching influence in molding public thought and opinion. He was a member of the State Press Association and of the Press Club of Chicago, and he was the friend and associate of many of the eminent men of Illinois, who regarded him as a peer and honored him for the strength of his character, his mental poise and ability and his practical successes in securing the adoption of principles for which he stood. Fraternally he was a Royal Arch Mason. He possessed, too, literary tastes which made him a wide reader, and at the laying of the corner stone of the new capitol in 1865 he delivered a poem which received favorable comment from the press.

On the 21st of January, 1857, Mr. Castle was united in marriage to Mrs. Free love Kinney Hubbard, at Sandwich, a daughter of Hon. Asa Kinney, ex-senator of California. She was born February 24, 1836, and is a descendant of the Grinnell family, representatives of knighthood in England. Her education was completed in Knox College, at Galesburg, Illinois, and by her marriage she became the mother of one son and two daughters:

John B., born August 13, 1859; Louise R., January 21, 1861; and Grace F., July 27, 1868.

JOHN B. CASTLE.

John B. Castle, in whom is found a worthy successor of a noble sire, was born August 13, 1859, in Sandwich, where he has lived to become an influencing factor in business life. At the age of fifteen he went to work in his father's lumberyard and when nineteen years of age, in connection with his father, established the *Sandwich Argus*, and became also a half-owner of the paper-mills at Yorkville, Illinois. He was connected with that industry from 1886 until 1891, when the mills were destroyed by fire. He had been general manager of the business, which had been conducted upon a paying basis until its destruction. He is now vice president of the Sandwich Bank, and a half owner of a lumber and coal business established by his father, which has been conducted under the firm style of Mosher & Castle, the senior partner being F. S. Mosher. His interests have thus been varied and important and have been an element in the commercial and industrial growth and prosperity of Sandwich and this section of the state. He was for some time in the United States sub-treasury at Chicago, and returning to Sandwich entered the hardware business under the firm style of Castle & Latham, being thus engaged from 1892 until 1898, when he sold out.

In the meantime he took up the study of law and was admitted to the bar on the 13th of January, 1892, after having graduated from the law department of Lake Forest University. In 1898 he entered upon the practice of law in connection with John W. Blee as a member of the firm of Blee & Castle but retired in 1902. In the same year he was elected to the legislature and in 1904 was re-elected, serving as chairman of the judiciary committee in the last session. He is recognized as an able working member of the house, connected with important constructive legislation and giving unfaltering allegiance to the measures which he deems will prove of greatest benefit to his community and the commonwealth at large.

Mr. Castle was married, October 8, 1885, to Miss Mary Latham, a daughter of Joseph and Charlotte

(Esterbrook) Latham. The Lathams came to Illinois in 1838 and the Esterbrooks in 1835. Both families were connected with agricultural interests and the land which was entered by the Esterbrooks from the government and became the original homestead of the family, is still in possession of representatives of the name. Mrs. Castle was born April 16, 1860, and by her marriage has become the mother of two sons: Miles Bert, born October 12, 1895; and Latham, born February 27, 1900.

Mr. Castle is a trustee of the Congregational church and is a thirty-second-degree Mason. He belongs to the Aurora commandery at Aurora, and to the Medinah Temple of the Mystic Shrine in Chicago. He also holds membership relations with the Knights of Pythias. He is very fond of hunting and has indulged his love of this sport in pursuit of large and small game in all the game states. He has never rested upon the reputation of his father but has made for himself through his individual effort a prominent place in the business world, being recognized as an excellent manager and a man of keen discernment, while his re-election to the state legislature is proof of his political prominence and leadership but, moreover, the favorable regard expressed concerning him by those who have known him from his boyhood to the present time is the best indication of the character of the man.

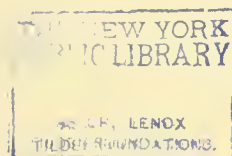
CHARLES W. MARSH.

It is astonishing to think how greatly the world is indebted to De Kalb county for advancement that has been made in connection with the agricultural development of the country. From this district have issued some of the greatest inventions that the world has known—inventions whose value to the farmer is inestimable, in which connection the name of Charles W. Marsh has become a familiar one throughout the United States and Canada. He is a native of the Dominion, but spent much of his life in De Kalb county and his history constitutes no unimportant chapter in its annals. His birth occurred on a farm near Coburg, Ontario, on the 22d of March, 1834, his parents being Samuel and Tamar Marsh. In the

paternal line he is descended from William Marsh, who, fleeing from Kent county, England, in 1650, when the tide of the great civil war in that country turned against King Charles I, became a resident of the new world. He was a royalist and in consequence was in danger of losing his life should he fall into the hands of the followers of Cromwell. Locating in Connecticut, he became the founder of a family that has won prominence in New England and has sent its members into all parts of this country to take their place in various callings of life and business. His youngest son removed to Vermont and from the branch of the family of which he was the progenitor Charles W. Marsh comes. The mother of our subject was connected with the Schermerhorn family of New York.

At an early age Charles W. Marsh began his education and when a youth of ten years was a student in St. Andrews school in Coburg. Two years later he entered Victoria College, where he remained for more than three years, when in 1849 he accompanied his parents on their removal to Illinois. Notwithstanding the fact that his life has been devoted largely to agricultural pursuits he has always been of a studious disposition and spends his leisure hours in familiarizing himself with subjects that add to his large fund of general information. While in college he was especially fond of languages and mastered Latin and French, while in later years he has acquired a good knowledge of Spanish.

The Marsh family on removing to Illinois became residents of De Kalb county. There were the parents, two sons and a daughter, and the father and sons successfully operated the land which the father purchased, transforming it into a very rich and arable farm. The sons, too, early displayed superior mechanical ingenuity and were always improving the farm machinery they used. They soon began dealing in farm machinery; and in addition to managing the home place they operated breaking teams and threshing machines and also bought and sold lands under the firm name of C. W. & W. W. Marsh. During the '50s reapers were generally introduced through northern Illinois. The Marsh brothers had been working with reapers for two or three seasons previous but did not purchase a machine until 1856. With all the reapers of that period, whether hand rake, self

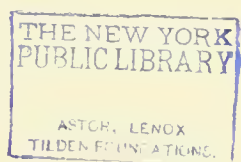




Yours truly
C W Marsh



RESIDENCE OF C. W. MARSH.



rake or dropper, the grain was cut and delivered in gavels upon the ground, the machines saving labor only in cutting, as the gavels had to be taken from the stubble and bound as before. Continually studying to improve machinery, during the harvesting season of 1857 C. W. & W. W. Marsh came to the conclusion that two binders standing upon a machine so constructed as to carry them and to cut and deliver the grain to them at the proper height in good shape could bind as much as four or five men on the ground walking from gavel to gavel, stooping to the stubble and gathering the grain therefrom to bind. The result of their studies was that before the next harvest they had planned and built with the aid of a country blacksmith the first harvester—a machine so constructed as to successfully and practically carry binders whether manual or automatic, with which they cut and bound their harvest of 1858. With this machine the grain was cut, elevated and then delivered down an incline to the arms of the manual binders, just as it is now cut, elevated and delivered down an incline to the arms of an automatic binder. The Marsh harvester, carrying its two binders, effected as great a saving of labor in binding as the reaper had in the labor of cutting. It did even more, for it furnished the foundation for the modern harvesting machine, as it was the first and only machine to which automatic binders could be successfully attached; but it was so entirely different from other grain cutting machinery of that period that its merits had to be demonstrated and established by general public use as a carrier of manual binders before the idea of making it a carrier of an automatic binder was evolved, and many years elapsed before this was accomplished.

The decade of the '70s had come before Locke, the Gordon Brothers, Whittington, Appleby and others began to attach their respective binders to the Marsh harvester. From 1858 until 1863 the firm of C. W. & W. W. Marsh, beside managing their farm and other business interests, were engaged in perfecting the details of their machine and endeavoring to interest capitalists in its manufacture. In 1863 they arranged with the Stewards, of Plano, Illinois, and established there a manufactory, so that the harvester was soon afterward placed on the market. It was operated so

successfully during the season of 1864 that others became interested in its manufacture and a license was granted to Easter & Gammon, who a few years later dissolved partnership and divided up their territory, the business being re-organized by the former under the name of J. D. Easter & Company and by the latter under the style of Gammon & Deering. The shops at Plano were enlarged from year to year and there the harvesters were manufactured for the firm of Marsh, Steward & Company and later for those just named. The firm of Gammon & Deering soon obtained an interest in the Plano shops and finally purchased the entire property. In 1869 the Marsh Brothers established the Sycamore Marsh Harvester Manufacturing Company at Sycamore, Illinois, and in 1876 sold a controlling interest to J. D. Easter & Company, retiring from the business the following year. Easter & Company failed and deeply involved the Harvester Company. The Marsh Brothers then came to the rescue but undertook too much, with the result that in 1881 the business of the Harvester Company was closed out and was succeeded by the Marsh Binder Manufacturing Company. The latter company attempted unsuccessfully to establish a new binder, lost largely and in 1884 failed, dragging down the Marsh Brothers, who were too heavily loaded with the debts of the old concern. Meanwhile the Plano shops had become a great manufacturing plant, turning out thousands of harvesters annually with some automatic binders as early as 1874, and increasing from year to year until 1879, when the firm of Gammon & Deering was dissolved and Mr. Deering removed his interest to Chicago.

In 1885 the Farm Implement News was established and C. W. Marsh, being out of the manufacturing business at that time, became its editor-in-chief, which position he has held continuously since, making this journal of great interest and benefit to the implement industry. The paper was a success from the start and now has a wide circulation in this country and abroad, being one of the leading trade papers of the world. It has been an important element in bringing to the public a knowledge of what is being done in the improvement and development of farm machinery and of possibilities that lie before the agriculturist through the use of modern implements.

Though not strongly partisan or aggressive in politics Mr. Marsh has been a republican since the organization of the party. He was elected to the lower house of the state legislature in 1868 and on the expiration of that term was nominated and elected to the state senate, for his course in the lower house had been one which proved entirely satisfactory to his constituents. He was a wise and able legislator, taking counsel of mature judgment and supporting measures only after careful deliberation. He served for twenty consecutive years as a trustee of the Northern Illinois Hospital for the Insane, leaving that position only when the democratic party came into control of the state, and later he was appointed a trustee by Governor Yates, remaining in the position until he had completed his twenty-five years of service, when under Governor Deneen's administration he resigned. Men of little merit may sometimes secure a position but they cannot hold it, and his long continued service stands in incontrovertible evidence of his fidelity and efficiency and is also indication of the trust reposed in him.

On the 1st of January, 1860, Mr. Marsh was married to Miss Frances Wail, and unto them were born three children, George C., Mary F. and Fannie S., all of whom are yet living. The mother, however, died May 12, 1869, and on the 10th of January, 1881, Mr. Marsh was joined in wedlock to Miss Sue Rogers. In the county where he has long resided he has a very wide acquaintance and his name is equally honored in manufacturing circles, in legislative halls and in private life. True, his have been "massive deeds and great" in one sense and yet what he has accomplished has been but the fit utilization of the innate talents which are his. He has been and is distinctively a man of affairs and one who has wielded a wide influence, and his capabilities and efforts have gained him prestige as one of the foremost men that the state of Illinois can claim as a citizen.

HON. DAVID ALEXANDER SYME.

Perhaps no resident of Sycamore has done more for its development than David Alexander Syme, whose activity has touched its material progress and promoted its public interests. He stands as a high type of that class of American citizens who,

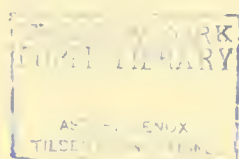
while promoting individual success, also contribute to the general good. He has lived in Sycamore since 1868, and his interests are most closely associated with the city and county. He was born September 15, 1841, in Ballymena, County Antrim, Ireland, and is a son of James and Ann (Young) Syme. The parents were natives of Perthshire, Scotland, belonging to families long established in that place.

Mr. Syme of this review gained his commercial training in two of the largest cities of Ireland. When fifteen years of age he entered a wholesale mercantile house in the city of Belfast, where he remained for five years. He then joined some friends going to Australia and New Zealand and was engaged in mercantile pursuits and in gold mining in those countries for a few years, but the opportunities of the new world attracted him, and on the 28th of March, 1868, he arrived in Sycamore, Illinois, becoming at once a factor in its business life. He began dealing in grain, seeds and agricultural implements in connection with his brother, John Syme, the partnership being maintained for about eight years, when, in 1876, the business relation was dissolved, David A. Syme continuing in the grain trade. He extended his business in this line to Kirkland and other points in the vicinity and for some time was one of the prominent grain merchants of this part of the state. He has also dealt extensively in real estate and as opportunity has offered for judicious investment he has extended his holdings until he is now the possessor of more than seventeen hundred acres of valuable land in this vicinity. He also has large holdings in the west and northwest. He was one of the promoters of the Sycamore Preserve Works and for several years its manager and treasurer. He is now president of the Sycamore National Bank and also occupies the presidency of the Bank of West Chicago and is a stockholder in the First State Bank of Maple Park. He has ever been watchful of opportunities pointing to success, has utilized these to the best advantage and has wrought along modern lines in the development of business interests of extent and importance which have made him one of the most prosperous residents of his adopted county.

His individual interests, however, have not claimed his entire attention, for he has found



David A. Syme



time to devote to public interests and few if any have done more for the development of Sycamore along those lines which are a matter of civic virtue and of civic pride. He has served as mayor of the city, has been president of the school board and also of the Sycamore Chautauqua Association, in which connection he has contributed to the intellectual progress of the community. He has also been a liberal donor to the Sycamore public library, having been chairman of its building committee. To the work of the library he has devoted considerable time and attention and takes just pride in the completion of one of the most modern and attractive library buildings in northern Illinois. He is likewise an active member of the Sycamore Congregational church and belongs to the Congregational Club of Chicago.

On the 3d of February, 1873, Mr. Syme was married to Miss Margaret E. Morton, of Sycamore, who was born in Montreal, Canada. Their home on Somanauk street is one of the handsome residences of the city, reaching a high ideal of architectural beauty both in external and interior arrangement. Mr. Syme possesses untiring energy, is quick of perception, forms his plans readily and is determined in their execution, and these characteristics have been as strongly manifest in his public service as in his private interests. His close application to business and his excellent management have brought him the high degree of prosperity which is today his, and the methods which he has followed have been such as to command for him unqualified confidence and admiration.

JAMES LYNCH.

In the face of difficulties and obstacles which would have utterly discouraged many a man of less resolute purpose James Lynch has worked his way steadily upward and is now successfully engaged in general farming and in the feeding of cattle in Clinton township, where he owns and cultivates two hundred and forty acres of land. He was born in the state of New York, March 1, 1853, and is a son of Thomas and Margaret Lynch, who were natives of Ireland, whence they came to the United States in early life, settling in New York. After some years spent in the east they made their

way westward to La Salle county, Illinois, and in 1865 arrived in De Kalb county, the father purchasing a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Shabbona township. Both died in 1878 and only a week apart. In their family were seven children, of whom James is the eldest. The others were Mary, Anna, George, Thomas, Katie and Charles, of whom Mary is now deceased, while Anna and Katie are living in Ottawa, Illinois.

James Lynch was a young lad when brought by his parents to Illinois, where he has since made his home. He was educated in the public schools of La Salle and of De Kalb counties, being a youth of twelve years at the time of the removal of the family to Shabbona township. He worked in the fields through the period of his boyhood, early gaining practical knowledge of the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops. In 1879 he was married to Miss Elizabeth Cargan, who was born in Ireland, September 12, 1859. Her parents were also natives of that country and both died at the age of seventy-eight years. In their family were nine children: James, Bridget, Julia, Katie, Margaret, Marie, William, Jennie and Elizabeth. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Lynch has also been blessed with nine children: Katie, who was born December 6, 1880, and is the wife of Charles Dugan; Margaret R., who was born December 9, 1882, and is the wife of Stephen Powers; James and Thomas, twins, born September 18, 1886; William, born August 19, 1891; Marie Elizabeth, born June 14, 1894; one who died in infancy; Paul, who was born on the 11th of July, 1898; and Helen, born October 7, 1902.

The family home stands in the midst of a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres of rich and productive land in Clinton township. The fields are well tilled and everything about the place is indicative of the care and labor of the owner. He is an extensive cattle feeder and this branch of his business proves very profitable to him. He is an excellent judge of stock, so that he is enabled to make careful purchases and profitable sales. A few years ago he had the misfortune to lose his home by fire but since that time has erected a fine residence and has also put up substantial barns and outbuildings upon his place, the farm being now well improved in every particular, while the owner is classed with the leading agriculturists of the township. He and his family are members of

St. James Catholic church at Lee, Illinois, and in politics Mr. Lynch is a democrat. He has been school director for twenty years and believes in the employment of competent teachers. His interest in community affairs is that of a public-spirited citizen and one whose loyalty to the general good is above question. As he has carried on his business affairs he has met with a goodly measure of prosperity, his life record proving that success is not a matter of genius, as held by some, nor does it depend upon fortunate circumstances, but may be acquired through persistent, earnest labor.

F. S. AULT.

F. S. Ault is classed among the enterprising agriculturists of Mayfield, his native township, where he owns and operates a well improved farm of one hundred and forty acres, and in addition to carrying on general farming he also raises stock to some extent. Mr. Ault was born on a farm in Mayfield township, a son of Matthias and Sarah Ault, both of whom were born in Pennsylvania and are of German descent. The year 1854 witnessed the arrival of the parents in De Kalb county, and purchasing a farm of two hundred acres in Mayfield township they settled here and this place has been their home to the present time, being today numbered among the substantial citizens of this part of the state.

F. S. Ault was reared in much the usual manner of farm lads, early becoming familiar with the duties and labors of the home farm, which he assisted in cultivating during the summer seasons, while in the winter months he pursued his education in the district schools near his father's home. His early education was supplemented by a two years' course of study at the Illinois State Normal, at Bloomington. He subsequently accepted the principalship of the school at Maple Park, Illinois, continuing in that position for two years, during which time he gave the utmost satisfaction in promoting the intellectual development of that town and community. His health finally became impaired and he went to Texas in the hope of being benefited by the change of climate. Having recuperated his health, he once more returned to De Kalb county and purchased

a farm of one hundred and forty acres in Mayfield township, and this property has continued to be his home to the present time. He raises the cereals best adapted to soil and climate, using the latest improved farm machinery to facilitate his labors, and in addition to the cultivation of his fields, he is also engaged in raising and feeding stock for the market, and this branch of his business is proving a profitable source of income to him. His well directed labors and capable management have brought to him a high degree of prosperity, so that he is today numbered among the leading farmers and stock-raisers of Mayfield township.

Mr. Ault's study of the political questions and issues of the day has led him to give stalwart support to the republican party. He has taken an active part in local political ranks, having served as supervisor and assessor, and he likewise acted on the building committee at the time of the erection of the new courthouse in Sycamore. He is a valuable member of the Masonic order, commanding the highest esteem of his brethren in the craft.

Mr. Ault has spent the greater part of his life in De Kalb county, so that he has a wide and favorable acquaintance within its borders and his upright and honorable principles everywhere command for him the good will and confidence of all with whom he comes in contact.

ROBERT R. RENWICK.

Among the prosperous and representative agriculturists of Mayfield township may be numbered Robert R. Renwick, who owns and operates one hundred and fifty-seven acres of well improved land on section 29. He was born on this place August 15, 1866, a son of George and Mary (Young) Renwick, who were natives of Scotland and Canada respectively. They came to the United States in 1835, settling on the farm which is now the home of our subject.

Robert R. Renwick pursued his education in the district schools near his father's home. He was early trained to the duties of the home farm, assisting his father in the cultivation of the land and the care of the crops, so that he was well fitted to

continue work along this line when he started out in life on his own account. With the exception of a brief period of two years he has spent his entire life on this farm and during the years that have come and gone he has worked diligently and earnestly in his efforts to acquire a competence. He has brought the fields under a high state of cultivation and each year harvests rich and abundant crops as a reward for the care and labor which he bestows upon the fields. He is practical and progressive in all that he does, keeping everything about his place in a good state of repair, so that his property is numbered among the valuable farms of Mayfield township.

Choosing a companion and helpmate for life's journey, Mr. Renwick was married December 17, 1890, to Miss Alice Rote, a daughter of Samuel Rote, a farmer of Mayfield township, and his sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. Two children, a son and daughter, have come to bless the home of Mr. and Mrs. Renwick: Clive Duane, who was born July 19, 1892; and Gladys Irene, born May 11, 1900.

Mr. Renwick gives stalwart support to the republican party and has taken an active interest in its work, having served as tax collector of his township, while for the past twelve years he has served as school director, the cause of education finding in him a warm friend. Fraternally he is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America, belonging to camp No. 47, at Sycamore, while both he and his wife hold membership relations mentality, an invincible courage and most deter-with the Methodist Episcopal church in their township. They are a highly esteemed couple of their community, having a host of warm and lasting friends, while Mr. Renwick is everywhere known as a substantial and reliable man in his business transactions.

SAMUEL A. HALDEMAN.

Samuel A. Haldeman, secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association, at De Kalb, was born in Brown county, Kansas, December 16, 1875. His father, Benjamin Haldeman, was a native of Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, born September 24, 1847. He was a farmer and also a barber, and about 1868 he removed from the east to Illinois.

He married Miss Ella R. Smith, whose birth occurred in Somerset county, Pennsylvania, July 11, 1850, and in 1873 they removed to Kansas, where the death of the wife occurred on the 23d of December, 1905. Later in the year Mr. Haldeman returned to Illinois, where he is now living. A brother and brother-in-law of Mrs. Haldeman were soldiers in the war and after defending the Union cause upon southern battle-fields returned in safety to their homes.

Samuel A. Haldeman began his education in the common schools of Kansas and completed a course in Morrill College in that state. After putting aside his text-books he entered upon newspaper work and was thus engaged for some time, but desiring to devote his life to the religious instruction of young men through the medium of the Young Men's Christian Association, he pursued a special course in training at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. He first entered upon his chosen field of labor in 1901, and for seven months was assistant secretary at Canton, Illinois. He was then appointed secretary at Galva, Illinois, where he remained for two and a half years, and on the 10th of October, 1904, came to De Kalb, accepting the secretaryship of the association here and has since remained. He has the society excellently well organized in its various departments and good work is being done for the physical, mental and moral training of boys and men. Mr. Haldeman is wide-awake, alert and energetic, and an engaging personality is a factor in his success, combined with unremitting zeal and earnest purpose. His sincerity is manifest and his deep and friendly interest is felt by those who come in contact with him.

Mr. Haldeman was married at Morrill, Kansas, August 30, 1896, to Miss Mary E. Hill, who was born in Virden, Macoupin county, Illinois, March 11, 1879. Her parents were Robert W. and Melvina (Wilfong) Hill, the latter a native of Illinois. They were the parents of four children, of whom Mrs. Haldeman was the youngest. The father was married three times, losing his first and second wives by death. His second wife was Emma Pyles, by whom he had one child, and since her demise he has married Mary Smith. Mr. Hill served in the war of the Rebellion, being a bugler of the Fourth Regiment. He remained with the army for four months and was wounded in an en-

gement. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Haldeman have been born two children: Gertrude E., born September 17, 1897; and Miriam L., December 12, 1906.

Mr. Haldeman holds membership in the Mission Baptist church and in politics is an independent republican. He keeps well informed upon the questions of the day, political and otherwise, and in touch with the trend of modern thought and progress. He has won many friends during the two and a half years of his residence in De Kalb county and the earnestness of his purpose and his devotion to duty as he sees it are recognized by all and have won for him the favorable regard in which he is uniformly held.

FRANK LESLIE CARTER.

Frank Leslie Carter, who is engaged in the ice business in De Kalb county, was born in this county about three and a half miles southwest of the city of De Kalb, on the 25th of March, 1862. His parents were Clark and Laura E. (Barber) Carter, of whose family of six children four are yet living, namely: Clarence W., of Shelby, Michigan; Emma A., who is the widow of Harry Jackson and resides in De Kalb; Lillie B., the wife of John Rawson, of De Kalb; and Frank L.

The father is a native of Ohio, born December 16, 1831. During his boyhood days he accompanied his parents on their removal to the state of New York and some years afterward to Chicago, which was then but a small and unimportant village. In fact, the ground was very swampy and the location was considered undesirable as a place of residence, so after a brief period the Carter family came to De Kalb county, the year of their arrival here being 1853. At that time Clark Carter and his brother Orlando entered one hundred and sixty acres of land from the government. Of this Clark Carter soon became sole owner, his brother purchasing a neighboring farm. The land was wild and uncultivated, but with characteristic energy the father began its development and improvement and it was upon this place that his son, Frank Leslie, was born. In fact, the farm remained the family home until 1875, when the father sold the property and removed to De Kalb.

Here he engaged in the livery business, building the barn now owned by Mike Hanrahan. Seven years later he sold his livery business and in the meantime he had engaged in the machinery and farm implement business in partnership with Richard Roberts under the firm name of Carter & Roberts. This connection was continued for five years, when a change in partnership led to the selection of the firm style of Carter Brothers, D. H. Carter having acquired Mr. Roberts' interests. This partnership existed for eleven years, when Frank L. Carter of this review became a member of the firm as a successor of his uncle. For a year thereafter the business was conducted under the name of Carter & Son. In 1898 they sold out to Sheets, Knodle & Company, the father retiring to private life.

At that time Frank Leslie Carter engaged in the ice business, in which he has prospered. His progressive methods have been demonstrated in the success which has attended him and in 1906 he built an artificial lake near the town, cementing the sides and bottom. This he fills from a drilled well, pumping the water by a gasoline engine and thus obtaining a product absolutely pure. He is also a heavy buyer of outside ice, which is shipped to him from Crystal and Geneva lakes, Wisconsin. His patronage has become very extensive and he is now recognized as one of De Kalb's leading business men.

Mr. Carter acquired his education in the public and high schools of De Kalb and as early as his fifteenth year was employed by the firm of Carter Brothers, with whom he remained during the period of their business life. About 1888, in partnership with his uncle, D. H. Carter, he purchased a steam threshing machine, which was the second in this section of the country. They operated this early and late and after the threshing season was over in Illinois they continued in business in Minnesota and the Dakota wheat fields. This proved to be a most profitable investment, and when Frank L. Carter purchased his uncle's interest in the implement business he also acquired his interest in the thresher, which he continued to operate for four years, when he sold out. He is a man of excellent business capacity and enterprise, carrying forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes. He forms his plans readily, is notably



CLARK CARTER

energetic, prompt and reliable and has made steady progress on the high road to prosperity.

Mr. Carter was married in 1893 to Miss Julia E. Mearns, of De Kalb, a daughter of Thomas Mearns, a retired farmer now deceased. His social relations are with De Kalb lodge, No. 144, A. F. & A. M.; De Kalb lodge, No. 215, K. P.; and the Knights of the Globe. He exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party, but is liberal in his views and at local elections votes for the candidate whom he regards as best qualified for office. He is now serving as a member of the board of aldermen of De Kalb and exercises his official prerogatives in support of all those plans which have for their object the substantial development and improvement of the city.

DANIEL B. ARBUCKLE.

With the farming interests of this county Daniel B. Arbuckle has been identified since reaching manhood and is today the owner of a fine farm of one hundred and eighty acres on section 10, Kingston township. He was born in that township on the 17th of February, 1845, and has spent his entire life at his birthplace. His father, Joseph Arbuckle, was a native of Erie county, Pennsylvania, born in 1805, and was reared there, learning the harness-maker's trade during his youth. When yet a young man he went to Summit county, Ohio, where he remained for several years, and while there he was married to Miss Amanda Smith, a native of that county, which was also the birthplace of two of their children. Three other children were added to the family after their removal to Illinois. It was in 1839 that they came west, the journey being made with an ox team, and on landing in De Kalb county Mr. Arbuckle found that he had only two dollars and a half in money and a few household effects, but he immediately went to work to provide for his family and build up his fortune in this new and undeveloped country. He purchased a government claim of eighty acres and after erecting a house thereon he at once turned his attention to the raising of crops. For sixty years he made this place his home and meeting with good success in his farming operations

he accumulated a vast estate, adding to his property a little at a time until he owned one hundred and fifty acres. He continued to reside upon his farm until called from this life in 1897, at the advanced age of ninety-two years. His wife had died in 1893, at the age of eighty.

Daniel B. Arbuckle is the third in order of birth in their family of five children and the first of the number born in Illinois. His early life was passed amid agricultural scenes and when not in school, which he attended only through the winter months, he aided in the work of the farm as his age and strength permitted. He remained with his father until he attained his majority and then rented a farm which he operated for five years prior to his marriage and for the same length of time after that event took place. He then bought the farm, consisting of one hundred and twenty acres and to its further improvement and cultivation he devoted his energies until 1887. Selling that place he purchased his present farm of one hundred and eighty acres on section 10, Kingston township, and has since added to and remodeled the house, has built a good barn, granaries and substantial outbuildings, has tilled and fenced the land and now has a well improved farm under a high state of cultivation. He raises good graded stock, making a specialty of Poland China hogs and Durham cattle, usually keeping from twenty-five to thirty-five milch cows for dairy purposes.

On the 23d of March, 1871, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Arbuckle and Miss Catherine E. Heckman, a native of Morgan county, Ohio, and a daughter of Philip Heckman, who came from that state to Illinois in 1854. Five children blessed this union, but Fred, the first born, died at the age of five years. Jennie is the wife of O. D. Shierk, of Knoxville, Illinois, and they have three children, Earl, Marguerite and Dorothy. Sadie E. is the wife of Guy Harrington, a farmer of Malta township, and they have three children, Carroll, Evelyn and Helen. Philip has for the past three years been a teacher in the military academy at Upper Alton. He is a graduate of the Belvidere high school and spent three years at the De Kalb Normal and the same length of time at the State University. Frank D., the youngest of the family, is now at home. He recently resigned from the United States navy, where he spent four years and

a half and he holds the six-inch gunshot championship of the world, an honor lately conferred upon him."

Mr. and Mrs. Arbuckle attend the Baptist church, of Kingston, of which she is a member, while he is now serving as trustee of the church. Fraternally he belongs to Kishwaukee lodge, A. F. & A. M., of Kingston, in which he has held the office of treasurer, and is also connected with Kingston camp, M. W. A., of which he was venerable consul for one year. His political support is given the republican party and he has been called upon to fill several township offices, being the present supervisor, which position he has held for seven years. He takes a deep interest in educational affairs and for fifteen years has held the offices of school director and trustee. The community recognize in him a valued and useful citizen, one devoted to the public welfare and no trust reposed in him has ever been betrayed.

HON. HARVEY A. JONES.

No history of De Kalb county would be complete without mention of Hon. Harvey A. Jones, the senior member of the bar. His citizenship, too, has been of that high character which works for general improvement and progress and the bent of his active mind has made him take a lively pleasure in the study of the sciences of government. Although he has held but few political offices, he has been a more active and efficient politician than many who have devoted their undivided time to public affairs and who have been of far greater official distinction than has ever fallen to him. He has been a vigilant and attentive observer of men and measures and his close study of the conditions of life in all its phases has been one of the strong elements in his success at the bar.

Mr. Jones was born near Lafayette, Indiana, October 17, 1837, and is descended from Welsh ancestry, the first representative of the family in America having come from Cardiganshire, South Wales, and settled on the Delaware Welsh tract in 1710, where yet stands the old Baptist church, in which five of his ancestors preached the gospel prior to the Revolution and which bears the marks of many British bullets that were imbedded in its

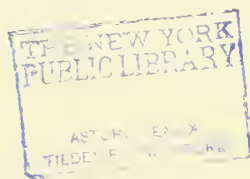
walls during the struggle for independence. Rev. David Jones, the great-great-great-grandfather, was born in Forest ap Llanwenog, Cardiganshire, Wales, in 1668, and braved the dangers incident to a voyage at that time, settling in 1710 in Newcastle county, Delaware, where his death occurred August 20, 1748. He was a Calvinist Methodist clergyman and married Esther Morgan, a daughter of Morgan ap Rhydrith, chieftain in Cardiganshire under Cromwell. Their son, James Jones the great-great-grandfather of our subject, was born in Wales, in 1707, and was brought by his parents to America in 1710, spending his remaining days in Newcastle county, Delaware, where he departed this life, May 26, 1786. He was a Baptist clergyman and served in the American army under General Gates at the time of the Revolutionary war as chaplain and surgeon. He married Susanna Williams, of the Welsh tract of Newcastle county, Delaware.

Daniel Jones, the grandfather, was born near Wilmington, Delaware, April 10, 1754, and died in Clark county, Ohio, May 12, 1832. His wife was Mary Alston. He became a pioneer in West Virginia and for three years resided in Greene county, Pennsylvania, subsequent to which time he settled in Clark county, Ohio. Rev. David Jones was chaplain of the regiments commanded by Mad Anthony Wayne and by General Gates in the war for independence. He was a cousin of Daniel Jones and the grandfather of Horatio Gates Jones, historian of Philadelphia.

David Jones, father of our subject, was born near Richmond, Virginia, February 18, 1798, and went with his parents to Monongalia county, Virginia, now West Virginia, when but three years of age. He became a pioneer resident of Clark county, Ohio, when a youth of sixteen years and in early manhood removed to Indiana, where he died November 11, 1849, after assisting in the reclamation of that district for the purpose of civilization. He wedded Mary Owens, a daughter of Asa and Deborah (McMunn) Owens, who were southern Quakers, and whose ancestors were of the Oglethorpe settlement at Savannah, Georgia, where the paternal ancestors of Jefferson Davis also located. Jonathan Owens, the father of Asa, had his right hand cut off by the British during the Revolution because he would not fight, warfare being contrary to the teachings of his religion. Asa Owens' peo-



H. A. JONES.



ple were also from Wales, and, as stated, were connected with the Society of Friends or Quakers. The ancestors of Deborah McMunn were also Quakers and came from the north of Ireland, locating in Georgia with the Oglethorpe settlers. The Owens family was also established in Clark county, Ohio, at a very early day, settling near Dayton, in 1812, and it was in that state that the parents of our subject were married. During their early married life they removed to Tippecanoe county, Indiana. Their family numbered ten children: Amanda, who married Benjamin Morehouse, is now deceased. John M. C., who was among the early seekers for gold in California, where he established his home, later became sheriff of Siskiyou county and died in 1882. Abel went to Oregon. James O. was graduated from the law department of the University of Michigan, but later became a farmer of Indiana. Deborah married Owen Hill and is now deceased. Lewis was a resident farmer of Missouri. Levi M., who was a real-estate agent at Fort Wayne, Indiana, has also passed away. Harvey A. is the next of the family. David C. was a graduate of the law department of the University of Michigan and figured prominently in political circles in Tippecanoe county, Indiana, but is now deceased. Asa F. was a physician and resided on the old homestead at Grand Prairie, Indiana, until his death.

No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for Harvey A. Jones in his boyhood days. He worked in the fields through the summer months and in the winter seasons attended the public schools of the neighborhood until seventeen years of age, when he matriculated in Wabash College, at Crawfordsville, Indiana, completing his literary course, however, in Lombard University, at Galesburg, Illinois. After leaving college, in 1861, he went to Missouri, where he engaged in teaching, but after a few months, owing to the outbreak of the Civil war, he was compelled to change his plans. Returning to Illinois he entered the law office of Hon. A. M. Harrington, of Geneva, Kane county, under whose direction he pursued his preliminary reading until 1863, when he entered the University of Michigan, being graduated from the law department there in 1865. He located for practice in Sycamore, Illinois, and is today the oldest member of the De Kalb county bar, having for about forty-two years been con-

nected with the profession at this place. He first formed a partnership with Daniel B. James, later county judge, with whom he was associated until 1869. He afterward practiced as a partner of Charles A. Bishop, now judge of the sixteenth judicial circuit, who became associated with him in 1880, after having been a student in his office. This relation was maintained until the elevation of Judge Bishop to the bench in 1887. The law firm was recognized as a most strong and able one and there were few cases of importance tried in De Kalb county in which they were not retained for the defense or the prosecution. In October, 1891, Mr. Jones formed a partnership with C. D. Rogers, which still continues, and they have a pleasant suite of rooms above the Sycamore National Bank. Mr. Jones has practiced in both the state and federal courts and has been retained on many important cases. He recognizes the fact that the trial of a case depends upon the careful preparation done in the office and when he enters the court room he is well qualified for the attack as well as for the defense, as the case may be. He studies his case from every standpoint, marshals his evidence with the precision of a military commander and is logical in his deductions. He presents his plea with force and earnestness. His mind is naturally analytical and inductive. He never seeks to cloud his case in any sentimental garb or elusion, but makes it his practice to put into force the theory that it is the aim and purpose of the lawyer to aid the court in arriving at decisions.

Mr. Jones is a valued member of various fraternal organizations. He is well known as a Knight Templar Mason, affiliates with the Odd Fellows and the Knights of the Globe. Stanch in his republicanism, he was presidential elector for the fifth Illinois district in 1888 and has stanchly upheld the principle and policy of the party. He has always been an ardent temperance man and with voice and pen has labored for the cause, pleading, however, that its interests are best secured through the republican party than through an independent temperance organization. Over his public and private life there falls no shadow of wrong nor suspicion of evil, for at all times he has adhered to a high standard of conduct, has been actuated by honorable purposes and in his relations with his fellowmen has manifested a realization of individual obligation.

Mr. Jones has been particularly happy in his home surroundings, as an ideal companionship has existed between himself and his wife, who is a lady of literary culture and natural refinement. On the 22d of February, 1861, at the home of Rev. J. P. Fuller, in Galesburg, was consummated his marriage to Miss Sarah Dudley Perkins. She was born October 14, 1838, at St. Charles, then Charleston, Kane county, Illinois, a daughter of Otho Williams Perkins, who came from Boston, Massachusetts, to Illinois, in June, 1834, settling in Kane county where his only brother, Ephraim, was living. Otho W. Perkins was born in Hebron, Grafton county, New Hampshire, June 16, 1806, and was two years the senior of his brother Ephraim. He married Nancy Kelley at St. Charles, Illinois, January 6, 1838. She was born in Newhampton, Belknap county, New Hampshire, July 13, 1807, and was a daughter of Dudley and Ruth (Dow) Kelley. Her education was obtained in Newhampton Female Seminary, once the leading preparatory school of New England. Her father, who was one of the trustees of the school for many years was a man of scholarly attainments and devoted much of his life to teaching. He was born in Exeter, a suburb of Brentwood, New Hampshire, in 1761, and was a student of Philips Exeter Academy. At the age of sixteen years he enlisted for service in the Revolutionary war. His father was Darby Kelley, a son of Daniel Kelley, who was born in Waterford, Ireland, in 1790, and who at the age of ten years ran away to sea becoming cabin boy on a ship of which his cousin was captain. He thus made his way to Portsmouth, New Hampshire. He then refused to re-cross the ocean and was left by his kinsman in the new world, after which he never saw or heard from any of his people again. He was adopted by the family of Phillip Huntoon, whose daughter Sarah he married when twenty-eight years of age. His second wife was Sarah Dudley, a granddaughter of the Rev. Samuel Dudley, of the first Exeter settlement. Rev. Dudley was the eldest son of Governor Thomas Dudley, second colonial governor of the Massachusetts colony, and the first wife of Rev. Dudley was the daughter of Governor Winthrop. The mother, Nancy (Kelley) Perkins, was Ruth Dow, who was born in Old Hampton, New Hampshire, and her father, Jonathan Dow, was an own cousin of Lorenzo Dow the eccentric preacher who

visited at the home of Dudley Kelley in 1810, when Nancy Kelley was three years of age. This was during Lorenzo Dow's last tour through the New England states. The American ancestry of the Dow family was also the ancestry of Neal Dow, the famous Maine law champion.

The father of Otho Williams Perkins was born in Ipswich, Massachusetts, and was descended from "Quartermaster" John Perkins, who came from Gloucestershire England to Salem in the ship *Lyon* in 1628 with Roger Williams and an ancestor of Ralph Waldo Emerson as fellow passengers. From Salem he went to Ipswich. The wife of Jacob Perkins was the maternal grandmother of O. W. Perkins. She bore the maiden name of Hannah Andrews and was a descendant of Captain John Andrews, who located at Ipswich in 1630. Captain John Andrews was also the ancestor of John A. Andrews, the war governor of Massachusetts at the time of hostilities between the north and the south. The mother of Otho Williams Perkins was Thirza Dearborn, who died when her son was but five years of age. She was a descendant of Godfrey Dearborn of the first settlement of Exeter, New Hampshire, then part of the Massachusetts colony, who came from Devonshire, England, in 1628. He was also the American ancestor of Major General Henry Dearborn, the commander-in-chief of the war of 1812, and the one for whom Fort Dearborn, now Chicago, was named. The mother, Thirza Dearborn, the maternal grandmother of Otho W. Perkins, was Abigail Ward a daughter of the Rev. Nathan Ward, who was the first Congregational clergyman of Plymouth, New Hampshire. Abigail Ward was a descendant of William Ward, of Sudbury, who was also the ancestor of Artemus Ward, who was the first provincial major general in the Revolution before the selection of Washington as commander-in-chief.

Mrs. Jones was the eldest of the three children of Otho W. Perkins, her two brothers dying before she was eighteen years of age. The youngest, Otho W. Perkins, Jr., died April 15, 1855, at the age of fourteen years, and Jonathan Dudley died July 8, 1856, at the age of sixteen years. Mrs. Jones attended a select school at St. Charles and spent one year as a student in St. Agatha's Academy, Sisters of Mercy, of Chicago, where she was awarded the gold medal for composition in 1855. The old academy building before the Chicago fire

stood upon the present site of Mercy hospital. In August, 1857, she entered Lombard University, at Galesburg, for the four years' classical course. At the same time Mr. Jones was a student there and they were married while in Galesburg. They became the parents of seven children. Dudley Kelley, the eldest, was born and died at St. Charles, Illinois, May 5, 1862. Mary Fuller, born at St. Charles, May 10, 1863, was married in Sycamore, November 27, 1884, to Elmer Jerome Baker, publisher and one of the proprietors of the *Chicago Farm Implement News*. They have two children: Ruth Mary, born September 29, 1885; and Elmer Jerome, born January 13, 1889. Owen Dudley, born at Sycamore, November 21, 1865, died January 21, 1867. Anna Kelley, born in Sycamore, February 10, 1869, was married July 10, 1889, to George Manford Clayberg, of Oak Park, who is principal of the McKinley high school, Chicago, and they had four children: Harold Dudley and Harvey Alston, twins, who were born January 24, 1892, but the latter died on the 3d of July of the same year; Dorothea Marian, born July 27, 1893; and Georgine M. Clayberg, born in July, 1901. Harvey Alston, Jr., was born at Sycamore, October 28, 1871, and died April 12, 1880. Sarah Dudley, born at Sycamore, June 24, 1873, died on the 15th of July following. David Dudley, born at Sycamore, July 21, 1874, died April 5, 1880.

Mr. and Mrs. Jones occupy a beautiful home in Sycamore and are among the most prominent residents of the city. They have been residents of the city since 1865 and have been closely associated with all those movements and interests which have had direct bearing upon the material, intellectual, moral and social progress. Mr. Jones has long been recognized as a man of strong force of character, native intelligence and marked individuality, and in the practice of law has been recognized as an ideal follower of his calling, for, while his devotion to his clients' interests is proverbial, he never forgets that he owes a higher allegiance to the majesty of the law. He is today the oldest member of the De Kalb county bar and is president of the De Kalb County Bar Association. He is a man of individual native force and scholarly attainments, owing to his broad and comprehensive reading. Throughout his life he has been a student not only of his profession, but of general literature as well and his life

has been enriched by the thoughts of the master minds of the ages.

The summer of 1900 Governor Tanner appointed Mr. Jones a commissioner from Illinois to the Paris Exposition and Mrs. Jones accompanied him abroad. They sailed in June with their daughter, Mrs. Clayberg, from Oak Park, and were joined abroad by their daughter, Mrs. Baker, and granddaughter, Miss Ruth M. Baker, who was at school in France. Together they made a tour of the principal countries in Europe, Mrs. Jones remaining abroad, most of the time in France and England, until October, 1902.

JAMES D. GORMLEY.

James D. Gormley, who makes his home in Pierce township where he carries on general farming, was born June 1, 1840, in Boston, Massachusetts. He came to Illinois in May, 1852, when a lad of twelve years in company with his parents, James and Mary (Dornley) Gormley. The father was born in County Tyrone, Ireland, in 1797, and died in the year 1885. The mother, whose birth also occurred in County Tyrone in 1801, has likewise passed away. The parents came to the new world in the '30s, settling first in Boston, Massachusetts, and later Mr. Gormley established the first iron works at Antietam, Georgia. He came to Illinois in 1851 taking up his abode on the farm where his son James now resides. The old home in which he first lived, is still standing, it being one of the old landmarks of the county, a mute reminder of the changes which time and man have wrought.

James D. Gormley, coming to De Kalb county in early boyhood days, was largely reared upon the home farm and early became familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of an agriculturist. He attended the district schools of Pierce township and after he arrived at years of maturity made preparations for having a home of his own by his marriage on the 14th of June, 1876, to Miss Mary Finley, who was born April 11, 1854, and who was also reared and educated in Pierce township. They have become the parents of three children: Thomas, who was born April 8, 1877; Mrs. Catherine Coffey, born April 21, 1879;

and James D., Jr., born July 1, 1883. Mr. Gormley and his family are members of the Roman Catholic church and he gives his political support to the democracy.

The family home is a valuable farm of two hundred and forty acres of choice land worth between one hundred and one hundred and twenty-five dollars per acre. Mr. Gormley has achieved success by hard work and good management. He started out in life on his own account, empty-handed, and today is owner of an excellent property. In the midst of the farm stands a beautiful residence which is one of the finest homes in Pierce township, and in addition are good barns and out-buildings which furnish ample shelter for grain and stock. All this has been won through the untiring efforts of Mr. Gormley and he has indeed led a busy and useful life. He is, moreover, one of the prominent and influential men of the community, respected and esteemed by all who know him, and that he has the confidence and trust of his fellow townsmen, is indicated by the fact that for twenty years consecutively he has been township supervisor.

MICHAEL MOREHEART SHELLABERGER.

Michael Moreheart Shellaberger is one of the most notable characters in the history of De Kalb. He has attained that venerable age of eighty-nine years but in spirit and interest seems a much younger man, retaining unimpaired his mental faculties and inventive genius. He is yet an active worker at the bench where his experiments are carried on and since attaining the age where many would put aside the active cares of life he has brought forth a number of valuable inventions.

Mr. Shellaberger was born in the county of Northumberland, Pennsylvania, December 27, 1818. His father, David Shellaberger, a native of Mifflin county, Pennsylvania, was a farmer by occupation and died at the age of eighty-seven years, while his wife, Mrs. Catherine (Moreheart) Shellaberger, died at the age of sixty years. In the paternal line the family is descended from Swiss ancestry, the great-grandfather having been born in Switzerland, while the grandfather was born in Pennsylvania. The maternal ancestry, both

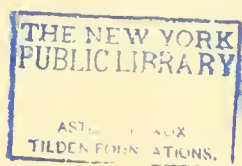
in its lineal and collateral branches, has been distinctively American since an early period in the colonization of the new world.

Mr. Shellaberger had most limited educational privileges and the literary knowledge that he possesses has been acquired through his own efforts since he has attained his majority. He has always had a strong thirst for knowledge and has carried forward his reading and investigation along many lines and will continue to be a student to the end of his days. He says that his greatest pleasure in his past life has been in thinking, and that he has put his thought to good use is shown in the fact that nineteen patents have been granted him upon inventions which have been evolved through the clear conception of his brain and hand. Four thousand dollars were paid him by one manufacturing company for the invention of a single machine beneficial to its plant. In early boyhood he found it necessary to work on the home farm and continued to engage in farming until twenty years of age, but even in his youth his inventive spirit and ingenuity found tangible form. Fond of pleasure and especially of skating, and knowing there would be no ice in the summer time, he invented and constructed a pair of wooden roller skates, which worked successfully upon the smooth, dry, hard roads. He therefore claims to be the first inventor of the roller skate.

Mr. Shellaberger removed from Pennsylvania to Ohio and afterward came to Illinois, settling at Joliet. Later he took up his abode in Indiana and subsequently was a resident of Hamilton, Caldwell county, Missouri, where for three years he engaged in the hardware business. While thus engaged the manufacture of barb wire fencing was yet in its incipiency and prices were high. This caused Mr. Shellaberger to think how best to compete with the trade. He bought a hand-power machine and made what wire he could sell by hand, while still in the hardware trade. After selling out his hardware business he and his son Edward F. removed to Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania, and engaged exclusively in the manufacture of wire fencing of various styles in partnership with the Hartman Fence Manufacturing Company, with which they were connected for five years. They then sold their interest in the company and in the fall of 1891 came to De Kalb and commenced the erection of a building in which to manufacture



M. M. Shellabarger.



wire fencing of various styles under the name of the De Kalb Fence Company. From the start until the present time the business has been under the direct supervision of the son, while Mr. Shellabarger's part in the enterprise is to study out the construction of machinery best adapted for their purpose. He finds his greatest pleasure in such work and believes that no one is too old to do useful thinking. Fifteen of his patents have been granted him since he passed the age of sixty-five years and at present he has a workshop in the garret of his pleasant home, where, as he says, he can make his mechanical thoughts visible with tools.

Mr. Shellabarger has a military experience covering five years, during which time he conducted himself in such a manner that no charge of misdemeanor was ever preferred against him. In 1841 he enlisted in the Fourth Regiment, United States Infantry, becoming a member of Company A. Two years later General Grant became second lieutenant of the company and General Taylor was in command when Mr. Shellabarger was discharged at Corpus Christi, Texas, on the expiration of his term of enlistment. He was then acting as sergeant of his company. On the 22d of December, 1842, his regiment became engaged in an Indian fight in the Everglades of southern Florida, and this was the only place where he saw dead soldiers buried under the water in the places where they fell, pierced by Indian bullets. His experiences about this time are best told in his own words after five years of service:

"I was offered fifty-two dollars per month and double rations if I would remain with the regiment in the quartermaster's employ during the Mexican war, but having already served five years under military restriction, fifty-two dollars per month with double rations was no inducement for me to remain with the good old regiment any longer. So, after receiving my discharge and once more becoming my own boss, I bought a Mexican pony and saddle, for which I paid twelve dollars, and on the 17th of November, 1845, started from Corpus Christi, in southwestern Texas, with my pony outfit and five days' rations, for Alexandria on the Red river in Louisiana. The distance thus traveled with two companions, who knew the route, was six hundred miles. The first half of the distance was but sparsely settled by white men and we found but one family in the first one hundred

and forty miles but plenty of uncivilized Indians. We had to be very cautious the first sixty miles owing to the treachery of these southwest Indians. In this section the price of good prairie land at that time was from six and a quarter to twelve and a half cents per acre. The most interesting natural view I beheld in making my homeward journey through the wilds of southern Texas was a small body of clear water, known as Sour lake, the water tasting of citric acid, but why it thus tasted was not known until long afterward, when it was found that the great pressure of an unknown quantity of coal oil and natural gas underlying the bed of the lake forced the gas through the porous earth into the water, causing white bubbles filled with gas to rise and explode, causing the water to become of an acid taste. Strange indeed was this to me at that time for the reason that I was entirely ignorant of the force and laws of nature, but being of an inquisitive turn of mind from my childhood days down to the present and ever striving for knowledge based on truth, I know more today than yesterday and the phenomenon above alluded to is no longer a mystery. The secret is no longer hidden, as men have tapped the earth on the borders of Sour lake and it is now embellished with coal oil and natural gas wells. Had I known sixty-two years ago what I now know I would have bought five hundred acres of land bordering the lake, as I had ample money to pay for the land at the prices held and still have enough left to pay my traveling expenses home. But as ignorance is so much easier retained than successful knowledge gained, I live without worrying over the past."

Following his discharge from the army Mr. Shellabarger was married on the 9th of December, 1847, in Covington, Miami county, Ohio, to Miss Elizabeth Jane Young, of that place. Unto them were born six children, four sons and two daughters, all of whom are now married and have homes of their own. During his army service Mr. Shellabarger was stationed for a time on the site of the present city of Tampa, Florida, which state was then under territorial rule, and where the city now is was a military camp covered with underbrush and live oak trees. This property still belongs to the government and has been unmolested save that the underbrush has been cleared away. Mr. Shellabarger was often selected by his com-

manding officer to fire the morning and evening gun under one of these live oak trees. After an absence of fifty-four years he returned to this spot in company with his wife, being at that time on a pleasure trip. They visited many noted places in Florida, including Tampa, and Mrs. Shellaberger was greatly interested in seeing the tree under which her husband had fired a cannon during his soldier career and of which she had often heard him speak.

In many respects Mr. Shellaberger is a remarkable man. Though now eighty-nine years of age he still displays great activity and finds much delight in working out inventions and in studying out new ideas, many of which have taken tangible form. He is a man of sterling character, who started out without financial aid but who has, through the careful management of his business interests, worked his way up from a humble position to one of wealth. He is a most interesting and entertaining man, with whom it is a delight to meet and converse, and in De Kalb is numbered among the most honored, respected and valued citizens.

HARMON M. STARK.

Harmon M. Stark, living in Kingston township, is one of the honored veterans of the Civil war, whose military record was most creditable. He is well known in both business and social circles in his county and is a worthy representative of one of the honored pioneer families so that he well deserves mention in this volume. His birth occurred at Sycamore, on the 5th of July, 1842, and he is a son of Marshall Stark, who was born in Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, August 12, 1813. He was a most prominent pioneer settler and the first sheriff of the county. The paternal grandparents, Oliver and Betsy (Dixon) Stark, were both natives of the Keystone state and were descended from old New England stock, tracing the line back to the same ancestry from which General Stark of Revolutionary fame was descended.

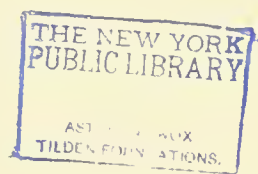
Marshall Stark was reared in the county of his nativity and after acquiring a good education devoted his early life to teaching school during the winter months, while in the summer seasons he

was engaged in the work of the farm. The tide of immigration was steadily flowing westward, bringing to the Mississippi valley hundreds of substantial settlers from the older east who recognized the natural resources of the country and began its development. In the summer of 1835 Marshall Stark made his way to Illinois and secured a claim near Rockford in Winnebago county, but made no permanent settlement at that time. On returning to Pennsylvania he taught school through the succeeding winter, but in the spring of 1837 he again came to De Kalb county, locating a claim on what are now sections 20 and 21, Sycamore township. He purchased his land from the government when it was placed upon the market and in true pioneer style began life in the west, his home being a log cabin which he built near the timber. He turned the first furrows in the fields and continued the work of improving the farm until the fall of 1841, when he again went to Pennsylvania, being married there on the 5th of October of that year to Miss Louisa Tyler, a native of Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania, born December 16, 1820, and a daughter of Royal and Mary (Southwick) Tyler, both of whom were natives of Connecticut. They settled in Pennsylvania in the fall of 1820 and there the daughter, Louisa, was reared to womanhood.

Two weeks after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Stark started for their new home in the west, driving across the country with horse teams. The log cabin remained their place of abode for three years and was then replaced by a more comfortable and pretentious frame residence, in which they resided for a long period. Careful of expenditures, industrious and energetic work, Mr. Stark entered upon an era of prosperity that gained him the reputation of being one of the most energetic, thrifty and capable business men in De Kalb county. His fitness for official service was also recognized and in 1848 he was elected sheriff of the county, in which capacity he served for three years. At the beginning of his service he removed to Sycamore and during his term of office he opened a hotel in Sycamore, which he conducted for six years. At the end of that time, however, he sold out his business interests in the county seat in 1853 and returned to his farm, which comprised five hundred acres of fine land, well



HARMON M. STARK.



improved and conveniently and pleasantly located about a mile and a half from Sycamore. He was called to several public offices, serving as assessor, school director and supervisor of his township, and was a member of the county board at the time of his death. He did not confine his attention to one line of business, but extended his efforts to other fields of activity and became extensively interested in the lumber business, spending two winters in the pineries of Michigan. In 1874, in partnership with his son, Theron M., he established a large lumberyard in Sycamore, which he carried on with pronounced success until his death on the 26th of December, 1882, when he was sixty-nine years of age. He also engaged in buying and selling stock and grain for many years and that business proved equally profitable. In fact he carried forward to successful completion whatever he undertook, and his energy, ready adaptability and far-sighted sagacity constituted the salient factors in his financial advancement. Both he and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Sycamore, to the support of which they contributed liberally, making generous donations also for the erection of the house of worship and taking a helpful part in many of the church activities. Mrs. Stark survived her husband for about ten years and died July 1, 1892. They were the parents of ten children.

Harmon M. Stark, the oldest of the family, is indebted to the public-school system of De Kalb county for the educational privileges which he enjoyed in his youth. Lessons of industry and economy were early impressed upon his mind and he came to know the value of unfaltering and honorable labor. Throughout his entire life he has followed farming and stock-raising save at the period of the Civil war when he put aside all business and personal considerations and offered his aid to the government. When the call to arms was sounded he was about eighteen years of age. When twenty years of age he enlisted, on the 9th of August, 1862, as a member of Company C, One Hundred and Fifth Illinois Infantry, the regiment being assigned to the Twentieth Corps. He joined the army as a private and was content to follow the old flag without official rank, earnestly desiring to aid in the preservation of the Union. He participated in many important engagements,

including the battles of Resaca, Peach Tree Creek and the Atlanta campaign, followed by the celebrated march to the sea under Sherman after the surrender of the city of Atlanta. He was in the siege of Savannah and in a number of hotly contested skirmishes and after participating in the military movements in the Carolinas and Virginia, he took part in the grand review at Washington, D. C., when the victorious army marched through the streets of the city and passed a stand erected on the grounds of the White House on which stood the president to review the returning troops. Mr. Stark was in the army for two years and ten months and was mustered out on the 7th of June, 1865.

When the war was over Mr. Stark returned to Sycamore and began farming in De Kalb county. Here he has since carried on general agricultural pursuits save for five years devoted to the tilling of soil in Buchanan county, Iowa. He returned to Kingston township in 1874, having first located on the old homestead there in 1865. He has since carried on the work of the farm, which presents a splendid appearance, in keeping with the model farms of the county.

Mr. Stark was first married, at Beloit, Wisconsin, to Miss Mary J. Patten, who died in April, 1875, leaving four children: James M., who was a veterinary surgeon and passed away in January, 1900; Louisa M., wife of Dr. E. A. Buxlow, of Vinton, Iowa; Herbert H., who is living in Sycamore; and Emma J., who is also in Vinton, Iowa. On the 3d of October, 1877, Mr. Stark was married to Miss Susie Clark, a native of Kirkland township, and daughter of Robert and Susan Clark, who came from England in 1855. Both were natives of that country, born in Cambridge-shire and Lincolnshire, respectively. Three children have been born of this marriage: Grace M., wife of William Armbruster of Kingston township, by whom she has two children: Henry M., who wedded Miss Mary M. Wilson, daughter of F. L. Wilson, now of Iowa, but formerly of De Kalb county, and they have one son; and Ray E., the youngest of the family, at home.

Mr. Stark owns and operates a finely improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres in addition to which he cultivates another quarter section of land. In his farming methods he is practical and

progressive and the rotation of crops and judicious use of fertilizers and all the modern helps to farming, make his work profitable. In politics he is a republican. He belongs to the Grand Army post and has been commander of Barnes post, No. 295, of Kingston, for several years, a fact which shows how high a position he occupies in the regard of his comrades who wore the blue. He likewise belongs to the Masonic lodge of Kingston and the commandery at Syeamore, and both he and his wife are members of the Order of the Eastern Star. He is also affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America at Kingston and with the Knights of the Globe, and Mrs. Stark is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church of Kingston. Mr. Stark is very popular both socially and in business circles, where he is known for his thorough reliability, his enterprise and his progressive methods. Those who come within the closer circle of his friendship can always count upon his loyalty, and true worth can always win his friendship. He is a prominent representative of one of the old pioneer families of the county and has made a record which justly entitles him to representation in this volume.

F. J. POBSTMAN.

F. J. Pobstman, who carries on general agricultural pursuits in Pierce township, was born in Delaware county, New York, September 4, 1858. His parents were George and Margaret (Vuirich) Pobstman, and the father was born in Germany, July 18, 1802. He came to America in the '40s, settling in New York where he resided until 1866 when he brought his family to Illinois. He was a shoemaker by trade and followed that pursuit for some time or until he took up his abode upon the farm where his son, F. J. Pobstman, now resides. There he continued to make his home until his death, February 19, 1892.

F. J. Pobstman was a young lad of eight summers when he left his native state and came with his parents to Illinois. He lived at Cortland for two years at the end of which time the family removed to the farm upon which he yet makes his home. Here he was reared to general agricultural pursuits and in the district schools of Pierce township acquired his education. He now owns two

hundred and twenty-nine acres of choice land on sections 3 and 4, worth between one hundred and twenty-five and one hundred and fifty dollars per acre.

On the 5th of February, 1884, Mr. Pobstman was married to Miss Elizabeth Kauth, who was born June 9, 1863. They became the parents of eight children: George J., born May 10, 1885; Mary M., born March 24, 1887; Esther A., born February 6, 1892; James F., born December 27, 1893; Isadore R., born May 10, 1895; Alice J., born January 26, 1898; Harold N., born June 28, 1901; and Frederick F., born September 15, 1904. Mrs. Pobstman was a daughter of Peter and Margaret (Bartz) Kauth. Her father was born September 29, 1827, and died March 8, 1904, while the mother's birth occurred in Prussia, Germany, which was also the natal place of her husband. They came to the United States in the '40s, settling at Lamont, Illinois, where they resided for a few years, afterward removing to Wisconsin. It was in the public schools of the latter state that Mrs. Pobstman was educated.

In religious faith the family are Roman Catholics while in political belief Mr. Pobstman is a democrat. He belongs to Port Clinton camp, No. 2662, M. W. A., of which he is a charter member. His life has been characterized by untiring toil and good management and in this way he has accumulated a comfortable fortune so that he is now enabled to provide his family with all the necessities, many of the comforts and some of the luxuries of life. His fellow citizens speak of him and his family in terms of high praise and warm regard. Mr. Pobstman indeed deserves much credit for what he has accomplished and his life record should serve as a source of inspiration and encouragement to others, showing what may be accomplished when one has the will to dare and do.

HENRY F. CONDON.

It is a utilitarian age, and in no other period in the world's history has there been such rapid advance in the line of invention of useful articles, implements and machinery which lessen labor and promote trade. America is the exponent of this spirit, her inventions far exceeding those of other

countries in number and practical utility. Henry F. Condon, of De Kalb, well known as an inventor and manufacturer has given to the world many valuable devices—the tangible evidence of a fertile brain and skilled hand.

He was born in Will county, Illinois, May 13, 1853. His father, John Condon, was a native of Mitchellstown, County Cork, Ireland, while the mother, Mrs. Eliza (Davelin) Condon, was born in County Down, Ireland. She came to America at the age of thirteen years, settling in Canada, where she gave her hand in marriage to John Condon, who had crossed the Atlantic at the age of fifteen. They came to Illinois in 1831, settling in Will county. The father was a farmer by occupation, thus providing for his family, which numbered fifteen children, of whom Henry F. was the seventh in order of birth. In 1852 Mr. Condon sold his property in Will county and removed to De Kalb county, settling on a farm in Mayfield township, where he lived for a considerable period, giving his time and energies to the cultivation of the fields and the care of the crops. Later he retired from active business life and took up his abode in De Kalb, where both he and his wife passed away.

Henry F. Condon began his education in the country schools of De Kalb county and completed his studies in the high school of Sycamore. After leaving school he learned the carpenter's and builder's trade, which he followed for fifteen years, and about 1890 he became associated with J. F. Glidden, the inventor of barbed wire. He has from early youth displayed marked mechanical skill and ingenuity, and entering the Glidden works, he turned his attention to the invention of different articles, among which is a folding mouth speculum for horses, for the use of veterinary surgeons. His inventions also include a tubular farm gate, exclusively of steel, which was the first of its kind. He likewise invented an automatic pipe bending machine, so constructed as to bend the pipe without the use of fire or filling, and upon this he has secured four patents. Another invention of importance is a humane driving bit for horses, which is being manufactured by O. B. North & Company, of Hartford, Connecticut, and is having a large sale, being manufactured on a royalty. Later Mr. Condon turned his attention to hardware specialties and his inventions in this line include a sim-

ple and useful tool for lacing heavy belts, a very complete article which has no competition, also a suit hanger, so simple and complete that it is revolutionizing trade in that respect. He has likewise produced an angular hoe for removing the overgrowing grass from cement sidewalks, and this is also the only one of the kind on the market. A steel wire mop which is entirely new in its construction is likewise attracting the attention of the entire country in its simplicity and usefulness. Mr. Condon's mind continually dwells upon the study of mechanical problems and the evolution of different devices, implements and machines, and his labor has been of direct benefit to the world along these lines. He has brought forth two valuable inventions in connection with the famous Glidden patent, for which he received considerable money. He also has invented several important improvements on automobiles, including a flexible steel tire protector, an anti-skid device and a gravity steering device, also the four-wheel drive and a four-wheel steering device. He has thirty-eight patents. He is a man of broad, scholarly attainments along scientific lines, especially in the development of mechanical construction, and he has furnished much valuable information to Chicago papers and to *The Iron Age*.

Mr. Condon was married in De Kalb, August 18, 1879, to Miss Margaret Carton, who was born in County Wexford, Ireland, in 1854, and came to America at the age of sixteen years, settling in De Kalb county. Her father was James Carton, a farmer of this county, and her mother was Mary Dougharty. Both were born in Ireland, where their marriage was celebrated. They became the parents of four children, Mrs. Condon being the youngest, and by her marriage she has also four children, John Emmett, Mary E., James Henry and Andrew H.

In politics Mr. Condon is an independent democrat. He has never sought office, preferring to concentrate his time and energies upon business interests. His industry and genius have been the key which have unlocked for him the portals of success, and he has made his way in the world by his diligence, perseverance and inventive power until today he has an ample income from his royalties. He and his family live at No. 141 John street, in a beautiful home, where comfort and hospitality are the leading factors. Mr. Condon is a

man of broad, general information, possessing a very retentive memory and a wonderful storehouse of knowledge. He can give the day and date of the most important inventions of the world and interesting data concerning the men who have brought these forth. He is quick to recognize and improve opportunities, is generous in his sympathy and manifests in his life the traits of a true and noble gentleman.

DANIEL PIERCE.

Few men who attain the age of eighty-eight years bear so few of the marks and scars of the warfare of business life as did Daniel Pierce. In a vast majority of cases those who attain a large measure of success cannot justly claim that their paths have not been strewn with the wrecks of other men's fortunes. Daniel Pierce, however, was one who from a most humble financial position worked his way upward to wealth and prominence and at the same time enjoyed in full measure the honor and respect of his fellowmen by reason of the straightforward business policy which he ever followed. Coming to De Kalb county when there were still many evidences of frontier life here, he figured for almost a half century as one of its leading citizens, becoming known throughout northern Illinois as an able financier. Moreover, his word was as good as any bond solemnized by signature or seal and today his name is honored and his memory cherished by all who knew him. His was a stalwart manhood and as the years passed he grew in that intellectual and moral strength which makes a life record an example to the young and an inspiration to the aged.

Mr. Pierce was a native of the town of Neversink, Sullivan county, New York, and the date of his birth was July 18, 1814. His parents were Joseph and Elizabeth (Cargill) Pierce, the former a native of Westchester county, New York, whence he removed to Sullivan county when fifteen years of age. Having attained his majority, he was there married to Miss Elizabeth Cargill and as the years passed six children were added to the family—William, Polly, John, Daniel, Penelope

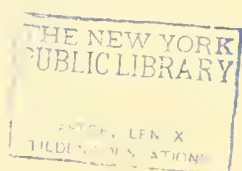
and Catherine. The father, however, died in March, 1819, at the comparatively early age of thirty-one years, and three years later Mrs. Pierce became the wife of Edward Porter.

Daniel Pierce was but five years of age at the time of his father's death and when a youth of but twelve years started out to earn his own living. He worked for seven months at a wage of three dollars per month. The opportunity which most boys enjoy of attending school and thereby preparing for the later responsible duties of life was denied him, owing to the necessity of providing for his own livelihood. His youth was a period of unremitting toil and labor, such as was common to the farm hand of that day, who rose early in the morning and continued his labor in the fields until night came. Desirous of enjoying educational privileges, he would work during the winter months for his board and the opportunity of attending school. In the summer months his undivided attention was given to farm labor and when he attained his majority he rented land and began farming on his own account.

Mr. Pierce sought and obtained a companion and helpmate for life's journey through his marriage on the 17th of December, 1835, to Miss Phebe J. Brundage, a native of Orange county, New York, born August 17, 1818. Her parents were Abijah and Sarah (Lane) Brundage. The father, whose birth occurred April 23, 1781, served his country as a soldier in the war of 1812 and followed farming as a life occupation, continuing in that pursuit until his death, which occurred in Sullivan county, April 23, 1850. His wife, who was born September 23, 1786, died October 21, 1837. Abijah Brundage was the son of John and Martha (Ogden) Brundage, the former born February 12, 1733, and passing away February 9, 1796, while the latter, born December 10, 1738, died October 28, 1799. Mr. and Mrs. Pierce became the parents of three children but the first born died in infancy. Eleanor became the wife of A. W. Townsend and died December 20, 1904. Sarah became the wife of G. P. Wild, cashier of the banking house of Daniel Pierce & Company, and died June 11, 1896. The mother, Mrs. Pierce, passed away October 4, 1876, leaving many friends to mourn her loss. She had indeed been a faith-



Samuel Puer



ful companion and helpmate to her husband for more than forty years.

Following their marriage Mr. Pierce operated the old homestead farm for four years and then purchased the lease of a farm in a different locality, which he operated five years, and upon a third farm he remained until 1848, when he purchased the titles of three farms in Sullivan county, New York, including the old homestead. At a later date he became a resident of Deeming, Ulster county, New York, where for two years he owned an interest in a tannery. Reflection concerning the business conditions of the country led him to the belief that he might have better opportunities in the new but rapidly growing west and accordingly he made his way to Illinois after selling the greater part of his possessions in his native county. He arrived in De Kalb county in 1855 and through the succeeding year cultivated a rented farm in Mayfield township. In 1856, however, he took up his abode in Sycamore, where he engaged in the real-estate business, buying and selling both improved and unimproved farm property. His time was thus occupied until 1867, when he believed a still more advantageous field was opened to him and he organized the banking firm of Pierce, Dean & Company. He became the active manager of the new institution, which operated under the original name until 1883, when it became Pierce & Dean, to be succeeded in 1888 by Daniel Pierce & Company. Mr. Pierce remained at the head of the institution for a long period but in the later years practically lived retired although he devoted considerable time to the supervision of his investments in Iowa property. The bank from the beginning was regarded as one of the safest financial institutions in the state. He inaugurated a conservative policy and his personal integrity and enterprise won for the bank uniform confidence and trust from the public. The patronage therefore grew to gratifying proportions and from the beginning the enterprise was very profitable. A contemporary biographer, writing before his death, said of him, "For more than forty years Mr. Pierce has ranked among the ablest financiers of northern Illinois. Successful beyond even his own highest expectations, he has added to his possessions until he is the owner of many large and productive farms in De Kalb county and several thousand acres in

Iowa and other western states. While his early education was limited, by reading and observation he became well informed and his judgment of men and affairs, especially as affecting financial interests, has been almost infallible. He always knew when to buy and when to sell a piece of real estate and the fluctuations in the money market were generally foreseen by him. His word was always kept inviolate and a promise made by him was fulfilled to the letter."

Daniel Pierce continued to make his home in De Kalb county until he was called from this life on the 27th of April, 1902, when in the eighty-eighth year of his age. For forty-seven years he had lived in Illinois and throughout this period had borne an unassailable reputation for strict, unswerving business integrity. He was recognized as a strong man, strong in his honor and his good name, in his purpose and in his accomplishments, and his work was so closely associated with the financial history of this part of the state as to render it imperative that mention be made of him in this volume, else the history of the county will be incomplete.

NATHANIEL BUZZELL.

Nathaniel Buzzell, a retired farmer residing in Sycamore, was born in Kane county, Illinois, January 18, 1850. His father, Daniel P. Buzzell, was a native of Vermont and died at the age of sixty-five years upon a farm about seven miles from Sycamore. He had been left an orphan at the age of six years and afterward made his home with an uncle, with whom he came to this state in 1835. Only three years before the Black Hawk war had occurred, which practically ended the reign of the Indians in this state, but there were many evidences of pioneer life and the family had to endure all of the hardships and privations incident to settling on the frontier. They took up their abode where the city of Elgin now stands, but the place at that time contained only three log houses. Daniel Buzzell was reared in that locality upon a farm, sharing in all of the hardships and privations of pioneer life and aiding in the arduous task of developing new land. He was married there on the 15th of December, 1846, to Miss

Lucina Henry, who was born December 1, 1829, and was therefore about eight years his junior, for his birth had occurred on the 27th of June, 1821. In 1852 they removed to De Kalb county, where Mr. Buzzell purchased eighty acres of land upon which only slight improvements had been made. He bought the crops and land for three hundred and fifty dollars and began the further development of the place, making his home there until his death. He was a practical farmer, accomplishing what he undertook, and as the years went by he met with success, leaving an estate valued at twenty thousand dollars. He was born June 27, 1821, and died on the 1st of May, 1886, being at that time about sixty-five years of age. His wife survived him for about three years, passing away March 23, 1889. They were the parents of ten children: Lydia J., the wife of Abram Cook of California; Nathaniel, of this review; Henry, a resident farmer of Franklin county, Iowa; George, who died at the age of twenty-four years; Orrin, who is living on a farm in Sycamore township; Ira, a resident farmer of Tracy, Minnesota; Mary, the wife of S. J. Mason, who is near Iowa Falls, Iowa; Lottie, who is living in Iowa Falls; Otis S., a farmer whose home is in Sycamore township; and Ada, the wife of George Bumb of Iowa Falls.

The boyhood days of Nathaniel Buzzell were passed upon the home farm, the pleasures of the playground, the duties of the schoolroom and the work of the fields occupying his time and attention. In the fall of 1871 he bought twenty acres of land. Later he sold that property and invested in one hundred and twenty-two acres on sections 10 and 15, which at that time had been improved but little. He still owns the farm, which is now an excellent property. In its midst stand fine buildings, including an attractive residence and substantial outbuildings for the shelter of grain and stock. These are a monument to his thrift and enterprise, having been erected by him. He also laid over three miles of tiling on his place. He engaged in dairy farming until about a year ago, when he retired from active business life and removed to Sycamore, where he now owns and occupies a nice home at No. 473 East Elm street.

On the 4th of October, 1871, Mr. Buzzell was married to Miss Nettie A. Lawrence, whose birth occurred in DeKalb county, a daughter of Will-

iam C. Lawrence, one of the early settlers of this part of the state. Six children graced this marriage but the youngest died in infancy. The others are: Carrie May, now the wife of John E. Perry, who is living near Elgin in Kane county, Illinois; Nora Edna, the wife of Arthur Helson, of Cortland township, this county; Mary, at home; Jesse, who married Miss Loraine Hall and lives upon his father's farm; and Florence, at home. The family attend the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Buzzell gives his political allegiance to the republican party but has no aspiration for office. The rest which he is now enjoying is richly merited, for in former years he led a most active and energetic life and his diligence and industry constituted the basis of an honorable success.

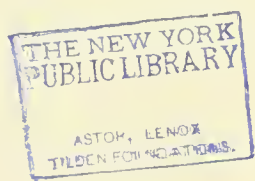
ABRAM ELLWOOD.

The name of Ellwood has figured in connection with the history of De Kalb county since 1837, when Reuben Ellwood, father of Abram Ellwood, came to Illinois and entered a claim of one hundred and sixty acres of land near Sycamore. He was then a youth of but sixteen years and during the four succeeding years he was employed upon different farms in the locality and at the same time secured the title to his own claim by meeting requirements of the law in regard to entering land. For many years he was spoken of as the most distinguished citizen of De Kalb county.

His birth occurred in Minden, Montgomery county, New York, February 17, 1821, his parents being Abraham and Sarah (DeLong) Ellwood. At the usual age he entered the public schools, but his opportunities for attendance were somewhat limited, and the more extended and valuable lessons of his life were learned in the school of experience. He was an apt scholar, however, and his ready adaptability to the changing conditions which life brings enabled him to make the most of his opportunities and win for himself a prominent place and an honored name in business circles in the county in which he so long lived. He was ambitious, resolute and determined, and it was these qualities which enabled him when only sixteen years of age to leave his home in the Empire



ABRAM ELLWOOD.



state that he might enjoy the broader business opportunities of the new but growing west.

As stated, he came to De Kalb county and secured a claim of one hundred and thirty-seven acres, working for four years at farm labor until he had secured the title to his property. He then returned to his old home in New York and after a brief period entered the Cherry Valley Seminary, where he remained a student for six months, desirous of acquiring a better education than had been previously permitted him. He then went to Glenville, Schenectady county, New York, where he engaged in raising broom corn and in the manufacture of brooms, continuing in that line of business for about eight years. The year 1857 witnessed his return to De Kalb county and he joined his brother Alonzo in the conduct of a general hardware store at Sycamore. He also began operating in real estate and in 1870 he began the manufacture of agricultural implements in Sycamore. Five years later work was begun on the construction of the large buildings which were afterward used by the R. Ellwood Manufacturing Company, in which Mr. Ellwood invested about fifty thousand dollars. To the development of his manufacturing industries he gave undivided attention until the enterprise became one of the foremost business institutions of Sycamore and the county. He also extended his efforts into other fields of industrial and manufacturing activity, realizing the importance of such business concerns as factors in the upbuilding and material prosperity of the community. He displayed keen discernment and ready understanding of business conditions, and this, together with his unflagging energy, constituted one of the strongest elements in his success.

On the 8th of August, 1849, Mr. Ellwood was united in marriage to Miss Eleanor Vedder, who was born in Schenectady county, New York. Their family numbered six children: Abram, Albert, Frank, Kate, Jennie and Alida.

While still residing in the east Reuben Ellwood became deeply interested in political questions and was elected to represent his district in the New York legislature in 1851. He became one of the stalwart advocates of republican principles upon the organization of the party and never swerved in his allegiance thereto throughout the remainder of his life. In De Kalb county his

worth and ability were soon recognized and he was called to public office, becoming the first mayor of the city after its incorporation. In 1866 he was appointed United States assessor of internal revenue and filled the position until it was abolished by law. In 1868 he received the support of the republicans of De Kalb county for representative in congress and in 1882 was nominated by his party for congress, being elected by a large majority and re-elected in 1884, thus serving until his death in July, 1885. His official record was characterized by the same qualities that were so marked in his business life. He was capable, earnest and trustworthy and in the legislative councils of the nation gave careful consideration to each question which came up for settlement and stood loyally in support of whatever he believed to be right.

His eldest son, Abram Ellwood, added new luster to an untarnished family name. He became his father's successor in the R. Ellwood Manufacturing Company and yet he did not depend upon inheritance or family aid to secure a start in the business world. On the contrary, he displayed a spirit of self-reliance such as is always a source of real worth in the individual. Born in Scotia, Schenectady county, New York, March 26, 1850, he was a youth of only seven years when brought by his parents to De Kalb county. Here he was educated in the public schools and he afterward enjoyed the advantages of training in a military college at Poughkeepsie, New York, where he remained to the age of sixteen years, when he started out in life on his own account. He at once displayed a spirit of undaunted energy, self-reliance and stalwart purpose, qualities which characterized him throughout his entire business life and made him one of the strongest, most prominent and most honored representatives of industrial interests in De Kalb county. He began earning his living as a brakeman on the railroad and was thus employed for two years, when he went south and assumed a more responsible position—that of contractor on the New Orleans, Mobile & Texas Railroad. He was afterward a passenger conductor on that line and later he was engaged on the construction of the Milwaukee & Northern Railroad with headquarters at Green Bay, Wisconsin. That work completed, he became United States mail agent on the Missouri, Kansas & Texas

Railroad, from which he was transferred to the Chicago & Northwestern Railway, running between Chicago and Cedar Rapids. His last run in the mail service was between Chicago and Cincinnati.

In the autumn of 1877 Abram Ellwood joined his father in the conduct of extensive manufacturing interests in Sycamore under the firm style of the R. Ellwood Manufacturing Company. This relation was maintained until the fall of 1880, when Abram Ellwood began the manufacture of wire fence stretchers, carrying on the business successfully for four years. In December, 1884, that enterprise was amalgamated with the business of the R. Ellwood Manufacturing Company and Abram Ellwood became manager of the new concern. After the death of his father in the following July he purchased the entire stock and continued the business under the firm name of the Abram Ellwood Company. It is true he entered upon a business already established, but many a man of less resolute purpose would have failed in enlarging this and carrying it forward to successful completion. On the contrary, he recognized and utilized opportunities, introduced many improvements and developed the business along growing lines. He perfected many of the machines in his plant and succeeded in building up a very extensive trade, employing a large number of men. His success attracted the attention of the citizens of other places and he was offered a bonus of thirty-five thousand dollars if he would remove the plant to De Kalb. This offer he accepted and in 1891 went to De Kalb, looking after the erection of buildings which were constructed upon plans which he made and which resulted in one of the most complete manufacturing concerns in the country. In the fall of 1896 Mr. Ellwood formed a stock company in order that he might relieve himself of much of the hard work which was gradually breaking him down. He possessed such wonderful energy and unfaltering determination that he did not realize what a strain he was placing upon his own constitution until it was too late. A short time prior to his death he took up quarters at the sanitarium in Battle Creek, Michigan, but his disease was too far advanced to receive any permanent benefit and he passed away November 11, 1897. His life span therefore covered but forty-seven years and yet he accomplished in that time a work such as many a man fails to

do in twice that length of years. From a small beginning he had developed the business to one of large proportions, employing from seventy-five to one hundred workman, and undoubtedly one of the secrets of his success was his justice, consideration and kindness toward those in his employ. His men always knew that faithful service would mean promotion as opportunity offered and Mr. Ellwood, moreover, felt a personal interest in those he employed, realizing fully his individual responsibility and obligations toward those who served him.

On the 3d of January, 1876, was celebrated the marriage of Abram Ellwood and Miss Emma L. Garvin, a native of Chichester, New Hampshire, the wedding, however, being celebrated in Manchester, that state. Her parents were Jesse and Eunice (Leavitt) Garvin, the former a native of Garvin Falls, New Hampshire, and the latter of Chichester, her father being Jonathan Leavitt. Mr. and Mrs. Ellwood became the parents of five children, of whom four are living. Mildred G., the eldest, is the wife of Charles G. Blake, who lives at Morgan Park, Illinois, and is a monument dealer in Chicago. They have two sons, Charles E. and Donald P. Sallie E. is at home. E. Eleanor, an accomplished vocalist, is also at home. A. Leonard is now connected with the automobile business. Reuben died at the age of three and a half years. Mrs. Ellwood was educated at Tilton, New Hampshire, being graduated in June, 1872, and in September of that year she came to De Kalb county, being for three years employed as a teacher in the Sycamore schools. She now occupies a beautiful home at No. 421 Somonauk street, having her three younger children with her, and is prominent in social circles of the city.

Mr. Ellwood was a valued and exemplary member of the Masonic fraternity and in his life gave evidence of the principles of mutual helpfulness and brotherly kindness upon which the organization is based. In politics he was a republican and was called to serve as alderman and as mayor of the city, discharging the duties of the latter office from 1889 until 1891. He brought to the mayoralty the same keen discernment and recognition of opportunity, the same strong and honorable purpose that characterized his business life and was found a most trustworthy and capable executive officer. The cause of education also numbered

him as a champion and his service on the school board, covering a number of years, was entirely satisfactory to the community. He attended and supported the Congregational church, to which his wife belongs, and he was thus associated with the material prosperity, the political, intellectual and moral interests of his community. He was a man whom other men trusted. He ever maintained a high standard of conduct in all life's relations, had no sympathy with sham or pretense and gave his faith and trust in recognition of the character worth of the individual. He won success but the most envious could not grudge him his prosperity, for it was so honorably gained and so worthily used. His warmest friends were those who knew him best and he regarded his own self-respect and the favorable opinion of his fellow-men as justly more valuable than wealth, fame or position. His death was a matter of the deepest regret throughout the county, for in his passing the community lost one whom it had come to depend upon as a progressive citizen, a trustworthy business man and a kindly friend. His best traits of character, however, were reserved for his own fireside, for he represented much that is ideal in the husband and father.

FREDERICK J. AVES.

Frederick J. Aves, living on section 10, Franklin township, was born in Prussia, Germany, on the 11th of December, 1854, and came to America in 1867 when a lad of thirteen years. His parents were Frederick and Johanna (Hanspator) Aves likewise natives of Prussia in which country they were reared and married, the father following the occupation of farming in his native land until he brought the family to the new world in 1867. Landing on the American coast, he at once continued his journey westward across the country to De Kalb county, Illinois, where he established his home and again engaged in agricultural pursuits. He died in this country April 15, 1894, at the age of eighty-one years, while his wife passed away in 1884, when sixty years of age.

Frederick J. Aves, the oldest of their five children, acquired his education in the public schools of Germany and after coming to America

assisted his father in carrying on the home farm being thus employed until he attained adult age. He afterward worked out as a farm hand by the month for several years and thus made a start in life. As a companion and helpmate for life's journey he chose Miss Julia Haller to whom he was married on the 15th of January, 1880. She was born in America.

After his marriage Mr. Aves rented land, which he cultivated for a year and then invested in eighty acres which he began to cultivate, thus making a home of his own. He later bought forty acres more and continued farming that property until 1904 when he sold out and purchased his present farm of two hundred and seventy-eight acres, which is located on section 10, Franklin township. This is a highly improved tract of land lacking in none of the accessories and conveniences of a model farm. Mr. Aves also owns and operates a steam thresher and shredder and has continued in this line of business for several years. He raises a good grade of cattle and hogs, which he feeds for the market using all of his grain for feed. The various branches of his business are bringing to him well merited prosperity and he is accounted one of the enterprising, practical and successful farmers of his township.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Aves have been born seven children: Walter, who is employed as a locomotive engineer in Chicago; Charles and Ida, who are upon the home farm; Frank, also a locomotive engineer in Chicago; Edna, Clara and Donald, all at home. The parents are members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Kirkland, in the work of which they are most deeply and actively interested, Mr. Aves serving on the official board and also as one of the teachers of the Sunday school. He exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party and in 1906 was a delegate to the county convention. For several years he has been a school director and trustee and the cause of education finds in him a warm friend, while every progressive movement for the benefit of the city receives his endorsement. Fraternally he is connected with the Knights of the Globe. He has been a resident of De Kalb county for forty years and has therefore been a witness of much of its growth and development. Though he had no financial assistance at the outset of his career he is now owner of one of the large and

valuable farms of the county and his life record shows the force of thrift and untiring diligence in an active business career.

J. H. ROGERS.

J. H. Rogers, son of Rev. Thomas B. and Abby (Allen) Rogers, was born April 16, 1835, at Corinth, Saratoga county, New York, and the first sixteen years of his life was spent at home, where he attended school and lived the life common to boys of that time. Before he was seventeen he embarked upon the career that finally brought him success beyond the lot of most men who had a mercantile career. He clerked in a store in Troy, New York, for a time and later conducted a business of his own. He then located in New York city, where he was similarly engaged, and in 1855 came west to look over the prospects for the young man starting in life. Although the contrast of pioneer life with that of the American metropolis was great he saw the possibilities of the future in the Mississippi valley.

In 1858 Mr. Rogers located in Sycamore, which became his home and in whose welfare he ever manifested a lively interest and contributed liberally to its industrial growth. During his life here no church was built, no industry promoted but Harry Rogers, as he was familiarly called, was a leading contributor. Here he became a member of the firm of Rogers, Wild & Smith, but later assumed charge of the dry-goods store that was known far and wide, for in those days the patronage of this city took in a scope of country covering an area twenty-five miles in every direction from Sycamore.

Mr. Rogers continued in business until 1891, when he retired and his son took charge of the store. He was interested in other enterprises and was noted for his close application to business and in course of time accumulated a fortune. Unlike most men he enjoyed the fruits of well earned thrift and made a tour around the world, which he most thoroughly enjoyed, and his observations were intelligent and a source of interest to those who enjoyed his companionship.

While Mr. Rogers applied himself closely to business, yet we learn that he enjoyed healthful

sport and was one of the organizers of the first base ball club of Sycamore. He enjoyed hunting and fishing and his vacations were a relaxation from business cares, and he would return to work refreshed, invigorated, and infuse new life into his increasing business. He died December 28, 1900, after an illness covering a period of two years.

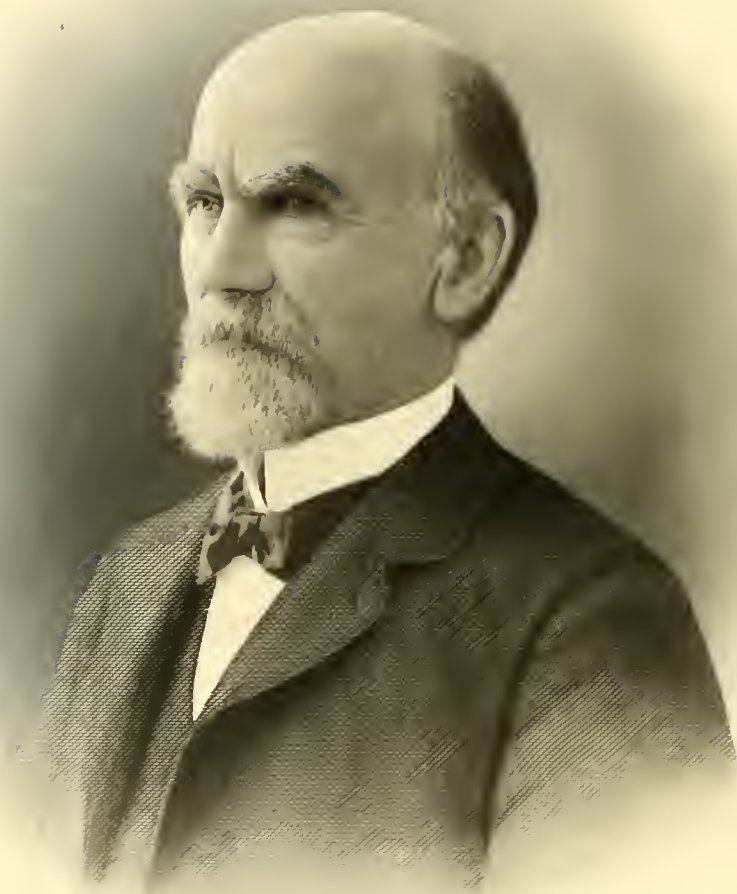
No citizen of Sycamore was more respected than Mr. Rogers. A man of energy, acumen, force of character, liberality of views, and, above all, sterling integrity, he had all those qualities which inspire confidence. He was a model man of business. It is said that he was the only merchant who ever became wealthy in Sycamore from the profits of merchandising.

Mr. Rogers was the largest contributor to the erection of the Congregational church; he was the largest stockholder in the Preserve Works when that now prosperous industry was established here. To each member of his family Mr. Rogers was a near and dear companion. In their great grief over his death their friends sympathize with them, while the whole community mourns the loss of an honest, useful citizen.

WILLIAM E. DOLE.

William E. Dole is one of De Kalb county's native sons and the attractiveness of this part of the state as a place of residence is indicated by the fact that he and others who claim this district as the place of their nativity have continued to remain here, recognizing the value of the natural resources of the county and the opportunities here offered along many lines of advancement. Mr. Dole was born in Paw Paw township, August 18, 1857. His father, Alonzo Dole, was born near Deerfield, Massachusetts, October 25, 1808, and was married to Miss Jane Griffin, whose birth occurred near Athens, Pennsylvania, in 1819. They came westward in 1848, making an overland trip with team and covered wagon, being over forty days on the road. On reaching De Kalb county they established their home upon a farm and spent their remaining days in this district. They had a family of six children: John D., born December 5, 1839; Mary, in 1841; H. Griffin, in 1843; Lidie, in 1845; Timothy Alonzo, in 1847; and

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J. H. Rogers



Katherine J. Rogers.

William E. The eldest son was killed at the battle of Stone River, December 31, 1862, and was the first soldier buried in South Paw Paw cemetery.

On his father's farm William E. Dole spent the days of his boyhood and youth and the common schools afforded him his educational privileges. He studied law for nearly two years with his brother T. A., but on account of the failing health of his parents and at their earnest solicitation he returned to take charge of the old farm, where he has since resided. He engaged in teaching for a few terms and proved a capable educator. He now owns and cultivates one hundred and sixty acres of land in Paw Paw township and his farm is a valuable property, located on section 31. It gives every evidence of the care, supervision and progressive spirit of the owner, who owes his prosperity entirely to his own endeavors.

Mr. Dole was married to Miss Minnie Heslop, whose birth occurred in Canada, September 7, 1858. Her parents, William and Jane (Brigham) Heslop, were born in England and on crossing the Atlantic settled in Canada, whence they afterward went to Chicago, Illinois. Subsequently they bought a farm in Wyoming township, upon which they lived for a few years and at a later date they removed to Webster City, Iowa. Her mother died there in March, 1901, and her father in April, 1907. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Dole was celebrated December 6, 1883, and has been blessed with eight children: Clara Irene, who was born September 24, 1884, and is the wife of William Winchell, now located at Earlville, Illinois; Ida May, who was born October 25, 1886, and is the wife of Charles Belt, a resident of Chicago; Lidie, who was born May 1, 1888, and is now deceased; Mildred, who was born February 12, 1892, and is a high school student in Paw Paw, Illinois; Sarah Ellen, who was born August 5, 1894; Alice, born February 8, 1899; one who was born in 1901 and died in infancy; and Timothy Alonzo, born February 15, 1903.

Mr. Dole gives his political support to the republican party and is prominent in its local ranks. He is now assessor of Paw Paw township, which office he has filled for five terms, and he has been school director for twenty-four years, the cause of education finding in him a warm and stalwart friend. He is a member of the Masonic lodge, No. 183, at Earlville, Illinois, and he and his wife

attend and support the Methodist Episcopal church. As a native son and a representative of one of the old pioneer families of the county he well deserves representation in this volume.

SAMUEL A. MILLIGAN.

Samuel A. Milligan, whose merit and capability have brought to him successive advancement in the business world, is now superintendent of the De Kalb & Union Fence Company. His life record began in Washington county, Pennsylvania, February 9, 1856, his parents being William and Isabella (Wilson) Milligan. The father was born in Finley township, Washington county, Pennsylvania, December 23, 1831, a son of William and Mary (Kurtz) Milligan. The parental grandfather of our subject came of Scotch-Irish ancestry and was born on the ocean while his parents were emigrating to the new world from the north of Ireland. Having arrived at years of maturity, he wedded Mary Kurtz, who was a native of Pennsylvania and came of Pennsylvania-Dutch descent. A brother of William Milligan, Sr., was Colonel Robert Milligan, who gained his title by serving under "Mad Anthony" Wayne in the Revolutionary war. He was a carpenter by trade and built the fort at what is now Fort Wayne, Indiana, it being the first structure put up in that town. William Milligan, Sr., the grandfather, was a tailor by trade, learning and following that pursuit in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

William Milligan, father of our subject, was reared in Washington county, Pennsylvania, and there learned the harnessmaker's trade. He has continued to reside in that county throughout his entire life and is still following his trade in Finleyville, being now a hale and hearty man in his seventy-fifth year. He was for four years a soldier of the Civil war, serving in Company A, Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and he is now a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. He also takes an active and helpful interest in the Methodist Episcopal church, with which he has long been identified as a member. Unto him and his wife were born seven children, of whom four are now living, namely: Samuel A.; Harry W., who is a member of the Pittsburg

Harness & Supply Company, of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, being secretary and treasurer of the firm; Mrs. Elizabeth Apgare; and Mrs. Anna Sheplar, who is a widow.

Samuel A. Milligan spent the days of his boyhood and youth in his parents home and he and his four brothers all learned the harnessmaker's trade under the direction of their father. In 1882 Samuel A. Milligan was married to Miss Isadora Russell, a daughter of William and Mary (Flannery) Russell, of Beaver county, Pennsylvania. He afterward worked at the harnessmaker's trade for about five years, when he gave up business and became connected with the woven wire fence business. He was first in the employ of the Hartman Steel Company, at Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania, and his connection with the woven wire fence industry dates from almost its beginning. He rose in the employ of the house which he represented until he became superintendent of the plant, and upon the removal of the business to Elwood City, Pennsylvania, in 1893, he had complete charge of the removal of the plant. In 1891 his employer, E. F. Shellabarger, came to De Kalb and organized the De Kalb Fence Company. In 1896 he severed his connection with the Pennsylvania plant and came to De Kalb with Mr. Shellabarger as assistant superintendent of the new plant, while three weeks later he was made general superintendent of the plant, and when the second factory was built he was given the superintendency of both. He has thoroughly acquainted himself with the business in principle and detail and is regarded as authority upon any subject bearing upon the production of wire fencing. His capability and fidelity have been the cause of his promotion from time to time and have gained him today a position of great prominence and responsibility in trade circles.

In politics Mr. Milligan is a stalwart republican and he is connected with the First Methodist Episcopal church of De Kalb. He is also a member of De Kalb lodge, A. F. & A. M., De Kalb chapter, No. 52, R. A. M. and lodge No. 758, I. O. O. F., at Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania, and is a past grand of the subordinate lodge of Odd Fellows. He is likewise past chief patriarch of the encampment of the same lodge. He is a member of the grand lodge of the Knights of Pythias of Illinois and is past chancellor of De Kalb lodge, No. 215, K. P.

He is also an adjutant of the Third Regiment of the Uniformed Rank of Illinois.

Unto him and his wife have been born five children, Earle F., Ernest R., Laura R., S. Howard and Aileen, all of whom are yet at home with their parents. Mr. Milligan is one of the best known of De Kalb county's citizens and a representative business man whose power and effectiveness in the world of trade have gradually increased until he now occupies a very prominent position, while his sterling traits have gained him the respect and good will of all with whom he has been associated.

ORATOR F. HOLCOMB.

In the citizenship of Sycamore there are not a few who in former years contributed in substantial measure to the agricultural development of the county and who are now living retired in the enjoyment of the fruits of their former toil. To this number belongs Orator F. Holcomb, formerly a farmer of Sycamore township. His natal day was May 18, 1843, and his birthplace Erie county, New York. His father, George Holcomb, was born in Sangerfield, Oneida county, New York, June 8, 1798, while the grandfather, Orator Holcomb, Sr., was a native of Massachusetts. He married Hannah Terry, who was born in Connecticut, and they removed from Erie to Canandaigua, Ontario county, New York, in 1805. Four years later they became residents of Genesee county, now included in Attica, Wyoming county. Mr. Holcomb bought a tract of land included within the immense acreage sold by Robert Morris to the Amsterdam Company and known as the Holland purchase, comprising three million, five hundred thousand acres, lying west of the dividing line between the states of New York and Massachusetts.

It was upon the old homestead farm there that George Holcomb spent the days of his boyhood and youth, assisting his father in the arduous task of clearing the land and developing the fields. In 1819 he wedded Bula Hosington, and they began their domestic life upon a sixty-acre tract of timber land given him by his father. The young couple was soon installed in a cabin built of basswood logs, and Mr. Holcomb continued the cultivation



O. F. HOLCOMB.

of the place for a few years, when he sold that property and removed to Darien, an adjoining town, where he bought another farm. He disposed of this three years later and returned to Attica, purchasing a farm adjoining his father's homestead. Only a brief period had elapsed, however, when he removed to Orangeville, making another removal not long afterward to Darien. He again became a landowner there and while residing in that place his wife died in 1836. The following year he wedded Caroline A. Hebbard, and they located on a farm in Newstead, Erie county, where were born their two sons, Hiram and Orator F. In 1848 they sold out, preparatory to going to Illinois. Traveling across the country to Buffalo they there loaded their team and household goods upon a steamer bound for Chicago, and after reaching that port proceeded by way of the mainly traveled roads to De Kalb county. Mr. Holcomb purchased sixty-five acres of land on sections 34 and 35, Sycamore township, for which he paid eight dollars per acre. Upon the place was a log house and a straw stable. After a brief period, however, he erected a comfortable frame dwelling and made other improvements, continuing to carry on general agricultural pursuits there until his life's labors were ended in death in October, 1878. His second wife died in 1852 and he afterward married Harriet Stillwell.

Orator F. Holcomb spent his boyhood and youth in the usual manner of farm lads of the period and secured a common-school education. When not busy with his text-books he worked in the fields and he remained upon the home farm for many years with his brother Hiram. They added to the place from time to time until they now have two hundred and twenty-eight acres of rich and valuable land, which is well improved, having good buildings upon it, while the fields are carefully cultivated and everything about the place is indicative of the care and labor which they have bestowed upon it. Orator F. Holcomb continued to engage actively in farming until 1898, when he removed to Sycamore, where he has since occupied a pleasant residence that he purchased.

Mr. Holcomb was married to Miss Harriet Stowe, of Sycamore township, a daughter of Henry Stowe, one of the early residents of the township, who came to the middle west from the state of New York. Mr. and Mrs. Holcomb have two chil-

dren: Howard H., residing upon the old home farm, married Gertrude Hilson, and they have one daughter, Marie. Myrtie Amelia is the wife of Norman D. Snelgrove, of Canada, and they have one child, Kenneth Howard. Their home is now in the Englewood district of Chicago and Mr. Snelgrove follows the painter's trade.

Fraternally Mr. Holcomb is a Modern Woodmen, and politically is independent. He has had neither time nor inclination for public office, preferring always to give undivided attention to his business interests. His life, while quietly passed, has been characterized by many elements of good citizenship and honorable manhood, his strong and salient traits being such as have awakened for him the confidence and trust of his fellowmen.

DENNIS E. MCGIRR.

An excellent farm property pays tribute to the care and supervision of Dennis E. McGirr, who owns one hundred and seventy-six acres of rich and productive land on section 25, Afton township, De Kalb county. It was upon this farm that Dennis E. McGirr was born on the 2d of March, 1855, his parents being John and Mary (Powers) McGirr, both of whom were natives of Ireland, the father having been born in County Dublin and the mother in County Waterford. They were the parents of twelve children, six of whom are now deceased, while the living are Dennis, John, Rose, Patrick, Teresa and Ella. In 1850 the father, with his family, came to America hoping to enjoy better business privileges in the new world. He first settled at St. Charles, Kane county, Illinois, where he remained until 1853, when he came to De Kalb and purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres of government land. This was entirely wild and unimproved at the time, but he at once began its cultivation and transformed the raw prairie into rich fields, from which he annually gathered large crops. He added to his property from time to time as his financial resources increased until he was the owner of six hundred and ten acres of valuable farming land. He was an industrious, enterprising man, and was quite successful in all his business undertakings. His life record demonstrates what can be accom-

plished through unfaltering energy and determination. As the years passed, he overcame all obstacles in his path and proved that success and an honorable name may be won simultaneously. He died August 12, 1878, and his wife passed away on the 23d of August, 1902.

Dennis E. McGirr was born upon the old family homestead, was reared under the parental roof and was early trained to the habits of thrift and industry, habits which have borne rich fruit in later days, making him a prosperous farmer of the community. He acquired a common-school education and when not busy with his text-books, worked on the home farm.

On the 25th of November, 1891, he was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Gallagher, who was born in Pierce township, this county, October 21, 1870, the daughter of Thomas and Sarah Gallagher, natives of Ireland. Mrs. McGirr is a graduate of the Oak street school of Aurora, Illinois, and following her graduation was successfully engaged in teaching in the public schools. By her marriage she has become the mother of five children, but has lost two. Those still living are Mary, born June 9, 1894; Emmet F., born August 23, 1898; and D. Edward, born December 29, 1903. The parents are members of the Roman Catholic church, believing strongly in its teachings, and are devoted to the work of the upbuilding of the cause. Fraternally, Mr. McGirr is connected with the Modern Woodman camp and votes with the democracy. He has served as supervisor of his township for five years and is interested in all that pertains to the public welfare. As the years pass he demonstrates his ability as an enterprising and prosperous farmer and is one of the leading representatives of agricultural interests in Afton township.

B. L. HOYT.

The attractiveness of DeKalb county as a place of residence is indicated by the fact that many of her native sons have remained within her borders, enjoying the opportunities and advantages which she offers. Among this number is B. L. Hoyt, who is engaged in farming in De Kalb township, where he was born July 6, 1859. He is

a representative of one of the old pioneer families of the county, the name of Hoyt being associated with agricultural interests here for fifty-six years. The father, William Hoyt, was born in Herkimer county, New York, July 4, 1826—the fiftieth anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. He married when he attained his majority and in 1851 he brought his wife to Illinois, casting in his lot with the early settlers of De Kalb county, who were just opening up this region to the work of development and improvement. He settled on section 5, De Kalb township, where he transformed his land into richly cultivated fields, continuing in the active work of the farm until his life's labors were ended in death, on the 3d of September, 1894. He has prospered in his undertakings and was the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of valuable land. His wife, who was born December 23, 1833, is still living, making her home with her son, B. L. Hoyt. In the family were six children: Sarah, who was born December 14, 1851, and died November 20, 1854; Laura, who was born September 18, 1853, and died when only three months old; Ester M., who was born August 27, 1857, and died December 23, 1863; B. L., of this review; Frank W., who was born December 24, 1864, and is a lawyer of Chicago; and Susan E., who was born August 19, 1871, and died October 1, 1900.

No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for B. L. Hoyt in his boyhood days. He worked in the fields through the summer seasons and when harvests were gathered attended the public schools, wherein he acquired a good practical English education. He was married December 19, 1882, to Miss Sarah J. Scott, who was born in Ireland, April 15, 1862, and came to America in 1879, five years before her parents crossed the Atlantic. Her father was born on the Emerald Isle in 1827, and in 1884 came to the new world with his wife. They were the parents of seven children, four sons and three daughters.

Mr. and Mrs. Hoyt have become the parents of three children: Francis L., born August 19, 1884; Sadie M., February 2, 1886; and Ester P., May 6, 1892. The parents attend the Methodist Episcopal church and contribute to its support. The family home stands in the midst of a farm of one hundred and sixty acres of land, which is very productive and well tilled, and in his farming

methods, Mr. Hoyt is practical, progressive and systematic. In his political views Mr. Hoyt has always been a republican since casting his first presidential vote when age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He has held the office of school director for twenty years and is never remiss in the duties of citizenship, but on the contrary is a public-spirited citizen, and one of the worthy and respected citizens of his native county.

VIRGIL L. WOODARD.

Virgil L. Woodard, who has been connected with the business interests of Fairdale for twenty-two years, is a native resident of De Kalb county, born in Malta township on the 2d of February, 1854. His father, Slocum Woodard, was a native of Vermont, having been born amid the Green mountains, and there he was reared to manhood. He learned and followed the carpenter's trade in his native state and ere his removal to the west was married there to Miss Lucinda Dimock. They became the parents of ten children, of whom Virgil was the youngest. In 1853 the father brought his family to De Kalb county and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of government land in Malta township. This he improved, making it a fine farm, and as the years passed by he added to the original purchase until he had more than four hundred acres. He continued actively in farming until 1870, when he retired from business life, making his home in Sycamore until his death in 1882, when he was seventy-three years of age. His wife passed away in 1868, at the age of fifty-three years, and he afterward wedded Mrs. Weed. Coming to the middle west at an early day, he was identified with its pioneer development, and as the years passed by he prospered in his undertakings and became one of the substantial agriculturists of the community.

Virgil Woodard acquired his education in the district schools near his father's home and in Creston high school, from which he was graduated. He afterward learned the tinsmith's trade at Creston, and then went to Poughkeepsie, New York, where he attended Eastman's Business College. Following his graduation from that school he returned to Creston and bought out the tinshop in

which he had previously been employed, carrying on the business there for twelve years. In 1885 he came to Fairdale and worked as a tinsmith until 1888, when he purchased his present business, operating an elevator at this point and also dealing in coal and lumber. In fact, he has two elevators and a large lumber-yard and is conducting an extensive and profitable business. He has also been a stockholder for eight years in gold mining properties in Mexico and South America. He is likewise a partner in two thousand acres of land in Cuba and two hundred and seventy-five thousand acres in Mexico, in addition to which he owns a farm of six hundred and forty acres in South Dakota. His business interests have grown to extensive proportions through his well directed labors and careful management. He started out empty-handed. Today he is a prosperous resident of the county with extensive landed holdings and profitable commercial interests. Moreover, he is progressive in all civil and public improvements and has done much for the benefit of the towns in which he has resided.

In April, 1882, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Woodard and Miss Susan Nash, a native of Ogle county, Illinois, and a daughter of Sanford Nash, who was born in New York and came to Illinois in 1850. Mrs. Woodard taught school for several years before her marriage and is numbered among the alumni of the Belvidere high school. By her marriage she has become the mother of three children: Lois M., who is a graduate of the high school of Rockford, Illinois; Evan E., who was also graduated from the high school there and is now pursuing a course in mechanical engineering, being in his second year in the State University at Champaign; and Edith M., who is attending Brown's Business College of Rockford.

Mr. Woodard is a member of the Court of Honor and the Modern Woodmen camp. In politics he is a republican where national issues and questions are involved but at local elections casts an independent ballot. He served as clerk of the school board for fifteen years and the cause of education finds in him a warm and stalwart friend. He and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Fairdale, in which he is serving as an officer, and for many years he has also been superintendent of the Sunday school. His life is actuated by high and honorable principles and

worthy motives, and he gives his co-operation to many movements for the uplifting of his fellow-men. Although he has won notable success in business life his path has never been strewn with the wreck of other men's fortunes. On the contrary he has been just and fair in his dealings and all who know him honor and respect him for his genuine worth.

JUDGE WILLIAM L. POND.

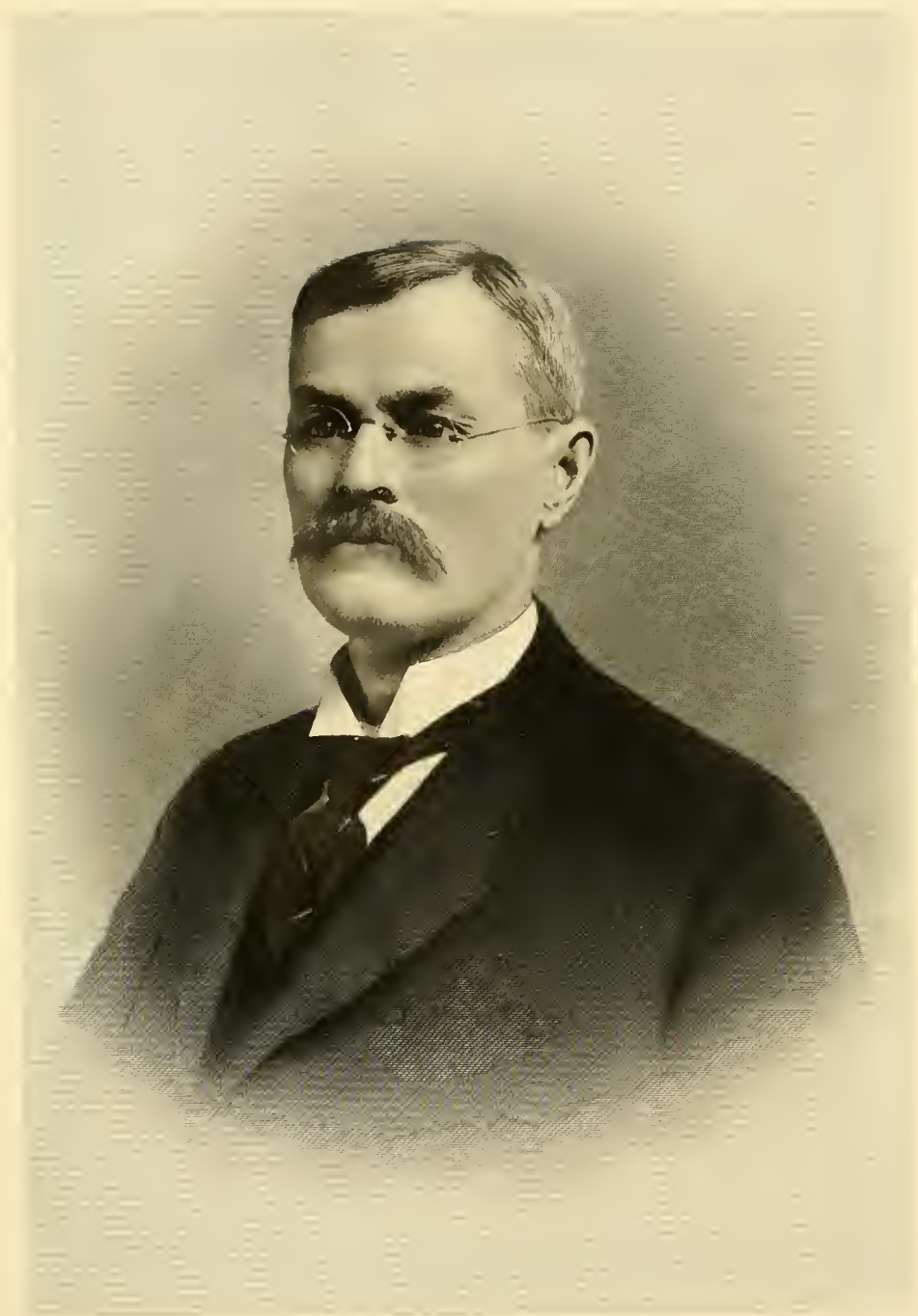
Judge William L. Pond, serving for the fourth term on the bench of the county court, has gained distinction in a profession where advancement depends entirely upon individual merit. Well versed in the learning of his profession and with a deep knowledge of nature and the springs of human conduct, with great shrewdness, sagacity and tact, he was in the courts of De Kalb a power and influence and upon the bench of justice his duties are discharged with a deep sense of high ideals of the law as a conservator of justice and human rights.

Judge Pond is one of De Kalb county's native sons, his birth having occurred in Genoa township on the 11th of February, 1860. His parents were Americus H. and Amy N. (Hollenbeak) Pond, who, during the pioneer development of this portion of the state, became residents of De Kalb county. The training on the home farm laid the foundation for a strong physical and mental development. After attending the district schools he became a high school student at Genoa and completed the course with the first class that was graduated there, on the 10th of June, 1881. For a year afterward he was a teacher in the high school at Kirkland, but regarded this merely as an initial step to other professional labor. It was his desire to follow law as a life work and to this end he entered the office of Lowell & Carnes, under whose direction he continued his reading for a year. He completed his course with the firm of Carnes & Denton at Sycamore, and after passing a creditable examination before the appellate court at Ottawa, was admitted to the bar on the 10th of June, 1884.

Judge Pond located for practice in De Kalb in September of that year and almost immediately

met with gratifying recognition of his ability in the line of his chosen profession. In May, 1886, he was appointed city attorney of De Kalb to fill a vacancy and was afterward elected for five terms, filling the office most acceptably for eleven years. In January, 1887, he formed a partnership with Judge Luther Lowell, which connection was continued for two years, with offices in Sycamore and De Kalb. He afterward practiced alone until the 1st of January, 1895, when he formed a partnership with A. G. Kennedy, who had recently located in De Kalb. This association was maintained until June, 1897, and was dissolved just prior to the election of Mr. Pond to the bench. He was chosen to fill out an incomplete term and in the summer of 1898 he received the republican nomination for a full term. Re-election has continued him in office and is indicative at once of his capability and of the confidence reposed in him by the voters of the county. His success in a professional way affords the best evidence of his proficiency in this line. Much of the success which has attended him in his professional career is undoubtedly due to the fact that in no instance would he permit himself to go into court with a case until he had made thorough and careful preparation. He was thus adding continually to his knowledge and his practice was proving a training for later judicial duties. His decisions have been marked by a thorough understanding of the law, by rare discrimination in the application of legal principles to the points at issue and by a marked freedom from all personal bias.

On the 9th of November, 1887, Mr. Pond was married to Miss Alice E. Cole, a native of Kingston, Illinois, born April 21, 1860, her parents being Marcus W. and Anna E. (Little) Cole, both of whom were natives of New York. Judge and Mrs. Pond now have one child, their daughter Jessie A., who was born November 4, 1888. In his social relations the Judge is connected with De Kalb lodge No. 144, A. F. & A. M.; De Kalb chapter, No. 52, R. A. M.; De Kalb council, No. 81, R. & S. M.; and Sycamore commandery, No. 15, K. T. His name is likewise on the membership roll of the Modern Woodmen camp, the Knights of Maccabees and the Royal Arcanum. His political allegiance has ever been given the republican party and he is now serving the fourth term as a member of the board of education in De Kalb.



William L. Pond.

but otherwise his political service has been in the strict path of his profession. One of his dominant characteristics is a genial disposition joined with kindliness and courtesy that render him a favorite in social, political and home circles. He is a gentleman by instinct as well as by culture and education and is greatly esteemed in professional ranks because of his close application, his legal acumen and conscientious performance of duty. He has remarkable powers of concentration and application and his retentive mind has often excited the surprise of his professional colleagues.

F. W. AND C. H. CHALLAND.

F. W. and C. H. Challand are partners in their farming operations and in the raising of full-blooded Durham cattle. They have gained more than local distinction in connection with their live-stock business, which has developed rapidly and has brought them gratifying success.

F. W. Challand was born August 20, 1874, and C. H. Challand was born on the 13th of April, 1880, their birthplace being the family homestead in Clinton township. Their father, Henry Challand, was born in England, in 1823, while their mother, Emily Challand, was born in Canada in 1843. They are represented on another page of this work. The sons were reared upon the home farm, early being instructed in the tasks of plowing, planting and harvesting, and when not busy with their text-books as students in the public schools, their time was largely occupied with the labors of the fields. For seven years they have operated their father's farm of three hundred and sixty acres, bringing the fields under a high state of cultivation, and in addition to tilling the soil, are raising and importing full-blooded Durham cattle. They also have some imported Shire mares, owning some of the best in the county. They have been breeding full-blooded stock for seven years and now have some very fine colts for sale. They are widely recognized as leading and energetic live-stock dealers and well merit the success which is attending them. They are both men of good business ability and received thorough training for life's practical and responsible duties, the older brother having attended and graduated from the business

college at Aurora, Illinois, while C. H. Challand is a graduate of the high school of Sandwich, Illinois.

On the 31st of January, 1900, F. W. Challand was united in marriage to Miss Anna H. Hunt, who was born in La Salle county, this state, December 1, 1872. Her father, Thomas Hunt, was born in Ireland in 1843 and came to America in his boyhood days. He started to earn his own living by working as a farm hand by the month and after his marriage removed to Iowa, where he and his wife now make their home. Mrs. Hunt was born in La Salle county, Illinois, in 1851. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Challand there has been born a son, Arthur F., whose natal day is February 4, 1907.

The brothers give their political allegiance to the democracy and F. W. Challand has been a school director for three years. They attend and support the Methodist Episcopal church and are well known in the community as enterprising, energetic men, who are highly esteemed by reason of their unflagging principle and diligence and their trustworthiness in all business transactions.

JAMES MARTIN.

James Martin is justly accounted one of the prosperous and progressive farmers of Somonauk township. He lives on section 10, where he has one hundred and sixty-two acres of land, constituting a valuable property. The excellent appearance of the place is indicative of his life of industry and thrift and a glance at the farm serves to indicate to the passer-by the care and labor he bestows upon it. He came to Illinois in 1867, settling in La Salle county. He was born in Montreal, Canada, June 19, 1852. His father, Edward Martin, was reared and married in Canada, the lady of his choice being Miss Jane Bothwell. He was a shoemaker by trade and followed that pursuit throughout his early life. About 1868 he came to Illinois, settling at Northville, where he lived for several years working at the shoemaker's trade. Afterward he took up his abode at Sheridan, where he spent the last years of his life, his wife also passing away in that town.

James Martin is one of a family of three sons and four daughters, all of whom yet survive. He was reared in La Salle county, Illinois, and learned the milling business at Millington, where he was employed for several years. Coming to De Kalb county about 1878, he first rented land in Somonauk township, while afterward he operated the farm belonging to his uncle near Little Rock, for six years. He next bought his present property, took up his abode there and began to improve the farm, bringing the fields under a high state of cultivation. Modern methods of draining have been employed for he has used many rods of tile upon the place, has fenced the fields and carried on the work of tilling the soil after the most improved methods known to agriculture at the present time. Annually he gathers rich crops, which are the merited reward of his labor, and raises and feeds live stock, especially hogs, fattening and shipping about two carloads annually. He also sells a large number of cattle and raises some of high grades. He has thoroughly acquainted himself with farming and live-stock interests and the careful management which he displays in his business has made him a prosperous farmer.

It was on the home farm about 1877 that Mr. Martin was united in marriage to Miss Naomi C. Clark, a native daughter of the county and a teacher prior to her marriage. Her father, Israel S. Clark, was an old settler of De Kalb county and now resides near Somonauk. Unto her and Mr. Martin have been born six children: Winifred L., now the wife of Roy Culver, of California; Mabel C., a young lady who has learned the millinery business and now holds a position in York, Nebraska; Maud J., a stenographer, at home; Charles Harry, who is with the Swift Packing Company in Chicago; and Clark E., at home. They also lost a daughter, Edna, who died at the age of two years. Mrs. Martin is spending the winter of 1907 at Redondo Beach, California.

Mr. Martin proudly cast his first presidential vote for Rutherford B. Hayes in 1876 and has never failed to support a presidential nominee since that time. He was elected highway commissioner and for a number of years has filled the office, in which capacity he has done excellent service in making good gravel roads and building substantial bridges. He has served on the school board for a

number of years and has been a delegate to county conventions. His wife is a member of the Presbyterian church while he belongs to the Masonic lodge and Knights of the Globe. He is true to the teachings of these orders and is in hearty sympathy with their plans. In matters of citizenship he is interested in all that pertains to public welfare and gives his endorsement to many measures for the general good. In business he has never been known to take advantage of the necessities of his fellowmen but has always been straightforward in his dealings and has gained his success, not through speculation, but by the close application of energy that never flags.

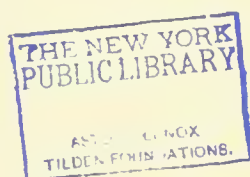
DE WITT D. PLANK.

DeWitt D. Plank, at one time actively engaged in farming in De Kalb township, but now residing at No. 501 South First street, in the city of De Kalb, was born August 30, 1851, on the old family home-stead. His father is William W. Plank, mentioned elsewhere in this volume. The son attended the common schools and when not busy with his text-books worked in the fields, remaining with his father until twenty-eight years of age. He next went to South Dakota, where he farmed for six years, after which he returned to De Kalb township and again carried on general agricultural pursuits until 1901, in which year he removed to De Kalb. At one time he engaged in teaching school for a year and a half and met with remarkable success in that line, being regarded as a most able educator. He owns one hundred and ten acres of land in Clark county, Illinois, and from this derives a good income. He has been busy and active from boyhood days to the present and the secret of his success is found in his unfaltering energy and determination.

On the 6th day of May, 1885, Mr. Plank was united in marriage to Miss Adella Parks, a daughter of Nelson Parks, a farmer of Cortland township, De Kalb county. They now have four children: Fayette, who is in the west; Clayton, Vera and Viola, all at home. Mr. Plank is a democrat, but does not seek nor desire the honors nor emoluments of public office. He stands for all that is honorable and upright between man and his fellow-



DE WITT D. PLANK.



man and for all that is progressive in citizenship and may therefore justly be numbered among the representative residents of the county.

EDWARD M. BURST.

Edward M. Burst, numbered among the strong and able members of the De Kalb county bar and now filling the office of states attorney, was born in Sycamore in 1872. His father, Captain John W. Burst, for many years a resident of this county, was born in Delaware county, New York, and has figured very prominently in Grand Army circles. He was one of the first to join the organization, having been mustered into Ransom post, Chicago, in 1866. He was transferred to the post in Sycamore, Illinois, in 1874, and was its commander for several years. He was very active in building up the order in Illinois and, besides holding many subordinate positions, was senior vice commander and commander of the department. He served for many years on the G. A. R. national pension committee and did effective work in the formulation and passage of the disability bill. He has been three times the candidate of the department of Illinois for commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic. His appointment by Commander-in-chief Lawler as quartermaster general met the enthusiastic approval of thousands of personal friends among the comrades.

During the campaign of 1896, Captain Burst was a part of the aggregation made up of crippled veterans of the war for the Union that made a tour of the country in the interest of the republican party. In the party were Generals Alger, Sickles, Howard, Stewart, Corporal Tanner and others. Soon after his election President McKinley appointed Captain Burst chief inspector of immigration, with headquarters at Chicago, which position he now holds.

Captain Burst married Lettice A. Mayo, a daughter of Hon. Edward L. and Emily (Holden) Mayo. Her father settled at Sycamore, Illinois, in 1841, and for many years was the acknowledged leader of the bar of De Kalb county. As a lawyer and a man he was prominently identified with its early history. He was born in Moretown, Washington county, Vermont, in 1807, and while his

advantages in early life were limited, he obtained a fair education. His friends tried to persuade him to enter the ministry but he chose the law and was admitted to the bar in 1835. He was twice married, his first wife being Miss Lettice Ann Holden, who died shortly afterward, and in September, 1840, he married Miss Emily Holden, her cousin. In politics he was a democrat and in 1854 was the candidate of that party for congress but he was defeated, the district being strongly republican. He was three times elected county judge notwithstanding his politics and the fact that he belonged to a party casting the minority vote. He was on intimate terms of friendship with the leading men of the state, among them being Stephen A. Douglas, Judge John D. Caton and Lyman Trumbull. After 1860 he was a "war democrat," in full sympathy with the Union cause. His integrity and honor were never questioned. Possessed of a legal mind, it was among his legal brethren, who knew him best and were best able to judge, that he was most appreciated. He died in De Kalb, November 16, 1877, at the age of seventy years, leaving a widow and one son, Dr. E. L. Mayo, of De Kalb, and three daughters: Mrs. John W. Burst, of Sycamore; Mrs. T. E. Bagley, of Genoa; and Miss Kate Mayo, of DeKalb, surviving. To Captain and Mrs. Burst three children were born: Edward M., of this review; Bessie, wife of Henry W. Prentice, an attorney of De Kalb; and Bertha C., wife of Lieutenant Peter Lloyd Pratt, of the United States navy, now retired and practicing law in Seattle, Washington.

In taking up the personal history of Edward M. Burst we present the life record of one who has continually grown in public favor as a result of the character development which the years have brought him and the use he has made of the powers and qualities with which nature endowed him. A public-school education, acquired in Sycamore, was followed by preparation for the practice of law in the Michigan University at Ann Arbor. He entered that institution in 1890 and was graduated in 1892 with the degree of Bachelor of Laws. The same year he was admitted to practice in the courts of Michigan and in 1893 entered the law offices of Caldwell & Pierson of Chicago, with whom he remained for about a year. Returning to Sycamore he opened an office in the room occupied by Judge L. Lowell, and began the practice of his

profession. He was not long in demonstrating his thorough knowledge of legal principles and in 1895 was chosen by his fellow townsmen to the office of city attorney, in which capacity he gave such able service that he was re-elected in 1897. His election to the office of states attorney of De Kalb county followed in November, 1904. As a practitioner at the bar he has been accorded a liberal patronage. He has won for himself a very favorable criticism for the careful and systematic methods he has followed in his work in the courts. As an orator he stands high, especially in discussions of legal matters before the courts, where his comprehension and knowledge of the law is manifest and his application of legal principles demonstrates the wide range of his professional acquirements. Utmost care and precision characterize his preparation of a case and have made him one of the most successful attorneys of the county.

Mr. Burst, moreover, figures prominently in political circles. He is a stalwart republican when a matter of principle is involved but was elected to the position of city attorney for the first term by the independent voters and to the second term on the citizens ticket. In 1892 he was one of the delegates from Illinois to the National Republican League convention held at Buffalo, New York, and in 1898 re-arranged and revised the city ordinances of Sycamore. Mr. Burst is yet a young man and has not yet reached the prime of life. Those who have watched his progress have noted the development and growth of his powers and the excellent use to which he has put his native talents. He is making substantial advancement in his profession and undoubtedly the future holds for him still greater success.

DUANE J. CARNES.

Duane J. Carnes, one of the leading lawyers of De Kalb county, was born on the 27th of May, 1848, in Pomfret, Windsor county, Vermont, his parents being John and Mary Warren (Paine) Carnes. His paternal grandfather, John Carnes, Sr., was a native of Ireland, emigrating to this country about 1815 and establishing his home at Claremont, New Hampshire, where John Carnes, the father of our subject, was born May 30, 1823.

He was, during his active business life, a farmer in Pomfret, Windsor county, Vermont, there acquiring a comfortable competence. In 1875 he retired from active business and came to Sycamore, Illinois. His wife was born in Pomfret, Vermont, July 4, 1824, and was a daughter of Moses Paine, who was born in Pomfret, Connecticut, in 1780, a son of Asa Paine and Keziah Childs Paine, natives of Pomfret and Woodstock, Connecticut, and a niece of Hooper Warren, a noted anti-slavery editor in this state in early days. Unto Mr. and Mrs. John Carnes were born two sons, the younger being George D. Carnes, now a practicing physician of South Haven, Michigan.

Duane J. Carnes was educated in the district schools of Vermont and in the Orange county grammar school of Randolph, Vermont, and the State Normal School of that place, to which the grammar school changed during his attendance. He graduated from both courses in the Normal School, from the latter course in the spring of 1873, having spent considerable time teaching in the public schools in Vermont and Illinois prior to his graduation.

During his teaching he devoted his leisure to reading law and spent a few months in the office of William Jones at Lincoln, Illinois. In November, 1873, he came to Sycamore, shortly thereafter entered the law office of Charles Kellum and since that time has devoted his attention entirely to law. He was admitted to the bar in September, 1875; practiced in partnership with his preceptor, Judge Kellum, for two years; afterwards with Judge Lowell until the spring of 1883 when, on the election of Judge Lowell to the bench, he entered into partnership with Gilbert H. Denton; and, on the dissolution of that firm and the removal of Mr. Denton to Denver, Colorado, in the fall of 1889, he formed a partnership with George W. Dunton. John Faissler entered the office as a student in 1895, afterward becoming a member of the firm. Mr. Dunton retired January 1, 1907, and John R. Cochran, who had entered the office as a clerk in 1904, was admitted as a partner, and they are now practicing under the firm name of Carnes, Faissler & Cochran. They occupy a fine suite of rooms in the Daniel Pierce building and have a large practice, being regularly retained by several of the banks and large manufacturing concerns of the county and by the Chicago & Northwestern;

Illinois Central; Illinois, Iowa & Minnesota, and De Kalb-Sycamore Railroads. Mr. Carnes has been successful as a jury advocate and has done the larger part of that work in which his firms have been engaged, since retiring from partnership with Judge Kellum.

On the 1st of June, 1880, Mr. Carnes was married to Miss Helen A. McMollan, a daughter of Archibald and Helen (Blacke) McMollan, of Oregon, Illinois. They have one daughter, Hope Carnes, born October 15, 1882.

Mr. Carnes is a republican but has never been active in political life. His time and energy have been devoted to his profession. He has taken an interest in public affairs and been liberal in support of measures calculated to advance the interests of his town, contributing thereto both time and money, but he has always believed that the profession of law affords an ample field for energy and endeavor and has governed his life accordingly, permitting no side issue of politics, business or social life to much divert his attention from his chosen work. He has much faith in the future of Sycamore and De Kalb county, regards himself fortunate in his choice of location and predicts that the remarkable development of this county, which he has witnessed in the last thirty-three years, will be equaled and surpassed in the next third of a century.

SAMUEL ROTE.

Samuel Rote has found in the rich agricultural resources of De Kalb county the means not only for a livelihood but for the acquirement of a comfortable competence, for here he has spent his entire life, having been born in Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, August 14, 1844, while today he owns a well improved farm of eighty acres on section 26, Mayfield township. His parents, Henry and Esther (Carpenter) Rote, were born in Pennsylvania. The father, hearing favorable reports concerning the new and rapidly developing west, made his way to this state in 1856, and followed farming in Mayfield township.

Samuel Rote acquired his education in the common schools of Mayfield township while spending the days of his boyhood and youth under the

parental roof. He was early trained by his father to the duties of the home farm, assisting in the work of the homestead property until starting out upon an independent business career, at which time he chose the occupation to which he had been reared and this has continued to be his source of revenue to the present time. He is now the owner of a well improved farm of eighty acres, situated on section 26, Mayfield township, and here he is engaged in raising the cereals best adapted to soil and climate and through the careful cultivation of his land he is rewarded each year with rich harvests, his products finding a ready sale on the market, where they command the highest prices.

Mr. Rote was married February 18, 1868, to Miss Christina Yonkin, and their union has been blessed with a son and daughter: George C., who follows farming in Mayfield township; and Alice, now the wife of Robert R. Renwick, a resident farmer of this township, and whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work.

While believing firmly in the principles and policy of the republican party, Mr. Rote has never been active in political ranks, and aside from serving as pathmaster for one term, has never filled public office, preferring to give his time and attention to his private business affairs. Mrs. Rote is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church at Sycamore, and Mr. Rote attends its services. He is well known in De Kalb county, where his entire life has been passed, and is recognized as a most honorable and trustworthy citizen, well deserving of mention among the highly esteemed residents in a work of this character.

HENRY H. SLADE.

The farming interests of De Kalb township find a worthy representative in Henry H. Slade, who operates ninety-one acres of land belonging to his father, Joseph Slade, in De Kalb township. The old family homestead was the place of his birth and his natal day December 15, 1878. His parents were Joseph and Jane (Sarney) Slade, both natives of England. The father was born February 4, 1829, and, crossing the Atlantic to America, settled in the Empire state, where he began work as

a farm hand near Albany. Thinking that he would have better business opportunities in the middle west, he came, after a short time, to De Kalb county, where he was employed at various kinds of labor for twelve years. He then purchased the farm upon which his son, Henry H., is now located, making it his home until 1905, when he returned to the city of De Kalb, where he is now living retired. He was for a long period an active and energetic agriculturist, bringing his fields under a high state of cultivation and greatly enhancing the productiveness of the land. It was on the 5th of February, 1878, that Joseph Slade was united in marriage to Miss Jane Sarney. They traveled life's journey happily together for about nine years and were then separated by the death of the wife on the 12th of March, 1887.

Reared under the parental roof, Henry H. Slade acquired a common school education and was early trained to the work of the farm. As soon as old enough he took up the task of plowing, planting and harvesting and he has always been identified with agricultural pursuits in De Kalb township. His work has been of a practical nature that has produced good results, and he is operating an excellent farm of ninety-one acres which is well improved in many respects.

On the 1st of August, 1904, Mr. Slade was married to Miss Jennie Swanson, who was of Swedish parentage. She came alone from Sweden to De Kalb county in 1902 and two years later gave her hand in marriage to Mr. Slade. They now have an interesting little son, Herbert Joseph. The parents attend and support the Congregational church of De Kalb and are much esteemed in the community where they reside. Mr. Slade votes with the republican party but does not seek or desire office, preferring to give undivided attention to his business affairs.

JOHN G. DAVY.

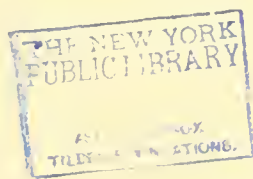
John G. Davy, for fifteen years superintendent of the Bradt & Shipman Glove Factory, at De Kalb, and one of the most prominent and respected business men of the city, was born here on the 7th of March, 1859. His parents, Charles

and Mary Ann (Whittler) Davy, were natives of England and emigrated to this country in 1855, settling in De Kalb, Illinois, where the father engaged in the butchering business. He was a strict business man, true to those principles which guide and govern successful men. He died on the 29th of June, 1862, at the comparatively early age of thirty-two years, survived by his wife and two sons. Mrs. Davy remained a resident of this county until she, too, was called to her final rest on the 12th of December, 1904, at the age of seventy-two years. The sons are still living, the older being Robert C. Davy.

In taking up the personal history of John G. Davy we present to our readers the life record of one who is very widely and favorably known by reason of his enterprise and business integrity. He was educated in the schools of De Kalb and entered business life as an employe in the grocery house of George H. Gurler, with whom he remained for three and a half years. He also worked at different times in the Haish and Ellwood wire factories, and in 1880 he entered the employ of I. A. Robinson, proprietor of a glove factory, located in the basement of the Glidden House. He remained there for two years and on the expiration of his first year Mr. Robinson made him foreman of the shop. In 1883 he bought out the De Kalb Glove & Mitten Company, which he successfully conducted on his own account, increasing the business to such an extent that the firm of Mott & Wolcott were induced to buy him out in 1891. In the following year that firm sold out to Bradt & Shipman, who placed Mr. Davy in charge of the entire plant and he has since acted as superintendent, covering a period of fifteen years. He is thoroughly acquainted with the business in principle and detail as a practical workman and equally as an executive of affairs, and his ability is constantly being manifest in one phase or another in the control of an extensive plant, which, under his direction, has yielded an excellent profit to the firm. In working out new improvements he has invented and received several United States patents. His most successful patent—the Davy tip for out seam gloves and mittens—is now in the third year of its manufacture. He also has a Canadian patent for this invention and its manufacture is being pushed in both countries by prominent firms under royalty.



John E. Dwyer



On the 29th of March, 1882, Mr. Davy was united in marriage to Miss Laura B. Stevens, who was born at Sterling, New York, on the 5th of August, 1865, and is a daughter of Phillip and Caroline M. Stevens. Her father died March 25, 1880, and her mother, removing to Illinois, immediately afterward arrived here on the 18th of May. Mr. and Mrs. Davy have become the parents of six children, as follows: Althea Ruth, who was born October 11, 1883; Percival E., February 10, 1886; Benjamin L., December 1, 1888; Reuben R., June 1, 1891; Oakley B., October 12, 1893; and Jeane Vera, July 8, 1904.

Mr. Davy is one of De Kalb's prominent men of good business tact and enterprise and has been interested in several business concerns but is now giving his attention exclusively to the glove business and his real-estate investments. He has served for two terms in the city council from the second ward and is interested in all that pertains to general progress and improvement. He is a charter member of the Modern Woodmen of America, which was organized in 1884 and also a charter member of the Knights of the Maccabees, the Royal Neighbors, the Yeomen and the Archaean Union, in all of which he is a leading spirit and active, earnest worker. He is also a member of De Kalb Commercial Club and a firm believer in the future of his home city. His entire life has been passed here, and without special family or pecuniary advantages at the outset of his career he has worked his way upward until he has long been recognized as a force not only in business life but also in fraternal circles, while the number of his friends here is almost co-extensive with the circle of his acquaintances.

B. W. LYONS.

Among the native sons of De Kalb county who have retained their residence within its borders enjoying the privileges and opportunities here offered, is numbered B. W. Lyons. His natal date was March 28, 1869, and the place of his birth is the old family homestead in Afton township. His parents, Martin and Mary Lyons, were natives of Ireland, the latter born in County Mayo in 1839, while the father was born in the year 1835. They

became the parents of nine children, three sons and six daughters, of whom five are living. It was in the year 1856 that the parents became residents of De Kalb county, and upon the home farm in Afton township, B. W. Lyons was born and reared. After attending the public schools, he continued his education at Dixon, Illinois, and later graduated from the Northern Indiana Business and Normal College at Valparaiso, Indiana, subsequent to which time he taught school for five years. He was an able educator, imparting readily and successfully to others the knowledge he had acquired. Since that time his energies have been concentrated upon his farming pursuits and he is classed with the foremost representatives of agricultural interests in Afton township. He owns and operates a farm of two hundred acres on sections 22 and 27, and the property is one of the attractive features of the landscape because of the well tilled fields and good improvements upon the place.

On the 16th of February, 1904, Mr. Lyons was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Roche, who was born in Rutland township, Kane county, Illinois, September 27, 1871. Her father, William Roche, was a native of Ireland and was born March 17, 1834, while her mother's birth occurred in Hampshire township, Kane county, Illinois, March 17, 1847. They were married in Elgin, Illinois, July 10, 1865, and were well known farming people who occupied the old homestead place upon which Mrs. Roche was born. They became the parents of a large family of fourteen children, six sons and eight daughters, and it is a remarkable fact that thirteen of the number are still living.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Lyons has been blessed with two sons: Raymond F., who was born November 23, 1904; and Bernard R., who was born May 8, 1906. Mrs. Lyons is a well educated lady and was graduated from the high school of Hampshire, Illinois, and engaged in teaching for four years. Both Mr. and Mrs. Lyons are well informed people, keeping in touch with the trend of modern thought through reading and observation, and they occupy an enviable position in social circles. They are communicants of the St. Mary's Catholic church, and Mr. Lyons belongs to the Elma camp, No. 2744, M. W. A.; to the Royal Neighbors lodge, No. 2212, and to

the Knights of Columbus at De Kalb. Politically he is a democrat, recognized as one of the local leaders of the party, and is now holding the office of assessor, in which position he has served eight years. He has likewise been town clerk for two years and has been most loyal to the trust reposed in him. He has many friends in the county where his entire life has been passed and those who know him best entertain for him the warmest regard.

C. A. DOTY.

C. A. Doty is proprietor of the Home Dairy, the leading business of this character in Sycamore for the sale of milk to the retail trade. He is a young man of energy, developing his business interests along modern lines and his alert and enterprising spirit constitutes a safe basis upon which to build success. His birth occurred in Oxford, Ohio, August 13, 1876. His father, F. B. Doty, who now resides in Kane county, Illinois, is a farmer by occupation, and in 1886 located in Kane county, where he now owns and cultivates one hundred and twenty acres of land.

C. A. Doty was a lad of ten years when he accompanied his parents to Illinois. He was reared upon the home farm and completed his education in the public schools of Kane county, also becoming familiar with all of the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist, while assisting his father in the work of the home place. He started out in life on his own account at the age of twenty-three years, and for three years followed farming in Kane county. In March, 1904, he removed to Sycamore and established the Home Dairy, beginning business in a modest way. He had a limited number of patrons and kept but two cows. Gradually his business grew and developed under his capable management and he now handles the product from seven of the largest dairy farms in the county, where are kept altogether about one hundred and fifty cows. His average daily sales amount to from one hundred and sixty to two hundred gallons. The Home Dairy has seven hundred customers and the plant is being improved and enlarged from time to time. New machinery is being installed as the increase of the business warrants and two milk wagons are utilized through-

out the year in delivering milk. The rapid growth and development of this enterprise indicates something of the business ability, strong purpose and commendable ambition of Mr. Doty, who is indeed one of the wide-awake young men of Sycamore. He makes it his purpose to give satisfaction to his patrons and thus insure a continuance of a liberal public support.

Mr. Doty was married to Miss Ethel Perry, of Kane county, Illinois, a daughter of Myron C. Perry, now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Doty have three children, Tressa, Myrl and Laverne. Politically Mr. Doty is a republican and in religious faith his wife is connected with the United Brethren church. Sycamore has seen a valuable addition to its business circles since he removed to this city and he is now controlling an enterprise of importance, belonging to that class of men whose business energy and activity contribute so much to the public stability and the interests of the community.

EDWIN TUDOR.

Edwin Tudor, living on a farm of eighty acres, from which he derives a good income in the shape of golden harvests, was born in the city of London, England, March 8, 1849. His father, John Tudor, was also a native of London, and with his family came to the United States in 1856. He had nine children, five sons and four daughters.

The subject of this review was only seven years of age at the time of the emigration to the new world and under the parental roof he spent the days of his boyhood and youth, early becoming familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturists. He acquired a common-school education and the occupation to which he was reared has been his life work. He now owns and controls eighty acres of land in DeKalb township, and works untiringly and persistently in keeping his fields under a high state of cultivation and thus enhancing their productiveness.

Having arrived at years of maturity Mr. Tudor sought a companion and helpmate for life's journey and was married to Miss Elma Hubbet, who was born in this county in 1852. Her father was born in Elmira, New York, and came west to Illinois in



C. A. DOTY.

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1839, casting in his lot with the pioneer settlers of this part of the state and aiding in reclaiming the wild prairies for the purposes of cultivation. For many years he was closely associated with farming interests, but is now living retired in De Kalb, well meriting the rest which he is now enjoying. In his family were two sons and a daughter. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Tudor have been born two children: Willie, born December 8, 1874; and Minnie P., born February 14, 1881. The son is married and is farming in De Kalb township and the daughter is the wife of Floyd Listy, who operates her father's farm. She has one child, Elva May, born July 18, 1903.

Mr. and Mrs. Tudor support the Methodist Episcopal church and he is interested in all that tends to promote the material, intellectual and moral growth of the community. For six years he has served as school director and he believes in the maintenance of good schools and the employment of competent teachers. For a half century he has lived in this part of the state. The traveler of today, looking upon the fine farms and thriving towns, can scarcely imagine the condition which the Tudor family found on their arrival. Large tracts of land were still in their primitive condition and many evidences of frontier life were still to be seen. Throughout the intervening years Mr. Tudor has watched the development as log cabins have been replaced with substantial frame residences and as crude farm machinery has given way before the reaper, the binder and the mower. He has from the beginning of his residence in Illinois been connected with agricultural pursuits and is now living an active and useful life of that character.

C. A. SWANBERG.

C. A. Swanberg is a self-made man, for all that he today enjoys has been acquired through his own well directed labors. Starting out in life without capital, he has worked diligently and energetically through the passing years and that his efforts have been crowned with a goodly measure of prosperity is indicated by the fine farm of one hundred and nine acres, situated on sections 26 and 28, Mayfield township, which he today owns.

Mr. Swanberg is a native of Sweden, born April 21, 1854, and was a youth of fourteen years, when, in 1868, he accompanied his parents, Peter and Ingra (Nelson) Swanberg, on their emigration to the United States. Upon his arrival on the shores of the new world, the father at once made his way to Chicago, where he spent four years, working as a carpenter in the shops of the Northwestern Railroad Company.

In 1870 C. A. Swanberg started out to make his own way in the world and continued to make his home in Chicago until 1875, when he came to De Kalb county and engaged in farm work by the month for four years. He then operated his father's farm in Cortland township for two years, after which he went to Hampshire, Kane county, and there followed farming for two years. He next removed to the David Syme farm in Mayfield township, De Kalb county, which he operated for eleven years. During all these years he worked diligently and persistently in the hope that he might some day own a farm of his own. He lived frugally and economically, carefully husbanding his resources, so that at length he was enabled to purchase land, and in 1896 he became the owner of his present farm of one hundred and nine acres, situated on sections 26 and 28, Mayfield township. He has improved his place with good buildings, including a nice home and outbuildings necessary for the shelter of grain and stock, while his land has been placed under a high state of cultivation, and he annually harvests good crops as a result of the care and labor he bestows upon his fields. He is progressive in his methods of farm work, using the latest improved machinery to facilitate his labors, and his business dealings, too, are ever reliable, so that he is well deserving of the high degree of success to which he has attained.

On the 6th of December, 1882, Mr. Swanberg was united in marriage to Miss Emma Naker, who has proved to him a worthy helpmate on life's journey. Their marriage has been blessed with a daughter and son: Grace, who was born December 12, 1883; and George M., who was born December 18, 1886. Both are still under the parental roof, the latter giving to his father substantial aid in carrying on the work of the homestead farm.

Mr. Swanberg believes firmly in the principles of the republican party, voting for its men and measures, yet he is not an aspirant for public office,

preferring to concentrate his time upon his private business affairs. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, belonging to the camp at Sycamore, while both he and his wife are devoted members of the Lutheran church of that city. Mr. Swanberg has proved a most loyal citizen of his adopted country, and here he has found the opportunities which are ever sought by ambitious young men, and today finds a place among the worthy citizens of De Kalb county.

EDWIN HORACE FAY.

Edwin Horace Fay, a Mexican war veteran and pioneer resident of Squaw Grove township, was born at Manlius, Onondaga county, New York, August 4, 1826, and was the eldest son of Horace W. Fay, the second representative from De Kalb county in the Illinois legislature. When he was nine years of age his mother, Roxana (Eaton) Fay, died, leaving his father with one son and four daughters. For three years he made his home with an uncle in Michigan.

About 1837 Horace W. Fay took up land in conjunction with his brother, Wells A. Fay, who settled in Squaw Grove township in 1836. The subject of the sketch followed in 1838 and for nearly seventy years has been a resident of De Kalb county. In April, 1847, he enlisted in Company G, of the Sixteenth Kentucky Volunteer Regiment, under Captain Bills, of Naperville, Illinois. He belonged to the musical corps and served as fifer for sixteen months in the Mexican war. He was under Generals Wood and Scott and went to Monterey, Mexico. He was discharged at Newport in August, 1848. Upon returning to De Kalb county he took up one hundred and sixty acres of land from the government on a soldier's warrant.

His father was a civil engineer on the Illinois and Michigan canal, and while with him he became acquainted with Miss Ann Webb Haywood, of Lockport, Illinois, and they were married April 19, 1855. The lady was born in Waterville, Maine, and was a daughter of Timothy and Elenor Haywood. Unto this union were born four children: Arthur Holmes Fay, of Nevada, Iowa; Herbert Wells Fay, of De Kalb, Illinois; Oscar Hawley

Fay, of Hinckley, Illinois; and Orpha Alice, who died in infancy.

Soon after the death of his wife on the 11th of November, 1884, Mr. Fay disposed of his farm interests on section 27, Squaw Grove township, and moved to Hinckley, where he has since resided. He was a successful farmer and stockman and his land was under faultless cultivation, well fenced and provided with commodious buildings. He was one of the founders of the Sandwich Manufacturing Company and for many years owned eighty shares of stock.

Mr. Fay received his early education in a few winter terms in a log schoolhouse, but by persistent study at home he mastered the higher mathematics, preparing himself for a school teacher. In his struggles for knowledge he was materially assisted by his neighbor, Ex-Governor John L. Beveridge, who was then a student at Mount Morris Seminary. Mr. Fay was one of the pioneer school teachers of Somonauk township. He had a natural talent for music and for many years conducted singing school in the log school houses of southern De Kalb county.

Politically Mr. Fay has allied himself with the republican party. He is a man of exemplary habits, strict integrity and has a strong personality. While his locks have been whitened by the snows of eighty winters, he is a great reader and keeps in close touch with the affairs of the world.

JAMES A. DOOLEY.

James A. Dooley, owner of the only general store in Clare, where he is conducting a successful trade, was born March 23, 1875, in Cortland township, this county, his parents being Timothy and Catherine (Keenan) Dooley. The parents were both natives of Kane county, Illinois, whence they removed to De Kalb county in the early '40s. The father served as a soldier in the Civil war as a member of Company A, Fifty-second Illinois Infantry. The mother is still living and resides at Sycamore. Their son James spent his boyhood days under the parental roof and acquired a common-school education in Cortland township, after which he spent one term as a student in the Wheaton high school and one term in Wheaton



Edwin H. Fay

College. His school life being ended, he accepted a clerkship with L. C. Clyne, a general merchant at Maple Park, Illinois, with whom he remained for three years. He then learned telegraphy at St. Charles, Illinois, after which he was station agent and telegraph operator at Maywood, this state, for two years. In 1896 he came to Clare, where for six years he served in the capacity of station agent, proving a trustworthy representative of the road. He entered the general store at Clare as manager, and after two years he bought out the business, now conducting the only establishment of the kind in the village. He carries a good line of goods and draws a liberal patronage from the town and surrounding country. He has been postmaster of Clare since 1903.

Mr. Dooley has likewise served in other official positions. He has been town clerk for the past three years and is still the incumbent in that office as he is in the position of school director. He has likewise served in the latter position for three years and his duties have been discharged with promptness and fidelity. He was married June 7, 1899, to Miss Olive M. Anderson, a resident of Mayfield township, and they are widely and favorably known in the community where they make their home.

HON. WESTEL W. SEDGWICK.

The life of Westel W. Sedgwick was of marked service and benefit to his fellowmen, and his interest in public welfare and his efforts in its behalf caused his death to be deeply deplored when, in July, 1904, he was called from this life. His name is inseparably interwoven with the history of Sandwich in its business development, political, individual and moral progress, and, moreover, he was known to many men of prominence in the state, having been one of the framers of the present constitution.

The life record of Westel W. Sedgwick began in Oneida county, New York, June 7, 1827, his parents being Dr. Samuel and Ruhama P. (Knight) Sedgwick, who were likewise natives of the Empire state. The father engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery after having attended the medical school of Fairfield College, at

Fairfield, New York, which was presided over by Professor Willoughby, in whose honor the subject of this review was named. Dr. Samuel Sedgwick had two brothers who were also practicing physicians, and both came to Illinois, Dr. Elijah Sedgwick locating in Elgin, Kane county, where he engaged in practice for a short time, and then turned his attention to other business pursuits, while Dr. Parker Sedgwick located in Bloomington, Du Page county, where he built up a large practice and was recognized as one of the ablest members of his profession in that part of the state.

Dr. Samuel Sedgwick located for practice at Black Creek, New York, and in 1837 became a member of the medical fraternity at Hartford, Licking county, Ohio, where he resided for three years. He next lived at East Union, Coshocton county, where he practiced for four years, also serving as postmaster of that village for two years under President Tyler. Leaving Ohio, he took up his abode at Little Rock, Kendall county, Illinois, where he continued to reside until his death, which occurred about 1841, when he was forty-five years of age. He was much interested in religious work and held membership in the Congregational church. His wife died in Sandwich when eighty-three years of age, having long survived him. She, too, was a devout member of the Congregational church for many years but in later life joined the Baptist church at Sandwich.

Dr. and Mrs. Sedgwick were parents of seven children: Westel W.; Elizabeth, the widow of Oliver S. Hende, of Sandwich; Sarah A., the wife of William Brewer; Louisa J., who married James H. Lay but is now deceased; Maria, who died in Sandwich; James H., an attorney of Peoria, Illinois; and one who died in infancy.

Dr. Westel W. Sedgwick accompanied his parents on their various removals and in his youth took up the study of medicine under the direction of his father, subsequently continuing his reading in the office of his uncle, Dr. Parker Sedgwick at Bloomington, Illinois. His collegiate instruction was received from Rush Medical College, at Chicago, from which he was graduated with the class of 1848. Prior to this time, however, he had practiced for a year with his father. It was a year in which much sickness, especially of a febrile nature prevailed, and the father and son

were constantly employed in looking after their patients until at length Dr. Samuel Sedgwick became a victim of typhoid and passed away. Dr. W. W. Sedgwick continued to engage in practice at Little Rock until 1857, when he removed to Sandwich, where for a short time he continued as a medical practitioner. He then took up the study of law and was admitted to the bar about 1862. He at once entered upon the prosecution of the profession in Sandwich and De Kalb county and throughout his remaining days gave attention to office practice but in his later years left the trial of cases to others because of impaired health. He became a factor in banking circles in 1884 by the purchase of the private bank of Culver Brothers, and remained president of the Sedgwick Bank of Sandwich until his death, with S. P. Sedgwick as cashier and C. F. Sedgwick as assistant cashier. These sons have since continued the business and from the beginning the bank has maintained an unassailable reputation for the reliability of its methods and the collateral back of it.

Dr. Sedgwick was married on the 21st anniversary of his birth to Miss Sarah A. Toombs, a daughter of William Toombs, a resident of Little Rock, where he was engaged in the hotel business for a number of years, having come to this state from Michigan about 1846. Nine children were born of this marriage, of whom three died in childhood. The others are: Agnes, Caroline Gertrude, the wife of Webster M. Dyas; S. P.; Harvey, who died at the age of fifteen years; Charles F.; and Jennie May, the wife of Eugene Hill, of Chicago. The mother, who was a consistent member of the Sandwich Presbyterian church, died in 1895, at the age of sixty-seven years.

While the professional and financial interests of Dr. Sedgwick made heavy claim upon his time and attention, he nevertheless found opportunity for co-operation in those movements and plans which have proven directly beneficial to the city and county. He was public-spirited and enterprising. In politics, while he usually voted the republican ticket, he did not consider himself bound by party ties and his opinions were based upon a broad and intimate knowledge of the issues and questions of the day. In 1862 he was elected to the state legislature, and in 1869 was chosen to represent his district in the constitutional convention which framed the present organic law of

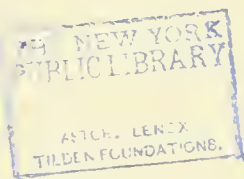
the state. He was elected the first mayor of Sandwich after its incorporation and served as the chief executive of the city for several terms, giving an administration that was characterized by reform and substantial improvement as well as by economic public expenditure. He long served as an elder in the Presbyterian church, in which he held membership, and aside from any business or political relations which he sustained, to the public he was known as a man of genuine worth and honor, whose good qualities won him more than favorable regard, gaining for him sincere and warm friendship.

WILLIAM VON OHLEN.

William Von Ohlen is the owner of valuable farming interests in Squaw Grove township and the president of the Hinckley State Bank. He was born in the province of Brunswick, Germany, May 14, 1843, and is a son of Christian H. and Johanna (Borneman) Von Ohlen, who were also natives of the province of Brunswick, the former born in 1798 and the latter in 1808. They were married in their native country and in 1855 came to the United States, settling on a farm near Sandwich. The father was a man of some means and practically lived retired after coming to the new world. He possessed broad education, acquainted himself with political conditions and possibilities in the new world and while in his native country served as a member of the legislature, or the reichstag. He was often consulted by his neighbors upon legal matters and was frequently named as executor of estates. He held membership in the Evangelical Lutheran church, contributed generously to its support and was active in its work. He died in the year 1880 at the advanced age of eighty-two years, while his wife passed away in 1882. They were the parents of eight children: Christian, now living in Victor township; Minnie, the wife of Christian Baie, who is living retired in Hinckley; Johanna, the wife of Henry Thorel, a retired farmer of Hinckley; Henry, who has also put aside the duties of agricultural life and is now living in Somonauk; William, of this review; Lewis, deceased; Lena, the widow of Anton Boller



WILLIAM VON OHLEN.



and now a resident of Hinckley; and Herman, who died in infancy.

William Von Ohlen was reared to farm life and in his boyhood days was a pupil in the district schools. He has always lived upon a farm and began agricultural pursuits on his own account in Victor township, where he lived for six years. In the spring of 1874 he bought a farm in Squaw Grove township and, removing to that place, he sold his home in Victor township. In December, 1893, he retired from active business life and took up his abode in Hinckley, where he has remained to the present time. He is, however, still associated with agricultural interests as the owner of four hundred acres of rich and valuable land in Squaw Grove township and he has a handsome residence in the village. In 1903 the Hinckley State Bank was organized, with William Von Ohlen as president; George S. Potter as vice president; J. B. Pogue, cashier; and L. J. Van Alstyne, assistant cashier. The capital stock is twenty-five thousand dollars and the surplus five thousand dollars, while the deposits at last report amounted to one hundred and seventy-four thousand, five hundred and eighty-seven dollars and twenty-four cents. The institution has prospered from the start and has made for itself a good name in financial circles, at the same time proving of much value to the business interests of the community. Mr. Von Ohlen is also a stockholder in the Hinckley Grain Company and thus his invested interests are of a character which bring him a good financial return annually.

In early manhood, aroused by a spirit of patriotism, William Von Ohlen donned the blue uniform and went to the south in defense of the old flag. He enlisted on the 20th of September, 1861, when but eighteen years of age, being enrolled at Aurora as a member of Company B, Thirty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He continued with the regiment until mustered out in the hospital at Louisville, Kentucky, in the summer of 1863 on account of disability. He participated in the battle of Pea Ridge, where he sustained a bullet wound that passed clear through his body from one side to the other. He was also in the battles of Perryville and Stone River, where he was again wounded, the bullet passing through both legs. He was then taken to the hospital, where the smallpox broke out. Receiving an honorable discharge,

he was sent home, for he was no longer able to aid in active work on the field. In days of peace he has been equally loyal in citizenship and his efforts have been an element in the welfare and upbuilding of the community in which he resides.

On the 1st of September, 1866, Mr. Von Ohlen was united in marriage to Miss Mary Roth, of Pierce township, a daughter of Henry and Katherine Roth, who came from Germany in 1848, settling in Du Page county, Illinois, upon a farm. After six years they removed to De Kalb county, establishing their home in Victor township. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Von Ohlen were born three daughters and a son: Amelia C., the widow of Edward Ramer, a farmer, and now a resident of Albuquerque, New Mexico; Arret H., who married Josie Reitz and has two children, their home being upon his father's farm; Alta A., the wife of Charles M. Darnell, a resident farmer of Squaw Grove township; and Veda May, the wife of Frank Wagner, a resident farmer of Big Rock township, Kane county, Illinois. The mother of these children passed away October 28, 1894, at the age of fifty-one years. She was a devoted Christian woman, holding membership in the Evangelical Lutheran church, and her friends were many. On the 30th of August, 1900, Mr. Von Ohlen was married to Mrs. Maria H. Slater, the widow of Philo Slater and a daughter of George W. and Charlotte Severance, of Massachusetts, who settled in Big Rock township, Kane county, Illinois. Mrs. Von Ohlen was born December 9, 1848. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Von Ohlen belongs to the Evangelical Lutheran church. He also has membership relations with Aurora post, No. 20, G. A. R., and is a Mason who has filled all the offices in the lodge with one exception, and is a past master.

His political allegiance is given the republican party, of which he has been a staunch advocate since the time of the war, when that political organization proved the defense of the Union. He was road commissioner for twelve years and in 1894 was elected supervisor of Squaw Grove township, in which position he has since been continued by successive re-elections—a fact which is indicative of his unfaltering fidelity to duty and his capability in discharging the tasks that devolve upon him in this connection. For three years he was president of the village board and is now treas-

urer of the township school board. Mr. Von Ohlen, while born across the water, is a typical American citizen, who in his life record has been faithful to his adopted country, loyal to his friends and honorable and upright in all of his business relations. His good qualities are many and that his life has been upright is indicated by the fact that many of his staunchest friends are those who have known him throughout the period of his residence in the new world.

ANDREW BRADT.

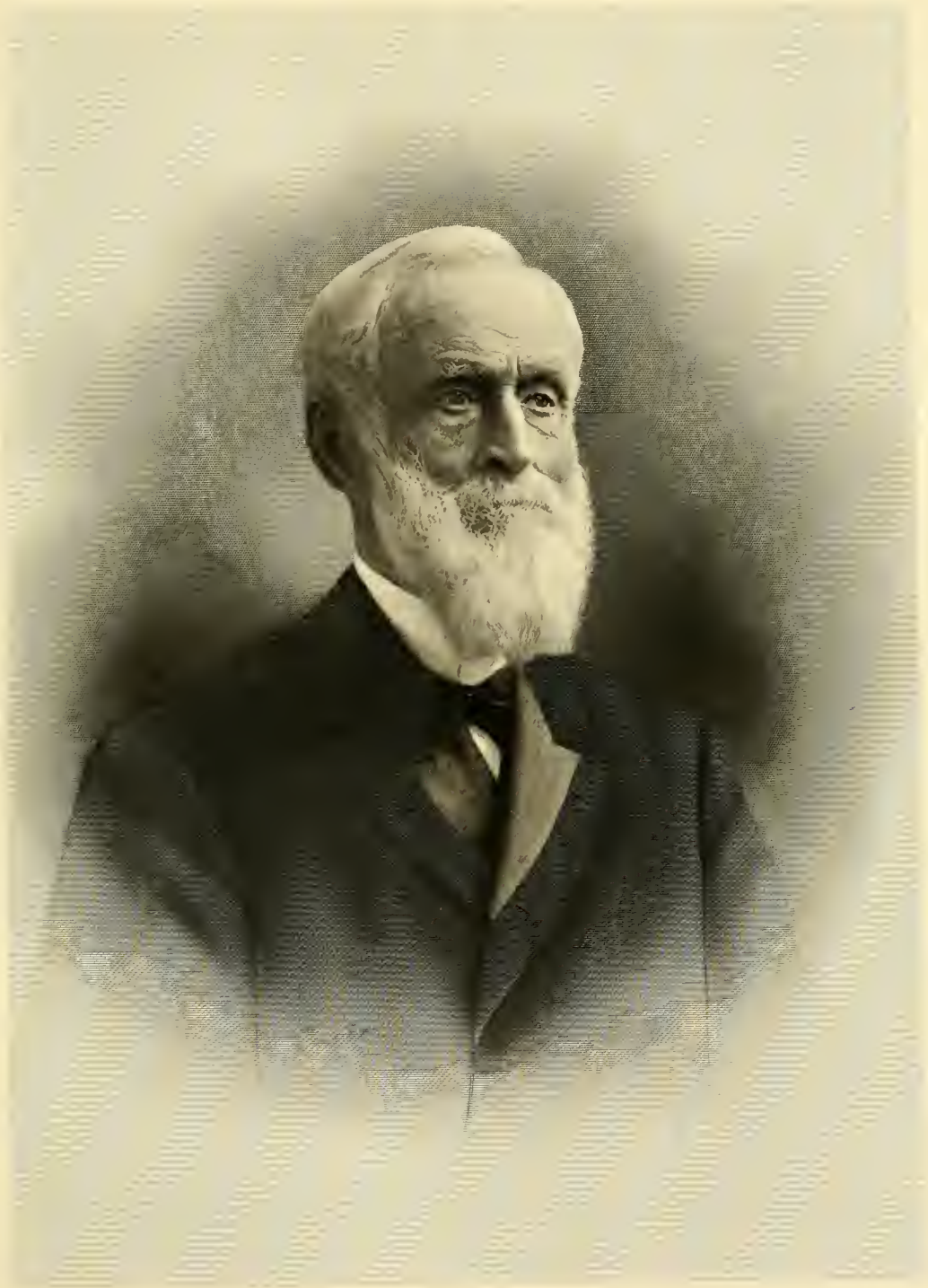
Andrew Bradt has passed the eighty-fourth milestone on life's journey and is living retired in De Kalb, where he has long been known as a most honorable and respected citizen. He was born in Fulton county, New York, about a mile north of Rockwood, on the 15th of May, 1823, his parents being Anthony L. and Hannah (Peek) Bradt, whose family numbered twelve children, all of whom reached manhood and womanhood, and the following are still living: Tunis, a resident of Ephratah, New York; Anthony, upon the old homestead; Andrew, of this review; and Jane, the widow of John Gray, living with her children in western New York. The family is noted for longevity, as will be seen by the fact that so many members of the father's household are still living. The father and mother were natives of Albany, New York, and both were of Holland lineage. They were reared and married in the city of their nativity and soon afterward removed to Fulton county, New York, where Anthony L. Bradt purchased what became the old family homestead, making it his residence up to the time of his death, and it is now owned by his son and namesake. He died at the advanced age of ninety years, while his wife passed away at the age of seventy-five. Both were worthy and devoted members of the Presbyterian church.

Andrew Bradt was reared in his father's home and acquired his education in the common schools near by. When nineteen years of age he started out as an educator, teaching in the district schools for fourteen years. In 1855 he came to the west, attracted by the broader business opportunities of this newly developed region, and located in De

Kalb, since which time he has been closely identified with the interests of town and county. He purchased a farm adjoining the town and here began business in commercial lines as well, having brought with him a stock of gloves and mittens from Gloversville, New York. He embarked in the wholesale glove trade and this was the foundation of the present extensive glove manufacturing business now conducted by the firm of Bradt & Shipman. For eighteen years Andrew Bradt was identified with the wholesale business, which he developed from an enterprise of small proportions to one of considerable magnitude. When his son and son-in-law became connected with the enterprise he retired from active life and soon afterward his successors established the manufacturing industry. Mr. Bradt was the pioneer jobber west of Chicago, bringing the first stock of goods of this character that was placed on sale between Chicago and the Mississippi river. He watched the indications of trade, labored for advancement along commendable lines and his success was well merited. In those early days of merchandising he had many things with which to contend, for at that time the railroad had been built through only to Dixon and much traveling had to be done by team, his goods being hauled in that way. Currency, too, had a fluctuating value, for greenbacks were issued by the banks and there was also much Canadian money in circulation. When he sent a package of Canadian money east to buy his stock the merchants of whom he made the purchase selected what they wanted of it and returned the balance, but notwithstanding these and numerous other drawbacks of the period Mr. Bradt prospered and the years brought him success as the reward of his untiring labor, his careful management and business ability.

On the 31st of January, 1848, occurred the marriage of Mr. Bradt and Miss Amy Ann Sweet, a daughter of Hiram and Deborah (Simmons) Sweet, both natives of New York. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Bradt have been born nine children, Charles E., Samuel E. and Lulu, however, being the only surviving members of the family. The daughter is now the wife of Professor Parsons of the Normal School at De Kalb.

Upon the organization of the republican party Mr. Bradt became one of its advocates, but has



Andrew Bredt

ever been an aspirant for office. He is chairman of the board of trustees of the Methodist Episcopal church and in early life was one of its most active workers, being a local preacher for a number of years. His interest in the church has never ceased and he still attends its services, although advancing years prevent him from taking the active part which he formerly did in promoting its interests. His name has ever been a synonym for business integrity and for honor in all life's relations and wherever known he has commanded the unqualified respect and trust of his fellowmen.

HENRY W. MILLER.

Henry W. Miller, living on section 28, Victor township, has met with a gratifying measure of prosperity in his business operations as a farmer and stock-raiser and his tract of land, comprising eighty acres, is under a high state of cultivation. He was born in this township, January 13, 1862, son of Walden Henry Miller, who was born in Germany, April 30, 1837. He became one of the early residents of this county, purchased land and opened up a farm. Here he married Elizabeth Burkhardt, also a native of Germany, born November 24, 1859. He carried on his farming operations in Victor township and became the owner of a valuable and well cultivated tract of land of two hundred and forty acres, on which he reared his family and spent his last years. Unto him and his wife were born five sons and a daughter, who have reached adult age.

Like the other members of the household, Henry W. Miller pursued his education in the common schools and was trained to the work of the home farm, rendering valuable assistance to his father until after he had attained his majority, when he was married and went to a home of his own. It was on the 24th of February, 1887, that he wedded Amanda Stahl, a native of the county and daughter of William Stahl, who identified his interests with those of De Kalb county at an early day. On the day following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Miller took up their abode upon the farm which has since been their home. He at once placed the plow in the furrow and from that time to the present has actively continued the work of

developing and improving his place. He has since remodeled the house, built a corn crib and granary and has a good barn upon the place. He has fenced and tiled the land and made permanent improvements, and annually he gathers good harvests as a reward for the care and labor he bestows upon the fields. He has made a specialty of raising and feeding hogs and also keeps a good grade of Durham cattle and carries on a dairy business.

Mr. and Mrs. Miller have become the parents of four sons: Bert O., Harry H., Arthur J. and Laverne A. They lost their only daughter, Hazel, who died at the age of three years, her death proving a sad blow to the parents. Mr. and Mrs. Miller are members of the Somonauk Lutheran church and were reared in that faith. Mr. Miller holds membership relations with Leland lodge of the Knights of the Globe, and in politics he has been a life-long republican, casting his first presidential vote for Benjamin Harrison and for every nominee of the republican party at the head of the ticket since that time. He has been elected and served for nine consecutive years on the school board, has been its secretary and has been district clerk. He was also for two years township collector, but though he has filled these different positions he has preferred to give his time and energies to his farming and business interests. He is, however, never remiss in citizenship and has co-operated in many movements for the public good. His life has been one of industry, activity and honor and he is much respected in Sycamore, Sandwich, Leland and other parts of the county, where he is well known. What he has accomplished has come to him as the result of his own labors and he is now one of the substantial farmers of the community.

COLFAX SCHUYLER, D. D. S.

Dr. Colfax Schuyler, successfully engaged in the practice of dentistry in De Kalb, was born in Nunica, Michigan, February 23, 1868, his parents being James H. and Mary (Sixbury) Schuyler. The name of Sixbury has been closely associated with the history of De Kalb county from pioneer times, for Joseph Sixbury, the maternal grandfather of Dr. Schuyler, was one of the early resi-

dents of Sycamore, where he located in 1837, when the city was little more than a crossroads village. In fact he was one of the men who assisted in locating the county seat at Sycamore and aided in the upbuilding, development and progress of the town. He and his wife were devoted members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he held the office of class-leader and steward for several years. He was born in Amsterdam, Montgomery county, New York, November 7, 1810, and died at Sycamore, December 28, 1879, after a residence of more than forty-two years there. His wife, also a native of Amsterdam, New York, was born March 2, 1815, and passed away in 1880.

James H. Schuyler, the father of the Doctor, was born in New York state and after attaining his majority was united in marriage, in Sycamore, on the 9th of May, 1866, to Miss Mary E. Sixbury, whose birth there occurred May 30, 1838. Shortly after their marriage they removed to Nunica, where two sons were born unto them: Colfax, of this review; and James C. The wife and mother died February 7, 1876.

The father subsequently returned to Sycamore, Illinois, where his little son Colfax was placed under the care of his grandmother, Mrs. Malinda Ellwood Sixbury. He acquired his early education in the public schools, prepared for college, and, having determined to make the practice of dentistry his life work, he entered the Chicago College of Dental Surgery, in which he pursued a full and thorough course, being graduated from that institution in the class of 1891. Immediately afterward he opened an office in De Kalb and has since been steadily increasing his hold on popular favor and patronage. He has a splendidly appointed office, supplied with all the latest appliances known to the profession and his work is of superior order, so that he has won a reputation as the leading dentist of the city.

On the 2d of September, 1896, Dr. Schuyler was united in marriage to Miss Harriet D. Goodrich, the accomplished daughter of Erastus and Phebe (Dodge) Goodrich. Mrs. Schuyler was born in New York, May 10, 1871, and in 1879 was brought by her parents to De Kalb county, where she was reared to womanhood and acquired her education. Unto Dr. and Mrs. Schuyler have been born two children: Chaney G., born November 9, 1899; and Harriet, November 13, 1901.

The Doctor finds one of his chief sources of rest and recreation in fishing, being a lover of the sport which has for its object the capture of the finny tribe. In politics he is a republican, thoroughly in sympathy with the principles and policy of the party, while his fraternal relations connect him with lodge No. 144, A. F. & A. M., and with the Elks lodge, No. 765. He and his family own and occupy the beautiful residence at No. 221 North Second street and the Doctor and his wife are numbered among De Kalb's best citizens. They are representatives of old families of the county and are highly esteemed wherever known. The Doctor, devoting his life to a work wherein advancement depends entirely upon individual merit and skill, has made substantial and steady progress and undoubtedly the future holds in store for him still greater successes.

JOHN CARLSON.

That John Carlson is numbered among the successful farmers of De Kalb township is due entirely to his own labors and perseverance. He is indeed a self-made man, and his life has been one of activity and usefulness, of worthy principles and honorable conduct, so that he well merits the esteem which is uniformly tendered him.

A native of Sweden, he was born October 24, 1854, a son of Carlson P. and Olinia Olson, who were likewise natives of Sweden, in which country they spent their entire lives. John Carlson had no special advantages in his boyhood and youth. In fact he was denied many opportunities which many people regard as essential to success. He attended school to some extent but his youth was largely a period of earnest toil. He soon came to know the value of industry and perseverance, however, and upon these substantial qualities he has builded his prosperity as the years have gone by. Bidding adieu to friends and native land in 1879, he sailed for America to benefit by the broader business opportunities of this country. Since his marriage he has continuously engaged in farming.

In 1882 Mr. Carlson wedded Miss Matilda Fredell, who was born in Sweden, September 24, 1862, a daughter of Freedell M. Johnson and his wife, who were natives of Sweden and died in that coun-

try. It was in 1876 that Mrs. Carlson came to the United States, making the trip all alone although only fourteen years of age, from which time until her marriage she provided for her own support. Her industry and frugality have since proven a strong and helpful element in her husband's success. Following their marriage Mr. Carlson began farming and for seventeen years cultivated rented land year by year adding to his capital as opportunity offered until at length he had acquired a sufficient sum to enable him to purchase one hundred and twenty acres, lying on section 9, De Kalb township. Upon this place he has since carried on general farming, and now has well equipped and improved property.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Carlson were born nine children: Charles F., who was born March 10, 1885, and died February 2, 1887; Minnie O., born December 3, 1887; Harry H. and Hattie B., twins, born December 29, 1889, but Harry lived only three months; Arthur G., born May 4, 1893; Florence, March 6, 1896; Esther, March 13, 1899; Walter E. P., February 12, 1903; and Harvey J., December 6, 1905.

Since becoming a naturalized American citizen Mr. Carlson has been a stalwart supporter of the republican party. He and his wife support the Swedish Lutheran church and are among the highly respected people of the county, having many warm friends. Time has proven the wisdom of Mr. Carlson's decision to try his fortune in America, for as the years have gone by he has prospered in this land where labor finds its just reward and where effort is not handicapped by caste or class.

FREDERICK WAIT.

Among the prominent and up-to-date farmers of Kingston township is numbered Frederick Wait, whose home is on section 12. He was born on the 2d of December, 1868, in Boone county, Illinois, only three miles from where he now lives, and has spent his entire life in this locality. His father, William H. Wait, was a native of New York, born in Warren, Greene county, October 28, 1820, and was a son of Henry and Polly (Warren) Wait, who removed to the Empire state from Rutland,

Vermont, at an early day. Coming west in 1842, at the age of twenty-two years, William Wait located in Boone county, Illinois, and took up a quarter section of government land, which he began to improve and cultivate. He was married here in 1855 to Miss Nancy C. Kellogg, a native of Vermont and a daughter of Orlando Kellogg, who was a pioneer in the settlement of this state. Eight children blessed this union and six of the number are still living. The father died on the old home farm in Boone county, in 1892, at the age of seventy-two years, and the mother departed this life in 1890, when fifty-four years of age.

Frederick Wait is the fifth in order of birth in their family and during his minority remained under the parental roof, acquiring a good practical education in the common schools and also an excellent knowledge of farm work in its various departments. His father having accumulated a vast estate of nine hundred acres, he was placed in charge of a farm and for a time rented a tract of one hundred and twenty acres from his father, afterward purchasing the same. Since his marriage he has greatly improved his residence, has built a good barn, cribs and outbuildings and today has one of the model farms of the locality, it being supplied with all the conveniences and accessories used in the cultivation of an up-to-date farm. Mr. Wait has added to his original purchase and now has two hundred acres of valuable land. He carries on diversified farming and gives considerable attention to the raising of stock, making a specialty of Poland China hogs and Norman horses and feeding most of the grain that he raises to his stock.

On the 8th of March, 1891, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Wait and Miss Minnie Adams, who was born in Genoa township, De Kalb county. Her father, Eli Adams, was a native of Canada and on coming to the United States first located in New York but in 1860 removed to Illinois, making his home here throughout the remainder of his life. He was a soldier of the Civil war and died in 1902, at the ripe old age of eighty-two years. His wife died January 8, 1907, in her seventy-fifth year. Mr. and Mrs. Wait have become the parents of two children but their first born died in infancy, so that Marie is now the only survivor. Mrs. Wait gives considerable attention to the raising of barred silver laced Wyan-

dotte poultry and finds a local demand for all her registered fowls.

In his political views Mr. Wait is a republican, but at local elections where no issue is involved he votes independently, supporting the men whom he believes best qualified for office regardless of party affiliation. For several years he has served as school director but has never cared for office, preferring to give his undivided attention to his business affairs. He is a man of progressive ideas and his course has ever been such as to command the confidence and high regard of all with whom he has been brought in contact either in business or social life.

HORACE GRIFFITH.

Horace Griffith, living retired in De Kalb, was born in the town of Reading, Windsor county, Vermont, September 16, 1832. His parents, Horace and Phoebe K. (Farnham) Griffith, were both natives of the Green Mountain state. The father was a clothier and died when his son Horace was only ten weeks old, leaving a family of six children, all of whom have passed away, with the exception of the subject of this review.

In the common schools of Vermont Horace Griffith began his education, which was continued in St. Johnsbury Academy and the Royalton Academy of Vermont. Thus well equipped with liberal educational privileges and advantages, he started out in life and for several terms engaged in teaching school in the Green Mountain state. He came to Illinois in 1855, when a young man of twenty-three years, and was again employed in educational work. He first located in Lake county, this state, and afterward spent one winter in Wisconsin, whence he removed to Sangamon county, Illinois, and in 1861 came to De Kalb county.

It was in the same year, on the 2d of November, that he cast in his lot with the boys in blue of Company G, Fifty-eighth Illinois Infantry, enlisting under Captain James A. Bewley. He participated in the three days' engagement at Fort Donelson, in the battle of Shiloh, and near Corinth became ill. For a year he remained in the hospital, but was able to do some light duties during the latter part of that time. He was then recom-

mended for hospital steward and received the appointment after being discharged from the Volunteer service by special order of the war department, in order to enter upon the new duties. He enlisted as hospital steward in the regular army for five years, but by request was honorably discharged at the close of the war in June, 1865. He did his full duty as a soldier, first in the field and, when no longer able for that work, in the hospital department, thus providing his loyalty to the cause which he espoused. He is now a member of Merritt Simonds post, No. 283, G. A. R., and thereby maintains pleasant relations with his old army comrades.

When the war was over Mr. Griffith returned to his home and family. He had been married on the 1st of May, 1859, in Nelson, Portage county, Ohio, to Miss Julia A. Cross, who was born in Cazenovia, New York, November 10, 1834. Her parents were Ambrose H. and Nancy A. (Bliss) Cross. Her mother was a near relative of P. P. Bliss, the famous Christian singer, who was killed in the great railroad wreck at Ashtabula, Ohio, in 1876. There were eight children in the Cross family, of whom Mrs. Griffith was the eldest. She proved to her husband a most devoted, faithful and capable helpmate on the journey of life for more than forty years, and was then called to her final rest, passing away in De Kalb, January 27, 1900. There had been five children born of that marriage: George C., born in July, 1860; Mrs. Adeline E. Reeter, who was born October 10, 1861, and died in October, 1900, in Los Angeles, California; Mrs. Cora R. Merry, who died in February, 1894; Mrs. Gertrude B. Kempson, who was born in 1868; and Horace Farnham, born in 1876. The death of the wife and mother was deeply regretted by many friends as well as her immediate family, for she had endeared herself to the large majority of those with whom she came in contact.

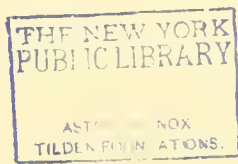
In his political views Mr. Griffith has long been a stalwart republican. He holds membership in the First Baptist church of De Kalb and his life has been in harmony with his professions. Following the war he established a book and notion store in De Kalb, successfully carrying on the enterprise until 1869, when he sold out and turned his attention to carpentering. He afterward spent fourteen years with Brandt & Shipman in their wholesale glove house, but is now living retired.



Mrs. Julia A. Griffith



Horace Griffith



At present he is laying out an addition to the town, known as Griffith's addition. In all his business relations he was found trustworthy and reliable and the success which he achieved was due entirely to his well directed efforts. He has long been recognized as a valuable resident of the city and county and one who in all life's relations has commanded the respect and good will of those with whom he has been associated. He lives in a beautiful home at No. 632 South Third street, which he owns, and there is enjoying the comforts of life, having with him his daughter, her husband and one grandchild. He has lived in the county for about forty-six years and his name is honored wherever he is known.

SERGIOUS LLOYD.

Sergius Lloyd, a veteran of the Civil war, is now living in honorable retirement in a pleasant home at No. 343 South Main street, in Sycamore, while he derives an excellent income from his valuable landed holdings in De Kalb county, all of which is well improved and arable land. Mr. Lloyd is a son of Artemas W. and Parthenia (Haskil) Lloyd, both of whom were natives of Massachusetts, whence they emigrated to Illinois in 1855. The father was a member of the State Militia in Massachusetts, serving first as lieutenant and all the grades to colonel, and he was also a member of the legislature of that state. His death occurred in South Grove township in 1885, while his wife had preceded him to the home beyond, her death occurring in 1868. Their family numbered seven children: Paulina, deceased; W. A., a retired Congregational minister of Chicago; Eli W., deceased; Mary W., the wife of Archie Vanderem, a miner of Denver, Colorado; Sergius, whose name introduces this review; Lewis, a manufacturer of Chicago; and Alice, the wife of William Rule, a mining engineer of Denver.

Sergius Lloyd, the fifth in order of birth in his father's family, was born in Stockbridge, Massachusetts, June 22, 1839, and acquired his education in the common schools of that place. He was a youth of sixteen years when he accompanied his father's family on the removal to Illinois. He as-

sisted his father in the work of the home farm, thus gaining practical experience which fitted him to engage in business on his own account at a later period, at which time he followed the pursuits to which he had been reared. He was early trained to habits of industry and economy and this has proved the secret of his success. He worked diligently and earnestly in his efforts to acquire a good property and as the years passed and he prospered in his undertakings, he made investment in land from time to time until he is now the owner of two valuable farms, one containing three hundred and twenty acres in South Grove township, and a second of two hundred and twenty acres in Sycamore township. Both farms have been placed under a high state of cultivation and are well improved with good buildings, so that he is numbered among the wealthy citizens of De Kalb county.

At the outbreak of the Civil war, Mr. Lloyd put aside all business and personal considerations and offered his services to his country, enlisting in 1861 as a member of a volunteer company of Chicago, known as McClelland's Dragoons, this company acting as a body guard for General McClellan. Mr. Lloyd participated in the second battle of Bull Run, the battle of Malvern Hill, and various other engagements and skirmishes until 1862, when, on account of disability, he was honorably discharged. Returning home he once more resumed his farming operations, which he continued for many years, or until he removed to Sycamore, where he is now spending the evening of his days in well earned rest.

Mr. Lloyd chose as a companion and helpmate for life's journey, Miss Julia Gibbs, to whom he was married May 16, 1865, and their union was blessed with six children, as follows: May, the wife of E. H. Edwards, a teacher in the schools at Cleveland, Ohio; Herbert G., a traveling salesman for a Chicago firm; Charles H., who is operating his father's farm in South Grove township; Lewis Edward, who operates his father's farm in Sycamore township; Jennie, now acting as housekeeper for her father; and Alice, also under the parental roof. After a happy married life of almost thirty-two years Mrs. Lloyd was called to her final rest, her death occurring on the 23d of April, 1897. She was a devoted wife and mother and a kind neighbor and friend, and thus her death was the occasion of deep regret not only to her imme-

diate family but throughout the community in which she lived.

Mr. Lloyd has always supported the men and measures of the republican party, having cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, belonging to Edward Bridge post, No. 124, at Malta, Illinois, thus maintaining pleasant relations with his old army comrades. While he is not affiliated with any church organization, he attends and supports the Congregational church at Sycamore. He has ever lived in accord with high and manly principles and has thereby won not only the good will and respect of all with whom he has been associated but has also won many warm personal friends. He has now passed the sixty-fifth milestone on life's journey, and during the greater part of this time has been identified with the interests of De Kalb county. While he has never taken an active part in public affairs he is nevertheless deeply interested in the progress and development that has been made in his section of the state and has given his substantial aid to many worthy measures.

ALONZO ELLWOOD.

Alonzo Ellwood, deceased, figured for many years as one of the most prominent residents of De Kalb county and was a leading merchant of Sycamore. While he did not seek the distinction which comes with military or political service, he manifested those sterling traits of character which in every land and clime awaken confidence and regard, being mindful of his obligations to others, reliable in his business and trustworthy in his friendships.

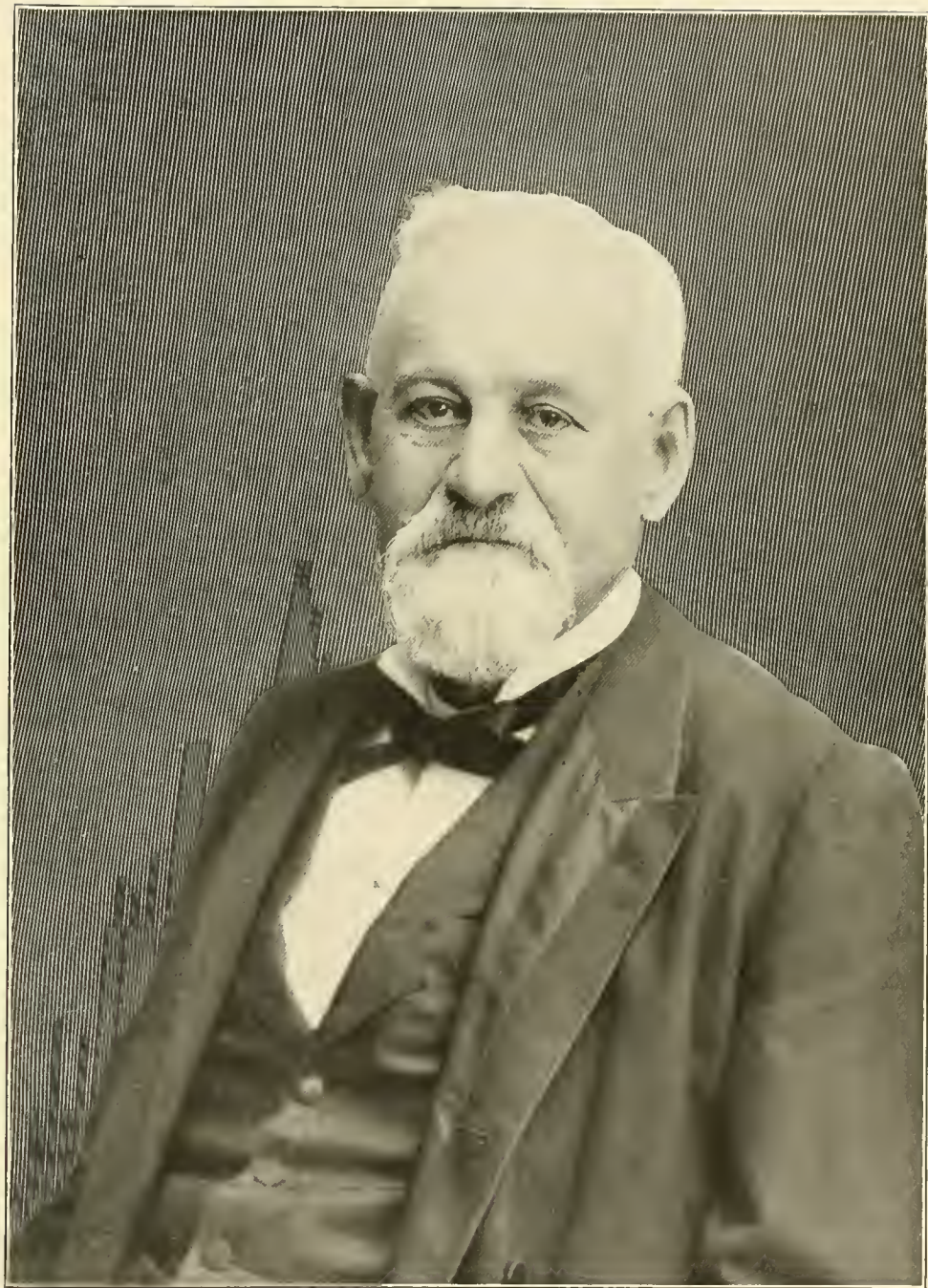
He was born in Minden, Montgomery county, New York, June 11, 1823, his parents being Abraham and Sarah (DeLong) Ellwood. His father was born November 7, 1792, in Montgomery county, New York, and in the early years of his life was a farmer. His worth as a citizen was recognized in his selection by his fellow townsmen for various local offices. He was also an active business man of his locality and constructed several sections of the New York Central Railroad. He was engaged upon the enlargement of the Erie canal and in the later years of his life conducted

a coopering business. In 1856 he removed to Sycamore, Illinois, where his remaining years were passed, his death occurring August 24, 1872. His wife died here January 18, 1879, at the age of about eighty-four years, her birth having occurred in Montgomery county, New York, February 23, 1795. They were the parents of eleven children.

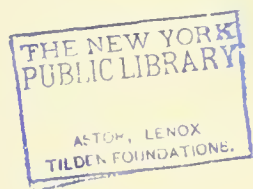
Alonzo Ellwood was educated in the public schools of his native county and at the age of fifteen years went to Mohawk, Herkimer county, New York, where he served an apprenticeship of three years in the acquirement of a practical knowledge of the business of manufacturing carriages and sleighs. He remained for several years as an employe in the establishment, where he afterward became foreman, acting in that capacity for several years. In the spring of 1852 he went to California, attracted by the discovery of gold on the Pacific slope, and was engaged in placer mining on the middle fork of the American river until 1854, when he returned home.

The spring of 1855 witnessed Mr. Ellwood's arrival in Sycamore and he entered business life here as a salesman in the establishment of George Walrod. Six months later he formed a partnership with Willis Lott and founded a hardware business, which they conducted successfully for about three years. In 1858 Mr. Ellwood purchased his partner's interest and not long afterward admitted his brother Reuben to a partnership in the store. In 1867 he sold his interest to the latter and in company with Chauncey Ellwood and O. M. Bryan built a flaxmill. Previous to the establishment of this enterprise he had been appointed assessor of United States revenue, and when the duties became pressing he sold his interest in the flaxmill to Leonard Orendorf. In 1870, associated with N. C. Warren and James S. Waterman, he opened a hardware store at Sycamore, which was in existence for four years. The establishment, with stock and fixtures, was consumed by fire, involving a loss of eleven thousand dollars, partially covered with an eight thousand dollar insurance. Ellwood & Warren became sole proprietors by the purchase of the business and re-established the trade, but a year later sold out.

In the meantime Mr. Ellwood had filled the position of assessor for eight years and, retiring from that office, he concentrated his energies more largely upon business interests, erecting two stores



ALONZO ELLWOOD.



in Sycamore in company with his brothers, Chauncey and James E. In 1857 Alonzo and James E. Ellwood opened a drug and grocery store, which they conducted until 1881, when J. E. Ellwood sold out to George M. Sivwright, who a few years later purchased Alonzo Ellwood's interest. Mr. Ellwood was closely, actively and helpfully associated with the business life and development of Sycamore. He belonged to that class of representative American men who, while advancing individual interests, also contribute to public improvement and prosperity. He was one of the projectors and original stockholders of the Sycamore & Cortland Railroad and was a director of its affairs until it was transferred by sale to the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company. He was also a stockholder in the Marsh Harvester Company and in the Marsh Binder Company. At the time of the organization of the R. Ellwood Manufacturing Company he became a stockholder and remained as one of its directors through its existence. His business development was commensurate with the growth of Sycamore and, indeed, he was one of the most active and valued factors in the city's commercial and industrial progress. He knew when the opportune moment arrived and took advantage of it. He was imbued with the spirit of enterprise and successful accomplishment which have been the dominant factors in the upbuilding of the middle west and his worth was widely acknowledged in commercial circles, while his name became an honored one on business paper.

Mr. Ellwood was also active in local political and official positions in the several places where he resided. For three years he was postmaster of Columbia, New York, and for a similar period was chairman of the board of trustees in Sycamore, by virtue of which position he became supervisor of his town. After Sycamore was incorporated as a city he was elected alderman of the first ward and acted in that capacity for five terms. He became a member of the Odd Fellows lodge on attaining his majority, being initiated into Argus lodge, No. 72, at Richfield Springs, New York, June 21, 1844. On coming to the middle west he transferred his membership to Sycamore lodge, No. 105, and in 1855 he received the patriarchal degree in Kishwaukee encampment, No. 30, where he remained until after the organization of Ellwood encamp-

ment, No. 173, at Sycamore. He became one of the best known Odd Fellows of Illinois, holding the most prominent offices in the state within the gift of the fraternity, including that of past grand master of the state of Illinois, having been elected to that office in 1882 and serving as such until his death, which occurred in St. Luke's hospital in Chicago, August 26, 1899. The subordinate lodge at Evansville, Randolph county, Illinois, was named in his honor and also the Rebekah lodge at Johnston City, Illinois. In many of the Odd Fellow halls throughout the state hangs his picture as that of one of the most distinguished representatives of the order. His wife was deputy of the Rebekah lodge at Sycamore, holding that office for nearly twelve years. Mr. Ellwood was also a member of the Masonic fraternity and a Knight Templar, and both he and his wife were charter members of the Eastern Star chapter at Sycamore. While a resident of Herkimer county, New York, he was captain of a company of light guards which were ordered to report for duty in the war with Mexico, but hostilities were brought to a close and the company was never compelled to leave the state.

On the 27th of December, 1865, Mr. Ellwood was married to Miss Mary M. Baker, and they became the parents of three children, but only one is now living, Maud Baker, the wife of John Sherman Root, of Chicago, by whom she has one child, Ellwood Dick. Mrs. Ellwood was born in Kane county, Illinois, and is a daughter of Lawrence M. and Sarah A. (Thompson) Baker. Her father was a pioneer farmer of that county.

The active business career of Mr. Ellwood was marked by the same industry, enterprise and persistent energy which have been characteristics of the family and he was regarded as one of the founders and principal allies of the substantial business interests of Sycamore. His public spirit stood as an unquestioned fact in his career and worked to the advantage of the community along many lines. His judgment was sound, his efforts practical and the community was permanently benefited by his labors. Moreover, his life furnished an example of business probity and honor that is well worthy of emulation and his memory is yet enshrined in the hearts of many who knew him because of the fact that he stood for all that is upright and commendable in man's relations with his fellowmen. Mrs. Ellwood now owns and occu-

pies a beautiful home in Sycamore, where she, too, has many friends, the hospitality of the best homes having always been freely accorded her, while the good cheer and cordial welcome at her own fireside has always made her home a favorite resort with those who know her.

JAMES MARCUS EVERETT, M. D.

James Marcus Everett, M. D., who is engaged in the practice of medicine in De Kalb and has gained a large patronage that is at once indicative of his skill and ability and the confidence and trust reposed in him by the general public, is a native son of Illinois, having been born in Dixon, on the 13th of July, 1853. His father, Dr. Oliver Everett, was a native of Pittsfield, Massachusetts, born September 12, 1813, and in 1836 came westward to Illinois, casting in his lot with the early settlers of Dixon. Throughout his entire life he followed the profession of medicine and surgery and became the loved family physician in many households. He was the first practitioner of his section of the county and remained an esteemed and honored resident of Dixon until his death. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Bessie Low, was born in Hoboken, New Jersey, February 22, 1826. The Doctor is a direct descendent of Richard Everett, who settled at Deadham, Massachusetts, in 1830, being a representative of the family in the ninth generation.

Dr. Everett, whose name introduces this review, acquired his preliminary education in the public schools of his native city and afterward entered the University of Michigan, from which he was graduated as a civil engineer in 1874. Determining upon the practice of medicine as a life work he later matriculated in Rush Medical College of Chicago, from which institution he was graduated in 1877. Immediately afterward he entered upon the active practice of his profession in connection with his father at Dixon, Illinois, where he remained until April, 1883, when he came to De Kalb, where he has since been located. He is now one of the older physicians of the city, having been in continuous practice here for a quarter of a century, and from the beginning has enjoyed a liberal patronage, which has been continued owing to the

fact that he has kept up with modern methods, and by reading and investigation has continually broadened his knowledge and thus promoted his efficiency. He is quick to adopt all new methods which his judgment sanctions as valuable and at the same time is slow to discard the old and time-tried practices which have proven so successful in the treatment of diseases.

On the 15th of February, 1879, Dr. Everett was married in Amboy, Illinois, to Miss Jamesetta Jones, who was born on Staten Island, New York, January 6, 1853, and died February 21, 1895. Her parents were natives of New York, her father being a retired farmer. On the 30th of December, 1896, Dr. Everett was again married, his second union being with Miss Alice Augusta Jones, who was born in Lee county, Illinois, May 26, 1869. There were two children born of the second marriage; Bessie, born October 1, 1897; and Oliver, born July 12, 1904.

Dr. Everett has served two terms as alderman of De Kalb and has been president of the school board. He is interested in all that pertains to the welfare of the city and gives stalwart support to many progressive public measures. In politics, however, he is independent. His fraternal relations connect him with De Kalb lodge, No. 152, A. F. & A. M., of which he is past master. He also belongs to De Kalb chapter, R. A. M.; De Kalb council, R. & S. M.; Sycamore commandery, K. T.; to Normal chapter of the Eastern Star; and to the Royal Arcanum. While his professional service leaves him little leisure, he yet enjoys social interests and the meetings with congenial spirits in fraternal and social circles, wherein he is much esteemed because of his strong manly qualities as well as his professional skill. In manner he is genial, social and kindly, and these qualities have made him a favorite.

MRS. PHILANY CRISTMAN.

Mrs. Philany Cristman, living in Cortland township, was born at German Flats in Herkimer county, New York, July 9, 1835. Her father, Henry Pooler, was a native of Dutchess county, New York, born July 24, 1804. His daughter spent her girlhood days in the parents' home and ac-

quired her education in the schools of the neighborhood. She was carefully trained to the duties of the household and was thus well qualified to take charge of a home of her own at the time of her marriage on the 7th of October, 1857, to John Cristman, who was born in Jordanville, New York, May 28, 1825. His father was John J. Cristman, whose birth occurred April 15, 1799. Removing to the middle west, Mr. Cristman purchased a farm in De Kalb county, whereon he spent his remaining days. He was not long permitted to enjoy the new home, however, for his death occurred on the 9th of October, 1863. During the period of his residence in De Kalb county he had gained the warm friendship of those with whom he came in contact, being recognized as a reliable and enterprising business man.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Cristman were born a daughter and son: Lorena, who was born May 22, 1859, and was married April 11, 1888, to Charles F. Noble; and John M., who was born August 25, 1863, and married Miss Vida Gandy.

After her husband's death Mrs. Cristman carefully managed her business affairs, showing excellent discernment and executive force. She is now the owner of three hundred and thirty acres of land, from which she derives an excellent income. Having been an invalid for three years, she is now living with her daughter, Mrs. Noble, in Cortland township. She has a host of warm friends and the sympathy of the entire community in which she lives. She has made her home in the county for a long period, watching its development from pioneer conditions, and is numbered among the esteemed early residents.

PAUL E. N. GREELEY, M. D.

Dr. Paul E. N. Greeley is engaged in the practice of medicine in Waterman, his native city, and although one of the younger representatives of the medical fraternity has secured a patronage that many an older practitioner might well envy. He was born in 1875 and is a son of Hiram and Clara (Saunders) Greeley. His paternal grandparents were Eber and Orra Greeley, who came to Illinois after the removal of their son Hiram

to this state, but Hiram Greeley was born in the Empire state in 1832 and is now living in Clinton township, De Kalb county. He arrived in Illinois in 1855, settling in Clinton township, where he purchased eighty acres of land from a man who had entered it from the government. His father, Eber Greeley, also took eighty acres of this tract, on which the east part of Waterman is now located. Hiram Greeley has been very successful in his business life, recognized as an enterprising agriculturist and horticulturist. He has a great deal of fruit on his place and he continued to successfully manage the farm and cultivate the fields until early in the year 1907, when he retired from active business life and took up his abode in the village of Waterman. He is now seventy-five years of age. In community affairs he takes an active and helpful part and has served as president of the village board and in the office of justice of the peace. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and both he and his wife attend the Methodist Episcopal church, of which Mrs. Greeley is a member. She, too, was born in the state of New York and is now sixty-seven years of age. In their family are four sons and a daughter: George, a resident farmer of Clinton township; Rose, who resides with her parents; Frank and Carl, who follow farming; and Paul. of this review.

Dr. Greeley was reared on the old home farm, early becoming familiar with the duties and labors connected with the cultivation of the fields and the care of the crops. In his youth he attended the district schools and afterward pursued his studies in Waterman. He was for two winters engaged in teaching school and when twenty years of age he entered the medical department of the Michigan State University at Ann Arbor, where he remained as a student from the fall of 1896 until the time of his graduation in the spring of 1900. He also spent one year as a student in Rush Medical College of Chicago and was graduated with the class of 1901. Thus well equipped for his chosen profession, he began practice that year in Waterman and has been very successful. He is in touch with the most modern and approved methods of medical and surgical practice and his ability is evidenced by the liberal support which is given him by the public. He also conducts a private hospital, which he established in the fall

of 1901 and which has received a liberal patronage.

On the 26th of September, 1901, Dr. Greeley was married to Miss Maude N. Webb, who was born in Bay City, Michigan, in 1876, a daughter of Thomas and Martha (Reeves) Webb, the former a merchant. Mrs. Greeley is a graduate of the training school for nurses of the University of Michigan and greatly assists her husband in his hospital work. They now have one child, Paul, born July 10, 1902. Both Dr. and Mrs. Greeley are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and he belongs to the Masonic fraternity, the Modern Woodmen camp and the Mystic Workers. His political support is given the republican party and he keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day. In professional lines he is connected with the De Kalb County Medical Society and the Illinois State and the American Medical Associations. Realizing fully the responsibilities which devolve upon a physician, he is putting forth most earnest effort to meet all requirements and justly has become recognized as an able physician of his native city.

SAMUEL PETERSON.

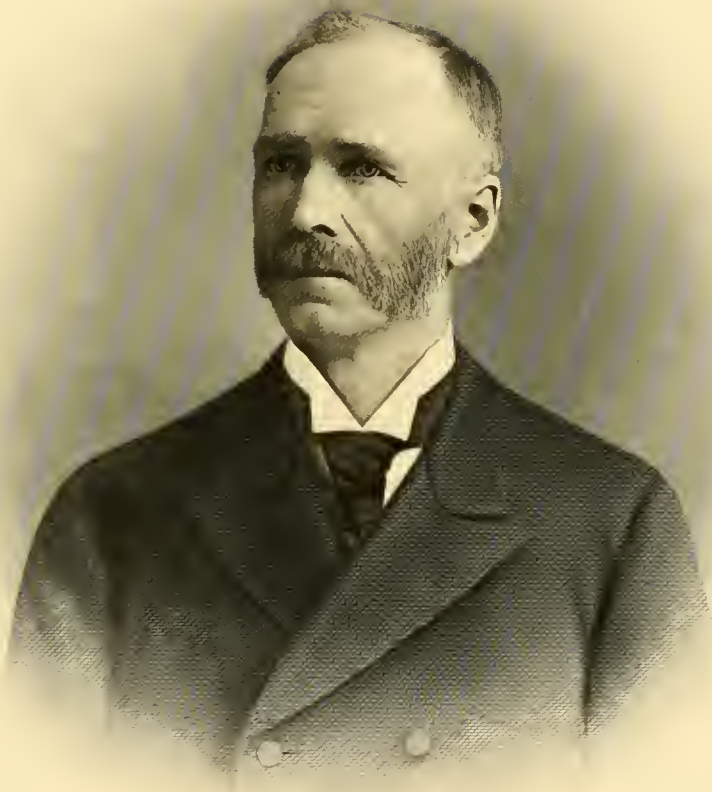
Samuel Peterson, engaged in contracting and building in De Kalb, has been an active factor in the material upbuilding and progress and the political and moral advancement of the city, his activity touching its general interests along all these lines. He was born in Sweden, March 13, 1855, and is a son of John and Mary Peterson, who were natives of that country, born in 1821 and 1825 respectively. They are both now deceased. They came with their family to America in 1869, settling in De Kalb county, Illinois, where their remaining days were passed. They had eight children, of whom four are now deceased.

Samuel Peterson, who was the fifth in order of birth, was a youth of fourteen, when he accompanied his parents on their emigration to the new world. His education, begun in the schools of his native land, was continued in the public schools of this county, and after he had put aside

his text-books he devoted five years to farming, but thinking that he would find other pursuits more congenial he began learning the carpenter's trade, which he followed as an employe until 1880. He then began contracting and building on his own account and has since erected many dwelling and substantial structures in De Kalb. His patronage rapidly increased until he now employs on an average of twenty men. He is himself an expert workman, thoroughly understanding the trade in its scientific principles and from the practical side as well and he is thus enabled to successfully superintend the labors of his men and get from them the best results possible. He always lives faithfully up to the terms of a contract and thus has the trust and confidence of the general public. In addition to building for others Mr. Peterson has become the owner of several houses and lots in the city of De Kalb and these stand as monuments to his thrift and enterprise.

Throughout the period of his residence in the new world Mr. Peterson has remained in De Kalb, and in community interests has taken an active and helpful part. For four years he was alderman of the city and has been a member of the school board for a number of years, being an incumbent in the office at the present time. The cause of education finds in him a stalwart champion and one who has done effective labor in its behalf. His political allegiance is given to the republican party, which he has supported since he attained his majority. He is not a member of any secret order but he and his family belong to the Swedish Lutheran church, in the work of which he takes an active and helpful part, while for three terms he has served as one of its trustees.

Mr. Peterson was married in Oregon, Illinois, in 1883, to Miss Christina Pierson, who was born in Sweden in 1862, a daughter of John and Anna Pierson, who came to the United States in the same year in which the Peterson family emigrated. They, too, located in De Kalb county but afterward removed to Oregon, Illinois, whence, in 1885, they returned to this county, where they have since lived, the father being engaged in business as a general gardener. Mrs. Peterson was the second of their four children, one of whom is now deceased. She was educated in the schools



Samuel Stewen

of Oregon and following her graduation became a teacher.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Peterson have been born eight children: Edna Gertrude, Roy Milton, Earl Raymond, Irvin Leonard, Ruth Lucile, Anna Marie, Samuel Robert and Richard Stanley. The family occupy a beautiful home at No. 326 South Sixth street, De Kalb, and Mr. Peterson is enabled to supply all of the necessities and comforts of life, together with some of its luxuries because of the success which he has attained in an active, useful and honorable business career. He desires that the children should make the most of their lives and to this end is giving them good educational advantages. He is an excellent citizen, neighbor and friend and is uniformly spoken of in terms of commendation and regard. He possesses a spirit of honesty and industry so characteristic of the Swedish race and has accumulated a goodly competence which is safely invested in real estate, from which he derives a good rental.

THEODORE JOHNSON.

Theodore Johnson, a general farmer residing in Clinton township, was born in Sweden, October 24, 1864. His parents, John and Josephine Johnson, were also natives of that country, where the father was born in 1833 and the mother in 1839. They came to the United States in 1889, settling in Waterman, De Kalb county. In their family were nine children, of whom Theodore is the oldest, the others being: Augusta, who was born in 1866 and died in 1869; Charles, born in 1868; twins who died in infancy; William, born in 1871; Gertrude, born in 1873; Frank, born in 1877; and Hilda, born in 1880.

Theodore Johnson was reared and educated in Sweden and in 1883, when nineteen years of age, bade adieu to friends and native land and sailed for the United States, hoping to enjoy better business opportunities in the new world than were offered in the old. Making his way into the interior of the country, he secured employment by the month as a farm hand in De Kalb county, and was thus employed for seven years, after which he went to Chicago where he worked as a stone-cutter for a year. He was afterward employed as a

motorman by the street car company for a year and in 1892 returned to De Kalb county. Here he invested the money which he had saved from his earnings in a tract of land in Clinton township, taking up his abode thereon, and has since made it his home. Here he carries on general farming and his fields are well tilled. He owns eighty acres of land, on which no improvements had been made at the time of the purchase. He has since erected a fine residence, has built a substantial barn and other outbuildings for the shelter of grain and stock and has secured the latest improved machinery to facilitate the work of the fields.

Mrs. Johnson, who has been a faithful helpmate to her husband on the journey of life, bore the maiden name of Teekla Strem, and was born May 1, 1871. Her parents were natives of Sweden, where her father's birth occurred on the 18th of September, 1833, and her mother's on the 3d of April, 1835. In their family were five children. Sophia, deceased; Anna; Selma; Mrs. Johnson; and Charles. The parents came to the United States in 1866 and made their way to De Kalb county, where the father continued to reside until his demise. His widow still survives and now finds a pleasant home with her daughter, Mrs. Johnson.

Our subject and his wife were married in 1894. They are most comfortably situated in a pleasant home and have a large circle of warm friends in the county, being greatly esteemed for their many good traits of heart and mind. Mrs. Johnson is a worthy and devoted member of the Presbyterian church and in agricultural circles Mr. Johnson is accorded a foremost place as a leading and enterprising farmer whose diligence constitutes the secret of his success. He came to the United States without capital and as the years have passed by he has added to his possessions until he is now the owner of valuable and well improved farming property.

CHARLES BEERS BROUGHTON.

Charles Beers Broughton is a progressive young business man of De Kalb, giving his attention to the supervision of his invested interests. His birth occurred in Carlton, this county, on the 18th of June, 1877. His father, Chauncey W. Brough-

ton, was born in Pepperell, Middlesex county, Massachusetts, July 22, 1817, and engaged in farming and stock-raising as a life occupation. He wedded Miss Belle Beers, who was born in Brooklyn, New York. They were married March 25, 1845, she being his third wife. The paternal grandparents of our subject were William and Ruth (Winters) Broughton, both of whom died in Ashburnham, Worcester county, Massachusetts, the former at the age of forty-two years and the latter in 1870.

Charles Beers Broughton was the older of the two children born of his father's third marriage, his brother being Chauncey W., whose birth occurred September 10, 1819. Charles B. Broughton continued his education in the public schools of De Kalb until he had completed the high-school work, after which he became a student in Rockford Business College. He next entered the employ of the meat packing firm of Swift & Company of Chicago, with whom he remained for three years. He then returned to the home farm on section 32, Afton township, De Kalb county, which property he now owns—a tract of rich and productive land covering two hundred and thirty-six acres. Here he successfully and energetically carried on general agricultural pursuits until about four years ago, when he removed to the city of De Kalb but still manages the farm. He is also interested in business enterprises of the city and has the strong determination and excellent qualifications which enable him to carry forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes.

On the 17th of December, 1902, Mr. Broughton was united in marriage, in Chicago, to Miss Adelia J. Leifheit, who was born at Waterman, Illinois, March 3, 1877. Her parents, H. W. and Joanna (Woolenweber) Leifheit, were both natives of Germany, the former born December 4, 1840. In their family were ten children, of whom Mrs. Broughton was the eighth. By her marriage she has become the mother of one child, Helen Beers Broughton, born September 6, 1904.

Mr. Broughton owns several houses and lots in De Kalb, together with his own residence and the home farm in Afton township, to which he succeeded after the death of his father. He is a young man of excellent business ability and enterprise, carefully directing his invested interests and adding to his possessions by the judicious use

of the means at hand. His political allegiance is given to the republican party but he has neither time nor inclination for office, although in citizenship he is progressive, giving his co-operation to many movements which have had direct bearing upon the welfare and upbuilding of city and county. His personal traits of character are such as to win him favorable regard and popularity and he is one of the best known residents of the county.

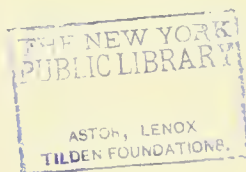
M. L. OVERTON.

M. L. Overton, a prosperous farmer living on section 34, Shabbona township, claims New York as the state of his nativity, his birth having occurred at Henderson in Jefferson county, September 27, 1848. His father, Cortez F. Overton, Jr., was a native of Canada, and his grandfather, Cortez F. Overton, Sr., was born on Long Island. When a young man he went to Canada, where he was married and subsequently returned to New York. He was a boiler-maker and at one time owned the only water power at Watertown, New York.

His son and namesake was reared and married in the Empire state. He worked in his father's shop and on a farm, and in May, 1849, he came to Shabbona Grove, De Kalb county, Illinois, purchasing a farm one and one-half miles east of the village. For some time he lived in a log house and later purchased another farm. He purchased a third farm, which he owned and operated until 1858, when he removed to De Kalb, where he was engaged in the hotel business. He also owned considerable property in that town. In 1861 he removed to Sandwich, where he conducted a hotel until 1867, when he traded that property for a farm of one hundred and twenty acres, upon which his son, M. L. Overton, now resides. There his death occurred the following year, on the 3d of March, 1868, when he was forty-nine years of age. He was considered a good financier and had considerable money when he came to Illinois. Here he dealt in land and became well-to-do. He was a member of the Baptist church and his life was honorable and upright, commending him to



FOUR GENERATIONS OF THE OVERTON FAMILY.



the confidence and regard of all with whom he came in contact. His brother, Albert C. Overton, was a soldier in the Civil war, serving as second lieutenant in the One Hundred and Fifth Illinois Infantry.

Cortez F. Overton, Jr., was married to Fidelity P. Hathaway, who was born in New York, November 1, 1820, and who is now living in Wessington, South Dakota, at the advanced age of eighty-six years. In their family were six children: Lovina, who is the widow of W. R. Day and is living in Greencastle, Indiana; Harriet F., who is the widow of Don C. Needham and a resident of Crow Lake, South Dakota; Sarah M., who is the widow of Baxter W. Ruby, a druggist at Malta, Illinois; M. L. Overton, of this review; Sanford F., who is living in Apache, Oklahoma; and Danford S., who died in infancy.

M. L. Overton was educated in the district schools and when nineteen years of age entered upon his business career as a clerk in a drug store at Malta, where he remained for two years. He then went to De Kalb, where he was employed in the livery barn of James Russell and later in the grocery store of George H. Gurler. He next went to Wheeling, West Virginia, where he engaged in the insurance business until 1876. He next returned to the farm where he now lives, purchasing his father's old homestead, and today he owns two hundred acres of rich and productive land. All the improvements upon the farm have been paid for by himself. He has used the latest improved machinery in carrying on the work of the farm, and has made a specialty of feeding hogs, which he ships to the city market.

In 1874, at Wheeling, West Virginia, Mr. Overton was married to Miss Anna L. Dorsey, who was born in that city and is a daughter of Nathaniel L. and Ann E. (Agnew) Dorsey. Her father was born in Baltimore, Maryland, and died in Wheeling in 1861. The mother, a native of Wheeling, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Overton, in 1893. The genealogical record of the Dorsey family dates back to 1717. Mrs. Overton, the only living member of her father's family, has become the mother of five children: Charles F., who married Addie Gates; De Park, who married Ella Deming, and lives on a farm in Clinton township; Anna M., at home; M. Lightner, at

home; and one who died in infancy. Mrs. Overton was reared to the Presbyterian belief, but now is a member of the Congregational church. Mr. Overton is serving for a second year as justice of the peace, has been road commissioner for six years and school director for several years. He is an active, energetic man, working diligently for the success he has attained and which has made him one of the prosperous members of the community.

DILLON S. BROWN.

With the pioneer development of the county and with its later business enterprise and growth the name of Brown has been so closely associated that the subject of this review needs no introduction to the readers of this volume. He is a son of Jeremiah L. Brown, an honored pioneer, and his own activity and prominence in financial circles well entitles him to representation in this volume. He was born May 12, 1852, on what has long been known as the old Brown homestead in Genoa township, and there the days of his boyhood and youth were passed amid the usual surroundings of farm life. He was provided with more liberal educational advantages than frequently fell to the lot of farmer boys, and after attending school in Genoa and Sycamore he became a pupil in the Illinois State University, at Champaign, from which he was graduated in 1875 with a class of thirty-seven members. He next attended the McGill Veterinary College, at Montreal, Canada, and was graduated in 1877. He located for the practice of his profession in Sycamore, where he remained for two or three years, when he withdrew from the field of veterinary surgery and entered into partnership with H. H. Slater for the conduct of a general mercantile enterprise at Genoa. A year later he sold his interest and joined his brother, Charles A. Brown, in the establishment of a bank at Genoa, which they have since conducted with gratifying success until the firm of Brown & Brown, bankers, is well known not only in Genoa but throughout this part of the state.

Pleasantly situated in his home life, Dillon S. Brown was married May 16, 1878, to Miss Emily E. Pond, a native of Pennsylvania and a daughter

of Americus H. Pond. Five children have been added to their home as the years have gone by but two of the number died in infancy and Claude passed away in early childhood. The living sons are Earl and Bayard.

Dillon Brown has followed in the political footsteps of his father and is a stalwart republican, unswerving in his advocacy of the principles of the party. He has frequently been called to public office, serving as a member and president of the village board of trustees and as a member of the county board of supervisors. The cause of education has also found in him a stalwart champion and he has done effective service for Genoa in this particular while serving as president of the board of education of the village. He withholds his active support from no measure or movement which tends to advance the public good and he is a member of the Masonic fraternity, exemplifying in his life the beneficent spirit of the craft.

JOHN GOSSMAN.

John Gossman, who is successfully conducting agricultural interests in De Kalb township, was born October 20, 1870, in De Kalb county. His father was born in Germany in the year 1831 and came to America in 1854, being then a young man of twenty-three years. He at once made his way to Joliet, Will county, Illinois, and later went to Somonauk. He was associated with the early history of the northern part of the state and in De Kalb county became a prominent representative of farming interests. In 1869 he was married and the following year he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Afton township. He improved the farm, placing the property in good shape, and afterward bought eighty acres adjoining, upon which he built a fine residence. As the years passed he placed his farm under a high state of cultivation, the fields yielding to him a splendid financial return, for he annually gathered rich harvests that found a ready sale on the market. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Gossman were born four children, of whom John of this review is the eldest. The others are Joseph, who was born June 4, 1873; Elizabeth, born January 8, 1875; and Lena C., born July 16, 1887. All of the children are

still single and live at home with their parents. The parents are members of St. Mary's Catholic church of De Kalb and are recognized as people of genuine worth, highly esteemed wherever known by reason of their many excellent traits of character. They have accumulated a handsome fortune since their marriage, Mr. Gossman carefully managing the business interests, while Mrs. Gossman has been equally efficient in carrying on the household affairs. The father is now living a retired life, leaving the management of his farm to his children, who relieve him of all the arduous work of the fields.

John Gossman, whose name introduces this record, acquired a common-school education and as the years passed by he has devoted his time and energies to general farming. He was early trained to the work of the field and meadow and his experience in youth well qualifies him to carry on the work which now occupies his time and energies. As the eldest son of the family he has largely relieved his father of the farm work and the cares of management, and in his farming operations is energetic, alert and enterprising. He displays excellent business and executive force, keen discrimination and in his work has also manifested the spirit of unfaltering integrity and honor. He is widely known in the county and in fact the family have many friends in this part of the state, where Mr. Gossman has made his home for more than a half century.

CHARLES G. FAXON.

Charles G. Faxon, occupying a position of prominence in political circles and as a member of the bar of De Kalb county, has been a resident of Sandwich since 1883. He was born March 7, 1858, in Kendall county, his parents being Walter S. and Zelia (Gilbert) Faxon, the former a farmer and mason.

The public schools of his native county afforded Charles G. Faxon his early educational privileges, which were supplemented by a course in Naperville (Illinois) College. He afterward pursued a scientific and law course in the Northern Indiana Normal School, at Valparaiso, being graduated from the scientific department in 1881 and from

the law department in 1883. He was admitted to the Indiana bar in the latter year and to the bar of Illinois in 1884. He has since been engaged in general practice in De Kalb county. He has a large general practice, having demonstrated his ability to cope with the intricate problems of jurisprudence and to present with clearness, force and logic his cause in the courts. He has served as states attorney for one term, having been elected in 1888. He was also elected county surveyor in 1884.

Mr. Faxon was united in marriage to Miss Carrie J. Anderson, of Newport, Arkansas, a native of Minnesota and a daughter of John L. and Pauline Anderson, the former a farmer by occupation. Mr. and Mrs. Faxon have five living children: Merle G., a student in the University of Michigan; Ina J., Lloyd A., Donald E. and Zelia C., all at home. They have also lost two: Clyde, who died November 27, 1886, at the age of three years; and Ione, who died at the age of three on the 7th of January, 1890.

The family attend the Congregational church and are prominent in social circles in Sandwich. Mr. Faxon is a member of the Masonic fraternity and of the Knights of Pythias lodge. In politics he is a stalwart republican and has been very active in his party, serving as a delegate to many of its conventions, while his opinions carry weight in its councils.

J. S. DRESSER.

J. S. Dresser, a thrifty and enterprising farmer of De Kalb township, dates his residence in the county from 1864. He was closely and actively associated with general farming interests until about seven years ago and still lives upon his farm which is pleasantly and conveniently located about a mile and a half from the city of De Kalb. Mr. Dresser is a native of the Empire state. He was born January 27, 1842, son of Sheldon G. Dresser, whose birth occurred in Jefferson county, New York, February 3, 1814. Removing to Schoharie county, that state, the father there followed farming. He married Miss Swezy, who was born in New Jersey, March 22, 1819.

Upon the home farm J. S. Dresser was reared, while in the public schools he acquired his education. He early became familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of an agriculturist and in 1864 sought a home in the west, thinking to better his financial condition in this part of the country. He arrived in De Kalb county in 1864 and rented a farm soon after his arrival and in 1879 he purchased the home where he yet resides. He followed farming successfully until about seven years ago, when he rented his land, and is the owner of sixty acres which are finely improved and located only about a mile and a half from the city of De Kalb. During the past seven years Mr. Dresser has been carrying mail on the rural route. Idleness and indolence are utterly foreign to his nature, and after putting aside the more arduous duties of the farm, he took up this business. He is a lover of fine horses and owns some thoroughbreds, and, while engaged in farming, was also interested in the raising and breeding of trotting stock.

On the 28th of November, 1865, Mr. Dresser was married to Miss Cornelia W. Ennis, who was born in Chemung county, New York, February 6, 1847, and came west with her parents in 1863. Her father was born in 1831 and died in 1877, while the mother passed away at the age of sixty-nine years. Mr. and Mrs. Dresser have no children of their own, but have reared an adopted daughter, Minnie C. Dresser, who was born January 11, 1866. Her father died when she was but two years of age and she soon afterward became a member of the Dresser household. She is now engaged in school teaching. Mr. and Mrs. Dresser hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church at De Kalb and Mrs. Dresser takes a most active and helpful part in the church work, doing all in her power to advance its different activities.

Mr. Dresser exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party and his worth and ability have led to his election to various local offices. For eighteen years he has served as school director, was pathmaster for twelve years and township trustee for three years, being an incumbent in the last named position at the present time. He is also officially connected with the state mail carriers' association of which he has been treasurer for four

years and for five years has been president of the county organization of mail carriers. He is a self-made man and owes his success entirely to his own labors. He had no capital when he came to the west and had to make his start at farming as a renter. He worked diligently and persistently, assisted by his estimable wife who has indeed been a faithful helpmate to him and, as the years have gone by, they have overcome the difficulties and obstacles in their path and worked their way steadily upward to success, being now in possession of a handsome competence.

FRANK C. PATTEN.

The growth and prosperity of a community depends largely upon its industrial and commercial interests, and they who push forward the wheels of progress are the men who are at the head of the business interests, displaying a spirit of enterprise and determination, which conquers obstacles and shapes conditions to their own ends. Frank C. Patten is today at the head of the Sycamore Foundry Company of Sycamore, manufacturers of agricultural implements and hardware specialties, the concern being one of the most important industrial enterprises of the city.

Mr. Patten was born on a farm in Afton township, De Kalb county, October 10, 1867. His father, Sylvester W. Patten, a native of the state of New York, was born in Starkville, Herkimer county, September 4, 1837, and was the third in a family of eight children. In 1850 he came to Illinois with his parents, David and Nancy (Countryman) Patten, who located in Boone county, where they resided for two years. In 1852 they removed to South Grove township, De Kalb county, settling on a farm which David Patten purchased and which is now owned by his son, J. H. Patten. The father was a carpenter by trade and was connected with building operations, while his sons carried on the farm work. He died in April, 1859, while his wife passed away a few years later.

Sylvester W. Patten, father of our subject, assisted his father with the farm operations during the summer months, and in the winter seasons engaged in teaching school up to the time of his marriage, which was celebrated near Belvidere,

Boone county, Illinois, on the 1st of May, 1860, Miss Elizabeth Coffin becoming his wife. She was a native of Delaware county, New York, born in 1839, and in May, 1845, went to Belvidere with her parents, Jacob and Mary Ann (Hull) Coffin. Her paternal great-grandfather, John Coffin, was born in 1753 and wedded Mary Van Tassel, of German descent, who was born in 1743. Their son, Isaac Coffin, was the father of Jacob Coffin and was born in 1773. The Coffin family were originally of Norman stock. The first to come to America was Tristram Coffin, who came with eight sons in 1642 and settled near Haverhill, Massachusetts. In connection with others he purchased Nantucket Island. His eldest son settled near Albany and was the father of John Coffin, the great-grandfather of Mrs. Sylvester Patten.

Subsequent to his marriage Sylvester Patten purchased a farm eight miles south of De Kalb in Afton township, where he resided until 1882, when he sold that property and bought another farm two miles northwest of De Kalb, continuing to reside thereon until 1892, when he decided to give up farming altogether and with his family removed to the city of De Kalb, where he and his wife still make their home. Previous to their marriage both were teachers for several years in the country schools of their respective counties. They are most highly esteemed people, having a large circle of warm friends in the county by reason of their many good qualities of heart and mind. While living on their farm in Afton township their six children were born. Mary L., the eldest, is the wife of M. D. Shipman, of De Kalb. Emma Louise is the wife of F. S. Greeley, of Waterman, this county. Frank C. is the only son. Edith S. is a teacher in the Normal School at De Kalb. Alice Carey was a member of the faculty of the Northern Illinois State Normal School from its opening until her death, which occurred September 11, 1894. Elizabeth M. is the wife of C. F. Toenniger, of De Kalb.

After attending the district schools, Frank C. Patten entered the high school of De Kalb and was graduated in the class of 1885. Immediately afterward he entered the employ of William Deering & Company, of Chicago, with whom he remained for a year, when, desiring to engage in business on his own account, he returned to De Kalb and established a small shop, in which he began the manu-



Frank C. Patterson.

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facture of sundries on a limited scale. Owing to the increase of his business, in 1887, he purchased a building and employed several men to assist him. His trade developed so rapidly that soon his buildings covered three and a half lots in the city, and about 1889 had spread over the entire block. In addition to his manufacturing business, in 1889 he began contracting and building, purchasing vacant property, subdividing and improving it. Thus unsightly vacancies were transformed into good residence districts and the appearance of the city was greatly enhanced by his operations in this direction. On his own account he built between seventy-five and one hundred houses and as many more on contract for others. In addition to the erection of residences he built school buildings at De Kalb, Maple Park, Elburn and Grossdale, employing draftsmen, masons, carpenters, tinnern, plumbers, painters and paper hangers, as well as laborers, the combined pay-roll of the industries under his ownership having upon it as high as three hundred and fifty names.

Constantly on the outlook for opportunities to enlarge his business and broaden the scope of his activities, Mr. Patten in 1893 came to Sycamore and purchased the Marsh harvester plant and also the entire plant formerly owned by the R. Ellwood Manufacturing Company. The business was consolidated and is conducted under the name of the Sycamore Foundry Company. The enterprise is now very extensive and Mr. Patten caters especially to heavy buyers who have goods furnished under contract for their own trade. The working force has been increased from thirty-five to one hundred and seventy-five hands, while the product which was formerly mainly farming implements now embraces gasoline engines, hot air furnaces, blacksmiths' tools and a heavy list of hardware specialties. Every year has seen new buildings erected, modern machinery added and improved facilities for handling the immense business. The output is now extensive and is shipped to various parts of the country and the industry is one of the sources of Sycamore's progress and prosperity, furnishing employment to a large force of workmen and thus providing the means of livelihood for many families.

Mr. Patten was married at the home of the bride's parents on a farm near Sycamore, to Miss Carrie M. Crane, a daughter of Frederick S. and

Mary Adeline (Bristol) Crane. Her mother was born in Genesee county, New York, a daughter of Hiram and Sarah (Spink) Bristol. The birth of Frederick S. Crane occurred in Wayne county, New York, in 1833, and two years later he was brought by his parents to Illinois, where the days of his boyhood and youth were passed. He is a son of David and Catherine W. (Stolp) Crane, the latter a daughter of Frederick and Jeannette (Pepper) Stolp, her father being a soldier of the war of 1812. Both families are of Holland descent. The paternal grandparents of Frederick Crane were Zebina and Hannah (Gould) Crane. In 1853, at the age of eighteen years, he crossed the plains to California and after returning from the Pacific slope he purchased a farm near Naperville, Illinois, where he resided until 1869. He then came to De Kalb county and invested in four hundred acres of land in Cortland township, remaining for many years a prominent and prosperous agriculturist of that locality. His wife died while they were upon the farm, July 17, 1887, being survived by five children: Hiram D., of Sycamore; Frank H., who died September 23, 1894; Myron F., of Sycamore; Mrs. J. W. Snow, also of the same city; and Carrie M., now Mrs. Patten. In 1895 Mr. Crane sold his farm and removed to Long Beach, California, where he is now living. He was married again in that state, in 1896, Mrs. Melvina Moore, nee Lord, of Los Angeles, becoming his wife.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Patten has been blessed with three sons and a daughter: Byron, born June 14, 1892; Barbara Annette, September 1, 1893; Everett Frank, July 7, 1895; and Ralph Sylvester, January 2, 1898.

For two years Mr. Patten has served as mayor of Sycamore and has also been a member of the city council, exercising his official prerogatives in support of measures and movements which have had direct bearing upon the welfare and progress of the county. His wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and they occupy one of the beautiful homes of Sycamore, situated at No. 827 Somonauk street. With the exception of a period of one year spent in Chicago, Mr. Patten throughout his entire business career has remained in his native county and is numbered among its most prominent and progressive citizens. His connection with any undertaking insures a prosperous

outcome of the same, for it is in his nature to carry forward to successful completion whatever he is associated with. He has won for himself an enviable reputation as a careful man of business and in his dealings is known for his strict and honorable methods, which have won him the deserved and unbounded confidence of his fellowmen.

EMIL CARLSON.

Emil Carlson, a dealer in wall paper and paints, and also carrying on a contracting business in those lines in De Kalb, was born in Stockholm, Sweden, on the 27th of January, 1864, a son of Gustaf Carlson. He was reared in his father's home and acquired his education in the common schools. In his early manhood he learned the painter's trade, following that pursuit in Sweden until 1892, when believing that he might have better business opportunities and advantages in the new world he emigrated to the United States.

The fact that it was decided to hold the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893 was the inducement which influenced his settling in Illinois. He remained in Chicago until after the close of the fair and then went to Galesburg, Illinois, where he engaged in painting and contracting. For four years he remained in that city, removing thence to De Kalb. His capital was limited and he felt that there were greater opportunities in a city the size of De Kalb than in the larger city of Galesburg. On his arrival in this place he opened his present store and in connection with the sale of wall paper and paints he has conducted an extensive business as a painting contractor, constantly employing a number of men. He is also a connoisseur in wall paper and has a marked recognition of artistic and decorative possibilities in the judicious use of wall paper. Many of the beautiful homes of the city owe their attractive appearance in no small degree to his artistic skill in this direction, and his knowledge in bringing out the best values and effects in paper according to the arrangement and light and shade of different rooms. From the beginning he has received a liberal patronage and his trade is constantly growing, having long since reached very profitable proportions.

On the 6th of September, 1899, Mr. Carlson was united in marriage to Miss Augusta Borine, then a resident of Galesburg, but a native of Sweden. They have two daughters, Greta and Norma.

In politics Mr. Carlson is a stalwart republican, having supported the party since he became a naturalized American citizen. Fraternally he is connected with the De Kalb lodge, No. 215, K. P. He also belongs to the Balder lodge of Vikings, No. 12, was the first president of the local organization and later was the national vice president. He also belongs to the Swedish Benevolent Society and is one of De Kalb's prominent merchants and esteemed citizens. His life illustrates what may be accomplished in a land where effort and opportunity are not hampered by caste or class. Here in business circles he has demonstrated his power and ability and as the years have passed by has gained a place among the prosperous and honored merchants of his adopted city.

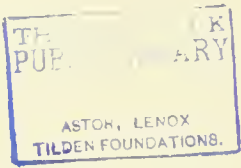
FREDERICK E. WRIGHT.

Frederick E. Wright, of De Kalb, was born at Pickard, Indiana, December 2, 1852. His father, John Wright, a native of Richland county, Indiana, born in 1832, was a blacksmith by trade and in 1891 he became a resident of Olney, Illinois, but is now deceased, as is his wife, who bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Price and who was born in Clinton county, Indiana, in 1848. In their family were three children.

Frederick E. Wright, the eldest, was educated in the public schools of his native town and after putting aside his text-books he lived with Dr. Holmes, for whom he worked for five years. On the expiration of that period he made his way to Plano, Illinois, and for two years was employed in the harvester works there. On the expiration of that period he came to De Kalb and was employed in a hat factory for three months. Later he worked in a tile factory for four months and for six months was with the American Steel & Wire Company. In 1896 he entered the hardware store of C. F. Smith, where he has since remained. He is thoroughly conversant with the business in every department and the success of the institution is attributable in so small degree



EMIL CARLSON.



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to his labors. He is most faithful to the interests of the house, which is doing a business that keeps Mr. Wright constantly employed.

On the 17th of May, 1893, in Plano, Mr. Wright was united in marriage to Miss Eva L. Cooper, a native of Wisconsin and a daughter of F. M. Cooper, who was born in Indiana and on coming to Illinois settled at Plano. There were three children in the family, of whom Mrs. Wright was the eldest. By her marriage she has become the mother of a son and daughter; Charles Marion, born October 1, 1896; and Mildred C., born December 15, 1901.

Mr. and Mrs. Wright hold membership in the Church of the Latter Day Saints, of which her father is a minister. In politics Mr. Wright is a republican and keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day but does not seek nor desire office. He started out in life without financial aid and has carefully saved his earnings until he is now the owner of a good house and lot in Plano, Illinois. Through his honesty and industry he has gained the confidence and esteem of his employer and the public at large, and he has many friends in De Kalb.

CHARLES NICHOLS.

Hard and unremitting labor fell to the lot of Charles Nichols in his boyhood, youth and early manhood. Today he is one of the substantial farmers of Kingston township, living on section 35, where he owns and cultivates one hundred and sixty acres of land and also raises high grade stock. He dates his residence in Illinois since August 13, 1853, which was the year of his arrival in America. He came alone to the new world when but sixteen years of age, although at a later date his parents arrived, crossing the Atlantic in 1860 and settling in Minnesota.

Charles Nichols was born in Smollen, Sweden, on the 10th of May, 1837. His father, Nichols Swanson, was a farmer of Sweden and there married Lena Jansen. They were the parents of five children, of whom Charles was the second. He was reared upon the home farm in Sweden and attended the common schools to the age of sixteen years, when he sailed from Liverpool, being seven

and a half weeks on the ocean. The vessel encountered very severe weather but at length reached the harbor of New York in safety. Mr. Nichols made his way direct to St. Charles, Illinois, where he began working at four dollars per month. After four months there passed he came to De Kalb county and was employed in railroad grading on the Northwestern line. When three months had gone by he went to the Michigan pineries, where he remained for a year, and on the expiration of that period made his way to St. Charles, Missouri, where he worked out by the month for two years. He then returned to Michigan, spending the succeeding winter in the lumber woods, after which he went to New Orleans by way of the Mississippi river. After a few months in the Crescent city he made his way to Little Rock, Arkansas, in 1860 and was overseer of a plantation in that locality until the 21st of May, 1861. Although in the south at the time of the outbreak of the Civil war he believed in the justice of the Union cause and came north to Illinois, again making his way to De Kalb county, where in June, 1861, he joined the army as a member of Company K, Forty-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He joined his regiment at Chicago, went to St. Louis and participated in the battles of Stone River, Chickamauga, Nashville, and was altogether in twenty-four important engagements. He was twice wounded and at Stone River was taken prisoner but was later exchanged. He served for four and a half years and was honorably discharged in Texas, being mustered out at Springfield, Illinois, in February, 1866. For three years he held the rank of corporal. No native born son of America was ever more loyal to the old flag or more faithful in the performance of military duty than Charles Nichols.

When the war was over Mr. Nichols went to the west, spending about four years in Nebraska, Colorado, California, Idaho and Washington. He afterward returned to De Kalb county and for sixteen months was employed at farm labor by the month. He was then married on the 28th of August, 1872, to Miss Dilana Douglas, a native of De Kalb county and a daughter of Ira Douglas, who was born in New York and was a pioneer of Mayfield township. He came to Illinois in 1835 and cast in his lot with the pioneer residents of De Kalb county.

Following his marriage Mr. Nichols continued to work by the month as a farm hand for a year, after which he engaged in the cultivation of rented land for ten years. He then purchased eighty acres of the place which he had been renting and since 1882 has been one of the landowners of the county. Later he bought eighty acres more and upon the place he erected a fine two-story frame residence and good outbuildings. He has also tiled and fenced the land and made a good farm. In 1887 he erected his present attractive residence, which is two and a half stories in height and is one of the fine country homes of Kingston township. In 1900 he built a barn, sixty by ninety feet, with twenty-four foot posts, at a cost of three thousand dollars. He has good cribs upon the place and also has a good house for a tenant. He raises Durham cattle and makes butter and he also raises Poland China hogs, feeding all of his grain. He likewise keeps full blooded Plymouth Rock poultry and raises Norman Percheron horses. In fact his is a well stocked and well equipped farm and Mr. Nichols is regarded as one of the enterprising agriculturists of the county.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Nichols have been born five children: Lenore F., at home; Lottie E., the wife of Henry Kuter, a farmer of Wisconsin, by whom she has two children, Stella and Milo; Ira D., who married Jennie Maltby and assists in carrying on the home farm; Roy C., who follows farming in Wisconsin; and Carrie E., who is yet under the parental roof. In politics Mr. Nichols is an earnest republican, casting his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln and supporting the standard bearer of the party at each presidential election since that time. He has never sought or desired office for himself but has served as school director for many years and believes in providing good educational privileges. He belongs to the Grand Army post of Kingston and attends the Wesleyan church. Few men of his age have traveled so extensively as he and his life story, when given in detail, reads like a romance. Coming to the new world when a youth of sixteen, unacquainted with the customs and languages of the people, he resolutely set to work to provide an honest living. In the south at the beginning of the war he espoused the Union cause and proved a loyal defender of the old flag. In business he has been found reliable and energetic and as the years

have passed has steadily advanced on the highroad to prosperity. It has been said of him, "He is well and favorably known and everybody is his friend."

HENRY A. WARD.

Henry A. Ward, now living at Hampshire, Kane county, Illinois, was born in Old Fort Dearborn, at Chicago, March 28, 1835. His father, Bernard Ward, was a native of Boston, Massachusetts, and in 1832 went to Fort Dearborn, serving as officer in United States service at the garrison there for five years. He afterward purchased land and at one time he and a partner owned nearly half of the land comprised within the city limits on the north side of the river. He speculated quite extensively in property and made considerable money in that way. While going to Galena with a bunch of horses he became ill and died, being at that time about forty years of age. He was prominent in the early history of Chicago, serving as alderman of the first village board and aiding in molding the public policy of the embryo city. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Ruth Marshall, was a native of Boston and died when her son, H. C. Ward was only eight years old. In the family were seven children but all have passed away with the exception of two, the living sister being Mrs. Sarah M. Adams, who resides at No. 877 Monroe street, Chicago.

When eight years of age H. C. Ward went to work in a brickyard at four dollars per month and was thus employed for three years. When a youth of eleven he engaged in driving a team on the Illinois & Michigan canal and spent three years in that way. Subsequently he was employed for three years in a livery stable at Beardstown, Illinois, at fifteen dollars per month, and in 1852, attracted by the discovery of gold on the Pacific coast, he made a trip across the plains with ox teams to Portland, Oregon, being eight months in accomplishing the long and arduous journey over the stretches of hot sand and through the mountain passes. For six years he remained in the mines of California and in 1858 returned to Chicago by way of the isthmus of Panama and thence up the Atlantic coast to New York city, whence he

crossed the continent to his destination. He met with a fair degree of prosperity in the far west, returning from California with about four thousand dollars. His generous nature, however, caused him to loan it without security and he lost all he had.

Mr. Ward enlisted in 1862 in response to the country's call for aid in crushing out the rebellion in the south and was assigned to duty with Company A of the Seventy-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he was connected for three years. He participated in some very heavy engagements and at Vicksburg did provost duty. Mr. Ward was made first lieutenant of Company A and was mustered out with that rank at Vicksburg in 1865. He then returned to Chicago, where he was engaged in the restaurant and fruit business, but the disastrous fire on October 9, 1871, again caused him to lose everything he had, save his courage. For the second time he was left almost penniless but with determined purpose and unfaltering energy he set to work to retrieve his lost possessions. In 1883 he came to Sycamore and purchased the Winn Hotel property. At various times he has personally conducted the hotel and at other times has leased it. He has made the hotel one of the best west of Chicago in a town of this size. It is heated with steam, lighted with electricity and supplied with many other modern conveniences, and it is a favorite resort with the traveling public.

On the 4th of June, 1861, Mr. Ward was married to Miss Mary A. Root, who was born in Buffalo, New York, a daughter of Charles and Miranda (Lusk) Root, who were natives of the Empire state and came to Illinois in 1846, settling in Chicago, where Mr. Root worked at the carpenter's trade. In his family were seven children, of whom three are living, the sisters of Mrs. Ward being Mrs. Betty, of Sycamore, and Mrs. Hancock, of Chicago. Unto our subject and his wife have been born four sons but Charles S. died at the age of three months and twenty-one days, and James H. at the age of two years. Sylvester when last heard from was steward on the steamer Umlerland, sailing between New York city and Liverpool. William B. married Miss Mary Westgate, of Ophir township, La Salle county, Illinois, a daughter of D. W. Westgate, a pioneer of that county. Mr. and Mrs. William Ward live on the Westgate farm in La Salle county.

A brother-in-law of Mr. Ward was Robert Dunn, who in the early days of Chicago conducted a brickyard on the north branch of the river and later on the south branch. Mr. Ward hauled brick for him with an ox team and in that manner conveyed to its destination brick for the erection of the original Sherman House. The log house which his father built was the thirtieth structure on the north side of Chicago. Mr. Ward can remember sitting in his father's old log cabin and looking over the prairie when there was not a house to be seen on that section of the city which is now the west side of Chicago. He is probably the only man living today who was born in Fort Dearborn, and for years he has been an interested witness of the marvelous growth of the city by the lake, which, as the years have gone by, has spread out over the broad prairie once considered worthless swamp land, becoming a ruling factor in the history of the world. In politics Mr. Ward is a republican and in religious faith his wife is a Universalist. He started out in life on his own account when only eight years of age and has since been dependent upon his own resources and although he has now passed the seventy-second milestone on life's journey he is yet active in business.

J. W. TUDOR.

J. W. Tudor has for the past three years been engaged in operating a thresher, corn sheller and shredder, and in this connection has become widely known not only in his home locality but in many sections of De Kalb county, to which his services have called him. His birth occurred December 8, 1873, near De Kalb, in De Kalb county, a son of Ed and Elma (Hubbard) Tudor. The father was born near London, England, whence, in the early '50s he emigrated to the United States, for he believed that in the new world he would find better business opportunities than he could enjoy in his native land. The trip across the Atlantic was a long and tedious one. Mr. Tudor embarked on a sailing vessel at Liverpool, and when he had almost reached the shores of New York, a severe storm was encountered, the ship drifting back almost to their native shores, so that when he finally landed on American soil a period

of three months had been consumed. He made his way at once to De Kalb county, Illinois, where he has been engaged in agricultural pursuits to the present time. His wife was born in this county.

J. W. Tudor pursued his education in the district schools near his father's home, while upon the home place he was early trained to the duties of the fields, thus gaining the knowledge which enabled him to carry on a similar occupation when he started out in life upon his own responsibility. He was thus engaged until three years ago, when he abandoned agricultural pursuits and began the operation of a thresher, corn sheller and shredder, and he has now built up a good patronage in this connection and is numbered among the substantial citizens of De Kalb county.

Mr. Tudor was married on the 24th of February, 1897, to Miss Mary Allen, of Sycamore. He gives his political support to the men and measures of the republican party, and while he keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day, he is not active as an office seeker, the only public office he has ever filled being that of school director, in which capacity he served for one term. He is a man of excellent business ability and fair dealing and has thereby won a very gratifying measure of prosperity. The hospitality of his pleasant home is greatly enjoyed by the many friends of himself and wife.

FRANKLIN HALL.

Franklin Hall is a retired farmer living in Sycamore. For many years he was closely associated with agricultural interests and was careful in the management of his business affairs. As the years passed he prospered, and having acquired a handsome competence he put aside further business cares to enjoy the rest which he has richly merited. A native son of De Kalb county, Mr. Hall was born in Sycamore township, June 10, 1844, his parents being Ephraim and Carolina (Hall) Hall. The parents were distant relatives.

Franklin Hall was reared to farm life, no event of special importance occurring to vary the routine of life for him in his boyhood days. He was educated in the common schools and when twenty-seven years of age he was married and for several

years thereafter conducted his father's farm. He then bought the old homestead, which he still owns, and was engaged in general farming until he retired to Sycamore a few years ago. As time passed he made extensive investments in real estate and became the owner of fifteen hundred acres of land in De Kalb county. He has indeed been more successful than most men, and this is due to his close application, his careful management and his judicious investments. On leaving the farm he purchased a fine brick residence at the corner of State street and California avenue and is now living retired in Sycamore. In addition to his farming property, he is a director in the Maple Park Bank and a stockholder in the Bank of Sycamore.

In 1872 Mr. Hall was married to Miss Elizabeth E. Dennison, who was born in Canada, near Montreal, November 21, 1844, and is the daughter of William Dennison, who settled in Will county, Illinois, in 1847. Mr. and Mrs. Hall now have four sons and one daughter: William D., who is living at home; Ephraim, who is married and resides on his father's old homestead; Henry, who died in infancy; Almon F., at home; Jessie, the wife of Marshall Lee, a resident farmer of Mayfield township.

Mr. Hall has spent his entire life in De Kalb county, covering a period of sixty-three years. He has therefore seen much of its growth and progress. A witness of the days when there were many evidences of pioneer life to be found in this part of the state, and when the land was really uncultured and uncultivated, for the farmer had not yet placed a plow in the furrows nor planted the crops which transformed the land into productive fields, he has lived to see the county advance along every line of development and as the years have gone by he has become a prosperous man. He has manifested excellent judgment in all business transactions, and while he has retired from the active work of the farm he is still a busy man in the supervision of his farming and stock-raising interests. His life has indeed been one of activity and enterprise, in which has been accorded a due measure of prosperity. That he has been straightforward in all that he has undertaken is shown in the words of one who has known him long and well and who said, "His word is as good as a government bond." In manner he is rather quiet and



Franklin Hall

retiring and yet there is no one who more thoroughly commands the respect and confidence of the public than does Franklin Hall.

F. W. STARK.

The agricultural interests of De Kalb county find a worthy representative in F. W. Stark, who owns and operates a valuable and well improved farm of two hundred and thirty acres situated in Mayfield township. His parents, David W. and Amanda (Judd) Stark came to Illinois from Pennsylvania and Indiana, respectively, in the early '50s. They settled on the farm on which our subject now resides.

F. W. Stark is the third in order of birth of a family of five children, his birth having occurred on the farm which is now his home, his natal day being October 18, 1865. He pursued his studies in the schools at Kingston during the winter months, while in the summer seasons he was trained to the duties of the farm, giving his father the benefit of his services through the period of his boyhood and youth, and when he had put aside his text-books he began farming on his own account on the old home place. He has always followed the most practical and progressive ideas of farm work, using the latest improved machinery in the cultivation and care of his crops, while on the place are found good buildings, which are kept in the best possible condition, so that his place with all its equipments and accessories presents a neat and attractive appearance. He has worked earnestly and persistently as the years have passed but feels amply repaid by the success he has achieved, for he is now in possession of one of the most valuable tracts of land in Mayfield township, and, in fact, in De Kalb county.

Mr. Stark chose as a companion and helpmate on life's journey Miss Nellie Ells, to whom he was wedded on the 26th of March, 1891, and after a happy married life of little more than eleven years, Mrs. Stark was called to her final rest September 15, 1902, and thus the community lost one of its most highly esteemed and respected women, and her family a kind and devoted wife and mother. To this union five children were born but the youngest, Nellie, is now deceased. Those living

are: Lois E., who was born March 21, 1893, and is now acting as her father's housekeeper; Morris W., born May 5, 1894; Arthur G., born March 5, 1896; and Fred W., born June 17, 1897.

Mr. Stark's study of the political questions and issues of the day has led him to give stalwart support to the republican party and for nine years he has served as school director, filling the office at the present time. Fraternally he is identified with the Masons, belonging to lodge No. 402, at Kingston, and is now serving as junior warden. He is likewise connected with the Modern Woodmen and Knights of the Globe of that city, while he gives his support to the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Stark is everywhere known as an honest and upright man and thereby commands the confidence and good will of all with whom he is brought in contact.

WILLIAM SWINBANK.

William Swinbank is conducting a successful business as a florist at Sycamore. He was born in Westmorelandshire, England, January 24, 1865, and is the son of John and Frances (Riley) Swinbank, who are also natives of England. In the year 1875 the family emigrated to the United States and located on a farm in Kane county, Illinois.

William Swinbank was the only one left at home to look after the farm when he was eighteen years of age. His father had died and he conducted the farm for his mother, making his home thereon until twenty-seven years of age, when his mother died and the property was sold. He then came to Sycamore to care for his uncle, William Swinbank. Six years ago he purchased from Elmer Boynton, the greenhouse which he has since owned. He has two and a half acres of ground and about twenty thousand square feet under glass. His is the only plant of its kind in De Kalb county. A stranger to the business when he began operations in this line, he has made it a success by dint of hard work and study. He is making a specialty of raising carnations and roses and has a large home market. He also supplies the flowers used in the dining cars of the Chicago & Great Western Railroad. His business has grown to large

proportions and his diligent, careful management and energy, reveal the secret of his success.

In August of 1904, Mr. Swinbank was married to Miss Julia Rose, daughter of Delos and Eleanor Rose, the former now deceased but the latter still living. Mrs. Swinbank is a native of Sycamore. Both our subject and his wife hold membership in the Congregational church and are highly esteemed by many friends. He gives his political support to the republican party but has never sought nor desired office. He has erected in Sycamore a fine residence of cement with wooden framework, the first of its kind in the city, and his home and greenhouses are visible evidences of his life of thrift and energy resulting in success.

HUGH ALVIN BONE

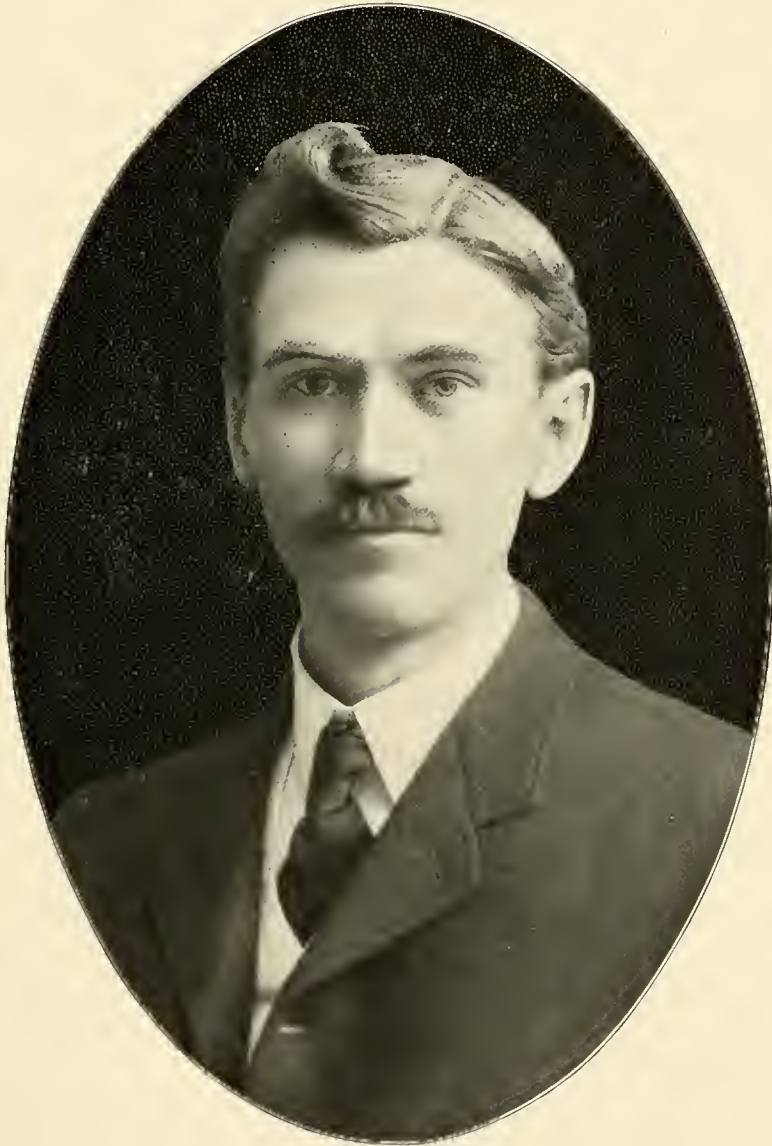
Hugh Alvin Bone, superintendent of schools in Sycamore, has already made for himself an enviable place in educational circles here and his talents and energies give promise of greater advancement in the future. A native son of Illinois, he was born in Moultrie county, June 4, 1873. His father, John Emerson Bone, was likewise a native of that county, born March 30, 1850, and the mother, who bore the maiden name of Mary Louisa Butts, was born in Moultrie county, February 6, 1851. Both the father and mother had two brothers who served as soldiers of the Union army in the Civil war. These were Andrew and George Hugh Bone and James A. and William A. Butts. Andrew Bone enlisted with Ulysses S. Grant, becoming a member of the Twenty-first Illinois Regiment, and died in Andersonville prison in 1864. George H. Bone was a member of the One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Illinois Infantry and also died in the service. James A. Butts became a member of the Twenty-first Illinois Regiment with William T. Sherman and acted as a drummer. His brother was a member of the One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Illinois Infantry, to which George H. Bone belonged.

The father of our subject is a farmer by occupation and now lives in Moultrie county. The son, Hugh Alvin Bone, began his education in the country schools of Moultrie county, Illinois, and afterward attended Oberlin (Ohio) College. For

four years he was employed as a teacher in the district schools and, having demonstrated his ability, he became principal of the schools at Lake City, Illinois, where he remained for two years. He was also principal of the high school at Sullivan, Illinois, and afterward was chosen superintendent of the schools at Sullivan, in which capacity he served for three years. Later he was history instructor in the state normal at Normal, Illinois, in the summer of 1904, and was institute instructor in the summers of 1901 to 1905 inclusive. In 1904 he received appointment to the position of superintendent of the city schools of Sycamore and has since remained here. Under his guidance the schools have made substantial and commendable advancement. He brings untiring zeal and devotion to his work and has the ability of enthusing the teachers under him with much of his own interest and fidelity to the profession.

On the 17th of July, 1893, Professor Bone was united in marriage to Miss Florence Crowder, who was born in Moultrie county, Illinois, October 24, 1875, a daughter of Marshall M. and Asenith (Shockey) Crowder, the former born in Moultrie county, Illinois, March 12, 1850, and the latter in Zanesville, Ohio, September 25, 1850. In their family were three children, of whom Mrs. Bone is the youngest, and the mother is now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Bone have three children: Horace Orlando, born April 10, 1894; Maurice Oberlin, August 27, 1895; and Lusenith Maurine, September 3, 1898.

Professor Bone belongs to Sullivan lodge, No. 764, A. F. & A. M., and is also affiliated with the Royal Arcanum. His political views are in accord with republican principles and he belongs to the Congregational church. These associations indicate much of the character of the man and the high principles which guide his conduct. Honesty and industry have characterized his life. He is making constant progress in his profession and is now completing a special course in Chicago University. He paid his own way through college by teaching, using the money thus earned to meet his tuition and the other expenses incident to a college course. He thus showed forth the elemental strength of his character and throughout his life he has broadened his knowledge and promoted his efficiency by further study, investigation



H. A. BONE.

and research. He holds high ideals of the teacher's work and as superintendent of the Sycamore schools has introduced effective and beneficial changes. He and his wife occupy an enviable position in the social life of Sycamore, being cordially received into the best circles of society, where true worth and intelligence are taken as passports.

STEPHEN A. HALL.

Stephen A. Hall is a thrifty and energetic farmer owning and cultivating one hundred and sixty acres of choice land on section 24, Squaw Grove township, and twenty-seven acres in Big Rock township. His life record began on the 13th of March, 1834, in New York, and he was a youth of eight years when, in 1842, he became a resident of Kane county, Illinois, coming to the west with his parents, Alexis and Emeline (Hunt) Hall. His father, who was born in Vermont, April 8, 1800, died on the 15th of January, 1883, at the advanced age of almost eighty-three years. His wife, who was born in the Empire state in 1807, died in 1836, when her son Stephen was but two years old. The father came to Illinois in 1838 taking up government land and settling at Big Rock, in Kane county, where he resided until his death. For many years he was a worthy representative of farming interests in this part of the state.

Stephen A. Hall was afforded good educational advantages. His youth was passed under the parental roof in Kane county during which time he attended the district schools, while later he benefited by a course of instruction in Lombard University at Galesburg, Illinois. When he had attained his majority he sought a companion and helpmate for life's journey and was married on the 28th of March, 1860, at Big Rock, Kane county, to Miss Elizabeth Whildin, whose birth occurred December 18, 1834. She was a daughter of Deacon Jeremiah and Mary (Reese) Whildin. Her father was born in Wales, December 25, 1799, and in 1849 became a resident of Illinois, settling at Big Rock, Kane county, where his remaining days were passed. He died October 21, 1889, at a very venerable age, while his wife, who was born

April 5, 1806, was called to her final rest on the 15th of April, 1880. Mr. and Mrs. Hall have three children living: Sarah S., who was born August 31, 1865, and is the wife of P. B. Quinn; Fred J., who was born October 1, 1868; and Leonard S., who was born April 2, 1872. Frank is deceased.

Mr. Hall and his family are members of the Baptist church at Hinckley. He gives his political allegiance to the republican party and his fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, have called him to several offices. He served as supervisor of Squaw Grove township for twelve years consecutively, having been elected in 1882, and has also been school trustee. Following his marriage he continued to live in Kane county until 1867 when he removed to the farm upon which he now resides which he has since cultivated until the fields have brought forth rich and abundant harvests. His land in this locality is worth about one hundred and fifty dollars per acre while the tract which he has on section 20, Big Rock township, Kane county, is valued at about one hundred dollars per acre. In analyzing his life work it will be found that his prosperity is the reward of his persistent energy and capable business management. He has prospered as the years have gone by and is now enabled to enjoy the comforts of life in a fine home in the midst of friends and neighbors who entertain for him warm regard.

WILSON LOVE.

Wilson Love is a retired liveryman of De Kalb, residing at No. 217 South Second street. He derives his income largely from property interests, having made extensive and judicious investments in real estate, which includes much city property besides a good farm of eighty-one acres in De Kalb township.

Mr. Love was a son of Christopher and Mary (Schofield) Love, who were residents of Bridge-water, Stark county, New York, until they came to De Kalb township in the year 1844. They cast in their lot with its pioneer residents, for at that time the work of development had scarcely been begun. Much of the land was still in possession of the government and there were large areas upon

which the sod had not been broken. Many log houses were to be seen in the county but the work of cultivation was being carried forward by the pioneers and Mr. Love bore his share in this task. He continued to engage actively in farming until 1852 and as the years passed added to his capital until he was in possession of a comfortable competence. This enabled him to spend his declining days in honorable retirement and, leaving the farm, he removed to De Kalb, where he died August 23, 1888, at the age of eighty-six years. His wife passed away about nine years before his death.

Wilson Love, whose name introduces this record, was born in Chautauqua county, New York, March 6, 1830, and was therefore a youth of fourteen years when he accompanied his parents on their removal to the middle west. He remained with his father in the cultivation of the home farm until 1852, when he established a livery barn in De Kalb, which he operated successfully until 1888, thus continuing in business for thirty-six years, a longer period than any other man in the county. He was accorded a liberal patronage and he justly deserved this by reason of his good business qualifications and his earnest desire to please his customers.

On the 8th day of March, 1855, Mr. Love was married to Miss Adell Seward, a native of Wyoming county, New York, and a daughter of Morgan Seward, a mechanic and farmer, who came to De Kalb county in 1854. They have three children: Mary, at home; Nettie, who is the wife of C. P. Dawley of Chicago; and George M., who operates his father's farm.

Mr. Love has always been a stalwart democrat, thoroughly in sympathy with the principles of the party. He has served as road commissioner for two terms, but has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking, desiring that others should fill public positions while he gives undivided attention to his business interests. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, in which he has attained the degrees of master mason and royal arch mason. Few men have more intimate knowledge of the county and its history than Mr. Love, who has resided within its borders for almost two-thirds of a century. He was a personal friend of Shabbona and the social relation which existed between them has ever been remembered by him as one of the most pleasant

associations of his youthful days. When one sees today the splendidly developed farms, the thriving towns and the cities with their great manufacturing and industrial as well as commercial interests, it seems hardly possible that it is within the memory of a single resident of the county when this part of the state was an almost unbroken prairie, and yet Mr. Love can remember the time when there were wide stretches of land upon which was not seen a habitation or evidence of cultivation. He has witnessed marked changes in the methods of life and as the years have passed has kept in touch with general progress and improvement. His rest, which he is now enjoying, is well deserved, as it has come to him in return for his close application, his careful business management and his judicious investment.

HENRY TWOMBLY.

Among the citizens of foreign birth residing in De Kalb county, mention should be made of Henry Twombly who is now the owner of an excellent farm of one hundred and sixty acres. This property is a visible evidence of his life of thrift and industry. He has been the architect of his own fortunes and has builded wisely and well. A native of Ireland, he was born in 1851 and his parents were also natives of the same country, where they spent their entire lives. The son was a youth of sixteen years when in 1873 he came to the United States, locating in Chicago. He was there employed at common labor for one year, after which he came to De Kalb county and was employed on a farm by the month until his marriage.

On the 21st of April, 1885, Mr. Twombly wedded Miss Hannah Carl, who was born in Sycamore, Illinois, August 14, 1865. Her parents were likewise natives of Ireland and in 1846 came to the United States, settling on a farm in De Kalb county, where the father carried on general agricultural pursuits until his life's labors were ended by death in 1883. His wife survived him for more than two decades and died December 31, 1906. They were the parents of twelve children, six sons and six daughters. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Twombly have been born nine children: John, born May 3, 1886; Joseph, born July 27, 1888;

Henry, born July 31, 1890; William, born March 9, 1892; Archie, born August 20, 1896; Sanford, born February 18, 1899; Leonard, born March 20, 1901; Irene, born December 20, 1903; and Mary, born September 21, 1905. It is a remarkable fact that the family circle remains unbroken by the hand of death.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Twombly began their domestic life on a rented farm, continuing to cultivate rented land until 1899 when, with the capital acquired through his labors, Mr. Twombly purchased one hundred and sixty acres on section 9, De Kalb township. The following year he removed his family to this place and since that time has built an excellent barn and other substantial outbuildings for the shelter of grain and stock. He uses the latest improved machinery in the cultivation of his fields and is continually adding to his place all modern equipments and accessories. He had no educational advantages in his youth and has won success in spite of the difficulties and obstacles which beset his path.

Politically Mr. Twombly is a democrat, having voted with the party since becoming a naturalized American citizen. He and his wife are communicants of the Catholic church of De Kalb. They have gained many friends in the county, being well known here, Mr. Twombly having resided within the borders of the county for a third of a century. His life demonstrates what it is possible to accomplish through determined and earnest purpose in a country where effort and labor are not hindered by caste or class.

HENRY W. PRENTICE.

Henry W. Prentice, who is a representative of that profession which stands as the conservator of human rights and liberties, furthering the ends of justice and maintaining public stability, was born in Marion township, Ogle county, Illinois, August 16, 1872. His parents were Reuben T. and Lavina (Eyster) Prentice, of whose family of three children only two are now living, the brother of our subject being Charles G. Prentice, a resident of Oregon, Illinois. The father was born in Pennsylvania in 1839, and in his boyhood days accompanied his parents on their removal to Polk coun-

ty, Wisconsin, where he was reared to his twenty-first year. In 1860 he came to Illinois, settling in Ogle county, and at the outbreak of the Civil war he went to Rockford, this state. When the Eighth Illinois Cavalry was recruited, he enlisted in that command, serving with the regiment until the close of hostilities. His company was one of the cavalry squads that chased John Wilkes Booth after the assassination of President Lincoln and was hot on his trail when they were falsely steered from their course shortly before his capture, else they would have had the honor of taking the criminal. After the close of the war Reuben T. Prentice located in Rockford, Illinois, and was soon married there to the daughter of John Eyster, one of the first white settlers of Ogle county, coming to this state from Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania. About 1870 Mr. Prentice removed with his family to a farm owned by his father-in-law, in Ogle county, and there he carried on general agricultural pursuits until 1883, when he took up his abode in the city of Oregon, Illinois, where he died in September, 1891. He was a member of the Grand Army post there and also of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His widow still survives and is yet a resident of Oregon.

Henry W. Prentice spent his boyhood and youth in his parents' home, and the public schools afforded him his educational privileges. He was graduated from the Oregon high school in 1890, and for two years thereafter was variously employed. In 1892 he came to De Kalb and went to work in the private office of I. L. and W. L. Ellwood, with whom he continued until June, 1895. It became customary for Mr. Prentice to spend many of his evenings in a law office, assisting in copying on the typewriter. This awakened his interest in law and he began reading law more as a pastime, and to some extent to fit himself to a greater degree for the work of court stenographer. In June, 1895, he was appointed to this office by Hon. Charles Kellum, then judge of the eleventh judicial district, and in 1897 when Judge Bishop was elected to the bench of the new sixteenth district Mr. Prentice was re-appointed by him and served until July, 1903. In the meantime he had continued his law studies, and in December, 1896, was admitted to the bar. After severing his connection with the office of court stenographer he entered upon the active practice of law in De Kalb,

where he has built up a large clientage as a general law practitioner. In 1899 he was elected city attorney of De Kalb and served for six years, proving a most capable official, untiring in his devotion to the interests of the city and performing his duties without fear or favor.

In 1897 occurred the marriage of Mr. Prentice and Miss Bessie M. Burst, a daughter of John W. Burst, of Sycamore, and they now have one son, Henry W., Jr. Mr. Prentice belongs to De Kalb lodge, No. 144, A. F. & A. M., of which he was master for two years. He is also a member of De Kalb chapter, No. 52, R. A. M.; De Kalb lodge, No. 215, K. P.; De Kalb Aerie, No. 1316, F. O. E.; Barb City camp, M. W. A.; and Columbus tent, No. 57, of the Knights of the Maccabees. He is one who through earnest purpose and unfaltering application has worked his way upward and the large law practice which is accorded him is the best criterion of his ability and the confidence reposed in him by his fellow citizens.

HON. GEORGE STEWART ROBINSON.

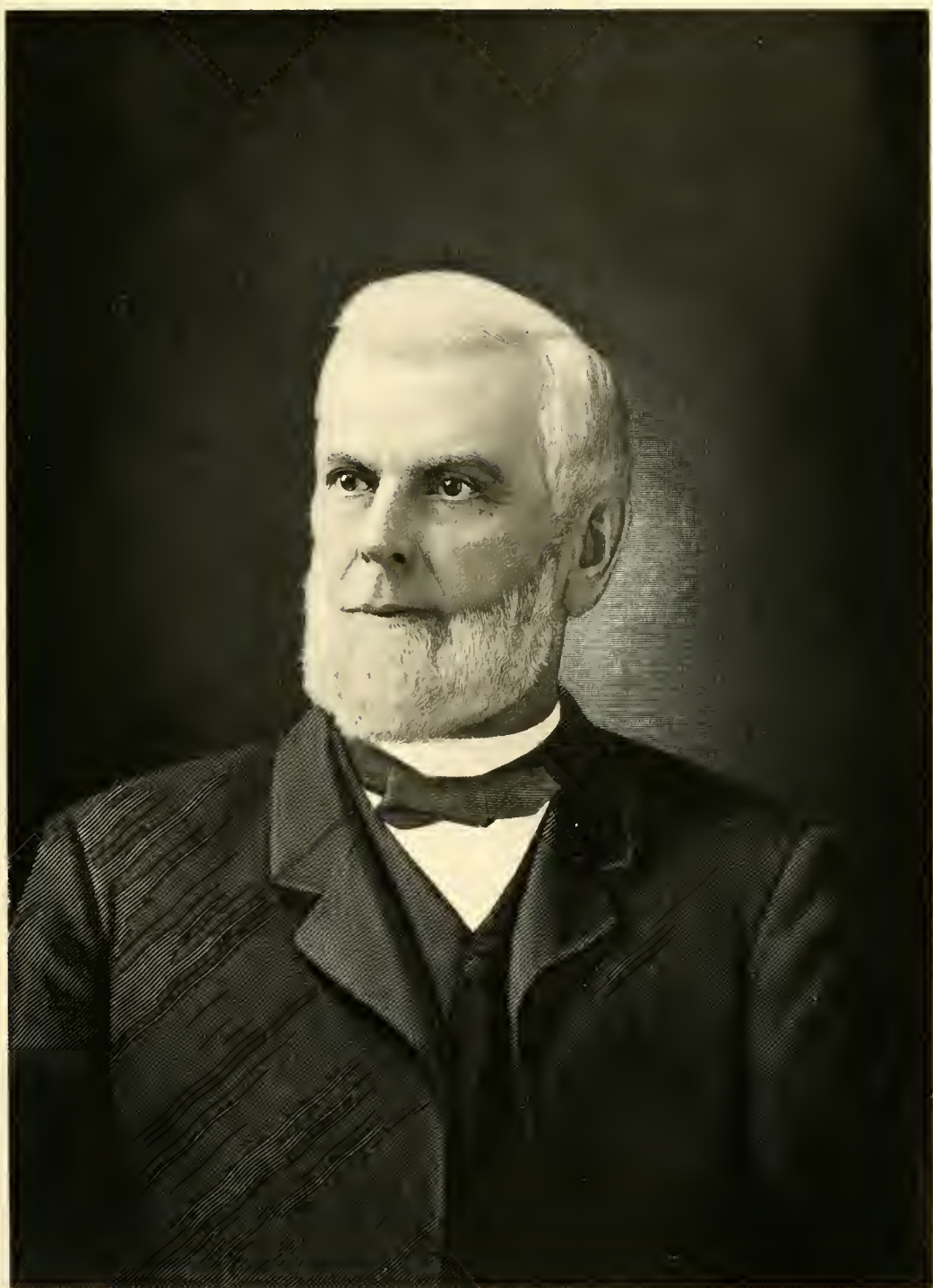
Hon. George Stewart Robinson, for fifteen years a member and for nine years president of the board of commissioners of public charities, was also one of the most distinguished members who has ever graced the bar of De Kalb county. He gave to the duties which devolved upon him his earnest consideration and brought to bear in their discharge marked ability, supplemented by a high standard of conduct. He was born at Derby, Vermont, June 24, 1824, and was the second in a family of three sons, whose parents were George and Harriet (Stewart) Robinson. His father was a native of Connecticut and a son of Eber Robinson, a captain of the Revolutionary war. His mother was a native of Vermont and a daughter of Rufus Stewart, a major of the war of 1812. George Robinson also served his country faithfully in the war of 1812. He was a farmer by occupation, thus providing for his family throughout his entire life. He died about 1870 when seventy-five years of age.

George Stewart Robinson acquired his primary education in the common schools and later attended the Derby Academy. He also early became familiar with farm labor in all of its departments

and remained upon the old homestead farm until twenty years of age with the exception of several winter months, when he taught school. He regarded this, however, as an initial step to other professional labor. Becoming imbued with the desire to engage in the practice of law, he began studying in the office and under the direction of Hon. S. B. Colby, of Derby, Vermont. He remained in that office for two years and finished his legal course with Hon. Lucius B. Peck, of Montpelier, Vermont, a most prominent attorney of the Green Mountain state.

Mr. Robinson was admitted to the Vermont bar November 18, 1846. His health, however, was impaired by reason of his close attention to his studies and hoping to be benefited thereby he went south in 1847 and again took up the teacher's profession. In 1853 he returned to Vermont and in his native town was married, October 13, 1853, to Miss Olive A. Colby, a native of Derby and a daughter of Nehemiah Colby, who was born in New Hampshire, as was his father, Samuel Colby. Nehemiah Colby was for many years engaged in mercantile pursuits and also followed farming for a time. For fifteen years he was postmaster of Derby and one of its best known men. In religious faith he was a Congregationalist and a firm believer in Christianity. He died in 1862, at the age of seventy-five years. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Malinda Larrabee, was born in 1790 and was a daughter of John Larrabee. She died in 1842, at the age of fifty-two years. They were the parents of thirteen children, of whom Mrs. Robinson was the twelfth in order of birth, and now the only living member of the family.

Immediately after their marriage Mr. Robinson and his wife went to Cuthbert, Georgia, where he entered upon the practice of law, residing there during the trying times of the Civil war. For a few months during the struggle and much against his will he was compelled to serve in the Georgia State Militia. Being a well known Union man he was forced to suffer many hardships and his practice was completely destroyed. Having a cousin residing in Sycamore, Illinois, through his invitation Mr. Robinson came to De Kalb county in 1866 and soon afterward became associated with Hon. Charles Kellum, a partnership which continued for four years. He was then alone in practice until 1877, when he was elected county judge, fill-



Genl. Robinson

ing the position until 1882, when he resigned in order to attend to private business interests in Vermont. On the bench his decisions were fair and impartial, characterized by profound and accurate understanding of the law and correct application of its principles to the points in litigation. When in general practice his devotion to his clients' interests was proverbial and he prepared his cases with great thoroughness and care. In 1873 he was appointed master in chancery, filling that position until he was chosen county judge. Soon after his election he resigned the former office.

Mr. Robinson's public service covers an important epoch in his life history. His fellow citizens, recognizing his worth and ability, frequently sought his services in some official position or another. When Sycamore was organized as a city Mr. Robinson was elected alderman and served for two terms. He was also city attorney and drafted the ordinances under which the city was governed for years and many of which are still in force. In 1869 he was appointed on the board of state commissioners of public charities by Governor John M. Palmer, was re-appointed by Governor John L. Beveridge in 1874 and by Governor Shelby M. Cullom in 1879. He remained an active member of the board until March, 1884, when he resigned, being unable to attend to the duties of the position by reason of his frequent and extended absence from the state on business demanding his entire attention. For nearly fifteen years, however, he remained a member of the board and was its president for nine years, devoting from two to three months of his time each year to its work without compensation.

Mr. and Mrs. Robinson became the parents of two daughters and a son. The eldest, Harriet Malinda, who was born in Georgia, became the wife of C. L. Buchan, of Chicago, and died at the age of twenty-eight years, leaving one son, George Buchan Robinson, who was adopted by his maternal grandfather and now bears his name. He was born October 17, 1884, and still lives with his grandmother. He was graduated from the University of Chicago when twenty-one years of age and is now in Evers & Company's Bank in Chicago. His father resides in Chicago, where he has been a clerk in the postoffice for a quarter of a century. Lucius P., the only son in the Robinson family, died in infancy. Nellie Colby married

James B. Ellwood, of Sycamore, and had one child, Muriel Olive, who died in infancy, while the mother passed away in 1892, at the age of thirty years.

In his fraternal relations Judge Robinson was a Mason, holding membership with the lodge, chapter and commandery. He served as master in the lodge, as high priest in the chapter and prelate in the commandery. The cause of education found in him a staunch champion and he did much to promote the interests of the schools in Sycamore, serving as president of the school board at the time of his death. He was a man of strong native intelligence and force of character, looking at life from a practical standpoint and yet working toward the ideal in all those things which relate to good citizenship, to professional honor and personal accomplishments. He was regarded as a prominent and able member of the bar and no man ever filled the position of judge of the county and probate courts in a more satisfactory manner. Kindly in spirit and generous in disposition, his intellectual and moral force of character were such as endeared him to all with whom he came in contact and his death, which occurred October 30, 1894, was deeply and sincerely deplored. Mrs. Robinson still survives her husband and resides in a beautiful home at No. 431 Somonauk street in Sycamore.

ELIAS C. WEST.

Elias C. West, a representative of a pioneer family of De Kalb county, within whose borders he has made his home from the age of four years, is now living retired in Sycamore but for a long period was closely associated with the agricultural development of the county. He was born November 25, 1839, in Evans, Erie county, New York. His paternal grandfather, Asa West, was born in Williamstown, Berkshire county, Massachusetts, in 1769, and after arriving at years of maturity wedded Sarah Parker, whose birth occurred in Deerfield, Franklin county, Massachusetts, April 25, 1773. In 1808 Asa West removed with his family to Madison county, New York, casting in his lot among its pioneer settlers. He purchased a tract of timber land, upon which he

built a log house that remained the home of the family for a number of years. He was a clothier by trade and a man of natural mechanical ability. Later in life he turned his attention to the coopering business, which he followed during the winter seasons after his removal to the Empire state. While the second struggle of the colonies with Great Britain was in progress he made wooden canteens for the enemy. In 1815 his health failed and after an illness of six years' duration he died in January, 1821. His widow and her children remained residents of Madison county, New York, for a number of years, and in 1826 removed to Erie county, that state, where Mrs. West passed away December 2, 1828, at the age of forty-eight years. By her marriage she had become the mother of nine children.

This number included David West, father of our subject, who was born in Waterville, Oneida county, New York, July 16, 1806, which was the year of his parents' removal from Massachusetts to the Empire state. After the death of his father he became a member of the family of his brother-in-law, Daniel Hurd, of Georgetown, New York, with whom he lived until twenty years of age. He then located at Evans, Erie county, where he operated as a contractor in the forests, clearing land and lumbering. As a companion and helpmate for life's journey he chose Sarah Chapin, of Georgetown, whom he wedded April 29, 1829. Her parents, Elias and Dimis (Chapman) Chapin, had removed from Stafford, Connecticut, to Madison county, New York. Her father was born February 15, 1751, and when the colonies attempted to throw off the yoke of British oppression, joined the American army. He was with Washington at the time of the evacuation of the city of New York by the British. His last days were spent in Evans, Erie county, New York, where he passed away February 4, 1839. His wife, whose birth occurred on the 15th of October, 1774, died in Woodstock, New York, October 12, 1860.

Following his marriage David West bought a tract of land which was included in the Holland purchase in Evans. He there built a house and barn and cleared forty-five acres, maintaining his residence at that place until 1843. He also continued the work of clearing land and farming for others and thus brought under cultivation about three hundred and fifty acres of land. Disposing

of his farm in the Empire state he started for Illinois, accompanied by his family, making the journey with a team of horses and a wagon, bringing also a portion of their household goods. The family traveled across the country after the slow and primitive manner of the times, resting on Sundays, and when twenty-three days had elapsed they reached Sycamore. The succeeding winter was spent in the home of Aaron C. West, a brother of David West, on section 34, Sycamore township. The latter purchased a tract of land adjoining his brother's farm, and in the winter of 1844-45 built a small frame house for the accommodation of his family. During the same winter he entered his claim from the government. His first crop was raised on rented land in 1844, in which year he also broke twenty acres of his own farm and the following year he raised a crop thereon. At that time grain was marketed in Chicago, which was also the base of supplies for the people of this locality, and the nearest mill was at St. Charles, in Kane county. As the years passed Mr. West added modern and substantial farm buildings to his place and set out an orchard, which included some trees that he himself brought from the state of New York. He owned one hundred and seven acres of land and as the years advanced he prospered in his undertakings, developing an excellent property, which returned to him a good annual income as the result of the care and labor which he bestowed upon the fields.

The first wife of David West was born January 8, 1804, in Stafford, Connecticut, and by this marriage eight children were born, Elias C. being the fourth. The mother died January 23, 1849, and on the 28th of May following Mr. West married Mrs. Lucinda (Rose) Wells, the widow of Israel Wells, who died in March, 1845, leaving two children, George M. and Ruth. Mrs. Wells was born in August, 1804, in Sherburne, Chenango county, New York, and was a daughter of Joseph and Ruth (Whitney) Rose, who were natives of Windhall, Vermont. On leaving the Green Mountain state they took up their abode at Sherburne, New York. Mr. Rose was born on Christmas day of 1760, while his wife's birth occurred on the 28th of July, 1772. Their daughter, Mrs. West, died April 10, 1884.

David West was a typical frontiersman, for most of his life was passed amid pioneer surroundings.

When he removed to Georgetown, in 1826, he found a little hamlet in the midst of an almost unbroken wilderness and there was every evidence of frontier life in Erie county when he took up his abode there, Buffalo being at that time little more than a village. Again he met the hardships and experiences of life on the frontier in De Kalb county and aided in reclaiming the wild land for the purposes of civilization. He was interested in everything pertaining to public progress and his co-operation proved an element in the substantial development of this part of the state. As a commissioner he assisted in the construction of the public roads and he also did effective work in the organization of school districts. He served for eighteen consecutive years as assessor and in all public relations was found faithful and reliable. When twenty-five years of age, in the town of Collins, Erie county, New York, he joined the Congregational church, of which he remained a member until 1879, when he severed his relations therewith from conscientious scruples. In the days when Georgetown was a small town his home was always open for the entertainment of traveling ministers and the humanitarian spirit which ever existed was also manifested in the fact that it became a station on the underground railroad, Mr. West aiding many a poor refugee to make his way from slavery in the south to freedom in Canada. He also advocated the cause of temperance by precept and example and was so abstemious that he never used tobacco. No man was ever more loyal to a cause which he believed to be right and no man ever questioned his honesty of purpose. He voted for James G. Birney for president at the time when the anti-slavery candidate of the district for representative received but forty votes. He lived to see the abolition of slavery and the country enjoying the fruits of liberty, while in his home locality he witnessed with pride the advancement and progress which were made, ever bearing his full share in the work of development, so that his history became an integral chapter in the annals of this part of the state. He died in February, 1891, respected by all who knew him.

Elias C. West was only five years of age when brought by his parents to Illinois, and the district schools of Sycamore township afforded him his educational privileges. He was twenty-three years of age when he offered his services to the

government in defense of the Union, enlisting on the 7th of September, 1862, as a member of Company A, One Hundred and Fifth Regiment of Illinois Volunteers. This command was attached to the Twentieth Army Corps and he met the usual experiences which fall to the lot of the soldier on active duty. He participated in the Atlanta campaign, the march through Georgia and the Carolinas and in the grand review at Washington, D. C., which has the most celebrated military pageant ever seen on the western hemisphere. The streets were lined with people eager to welcome the victorious army, and across Pennsylvania avenue was a banner bearing the inscription "The only debt which the country cannot pay is the debt which she owes her soldiers." Mr. West was three times slightly wounded, sustaining injuries at Kenesaw Mountain and at Atlanta. He served for three years and was mustered out in 1865, returning home with a most creditable military record.

Resuming agricultural pursuits, Mr. West for many years thereafter engaged in the tilling of the soil and the raising of fine stock and in the dairy business, being associated for sometime with his father. He continued in active life until 1901, when he retired and removed to Sycamore, where he now occupies a fine home on West Exchange street that he built. His farm is located a mile and a half east of Sycamore on section 34, Sycamore township, and comprises one hundred and sixty-seven acres of well improved land, equipped with all the accessories and conveniences of a model farm. From the property he derives a good income and this with his other financial resources enables him to live in comfortable circumstances without recourse to further labor.

On the 17th of June, 1872, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. West and Miss Ella Reese, who was born in Wisconsin and came to Sycamore in 1869, with her parents, Andrew and Mary (Bass) Reese. Her father was a pioneer of Dodge county, Wisconsin, and in 1869 arrived in De Kalb county, Illinois, where he followed farming for some time, while later he conducted a cheese factory in Sycamore for several years. Mr. and Mrs. West have become the parents of four children: May B., who died at the age of nine years; Roy C., who married Ada Sanford and lives in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, being employed as an engineer on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad; Gertie May,

who is librarian at the Sycamore public library; and Herbert, at home.

Mr. West has figured prominently in agricultural circles, having been elected president of the De Kalb County Farmers Institute upon its organization and filling the position for five years. He also represented the northern district of Illinois at the Farmers National Congress at Rock Island. He belongs to the Grand Army post, and he and his wife are identified with the Congregational church at Sycamore, in the work of which they have taken an active and helpful part. For fifteen years he served as one of its deacons and has been a member of various church committees. More than six decades have passed since he came to the county and its progress and improvement are to him matters of pride. He has given co-operation to many movements for the public good and in citizenship, in business life and in fact in all relations has commanded the esteem and good will of those with whom he has been associated.

ISAAC A. MCCOLLUM.

Isaac A. McCollum, a resident of Kingston, has been secretary of the Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company since January, 1898, and is also engaged in the real-estate business. His residence in Kingston covers a period of twenty-two years, during which time he has figured prominently as a representative and enterprising man. His birth occurred in Mayfield township, this county, August 7, 1845. His father, Isaac A. McCollum, came here when a young man, with his brother James, from Indiana in 1835. He had been liberally educated for those days and was a pioneer teacher of the county. Much of the land was still uncultivated and in possession of the government. He pre-empted a claim in Mayfield township and after making some preparation for having a home of his own he returned to Indiana and was there married to Miss Frances Taylor, a native of that state. He afterward brought his bride to the farm and continued its cultivation until his death, which occurred in 1848, when he was comparatively a young man. His wife survived him and reared her family, remaining a resident of the county until

her own death on the 8th of May, 1864. In the family were three children, all of whom reached adult age. J. B. McCollum, the youngest son, was reared here and later removed to Nebraska, where he took up a homestead, dying there in October, 1883. He married Mary Jane Slater and left two children, Owen and a daughter. The other brother of our subject is Joseph W., who was reared in this county and became a soldier of Company K, One Hundred and Fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, serving for about three years. He was afterward married here to Miss McClelland and later removed to Iowa, taking up his residence in Boone county.

Isaac A. McCollum spent the days of his boyhood and youth in the usual manner of farm lads upon the frontier. He attended the common schools, but was mostly self-educated, for the reason that the schools were then of a somewhat primitive character and also because his services were needed on the home farm and his opportunity of attending school was thereby limited. He was nineteen years of age when, in February, 1865, he joined the Fifteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry and went south to Goldsboro, North Carolina. He was engaged in scouting and guard duty and later joined the Western department, thus serving until honorably discharged at Springfield, Illinois, being mustered out at Leavenworth, Kansas, on the 16th of September, 1865.

Following his return home Isaac A. McCollum engaged in the operation of the home farm in connection with his older brother. The business relation between them was maintained for two years, when he sold out and purchased a tract of land in Mayfield township. He made preparation for having a home of his own by his marriage in 1866 to Miss Roxie Ann Taylor, who was born and reared in Mayfield township. Following his marriage he carried on farming for several years, after which he sold his property in this county and removed to Boone county, Iowa, where he bought a tract of land and carried on general agricultural pursuits for six and a half years. He then returned to Sycamore and entered the employ of the Marsh Harvester Company, with which he continued for three years, when he went to Chicago, where he worked for five years in the employ of the McCormick Harvester Company. On again going to De Kalb county he located at Kingston, where he en-



J. A. McCOLLOM.

gaged in the hotel business. He rebuilt, added to and remodeled the hotel and made it a first-class house, of which he was proprietor for twenty years. He proved a popular host and received a large share of the patronage of the traveling public at Kingston. In 1904, however, he sold out and located where he now resides. While conducting his hotel he also engaged in handling farm implements and in January, 1898, he was elected secretary of the Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company, in which capacity he has since served. The company now carries policies to the amount of about three million dollars upon farm property. Mr. McCollom has also engaged in real-estate operations for about six years, owning farm property in De Kalb county, town property in Kingston and lands in South Dakota. He has made judicious investments and has found this branch of his business a profitable source of income.

In his political views Mr. McCollom has been a stalwart republican since casting his first presidential ballot for U. S. Grant in 1868. He has never failed to vote at a presidential election since that time. He was elected and served as township collector for three years and filled the office of justice of the peace for ten years. He has likewise been a delegate to county conventions and is accounted one of the stalwart republicans of this district.

In 1903 Mr. McCollom was called upon to mourn the loss of his first wife, who died on the 24th of April of that year. They had two daughters: Hattie L., now the wife of Henry Landis, a business man of Kingston, by whom she has two children, Eva H. and Marie; and Ada Ellie, the wife of L. C. Shaffer, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work. Both daughters were well educated and prior to their marriage were successful teachers. Mr. McCollom was again married on the 4th of May, 1904, when in Rockford, Illinois, he wedded Emily M. Wyllys, the widow of Amos N. Wyllys, who was a native of New York, but was reared in this county. She was married on the 6th of October, 1870, to Amos N. Wyllys, who was a blacksmith by trade and followed that pursuit in South Grove and later in Kingston. He died here in 1901. By her first marriage Mrs. McCollom had two children: Alta, who is now the wife of James Gross, a farmer of South Grove township, by whom she has two children, Wyllys and Eva; and Dr. Henry Wyllys, of Wyoming,

Stark county, Illinois, who is married and has two children, Garner and Welodene.

Mr. and Mrs. McCollom attend the Methodist Episcopal church, contribute liberally to its support and take an active interest in church and Sunday school work. Mr. McCollom belongs to the Masonic lodge at Kingston and is thoroughly in sympathy with the principles of the organization. Both Mr. and Mrs. McCollom are well known in the county, where they have many friends.

E. F. BOLAND.

E. F. Boland, who is successfully engaged in general farming and in raising fine horses and cattle, was born in Afton township, this county, May 24, 1864. His parents, John and Ann Boland, were natives of Ireland but came to America in childhood days. The mother died at the comparatively early age of thirty-three years and the father is still living, his home being in Chicago. They were the parents of two sons and a daughter, but the latter is now deceased, and the brother of our subject lives in Chicago with his father. Mr. Boland, Sr., owns three hundred and twenty acres of land in Afton township, and three fine residences in the city of Chicago. He is a self-made man whose prosperity is attributable entirely to his own labors, his careful management and keen business discernment.

E. F. Boland was reared in the usual manner of farm lads, dividing his time between the duties of the schoolroom, the pleasures of the playground and the work of the fields. After mastering the common branches of English learning, he attended a business college in Chicago for one year. On the 4th of April, 1894, he was married to Miss Margaret Powers, daughter of John and Anora Powers, who are now living retired in the city of De Kalb. In this family were seven children, five sons and two daughters. The young couple began their domestic life upon his father's farm, where they have since lived. Mr. Boland having continuously cultivated the fields, with the result that he has prospered in his undertakings. He annually gathers rich harvests and in addition to general farming, he makes a specialty of raising coach and Percheron horses and also shorthorn

cattle. His live-stock interests are to him a good source of revenue and he is known as one of the leading stockmen of the country.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Boland has been blessed with three sons and a daughter: John L., born April 24, 1895; Anna, born February 7, 1897; Edward, born August 30, 1902; and Sylvester B., born June 14, 1904. The parents are communicants of the St. Mary's Catholic church of De Kalb, and Mr. Boland belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp at Elva and the Knights of Columbus lodge at De Kalb. Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise, he has supported the democracy and his fellow townsmen have called him to some local offices. For two years he has served as tax collector of Afton township, and was school director for four years. He is a public-spirited citizen, interested in all that pertains to the general welfare, and his aid and co-operation can be counted upon to further any movement for the public good.

DANIEL DELOS HUNT.

An enumeration of those men of the present generation who have won honor and public recognition for themselves and at the same time have honored the state to which they belong would be incomplete and unsatisfactory were there failure to make prominent reference to the one whose name initiates this paragraph. In public life he has borne himself with such signal dignity and honor as to gain the respect of all. He has been and is distinctively a man of affairs and one who has wielded a wide influence. A strong mentality an invincible courage, a most determined individuality have so entered into his makeup as to render him a natural leader of men and a director of opinion, and while he has now retired from public life he is still a force in the community and numbers among his friends many of the distinguished men of the state, with whom he has been associated in formulating legislation.

Hon. Daniel Delos Hunt was born in Wyoming county, New York, September 19, 1835. His father, Isaac Hunt, also a native of the Empire state, was a farmer by occupation. He married Miss Martha Ludington, also of that state, and in

February, 1857, he brought his family to Illinois, settling in De Kalb county, but he was not long permitted to enjoy his new home, his death occurring in January, 1858. His widow survived until April 12, 1865. They were the parents of thirteen children, of whom Daniel was the seventh in order of birth. Three of the sons served in the war of the Rebellion as soldiers of the Union Army and all veteranized, but none are now living.

Daniel D. Hunt was in his twenty-second year when he accompanied his parents to De Kalb county. He had been educated in the common schools of his native state and in the village school at Java Lake, New York. After the removal westward he engaged in farming and after the death of the father became the support of his widowed mother. It was this which prevented his entering the army, although he greatly desired to do it, but three of his brothers were at the front and he had to remain home to support the family. In the year 1863-4 he conducted a hotel in the city of De Kalb, after which he resumed farming and has since figured prominently in agricultural circles in this part of the state. He owns two hundred and forty acres of land about a mile from the city of De Kalb, and the many improvements made upon the place and the excellent condition of the fields make this one of the most valuable and attractive farming properties of the county. He raises and feeds stock on an extensive scale and although his son has charge of the actual work on the farm, Mr. Hunt is yet the manager, and in his business interests displays the vigor, enterprise and activity of a much younger man. He is president of the Illinois State Milk Producers' Institute and is vice president and a director of Eaton & Company, publishers of college and school textbooks in Chicago.

His success, based as it is upon his individual labor and ability, would alone entitle him to representation in this volume, but aside from his business interests which have brought him upward from a humble financial position to one of wealth, he has rendered public service of the utmost value to the commonwealth. He was called to public office in early manhood, serving for three years as supervisor. He was also trustee of the township schools for eighteen years and was a stalwart champion of the cause of education. Still higher political honors awaited him, however, for he was made



D. D. Hunt

AST H. F. OX
TITLE F. ONS.

the nominee of the republican party for the state legislature and served in the lower house for four years. He was elected to represent his district in the senate, where he remained for twelve years, so that his legislative career covered sixteen years and was marked by the utmost fidelity to duty. He introduced a bill for the establishment of a northern Illinois State Normal School, which passed both the house and senate and was signed by the governor and the school was finally located in his home city of De Kalb, which has become one of the leading educational centers of the state. Mr. Hunt also aided in securing the passage of many important measures and left the impress of his individuality upon many of the laws enacted. To enumerate these would be to infringe on the province of history, but it is a well known fact that he was a prominent working member of both houses and was active in committee rooms, where the work of constructive legislation is done, and in the lobbies, where the influence is put forth that has turned the tide in favor of many measures or has caused their defeat, as the case might be. On the political stage such was his personal popularity and such his personal magnetism that his appearance to address the people was the signal of enthusiastic greeting. His is a sturdy American character and a stalwart patriotism, and he has the strongest attachment for our free institutions and is ever willing to make any personal sacrifice for their preservation.

Mr. Hunt was married in the state of New York, October 28, 1856, to Miss Evelyn L. Preston, a native of the Empire state and a daughter of Eli and Belinda Preston, both now deceased. In their family were six children, of whom Mrs. Hunt is the eldest. By her marriage she has become the mother of one son, Earl Henry Hunt, born July 24, 1857, and now carrying on the business interests of the home farm.

Mr. Hunt is a Mason, belonging to De Kalb lodge, No. 144, A. F. & A. M.; De Kalb chapter, No. 52, R. A. M.; Sycamore commandery, No. 15, K. T.; and Medinah Temple of the Mystic Shrine at Chicago. He attends the Methodist church and contributes to its support and to all the various movements and measures which have for their basic purpose the welfare and upbuilding of the community along moral, material, political and intellectual lines. In the relations of public life he

has always been regarded as a man of stern integrity and honesty of purpose, despising all unworthy or questionable means to secure success in any undertaking or for any purpose, or to promote his own advancement in any direction, whether political or otherwise. He has been a statesman diligent in the service of his country and seeking only the public good. Wherever known he is respected, but in his home county, where he has lived for half a century he has the warm friendship and good will of nearly every individual with whom he has been associated in any way.

CHARLES A. BROWN.

Charles A. Brown, who sustains an unassailable reputation for business integrity and has made an excellent record by his recognition and utilization of opportunity for the successful control of financial interests at Genoa, is the junior member of the firm of Brown & Brown, the senior partner being his brother, Dillon S. Brown. His life record began on the 12th of January, 1858, and the place of his nativity is the old homestead farm of the Brown family in Genoa township, upon which his father, Jeremiah L. Brown, had located in 1837, when this portion of the country was largely an undeveloped prairie. At the usual age he entered the common schools, mastering the usual branches of learning that constituted the curriculum, and later he became a high-school student in Genoa, where he spent four years and was graduated with the class of 1881. His business training was received in Chicago as a student in Bryant & Stratton Commercial College, in which he spent one term.

Following his return home Mr. Brown was actively associated with farming interests for a few months but thinking to find other pursuits more congenial and profitable he planned for the establishment of the bank which has since been conducted under the firm style of Brown & Brown at Genoa. He has given almost undivided attention to the banking business and has made this a thoroughly reliable and trustworthy institution. A general banking, discount and exchange business is carried on and through periods of financial

stress as well as propriety the institution has borne an unassailable reputation.

In June, 1889, was celebrated the marriage of Charles A. Brown and Miss Ada M. Olmstead, a native of Genoa township and a daughter of A. H. and Rebecca J. (Eiklor) Olmstead. Their children are Loyal, Gladys and Lorine. The family are prominent socially and the warm-hearted, generous and gracious hospitality of the Brown home is greatly enjoyed by their many friends.

Like the other members of the family, Charles A. Brown has always given his political allegiance to the republican party and in the offices of township treasurer and village trustee has proved his loyalty and devotion to the best interests of the community, but he has rather eschewed than sought public office, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his business interests, yet he is never remiss in the duties of citizenship and his co-operation for the public good is never sought in vain. He belongs to Genoa lodge, A. F. & A. M., of which he has served as master and has also been representative to the grand lodge of the state. While he has won most gratifying success his path has never been strewn with the wreck of other men's fortunes. In fact his business career is such as would always bear the closest investigation and scrutiny and the secret of his success lies in his close application, his thorough study of banking methods, his laudable ambition and resolute purpose. As the years have passed since 1837, when his father arrived in the county, the name of Brown has ever been a synonym in Genoa township for business integrity and enterprise.

CHARLES WINNE, M. D.

Dr. Charles Winne, who for many years was actively engaged in the practice of his profession but is now living retired from business cares, finds in public service an outlet for his enterprise and industry, which have always been recognized as his dominant qualities. He has continually served as supervisor since 1894 and in the discharge of his official duties has materially promoted the interests and welfare of the community.

Dr. Winne was born in Leesville, New York, February 22, 1832, and is a son of John C. and

Nancy (Abel) Winne. He acquired his more specifically literary education in Westfield Academy of New York and early turned his attention to the field of medical research and practice. On leaving the academy, however, he went to New Jersey, where for three years he engaged in teaching school and in 1854 he went south, being employed for one year as a teacher in Mississippi. This enabled him to carry out his cherished plan of becoming a member of the medical fraternity and to this end he matriculated in the University of Michigan, where he was graduated from the medical department in the class of 1856. He afterward settled in Williamstown, Michigan, where he entered upon the active work of the profession, and a year later he removed to Newark, Illinois. There he again took up teaching but in 1858 once more entered the field of medical and surgical practice, removing to Somonauk, De Kalb county, where he remained until 1861.

The country having become involved in Civil war, Dr. Winne, aroused by a spirit of patriotism, offered his services to the government and joined the Union army as assistant surgeon of the Fifty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, in which capacity he remained until 1862, when he was appointed surgeon of the Seventy-seventh Illinois Infantry. He remained at the front with his regiment until the close of the war and his experience was wide and valuable, while his efforts at the same time were of the utmost benefit to the members of his regiment and to other ill and wounded soldiers who came under his care. He acted as surgeon at the permanent hospital at Baton Rouge, Louisiana, for six months. He was also senior surgeon of the brigade during much of the time and yet remained continuously with his regiment. Varied and difficult were the professional duties which devolved upon him, for he continued with the Seventy-seventh Illinois at the front, being continuously in the field or on the march save for the brief period of six months spent at Baton Rouge. At the battle of Pleasant Hill, Louisiana, and again at Mansfield he volunteered to go with in the rebel lines and attend the wounded, for surgeons were much needed for such work. The offer was accepted and for ten weeks he had charge of the wounded within the rebel lines at Pleasant Hill, on the expiration of which period those who needed medical and surgical aid were put aboard

transports and sent down the river to the Union lines at Baton Rouge. He was often in positions of great danger as well as hardships, but the spirit of the soldier was his and he never faltered in the performance of any duty that would enable him to alleviate the distress and suffering caused by the ravages of war. His heroism was just as marked and his service just as rigorous as that of any man who carried a gun and faced the enemy in battle line. When the war was over he returned to De Kalb county and located at Sandwich, where he continued in active practice until 1888. He also established and conducted a drug business, having a well appointed store and securing a liberal public patronage. In 1888 he retired from active practice but conducted his drug store until 1903, when he sold out to his son-in-law, I. C. Converse.

Dr. Winne was married in 1858 to Miss Rachel E. P. Misner, of Newark, Illinois, a daughter of Johnson Misner, a farmer. They have become the parents of three daughters who are yet living; Nina D., the wife of Ira C. Converse, her father's successor in the drug business in Sandwich; Helen K., the wife of Theodore Stinson, superintendent of the water works at Aurora, Illinois; and Corinne Grace, the wife of Edward C. Hennis, general manager of the Northern Illinois Phone Company at Sandwich. Dr. and Mrs. Winne also lost two children, Ella Kate, who died at the age of five years; and Helen Maud, at the age of two years.

In 1861 Dr. Winne was supervisor of Somonauk township, resigning his position when he joined the army. In 1894 he was again elected as supervisor and has been re-elected at each biennial election since that time without opposition—a fact which stands as incontrovertible evidence of his ability, fidelity and the trust reposed in him by the public. He has labored earnestly and effectively to further the interests of his town and county and his co-operation is given to every movement for the public good. He has, moreover, been prominent in Grand Army circles and is now surgeon of Sandwich post, No. 510, having acted in that capacity almost continuously since the organization of the post. In 1894, at a re-union of the Grand Army held at Sycamore, Dr. Winne was chosen to make a motion for the appropriation of five thousand dollars for the erection of a soldiers' monument there and was made a member of the building committee for the monument. He

also served as a member of the building committee at the time of the erection of the new courthouse and for one year was its chairman. He is an exemplary member of the Masonic fraternity and investigation into his life record shows that fidelity to any cause which he espouses has been one of his strongest traits. He has a wide acquaintance and is honored wherever known. His labors have been directly beneficial to Sandwich along many lines, including its business and political development, and when questioned as to the foremost citizens of Sandwich any one will place Dr. Winne upon the list.

JAMES COYNE.

James Coyne, conducting a teaming business at De Kalb, was born at Malta, this county, October 24, 1864, a son of John and Annie (Kennedy) Coyne, both of whom were natives of Ireland, the former born in 1838 and the latter in 1840. The father is a farmer by occupation and came to America forty-four years ago. His wife, then Miss Kennedy, arrived in this country about forty years ago and they were married in Pennsylvania. They became the parents of eleven children, of whom James was the second in order of birth. Four of the number are now deceased, while the others are residents of De Kalb county and the parents are still living in Malta.

James Coyne, whose name introduces this record, was educated in the common schools of the county. He then began farming upon the old homestead property, where he remained until twenty-one years of age, when he secured employment in one of the wire factories of De Kalb. There he remained for four and a half years, when he took up general teaming, which he has since followed. He has worked diligently and persistently, has secured a good business and is now well established, having a liberal public support. That he has prospered is indicated by the fact that he owns two houses and lots in the city and he also has five teams for the general purposes of his business.

On the 23d of November, 1887, in De Kalb, Mr. Coyne was married to Miss Cora B. Estabrook, who was born in this city, June 5, 1868. Her father was Benjamin Scurr Estabrook, a native of

Canada, who wedded Orissa Hall, a native of Wisconsin. They became the parents of two children, of whom Mrs. Coyne is the younger. Mr. and Mrs. Coyne occupy a beautiful home of their own at No. 630 Grove street, De Kalb, and its hospitality is one of its attractive features.

In politics Mr. Coyne is an independent democrat and has served as alderman from the fourth ward for one term. While he keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day, as every true American citizen should do, he does not feel himself bound by party ties. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias lodge, No. 245, at De Kalb, and is orthodox in his religious belief, but is not identified with any denomination. His life has been characterized by close application to his business, for he early realized the fact that "there is no royal road to wealth" and that "through struggles to successes" is the usual way in which one must make advancement.

JOHN C. HAMILL, D. D. S.

John C. Hamill, successfully engaged in the practice of dentistry at Sandwich, was born in Monmouth, Illinois, January 17, 1867, and is a son of Samuel S. and Ann Maria (Brownlee) Hamill, the former a professor of elocution, now residing in Chicago.

John C. Hamill was educated in the public schools and at the age of twenty-seven years began preparing for the profession which he now follows as a student in the dental department of the Northwestern University at Chicago, from which he was graduated with the class of 1896. He then located for practice in that city and four years later came to Sandwich, where he has since remained in the enjoyment of a patronage which has constantly grown in volume and importance. He is a member of the Fox River Valley Dental Society, of the Northern Illinois Dental Society, of the Chicago Odontographic Dental Society, the Illinois State Dental Society and the Northwestern Dental School Alumni Association. These various connections keep him in touch with the profession and the advancement which is being made by members of the dental fraternity, and that he is recognized as a man of skill and ability in his

chosen field of labor is indicated by the liberal public support accorded him.

Dr. Hamill was married to Miss Anna Laura Atchison, of Monmouth, Illinois, a daughter of Nathaniel and Elizabeth Atchison. Her father, a real-estate dealer of Chicago, died at the age of sixty-seven years. Dr. and Mrs. Hamill have two children: John S., born June 17, 1902; and Alice E., born August 19, 1903. The parents are members of the Congregational church and during their residence in Sandwich they have gained many warm friends, the hospitality of the best homes of the city being freely accorded them.

JOSEPH LANAN.

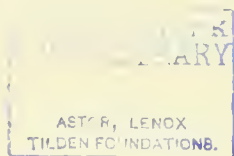
The agricultural interests of De Kalb county are well represented by Joseph Lanan, who owns a well improved farm of eighty acres on section 4, Mayfield township, and also operates one hundred and twenty acres additional. He was born in this township, February 3, 1860, a son of Henry and Mary (Gregory) Lanan, who were natives of Belgium and emigrated to America in 1833, making their way to Illinois in 1837. Here they settled on a farm in Mayfield township, De Kalb county, which township has continued to be the home of the father to the present time. He is now eighty-six years of age. The mother died in May, 1905, at the age of eighty-two years.

Joseph Lanan is the fourth in order of birth in a family of five children. He acquired his early education in the district schools of his native township. He was reared to the occupation of farming, early becoming familiar with the duties that fall to the agriculturist while assisting his father in the operation of the home place. He remained under the parental roof until he had attained his majority, when, on the 5th of July, 1881, he was united in marriage to Miss Harriet Tower, a daughter of David Tower, an early pioneer settler of Mayfield township, whose death occurred November 9, 1906. The mother, Mrs. Mary A. Tower, still survives and now makes her home in Kingston, Illinois.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Lanan was blessed with one son, Dell, who was born January 19, 1885. He was married on the 22d of Febru-



DR. JOHN C. HAMILL.



ary, 1905, to Miss Olive Townsend, of Mayfield township, and they now make their home with Mr. and Mrs. Lanan, the former assisting his father in the operation of the home farm.

Mr. Lanan has always supported the men and measures of the republican party but has never been active as an office seeker, preferring to concentrate his time and energies upon his private business affairs, in which he has made steady progress. He has always been an industrious and hardworking man, and has been satisfactorily successful.

ISAAC A. POTTER.

Isaac A. Potter, a worthy representative of farming interests in De Kalb county, living on section 17, has now passed the seventy-fifth milestone on life's journey. His has been an active, useful and honorable life, largely devoted to general agricultural pursuits, in which connection one is reminded of a statement made by George Washington nearly a century and a half ago: "Farming is the most useful as well as the most honorable occupation of man." Mr. Potter was born in Dutchess county, New York, May 7, 1831, his parents being James and Margaret (Thorne) Potter, also natives of the Empire state. In 1853 they came west to Illinois, settling in Kane county, and a few years afterward removed to Clinton township, where they spent their remaining days. In their family were the following: Silas, William, Theron, Isaac, Seneca, and Fanny.

Isaac A. Potter spent the days of his boyhood and youth in the state of his nativity. He was a young man of twenty-two years when the family came to Illinois and later returned to New York and was married in Allegany county, New York, on the 30th of May, 1855, to Miss Mary A. Robinson, who was born February 18, 1834, in that county. Her parents were Moses and Polly (Lebrett) Robinson, natives of Massachusetts who passed the later portion of their lives in the Empire state, where Mr. Robinson died April 2, 1852, and his wife on the 27th of December, 1861. In their family were eleven children: John H., Sally, Rufus, Joseph, Hubbard F., Philena, Hosea,

Harvey, Mathilda, Cordelia, and Mary, now Mrs. Potter.

Mr. and Mrs. Potter have become the parents of one daughter, Florence E., who was born July 3, 1858, and who on the 6th of February, 1884, became the wife of Henry K. Bridge, a farmer residing in Clinton township.

Mr. Potter has always followed farming and after his marriage rented land in Kane county, Illinois, where he lived for several years. Later he bought a farm in De Kalb township, in 1869, and made his home thereon for one year, after which he sold that property and returned to Kane county, settling near Aurora. For five years he cultivated a rented farm there and in 1876 bought his present farm on section 17, Clinton township. With characteristic energy he began its further development and improvement, making his home thereon for ten years, after which he removed to the city of De Kalb, where he engaged in the real-estate and loan business. Another decade was there passed, after which he returned to the old home farm, upon which he has since lived. He and his son-in-law now own three hundred and thirty acres of valuable land all lying in Clinton township. Mr. Potter is now practically living retired, though he still makes his home on the farm, leaving its supervision to others. His success is well merited for it has been honorably won through his own labors. He has been diligent and prosperous in his business life and has realized that there is no royal road to wealth. On the contrary he has placed his dependence upon the safe and substantial qualities of unabating energy and industry that never flags, and thus has become one of the prosperous agriculturists of his community.

Mr. Potter is a republican in politics, having supported the party since its organization. He has been a justice of the peace of De Kalb and Clinton townships, and his decisions have ever been strictly fair and impartial. For thirty years he has acted in that capacity and is still in office, a fact which proves his unfaltering fidelity to duty, whereby he has "won golden opinions from all sorts of people." He was also coroner of De Kalb county for four years and served for five years as president of the school board. He was appointed public administrator by Governor John R. Tanner and acted in that capacity for several firms in De Kalb county. Over his official career there falls

no shadow of wrong or suspicion of evil. On the contrary he has been most loyal to the duties that have devolved upon him and in the positions of honor and trust to which he has been called, has proved a most capable officer.

In his fraternal relations Mr. Potter is a Mason of high standing and is in thorough sympathy with the principles and purposes of the order. He is now a member of lodge No. 41, called the Salm Shell of the grand lodge of Kentucky, and while living in New York he was also an Odd Fellow. Both he and his wife are consistent and faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Waterman and are known as earnest Christian people who are always true to their professions. Having lived in this part of the state for more than a half century, they have a very wide acquaintance and are very much esteemed by all who know them. Mr. Potter, having come to Illinois in 1852, has witnessed the greater part of the growth and development of this portion of Illinois and as a citizen who upholds the legal and political status and advocates intellectual and moral progress, he has done much for his community.

WILLIAM F. ELLIOTT.

William F. Elliott, a resident farmer of Afton township, was born in Hookset, New Hampshire, November 17, 1840, his parents being Tappan R. and Elmira (Carr) Elliott. The father was a native of Thornton, New Hampshire, born November 18, 1809, and was a farmer by occupation, following that pursuit in the east until 1839, when he left New England and came to Illinois. After residing for a year in Kane county, he returned to New Hampshire, but came back west in 1855 and located on the farm in Afton township, De Kalb county, which is now the home of his son William. Between our subject's present home and corn crib, to the right, stands the original house erected by his father in 1855, it being one of the first dwellings in the township. At the time it was built there was none other nearer on the south than four miles, which was owned by Benjamin Muzzey. The shingles on the Elliott residence were made in De Kalb and were what were known in early days as shaved shingles. The

mother of our subject, who was born March 2, 1813, in Chester, New Hampshire, died October 6, 1855, and the father subsequently wedded Hannah J. (Parker) Kelley, who passed away March 3, 1896, while his death occurred on the 24th of May, 1896.

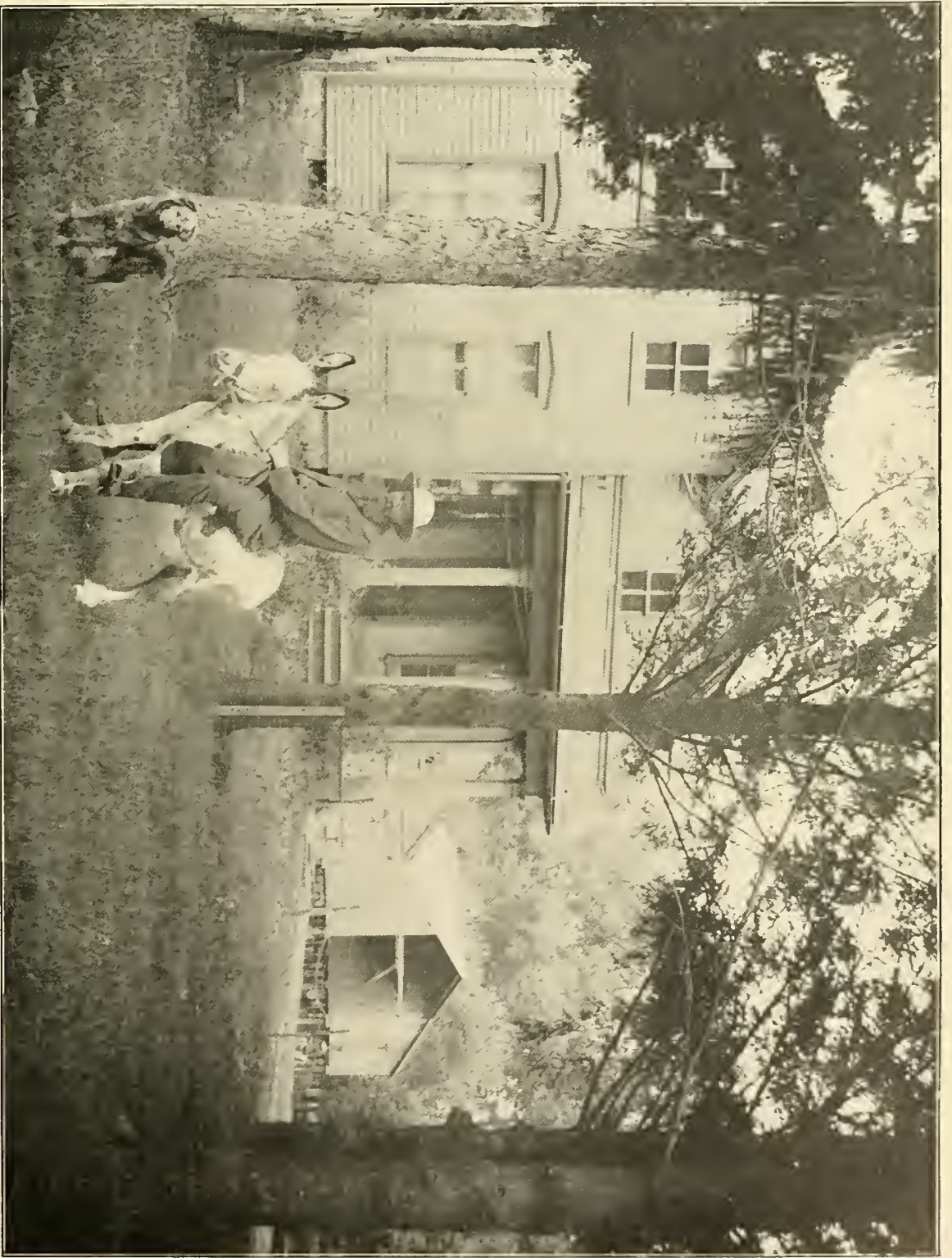
The family was represented in the Revolutionary war by Ephraim Elliott, the paternal grandfather of our subject, who enlisted in defense of the cause of liberty, and his brother who fought under General Stark and afterward settled in Oxford county, Ohio. Our subject's maternal great-grandfather, Jacob Carr, also kept step to the music of the life and drum of the patriot army for two years and two months, serving one year in Canada. He died at the age of eighty-two years and now lies buried in Oil Mill cemetery, Weare, New Hampshire.

In his boyhood days William F. Elliott obtained a common-school education and worked on the farm with his father until the latter's death. He still resides on the old homestead and has always followed agricultural pursuits. He now owns and operates eighty acres of land in Afton township and also has two hundred acres in Boone county, Arkansas. He is interested in the breeding of mule-footed hogs and his live-stock interests constitute an important element in his success. He possesses considerable inventive genius and has recently secured a patent on a bot-fly shield which will, beyond doubt, net him a handsome figure, it being the only invention of its kind on the market.

The only interruption to his farm work came in his service in defense of the Union at the time of the Civil war. On the 11th of May, 1864, he joined the boys in blue from De Kalb county, becoming a member of Company K, One Hundred and Thirty-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry, under the command of Captain C. A. Laws and Colonel Pickett. This was the first of the one hundred day regiments from Illinois to be mustered in. They were first sent to Camp Fry, Chicago, and from there to Columbus, Kentucky, where they remained for about a week, and were then ordered to Paducah, Kentucky, remaining there until their term of enlistment expired. Returning to Chicago, they later went to St. Louis, Missouri, for a short time, and were then ordered back to Chicago, where Mr. Elliott was honorably



Wm F. Elliott.



HOME OF WILLIAM F. ELLIOTT.

AST. R. FROM
TILDE FOUNDATIONS.

discharged on the 17th of October, 1864, having served his country faithfully and well.

He is an advocate of the republican party and its platform and served for two years as school director and for two terms as pathmaster. He supports the Congregational church and is a member of Merritt Simonds post, No. 283, G. A. R., of De Kalb. He has taken great interest in the work of the post and has attended the national encampments at St. Louis, Washington twice, Indianapolis, Cincinnati, Detroit, Boston, Buffalo, Philadelphia, Chicago, San Francisco, St. Paul and Minneapolis. He enjoys the warm regard of his comrades of the local camp and is classed with the worthy representative residents of the county. Here he has long resided, having for a half century lived in this part of the state so that he is familiar with the facts which find record on the pages of its history.

AUSTIN V. PIERCE.

Among the most beautiful and highly improved properties in Kingston township is the Oak Glen farm, owned by A. V. Pierce and comprising two hundred acres of valuable land on sections 12 and 13 and about two miles northwest of the city of Genoa. Mr. Pierce is a native son of Illinois, having been born in Du Page county, January 12, 1849. His father, James T. Pierce, was a native of Broome county, New York, and the grandfather, Martin Pierce, was also born in the Empire state, whence he came to Illinois in 1835 and homesteaded a claim in Du Page county when that section of the country was almost an unbroken wilderness. He brought his family and established his home on the frontier and there James T. Pierce was reared to farm life, a pursuit which he continued to follow after attaining his majority. He was married in Du Page county to Miss Sarah L. Blank, a native of Pennsylvania and a daughter of Jonas Blank, who was likewise a pioneer of Du Page county. After his marriage James Pierce established a home of his own, purchasing one hundred and sixty acres of land and from that time until his death he carried on general agricultural pursuits. Unto him and his wife were born eight children, all of whom reached years of maturity.

The father remained a resident of Du Page county and as the years passed increased his estate to four hundred and twenty acres. He died there in 1896 at the age of seventy-four years and is still survived by his widow, who is now living with a son in Elgin, Illinois, in her eighty-third year.

Austin V. Pierce was the eldest and was reared upon the home farm, acquiring his preliminary education in the common schools and afterward spending four terms as a student in the business department of Wheaton College. His education completed, he remained with his father to the time of his marriage, which was celebrated March 21, 1879, Miss Della Coon becoming his wife. Mrs. Pierce is a native of Steuben county, New York, and a daughter of William Coon, who was one of the early residents of Steuben county and a soldier of the Civil war. Mr. and Mrs. Pierce were married at her old home in the Empire state, after which he brought his bride to Du Page county, Illinois, where he engaged in farming for six years. He then removed to De Kalb county and in 1884 purchased his present farm of two hundred acres on sections 12 and 13, Kingston township. The following spring he brought his family to his new home and at once began to further develop and improve the property, which he has transformed into one of the fine farms of Kingston township. In 1893 he built a fine barn with rock basement, thirty-six by eighty feet, and twenty-four foot posts, and in 1895 he erected one of the best and most modern equipped homes of the township—a two-story structure which was built at a cost of three thousand dollars. He has also put up numerous other buildings for the shelter of grain and stock, including corn cribs and a milk house. He pays much attention to dairying and keeps from twenty-five to thirty-five milk cows, all graded Durhams. He also has a registered bull. He likewise raises Norman Percheron horses and has an interest in an imported stallion. He also raises Poland China hogs and feeds all of his grain. He is a stockholder in the De Kalb Telephone Company and is widely recognized as an enterprising business man of keen discernment, who has carefully managed his business affairs so as to win a gratifying measure of honorable success.

Mr. and Mrs. Pierce are the parents of two sons and two daughters and they also lost one son

in infancy, while their fourth child, Charles V., was killed in 1904 at the age of eighteen years by the collapse of a barn in a windstorm. Clayton Arthur married Stella Pratt, by whom he has one child, Elsie, and lives in Elgin, where he is engaged in railroad work. J. Garfield, who was born on the day that President Garfield was inaugurated, lives at home and aids in carrying on the farm work. Etha is at home; and Mabel is attending school, a member of the graduating class of the Genoa high school of 1908.

Mr. Pierce is a republican in politics, who has served for twenty years as school trustee and as highway commissioner for six years. He has, however, never been a politician in the sense of office seeking and it was only from a sense of duty that he acted in those capacities. He belongs to Genoa lodge, No. 288, A. F. & A. M., and he and his daughter Etha are members of the Order of the Eastern Star, in which she has held office. Mr. Pierce is a valued member of the Odd Fellows lodge at Genoa, in which he has passed through all the chairs and is likewise connected with the Rebekah degree. He has twice been sent as a delegate to the grand lodge and is now one of the officers of the local organization. He has been venerable consul of the Modern Woodmen camp at Genoa and he has held all the offices in the Knights of the Globe. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Genoa and he has served on the official board. He is a man of genuine personal worth, his salient characteristics being such as uniformly command respect and regard, while in business life he has made an unassailable reputation as one who is always upright as well as energetic and progressive.

E. M. DELANA.

E. M. Delana is a member of the firm of Wood & Delana, in which connection he has charge of the company's creamery interests, being at the head of the main office, which is in Cortland. The firm owns and operates three creameries in De Kalb county, the business for all, however, being transacted in the Cortland office. Through the transactions of this firm much money is annually distributed among the farmers of the surrounding

country and the enterprise is therefore a source of benefit to the district as well as of profit to the individual owners. The senior partner is living in Elgin.

Mr. Delana, however, has been a resident of Cortland since the 11th of August, 1881. He was born in St. Charles, Kane county, Illinois, July 28, 1850, and after acquiring his education in the public schools he entered a cheese factory at Wayne, Du Page county, when sixteen years of age. There he learned the business under the direction of Jackson Wood, the father of his present partner, D. E. Wood, with whom he has been associated since the 1st of April, 1879. For about eight years Mr. Delana worked as a journeyman butter and cheese maker and on the expiration of that period embarked in business on his own account. The partnership has been maintained with mutual pleasure and profit, the interests of the firm being so conducted that success has followed. Mr. Delana had worked with and for Mr. Wood for five years and they had become well acquainted, thoroughly understanding each other. There has never been any friction between them but on the contrary a most pleasant business and personal relation, and the firm is now successfully operating in their line, having three large and well established creameries in which a good business is conducted.

Mr. Delana was married on the 28th of June, 1887, to Miss Ella Keenan, who was born April 13, 1863, in Pierce township, De Kalb county, and belonged to one of the old pioneer families of this part of the state. Prior to her marriage she was a successful teacher in the public schools and is a lady of culture and refinement, enjoying in large measure the friendly regard of those with whom she has come in contact. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Delana have been born the following named: Edward K., whose birth occurred April 23, 1891; and George W., born April 9, 1893.

Although Mr. Delana had but limited educational advantages in youth he has gained a good practical business knowledge through experience, observation and contact with the world and realizing the value of education, he plans to give his sons good opportunities in that direction. He remembers in the early days the conditions which existed as evidences of pioneer life and relates many interesting reminiscences of those times with

their varied experiences, privations, hardships and pleasures. He tells of having to hold lighted shavings for his brothers to see to eat their evening meal, for the fallow was out and they had no pine knots. At times they would awaken in the morning and shake the snow off the bed covers, where it had drifted through the chinks. All such conditions have long since been obliterated, however, and today Mr. Delana is conducting an extensive and profitable business, paying out on an average of fifty thousand dollars per year to the farmers of whom he purchases supplies. In his home place he has two and a half acres of land and a beautiful suburban residence which stands in the midst of fine old shade trees. The house has been thoroughly improved according to modern ideas, has been supplied with modern plumbing and all conveniences, and he keeps a driving horse for his own pleasure. The family are members of the Catholic church in De Kalb and are well known socially in Cortland.

Mr. Delana votes with the democracy and for sixteen years has served as clerk of the Cortland school board. He is also one of the village trustees and is much interested in the community and its welfare. He does not aspire to office, however, but prefers to give his attention to his business interests and the enjoyment of the home. He is a self-made man, whose prosperity is attributable entirely to his close application and unfaltering perseverance, and in addition to his creamery interests he owns farm property in the county.

CARL L. CHENEY, M. D.

Dr. Carl L. Cheney, who in the practice of medicine at De Kalb has won that measure of success which is indicative of ability and the faithful performance of duty, was born in Mount Morris, Illinois, on the 15th of November, 1874, his parents being George S. and Ida B. (Mahoney) Cheney. His father was born in Vermont in 1847, his parents being Stephen Harding and Chloe Ann (Webb) Cheney, natives of Vermont and New Hampshire, respectively. The American family of Cheneys is descended from two brothers, Sir John and Sir William Cheney, who came to this country from England, Dr. Cheney being a descendant of

the branch of the family established by Sir John Cheney. Through his paternal grandmother he is a direct descendant of Hannah Dustin, of Revolutionary fame, and also Captain Webb, who served in the French and Indian war.

In 1859, when George S. Cheney was but two years of age, his parents came to the middle west, making the long and tedious journey over the mountains after the old time method of travel in a "prairie schooner" drawn by a mule team. They reached Ogle county, Illinois, casting in their lot with its first settlers. It was then largely a wild and unimproved district, but the grandparents determined to make their home there, which they did up to the time of their death. The grandfather was a stone-mason by trade and assisted in building the colleges at Mount Morris, also having the contract to quarry all the stone. He lived to the advanced age of eighty-two years, while his wife passed away sometime before in her seventieth year.

George S. Cheney was reared at home and after he had completed the education of the schoolroom he began learning the more difficult lessons in the school of experience. He was apprenticed to the trades of tinsmith and plumber and applied himself to the mastery of the business, in which he continued in Mount Morris until about 1890. Since that time he has been living in Freeport, Illinois. He is a staunch Methodist, which was the religious faith of his ancestors, and his life has been a most honorable and upright one. His wife was born at Lena, Illinois, about 1856 and died in 1881. Her father was a native of County Cork, Ireland, while the mother was of German birth.

Dr. Cheney of this review spent the days of his boyhood and youth in his father's home at Mount Morris, Illinois, and after mastering the elementary branches of learning taught in the public schools he became a student in Mount Morris College and in the winter of 1897 took up the study of medicine under the preceptorship of Dr. B. E. Fahrney, of Oregon. In the fall of 1898 he entered the Chicago Homeopathic Medical College, now the Hahnemann College, and was graduated therefrom on the 22d of April, 1902. In his junior year he was demonstrator in dissecting to the freshman class, and in his senior year he was vice-president of his class and quiz master in aurificial surgery. Following his graduation he located in

De Kalb, where he has since remained and his remunerative practice tells of his success as a member of the medical fraternity. He has demonstrated his ability to successfully solve many of the intricate problems which confront the physician, and in his practice he has been generally successful in obtaining the result desired—the restoration of health.

On the 25th of April, 1905, Dr Cheney was married to Miss Margaret Daven, of De Kalb, and they are prominent in social circles of the city. The Doctor belongs to De Kalb lodge, No. 155, I. O. O. F.; De Kalb lodge, No. 10, W. O. W.; De Kalb Aerie, No. 1316, F. O. E; and of the last named is senior past worthy president.

MRS. C. F. GOODELL.

Mrs. C. F. Goodell, who is living in De Kalb, was born in the state of New York, September 11, 1829. Her parents were Nathan B. and Martha (Smith) Goodell, who were also natives of that state and both were born in the year 1806. They were married in New York in 1827 and resided there until 1847, when they came to the middle west, casting in their lot with the early settlers of De Kalb county. At that time there was only one log house where the city of De Kalb now stands. This was the stamping ground for Shabbona's tribe of Indians. Every evidence of pioneer life was to be found. Over the broad prairies grew the wild grass to a great height. The streams were unbridged and only at intervals could be seen a log cabin or other habitation to indicate that the white man was planting the seed of civilization in the western wilderness. Mrs. Goodell's father aided in the arduous task of reclaiming this district for the use of the white race. He was father of a family of six children, of whom Mrs. Goodell was the oldest.

She was reared under the paternal roof and was a young lady in her nineteenth year when the family removed to Illinois, so she shared in the hardships and trials incident to a life on the frontier. On the 14th of February, 1849, she gave her hand in marriage to J. M. Goodell, they being the first white couple married in the county. Her husband was born in the state of New York,

August 3, 1823, and when a young man came to Illinois. Three children were born unto them, of whom the eldest died in infancy, while the second James M., died at the age of six years and eight months, and the daughter, Clara, passed away at the age of six years. All have been buried in Evergreen cemetery and Mrs. Goodell's sister was the first child buried in De Kalb county.

Mr. Goodell was a merchant and followed that business until his death, which occurred in 1877. He was known as a reliable, enterprising businessman, honorable in all of his dealings, and a good patronage was accorded him by reason of his business integrity, diligence and close application. He belonged to the Baptist church and Mrs. Goodell was also a member of that church at that time, but has since become identified with the Spiritualists and is a medium. She now owns a fine residence on South First street and also owns a fine residence in Clinton, Illinois. Since her husband's death she has always transacted and managed her own business interests and has displayed good business capacity and foresight. She is now far advanced on life's journey, having passed the seventy-eighth milestone, but is still a well preserved woman and deserves mention in this volume, being one of the oldest settlers of the county. Her memory forms a connecting link between the primitive past and progressive present for she can remember when the county was still a frontier district in which the work of civilization and progress had scarcely been begun. She lived here prior to the era of the railroad and few farms had been opened in the county at the time of the arrival of the family. She has lived to see many changes and can relate many interesting incidents of the pioneer life.

BENJAMIN JOHNSON.

The record today of the American citizen held in the greatest esteem is the record of a self-made man—he who works his way upward by force of character and gains success through untiring effort, at the same time following such methods as win for him an honorable name. Such has been the history of Benjamin Johnson, who is now engaged in farming and stock-raising in De Kalb



MRS C F BIDDLE

township. He was born in Sweden, December 16, 1872, and came alone to the United States in 1888, when sixteen years of age. His parents, John and Anna Johnson, were born in Sweden and are still living in that country.

On coming to the United States, Benjamin Johnson began working at farm labor and was thus employed by the month for ten years. On the expiration of that period he began farming on his own account and has been thus engaged for the past eight years. He now cultivates two hundred acres of rich and productive land on section 9, De Kalb township, from which he annually gathers rich harvests. He is also well known as a stockman and is buying and selling live stock all the time. He has made an excellent start in business for a young man and deserves much credit for what he has accomplished, as he came to the United States empty-handed, unfamiliar with the language and customs of the people, yet possessing energy and strong determination to win success if it could be accomplished by earnest, determined and honorable purpose.

Since coming to America, Mr. Johnson has made one trip back to his native country, but is thoroughly satisfied with the new world as a place of residence and has a strong love for his adopted state. He has supported the republican party since the right of franchise was conferred upon him. He belongs to the Swedish Lutheran church and a review of his business life brings to mind the statement of an eminent lecturer "That Sweden is the home of the honest man."

E. R. ZELLAR.

E. R. Zellar is a retired farmer owning one hundred and eighty acres of rich and productive land, from which he derives a very satisfactory income. He was born September 14, 1836, in Oneida county, New York. His father, Jacob Zellar, was a native of Herkimer, New York, and died when about eighty-five years of age, while his wife passed away when about seventy-four years of age. They came to the middle west in 1863, settling in De Kalb county upon a farm on section 6, De Kalb township. Mr. Zellar energetically took up the task of cultivating the land and as

the years passed met with a goodly measure of success in his work. After several years spent upon the farm he removed to the city of De Kalb, where both he and his wife spent their remaining days, Mrs. Zellar surviving her husband for about two years. In their family were five children, three of whom reached adult age. William Zellar, a brother of our subject, was killed at Resaca, Georgia, while serving his country in the Civil war, and a sister, Mrs. Zenas Oaks, is now living in De Kalb.

E. R. Zellar spent the period of his minority in the east, remaining in Jefferson county, New York, until 1857, when at the age of twenty-one years he sought a home in the middle west, locating first at Plano, Kendall county, Illinois. There he worked at the carpenter's trade until 1861, when in response to his country's call he offered his services to the government, joining Company E, Thirty-sixth Illinois Infantry under Captain Charles D. Fish and Colonel Nicholas Grensel. He served for three years and participated in the battle of Pea Ridge, March 6 and 7, 1863, Perryville, Kentucky, and Stone River, where he was taken prisoner but was soon paroled. At the battle of Mission Ridge he was wounded, a bullet passing through his right side, while his right arm was shot off. He was then discharged. He made great sacrifices for his country and the nation owes to him a debt of gratitude which can never be repaid.

Following the war Mr. Zellar removed to a farm on section 6 in De Kalb township, where he remained until 1892, carefully and systematically managing his farming interests, his excellent methods bringing to him a measure of success that now classes him with the men of affluence in his community. In 1892 he left the farm and removed to Malia, where he has since resided in the enjoyment of a well earned rest. He owns a fine residence in the village and also one hundred and eighty acres of fine land in De Kalb township.

Mr. Zellar has been married twice. He first wedded Mercy Ann Ferguson, who was born in St. Lawrence county, New York, in the year 1838 and gave her hand in marriage to Mr. Zellar on the 26th of March, 1868. There was one son born of this union—Marvin Zellar, who is now living on the old homestead farm in De Kalb township and who married Miss Delia Butler, by whom he

has one son. Mrs. Mercy Zellar passed away in De Kalb county, September 10, 1892. More than seven years later Mr. Zellar was married to Mrs. William C. Pierce, on the 15th of February, 1900. She was born in Jefferson county, New York, and came to De Kalb county after her marriage.

Mr. Zellar was in very limited financial circumstances when he cast in his lot with the citizens of Illinois, but he possessed what is better than capital—a strong purpose and determined energy. He has worked hard year after year until his labors brought to him a very desirable competence, now enabling him to live retired in the enjoyment of the comforts and some of the luxuries of life. He is, moreover, an honored veteran of the Civil war and in days of peace has been equally loyal to his country, manifesting the same spirit of fidelity which he displayed when on southern battle-fields he followed the old flag. Wherever known he is held in the highest respect and his long residence in De Kalb county has brought him into contact with many people.

EPHRAIM B. SHURTLEFF.

Ephraim B. Shurtleff, a retired business man of Sycamore, stands as one of the representative citizens who has ever upheld the legal and political status of the community and rejoiced in the development and progress of the city in which he has so long made his home. Investigation into his life record brings to light many qualities which constitute the basis for the esteem and respect so uniformly accorded him.

A native of Lowell, Massachusetts, Mr. Shurtleff was born on the 20th of April, 1835. His father, David Shurtleff, was born in Plymouth, Massachusetts, and was a descendant of Puritan ancestry, the family having been established in America in colonial days. In 1838 he removed with his family to Allegan, Michigan, and the following year came to De Kalb county, Illinois, securing a government claim in Genoa township when the work of improvement and development had scarcely been begun in the county. The usual pioneer experience fell to his lot. The land was uncleared and uncultivated and he performed the arduous task of placing it under the plow and transforming it into productive fields.

The farm machinery at that time was crude and in the homes were every evidence of pioneer life, including the tallow candle, the great open fireplace and other conditions which indicated a remoteness from the older settled districts of the east. Mr. Shurtleff was among those who aided in laying broad and deep the foundation for the present development and progress of the county. He was an earnest Christian man, holding church membership, and was a strong abolitionist, being firmly opposed to the system of slavery as it existed in the south. He married Ruth Knapp, a native of Vermont, who died at the home of her son Ephraim in Sycamore township at the age of seventy-two years. Her father, Eleazor Knapp, was a soldier of the Revolutionary war. By her marriage she became the mother of nine children, seven of whom reached adult age, but only two are now living, Albert Shurtleff residing at Genoa. One brother, G. W. Shurtleff, now deceased, was a colonel in the Civil war and afterward became a professor in Oberlin (Ohio) College. A partial history of the Shurtleff family has been recorded, dating back as early as the seventeenth century, and throughout succeeding generations the members of the family have displayed many sterling traits, including loyalty in citizenship and fidelity to principle. The line is traced back to William Shurtleff, of whom mention is made in the records of Plymouth, Massachusetts, in 1634. He was an emigrant from England and became prominent in the history of Massachusetts.

Ephraim B. Shurtleff was reared to farm life and supplemented his common-school education by study for a short period in Wheaton (Illinois) College. When twenty-four years of age he came into possession of a part of his father's farm and gave his attention to its further development and cultivation. Following his marriage he sold that property and purchased two hundred acres from his father-in-law in Sycamore township. For ten years he made his home upon this place and then removed to the city of Sycamore, where he engaged in the lumber business in connection with his father-in-law, Dr. James Harrington. After a few years he sold his interest in that enterprise and established another lumberyard on the north side, where he continued in business until two years ago, when he sold out to the North Side Lumber Company. However, he is still interested in the

business as a stockholder. He was for many years a leading lumber merchant of Sycamore and conducted a business of considerable magnitude, enjoying a very liberal patronage, which brought to him the competence that now enables him to live retired. He owns a beautiful home which he built and occupies, and also has four other residence properties in the city.

In 1863 Mr. Shurtleff was married to Miss Susan Elizabeth Harrington, a native of New York and a daughter of Dr. James Harrington, an early settler of the county. Mrs. Shurtleff died in 1883 and two of her children died in infancy. The record of those who reached adult age is as follows: Mrs. Irving Clark, whose husband is a lumber dealer of Sycamore; Mrs. M. F. Carlson and Mrs. Clarence J. Parker, both residents of Sycamore; Mrs. Mary Mason, now deceased; and Arthur R., who is city salesman for the Jewel Belting Company at Chicago.

For many years Mr. Shurtleff was a supporter of the republican party and while on the farm served his township as supervisor for one term. Since removing to the city he has been a member of the board of education and an alderman. A change in his political views has led him to give his allegiance to the prohibition party, for he is a stalwart advocate of the cause of temperance. For sixty years he has been a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal church and for many years has been chairman of its board of trustees. He has led an active, honorable and upright life and the friendship which is so freely accorded him is given in recognition of sterling traits of character such as in every land and clime awaken admiration.

WALTER LANGLOIS.

Walter Langlois is engaged in the real-estate business in Sycamore, where his well directed labors have not only proven a source of benefit to himself but have also been an element in the growth and development of the city.

He was born in Sycamore, May 18, 1865, and is indebted to the public-school system of Sycamore for the educational privileges which he enjoyed in his youth. He was graduated in the class of

1880. Eight years later he took up the study of law and was admitted to the bar in May, 1890, and although he has never practised, his knowledge of the principles of jurisprudence is of direct aid and benefit to him in his real-estate business. Since 1890 he has dealt in property, handling both city and farm real estate.

Mr. Langlois was married November 22, 1888, to Miss Dorah Combs, of De Kalb, and they have two children: Joyce, who is sixteen years of age and will graduate from the high-school with the class of 1907; and Doris, twelve years of age.

Mr. Langlois is a member of Sycamore blue lodge, chapter and commandery, and Tebala Temple of the Mystic Shrine at Rockford, Illinois, and the Modern Woodmen of America. His home is at No. 413 Somonauk street, where he has an attractive residence, and his office is located in the Pierce block. He has always lived in Sycamore, and in his native city many of his staunchest friends are those who have known him from his boyhood to the present time.

HARTLEY U. MEYERS.

Hartley U. Meyers, a well known optician of De Kalb, practicing along scientific lines, and a worthy representative of professional interests, is a native of Ionia county, Michigan, born June 22, 1869. His father, Valentine Meyers, was born in Pennsylvania, October 6, 1836, and in his boyhood days made his way westward to Michigan, settling in Barry county. Having reached adult age, he married Charlotte Kimball, who was born in the state of New York, May 25, 1840. They became the parents of five children, of whom H. U. Meyers is the third in order of birth, and all are yet living with the exception of one sister. The mother, however, died February 20, 1900, in Michigan.

Hartley U. Meyers after serving an apprenticeship at the jewelry and optical business started in business for himself at Sunfield, Michigan, where he remained for six years. He then went to Chicago, where he devoted his entire time and attention to optical work, and after six years spent in that city he came to De Kalb. He was graduated at the Detroit Optical Institute in 1896 and at the Northern Illinois College of Ophthalmology

and Itology in 1899, winning the Doctor of Optics degree. He afterward pursued a post-graduate course in the same college in 1902 and gained the degree of Bachelor of Ophthalmology. He is a charter member of the Chicago City Optical Society, a member of the Illinois State Optical Society and also of the American Association of Opticians. He is thoroughly conversant with the science in all of its departments and has done such excellent work that he is now accorded a liberal patronage. He has an excellent stock of optical goods at 207 Main street and his business is constantly growing.

Dr. Meyers was married at Sunfield, Michigan, September 12, 1893, to Miss Lillian Cary, who was born near Rochester, New York, October 25, 1871, a daughter of Nathan and Maria Cary. Her father's birth occurred in the state of New York, July 5, 1846. In his family were five children, of whom Mrs. Meyers was the eldest. By her marriage she had one child that died in infancy.

Dr. Meyers is a stalwart republican and is an Odd Fellow, belonging to De Kalb lodge, No. 155, while in Chicago he passed all of the chairs in Garfield lodge, No. 698. He and his wife live at No. 221 South Second street, where they have a large circle of warm friends. Dr. Meyers is a man of most gentlemanly demeanor, of unfaltering courtesy, and he receives from his fellowmen that respect which arises from his deference for the opinions of others, his kindness and his geniality.

EDGAR ALBURTUS SHETTER.

Edgar Alburus Shetter, the leading jeweler of De Kalb, is a business man who, though young in years, has gained a foremost place in trade circles in his adopted city. He was born near Marion, Pennsylvania, September 12, 1870. His father, Simon Cameron Shetter, was a native of Marion, Pennsylvania, born in 1815, and when he had arrived at years of maturity he wedded Susan E. Smith, whose birth occurred in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, November 29, 1844. He was a farmer by occupation and followed agricultural pursuits in the east until 1887, when he brought his family to Illinois, settling in Dixon. He is now deceased. At the time of the Civil war he es-

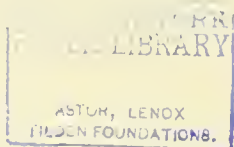
poused the Union cause as a private of Company I, Fifty-sixth Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers.

Edgar A. Shetter, the second in the family of three children, pursued his early education in the graded schools of Marion, Pennsylvania, and completed his course in the Goodyear & Palmer school at Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He was a youth of seventeen years when the family came to the middle west, and after leaving school worked at the shoe manufacturing business for twelve years. He was also employed for two years in various other ways and subsequently he came to De Kalb, where he began business for himself as a jeweler in January, 1902. Here he has since remained and has secured a very liberal patronage, having a large and growing trade. He carries a carefully selected line of goods and possesses the requisite qualities of successful merchandising, for he is sagacious and far-sighted, alert, energetic and progressive.

Mr. Shetter was married at Morrison, Illinois, on the 1st of June, 1892, to Miss Mettie N. Jackson, who was born at Green, Chenango county, New York, May 7, 1870. Her father, Jacob Stranahan Jackson, was born in Russia, Herkimer county, New York, February 8, 1832, while the mother, who in her maidenhood was Juliana T. Hall was born in Oswego county, New York, June 20, 1810. They came to Illinois in August, 1872, settling in Whiteside county, Illinois, where the father followed the occupation of farming. He is now deceased, but the mother is still living. They were the parents of seven children, of whom Mrs. Shetter was the fifth. She acquired her education in the common schools of Whiteside county and completed her course at Fulton College, Illinois. She is eligible to membership in the Daughters of the American Revolution, being a great-great-granddaughter of Theophilus Jackson, who was a member of the committee of safety for Kings county, New York, during the war for independence. Her great-grandmother, Freeloove (Foote) Jackson, was a daughter of Ephraim and Lydia (Cushman) Foote, and the latter has her signature in the rooms of the Mayflower Society at Boston, being descended from the Cushman who married Mary Allerton, one of the Mayflower's unmarried women. Mrs. Shetter's grandmother, Anna (Brown) Jackson, was born in Berkshire county, Massachusetts, May 29, 1791, and was a



E. A. SHETTER.



daughter of William Brown, the fifth in descent from Chad Brown, who came to this country in 1638 and became Roger Williams' right hand man in settling Providence, Rhode Island. He was from the same county in England that was the home of Bunyan and was the first Baptist minister in this country.

Mr. Shetter exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party. He belongs to the Elks lodge, No. 765, and also to the First Baptist church—relationships which indicate much of his character and show the kindly purpose and high ideals which have actuated his life. Viewed from a business standpoint his career is successful, as he is now accounted the leading jeweler of De Kalb. As the years have passed his possessions have increased and he now owns a large stock of goods at No. 214 East Main street and also a nice residence at No. 657 Haish avenue. He is assisted in the conduct of his store by his wife and they are most estimable people, who have a large circle of friends who esteem them because of their many sterling qualities.

CHARLES M. JOHNSON.

Charles M. Johnson, a thrifty and enterprising farmer, owns and cultivates one hundred and ninety-three and one-third acres of land on sections 3 and 10, Afton township. He was born May 1, 1872, in Afton township, his parents being John and Mary (Anderson) Johnson. No event of especial importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for him in his boyhood days. At the usual age he entered the public schools and is indebted to the school system of the county for the educational privileges he enjoyed. Under his father's direction he early became familiar with the labors of plowing, planting and harvesting and the occupation to which he was reared he has made his life work. He now owns and operates one hundred and ninety-three and one-third acres of land on sections 3 and 10 and is classed with the most progressive farmers of Afton township. He is an extensive stock breeder, keeping on hand high grades of stock, and everything about his place is indicative of the careful and practical supervision of the owner.

On the 9th of April, 1901, Mr. Johnson was united in marriage to Mrs. Johanna (Lofgren) Johnson, the widow of his brother, Fred Johnson. She was born in Sweden, October 12, 1878, and came to America with her parents the following year. Her father was born in 1853 and in 1874 he wedded Miss Christine Stevenson, a native of Sweden. They became the parents of three children, of whom Mrs. Johnson is the eldest, the others being Minnie and Ernest Lofgren. On crossing the Atlantic to the new world with his family the father settled first in Chicago and there remained for two years, working at the blacksmith's trade, which he had learned in his native country. He then removed to Aurora, Illinois, where he followed his chosen occupation during the period of five years. On the expiration of that period he resolved to turn his attention to general agricultural pursuits and then bought a farm in Kane county, Illinois, upon which he has since lived. Mrs. Johnson spent her early girlhood days in her father's home and afterward became the wife of Fred Johnson. By that marriage she had one son, E. Revere, who was born May 5, 1898, and is still with his mother. By the second marriage there are two children: Carl Milton, born March 10, 1902; and Helen Margaret, July 27, 1904.

Mr. Johnson exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party. He has held the office of school director for four years. He and his wife are members of the Swedish Lutheran church and are interested in the moral, intellectual and material progress of the community. His entire life has been spent in the township where he yet resides and the fact that many of his warmest friends are those who have known him from his boyhood days to the present time is indicative of the fact that his has been an honorable and upright life.

IRA C. CONVERSE.

Ira C. Converse, who has been active and prominent in community interests and who until a recent date, was connected with the business life of Sandwich as a druggist, was born in Henderson county, Illinois, August 26, 1867, his parents be-

ing Isaac C. and Frances A. (Penny) Converse. In 1874, when a lad of about seven years, Ira C. Converse was brought by his parents to Sandwich, where his father carried on merchandising. He completed his education in the high school of this city and was employed as a salesman in different stores here. He then entered the drug store of Dr. Charles Winne, in whose service he remained as a salesman for sixteen years. In 1903 he purchased the business, which he conducted with success for two years, when on account of illness he sold out to a partner in 1905. He had so long been a factor in the conduct of the store that his name was inseparably associated with the business and when he succeeded to the ownership there was granted him a continuance of the patronage which had been accorded his predecessor. He now has farming interests in Kansas, from which he derives a good income. He was also one of the organizers and is the treasurer of the Sandwich Mutual Fire Insurance Company, carrying risks amounting to one hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

On the 10th of October, 1886, Mr. Converse was united in marriage to Miss Nina D. Winne, a daughter of Dr. Charles and Rachel E. (Misner) Winne. They have one child, Rachel E., born February 4, 1895. The parents are members of the Presbyterian church and Mr. Converse was for seven years superintendent of the Sunday school, after which he resigned. He has always taken an active part in the work of the church and his efforts have been an element in its growth. He likewise belongs to the Odd Fellows and Masonic societies, and he gives his political allegiance to the republican party. He served as alderman of the city and was chairman of the board of health during the smallpox epidemic of 1891-5, at which time he did good work for public health and sanitation.

ELBERT P. DEAN.

Elbert P. Dean, who for some years has conducted a meat market at Waterman, was born at Shabbona Grove, Illinois, in 1869. His father, Erastus Dean, a native of Putnam county, New York, is now living at Waterman in his seventy-sixth year. He came to Illinois in 1846, locating

first at Big Rock, Kane county, where he followed the occupation of farming. There he continued for a short time, after which he removed to Afton township, where he purchased land from the original owner. Later he took up his abode at Shabbona Grove, where for five years he was engaged in the butchering business, and in 1873 he removed with his family to Waterman, where he established a meat market which he conducted until 1901, when he retired and was succeeded by his son Elbert. He was a successful business man, the careful conduct of his interests bringing to him a comfortable competence. He is still the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of good farm land in Afton township and two stores and several dwellings in Waterman. His fraternal relations include only the Masonic order, while his political views are in accord with the principles of democracy. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Charlotte L. Pearl, was born in Owego, New York, sixty-six years ago. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and is a daughter of Orson and Betsy (Brainard) Pearl, who came to De Kalb county in an early day, settling in Afton township. Mr. and Mrs. Dean became the parents of eleven children, of whom eight have reached years of maturity: Charles O., who is now a butcher of Hinckley; William E., a druggist of Waterman; Elbert P.; Cornelius C. D., who conducts a drug store at Somonauk; Jennie A., the wife of John Clarke, manager for the Pogue Lumber Company at Hinckley; Helen L., the wife of Edward H. Price, who resides on the old Dean homestead farm; John W., a dealer in meat at Sandwich, Illinois; and Frederick J., who is proprietor of a drug store at Rockford, this state.

Elbert P. Dean was a student in the public schools of Waterman and after completing his education went into the butcher shop when eleven years of age. He has since continued in this line and became his father's successor, conducting a well appointed meat market, in which he has a liberal and very desirable patronage.

On the 7th of May, 1890, Mr. Dean was married to Ardelia Whitford, who was born in Clinton township, October 16, 1868, a daughter of Myron and Phoebe Whitford, who came from Vermont to Illinois at an early period in the development of this part of the state and settled on a farm. Mr. and Mrs. Dean have three daughters: Mabel A.,

Maude A. and Jessie P. Mrs. Dean is a member of the Baptist church, while Mr. Dean belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church. His membership relations also include the Modern Woodmen camp. He votes with the republican party, has served as township collector and village clerk and is now school director. He is much interested in community affairs and his aid and co-operation can always be counted upon to further any movement for the general good. Almost his entire life has been passed in Waterman and few residents of the village have more warm friends.

A. J. PETERSON.

A. J. Peterson is a self-made man, owing his success entirely to his own industry and well directed efforts. He is a native of Sweden, born July 9, 1853, a son of John H. and Johanna (Carlson) Peterson, likewise natives of the same country, the former born November 11, 1825, and the latter, February 9, 1825. The father was employed in a factory in Sweden until 1869, in which year he purchased a farm whereon he made his home until the time of his death, which occurred in 1876. The mother died in 1900. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Peterson numbered six children: Gust H., who was born December 23, 1854, and now makes his home in Rockford, Illinois; Carl O., who was born September 29, 1856, and still lives in Sweden; Edward W., who was born September 29, 1859, and is now a resident of Chicago; Antone H., who was born April 9, 1862, and also resides in that city; Anna C., who was born February 5, 1866, and is now the wife of Louis Johnson, a resident of Fairfield, Minnesota.

A. J. Peterson, the other member of the father's family, pursued his early education in the schools of his native country and when a youth of fifteen years emigrated to the new world. Upon landing on American shores he at once made his way to Chicago, where he was employed for one year, subsequent to which time he went to Kane county, Illinois, where he was employed at farm labor for ten years. During his residence in Kane county he completed his education. In 1878 he removed to Iowa, where he purchased a farm which he cultivated for one summer, after which he returned

to Kane county. On March 6, 1880, he was married in New Windsor, Mercer county, Illinois, to Miss Alice S. Carlson, who was likewise born in Sweden, her natal day being December 2, 1853. She was a daughter of Carl and Christina (Nelson) Carlson. Her mother died in that country at the age of fifty-one years, after which the father was again married, his second union being with a Miss Sara Johnson, and he still makes his home in Sweden. Mrs. Peterson is one of a family of four sons and two daughters, namely: John William; Alice S., now Mrs. Peterson; Alexander; August, deceased; Carl Otto; and Tillia L. Of this number two brothers are now residents of Chicago, while the third makes his home in Redlands, California. Tillia L. is now the wife of Alfred Lekander, a railroad engineer making his home in West Chicago, Illinois.

Following his marriage Mr. Peterson remained in Chicago for nine years and in the spring of 1889 he removed to De Kalb county, where he purchased a farm of eighty acres in Malta township situated on section 35, and here he has made his home to the present time, giving his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits. He has displayed the salient characteristics so dominant in the Swedish race—thrift and industry—and through his well directed labors has accumulated a fine property which returns to him a good annual income as a reward for the care and labor which he exercises in the cultivation of his fields.

Unto our subject and his wife have been born four children but only two are now living, these being John Edward, who was born June 8, 1883; and Herbert H., who was born January 20, 1889. They lost their eldest child, a daughter, Ida May, who was born June 14, 1881, and who died in infancy, while the youngest, Carl A. D., who was born January 10, 1895, died at the age of nineteen months. Mr. Peterson has always supported the principles of the republican party and is now serving as highway commissioner, while for nine years he filled the office of school director, taking an active and helpful interest in educational affairs. He also served as pathmaster for two years. Both he and his wife are members of the Lutheran church at De Kalb, in the work of which they take an active part. In his dealings with his fellowmen Mr. Peterson has adhered strictly to high and manly principles, being never known to

take advantage of another in any trade transaction. He has ever displayed a most loyal and progressive spirit and is interested in the development and progress of his adopted country. He is everywhere known for his honest and reliable methods and has thereby won the high esteem of all with whom he has been associated.

HENRY P. GROUT.

For many years this gentleman was one of the highly esteemed citizens of De Kalb county and was an honored veteran of the Civil war. He was born in Windsor county, Vermont, on the 16th of July, 1836, and was a son of John and Polly (McAllister) Grout, who spent their entire lives in that country. The grandmother figures in the history of Vermont as an Indian captive but her early release was secured. She was a representative of a pioneer family of Windsor county, her father having settled there at an early day. John Grout became quite prominent in public affairs and was given a large grant of land in New Hampshire in consequence of his service in the war of 1812. He died in 1857, at the age of sixty years, and his wife passed away in 1855. They were the parents of nine children.

Leaving his native state Henry P. Grout came to Illinois in early life. In 1860 he joined a party of gold hunters and went to Pike's Peak, where he remained for eighteen months. He afterward returned to De Kalb county without having accumulated wealth to any extent and then determined to enter the Union army for the Civil war was then in progress. Accordingly he enlisted in September, 1861, as a member of Company C, Fifty-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry and went to the front under Captain J. S. Brown, of Sycamore. The regiment was assigned to the Western Army and he continued to experience all the rigors and hardships of military life until the battle of Shiloh, where he sustained a gun-shot wound, the bullet entering the stomach. Twenty-one days later the lead was dislodged and passed through the intestines. This was one of the most remarkable incidents in the surgical history of the war and in fact is the only one of the kind on record. Because of his disabilities Mr. Grout was dis-

charged at Chicago, July 21, 1862, and then returned to his home in Sycamore.

For a time he was engaged in farm work by the month but after his marriage he operated rented land for two years and then purchased eighty acres, to which he afterward added another eighty acres tract, making one hundred and sixty acres, where he made his home until 1881. He then removed to Kirkland, Illinois, and turned his attention to the agricultural implement business, which he followed until 1898, when he retired from active business and with his family made a trip to the Pacific coast.

On the 19th of March, 1863, Mr. Grout was united in marriage to Mrs. Mary Ann (Rowan) Foster, who was born in Genesee county, New York, January 12, 1835, and in 1842 accompanied her parents on their removal to Michigan, the journey being made by team. Later they proceeded to Wisconsin, where they spent the winter of 1842-3 and then came to Illinois, locating in De Kalb county. Here Miss Rowan first married Thomas Foster, by whom she had three children, namely: Wallace F., who lives in Sherburne, Minnesota; Betsey, the wife of Willis Witter, a resident of Iowa; and Joseph W., who makes his home at Leaf River, Illinois. The only child born to Mr. and Mrs. Grout is Harriet A., now the wife of Russell T. Smith, whose sketch appears on another page of this volume.

The name of Rowan has been variously spelled by different members of the family, some times Rowin and Rowen. William H. Rowan, the father of Mrs. Grout, was one of the honored pioneers of this county and in Franklin township he entered a tract of government land, on which he erected a log house of two rooms. Here the family lived in true pioneer style while the land was being developed and transformed into a good farm. After a useful and well spent life Mr. Rowan died on the 4th of April, 1880, in his eighty-first year, and his wife passed away in 1860, at the age of fifty-four. They were the parents of nine children, namely: Stephen, who died in Kirkland, Illinois; James, who was living in Nebraska at the time of his death; Boyd, who died in Kirkland; Warren, who died in Belvidere, Illinois; Theron, now living retired in Kirkland; John, a resident of Colorado; Mary Ann, widow of our



H P Grant



subject; Gurden, a resident of Genoa, Illinois; and Perry, who was killed at the battle of Murfreesboro. Being shot through the hips he was taken to a log cabin then being used as a hospital on the field of battle and was there killed by a hursting shell, a piece of which entered his lungs.

Mr. Grout owned considerable property in Kirkland and laid out an addition to the town, known as Rowan's and Grout's addition. He was a man of good business ability and sound judgment and owed his success in life to his own industry and enterprise. He held the office of township treasurer and was a man highly respected and esteemed by all who knew him. He never fully recovered from the wound received during the war, which caused him great suffering in later years, but death finally released him on the 15th of January, 1904. Fraternally he was an honored member of the Grand Army post at De Kalb. Mr. Grout is survived by his widow, who has made her home in this county since a little girl and has watched with interest the growth and development of this section of the state. Although now seventy-two years of age she is well preserved and very active, now making her home with her daughter, Mrs. R. T. Smith, in De Kalb.

W. FREDERICK BLACK.

W. Frederick Black, who operates seven hundred acres of land and is extensively engaged in the dairy business, is the youngest son of John and Elizabeth (Cochran) Black. His father was born April 23, 1833, in Londonderry, Ireland, and was descended from Scotch-Irish ancestry. He was the eldest of a family of eleven children, three of whom are still living. When he was two years of age his parents crossed the Atlantic to Canada, leaving him with an uncle in Ireland, and in 1845, when a youth of twelve years, he came to the United States, locating at Youngstown, Ohio, where he lived for five years. He afterward went to Lowell, Ohio, where he remained for two years, and during that period he learned the miller's trade. On leaving Lowell he returned on a visit to his native country, where he spent three months in renewing the acquaintances of his youth and in looking up the scenes amid which his boyhood days

were passed. When he again came to the new world he made his way to Chicago, where he worked at the miller's trade until 1858. That year witnessed his arrival in Sycamore, Illinois, and he soon secured employment in the old grist mill owned by A. S. Cox.

John Black was married in 1859, at Poland, Ohio, to Miss Margaret F. Anderson, who resided in a home adjoining that of President McKinley, with whom she was well acquainted. After the wedding festivities were over the young couple came to Sycamore and located on South California street, living in the same locality for forty-four consecutive years, or until the death of Mr. Black, which occurred on the 7th of October, 1903. Mrs. Black still survives her husband and yet occupies the old homestead. About 1859 Mr. Black purchased a third interest in the mill in which he had been employed, and in 1863 he formed a partnership with his brother, W. C. Black, and Ralph Wyman, for the conduct of a milling enterprise. After a brief period, however, Mr. Wyman disposed of his interest and through the succeeding twenty years business was conducted under the firm name of Black Brothers. In 1882 John Black purchased his partner's interest, becoming sole owner of the mill which he had conducted until 1885, when he admitted his eldest son, Charles A., to a partnership, the firm name of Black & Son being then assumed and so continuing until the father retired in 1892, selling the mill to A. C. Dunlap. At the time of his death Mr. Black was financially interested in the Marsh Harvester Company and the R. Ellwood Manufacturing Company, of Sycamore, also of the Chicago Insulated Wire Company, of Chicago. He likewise owned seven hundred acres of land in Mayfield township, and his business interests were thus extensive and valuable. He was a man of keen business insight and his ready adaptability of the conditions to possibilities was one of the strong elements in his successful career. He was also prominent and influential in public affairs and he represented the fourth ward of Sycamore as alderman for two terms, in 1883 and again in 1896. Both he and his wife were members of the Congregational church, of Sycamore, in which Mr. Black served as a trustee for twenty-seven years, and his life was in harmony with his religious professions. Although he won success his path was not strewn with the wreck of other men's for-

tunes, but on the contrary was marked by all that is honorable and upright in man's relations with his fellowmen. He is survived by a daughter and two sons, namely: Mrs. Cora E. Slade, whose husband is the junior member of the firm of Worthington & Slade, druggists of Rockford, Illinois; Charles Albert, who is expert miller for the Sperry Milling Company, at Oakland, California; and W. Frederick, of this review.

At the old homestead on South California street, Sycamore, W. Frederick Black was born June 6, 1873. At the usual age he became a pupil in the Sycamore schools and passed through successive grades until he had largely mastered the course of instruction furnished in his native city. He afterward pursued a commercial course in Rockford, Illinois, and when his education was completed he spent two years working with his father in the mills. On the expiration of that period he went to Chicago, where he was bookkeeper for F. H. Lewis & Company for eighteen months, and for six months he was with Phelps, Dodge & Palmer, of Chicago. Later he was with the Libby Glass Company on the Midway Plaisance at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago for six months, and subsequently went to Cherryvale, Kansas, where for a year and a half he worked for his brother in the mill. In 1895, however, he returned to Sycamore and bought the farm on which he now resides. He owns two hundred and eighty acres of land on sections 35 and 36, Mayfield township, and section 31, Sycamore township, and he operates altogether seven hundred acres of rich and productive land, which responds readily to the care and cultivation he bestows upon it, bringing him large crops annually. In the midst of his farm stands one of the most conveniently arranged and attractive country homes in De Kalb county. This was erected in 1900, and in 1901 he built a large barn. His place is known as Pleasant View—a name most appropriate. Mr. Black is also the foremost dairyman of the country, carrying on business along that line on a more extensive scale than any other representative of the dairy business in this locality, he having on hand at the present time sixty cows.

On the 21st of December, 1900, Mr. Black was united in marriage, in Beatrice, Nebraska, to Miss Pearl M. Cotton, who was engaged in teaching

school in that place and who is a daughter of J. M. and Margaret (Remington) Cotton, who for some years resided in De Kalb county, but removed to Nebraska in the early days. Mr. and Mrs. Black have three children: Margaret E., born December, 14, 1901; John R., who was born July 25, 1903, and died December 14, 1904; and Faye Evalyn, born June 3, 1906. The parents are members of the Congregational church and are prominent socially, being highly esteemed by many friends. Mr. Black exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party. He is a well known representative of farming and kindred interests in De Kalb county and displays excellent business ability and executive force in the management of his interests.

AUGUST ZIEGLER.

Upon the farm in Pierce township where he yet lives, August Ziegler was born on the 8th of May, 1863. His parents were Christian and Stapina (Klemm) Ziegler, the former born in Weidenberg, Germany, February 18, 1825, while the mother's birth occurred in the same country on the 1st of April, 1823. In 1845 Christian Ziegler landed in America and for three years lived in New York. He helped to build the steamboat Washington, which was the first steamer that ever crossed the Atlantic ocean. Removing westward from New York he made his home in Chicago for about four years and there assisted in constructing the first wagons that made the overland trip to California. Mr. Ziegler of this review, now has in his possession one of the strap irons that his father made for one of those wagons, and he also has a number of his father's blacksmith tools. Later the family came to De Kalb county and located on the farm in Pierce township which is now the home of August Ziegler. For many years thereafter the father carried on general agricultural pursuits but his life's labors were ended in death on the 7th of February, 1903. His widow still survives and is now living in Hinckley with her daughter.

No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for August Ziegler in boyhood and youth. He was trained to the work of the field and through the winter months attended the district schools, acquiring thereby a fair

English education. Having arrived at years of maturity he was married to Miss Margaret Hiner, on the 6th of March, 1891. She was born April 10, 1876, her parents being Louis and Mary (Buck) Hiner, the former born in Germany, January 1, 1830, and the latter born in the same country in 1845. Mr. Hiner came to the United States in 1857 and his death occurred in this country, September 21, 1899. His daughter, Mrs. Ziegler, was reared in Cortland township and pursued her education in the district schools there. By her marriage she became the mother of two daughters: Pearl, born December 17, 1892; and Alice, born October 20, 1894.

The parents are members of the German Lutheran church and Mr. Ziegler gives his political allegiance to the democracy. In his business life he is successfully carrying on general farming and also raises good grades of stock. He is classed with the industrious farmers of the township and in the conduct of his place, shows careful management and keen discrimination.

HON. AUGUSTUS ADAMS.

This is the age of invention and America is pre-eminent among the nations of the world for her production of useful mechanical devices, having given to the public inventions which have revolutionized trade and largely promoted the volume of business transacted. In all parts of the United States have been found those who have contributed to this result and among the well known inventors of Illinois was Hon. Augustus Adams, of Sandwich, who passed away in 1892 after a long life of usefulness and honor. At Elgin, Illinois, he established the first machine shop west of Chicago.

He was born at Genoa, New York, May 10, 1806, a son of Samuel Adams, who died when Augustus was but eleven years of age, leaving to the boy only the heritage of a good name. After a few years, in which he acquired such education as was possible while earning his own living, Augustus Adams concentrated his energies upon the work of invention and manufacture. He early noted the crudities of farm implements and the opportunity for improvement along these lines. As early as 1829 he opened a small machine shop at

Pine Valley, New York, which he conducted with a measure of success until 1837, when he came to the middle west. In 1838 he located at Elgin, where his family joined him in 1840. There he established a machine shop in connection with James T. Gifford and soon found himself at the head of a good shop and foundry, controlling a growing and profitable business. He continued his work of experiment and invention and made the first harvester with which grain was collected and bound. In connection with Philo Sylla he invented the hinge sickle bar, which is now used on all mowing machines. Soon afterward he entered upon the manufacture of the Adams corn sheller, now used in all countries where corn is grown in any quantity. In 1856 he came to Sandwich and began the manufacture of self-feeding corn shellers on a small scale. The business developed rapidly, but in 1861 the plant was destroyed by fire. With his usual energy, determination and force, Mr. Adams at once began rebuilding on a larger scale than before and resumed business under the firm style of A. Adams & Sons. In 1867 a corporation was formed and from this time forward the business prospered until the company became the owners of one of the best plants in the manufacturing world. In fact, the industry has been the chief source of the growth and commercial development of Sandwich, furnishing employment to a large force of workmen and thus providing for many families.

On the 31st of October, 1833, Mr. Adams was united in marriage to Miss Lydia A. Phelps, who died December 14, 1867. At a later date he wedded Mrs. L. M. Mosher. He was a member of the Congregational church and its interests received his endorsement and co-operation. In 1847 he was elected to the constitutional convention as a delegate from Elgin and in 1850 was chosen to represent his district in the house of representatives, while in 1854 he was elected to the state senate. He was also appointed on the committee to locate the insane asylum in northern Illinois. He was a man of broad mind, who carefully studied the interests and problems of the state, and thus in his legislative service he rendered effective aid in framing the laws of the commonwealth, proving an active working member on the floor of the house and senate, closely concerned with much important constructive legislation, the value of which has

been proven as the years have gone by. He was indeed a man of broad intelligence and genuine public spirit. Strong in his individuality, he never lacked the courage of his convictions and there were as dominating elements in this individuality a lively human sympathy and an abiding charity which, as taken in connection with the sterling integrity and honor of his character, naturally gained for him the respect and confidence of men.

J. W. WARD.

For many years J. W. Ward carried on agricultural pursuits and as time passed his labors brought to him goodly financial returns, so that he was enabled in his last years to live retired without further recourse to business. His birth occurred in West Rutland, Vermont, November 6, 1829, his parents being Luke and Fanny (Watkins) Ward. The father was born in West Rutland, Vermont, February 11, 1795. He first learned the cooper's trade but afterward turned his attention to farming and spent his entire life in the state of Vermont. He died in 1876. His wife was born in West Rutland, Vermont, May 26, 1804, and died at that place in 1888. In the family were four sons and one daughter: Charles E., George H., J. W., Henry M., and Fanny E., all now deceased.

J. W. Ward acquired a good common-school education in the West Rutland schools and afterward engaged in teaching in Vermont, devoting the winter months to that profession, while in the summer seasons he followed farming. He came to the middle west in 1854, spending the winter in Joliet, Illinois, and in the spring of 1855, he came to Afton township, De Kalb county. Here he engaged in teaching school for a year, after which he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land just east of Carlton station, where he followed farming for nine years. He then bought one hundred and fifty-three acres on section 21, Afton township, which property he owned up to the time of his death. He brought his fields under a high state of cultivation and continued to engage actively in farming until 1894, when he erected a pleasant residence in Elva. Here he lived retired until

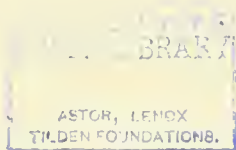
called to his final rest on the 21st of February, 1907, at the age of seventy-seven years. In 1892 he fell from a train and received a permanent injury, which resulted in paralysis of the right side, from which he never recovered.

On the 30th of September, 1850, Mr. Ward was married to Susan Ward, who was born in Highgate, Franklin county, Vermont, October 31, 1828. They became the parents of two daughters and two sons: Lucy E., born December 25, 1852, married John L. Rice, and to them were born five children, as follows: Max Warner is deceased. Ralph Ward, who served in the regular army during the Spanish-American war and is now in the postoffice department at Columbus, Ohio, married Leone Randolph and has one son, Lyman Alden. Susan Elizabeth married Arthur Wing and has one son, Arthur Ralph. Pierce Alden married Ella Olson and has one daughter, Helen Eveline. Rex Lyman is the youngest of the Rice family. Fanny A. Ward, born April 25, 1856, is the wife of Nathaniel H. Givens, a farmer of Afton township, and they have six children: Warren and Warner, twins; George Sanford; Susan Beryl. Ira and Ellsworth. George Luke Ward, born April 4, 1859, is now engaged in farming in South Dakota. He married Linnie Adams, of that state, and they have three children: Rollin W., Harold and Edith. Rollin W. Ward, born November 24, 1863, is unmarried and is engaged in farming in the state of Washington.

Mr. Ward was always an earnest republican with firm faith in the principles of the party. He served his township as school trustee for twelve years and was also township school treasurer, which position he filled for twenty-six years. He was likewise a justice of the peace for nine years, commissioner of highways for nine years and for five years was overseer of highways. He worked for good roads and in fact was a factor in public progress in always doing whatever he could, in an official capacity and as a loyal citizen, for the growth and welfare of the township and county. He and his wife were members of the Union church at Afton Center, but in former years belonged to the Congregational church. Mrs. Ward is the only resident of Afton township who was living within its borders before the township organization was effected, and she and her husband



MR. AND MRS. J. W. WARD.



indeed deserve mention as worthy pioneer people. When they came to this county much of the land was still wild and uncultivated. The prairie was covered with its tall native grasses and the streams were bordered by forest growths. Few roads had been laid out and the work of improvement and development had scarcely been begun. They watched the building of the railroads and the introduction of the telegraph and telephone and, within the memory of Mr. Ward, there was a most remarkable revolution in the methods of farming. In early days most of the labor was done by hand; today it is nearly all done by farm machinery. The little cabin homes have been largely replaced by substantial modern frame residences and the county today bears little resemblance to the district into which he made his way in the spring of 1855, to become a permanent settler. His memory formed a connecting link between the primitive past and the progressive present and few men were better informed concerning the history of the county.

SEPTIMUS STOREY.

More than half a century has come and gone, bringing its many changes since Septimus Storey became a resident of De Kalb county and for a long period he was closely, actively and honorably associated with agricultural interests, but is now enjoying a well earned rest in a pleasant home in Shabbona, having retired from business life in 1894. He first opened his eyes to the light of day in Harthill, Yorkshire, England, February 10, 1829, a son of Barnabas and Sarah (Widdeson), Storey, the former a native of Yorkshire and the latter of Derbyshire, England, in which country they spent their entire lives. For several generations the male members of the family engaged in the business of making nails, and that occupation claimed the attention of Septimus Storey during a portion of his youth. He devoted such time as he could, however, to the mastery of an education, but his opportunities in that direction were limited.

When twenty-one years of age Septimus Storey left his native land and with Joseph Billam and William Cutts, young men, came to the United

States in 1850, sailing from Liverpool and arriving at New York after a voyage of twenty-four days, during which time they encountered some very severe weather. Mr. Storey proceeded up the Hudson to Albany, thence by rail to Buffalo and around the lakes to Chicago, whence he went to Kendall county, Illinois, where he joined some English friends. For a year he was employed at farm labor for ten dollars a month, and thus made a start in business in the new world. The next year he rented land in Big Grove township, Kendall county, and after harvesting one crop he came to De Kalb county, in the fall of 1851, and made investment in forty acres of land. With three of his friends he owned one hundred and sixty acres and they worked together to improve the tract, so continuing for two years. Mr. Storey then bought the share of William Cutts on section 17, to which he removed, erecting there a small frame house, in which he lived while developing his farm. He later bought eighty acres adjoining, which he improved to some extent, and in due time added many substantial improvements. As his financial resources increased he added to his possessions and at one time was the owner of over eight hundred acres of land. He has since divided this with his sons, and has sold some of it to them, but is still the owner of three hundred and twenty acres. He not only engaged extensively and successfully in the tilling of the soil, but also in the breeding, raising and sale of cattle and Poland China hogs, and this branch of his business proved profitable. In fact, he carried forward to successful completion whatever he undertook, and as the years passed advanced from a humble financial position to one of affluence.

On the 23d of December, 1856, Mr. Storey was united in marriage to Miss Mary Mullen, a native of Derbyshire, England, who when thirteen years of age came to the United States with her parents, Robert and Sarah (Uyllett) Mullen, early residents of Shabbona township, De Kalb county. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Storey were born five sons and two daughters: John L., Charles E. and William H., who are resident farmers of Shabbona township; George T., who is engaged in merchandising in Shabbona; De Forrest L., who also follows farming; Sarah E., who is the wife of Harvey Green, a farmer of Scranton township, Greene county, Iowa; and Lilly M., who married Dr. Wil-

son, of Iowa. They also lost two children, Robert M. and Anna M., both of whom died when about three years of age.

Mr. Storey has done active public service as an office holder, and over his record there falls no shadow of wrong or suspicion of fraud. In 1869 he cast his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln and has since supported the republican party. For sixteen years he has been a member of the school board, for three years was road commissioner, and for five years was supervisor. While a member of the county board he served on the personal property committee and was chairman of the committee on highways and printing. Since taking up his abode in Shabbona he has been on the board of village trustees. He frequently attends the conventions of his party as delegate and is one of its stalwart advocates. Both he and his wife hold membership in the West Shabbona Methodist Episcopal church, of which he has been a member for about fifty years and in which he has been an office holder. Mr. Storey has now passed the seventy-eighth milestone on life's journey, and in the review of his history we find many elements worthy of commendation and emulation. His life record has indeed been an honorable one and those who know him esteem him for the possession of many sterling traits of character.

CHARLES A. ANDERSON.

Charles A. Anderson, the leading hardware merchant of De Kalb, is a self-made man, whose advancement from a humble financial position to one of affluence has been characterized by an unfaltering devotion to all those principles of business which work for an honorable, upright career. He has been active and diligent, carefully utilizing the means at hand and improving his opportunities to the best advantage.

Born in Sweden on the 21st of August, 1861, he is a son of Andrew G. Anderson, who is mentioned on another page of this work in connection with the sketch of Frank G. Anderson. In the country of his nativity Charles A. Anderson was reared and acquired his education in the public schools. He was the pathfinder for the family in the United States, having resided in America for

a year before the others of the family came to the new world. In fact it was his letters to his parents and brothers and sisters that determined them to leave the mother country and found a home in the United States.

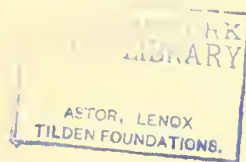
Upon arriving in De Kalb county Charles A. Anderson secured work on a farm and was thus employed for two seasons. He then spent a portion of a year in the wire mill of Jacob Haish, and in March, 1883, accepted a position in the hardware store of H. B. Taylor of De Kalb. The same year Mr. Taylor sold out to the De Kalb Hardware Company and a few months later the business was again transferred to J. M. Rodman & Brothers. Mr. Anderson remained in the store with the new firm and later Mr. Rodman purchased his brothers' interest, and in 1894 Mr. Anderson became a partner in the store under the firm style of J. M. Rodman & Company. In 1900 he became an equal partner in the business and the style of the firm was then changed to Rodman & Anderson. In March, 1906, Mr. Rodman died and on the 1st of April of the same year Mr. Anderson purchased his interest from the estate and became solè owner of the business. Thus he has made gradual advancement and is today recognized as one of the wide-awake and progressive merchants, carrying a large and carefully selected line of goods, thus enabling him to meet the demands of the trade. He is also a director of the Barb City Building & Loan Association.

In 1884 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Anderson and Miss Sana Molander, of De Kalb, whose parents were natives of Sweden. The son, Arthur R., is now in the store with his father, while the daughter, Ethel C., is attending high school.

Mr. Anderson is a member of Barb City camp, No. 46, M. W. A.; Columbia Tent, No. 57, of the Knights of the Maccabees, and was a charter member of De Kalb lodge, No. 215, K. P., while with the uniformed rank of that order he is also connected. He is a member of the Swedish Republican Club of De Kalb and also of the Young Men's Republican Club, and has done effective work in support of the party whose principles he deems the most beneficial to the country at large. He holds membership with the Swedish Lutheran church and is president of the Swedish Benevolent Society. His different membership relations indicate much



C. A. Anderson



of his character and the principles which govern his conduct, and wherever he is known he is recognized as a man of genuine personal worth.

EDWARD JOHNSON.

Edward Johnson, one of De Kalb's leading and representative citizens, conducting an insurance, real-estate and loan agency, was born in Stavenger, Norway, on the 23d of August, 1854, a son of John and Bertha (Olsen) Johnson. Of their family of seven children, all sons, only three are now living, and all are in this country, the brothers of our subject being John B. Johnson, a resident of Rock Island, Illinois; and Ole J., of McCollisburg, Iowa, where he is engaged in merchandising and has also served as postmaster since 1882. The father was engaged in the commission business and in merchandising in the town of Stavenger, Norway, being extensively associated with commercial interests of that city during his active life. He died there at a very advanced age, having almost reached the ninety-third milestone on life's journey.

Edward Johnson of this review remained at home through the period of his minority and completed his education in the high school of his native town. In June, 1871, he sought the business opportunities of the new world, emigrating to America. He landed at Quebec, Canada, but thence went direct to Chicago, where he arrived on the 17th of June. The following morning found him at work in the large mercantile establishment of Ammonson & Williams, on North Halsted street, where he remained for a year. He then accepted a position on South Water street, which paid him a better salary, but he did not like the business, that of bag manufacturing, and resigned after six months. During the succeeding half year he traveled extensively in order to see the country and acquaint himself with its possibilities and finally settled in Malta, De Kalb county, where for three years he followed farming. He then connected himself with the Marengo nurseries, at Marengo, McHenry county, Illinois, in the capacity of salesman and rose rapidly in the confidence of his employers, so that it was but a comparatively short time until he had complete charge of the sales and

the salesmen, being the general agent of the business. He held that position for twenty-five years, so conducting the business that it was profitable to himself and his employers, severing his connection with the firm only in 1901, after a period of twenty-six years' service. He then removed to De Kalb and established an insurance, real-estate and loan agency, his many years experience as general agent in the nursery business ably fitting him for this work. He has prospered in the new line as he well deserves to do, and is ranked among De Kalb's progressive and leading business men.

In 1880 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Johnson and Miss Emma C. Spickerman, of Malta, and unto them were born two children, the surviving one being Mattie B., who is a graduate of the Normal School and for some time was a teacher in the city schools of De Kalb. She is also an accomplished pianist. The death of Mrs. Johnson occurred on the 13th of September, 1906.

Mr. Johnson belongs to De Kalb lodge, A. F. & A. M., and is a charter member of Malta lodge, K. P., and of Malta camp, M. W. A. He likewise belongs to Malta lodge of the Knights of the Glöbe and is a member of the Congregational church. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and for some years he served as town collector of Malta. His life record indicates the possibilities that are open to young men and the success which may be achieved by earnest, persistent effort, for in his business life he has made steady advancement since coming to the new world and is now a prosperous citizen of his adopted city.

E. H. WILCOX.

E. H. Wilcox, night watchman for the Haish Wire & Implement Company at De Kalb—a responsible position which he is ably filling—was born in Royalton, New York, January 6, 1846, his parents being William and Cordelia (Merritt) Wilcox. The father, a native of Middletown, Connecticut, was born in 1804 and spent his early life in that place, after which he removed to Leroy, New York, where he met and married Miss Cordelia Merritt. Later they removed to Niagara county, New York, where his remaining days were passed, his death occurring in 1863. His wife was

born May 3, 1816, and after her husband's death she removed to Illinois, settling in Clinton township, De Kalb county, where she lived for three years. In 1867 she became a resident of the city of De Kalb, where she remained until called to the home beyond, passing away in 1900, when she had reached the very advanced age of eighty-four years.

E. H. Wilcox acquired a good common-school education that fitted him for life's practical and responsible duties. In his youth he followed farm labor and in 1882 he took up factory work, at which he has been very successful, possessing natural mechanical ability. He was for six years with the I. L. Ellwood Company and is now night watchman with the Haish Wire & Implement Company, a position which he is ably filling. He was janitor of the schools for thirteen years, but for the past year has filled his present position and his work in that direction has been entirely satisfactory to the company.

In 1875 Mr. Wilcox was united in marriage, in De Kalb, to Mrs. Mary A. Noyes, the widow of Nathan S. Noyes, who by her former marriage had two children: Egbert Noyes, of De Kalb; and Anges May, the wife of Rev. Louis Wiltberger, also of De Kalb.

Mr. Wilcox is a republican in his political views, exercising his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the party. He belongs to Modern Woodmen camp, No. 46, of De Kalb, and is well known in the city. He owns a comfortable home at No. 643 North Fifth street and has lived a life of thrift and industry, owing his success entirely to his perseverance and well directed labors.

HENRY N. PERKINS.

For seventy years Henry N. Perkins has been identified with the interests of De Kalb county and throughout his active business life has carried on farming and merchandising, his home being now in Genoa. He was born in Lebanon, Columbia county, New York, on the 15th of August, 1833, and was only four years old when, in 1837, he came to Illinois in company with his parents, Horatio N. and Eliza (Wallace) Perkins. His father was born in Connecticut in 1808 and was a son of James Perkins, a representative of an

old Connecticut family. On leaving his native state, Horatio N. Perkins removed to New York and became one of the first settlers of Columbia county, where he grew to manhood and was married, his wife having been born in New York. In 1837 he brought his family to De Kalb county, Illinois, and located in Genoa, which then contained but three or four cabins, while the country round about was largely unsettled. He bought a log building, in which he conducted a hotel for some time and also engaged in farming, having entered three hundred acres of land from the government. He also served as the first postmaster of Genoa, and in his business affairs he steadily prospered, becoming quite well-to-do. He died here in 1888, at the age of eighty years, and his wife only survived him about a month, both being laid to rest in the Genoa cemetery.

In their family were one son and two daughters, but Henry N. Perkins is now the only survivor. Amid pioneer scenes he passed the days of his boyhood and youth in this country and acquired a good practical education in the common schools and Mount Morris Seminary. He remained under the parental roof until his marriage, when, on the 28th of February, 1855, he wedded Miss Margaret Stiles, a native of Vermont and a daughter of Asel and Fanny Stiles, who came to Illinois about 1850.

After his marriage Mr. Perkins located on a part of the old home farm and to the further improvement and cultivation of the place he devoted his energies until 1866, when he sold the farm and embarked in general merchandising at Genoa, buying out a business already established and a store building not yet completed. He built a residence in the town and continued to actively engage in commercial pursuits until 1888, meeting with excellent success in that venture. In that year he purchased the farm in Genoa township where he now resides and also owns a portion of the original land entered by his father, having two hundred and forty acres, a half of which is within the corporation limits of Genoa. Besides this property he owns another farm here and also a half section of land one mile from Sherburn in Martin county, Minnesota, which he has improved. As a wide-awake and energetic business man he has met with success in his undertakings and is today numbered

among the most prosperous citizens of his community.

Mr. Perkins has been called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died in 1880 and was laid to rest in the Genoa cemetery. Unto them were born four children: Horatio A., whose sketch appears on another page of this volume, is married and has two children, Horatio and Irma. He is one of the prominent business men of Genoa. Marian is the wife of Charles Stott, of Des Plaines, Du Page county, and they have one daughter, Margaret. Mary is the wife of Frank E. White, who lives on the Perkins farm in Minnesota, and they have eight children. Jennie is the wife of Newton Stanley, of Genoa.

Politically, Mr. Perkins has been a republican since casting his first ballot for John C. Fremont in 1856, and has never missed a presidential election since that time. He has served as a delegate to state and congressional conventions and has been honored with public office, serving as president of the town board for one term, supervisor ten or twelve years, township clerk and also township trustee for a time. He has always taken an active interest in public affairs and has done all in his power to advance the welfare of town and county. During his long residence in this locality he has become widely and favorably known and has a host of friends throughout the county.

ENOCB B. DARNELL.

Enoch B. Darnell, whose farm of one hundred and thirty acres is pleasantly located on section 22, Squaw Grove township, was born in Marshall county, Illinois, December 9, 1837. He was only three years old when taken to Kendall county by his parents, Abraham and Susanna (Owen) Darnell. His father was a native of Wilkes county, North Carolina, born November 12, 1806, and in the year 1831 came to Illinois, settling in Marshall county near the old Indian fort. In fact, he spent a part of the winter in the fort. He lived here about the close of the Blackhawk war and remembers the hostility manifested by the Indians. Defeated by the white troops, this practically ended their dominion in Illinois, but for many years the white settlers had to endure many hardships and

privations incident to pioneer life, and Mr. Darnell, while developing his farm, aided largely in laying the foundation for the present growth and progress of the county. He died April 15, 1892. His wife, who was also a native of Wilkes county, North Carolina, was born October 21, 1811, and came to Illinois with her husband, and after carefully rearing her children and doing a mother's part by them, she died December 28, 1885.

The family lived in Kendall county from 1840 and Enoch B. Darnell was there reared and remained until the outbreak of the Civil war, when he joined the Union army as one of the boys in blue, becoming a member of Company E, Thirteenth Illinois Infantry, which company was organized at Sandwich. He was sworn into the state service May 10, 1861, at Dixon, Illinois, and was mustered into the United States service in the 24th of May, 1861, at the same place. Hardly had the smoke from Fort Sumter's guns cleared away when he offered his aid in support of the government at Washington and its policy. While at the front he participated in a number of hotly contested engagements, including the battle of Little Red River, May 17, 1862; Chickasaw Bayou, on the 28th and 29th of December, 1862; Arkansas Post, January 10 and 11, 1863; Deer Creek, April 7, 1863; Jackson, Mississippi, May 14, 1863; the siege of Vicksburg from May 18th until the 4th of July; siege of Jackson from the 10th until the 16th of July; the battle of Brandon on the 19th of July; Tusculumbia, Alabama, October 25 and 26, 1863; Lookout Mountain, November 24, 1863; Missionary Ridge, November 25, 1863; Ring Gold, Georgia, November 27, 1863; and Madison Station, Alabama, May, 1864. At Chickasaw Bayou he was struck by a spent ball, which only caused a bruise. He received his honorable discharge on the 18th of May, 1864, after spending three years at the front. In his discharge it was stated that he had marched thirty-five hundred miles and had been a faithful soldier, performing well whatever duty had devolved upon him. He still has in his possession his discharge papers.

When he had been mustered out Mr. Darnell returned to the old home, where he lived for three years, when he moved to Squaw Grove township, where he has since resided and owns one hundred and thirty acres of choice land on section 22, that is now valued at one hundred and fifty dollars per

acre. He has accumulated this property through his own labor and has been a very active, hard working man, to which fact is due his ownership of a fine home and valuable farm.

On the 7th of March, 1866, Mr. Darnell was united in marriage to Miss Mary Mills, who was born March 7, 1841, her parents being Benjamin and Hannah (Davis) Mills. Her father, who was born in Vermont, February 4, 1804, came to Illinois in 1844, settling near Oswego, Kendall county, where his death occurred. His wife was born in New York, December 18, 1818, and died April 14, 1874. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Darnell have been born five children, of whom Gertrude has departed this life. She was born June 29, 1872, and remained at home until her death, which occurred December 29, 1900. The others are Mrs. Fannie De Clark, who was born January 6, 1867; Alberta, born October 21, 1868; Le Roy, born February 18, 1877; and Charles M., born September 5, 1879.

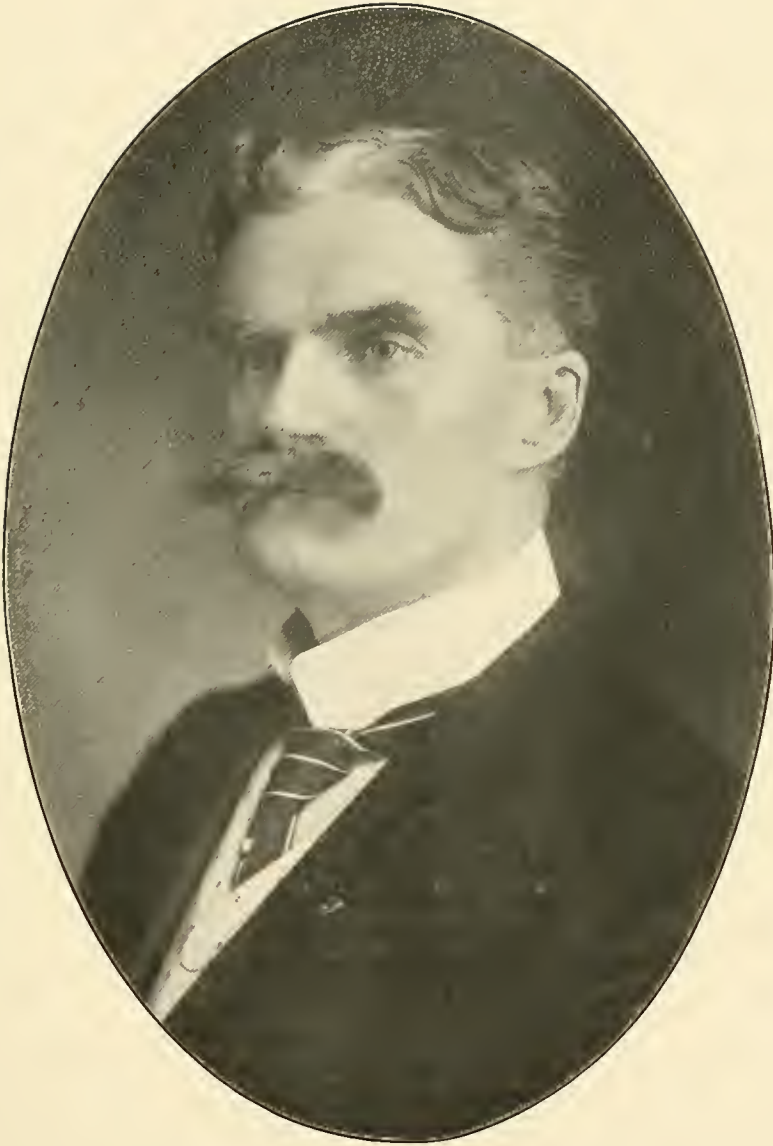
Mr. Darnell acquired his education in the district schools of Kendall county and in Jennings Seminary, Aurora, Illinois, where he spent three months, while his wife was educated in the schools of Sandwich. They are both highly esteemed people and enjoy in large measure the confidence and good will of those with whom they have been associated. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Hinckley, and Mr. Darnell exercises his right of franchise in support of the republican party. Throughout the community in which he has long lived he is spoken of in terms of good will and commendation, and by an active business career he has placed himself in a financial condition where he might easily retire from active business life if indolence and idleness were not entirely foreign to his nature.

JOHN A. BADGLEY, M. D.

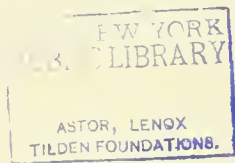
Dr. John A. Badgley, a representative of the medical profession in De Kalb, was born in Gallipolis, Ohio, on the 4th of June, 1855, his parents being John P. and Sarah (Glassburn) Badgley, of whose family of eight children six are yet living. The father, a native of Ohio, was a son of Anthony Badgley, who lived to the very venerable age of ninety-four years and died at Newark, Illi-

nois. Our subject's father was reared to farm life and followed that pursuit as a vocation with the exception of a short period of about three years, which was devoted to mercantile pursuits. In 1857 he removed from Gallipolis, Ohio, to Illinois, settling near Sandwich, where he remained about five years. He then removed to Tampico, Illinois, where he resided until 1885, when he became a resident of Westport, South Dakota. There he has since resided with the exception of about three years in the '90s when he was again a resident of Tampico, being there engaged in merchandising. He is a republican in politics and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, in the work of which he takes a very active part. For years he served as superintendent of the Sunday-school and in other official positions and his efforts have been an element in the substantial growth of the church in which he holds membership. His wife, who was born in Gallipolis, Ohio, and was a daughter of John and Jane Glassburn, the former an agriculturist, died in May, 1906. The surviving sons and daughters of the family are: Mary Jane, now the widow of A. V. Denison, and a resident of Aberdeen, South Dakota; John A.; Ida M., the wife of A. E. Jacobs, of Malta, Illinois; Jed, who is a veterinary surgeon practicing in Tampico, Illinois; Minnie, the wife of Willis Brown, also of Tampico; and Hal C., of Westport, South Dakota.

Dr. Badgley was only two years of age when brought by his parents to De Kalb county and was yet a small boy when his father removed to Tampico. He acquired his education in the district schools of the former and the public schools of the latter, and entered the Sterling high school, where he pursued his more advanced literary work. In the spring of 1877 he took up the study of medicine under the preceptorship of Dr. A. C. Smith, of Tampico, and in the fall of 1878 matriculated in the medical department of the Northwestern University of Chicago. After one term, however, he entered Rush Medical College, from which he was graduated in the spring of 1880. In the following July he located in Malta, Illinois, where he remained in active practice for twenty-six years, and in September, 1906, he removed to De Kalb but prior to this time went to Chicago, where he pursued a general post-graduate course and two special courses in bacteriology and operative sur-



DR. J. A. BADGLEY.



gery. On completing his studies he returned to his new home, his wife having made the removal during his absence and already he has gained a place among the prominent and successful physicians of De Kalb, winning high favor and professional advancement during the year of his residence here. He is president of the De Kalb County Medical Society and a member of the State Medical Society, also of the American Medical Association. Aside from his professional relations Dr. Badgley is connected with the Masonic and Knights of Pythias fraternities, the Knights of the Globe, the Royal Neighbors and the Modern Woodmen.

In April, 1880, occurred the marriage of Dr. Badgley and Miss Birdie Bastian, of Tampico, who died in January, 1900. Unto this marriage there were born three children, of whom two are living, Birdie J. and Ha G., while John A., who was the second child, is deceased. On the 5th of November, 1900, the Doctor wedded Miss Genevive Maud Knight, a native of Grants Pass, Oregon. Mrs. Badgley was a trained nurse, having graduated from the Good Samaritan Hospital in Portland, Oregon. In November, 1899, she came east to Chicago and soon afterward formed the acquaintance of Dr. Badgley. By this marriage there have been born two children, Valene Louise and Annette Harriet. Conscientious and capable in the discharge of his professional duties, working toward high ideals in his practice and continually broadening his knowledge through reading and investigation, Dr. Badgley is well known as one of the most successful and able members of the medical fraternity in De Kalb.

D. E. FULKERSON.

The time and energies of D. E. Fulkerson, a progressive agriculturist of De Kalb county, are given to the cultivation and improvement of a tract of eighty acres in Mayfield township. He is a son of J. C. and Olive E. (Moyers) Fulkerson, natives of the state of New York. The father removed to De Kalb county, settling on a farm in Kingston township in 1848, where the following year he was joined by his family. He operated a farm in Kingston township until 1858, when he came to

Mayfield township, and purchased the farm on which our subject now resides. In 1870, leaving the son in charge of the homestead property, the father removed to Sycamore and engaged in the lumber business, in which he continued for nine years, and in that city he passed away, March 19, 1888. His wife survived for several years, her death occurring November 7, 1897.

It was during the residence of the family in Kingston township that the birth of our subject occurred, his natal day being November 19, 1853. He was therefore a little lad of five years at the time of the removal of the family to Mayfield township. He acquired his education in the common schools and assisted his father in the work of the home farm during the period of his boyhood and youth. Upon attaining his majority he went to Chicago, where for nine years he was in the employ of the McCormick Manufacturing Company, during which time he worked his way up from a humble position until he became an expert machinist. Returning to the farm, he again resumed agricultural pursuits, which have continued to be his occupation to the present time. His place comprises eighty acres of well improved land on which are seen modern and substantial buildings, while everything about his place presents a neat and attractive appearance. He follows practical methods of farming and for his reward annually harvests rich crops.

Mr. Fulkerson was married September 3, 1876, to Miss Ella Richards, a daughter of Nathaniel and Ruth (Baxter) Richards, early pioneers of Sycamore, where they still make their home and where the father conducts a blacksmith shop. Unto our subject and his wife have been born four children: Fred E., who resides in Beloit, Wisconsin; Jessie Bay, still under the parental roof; Claude Richard, now deceased; and Fay G., who is a high-school student at Belvidere, Illinois.

In his political views Mr. Fulkerson is a stalwart republican, having supported the men and measures of that party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. For three years he served as school director, but aside from that office has not been active in public affairs. His fraternal relations are with the Knights of the Globe, at Kingston. Mrs. Fulkerson is a member of the Congregational church in Mayfield township, while Mr. Fulkerson also attends its services. Having

spent almost his entire life in Mayfield township. Mr. Fulkerson has a wide and favorable acquaintance and occupies a prominent place among the leading agriculturists of his community.

JOHN H. LEWIS.

The thriving city of De Kalb owes much of its prosperity, doubtless, to its favorable location. It is far enough from Chicago to do something in the way of an independent career, yet near enough to feel the impulse of the energetic life that characterizes a great metropolis. The ordinary necessities of a rich agricultural district demand commercial facilities that explain the existence of a center of considerable population. But nothing becomes more apparent when comparisons are instituted between towns similarly conditioned than their dependence for the larger part of whatever of conspicuous success they attain upon the character of their business men. De Kalb is an interesting illustration of this obvious truth. The presence in this community of a number of vigorous and enterprising men, engaged in the management of its business affairs, is the key to a set of conditions not ordinarily existing in a town of its size. A prominent representative of this group of citizens is the subject of this sketch.

John H. Lewis was born in Cortland, New York, on the 23d of November, 1850. His great-grandparents were of Welsh nativity and were the founders of this branch of the Lewis family in America. His paternal grandfather was a Rhode Islander by birth and when fourteen years of age made his way alone to Spafford, New York, where in his early manhood he turned his attention to farming. Here he subsequently purchased from the government a tract of land and developed it into a farm. For many years this constituted the family homestead. Here James K. Lewis was born in 1822. To the Welsh blood of his pioneer ancestors there had been added a strain of that strenuous nationality known as Scotch-Irish—in which there is no drop of Irish—and which is so proudly claimed by a large number of very capable people in our American public life. He grew up in Spafford, availed himself of the ordinary facilities for an education and further cultivated him-

self by the profitable experience of school teaching. Ambitious for a more notable career he graduated from the Geneva Medical College and several years later he added a post-graduate course in Rush Medical College, Chicago. He practiced for some time in Onondaga county, New York, and in 1852 he removed to Illinois and settled in the town of St. Charles, in Kane county.

Dr. Lewis soon won recognition as a successful physician. He had the arduous experiences of a country practitioner and thus became inured to the hardships incident to such a life. He did not confine himself wholly to the duties of his profession, however, and soon became known as one of the prominent business men of his locality. He was one of the organizers of the Kerwin & Lewis Bank and was also one of the founders of a pioneer drug store in St. Charles, which is still in operation.

Dr. Lewis married Louise M. Ferguson, who was born at Truxton, New York. She was the daughter of John H. Ferguson, a prominent member of the bar at that place. Her brother, John H. Ferguson, Jr., was one of the leading attorneys at St. Charles, where he resided for many years. He also maintained an office in Chicago where he was a partner of General Farnsworth, so widely known as an officer in the war of the Rebellion and as a member of congress from the Kane county district. The Fergusons were of Scotch ancestry and members of the clan McFergus, as the name suggests.

Dr. and Mrs. Lewis had two children, John H. and his sister, Genivie. Mrs. Lewis was in delicate health for some years before the close of her life and was most devotedly and lovingly attended by her faithful daughter. She died February 14, 1903. The old home was given up some months later and Dr. Lewis and his daughter removed to De Kalb and made their home with the son and brother. Here he died on February 14, 1907, on the fourth anniversary of the death of his wife.

John H. Lewis was two years of age when his father removed to Illinois. He spent his childhood and youth in St. Charles in the home of his parents. He acquired his education in the west side public schools and when eighteen years old went to Sycamore and began his business career as an employe in the drug store of Harkness & Stevens. After a year in the service of this firm he went to Chicago where he was employed by a

ASTOR LENOX
TILDEN FOUNDATIONS.



John H. Lewis



Mary E. Lewis

THE
AFRICAN
FOUNDATION.

wholesale firm on Randolph street. A year later he returned to De Kalb county and formed a business connection with J. E. Ellwood & Brother, druggists, having charge of their books and drug department. He remained in that position until May, 1877. He spent the succeeding summer in Minnesota, but in the following September he returned to De Kalb and on the 15th of that month he purchased a half interest in the drug business of Hiram Ellwood. In the following February he bought Mr. Ellwood's interest and assumed entire control of the business. He continued in the drug business for several years, but finally sold his stock and good will to J. C. Garner & Son, who continue the business at the corner of Main and Second streets.

Mr. Lewis then went to Texas and engaged in the cattle business for a time, although he retained his principal De Kalb holdings and thus continued to be identified with the town. On the 10th of April, 1892, he purchased a controlling interest in the First National Bank of De Kalb, of which he had been a director for several years. He was elected president and continued in that position until October, 1903, when, on account of ill health, he retired from the management and sold the larger part of his stock, although remaining a member of the board of directors.

The unequivocal success of Mr. Lewis as bank president is too generally known in De Kalb county to require the services of a chronicler. Quite early in his experience in that capacity he encountered the trying days of 1893, when one business after another fell apart like a house of cards. He is not likely to forget those days of storm and stress and the native caution of his disposition was intensified by the perils which all commercial enterprises were obliged to face. The First National Bank has had a phenomenal history and its success is due in large measure to the patient and absorbing attention which it received from its laborious and tireless president. By no means the smallest of its assets was the system of banking ethic which Mr. Lewis insisted upon as necessary to the management of an institution which is the custodian of so large a part of the funds of the business public.

De Kalb is widely known for its smoke stacks. It is a well established tradition in this community that healthy factories are the life of the towns. "Let no desirable manufacturing establishment

escape" might be inscribed upon the gates of the city as its most appropriate motto. In the business of promoting such enterprises Mr. Lewis has been especially active. In that connection he was largely instrumental in securing the location here of the shoe factory, the Abram Ellwood Manufacturing Company, the Melville Clark Piano Company and other plants that have contributed to the prosperity of the city.

Mr. Lewis is a member of the Commercial Club and of the Masonic fraternity, being connected with the lodge, the chapter and the commandery, and with Medina Temple of the Mystic Shrine in Chicago. He is also affiliated with De Kalb lodge, No. 765, B. P. O. E. Politically he is a republican. He has been a faithful servant of the municipality, having served twelve years as a member of the board of aldermen and an equal period as a member of the school board. He has also been treasurer of the Northern Illinois State Normal School since the organization of the institution. He has often been solicited to accept public offices of larger honors, but has as persistently declined them.

On the 1st of October, 1884, Mr. Lewis was united in marriage to Miss Mary Ellwood, the second daughter of Colonel I. L. Ellwood. Two children were born to them, James E. and Harriet Louise. The former is a graduate of the De Kalb high school and in the fall of 1907 will finish his preparation for Yale University. Mrs. Lewis passed away after a brief illness on the 20th day of December, 1903.

Mr. Lewis is extremely domestic in his habits. He is rarely missing from his home except when obeying the peremptory calls of business. It is there that he looks for the satisfaction of those higher needs of life that make for permanent happiness. His devotion to his family is a most interesting manifestation of his character. He was a loving and faithful husband, and is a most fond and companionable parent. In his ministry to his aged father he has manifested that filial piety which the old Roman chroniclers so loved to commemorate and in the affection which joins him to his devoted sister there is a perpetuation of the ties of childhood which is as touching as it is deserving.

As a business man he is fearless in protecting the interests entrusted to his care. He is positive in his convictions and will not deviate from what he con-

ceives to be a wise administration of affairs, even at the risk of offending those whose friendship he covets. The people have confidence in his honesty and capacity, for the enterprises with which he has been connected have been uniformly successful and have been conducted in such a way as to win the approval of those who believe in "the square deal."

Mr. Lewis is quite disposed to shun the more pretentious display of social life, but he has a warm greeting for the friends who love to seek the very agreeable hospitality of his beautiful home. He is an intelligent and discriminating observer of current affairs and does not get his opinions at second hand. He has made a well defined place for himself in the history of De Kalb county and its annals would be incomplete without its recognition.

MARY ELLWOOD LEWIS.

Mary Ellwood Lewis was born in De Kalb on the 18th of March, 1863. With the exception of the years of absence devoted to education and travel her life was spent in this community. Here she was married to John H. Lewis on the 1st of October, 1884, and a new home was begun with all of the countless ministries of love. It was here that her son and daughter were born and it was from her beautiful home that a mourning multitude followed her stricken family as she was borne to the quiet city of the dead. This was her home and she had no disposition to go elsewhere except for those restful interruptions of routine that break the steady tension of care and yield new strength for the countless duties that so absorbingly occupy body and brain and heart. It is impossible to tell except in a most imperfect way the story of a personality so lovingly and reverently treasured in the hearts of all who knew her.

Mary Ellwood was the second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Isaac L. Ellwood. Her early education was obtained in the public schools. In 1878 she entered the Rockford Seminary and graduated four years later. The following year was spent at Smith College, Northampton, Massachusetts. In 1883 she went abroad for a year to travel and was married soon after her return. On a subsequent visit to Europe, with a group of highly congenial

lady friends, she managed a delightful coaching trip from London to Glasgow. For several years the family home was on North First street, near the well known Ellwood mansion, but in 1900 Mr. Lewis built the new residence on the corner of College and Park avenues which was first occupied about the time of the Christmas festivals of that year. For the three succeeding years the home that had been so carefully planned was the scene of her inspiring life. Only those from the outside world who were privileged to be frequent guests at its hospitable fireside can understand the fine comradeship of which this wife and mother was capable.

The first impression which Mrs. Lewis made upon one who was yet in the process of becoming acquainted with her was that of perfect simplicity and frankness. She had spent her life in a community remarkable for its sense of social equality. She was true to all of the traditions of the town in that particular. Her nature was too healthful and strong and sane to suffer from the infirmities of weak minds. She needed none of the artificial distinctions with which so many clothe themselves for the protection of their precious dignities. There was always a native modesty, also, which heightened the charm of her unpretentiousness. Yet with it all there was a quiet dignity which indicated the poise and sense of resource that come from the training of the schools and from seeing one's familiar surroundings projected against the background of other lands and old civilizations. One saw at once that he was in the presence of a woman of intelligence who appreciated the elements of power that had come into her life and who valued them for the real enrichment which they yielded. What was at first an impression regarding her in these particulars was confirmed as intimacy increased.

Mrs. Lewis inherited a buoyancy and joyousness that were distinctive traits of her character. She loved the sunny side of the road. She had the physical exuberance that comes from good health and it overflowed into her mental life. She found a large place for the delicious mirthfulness that sweetens experience with the music of laughter. It has been remarked that the ability to appreciate humor is a certificate of the sanity of one's mind. But it indicates more: it expresses a largeness and sense of strength and of adequacy. So many

people are overwhelmed by the solemnity of life and by its inevitable tragedies. They cannot hold their own against these dreadful realities. How tonic are those bountiful natures that knowing all possibilities can yet meet the facts of the world with a smiling face, discovering under all of its stern fatalism a gracious benignity that does not forget our low estate. And this was her attitude toward life if one could trust his own impressions of what seemed very clear. It was the healthful mirth of one who sees the joy of living and who holds to that optimistic philosophy which makes the best of everything. She brushed aside most of the annoying perplexities that are often a grievous burden to those less happily endowed. She did not borrow trouble and whatever came she reduced to its lowest terms. While this attitude was easy for her because of her abounding strength and courage it seemed also to be in harmony with her theory of the way in which one should meet the vicissitudes of experience.

Another manifestations of her character was seen in her fearlessness and sense of mastery. She was an excellent horse-woman and only smiled where others would express alarm. In a similar spirit she found matters of business attractive and kept herself informed as to what was doing in the markets of the world, yet it was so unobtrusively done that only those who shared her daily life could know of it. She was an admirable leader in those practical affairs that all social organizations finally rest upon and by natural selection she very often found herself where the burdens are heaviest. She was a very stanch worker and made little of what she did, however. When complimented upon the service that she rendered she turned the praise aside with modest diffidence or with a pleasing jest. She was herself so large-minded that they seemed but trifles. It is pleasing to dwell upon these traits of character with which everyone was familiar who knew her at all well, yet her view respecting them was absolutely correct. The crying pity is that so few can see them as she did.

The quality that was most attractive, however, and that gave her a place in the community which probably was not occupied by any other woman was her kindness. Pestalozzi, the great Swiss reformer, built his philanthropic system for the redemption of his country upon the idea that the poet has so tersely expressed in the simple couplet:

"Ah, yet when all is thought and said
The heart still overrules the head."

It is natural for all to admire superior intellectual endowments. They are indispensable to the best welfare of society, for the thinker and the man who knows are the ones to whom we turn for the theoretical solution of our problems; it is kindness, the supreme quality of the heart, that wins the grateful allegiance of the world, however, and it will always be so. This disposition of Mrs. Lewis was so generally understood that she was relied upon to meet a large number of the needs of the unfortunate. What she did was characteristically done. It was so quietly and unostentatiously attended to that few knew of it and they were not always the ones most vitally involved in it. Especially was she sympathetic toward the young who aspired to make something of themselves through education. There were always poor but ambitious boys at college and fine, hard-working girls at the Normal School who owed their opportunity to her. She disclaimed any credit for it, declaring that since the sacrifice was not great the praise should be correspondingly small. Thus good sense and wholesomeness were among her most charming qualities. One finds himself constantly recurring to some manifestation of them as he dwells upon her memory. Nothing of self-consciousness or of over valuation seemed to find a place in her well balanced living. She went toward life in all of its aspects with the unspoken but perhaps half-conscious maxim: "Do the right thing and make no fuss about it."

There was a clear and well defined place in her philosophy of life for the religious idea. She was an active member of the Congregational church and carried a large part of its manifold burdens. In contemplating her character it is easy to see that religion expressed a fundamental need of her character. From its finalities she derived those profound conceptions that gave the ultimate grounds upon which she rested her life. But there was nothing of the narrow sectarian about her. While her thought was large and liberal, it was far from being neutral and colorless. It gave a depth and richness to her character that can be suggested rather than described. Those who knew her best from this point of view speak with hushed

voices of what was sometimes shyly or inadvertently revealed to them. She expressed her creed in terms of life rather than in words. She preferred to talk but little of what was very sacred to her. She was not fluent in religious phrases and never pressed her views upon others. It is easy to assume to know the things that lie below the free expression of those with whom our lives are cast and often, perhaps, we may judge correctly. There was little room to doubt respecting her profound convictions when in her gentle way she revealed the presence of some pervading truth that gave a fine coloring to all of her courageous, but unobtrusive life.

From what has been said it will be inferred that Mrs. Lewis was most of all a home-maker and that it was there that her spirit had its fullest expression. A glad and bountiful life filled all the ample spaces where she dwelt. Those who were familiar there had no trouble in understanding why the evenings found the family circle complete. To him who was encumbered with the strenuous duties of an honorable and most responsible calling it was a haven of rest, from which it was quite impossible to entice him except upon some call of real urgency. Few men spend so little of their leisure outside their own door. The young life of the home found it similarly congenial and attractive. It was a fine, simple, joyous comradeship that one found there—such a one as warms one's heart when he finds it and makes him want to express his gratitude in some quiet way that speech would profane.

The final illness of Mrs. Lewis was very brief. The suddenness of her taking away was like a stroke of lightning from a clear sky. She knew the possibilities very soon, but was the same brave hearted woman through it all. It was the first break for more than thirty years in the family circle from which she came. Rarely has a family sorrow been so completely a community sorrow. More than three years have passed since that mournful Sabbath of December 20, 1903, when the word sped about the community that she could not recover. But the hurrying months have not dimmed the sweetness of her gracious life. It was of such that the poet sang when he penned those words of hope that have cheered so many afflicted ones when their own were taken away:

"There is no death! What seems so is transition;
This life of mortal breath
Is but a suburb of the life elysian,
Whose portal we call death."

WILLIAM DUFFY.

William Duffy, who follows farming in Clinton township, was born on the 2d of May, 1854, in the state of New York, his parents being Martin and Bridget Duffy, who are mentioned elsewhere in this work. No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for William Duffy in his boyhood days. He was early trained to habits of industry and economy, and these traits have borne rich fruit in his later life. Having arrived at years of maturity he sought a companion and helpmate for life's journey in his marriage to Miss Sarah Boyland, who has indeed been a faithful companion to him. She was born in Clinton township, May 31, 1854, her parents being natives of Ireland who came to the United States in 1848 and who were farming people of De Kalb county, but who are both now deceased. In their family were nine children, of whom Mrs. Duffy was the second. On the 4th of February, 1879, she gave her hand in marriage to William Duffy, and their union has been blessed with seven children: Katie, who was born March 9, 1881, and died at the age of seven years; Mary A., who was born June 7, 1882, and is the wife of Frank McCormick, a farmer of Shabbona township; Martin, who was born February 22, 1884, and died at the age of four years; Sadie A., who was born September 12, 1886, and is the wife of Edward McCormick, a resident farmer of Shabbona township; William A., who was born July 5, 1887; Nellie A., who was born November 4, 1888, and is still at home; and Anna L., who was born October 24, 1891, and is now attending the Normal School at De Kalb, Illinois.

Following his marriage Mr. Duffy rented land in De Kalb county for several years. He then bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres and later added ninety-five acres, so that he then had two hundred and fifty-five acres, constituting a valuable tract. He has since sold one hundred and thirty acres. His entire life has been given to the

work of tilling the soil and caring for the crops and annually he gathers rich harvests, which are the reward for the care and labor he bestows upon his fields. In politics he is an earnest republican and though never a politician in the sense of office seeking, he has served as school director for six years. He is interested in community affairs to the extent of giving hearty co-operation to many movements which have for their object the welfare of the district, and he and his family are members of St. James Catholic church at Lee, Illinois.

JOHN TUDOR.

John Tudor is one of the venerable citizens of De Kalb county, having passed the eighty-seventh milestone on life's journey. For many years he was closely connected with farming interests, but is now living retired, deriving his income from the rental of his farm.

Mr. Tudor was born in England on the 22d of February, 1820. No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of his life in his boyhood and youth. The first really noteworthy event in his history occurred in 1842, in which year he was married to Miss Martha Harper, also a native of England. They remained residents of that country until 1856, when, hoping to provide a better living for himself and family in the new world, Mr. Tudor brought his wife and children to the United States. He did not tarry on the Atlantic coast, but made his way at once into the interior of the country and settled on a farm on section 10, De Kalb township, this county, where he now lives. He is the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of land, which he purchased in 1856 for twenty dollars per acre. That was considered an exorbitant price at the time, but the increase in population, augmenting the demand for property, and the improvements he has placed upon his farm makes it today worth one hundred and fifty dollars per acre. For many years Mr. Tudor carried on the work of the fields, plowing, planting and harvesting, and by his capable management and unfaltering perseverance, winning a goodly measure of success. He is now living retired, leaving the active work of the farm to others, while he is enjoying well-earned rest.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Tudor were born nine children: Emma, born February 7, 1844; John F., born September 1, 1845; George, born August 13, 1847; Edwin, born March 6, 1849; Ellen, born April 30, 1850; Henry T., born September 3, 1851; H. O., born April 6, 1856; J. R., born September 18, 1860; and Fanny, born August 27, 1863. The wife and mother died in the year 1864, and the daughter, Fanny, is now acting as her father's housekeeper, having taken charge of the household at the age of twelve years. Mr. Tudor has been reared in the faith of the Episcopal church. His life has been manly and sincere. As the years have passed, he has labored earnestly and persistently for his family and the many good qualities which he has displayed, have won him a host of warm friends. He has now been a resident of the county for more than a half century and has witnessed great changes here. Land which was wild and uncultivated at the time of his arrival, has been transformed into fine farms and everything is indicative of the onward march of civilization. Roads have been laid out, substantial residences have replaced the old time cabins and there is a remarkable difference in the methods of farming now in vogue to those which were utilized during the early days of his connection with farming interests. He recalls many interesting reminiscences of pioneer life and justly deserves mention among the early settlers of the county.

FRANK R. THORPE.

Frank R. Thorpe, who is engaged in farming operations and is meeting with well merited success, makes a specialty of raising red polled cattle. He was born in Victor township, this county, July 16, 1872, and comes of English descent. His parents were William and Rebecca Thorpe, both natives of England, and the father was born in 1835, while the mother's birth occurred in 1834. She is still living, her home being now in Waterman, but Mr. Thorpe has passed away. They came to the United States in 1872 and settled upon a farm in Victor township, De Kalb county, where Mr. Thorpe carried on general agricultural pursuits until his life's labors were ended in death. His family numbered five children: William S.,

born in 1865; George F., born in 1867; Frank R.; Anna E., born in 1874; and one who died in infancy.

Frank R. Thorpe was reared in the usual manner of farm lads. He attended the common schools of the neighborhood and worked in the fields during the summer months. After his education was completed his entire time and attention were given to farm labor. He sought a companion and helpmate on life's journey in 1903, being married on the 26th of October, of that year, to Miss Hilda M. Johnson, who was born in Sweden, May 15, 1880, her parents being John and Josephine Johnson, who are mentioned in connection with the sketch of their son, Theodore Johnson, on another page of this work. At the time of his marriage Mr. Thorpe took up his abode on the farm on which he still lives. He purchased eighty acres of this land and in addition to this tract he also operates one hundred and sixty acres. He works industriously and his life of activity and diligence has brought to him a goodly measure of prosperity. In addition to the tilling of the soil, he makes a specialty of raising red polled cattle.

Mr. Thorpe exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party, and while he has never sought or desired office, he has served for three years as school director. He and his wife hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church of Waterman and contribute liberally to its support. They enjoy the high regard of all who know them, for their many good qualities are such as awaken respect and admiration in every land and clime. Mr. Thorpe is now busily engaged in his farming operations with good prospects before him and has already gained success that many men of much older years might envy.

EDWARD FRANKLIN SHELLABERGER.

While the history of E. F. Shellabarger is not unlike that of many other men it is, nevertheless, noteworthy from the fact that a spirit of self-reliance, a laudable ambition and an unfaltering purpose have constituted the strong elements in his career, enabling him to make continuous advancement until he is today a forceful factor in

manufacturing and business circles in De Kalb. He was born in Tippecanoe, Ohio, September 25, 1853, a son of Michael M. and Elizabeth Jane (Young) Shellabarger, natives of Pennsylvania and of Covington, Ohio, respectively. In early life the father followed mechanical pursuits and later engaged in merchandising. His sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. He had a brother, Samuel Shellabarger, who was a soldier of the war of the Rebellion and, being captured, was incarcerated for some time in Andersonville prison. He died in the service.

Edward F. Shellabarger in his boyhood days was a student in the public schools of Hamilton, Missouri, and afterward of Brownville, Nebraska. On putting aside his text-books he began bridge building and operated in Missouri, Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska in connection with the firm of C. W. Wheeler & Company. Leaving that employ in 1882, he went to Ohio, since which time he has been connected with the fence business. From the Buckeye state he made his way to Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania, where he was connected with the manufacture and sale of fencing for about four years. In the fall of 1891 he came to De Kalb and organized the De Kalb Fence Company and the Union Fence Company, both of which are still doing business in nearly all of the states and territories of the country. An eastern company is also manufacturing his patent fence. The company of which Mr. Shellabarger was the founder was the first to introduce woven wire fence to the public in this country through the trade. The establishments of which he is now the head are large and important industrial enterprises and the plants are well equipped with modern machinery and every facility for successfully carrying on the business and producing the best results.

On the 2d of November, 1881, Mr. Shellabarger was married in Hamilton, Missouri, to Miss Rosa R. Davis, who was born in Breckenridge, Missouri, September 25, 1861. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Shellabarger were born three children: Jesse B., born February 28, 1885; Walter B., June 26, 1891; and Alva E., May 6, 1896.

In politics Mr. Shellabarger is a republican. He belongs to Eden lodge, No. 190, I. O. O. F., and to Hamilton encampment, No. 77, both of Missouri. The family home is on North Fourth street in De Kalb and the spirit of good cheer and of hospitality



E. F. Shellahager

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which prevails render it a favorite resort with their many friends. Mr. Shellabarger is a man of most generous spirit and liberal disposition and his friendships are of the strongest type. It is a point of honor and principle with him to faithfully charge an obligation, and these traits of his character have made him an honored man. Moreover, he has gained a richly merited measure of success, for without financial aid in early manhood he started out to win the battles of life and has come off conqueror in the strife.

HIRAM HOLCOMB.

Hiram Holcomb, formerly engaged in general farming in Sycamore township and now living retired at No. 219 East Exchange street in the city of Sycamore, was born October 30, 1838, in Newstead, Erie county, New York. He is descended from New England ancestry, established in America in colonial days. His paternal grandparents were Orator and Hannah (Terry) Holcomb, natives of Massachusetts and of Connecticut, respectively. At an early day they removed to the Empire state, and after living for a time in Oneida county, New York, became residents of Erie county, where they remained until 1805, at which time they took up their abode in Canandaigua, Ontario county, New York. Four years later they settled at Attica, Wyoming county, which, however, at that time was a part of Genesee county. There Orator Holcomb purchased a tract of land that was a part of the Holland purchase and which had been sold by Robert Morris to the Amsterdam Company. The entire tract comprised three million, five hundred thousand acres in New York, lying along the Massachusetts border.

It was upon the old farm homestead there that George Holcomb, father of our subject, spent his early years. He was born, however, in Sangerfield, Oneida county, New York, June 8, 1798. His youth was largely devoted to assisting his father in clearing the land and cultivating the fields. In 1819 he was married to Bula Hosington, and started out in life on his own account with sixty acres of land, which he received as a gift from his father. The young couple began housekeeping

in a cabin built of bass wood logs, and when the place was sold a few years later they removed to the adjoining town of Darien, where Mr. Holcomb purchased another farm, which he operated for three years. He then again bought a farm adjoining his father's place in Attica township, but after a brief period removed to Orangeville, and still later to Darien. He again became a landowner there and while residing upon that farm was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife in 1836. In 1837 he was united in marriage to Caroline A. Hebbard, and they settled on a farm in Newstead, Erie county, New York, but in 1848 disposed of that property, preparatory to removing to Illinois. They traveled by team to Buffalo and then with their team and household goods embarked on a steamer which carried them to Chicago. From that place they drove across the country to De Kalb county, and George Holcomb purchased eighty acres on sections 34 and 35, Sycamore township. The only improvements upon the tract were a log house and straw stable, but the former was soon replaced by a comfortable frame dwelling and other modern improvements were afterward added. There the father lived until his death, carrying on the work of the farm successfully and energetically until he departed this life in October, 1878. In the meantime his second wife died and he married Harriet Stillwell.

Hiram Holcomb is the elder of the two children born of his father's second marriage and was but a boy when he came with his parents to the middle west. He attended the country schools and under his father's direction gained thorough and practical knowledge of agricultural pursuits. He also hauled wood with oxen in the early days, and he did the work of the farm at a time when most of the labor was performed by hand, there being little of the improved farm machinery now in use.

Mr. Holcomb was married on the 4th of February, 1863, to Miss Clara Benton Dow, a daughter of Agrippa Dow, who was born in New Hampshire and came with her parents to Illinois when only three months old, her father being a farmer of Mayfield township. Soon after his marriage Mr. Holcomb settled on the old homestead farm of one hundred and fourteen acres, where he carried on general agricultural pursuits and stock-raising, being thus successfully and extensively engaged until 1896, when he removed to Sycamore, where

he has since lived, occupying one of the pleasant and attractive residences of the city. He owned one hundred and fourteen acres and for some time he and his brother were in partnership, having two hundred and twenty-eight acres together.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Holcomb have been born four sons and a daughter, but two sons, George D. and Frank, are deceased. Those still living are: Sanford A., who married Clara Varly and lives in Sycamore; Arthur H., who wedded Clara Boynton and also lives in Sycamore; and Mildred Florence, the wife of Alvin Resch, who is in the printing business in Sycamore, being part owner of the *True Republican*. The sons are engaged in the lumber, grain and hardware business in Sycamore, in Esmond and Charter Grove, and are conducting business under the firm name of Holcomb Brothers, meeting with excellent success.

Mr. Holcomb exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the democracy, and in 1886 was elected on the party ticket to the general assembly, where he served for one term. For eighteen years he filled the office of road commissioner in Sycamore township, and at all times he has been loyal and progressive in citizenship, but his time and energies have been chiefly given to his farming and stock-raising interests, which have been to him a source of very gratifying success.

JEFFERSON O. STARK.

In the death of Jefferson O. Stark Sycamore and De Kalb county was called upon to mourn a citizen whom they could ill afford to lose, for his personal worth and business activity made him a valued resident of this part of the state. He was well known to the majority of citizens in De Kalb county, for his entire life was here passed. His birth occurred on the 4th of April, 1817, on the present site of the Ward house in Sycamore. He was a son of Marshall Stark, whose birth occurred in Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, August 12, 1813. The paternal grandparents, Oliver and Betsy (Dixon) Stark, were both natives of the Keystone state and were descended from old New England stock, tracing the line back to the same ancestry

from which General Stark of Revolutionary fame was descended.

Marshall Stark was reared in the county of his nativity and after acquiring a good education devoted his early life to teaching school during the winter months, while in the summer seasons he was engaged in the work of the farm. The tide of immigration was steadily flowing westward, bringing to the Mississippi valley hundreds of substantial settlers from the older east, who recognized the natural resources of the country and began its development. In the summer of 1835 Marshall Stark made his way to Illinois and secured a claim near Rockford in Winnebago county, but made no permanent settlement at that time. On returning to Pennsylvania he taught school through the succeeding winter but in the spring of 1837 he again came to De Kalb county, locating a claim on what are now sections 20 and 21, Sycamore township. He purchased his land from the government when it was placed upon the market and in true pioneer style began life in the west, his home being a log cabin which he built near the timber. He turned the first furrows in his fields and continued the work of improving his farm until the fall of 1841, when he again went to Pennsylvania, being married there on the 5th of October of that year to Miss Louisa Tyler, a native of Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania, born December 16, 1820, and a daughter of Royal and Mary (Southwick) Tyler, both of whom were natives of Connecticut. They settled in Pennsylvania in the fall of 1820 and there the daughter Louisa was reared to womanhood.

Two weeks after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Stark started for their new home in the west, driving across the country with horse teams. The log cabin remained their place of abode for three years and was then replaced by a more comfortable and pretentious frame residence, in which they resided for a long period. Careful of expenditures, industrious and energetic in his work, Mr. Stark entered upon an era of prosperity that gained him the reputation of being one of the most energetic, thrifty and capable business men in De Kalb county. His fitness for official service was also recognized and in 1848 he was elected sheriff of the county, in which capacity he served for three years. At the beginning of his service he removed to Sycamore and during his term of



J. O. STARK.

office he opened a hotel in Sycamore, which he conducted for six years. At the end of that time, however, he sold out his business interests in the county seat in 1853 and returned to his farm, which comprised five hundred acres of fine land, well improved and conveniently and pleasantly located about a mile and a half from Sycamore. He was called to several public offices, serving as assessor, school director and supervisor of his township, and was a member of the county board at the time of his death. He did not confine his attention to one line of business but extended his efforts to other fields of activity and became extensively interested in the lumber business, spending two winters in the pineries of Michigan. In 1874, in partnership with his son, Theron M., he established a large lumberyard in Sycamore, which he carried on with pronounced success until his death on the 26th of December, 1882, when he was sixty-nine years of age. He also engaged in buying and selling stock and grain for many years and that business proved equally profitable. In fact, he carried forward to successful completion whatever he undertook and his energy, ready adaptability and far-sighted sagacity constituted the salient factors in his financial advancement. Both he and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Sycamore, to the support of which they contributed liberally, making generous donations also for the erection of the house of worship and taking a helpful part in many of the church activities. Mrs. Stark survived her husband for about ten years and died July 1, 1892.

They were the parents of ten children: Harmon M., a farmer residing in Kingston township; Martha S. the wife of Hosea W. Atwood, living in Jasper county, Iowa; Mary E., the wife of L. C. Harris, of Genoa township; Jefferson O., of this review; Henry J., residing in Sycamore; Theron M., who also resides in Sycamore; Ada L., the wife of James Maitland, of Sycamore township; Ella A., the wife of A. W. Brower, of Sycamore; Emma J., the wife of Charles Wiggins, of Nebraska, and Hattie M., the wife of Burton W. Lee, of Sycamore township.

At the usual age Jefferson O. Stark began his education in the public schools. He was a youth of only eighteen when he enlisted in the army, the fires of patriotism burning strong within his

breast. It was on the 18th of February, 1865, that he was enrolled as a member of Company F, One Hundred and Forty-seventh Illinois Infantry, serving with distinction for a little more than a year, when he was honorably discharged, returning home with a creditable military record at the age of nineteen. There is nothing that so quickly develops the boy into the man as the hardships, rigors and experiences of war, and the boy who went to the front came home to take his place as a man in promoting the world's work. He engaged in buying and shipping stock and also in real estate operations and continued in these lines throughout his remaining days, meeting with pronounced success. For several years he acted as solicitor for the commission firm of Shannon Brothers, of Chicago. As the years passed his business grew to such proportion that he became one of the wealthy men of the county and at his death left to his family a valuable estate.

On the 13th of November, 1875, Mr. Stark was married to Miss Lydia Carver, a native of Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, who was born in Lemon township, August 1, 1850. She is a daughter of Jabez and Ellen (Jackson) Carver and now resides in a beautiful home at No. 633 De Kalb avenue, which she owns. Her friends are many and, as was her husband, she is held in high esteem by all who know her. Mr. Stark was a man of stout build, well proportioned, agreeable in manner and kindly in disposition, and had the good will and confidence of all who knew him. His name was a synonym for business integrity and activity and his genuine personal worth was widely acknowledged and drew to him the warm friendship and kindly regard of all with whom he was brought in contact.

FRANK NEWHALL.

Frank Newhall is residing upon the old Newhall homestead of fifty-one and one-half acres on section 6, Afton township. From his boyhood days he has lived in this county and has many friends within its borders. His birth occurred in Chesterfield, New Hampshire, on the 31st of December, 1844. The Newhall family is noted for longevity and the ancestry of the family can be traced back

to a remote period in the colonial history of America. The great-grandfather, Hiram Newhall, was born in 1738 and died in 1816, while the grandfather, William Newhall, was born June 10, 1783, and died June 6, 1858. His father, John P. Newhall, was a native of Athol, Massachusetts, born February 20, 1817, and in 1856 he brought his family to De Kalb county, casting in his lot with the early settlers. He followed farming until his death, which occurred March 7, 1898, and was regarded as a reliable, enterprising business man, who well merited the measure of prosperity that was accorded him. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Emeline Hopkins and whom he wedded on the 7th of November, 1841, was born in Massachusetts, July 25, 1819. She survived her husband for five years and passed away on the 8th of November, 1903.

Frank Newhall, of this review, was a lad of twelve years when he left New England and accompanied his parents on their removal to Illinois. Here he was reared on the home farm and throughout his entire life he has been connected with general agricultural pursuits. His educational privileges were those afforded by the common schools. After he had arrived at years of maturity he chose a companion and helpmate for life's journey, being married on the 4th of March, 1874, to Miss Sarah Duryee, who was born in Osseo, Michigan, on the 22d of October, 1853. She came with her parents to Illinois in 1860 and her father, who was a shoemaker by trade, is now living in California. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Newhall were born three children: Effie Belle, born August 1, 1876; Roy D., born March 4, 1878; and Nina C., March 16, 1892. The wife and mother was called to her final rest on the 4th of January, 1897, and her death was deeply regretted by many friends as well as her immediate family. She was a devoted and faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

In his political views Mr. Newhall is a republican, having been a staunch advocate of the party since he attained his majority. The cause of education finds in him a warm friend and he has served as school director for six years, while at the present writing he is a school trustee. He resides upon the old family homestead of fifty-one and one-half acres on section 6, Afton township, his daughter acting as his house-keeper since her

mother's death. He has lived a quiet, unassuming life, devoting his energies to his farm work, being recognized as a citizen of worth because of his loyalty to those interests which tend to promote public progress and advance the welfare of the community.

EDWIN P. KOOL.

Edwin P. Kool, who has been engaged in the tailoring business in De Kalb since 1901, is a native son of the middle west. He was born in Buffalo, Iowa, March 5, 1873, his parents being Edward P. and Mary (Herman) Kool. He is descended in the paternal line from Holland ancestry and in the maternal line is of German lineage. His father was born in Holland, February 22, 1833, and in early life learned and followed the tailor's trade. The mother's birth occurred in Heidelberg, Germany, April 19, 1844. They came to America in 1866 and settled at St. Louis, Missouri, whence they removed to Clinton, Iowa, and afterward to Morrison, Iowa, where they now reside. There were thirteen children in their family of whom two have passed away.

Edwin P. Kool, the fourth in order of birth, is indebted to the public-school system of Morrison, Iowa, for the educational privileges he enjoyed. He passed through successive grades and was graduated from the high school, after which he began learning the more difficult lessons in the school of experience. While still a student in the public schools he learned the tailor's trade, and when he put aside his text-books he engaged in business in that line. In 1901 he removed to De Kalb, where he opened a tailoring establishment at No. 118 North Third street, where he still continues. He carries a large line of tailoring goods, employs expert help and the work which he turns out is most creditable and receives the endorsement of the public generally.

Mr. Kool was married in Appleton, Wisconsin, January 8, 1898, to Miss Gertrude Kingsbury, who was born there March 4, 1880, a daughter of Frank and Clara (Gross) Kingsbury. Her father was born in Ripon, Wisconsin, July 7, 1864. Mrs. Kool was an only child and by her marriage has no children. Mr. Kool belongs to the Knights of

Pythias lodge and to the Elks lodge at De Kalb. He was at one time a musician in the state militia and he gives his political allegiance to the republican party, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Presbyterian church. He and his wife are pleasantly located at No. 315 Augusta street and their home is always open for the reception of their many friends. They occupy an enviable position in social circles and Mr. Kool is equally well known in business, having worked his way steadily upward to a position of prominence as a tailor in De Kalb. He well merits the success which has attended his efforts, and as the years have gone by he has become widely and favorably known in commercial circles.

FRANCIS EDWARD FINLEY.

Francis Edward Finley is the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of choice land on section 17, Pierce township. He was born in Batavia, Illinois, December 3, 1847, but has resided in Pierce township from the age of eight years, at which time he came to De Kalb county with his parents, Patrick and Bridget (Sally) Finley. The father was born in Ireland in 1824 and in the early '40s came to America, settling first in New York where he lived for several years. In 1845 he removed to Batavia, where he resided for eight or ten years, and on the expiration of that period took up his abode in Pierce township, where he resided until his death. He was a farmer by occupation, following that pursuit throughout his entire life, and in business met with good success, accumulating considerable property. He died in 1872, while his wife, who was born in Ireland in 1832, long survived him, passing away in 1892.

Francis Edward Finley became a student in the district schools of Pierce township, and, as the years passed by and age and strength increased more and more, he largely engaged in the work of the home farm. On the 15th of December, 1887, he wedded Miss Mary Finan, who was born October 28, 1867, daughter of Patrick and Katherine (Gaughan) Finan, both natives of Ireland. Her father, who was born in 1832, died in 1887, while the mother, who was born June 24, 1834, departed this life on the 15th of January, 1907. They came to

America in the later '40s, and, after residing some time in New York, removed to St. Charles, Illinois, afterward becoming residents of Victor township, where Mrs. Finley pursued her education in the district schools. Unto our subject and his wife were born eight children: Isabelle M., born February 25, 1888; Francis S., born December 17, 1890; Sylvester J., born October 22, 1892; Katherine, born February 22, 1895; Edward, born May 22, 1896; Richard, born November 12, 1899; Wilfred M., born April 3, 1903; and Dorothy C., born August 1, 1905.

Mr. Finley and his family are members of St. Mary's parish of De Kalb. He exercises his right of franchise in support of the democratic party. Though he inherited some property, the greater part of what he possesses has been accumulated through his own efforts. He has worked diligently and persistently to acquire a goodly measure of success and is now owner of one quarter section of land, which is very valuable. The farm is well tilled and well equipped and the honorable business methods and unfaltering industry of the owner have secured for him the confidence and regard of those with whom he has been brought in contact.

WILLIAM E. CLARKE.

William E. Clarke, now practically living retired on his fine farm of over five hundred acres, situated in Mayfield township, is one of the highly honored and respected citizens of De Kalb county. He is a native son of this country, his birth having occurred on a farm in Mayfield township, May 4, 1851. His parents, George and Amelia Lucy (Munt) Clarke, were both natives of England, the former born in Walthamstow, Essex county, February 1, 1823. He was there reared, educated and married, his wife being a daughter of Samuel Munt. In 1846 the father emigrated with his family to the new world, locating first in Du Page county, Illinois, where he made his home for two years and then took up his abode in De Kalb county, where he entered a tract of one hundred and sixty acres from the government, this land being located on section 29 in Mayfield township. In 1884 he left the farm in charge of his son.

George E. Clarke, and removed to Chicago, where he operated in real-estate to some extent, although he practically lived retired. His death occurred in that city in December, 1902, while his wife had preceded him to the home beyond, her death occurring on the old homestead farm, February 2, 1895. Their family numbered three sons and one daughter: William E., of this review; Alfred L., a farmer of Mayfield township; George E., who owns and operates the old homestead farm; and Lucy L., the wife of Orlando Drake, a farmer of Mayfield township.

William E. Clarke, the second member of the family, received his education in the common schools, while he was early trained to the duties of the home farm. He remained under the parental roof until he had reached the age of twenty-four, when he started out upon an independent career, choosing as his life work the occupation to which he had been reared. As the years passed he prospered in his undertakings until he is now the owner of a fine farm of over five hundred acres. He was for many years actively identified with agricultural pursuits but he is now practically living retired, leaving the more arduous duties to his sons, in whom he finds valuable assistants. His place is well improved with a good residence and modern and substantial outbuildings for the shelter of grain and stock, and thus the property has greatly enhanced in value since coming into his possession. Mr. Clarke is likewise interested in other realty, having land in the west and property in Chicago and in Sycamore, and he is also a stockholder in the telephone company at Sycamore and in the National Bank of Sycamore. He is everywhere known as an upright and honorable citizen, commanding the highest esteem of all with whom he is brought in contact.

On the 29th of June, 1875, occurred the marriage of Mr. Clarke and Miss Sophia C. McMillen, a daughter of Alexander McMillen, a farmer, whose home adjoined that of Mr. Clarke until his removal to Marshall county, Kansas, about twenty-five years ago. By her marriage Mrs. Clarke became the mother of six children: Evelyn A., who is acting housekeeper for her father; Flora C., who is now the wife of George Thompson, of Mayfield township; Della L., the wife of George Drake, also of this township; Ernest G., who is acting as assistant to his father in the manage-

ment of the farm; and Inez M. and William A., both under the parental roof. The wife and mother passed away in 1900, and thus the community lost one of its most estimable and highly respected women, while the family lost a devoted wife and mother.

Mr. Clarke gives his political support to the men and measures of the republican party, and for the past twenty years has served almost continuously as school director, while at various times he has acted as road commissioner. He attends the services and contributes to the support of the Methodist Episcopal church in Mayfield township. The family is one most highly respected throughout the community in which they live and Mr. Clarke is numbered among the wealthy citizens of this section of the state. He has spent his entire life in De Kalb county and the success which he today enjoys is well merited, for it has been won through high and honorable principles and through his own well directed efforts.

ROBERT KIRK RUNNER.

Robert Kirk Runner, manager of the gas plant at De Kalb, was born in Freeport, Illinois, January 31, 1876. His father, Americus J. Runner, was born in Pennsylvania, January 21, 1850, and died in the year 1880. He was a jeweler who during his business career was located at Freeport, where most of his life was passed. It was after his demise that his family changed their place of residence. In early manhood he wedded Ada C. Kirk, a native of Ohio, who is still living, making her home with her son, Robert K., in De Kalb. In the family were two daughters, and one son, our subject, who is the eldest.

Robert Kirk Runner was but five years of age at the time of his father's demise. The family afterward went to Kansas and he was educated in the public schools of that state. Subsequently he worked on a farm for one year, after which he was employed by a telephone company for two years. He then turned his attention to the gas business and for twelve years has been connected with this line of industry, being now manager of the gas plant at De Kalb. He came to this city from Freeport in 1901 and has here made his

home for six years. Gradually he has worked his way upward in business circles and occupies an excellent and remunerative position, for which he is well qualified, having thoroughly acquainted himself with the business in principle and detail.

In his political views Mr. Runner is a stalwart republican, having supported the party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He is a member of De Kalb council, No. 1059, R. A.; of De Kalb lodge, No. 155, I. O. O. F.; and in Masonry has taken the degrees of the blue lodge, chapter, commandery and of the Eastern Star. He has held offices in all of these—a fact which indicates his personal popularity with his brethren of the different organizations and his loyalty to the beneficent principles upon which these orders are based. He is a member of the First Congregational church of De Kalb, to which his mother and sisters also belong. Mr. Runner may truly be called a self-made man, for he started out in life without financial aid and has been dependent upon his own resources from early years. He has by honesty and energy climbed to a position of trust and responsibility and as manager of the De Kalb County Gas Company he is held in high esteem by his employers and by business men generally.

JONATHAN D. WOOLSEY.

Among the residents of Sycamore who in former years were identified with agricultural interests but are now living retired, is numbered Jonathan D. Woolsey, one of Ohio's native sons. He was born November 17, 1831, of the marriage of Thomas and Parthena (Olmsted) Woolsey. The father, also a native of Ohio, was born in 1800 and became one of the pioneer residents of De Kalb county, where he arrived in 1839, making his way to Sycamore. Soon after he purchased government land and engaged in farming, aiding in reclaiming a hitherto wild and uncultivated district for the purpose of civilization. He was a self-made man and a great reader, keeping in touch with the trend of modern thought as the years passed by. He became a local preacher and although he never had a regular charge he sup-

plied pulpits whenever a vacancy occurred. He would fulfill any preaching engagement even in the coldest weather and at personal sacrifice, and his influence was an element in the moral development of the community. He preached more funeral sermons and performed more marriage ceremonies than any other preacher in the county. His wife, Parthena Olmsted Woolsey, was born in New York and for many years they traveled life's journey together but were separated by the death of Mr. Woolsey at Sycamore in 1865. Mrs. Woolsey survived to the age of nearly eighty years. In the family were eight children, namely: John, a resident of Knox county, Illinois; Mary, the deceased wife of J. B. Jenness, who served as a musician with the Union army in the Civil war and who was afterward a resident of Sycamore; Elmira, who became Mrs. White and is now living in Minnesota but her husband is deceased; J. D., of this review; Meridan, the deceased wife of Chauncy Beckwith of Sycamore; W. B., who is living in California; Mrs. Minerva Hibbard, a resident of Denver, Colorado; and Russell, who died in childhood.

J. D. Woolsey is indebted to the public schools for the educational privileges he enjoyed in youth. He spent the first seven and a half years of his life in the state of his nativity and came with his parents to De Kalb county in 1839. Here he was reared to farm labor to the age of eighteen years, when he began learning the carpenter's trade, which he followed for a few years. Subsequently he learned blacksmithing and wagonmaking and was employed in those lines for ten years, but returning to the occupation to which he had been reared, he purchased one hundred acres of land in Sycamore township and took possession of the farm, which at that time, however, was little improved. He now owns one hundred and forty-seven acres of land under a high state of cultivation. He has made all of the improvements upon this property, adding to it modern machinery, good buildings and well kept fences. For thirty-six years he was actively and successfully engaged in farming and but a few years ago he retired and took up his abode in Sycamore. He now occupies a house which he owned when a young man but traded it toward his farm. It is now

again in his possession and he has remodeled it, making it a nice home.

In 1861 Mr. Woolsey was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Parker, a most estimable lady, who has been to her husband a faithful companion and helpmate on the journey of life. She is a very neat housekeeper, everything about her home being most attractive in appearance, and in manner she is pleasant and agreeable. She was born in Indiana and is a daughter of Nelson Parker, who settled on a farm near Kingston, De Kalb county, in 1855 but is now deceased. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Woolsey have been born four children, of whom three are living: Thomas, who resides on his father's farm; Ralph, who married Miss Dora Harrington and is living in Sycamore; and Lena, at home. The second son, Irving, died at the age of twenty-four years. Mr. and Mrs. Woolsey hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and his political support is given to the republican party. He derives his income from his farm of one hundred and forty-seven acres and he owes his success in life entirely to his own labors and the assistance of his estimable wife.

T. W. DODGE.

Among the wealthy and substantial residents of Malta is numbered T. W. Dodge, who since 1905 has lived retired in this village. He is one of the most extensive landowners of De Kalb county, having ten hundred and fifty acres situated in this county. Mr. Dodge was born May 30, 1838, in Mount Holly, Vermont, a son of Thomas and Eliza (Conant) Dodge, the former born February 2, 1809, in lower Canada, and the latter September 12, 1807. From Canada the father made his way to Vermont, where he made his home for some time. In 1863 he removed to De Kalb county, Illinois, and here carried on general agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred in 1893, when he had reached the very advanced age of eighty-five years. The mother passed away in 1875.

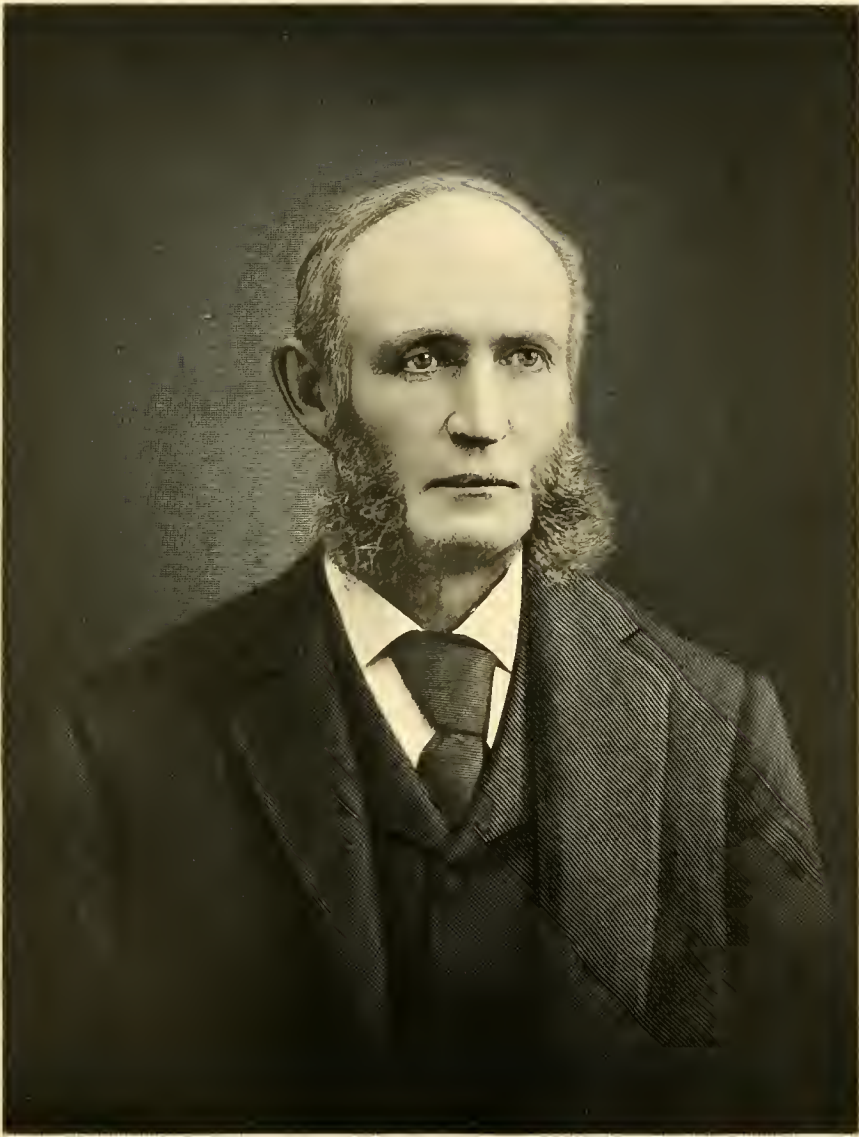
Mr. Dodge of this review acquired his education in the schools of Mount Holly and was graduated from the academy at Chester, Vermont, in 1860. After completing his education he engaged in teaching for seven years in Vermont, and in 1867

was married in that state to Miss Eugenia Upham, who was born in Windham, Vermont. Following his marriage he came to De Kalb county and here engaged in teaching for two years, subsequent to which time he removed to a farm in Malta township. He prospered in his undertakings and as the years passed by and his financial resources permitted he added to his landed possessions until he became owner of ten hundred and fifty acres, as stated above. During the years of his active connection with agricultural life he worked persistently and diligently, thereby acquiring the competence and the property that now enables him to live in honorable retirement. In 1905 he abandoned all business pursuits and removed to the village of Malta, where he is now spending his days in a pleasant home, surrounded by many friends and all the comforts of life.

Unto our subject and his wife have been born three sons and three daughters. James W., who was born July 26, 1868, is married and has three children. Mabel was born April 30, 1871, and is now the wife of Charles Adams, by whom she has two children. Arthur V. was born August 3, 1875. Roy E., who was born December 29, 1879, is married and has three children. He is now a resident of Oak Park, Illinois. Nellie E. was born April 10, 1882. Mary E., who completes the family, was born July 26, 1887.

Mr. Dodge has always supported the men and measures of the republican party and for the past eighteen years has served as supervisor of Malta township, being the present incumbent in that office. He has always kept well informed on political questions and issues of the day, taking an active interest in local political affairs and at all times doing his full duty in citizenship. During his long incumbency in the office of supervisor he has rendered most faithful and efficient service and that he has the endorsement of the public is indicated by the many times he has been chosen to the office.

In business life he has made a most excellent record and owes his success to his own labors. He was equipped for life's practical and responsible duties by a liberal education, but otherwise had few advantages to aid him as he started out in life. He realized that "there is no excellence without labor" and always fully understood that "there is no royal road to wealth." He therefore



J W Dodge

ASTOR, LENOX
TILDEN FOUNDATIONS.

started out determined to win advancement through diligence and honorable effort and has thus steadily worked his way upward, winning his prosperity through his indefatigable labor and judicious investments. His judgment is seldom, if ever, at fault in business matters, and he has never been known to take advantage of the necessities of his fellowmen in any business transactions. He is a man of exemplary habits and his interests are centered in his home and family. He has passed the sixty-eighth milestone on life's journey and his former years of toil and industry well entitle him to the rest which he is now enjoying. He and his family are highly respected, not only in Malta, but throughout De Kalb county, and their own pleasant home is noted for its gracious and warm hearted hospitality.

ESKET BAXTER.

Esket Baxter has for the past three years lived retired in a comfortable home in Creston, Ogle county, but for many years was actively engaged in agricultural pursuits in De Kalb county. He still owns seven hundred acres in Malta township and one hundred and fifty-four and a half acres in Dement township, Ogle county, from which he derives a good annual income. He was born January 2, 1847, at Georgehan, Devonshire, England, a son of James and Mary Ann (Darracott) Baxter, who were likewise natives of Georgehan, Devonshire, where they lived until 1858, when they emigrated to the new world. The father passed away in Malta township, August 12, 1885, while his wife had preceded him to the home beyond, her death occurring January 19, 1873.

Esket Baxter was a lad of ten years when he accompanied his parents on their emigration to the new world. He acquired his education in the district schools of De Kalb county but his advantages in this direction were very limited. However, he has greatly broadened his knowledge through experience, reading and observation. He was reared in much the usual manner of farm lads, assisting his father in the development of new land during the period of his boyhood and youth. He remained under the parental roof

until he attained his majority, when in 1871 he started out upon an independent business venture. He began farming on a tract of land on section 19, Malta township, and through his industry and economy he prospered in his undertakings, so that he was enabled from time to time to add to his landed holdings until he became the owner of seven hundred acres of well improved land in Malta township. In addition to this he also owns one hundred and fifty-four and a half acres in Dement township, Ogle county. He was for a long period engaged in general farming but three years ago abandoned all active business pursuits and with his wife removed to Creston in Ogle county, where he owns a residence, in which he is now living in honorable retirement. He is still remembered by the residents of De Kalb county as an honorable, upright man, who in all his dealings with his fellowmen commanded their respect and utmost confidence.

Mr. Baxter was married January 9, 1871, to Miss Harriet Griswold, who was born in Lake county, Ohio, in 1848, a daughter of Francis and Emeline (Warner) Griswold, early pioneers of De Kalb county. Unto our subject and his wife have been born five children, as follows: Amy Eliza, who is still with her parents; Malissa A., the wife of Charles Henderson, who operates a farm belonging to Mr. Baxter in Malta township; James, who married Anna Lang, likewise operating one of Mr. Baxter's farms in Malta township; Emma, the wife of William Lang, who resides on one of Mr. Baxter's farms in Dement township, Ogle county; and William, who wedded Cora Ferguson, also living on a farm in Malta township.

Mr. Baxter has always been an earnest supporter of the republican party, casting his first presidential ballot for General U. S. Grant. He served as school director for nine years, also served as pathmaster and filled several other minor offices. Both he and his wife are everywhere known for the charitable deeds which they have performed, ever being ready to lend a helping hand to the poor and needy. He is highly respected throughout De Kalb county, where for so many years he made his home, and although his residence in Creston has been brief he has already won many warm and lasting friends. Though starting out in life with a limited education and

without capital he has worked his way steadily upward from a humble position until today he is one of the most extensive landowners in this section of the state and his record is another indication of the fact that industry and well directed effort are sure to be rewarded by prosperity.

WILLIAM H. RAY.

There are leaders in every community—men who are prominent in molding public thought and action and whose labors are an essential element in growth, development and progress. Among the leading residents of Shabbona is numbered William H. Ray, who has figured prominently in public life because of his newspaper interests and also as an official. He has held various offices in the village and in the exercise of his official prerogatives has largely advanced the work of general improvement.

Mr. Ray is a native of Nassau, Germany, born November 13, 1843, and in July, 1849, he came to the new world with his parents, John and Elizabeth Ray, who located in Monroe county, New York. John Ray was a coal miner in Germany but became a farmer in this country. He resided in the Empire state for three years and in 1851 removed with his family to Kendall county, Illinois, where he first rented land. There he remained for four years, after which he spent one year in La Salle county, and in 1858 he came to De Kalb county, purchasing an eighty-acre tract of land in Victor township. For six years his time and energies were devoted to its further cultivation and development and in 1864 he removed to Shabbona township, where he made investment in two hundred and forty-three acres of land. There he lived until his death, which occurred on the 21st of February, 1892, at the age of seventy-two years. He was a good business man, an energetic agriculturist and at one time was successfully engaged in the dairy business, keeping thoroughbred Holstein cattle. In all of his business dealings he was reliable and trustworthy, never taking advantage of the necessities of others in a trade transaction. His life was characterized by high and honorable principles. He held membership in the Baptist church, in which he served as deacon for many

years and also as trustee, filling the latter position from the time of the organization of the church at Shabbona. He was charitable and kindly, giving freely of his means to relieve the necessities of others, and was known throughout the community as a good neighbor and faithful friend. His political allegiance was given the republican party and he held a number of township offices. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Enders, was born in Nassau, Germany, and died in 1892, at the age of seventy-three years. They were married in their native country in 1841 and, like her husband, Mrs. Ray was a member of the Baptist church.

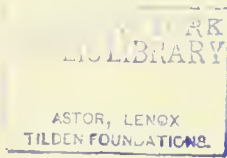
In their family were nine children, namely: William H., of this review; Ferdinand, who died at the age of twelve years; Henrietta, the wife of George Hochstrasser, a retired farmer living at Steward, Illinois; John Peter, a resident farmer of Shabbona township; Benjamin F., a businessman of Corning, Kansas; George A., who died in infancy; George A., the second of the name, who became a farmer of Boone county, Illinois; Emma, a resident of Shabbona; and Harriet A., the wife of M. L. Stevens, a merchant at Seaton, Illinois.

Mr. Ray was reared on the home farm and after attending the district schools became a student in Clark Seminary at Aurora. He taught school through five winter seasons and in 1871 he permanently left the farm, removing to Shabbona, where he became agent for the Chicago & Iowa, now a part of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company. He acted in that capacity for one year and at the same time was agent for the American Express Company. He continued with the latter company for twenty-two years as one of its most trusted and faithful employes. At that time the postoffice was called Malma and Mr. Ray was made postmaster, having the office in the depot. Previously the postoffice had been maintained about a mile and a half away from the town and he assumed the duties of that position in order to accommodate his friends. For a number of years he also acted as assistant to the railroad agent.

In October, 1876, he bought the interest of Bloodgood & Hunt, who were the founders of the *Shabbona Express*, and entered the field of journalism. The next year he became sole proprietor and editor of the paper by purchasing the inter-



WILLIAM H. RAY.



ests of Frank Bloodgood. The *Shabbona Express* was founded in May, 1876, by the firm of Bloodgood & Hunt and was first printed at Sandwich by Mr. Bloodgood, who was editor of the *Sandwich Free Press*. It was a six-column folio and was so printed until it was made a five-column quarto. In August, 1905, Mr. Ray enlarged the paper to a six-column quarto. It is an independent journal, well supported by a liberal subscription patronage, and also is a good advertising medium. Since 1886 he has published the *Lee Gazette*. He has a good job patronage and his business now proving quite profitable. In addition to his newspaper work he is agent for the North British Mercantile Fire Insurance Company.

In December, 1870, Mr. Ray was united in marriage to Miss Imogene Loucks, who was born in Oneida county, New York, in 1851, a daughter of Hiram and Amanda (Vosburg) Loucks, who came to Illinois in an early day and settled in Victor township. The father died at the age of sixty-nine years, while the mother passed away when seventy years of age. His grandfather was a participant in one of the Indian wars which occurred prior to the Revolution. His wife was Rebecca Burst, a daughter of Captain Burst, who was taken prisoner during the war for independence. Mr. Loucks was an active and influential citizen of his locality and did much toward molding the public policy and in shaping public thought and action. He was honored with several local and also with more important official positions, serving as supervisor of Victor township and also of Somonauk township, and later as a member of the state legislature. His family numbered five children.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Ray was born one child, Elizabeth Amanda, who was married in June, 1900, to W. W. Grant, an engineer on a passenger train on the Burlington road between Shabbona and Sterling. They have one son, Ray Kent, born December 1, 1905.

Mrs. Ray is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and is an estimable lady. Mr. Ray belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp, to the Knights of Pythias lodge and was chancellor commander of the latter. He has also been clerk of the Woodmen camp since its establishment in Shabbona. Recognized as one of the local lead-

ers in republican circles, he has been honored by his fellow citizens with election to various offices, serving for four years as president of the village board, as township clerk for nineteen years, as village clerk for eleven years and as school director for fifteen years. His official duties have always been discharged with promptness and fidelity and in his public service he has been actuated by a desire to promote the best interests, being always opposed to misrule in municipal affairs and standing for all things which are a matter of civic virtue and of civic pride.

J. W. LATIMER.

J. W. Latimer, widely known as a leading farmer, stock-raiser and breeder of De Kalb, was born in Franklin township, this county, November 26, 1866. His parents are natives of Ireland and came to America in 1865. The father worked as a farm hand by the month for five years, after which he cultivated rented land for four years and then, with the money he had saved from his earnings, he bought one hundred and sixty acres to which he removed, making that farm his home up to the present time. He has lived a life of thrift and industry and whatever success he has achieved is the reward of his own labors. In his family were six children, of whom J. W. Latimer is the oldest, the others being James H., Robert C., Thomas C., Herbert and Jennie M.

J. W. Latimer was reared to the occupation of farming and has always devoted his time to general agricultural pursuits. He acquired a common-school education and also spent one term as a student in Wheaton (Illinois) College, accomplishing the work of two terms in that time. On the 17th of September, 1890, he won a companion and helpmate for life's journey through his marriage to Miss Ollie Zellar, step-daughter of E. R. Zellar. She was born in Malta township, De Kalb county, May 18, 1863, and her mother was Mrs. Mercy Ann Ferguson, born in the year 1832. Mrs. Latimer acquired a good education in her girlhood days and afterward successfully engaged in teaching school for five years or up to the time of her marriage. The young couple began their domestic life upon her step-father's farm and for eleven

years Mr. Latimer engaged in the cultivation of that place on shares. Carefully saving his earnings he was at length justified in purchasing one hundred and sixty acres of land. He then removed to the farm which has since been his home. He has brought his fields under a high state of cultivation and uses the latest improved machinery in carrying on his farm work. Annually he gathers rich crops and in addition to the production of cereals best adapted to the soil and climate, he is well known as an extensive stock-raiser and feeder and holds the record for shipping one of the best carloads of cattle that ever left De Kalb county. He is also president of the De Kalb Percheron Horse Company. He believes in keeping high grades of stock and in this way has done not a little to advance the stock-raising interests of the county.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Latimer has been blessed with five children: William H., born July 13, 1891; Ernest L., born July 7, 1893; Mercy M., born December 1, 1896; Delia M., born February 17, 1898; and Jennie A., born March 10, 1904. Mr. and Mrs. Latimer are both devoted and faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Malta, and he belongs to the Knights of Pythias lodge, No. 217, of De Kalb. In politics he is a republican, active in the local ranks of his party and doing all in his power to promote its growth and to secure the adoption of its principles. For five successive terms, covering a period of fifteen years, he has served as school director and the cause of education finds in him a warm friend. Gradually in his business life he has made advancement and well deserves the proud American title of a "self-made man."

L. L. SAILOR.

L. L. Sailor, editor of the *Daily News*, which is published by the Barb City Printing Company, was born October 26, 1884, in Ford county, Illinois, his parents being John and Julia (Spence) Sailor. His father was a farmer by occupation and died March 18, 1892. The son received his education in the common schools at Saybrook and in Taylor University, Indiana, and Bloomington, Illinois, pursuing a successful course. He entered

the newspaper field immediately after leaving school and has always given his attention to journalistic interests since that time. He lived at Saybrook most of his boyhood and removed to De Kalb, September 20, 1906, since which time he has been connected with the Barb City Printing Company, as editor of the *Daily News*. His experience in newspaper work well qualifies him for this position and as editor of the paper he is doing excellent work. He is a young man of many sterling traits of character, has the confidence of the public and is popular in the locality where he resides.

H. G. HURT.

H. G. Hurt, who is the efficient mayor and is conducting a livery business in Malta, was born January 17, 1870. His father, B. F. Hurt, is a native of Elizabeth, New Jersey, born March 11, 1849. He came west to De Kalb county in the spring of 1864 and in the following spring, when a youth of sixteen, he offered his services to the government as a defender of the Union cause, enlisting in the Fifteenth Illinois Infantry, with which he continued until the close of hostilities. When the war was ended he returned to farm life in Malta township and for a long period was connected with agricultural pursuits. In 1869 he married Miss Nettie P. Walker, a daughter of John and Flora Walker, who were of Scotch descent. Mrs. Hurt was born in St. Charles, Illinois, in the year 1849 and went with her husband to the farm, where he had prepared a home for her. His attention was thereafter given to general agricultural pursuits until 1896, when he removed to the village of Malta and established a store, which he is still conducting. He is well known in business circles of the city and his position is that of one well worthy the trust of the public, for in all life's relations he has displayed sterling qualities of manhood. Unto him and his wife were born two sons, H. G. and J. F. Hurt, but the latter died in October, 1896.

H. G. Hurt was reared upon the old homestead farm and is indebted to the public school system of the county for the educational privileges he enjoyed. He is now engaged in the livery business.

to which he has devoted his time and energies for the past ten years or since leaving the farm in 1896. He owns the livery and a large feed barn, together with a bowling alley at Kirkland, this county. His residence in Malta is also his own property and he is conducting a profitable business in Malta as a liveryman.

Mr. Hurt was united in marriage to Miss Ella Fowler, a native of De Kalb county. He is a republican in politics and now holds the office of mayor and of supervisor of Malta, and was likewise alderman of the village for three years. His political service has been characterized by the utmost fidelity to duty and as the chief executive officer of the town he is giving a public-spirited and practical administration. He belongs to the Foresters, the Knights of the Globe, and to the Knights of Pythias lodge, No. 541, at Malta, and he and his wife attend and support the Congregational church.

J. W. MYERS.

J. W. Myers, who for many years has been connected with farming interests in this county, was born in Wayne county, Ohio, January 4, 1840, and is a son of George and Naomi Myers, who were natives of Pennsylvania. They were married, however, in Ohio and several children were born unto them while they were residents of that state. Their family numbered altogether thirteen children, six of whom first opened their eyes to the light of day in the Buckeye state, while seven were natives of Illinois, born in Du Page and De Kalb counties. Coming to this state, the family lived as farming people and finally opened up a farm on the wild prairie in Pierce township, De Kalb county. They underwent all of the hardships and privations of life on the frontier in an effort to develop a farm with crude machinery, but as the years passed their labors were crowned with a goodly measure of success. The father died when fifty-five years of age and the mother survived him for about twenty-eight years, being almost an octogenarian at the time of her demise. Some of the members of the family are now scattered over the west, while others remain in De Kalb county.

John Wesley Myers, the only representative of

the family who lives at Cortland, has engaged in the practice of veterinary surgery as a life work. The public schools afforded him his educational privileges and his youth was largely a period of earnest and unremitting toil, for he aided in the development and improvement of the home farm.

After attaining his majority he was married, on the 16th of November, 1857, to Miss Lucia Laurene Crandall, of Cortland, who was born April 26, 1844, and died January 26, 1897. She was the mother of ten children: Ellen L., who was born June 16, 1860; Elizabeth J., who was born July 22, 1861; Jennie N., July 22, 1864; Ira E., January 23, 1868; James W., July 22, 1871; Nellie M., January 4, 1875; Robert D., November 12, 1877; John W., February 3, 1880; George W., February 11, 1882; and Charles M., June 22, 1884. There was also a little daughter that died unnamed, making eleven children in all. Of these, Ellen L., Jennie, Nellie and George W. Myers have departed this life, while the other members of the family still reside in the community where they were born and all are now married and in homes of their own.

On the 26th of May, 1897, Mr. Myers was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Cynthia A. Smith, who was born April 8, 1843, and who bore the maiden name of Cynthia A. Stevens. She is a native of Erie county, Pennsylvania, and was married August 30, 1863, to Charles J. Hoag, of Dover, New York. Their children were: Hannah L. Hoag, born February 5, 1864; Charles A., born May 27, 1866; and Samuel C., born April 20, 1868. Of this number Hannah was married December 28, 1881, to Albert L. Smith, and her death occurred March 4, 1886. Samuel C. died February 1, 1883, while the surviving son, Charles A. Hoag, is now a resident of De Kalb. He married Miss Nellie Van Amburg, of Cortland. Mrs. Hoag and her children came to Illinois on the 1st of May, 1871, and settled in De Kalb. She was married August 18, 1873, to Charles O. Smith, of Cortland, by whom she had one son, Richard Anson Smith, born March 1, 1875. He is now practicing dentistry in Spring Valley, Illinois. The father, Charles O. Smith, was actively identified with business interests in Cortland for some time, or until his death, which occurred April 19, 1893. Four years later Mrs. Smith gave her hand in mar-

riage to Mr. Myers, the wedding being celebrated on the 26th of May, 1897.

Mr. Myers resides in Cortland, being well known and having many warm friends in the village and throughout the surrounding district. Mrs. Myers has been mother and step-mother to three sets of children and has done her full duty by all, being the ministering spirit in many lives. She is highly esteemed in Cortland and vicinity by all with whom she has come in contact.

JOHN H. RILEY, M. D.

With a thorough understanding of the responsibilities and duties that devolve upon him in connection with the practice of medicine and surgery, Dr. Riley, through his devotion and fidelity, has made for himself a creditable name in connection with the practice of his profession in De Kalb. A native of New York, his birth occurred in Sandy Hill on the 25th of November, 1875. His father, John Riley, was born in Ireland on Christmas day of 1827, and came to America in early manhood. He wedded Anna E. McGough, who was born at Sandy Hill, New York, and was of Irish lineage. She is now deceased. In their family were six children, of whom John H. is the third in order of birth. The father served as a soldier of the civil war, remaining for three years with the Sixty-ninth New York regiment.

John H. Riley spent the days of his youth in his parents' home and continued his early education by a year's study in the high school at Sandy Hill, New York. Later he passed a year in Union University of Schenectady, New York, and for two years was a student in Albany Medical College and also for a similar period in the University of Baltimore. After leaving college he was head physician in Baltimore University Hospital for two years and also spent a similar period in Bellevue Hospital in New York city.

Coming to the west, he located in De Kalb, Illinois, for the practice of medicine and surgery and has here remained since January, 1901. He was also a surgeon for the Red Star steamer line and made several trips to and from Cuba, Porto Rico, Brazil, Ecuador, Venezuela and Costa Rica, together with other South American provinces.

He has already had a broad, varied and valuable experience as a physician and surgeon, and he is making continued progress in his profession by means of comprehensive study and reading. He expects to complete his education in the line of his profession in New York and Germany, and there continue his studies under some of the best teachers and professional men of the old world. He is now on the surgical staff of St. Elizabeth's hospital in Chicago and he is a member of the State Medical Society, the American Medical Society and the De Kalb Medical society. In his private practice he has had phenomenal success. He is today recognized as one of the ablest young members of the medical fraternity in De Kalb county. He frequently calls in consultation some of the prominent members of the profession of Chicago and the years are marking a steady advance in his professional career.

In his political allegiance Dr. Riley is a democrat. He has never sought or desired office, however, preferring to give his undivided time and attention to his business interests. He is a man in every sense of the word, reliable and honorable in all transactions and relations of life, and in De Kalb county is popular and prominent socially as well as professionally.

RUDOLPH HEIDEKLANG.

Rudolph Heideklang, who for fifteen years has engaged in the hotel business, being proprietor of the Johnson Hotel at No. 127 South Main street, Sycamore, was born in Prussia, Germany, October 14, 1843. He was educated in the common schools and was reared to manhood there, learning the trade of a baker and confectioner in his youth. In 1866 he was in the war between Prussia and Austria, and the following year came to America, settling in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he worked at his trade for about a year. He was then employed in a similar way in Chicago and in 1870 came to De Kalb, where he secured a position in a bakery and confectionery establishment. He afterward located in Rochelle, Ogle county, where he followed his trade until 1890, when he returned to Sycamore and became proprietor of the Johnson Hotel, which he has since conducted with ex-



John H. Riley M. D.

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cellent success, winning many friends among the traveling public and having a large patronage. To the comfort of his guests he ministers in keeping with the most advanced ideas concerning the hotel business.

Mr. Heideklang married Lena Schenholtz, of Lee county, Illinois, and they have five children: Carl, who is a practicing attorney; Eda, who married Ernest Swanson and lives near her father; Frank, a plumber, of Sycamore; Carrie, the wife of Frank St. Clair, of Aberdeen, South Dakota; and Robert, who is attending school in Chicago.

In politics Mr. Heideklang is independent. He is one of the leading Odd Fellows of Sycamore, chairs and is now warden in the lodge. He has been a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen since 1879 and he and his wife are members of the Universalist church.

WILLIAM TODD.

William Todd, who is engaged in general farming in Shabbona township, was born in Wales in 1847. His father, Owen Todd, was also a native of that rock-ribbed country and in 1847 he came to the United States, settling in Schuylkill county, Pennsylvania, near Mauchestown. He was a coal miner for five years and followed that pursuit in the Keystone state. In 1852 he came to Illinois, settling on section 28, Shabbona township, where he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of good land. Though his educational advantages were limited, he was a man of good business capacity and prospered in his undertakings. Attracted by the discovery of gold in California, he made his way to that state in 1849 and began the search for the precious metal in the mines of the far west. Becoming ill with Panama fever, he returned to Illinois at the end of a year, having but little more capital than that with which he had started out. He retired from the farm in 1886 and took up his abode in Shabbona, his last days being spent at the home of his son. In his farming operations he was active and energetic, carefully cultivating the fields and securing thereby good harvests annually. He held membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, in the work of which

he took an active part. In politics he was a republican, becoming a naturalized American citizen in Pennsylvania, and from that time forward he was most devoted to the interests of his adopted country. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Ann Morgan, was born in Wales and died in 1881, on the seventy-eighth anniversary of his birth, while Mr. Todd passed away in 1891, at the age of eighty-four years. She was also a member of the Methodist church and was a worthy Christian woman.

They had thirteen children but all of them have now passed away with the exception of William Todd of this review. The three oldest children were born in Wales and the others in this country. Owen Todd, Jr., a brother of our subject, served as a soldier in the Civil war. He enlisted at Shabbona Grove in 1861 in the Fifty-eighth Illinois Volunteer Infantry as a member of Company C and served for three years and two months. He was mustered out at Savannah, Georgia, after having experienced all the rigors and hardships of war. He was with Sherman for some time and the first battle in which he participated was at Fort Donelson. He was in many other engagements under the intrepid Sherman including the famous march to the sea. At Corinth, Mississippi, he was taken prisoner and was imprisoned at Belle Isle, at Richmond, Virginia, for eight months at the end of which time he was paroled. In the meantime he had been ill in the hospital and that he suffered all the hardships of southern prison life is indicated by the fact that he weighed one hundred and forty pounds when captured and when released weighed only ninety-two pounds.

William Todd, whose name introduces this record, obtained his education in the district schools of Shabbona township and was reared to farm life, early becoming familiar with the work of plowing, planting and harvesting. He began farming for himself in 1871 in Shabbona township upon a tract of land which he rented. After a year he bought sixty acres of land on section 32, Shabbona township, where he is still living. In addition to this place, he owns one hundred and sixty acres on section 28 of the same township. He carries on general farming, raising the cereals best adapted to the soil and climate, and he also raises cattle, being a breeder of Herefords. His business interests have been carefully conducted

and have brought him a large measure of success, his holdings now comprising three hundred and forty acres.

In 1871 Mr. Todd was married to Augusta Baltz, who was born in Germany in July of 1863 and who is the daughter of Henry and Nellie Blatz, both of whom were natives of Germany. They came to the United States in 1855 and settled in Du Page county. The father was a woolen worker by trade and he died in Du Page county in 1856, while his wife passed away in De Kalb county. They were the parents of eight children, of whom Mrs. Todd was the seventh in order of birth. By her marriage she became the mother of eight children: Robert, who is farming in Paw Paw township; David D., a resident of Shabbona township; Mary, the wife of Wid Kittle, a resident of the village of Shabbona; Edward, who is a telegraph operator at Sandwich; John and Will, who are attending school; and Anna and Estelle, who are also attending school. There are also twelve grandchildren. Mr. and Mrs. Todd are consistent and faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Mr. Todd is an ardent republican giving unwavering support to the principles of his party. Fraternally he is connected with the Aurora lodge, Knights of Pythias, and with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Almost his entire life has been spent in this country where he has now resided for more than half a century. He has witnessed many changes as the work of improvement and progress has been carried forward and as the years have gone by he has borne his full share in the task of developing the county, supporting its principal public enterprises. In his business life he has been reliable, diligent and persevering and as a result of these qualities has met with prosperity.

EDWARD GORHAM.

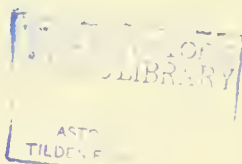
Edward Gorham, of Kirkland, is now living a retired life, but for years was one of the active and prosperous farmers of Franklin township, owning and conducting an excellent farm property. More than half a century has passed since he came to the county and he has therefore witnessed the

greater part of its growth and improvement, while in agricultural lines he has contributed much to its substantial development. His birth occurred in Genesee county, New York, March 23, 1842. His father, Charles Gorham, was a native of Vermont, was there reared and afterward went to Genesee county, New York, where he met and married Miss Emeline Peck, a native of the Empire state. He was a shoemaker and followed that trade throughout his active life in the east. In 1855 he removed westward to Illinois, settling on a farm near Kirkland, where he carried on agricultural pursuits for a few years and then moved to Belvidere, where he continued in business for several years. His family numbered nine sons and three daughters, of whom seven sons and one daughter reached years of maturity. Three of the brothers were soldiers of the Union army in the Civil war and Harris Gorham was killed in the service at Peach Tree Creek, Georgia.

Edward Gorham of this review was a youth of thirteen years when he came with his parents to Illinois and upon the home farm he remained with his father until eighteen or nineteen years of age, after which he began earning his living by working as a farm hand in the neighborhood. On the 10th of August, 1861, he responded to the country's call for troops, joining Company K of the Forty-second Illinois Infantry, which was the first regiment of the Douglas brigade. He went to Chicago and was mustered in at Camp Douglas, after which he proceeded southward with his regiment, being first under fire in the battle of New Madrid, Missouri. Later he took part in the engagement at Island No. 10 and was in the battles of Stone River, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge and Lookout Mountain. He then went on a forced march to Knoxville to relieve Burnside, remaining there all winter at camp at Stone's Mill. There Mr. Gorham re-enlisted and then went back to Chattanooga, where he was given thirty days' furlough. Later he was in the engagements of the Atlanta campaign and the capture of Atlanta. The regiment then returned to Nashville under General Thomas and was in the fights at Franklin, Spring Hill and Nashville. Becoming ill, Mr. Gorham was sent to the hospital at Murfreesboro, but later rejoined his regiment and continued at the front until after the close of the war, being honorably discharged on the 18th of June, 1865. He then



MR. AND MRS. EDWARD GORHAM.



returned to De Kalb county and resumed work upon the home farm.

On the 15th of March, 1866, Mr. Gorham was married to Miss Josephine E. Caswell, who was born in Belvidere, Illinois, but was reared at Kirkland, a daughter of Marcus Caswell and a step-daughter of William H. Rowan, one of the old settlers. The young couple began their domestic life upon a rented farm, where they lived for two years, after which Mr. Gorham purchased one hundred acres of land, which he cultivated for three years. He then sold out and bought sixty acres of raw brush land, which he cleared, building thereon a good residence and improving a farm, which was pleasantly situated within a mile of Kirkland. There he carried on general agricultural pursuits from 1871 until 1897 and as the years went by met with a gratifying measure of prosperity. After the war he bought and operated a threshing machine for thirty years, owning and operating a steam thresher for fourteen years, in which connection he did work all over De Kalb and Boone counties. In 1885 he removed to Kirkland, where he erected a neat residence that he now occupies. He carried on the farm, however, until 1897. He is a natural mechanic and for three years worked in a wagon shop in Kirkland and later at carpentering during the busy season. He has sold the old homestead and purchased two small farms, one in Kingston and the other in Franklin township. At the present writing, however, he is practically living retired in the enjoyment of a rest which he has truly earned and richly deserves.

Mr. and Mrs. Gorham had one son, Ed J. Gorham, who died when a young man of seventeen years, passing away February 14, 1897. In his political views Mr. Gorham has been an earnest republican since casting his first presidential ballot for General Grant in 1868. He was elected township collector for two terms, served on the city board as one of its trustees and has been road commissioner for one year. In the spring of 1907 he was elected assessor of Franklin township. His official duties have ever been promptly and faithfully performed. He is a member of the Kingston lodge of Masons and his wife of the Eastern Star, while he also belongs to the Grand Army post of Kirkland, of which he has now served as commander for six years. He is likewise a member

of the Modern Woodmen camp and both he and his wife are of Spiritualistic faith. In all matters of citizenship Mr. Gorham has been as loyal and patriotic as he was when he followed the old flag upon southern battlefields.

HENRY A. ADAMS.

Honored and respected by all, there is no man who occupies a more enviable position as a representative of the business life of Sandwich than Henry A. Adams, the superintendent of the Sandwich Manufacturing Company. His enterprise, his strong purpose, his progressive spirit and his consideration of his employes, all combine to make him a man whose record excites the admiration and has won the regard of those with whom he has been brought in contact either through business or social relations.

Mr. Adams is a native of Pine Valley, New York. He was born January 21, 1837, a son of the Hon. Augustus Adams, who is mentioned elsewhere in this volume. The removal of the family to the west led him to pursue his education as a student in the schools of Elgin, Illinois, and he obtained a practical knowledge of mechanics in the machine shop with his father. He is thoroughly familiar with the business in its practical workings as well as in the department requiring careful management of financial affairs, and his thorough understanding of the trade has undoubtedly been one of the strong elements in his success. He came with his father to Sandwich and remained a member of the firm until its incorporation, since which time he has been superintendent of the company, which employs about three hundred operatives in the factory and thirty traveling salesmen upon the road. The output is farm implements and machinery and progress has been continuously made in keeping with the trend of invention and improvement which have characterized mechanical construction in the new world.

On the 29th of September, 1859, occurred the marriage of Henry A. Adams and Miss Augusta Carpenter, of Sandwich. They have three daughters and a son: Minnie G., born December 31, 1862; H. May, March 19, 1867; Charles H., July

28, 1870; and Jessie, July 13, 1872. The parents are members of the Congregational church.

Mr. Adams is a republican in his political views and has served for several terms as alderman and also as school director. Community affairs awaken his deep interest and his aid has been a salient factor in progress and improvement along many lines here, while his business career has been of the utmost benefit to the city, furnishing employment to a large force of workmen. It has justly been said that he who pays weekly hundreds of dollars over his counters to those in his service does more for his country than the military commander who leads armed forces forth to battle, for the former furnishes the means of sustaining life and the latter of necessity of destroying it. Mr. Adams' policy with his men has been most commendable. He is fair and just in his treatment and his employes recognize the fact that faithfulness on their part will gain promotion as opportunity offers. He will tolerate no dishonorable methods on the part of any employe and in fact his entire business has been run upon the principle that honesty is the best policy. He has endeavored to maintain a high standard of workmanship, so that the output will reach the utmost perfection attainable and as a result the Sandwich Manufacturing Company has gained a most creditable reputation in business circles wherever the house is known.

SEYMOUR MERRITT HUNT.

Seymour Merritt Hunt is secretary and general manager of the Standard Foundry & Manufacturing Company of De Kalb and also president of the Sycamore Wagon Works. He is one of De Kalb's native sons, having been born here on the 16th of August, 1867. His successful business career had its beginning in the position of bookkeeper, since which time he had gradually progressed until now he stands at the head of an enterprise which figures prominently in industrial circles in this county. He owes his advancement to the fact that he has thoroughly mastered every task devolving upon him, to the readiness with which he has recognized opportunities and his adaptation of new conditions evolved in business life to the methods of the present day, and though yet a

young man he is regarded as one of the more prominent representatives of commercial and manufacturing interests in De Kalb county.

Horace D. Hunt, the father of our subject, was born in Ashtabula county, Ohio, July 15, 1838, and for many years followed farming and stock-buying, but is now living retired. He wedded Mary J. Simonds who was born in Rutland county, Vermont, February 24, 1841.

In the public schools of De Kalb, Seymour Merritt Hunt acquired his early education, which was supplemented by a commercial course in the Metropolitan Business College of Chicago. After leaving school he became bookkeeper for W. L. Ellwood and acted in that capacity for five years. He afterward spent fourteen years with the Sycamore Foundry Company as secretary and later organized the Standard Foundry & Manufacturing Company of De Kalb, of which he is secretary and general manager as well as one of the heavy stockholders. This enterprise has proved profitable from the beginning and is now a business of large proportions and liberal patronage. Mr. Hunt is likewise president and one of the large stockholders of the Sycamore Wagon Works and in these connections furnishes employment to a large force of workmen. His business interests have ever been of a character such as contribute to the general prosperity as well as to individual success.

On the 26th of June, 1895, in De Kalb, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Hunt and Miss Lettie E. De Forest, who was born in Afton township, De Kalb county, July 3, 1870. They now have one son, Lansing De Forest Hunt, who was born October 17, 1902. Mrs. Hunt is a daughter of Lansing and Lurena De Forest.

In his political views Mr. Hunt is a stalwart republican, while socially he is connected with the Knights of Pythias lodge, No. 215, and the Elks lodge, No. 765, both at De Kalb. Energetic, prompt and notably reliable in all his business transactions, he has wrought along progressive business lines and each forward step has brought him a broader outlook and greater opportunities. The qualifications with which nature endowed him, well fits him for leadership in business circles and his prosperity but represents the fit utilization of the powers which are his. He has been and is distinctively a man of force and one who is wielding a wide influence. His family occupy a beauti-

ful home at No. 315 North Third street, De Kalb, and while it is richly and tastefully furnished, one of its most attractive features is its warm hospitality. Both Mr. and Mrs. Hunt have spent their entire lives in this county and are most widely and favorably known.

TIMOTHY R. RICKER.

Timothy R. Ricker is one of the venerable citizens of Cortland, having attained the age of seventy-nine years. He is still, however, an active, energetic man, who conducts an apiary and is interested in affairs concerning public welfare and progress. He was born in Moultonboro, New Hampshire, on the 6th of June, 1828, but he always speaks as having come from Waterboro, Maine, for in his early boyhood days he became a resident of that place. His parents were Benjamin and Judith (Pitts) Ricker, who removed from the Pine Tree state and located at the foot of the White mountains in New Hampshire, where they were engaged in the manufacture of maple sugar—or the sap bush business, as it was then called. They were living in that state at the time of the birth of their son Timothy. The members of the Ricker family were Moses P., Sarah, Eunice, Timothy, Benjamin F. and Alice, all of whom grew to years of maturity save Eunice, who died in infancy. The father's failing health caused the family to return to the old home in Maine, Timothy being at that time a little lad of six summers. He continued his residence there until he was fourteen years of age, when he went to Great Falls, New Hampshire, and entered upon an apprenticeship to the shoemaker's trade. Remaining in the old Granite state, he worked at his trade for a time and also in a cotton factory until he reached his majority.

On the 23d of March, 1852, was celebrated the marriage of Timothy R. Ricker and Miss Anastasia S. Carlton, of Weld, Maine, a daughter of Ezra and Mary Carlton. Mrs. Ricker was born December 23, 1828, and was one of a family of ten children, namely: Thurza Ann; Anastasia; Hiram; David; Ezra and Mary, twins, who were named for their parents; Clymenia; Thaxter; Wallace; and Jefferson. Mrs. Ricker's family all came to

the west but Mr. Ricker's people remained in New England.

The day following their marriage Mr. Ricker and his bride removed to Lynn, Massachusetts, where he worked at the trade of shoemaking, doing sole work in that town before the day of the great shoe factories. Everything was done by hand, save that machines were used in stitching cloth top shoes. Mr. Ricker worked there for about three years and then came direct to Cortland, arriving in the town that has been his home for more than half a century on the 10th of June, 1855. In the years which have come and gone he has ever remained one of the honored residents of Cortland, respected by all because of his genuine worth.

Three children were born unto Mr. and Mrs. Ricker: Luella Lynn, born in Lynn, Massachusetts, October 8, 1853; Clydeia Florence, who was born September 17, 1861, and died November 7, 1871; and Leon Maitland, born January 11, 1866. The mother died November 3, 1870, just one year and four days prior to the death of her little daughter, and they were laid to rest in the family burial plot in Cortland cemetery. The elder daughter, Luella Lynn Ricker, was married July 25, 1873, to Merritt Powell Crossette, who belonged to one of the pioneer families of De Kalb county. He was born March 23, 1849, and was the eldest of the eight children whose parents were Sheldon and Eliza Crossette. Mr. and Mrs. Merritt Crossette have one child, Charles Belmont Crossette, who was born in Chicago, March 26, 1875, and was married September 19, 1900, to Miss Ethel McMann, of Rochelle, Illinois. They are now living in South Haven, Kansas, and have two children: Percy Belmont, born January 20, 1902; and Cyril Burr, born January 26, 1906, and who call Timothy R. Ricker great-grandfather. Leon M. Ricker, the only son of Timothy R. Ricker, received his early education in the Cortland schools and also attended the public schools of Chicago for two years. He was married September 21, 1905, to Mrs. Mae E. Chillis, of Warren, Illinois, a daughter of Edward and Mae Morris of Warren. Leon M. Ricker served as postmaster in Cortland for eight years, receiving the appointment from William McKinley. He has acted as constable of the township for several years and has been engaged in general merchan-

dising in Cortland since March, 1901, enjoying a profitable business here. His father is frequently in the store, dividing his time to suit himself. Timothy R. Ricker also has an apiary, having at times as many as one hundred stands of bees, and the honey produced therein brings to him a good income.

The Rickers have always been prominent in fraternal circles, especially as representatives of the Odd Fellows society. The father has passed all of the chairs in both the subordinate lodge and the encampment and has been secretary of Cortland lodge since 1872, while Leon M. Ricker has been its treasurer since 1896. The latter has passed through all the chairs in Cortland lodge, No. 209, I. O. O. F., which he joined at the age of twenty-one years. He is past noble grand of the same and past patriarch of Kishwaukee encampment, No. 30, of De Kalb. He also belongs to the Rebekah lodge at Harvey. The son-in-law, M. P. Crossette, is a past noble grand of Cortland lodge, No. 209, I. O. O. F., and past chief patriarch of Kishwaukee encampment, No. 30, while both he and his wife are connected with Rebekah lodge, No. 471, at Rochelle. In former years Mr. Crossette was a railroad conductor but failing health compelled him to give up that position. His wife is also connected with the ladies' auxiliary of the Order of Railway Conductors. Mr. Ricker of this review, however, is entitled to especial distinction in connection with his fraternal relations, for he became a member of Cortland lodge, No. 209, I. O. O. F., on the 8th of May, 1857, and is now its oldest living member. He became a member of Kishwaukee encampment, No. 30, at Lodi, now Maple Park, June 28, 1865, and has since been identified with both branches of the fraternity. He received the grand lodge and grand encampment degrees in October, 1874, in Chicago, and since that time has not missed a session of either—a record equaled by few representatives of the organization. He is an honorary member of the canton No. 59 at De Kalb and also has been affiliated with the Rebekah lodge in De Kalb since the '60s. When he had been a member of Cortland lodge for twenty-five years he was given the veteran's badge as a mark of special distinction, and on the 8th of May, 1907, he completed fifty years' membership and was eligible at that time to the fifty year veteran badge.

Mr. Ricker has always voted with the republican party since its organization. His ancestors were free soil democrats. His first presidential vote was cast for General Winfield Scott and he afterward voted for the pathfinder, John C. Fremont, since which time he has been a stalwart supporter of the republican party. He is numbered among the honored pioneer residents of the county and can relate many interesting incidents of the early days. He was busy at the shoemaker's bench for thirty years after he came to Cortland. He would hunt by day and work at the bench at night and in these ways secured a good income. He saved his money and in his old age is surrounded by the comforts of life. He takes great pleasure in reviewing the history of the past, his face lighting up as he recalls reminiscences of the early days, and again he is young in spirit and interests. Few men in this part of the country are better known than Timothy R. Ricker and no resident of Cortland is more esteemed or more fully deserves the good will and respect of his fellowmen.

GEORGE I. TALBOT.

George I. Talbot, who is engaged in the real-estate and insurance business in De Kalb, with a large clientage that is indicative of his energy and unflinching determination, was born in Wyoming county, New York, April 19, 1854. His parents were Alfred and Celia (Hunt) Talbot. The father was born in the town of Conton, Nottinghamshire, England, December 15, 1823, and was a farmer by occupation. At the age of twenty-one years he came to America and in this country married Miss Celia Hunt, who was born in Wyoming county, New York, December 14, 1829. He was a farmer by occupation and in 1858 the parents came to Illinois, settling in Paw Paw township, De Kalb county. In their family were four children, of whom George I. is the second.

In the public schools George I. Talbot pursued his education, becoming a high-school student at Leland, Illinois, and completing his course in the Illinois State Normal University, graduating in the class of 1878. After leaving college he taught school for three years and was then elected county superintendent of schools for De Kalb county, in



Geo. S. Talbot

ALSO A

WENOX
FOUNDATIONS.

which capacity he served for nine years, proving most capable in the office. He raised the standard of education and did much to promote the interests of the schools during his incumbency, introducing many practical and valuable methods. On his retirement from the office he took up the business of real estate in Chicago and later was connected with the school-book publishing business in that city for six years as a member of the firm of Eaton & Company, with offices in the Fine Arts building. Four years ago he entered into the insurance and real-estate business in De Kalb. While in the real-estate business in Chicago he was president of the Suburban Electric Company, which built and equipped forty-two miles of electric railroad in Cook county. He now has a good clientage in both branches of his business in De Kalb, negotiating many important realty transfers annually and also writing a large amount of both fire and life insurance. He formed a partnership with W. F. Wittberger and they are recognized as one of the most prominent firms in the city, having had an extensive business since the formation of the partnership on the 1st of January, 1906.

On the 4th of October, 1879, Mr. Talbot was united in marriage in Pontiac, Illinois, to Miss Luey E. Maxwell, who was born in Johnsonburg, New Jersey, June 15, 1855, a daughter of Rev. John and Luey (Babcock) Maxwell. The father was born in Connecticut in 1813 and was a minister of the Christian church, to the work of which he devoted his time and attention with untiring zeal. Unto him and his wife were born ten children, two of whom are now deceased. Mrs. Talbot was the eighth in order of birth. By her marriage she became the mother of five children: Roy M., born December 2, 1880; Jessie Edna, born December 2, 1882; George W., August 24, 1884; Paul B., April 1, 1887; and Charles H., September 16, 1892.

In his political views Mr. Talbot is an earnest republican, but does not desire office as a reward for party fealty. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. His life has ever been honorable, his actions manly and sincere. Reading, study and observation have kept him in touch with the trend of modern thought and he is a well informed man, who has utilized his advantages to the best of his ability and has advanced through his own industry and the exercise of his native talents

to a creditable position in business circles. His home is characterized by an air of courtesy, refinement and culture, and the family are pleasantly located at No. 223 North Fourth street, where Mr. and Mrs. Talbot delight in extending warm hearted hospitality to their many friends.

EDWARD W. BORCHERS.

Edward W. Borchers, engaged in general farming, was born in Squaw Grove township, this county, on the 3d of December, 1882. His parents were natives of Germany and came to the United States in 1861, settling on a farm in De Kalb county. The father has since been identified with general agricultural pursuits and he and his wife are now living in Pierce township upon a farm of one hundred and sixty acres which he owns. He likewise owns one hundred and sixty acres in Clinton township, now occupied and operated by his son Edward. His life has been one of activity and industry and his own labor has been the measure of his success. Unto him and his wife were born six children of whom August is now deceased. The others are: Ida, Edward, Louis, Adolph and Anna.

Edward W. Borchers was reared on the old family homestead, no event of special importance occurring to vary the routine of farm life for him in his boyhood days. He worked on his father's farm during the summer season and in the winter months attended the public schools. He married Miss Anna Sorenson, who was born in Squaw Grove township, November 7, 1884. Her parents were natives of Denmark and came to the United States in 1880. They now live in Kane county, Illinois, where the father follows the occupation of farming. In their family were five children, namely: Hans; Anna, now Mrs. Borchers; Katie; and twins, of whom one died in infancy, while the other, Christian, is still living.

It was on the 28th of October, 1903, that Mr. Borchers was united in marriage to Miss Anna Sorenson, at which time they took up their abode upon his father's farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Clinton township. Here they have since lived and Mr. Borchers is carefully and successfully cultivating the farm, making it a valuable

property by reason of the improvements he places upon it and the highly developed condition of the fields. In politics he is a democrat but has never sought or desired public office, preferring to give his undivided attention to business affairs in which he is meeting with creditable and gratifying success. He and his wife are highly esteemed people of the community and are faithful members of the Squaw Grove Lutheran church.

CARLOS W. HINDS.

Carlos W. Hinds, deceased, was a well known and honored citizen of De Kalb. He was a native of this county, his birth having occurred in Clinton township, on the 12th of November, 1853. His father, Albert Hinds, came to De Kalb county in 1849, was a pioneer farmer of this locality and became well-to-do for his day. He died in 1887, at the age of sixty-nine years.

Carlos W. Hinds was at one time a student in the old Paw Paw Seminary and completed his education in the Northwestern College at Naperville, Illinois. He followed the occupation of farming during the greater part of his life, but about ten years prior to his demise, he left the farm and turned his attention to the real estate business in De Kalb, successfully operating in that line up to the time of his death, which occurred on the 11th of December, 1893. He was very successful in business and was a popular citizen, widely and favorably known.

On the 25th of October, 1882, at Shabbona Mr. Hinds was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Booth, who was born in Wyoming township, Lee county, Illinois, January 6, 1860, and was educated in the public schools of Shabbona. Her father, Allen Booth, was a native of Hollingsworth, England, born on the 5th of April, 1831, and in 1856 came to the United States, settling upon a farm in Lee county, Illinois. He married Anna Shaw ere his emigration to the new world and provided for his family of three children, of whom Mrs. Hinds is the eldest, by following agricultural pursuits.

Mr. and Mrs. Hinds became the parents of two children, a son and daughter: Allen Carlos, who was born in Clinton township, August 1, 1883;

and Ethelyn, who was born October 5, 1888, and died March 17, 1896. The son was educated at the De Kalb public schools and for one year attended the academy connected with Beloit (Wisconsin) College. He then entered the employ of the M. D. Wells Shoe Company and for three years was in the factory. He was next in the service of the American Steel & Wire Company as paymaster and on the 16th of April, 1906, became billing and credit clerk for the Haish Wire & Implement Company at De Kalb, which position he held until the 1st of March, 1907, when he went to Calgary, Canada. Mrs. Hinds lives in a beautiful home at No. 629 South Fourth street, in De Kalb, and in the city has many friends among the cultured and prominent people.

Mr. Hinds held a number of offices to which he was called by the vote of his fellow townsmen who recognized his worth and ability. At different times he served as county coroner, as alderman and as justice of the peace, and his duties were ever discharged with unfaltering fidelity and promptness. His political allegiance was given the republican party and he was a member of the Knights of Pythias lodge.

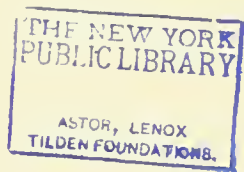
ELMER LEONIDAS DENNISTON, D. O.

Elmer Leonidas Denniston has been remarkably successful as a practitioner of osteopathy during the period of his residence in De Kalb. He was born in Millard, Missouri, July 19, 1876. His father, John W. Denniston, was a native of Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania, born December 12, 1837, while the mother, Mrs. Susan Stukey Denniston, was born in Millard, Missouri, August 15, 1855. Her death occurred on the 13th of November, 1889, when she was thirty-four years of age. There were two children of that marriage, of whom Dr. Denniston is the elder. His father went to Missouri in 1870 and has since lived in that state, where he carries on business as a contractor and builder.

Dr. Denniston was educated in the public schools of Missouri, being graduated at Kirksville, after which he took up the study of osteopathy in the college at that place, being graduated therefrom in 1901. When he had completed his course



C. W. HINDS.



he entered upon the practice of his profession at Gallatin, Missouri, where he remained until March 8, 1903, when he came to De Kalb, where he has since continued. Success has attended his efforts until he has all he can do, his practice making constant demands upon his time and attention and leaving him little or practically no leisure for outside interests.

In politics Dr. Dennison is a republican and fraternally he is connected with the Odd Fellows and the Elks, belonging to the respective lodges at De Kalb. He is a member of the First Presbyterian church and is a popular young man of De Kalb, who has gained many friends during the brief period of his residence here. He has made his way in the world unaided, being self-educated as well as self-made, and, having gained thorough equipment for his chosen profession, he is now a successful practitioner of osteopathy, having many patrons who have greatly benefited by his service.

MRS. CLARA A. PARKER.

Mrs. Clara A. Parker has for many years been a resident of De Kalb county and is managing her business interests with an ability that makes her property a profitable source of income. She was born in Herkimer county, New York, February 20, 1851, a daughter of Peter and Rosannah Helmer, who became residents of De Kalb county, Illinois, in 1862. The father was born April 15, 1810, and was the fourth son of Adam and Anna M. (Harter) Helmer. In the paternal line her great-grandparents, Captain Henry and Catherine Harter, were taken prisoners in 1757, at the time of the French and Indian war, as they were crossing the St. Lawrence river in a birch-bark canoe on their way to Canada. A daughter was born to them while crossing the river and afterward became the wife of General Michael Meyers. Mrs. Parker's grandfather, Adam Helmer, was a soldier of the Revolutionary war and fought valiantly for the cause of liberty. Her father died May 25, 1900, and her mother, who was born in New York, September 3, 1822, passed away on the 30th of March, 1901. In their family were five children, namely: Cerlinda, who now lives with Mrs. Parker; Elizabeth, the wife of J. O. Walrod; Frances,

the deceased wife of John Hallaron; Clara A., now Mrs. Parker; and Florence L., the wife of P. S. Warber.

Mrs. Parker completed her education in the De Kalb high school and for three years prior to her marriage engaged in teaching. It was on the 14th of February, 1871, that she gave her hand in marriage to Thomas Parker, who was born in Weathersfield, Vermont, December 10, 1844, and died on the 18th of December, 1901. They had no children of their own but reared two, a girl and boy, both of whom were young when taken to their home.

Mr. Parker was a son of James and Charlotte (Carns) Parker, who were natives of the state of New York. He had two brothers and three sisters and was the second in order of birth in the family. He was educated in Mayfield township, De Kalb county, and the Sycamore high school, and for a time engaged in teaching school, but afterward turned his attention to farming. After his marriage he located on a farm of his own, having bought one hundred and sixty acres of land which was in its primitive condition, not a furrow having been turned or an improvement made upon the place. With growing energy he began its development and succeeded in bringing his fields under a high state of cultivation. After four years spent on this farm, he purchased eighty acres adjoining and in 1898 bought twenty-one acres of land adjoining the city limits of De Kalb. Thus, as the years passed by, he was blessed with prosperity, his farm becoming one of the valuable properties of the community. To this place he took his bride at the time of their marriage in 1871, and they remained there until 1899. They then removed to the tract of land adjoining De Kalb and there Mr. Parker spent his remaining days. He was an enterprising agriculturist, had carefully conducted his business interests and was honorable and upright in all that he did.

He gave his political support to the republican party and held membership in the Methodist Episcopal church of De Kalb, with which Mrs. Parker is also identified. He took a very active and helpful part in the church work and for many years served as class leader and also on the official board. His life was indeed characterized by high and honorable principles and governed by motives which were most commendable. He was never

known to take advantage of the necessities of a fellowman in any business transaction and left to his family not only a handsome competence, but also an untarnished name.

Mrs. Parker still owns and manages her farms and in the control of her property, displays excellent business ability and executive force. She built a fine residence on her land adjoining the corporation limits of De Kalb, and there she has located, surrounded by all the comforts and some of the luxuries of life. In the community where she lives, she has many friends who esteem her for her genuine worth of character and who will be glad to see this mention of Mr. and Mrs. Parker in the history of De Kalb county.

JOHN MARSHALL.

John Marshall, a retired farmer making his home in Sycamore, is one of the early pioneer settlers of De Kalb county, owning a finely improved farm of one hundred and thirty-two acres situated on section 11, Sycamore township, this property returning to him an income sufficient to enable him to spend the evening of his days in well earned ease. Mr. Marshall is a native of England, born in North Clifton, Nottinghamshire, September 21, 1825. He is a self-made man, having acquired all that he today enjoys through his own well directed labors, for at the early age of thirteen and a half years he began to provide for his own support, at first working for the meager sum of twelve and a half dollars per year, while later he received sixty dollars per year for his services.

After reaching years of maturity Mr. Marshall was married in that country to Miss Eliza Baker, who was also born in Nottinghamshire, and the young couple began their domestic life in the old world, there remaining until after the birth of two of their children. In 1851, thinking to better provide for the support of himself and family in the new world, he emigrated to the United States, being twenty-nine days in making the voyage across the Atlantic. He at once made his way to the new and growing west, taking up his abode at St. Charles, Illinois, where he secured employment at farm labor, being thus engaged for a few years, after which he operated a farm on the shares

for five years. Feeling justified in operating land on his own account he then removed to Charter Grove township, where he operated rented land for three years, removing thence to Kane county, where he likewise rented a tract of land. He then returned once more to De Kalb county and purchased a farm of one hundred and thirty-two acres, upon which he located. There was a log cabin which stood upon the place and in this primitive dwelling the family took up their abode while the father began the development and improvement of the land. There was no road leading to the place but Mr. Marshall soon had a road laid out and as the years passed and he prospered in his undertakings he replaced the dwelling with a more modern frame residence and built barns and outbuildings, so that in course of time his property was made one of the well improved tracts of Sycamore township. It was the year 1861 that Mr. Marshall located on his farm on section 11, Sycamore township, and he there continued to carry on agricultural pursuits until December, 1906, when, feeling that his income was sufficient to enable him to retire from active business life, he purchased a nice home in the city of Sycamore, and expects to spend his remaining days in well merited rest. He still, however, retains possession of his farm, from which he derives a good annual rental.

Mr. Marshall lost his first wife in 1878. She had become the mother of seven children, but five of the number have passed away, the deaths of three occurring within three weeks from diphtheria. One died of scarlet fever and another, who was ill on the voyage, died in this country in the fall of their arrival. The living members are: Charles Edward, who follows farming in Sycamore township; and Emma A., the wife of Newton Darnell, a farmer of that township. Mr. Marshall was married a second time in 1881, in Lee county, his union being with Mary E. Slothower, a native of Frederick county, Maryland, a daughter of John D. Slothower, who was born in Germany, and located in Illinois in 1851.

Mr. Marshall gave his early political allegiance to the democratic party but in later years has supported the principles of the prohibition party. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Marshall is a public-

spirited man, having always taken a most deep and helpful part in the development of the county along various lines, and he and his wife are numbered among the highly esteemed citizens of Sycamore and De Kalb county.

JOHN MCGIRR.

John McGirr, a grain dealer of De Kalb, was born in Afton township on the 7th of August, 1857, his parents being John and Mary (Powers) McGirr, in whose family were twelve children. The father was born in County Meath, Ireland, in 1813, was there reared and acquired a good education in his youth. On reaching manhood he was employed as a bookkeeper in a mercantile house in Dublin and in 1850 he came to the United States. Soon afterward he located in De Kalb county, Illinois, being among the first residents of Afton township, where he settled on one hundred and sixty acres of wild land, entering it as a homestead from the government. Not a furrow had been turned or an improvement made upon this place and he continued to reside upon the farm until his death, which occurred in 1878. His political allegiance was given to the democracy and he was a member of the Catholic church. His wife, who was born in County Waterford, Ireland, about 1825, died in 1903. She came to the United States about the same year as her future husband and they were married in St. Charles, Illinois. Six of their children survive, namely: Dennis, who is living on the old homestead in Afton township; Patrick, a resident of Carrollton, Illinois; Rose, the wife of Peter Jordan, of Chicago; Teressa, the wife of James Fitzgerald, of Maple Park, Illinois; and Nellie, living in De Kalb.

The other member of the family is John McGirr of this review, who was born and reared upon the old homestead and in the common schools pursued his education. He received practical training in farm work and in 1880 he purchased a farm, becoming owner of one hundred and sixty acres in Afton township. With characteristic energy he began its further development and improvement and at a later date he extended the boundaries of his place by an additional purchase of forty acres. He continued to reside upon the farm until

1889, when he rented his land and came to De Kalb to engage in the grain business. He has shown excellent executive ability from early manhood and has prospered as a grain merchant, being one of the leading business men in this line in De Kalb.

On the 14th of November, 1882, occurred the marriage of Mr. McGirr and Miss Hannah Redmond, of Malta township, De Kalb county, and a daughter of Murt Redmond, now a retired farmer of the city of De Kalb. Unto Mr. and Mrs. McGirr have been born four children, of whom three are living: Murt, Louis and Elizabeth.

Mr. McGirr is a member of DeKalb camp, M. W. A.; De Kalb lodge, No. 717, Knights of Columbus; De Kalb lodge of the Yeomen of America; and the Catholic church. For ten years he served as road commissioner of Afton township. He has led a life of activity and enterprise and his present creditable position in the business world has come by reason of the steadfast purpose which he has manifested in his business career.

FOY & STERICKER.

Foy & Stericker, sheep feeders have the largest private sheep feeding plant in the state of Illinois. It is located at Sycamore along the right of way of the Chicago & Great Western Railway. The business was located here by the firm on account of the unsurpassed shipping facilities afforded by the Great Western, with its direct line to Omaha, Kansas City, St. Joseph, Missouri, and St. Paul. It is also but fifty-two miles from Chicago. The plant comprises five acres of land and the immense barns thereon have a feeding capacity per season of from twenty-five to thirty-five thousand. Twelve thousand head can be taken care of on the inside and from ten to fifteen thousand outside. The plant is thoroughly equipped in every respect and there is an abundance of pure water. The average amount of feed used is thirty thousand bushels of corn in a season of six months, fifteen hundred tons of screenings and one thousand tons of hay. A large quantity of the feed has to be shipped in and yet the business makes an excellent market for the farmers of De Kalb county, who haul their hay and grain to Foy & Stericker's

plant from a distance of from three to five miles. The excellent quality of the feed used is one of the reasons for the success achieved by the firm, the best of clover hay being purchased, together with extra heavy screenings and cracked corn. On account of the proximity to Chicago sheep can be shipped late at night and are on the market early the next morning. The firm consists of William Foy and Arthur Stericker and both are men of excellent business ability, well liked because of their fine traits of character, as well as their business enterprise and success.

GEORGE W. NESBITT, M. D.

Dr. George W. Nesbitt, practicing along modern scientific lines in his efforts to alleviate suffering and restore health, has gained an enviable reputation as a member of the medical fraternity. He is one of De Kalb county's native sons, having been born at the old homestead in Sycamore, March 13, 1869. His father, George W. Nesbitt, Sr., was one of the most popular physicians and surgeons of De Kalb county. He was born in Attica, New York, August 20, 1837, his parents being Henry and Eleanor (Smyth) Nesbitt. Henry Nesbitt was born in County Cavan, Ireland, in 1803, and became a resident of the United States in 1819, while his wife was born in Argyle, Washington county, New York, in 1802. Henry Nesbitt became a resident of Attica, New York, and following his marriage engaged in general farming for many years, or until his death, which occurred in June, 1883. His wife passed away in Wyoming county, New York, in 1862.

Dr. George W. Nesbitt, Sr., was reared to farm life, assisting in the work of the fields, while in the winter months he pursued a public-school education prior to entering the Genesee and Wyoming Seminary, at Alexandria, New York. He was graduated with honors from that institution, and, seeking the broader business opportunities of the west, he removed to Genoa, Illinois, where for one winter he engaged in teaching school. In the following spring he traveled quite extensively, and during the summer months was with a government surveying party on the Red River of the

North, operating principally in Minnesota. In the winter following he taught school in Boone county, Illinois, after which he went to Arkansas and other states, where he also followed that profession. Believing that he would find the practice of law congenial, he begun reading with that end in view in the office and under the direction of Hon. Charles Kellum, of Sycamore, but changing his plans took up the study of medicine in 1860 with Dr. H. H. Rice, of Randolph county, Illinois, as his preceptor. A year later he returned to Alexandria, New York, and continued his studies under the supervision of Dr. H. B. Miller. He also attended lectures at the Buffalo Medical College and was graduated on the 21st of February, 1865.

Dr. Nesbitt then began practice in Buffalo, New York, where in connection with Dr. G. W. McCray he also conducted a wholesale and retail drug store. In the fall of 1866, however, he sold his interest in the drug business and began a prospecting tour with a view to securing a permanent location. He proceeded by lake and canal to Pittsburg, thence down the Ohio and Mississippi rivers to St. Louis, after which he traveled through various states in the south, remaining for a few days or weeks at a place as inclination prompted. Returning to St. Louis he traveled on horseback through Illinois and on reaching Sycamore determined to make this city his place of residence. Here he at once opened an office and soon established a reputation as a physician and surgeon second to none in northern Illinois. Shortly after locating here he was one day in front of Waterman's store when a box of soldiers' clothing was opened. The war having closed a large quantity of army clothing was thrown upon the market, one case having been purchased by Sycamore dealers. In a spirit of fun Dr. Nesbitt mounted the box, and being a fluent speaker delivered a patriotic address and then began to auction off a suit of clothes. He was surprisingly successful and soon sold the entire shipment—the unexpected result of a joke. His power demonstrated, he was then engaged by the firm to sell elsewhere and remained in partnership with them in this branch of business for about six months, or as long as the supply lasted. He did a thriving business and declared that he made money faster than at any period of his life.



G. W. Mesbitt



In addition to the practice of medicine Dr. Nesbitt engaged in breeding fine stock and at one time had a number of thoroughbreds, but foreseeing a falling off in the demands for and price of stock, he sold a portion and traded the balance for twelve hundred acres of land in Kansas. He named his ranch Bally Haise in honor of his father's birth place in Ireland.

On the 23d of June, 1864, at Buffalo, New York, Mr. Nesbitt was married to Miss Mary H. Davis, a native of Chippewa, Canada. They had three children, of whom one died in infancy, the others being George W., of this review; and John B., who was born in Sycamore, January 31, 1873, and after acquiring a public-school education here, attended the Chicago Medical College, now a department of Northwestern University, from which he was graduated in June, 1897. He then formed a partnership with his brother and they have an extensive practice. Dr. Nesbitt, Sr., was a medical practitioner of broad and thorough knowledge, who contributed many valuable articles to the medical press and was also well known as a lecturer. He belonged to the Illinois State Medical Society and the American Medical Association and was frequently heard in address in other meetings upon subjects of general interest. For two years he served as vice president of the State Medical Society. Fraternally he was a Mason and took a deep interest in the work of the craft. He was also prominent in public life and at the time of his demise was mayor of Sycamore. He passed away April 29, 1894, and his death was deeply regretted by many friends as well as his immediate family.

Dr. George W. Nesbitt, whose name introduces this record, entered the Sycamore schools at the usual age, passing through successive grades and afterward attended the State University, at Champaign, Illinois. He was graduated from the Chicago Medical College, now the Northwestern University, April 22, 1892, with a class of fifty-five members, and immediately joined his father in practice, since which time he has been well known as a member of the medical fraternity in his native city. He and his brother are in partnership and their practice is more extensive than that of any other physicians of Sycamore. Dr. Nesbitt of this review belongs to the Illinois Medical

Society, the De Kalb County Medical Society and the American Medical Association. He has kept in touch with the trend of modern thought and investigation in the line of his practice and is quick to adopt new methods which promise to prove of value, at the same time being slow to discard the old and time-tried methods of practice whose worth has been proven.

On the 16th of August, 1894, Dr. Nesbitt wedded Miss Cora C. Whittemore, a native of Sycamore and a daughter of Captain Henry C. Whittemore, mentioned elsewhere in this volume. The Doctor belongs to the Masonic fraternity, in which he has attained high rank and is a member of the Mystic Shrine. In politics he and his brother are independent. His is one of the fine homes in Sycamore, located at the corner of State and California streets. The name of Nesbitt has long figured prominently and honorably in connection with the practice of medicine here and the life work of Dr. Nesbitt of this review reflects still further honor and credit upon it.

NEWELL DARROW GILBERT.

Newell Darrow Gilbert, superintendent of schools at De Kalb, and recognized in educational circles as an able representative of the work of public instruction in Illinois, was born in Clyde, New York. His father, the Rev. Silas B. Gilbert, was a Baptist clergyman of Illinois for nearly forty years. He married Julia Gage Gilbert, and both were born and reared in western New York and were of unmixed Puritan ancestry. The father died in 1894, at the age of seventy-five years, while his wife, surviving until 1906, passed away at the age of eighty-six.

Brought to Illinois in early boyhood, Newell D. Gilbert pursued his education in the public schools of Mendota, Illinois, of Marshall, Michigan, and of Freeport, Illinois, and was graduated on the completion of the classical course in the Illinois Wesleyan University in 1879. He taught his first school in the vicinity of Freeport but after three months took up bookkeeping in the employ of the hardware firm of Lawler & Burchard, of Freeport.

with whom he continued until he entered college. His first work as a high-school teacher was at Litchfield, Illinois, leaving college for a year in order to undertake that work. Following his graduation he became superintendent of the Clinton (Illinois) schools, where he remained from 1879 until 1882. After brief superintendence at Utica, Illinois, from 1882 until 1884, and at Maywood, Illinois, from 1884 until 1887, he took charge of the schools at Austin, a suburb of Chicago, where he remained for twelve years, from 1887 until 1899. He came to De Kalb at the opening of the Northern Illinois State Normal School, to take charge of the city schools and later, on the retirement of Dr. Charles A. McMurry, became the head of the training school, continuing also as city superintendent. In this dual capacity he is now serving. Under his direction the training school and all of the institutions of public education in De Kalb are making substantial and creditable advancement.

In December, 1879, Professor Gilbert was married at El Paso, Illinois, to Miss Elizabeth Clark, a lady of Scotch ancestry, born at Montreal, Canada. Their children are: Dr. Newell Clark Gilbert, a graduate of the Northwestern Medical School of the class of 1907; and Julia Elizabeth Gilbert, a student in Rockford (Illinois) College.

PATRICK M. HART.

Patrick M. Hart, who for many years followed farming in Milan township, but spent his last days in Malta, where he died on the 22d of February, 1905, was for a long period a worthy, respected and valued resident of De Kalb county. A native of Ireland, he was born in County Sligo in 1832 and was a son of Edward and Katie (Madden) Hart, who were farming people of the Emerald isle and never came to the United States.

The son obtained his education in the land of his nativity and having arrived at years of maturity was there married on New Year's day of 1855 to Miss Margaret Burns, who was also born in Sligo county. Soon afterward they crossed the Atlantic to Canada, having heard favorable reports of the business opportunities and advantages offered in the new world. For a year Mr. Hart remained in the British province and was employed

at farm labor. He then crossed the border into the republic, his wife remaining in Canada about one year, and in the vicinity of Plano, Illinois, he worked as a farm hand and also rented land for nine years.

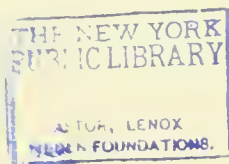
In that time he and his wife carefully saved his earnings and in 1865, with the capital he had acquired through his own labors, he purchased a farm in Milan township, becoming owner of one hundred and sixty acres, for which he paid but twelve dollars per acre, owing to the scarcity of improvements there and to the little demand for land of the locality, which kept realty values very low. Property had risen in price, however, when he made his second purchase, at which time he paid twenty-three dollars per acre for an eighty-acre tract. The first purchase was entirely raw land, Mr. Hart turning the first furrows upon it and transforming the wild prairie into richly cultivated fields. Upon the place he built a frame house containing three rooms and this structure is now part of the present residence which stands upon the farm. His nearest neighbors were a mile and a half and two miles away, and the family experienced many of the privations and hardships of pioneer life in those early days. As the years passed by, however, Mr. Hart brought his land under a high state of cultivation and added many modern equipments and accessories, making his farm in Milan township a valuable property, which he continued to cultivate until 1899. He then retired from active life and removed to Malta, where his remaining days were passed.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hart were born five children: William E., a carpenter living in Marseilles, Illinois; Mrs. Cora E. Hess, whose husband is a contractor and plumber at Los Angeles, California; Alice J., who is with her mother in Malta; Edward J., a farmer of Kingsbury county, South Dakota; and George S.

For about fifteen years Patrick M. Hart was a resident of Malta, enjoying in an honorable retirement the comfort and ease which the years of his former labor made possible. He was truly a self-made man who owed his prosperity entirely to his own labors, his careful management and unfaltering diligence. He died on the 22d of February, 1905, and is still survived by Mrs. Hart, who yet lives in Malta. Mr. Hart was a member of the



MR. AND MRS. PATRICK M. HART.



Methodist Episcopal church, to which Mrs. Hart also belongs.

George S. Hart, who carries on general farming on section 16, Milan township, was born July 3, 1874, in the house which he now owns and occupies. In his early boyhood days he trudged off to the nearest district school in Milan township and therein mastered the common branches of English learning. He lived with his parents after their removal to Malta until his marriage, which was celebrated December 11, 1895, the lady of his choice being Miss Petra Cody, daughter of Peter and Esther (Johnson) Cody, both of whom were of Norwegian parentage and came to the United States in 1866, settling in Milan township, where Mr. Cody carried on farming until his death which occurred in 1886. His wife survived him until 1895.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Hart has been blessed with four children: Earl LeRoy, born April 14, 1897; Myrtle Lillian, born November 24, 1899; Esther Margaret, born June 21, 1902; and George, born February 1, 1905. Following their marriage the parents remained in Malta until 1900, when they took up their abode on the old Hart homestead, comprising two hundred and forty acres of land on section 16, Milan township. This Mr. Hart purchased in 1906, so that he is now owner of an excellent property. In his political views he has always been a republican, supporting the party at the ballot box, and is now serving as town clerk, while for one term he filled the position of tax collector. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Malta. His life has been characterized by all that is honorable in man's relations with his fellowmen and in business he has never taken advantage of the necessities of others, but has been upright and thereby commands the good will and confidence of those with whom he has been associated.

FRANK EVERETT STEVENS.

Frank Everett Stevens, descended from one of the very oldest families of De Kalb county—the LaPortes of Paw Paw township—is the oldest son of Captain John Stevens and Marie Sophie (LaPorte) Stevens. He was born at Dixon, Illi-

nois, on the 5th of January, 1856. At the age of six, his father, captain of Company H, Forty-sixth Regiment of Illinois Volunteers, was killed at the battle of Shiloh, and the youngster's future was eclipsed at a stroke, if indeed any had been promised him. At great sacrifice, his mother put him through the public schools, his contributions being work in the local factories during the summer vacations until the month of August, 1871, when he found permanent employment as deputy clerk of the circuit court and recorder, under the then clerk, Jonathan N. Hyde. He continued in that office until the month of April, 1875.

In that eventful month, while pursuing his customary duty of office janitor, which was a part of his official duty, his eye detected a letter in the waste basket written by General E. F. Dutton of Sycamore, asking Mr. Hyde if the latter could send him a deputy with which to finish out his term of office, his former deputy having purchased the De Kalb county abstract office. The letter had been read and thrown carelessly into the waste basket to die the death common to most letters; but once detected, it was recovered and placed into the young clerk's pocket for use in an interview with the boss on the following morning. The result of that interview was Stevens' departure for Sycamore that very day to seek his fortune. The position was secured and Sycamore became his future home, exemplifying thereby, the saying that "it's a poor waste basket that brings nobody good." Stevens continued in the office under succeeding clerks, Cox and Dustin. Meantime, he read law evenings and in the autumn of 1877 he was admitted to practice.

On October 15, 1878, he was married to Miss Sadie Lattin, only daughter of Carlos and Nancy Lattin. Of that marriage one child has been born, Grace LaPorte Stevens, July 4, 1882.

With the Dakota boom of 1881-2, like many another from the same county, Stevens went west, locating at Huron in the infancy of that now populous and beautiful city. There, beside occupying the office of county treasurer, he established the Beadle County Bank, which very soon grew into the Beadle County National Bank, and of it he became cashier, vice president and president successively. The business prospered until from its position as pioneer, six other banks established themselves in the same line. In a restricted field

which could offer encouragement to no more than two at best, especially with continued bad crops and the decimation of the country's population, consolidations and discontinuances became the rule, and the Beadle County Bank paid off its depositors and in 1890, Mr. Stevens went to Chicago to open a broker's office. There he continued until the present year, which has witnessed his retirement from active business and removal back to Sycamore, and into the old Lattin family mansion wherein were born his wife and daughter; wherein he was married; wherein died the father and mother of his wife and the site of which has been in the possession of the family continuously from March, 1835, when Carlos Lattin took up his claim and became the first settler of Sycamore, to the present, a period of seventy-two years.

It has been said, and well said too, that every well regulated man needs a hobby. Mr. Stevens has his in book collecting, more especially that branch of book collecting which affects the state of Illinois, and we are safe in saying that the collection ranks first and best in the country. A taste for reading for many generations has run in the veins of the family and he comes naturally by his love of books. Of his father it was often said, that, were the New Testament to be obliterated, John Stevens could supply it from memory, chapter and verse, and so it might be said of Scott's poems. Individually, Mr. Stevens has to his credit in literature, "The Black Hawk War," "Illinois in the War of 1812," "Wakefield's Sacs and Foxes," and newspaper and magazine work to a considerable amount. The Caxton Club, Chicago, of which he is a member, is a book-lover's club, whose membership is composed of names familiar to every bookman of the country.

ALVA F. POST.

For twenty years Alva F. Post has lived in Shabbona, prior to which time he was connected for a number of years with general agricultural pursuits in De Kalb county and was numbered among the enterprising agriculturalists of this part of the state. He is also classed with the early settlers, for his residence here covers a period of fifty-six years. The work of improvement and

progress had been carried on to only a slight degree at the time of his arrival, and he took his part in the task of developing and improving the county along the line of material advancement.

Mr. Post is a native of the Empire state, having been born in St. Lawrence county, New York, April 20, 1826. His father, John Post, was a native of Vermont, and when a young man became a resident of St. Lawrence county, New York, where he married Jerusha Fuller, daughter of Jacob Fuller. His death occurred a few years later, in 1828, and some years afterward his widow became the wife of David Hamilton and removed to Illinois. They cast in their lot with the pioneer settlers of De Kalb county.

Alva F. Post is entirely a self-made man. When quite young he began earning his own living, working at farm labor for a small wage. During the winter months he attended the common schools, while in the summer seasons he continued to work in the fields. Saving his earnings, he carried out his cherished plan of supplementing his early education by more advanced study and entered a seminary. He taught his first school when eighteen years of age, after which he worked on a farm during the spring and summer months and engaged in teaching during the winter months. Thus, among difficulties, he acquired his education, and deserves much credit for what he has accomplished. Reading and perseverance have ever kept him in touch with the trend of modern thought and progress and even yet he maintains a deep interest in the public questions of the day.

Attracted by the opportunities of the growing west, Mr. Post came to Chicago, April 10, 1851, but did not remain in the city, proceeding thence to Sugar Grove township, Kane county, Illinois. Through the following summer he was employed at farm labor, and in the fall of that year came to De Kalb county where he obtained a school for the winter term at Pritchard's Grove. In the spring of 1852 he began teaching at Shabbona Grove where he remained until the spring of 1853, for a term of fourteen months. He next engaged in carpentering for several years during the building season, while the winter months were devoted to educational work. He was for many years considered one of the best representatives of public instruction in De Kalb county, where he taught school for twenty-two terms. He has ever

been a well informed man, possessing sound judgment and forming views largely unbiased by personal prejudices.

Mr. Post resided in Lee county, Illinois, from 1854 until 1858, and from 1858 to 1864 he rented land in and near Pritchard's Grove, De Kalb county. He made his first purchase of land in 1865, becoming owner of a tract of ninety acres, of which but a small portion had been placed under the plow. There was a little house and barn upon it, and as time passed he further developed and improved the land, extending the boundaries of his farm from time to time, until now he owns two hundred and fifty-four acres, lying about three miles from the village of Shabbona. There he carried on general agricultural pursuits for twenty-two years, when, with the comfortable competence acquired from his labors to supply him with the necessities and comforts of life, he removed to Shabbona where he has since made his home. He owns his residence and other property in the village, but has sold his farm to his son-in-law, Bert L. Greenfield.

April 26, 1854, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Post and Miss Marietta Haselton, a native of New York, as were her parents, Hanford and Dorcas (Perry) Haselton. Mrs. Post was born in Jefferson county, and was reared and educated in Cleveland, Ohio. Prior to her marriage she was engaged in teaching in Kane county. There were five children born of this marriage: Ida, now the wife of A. J. Chandler, a resident of the city of Washington; Emery, who is married and lives in Minnesota; Elma D., the wife of Bert L. Greenfield, a substantial farmer of Shabbona township, who now owns the old family homestead; Mabel, the wife of William Kennedy, also a resident farmer, of Shabbona township; and Eddie, who died in childhood.

Mr. and Mrs. Post hold membership in the Congregational church at Shabbona and contribute generously to its support and are interested in its work. Mr. Post has cast his ballot for the principles of the republican party since its organization and his first presidential vote supported General Zachary Taylor in 1848. The cause of education has ever found in him a strong champion and he has served as a member of the school board for many years. While in Lee county he was also township trustee. There are today only four

people residing in Shabbona township who were here at the time of Mr. Post's arrival, and his memory encompasses the period of its early development when wolves were seen on the prairie and wild game was frequently killed. Much of the land was still undeveloped and the prairies had not yet brought forth the rich and abundant crops which have made Illinois one of the greatest agricultural states of the Union. Mr. Post has been an active factor in the agricultural and educational development of this part of the state, and his efforts have been of direct and far-reaching benefit, making him one of the honored and valued, as well as one of the most venerable, citizens of De Kalb county.

JAMES LEROY WARNER.

James LeRoy Warner, a leading merchant of Sandwich, carrying the most complete line of dry goods, boots and shoes, clothing and groceries in the county, has built up his business along lines of modern development and enterprise and stands today as one of the foremost representatives of trade in this part of the state. His parents, James and Charlotte B. (Townsend) Warner, came to Sandwich in 1855. The father entered mercantile circles here, after teaching school for four terms and clerking for a period. It was in 1859 that he established a clothing and woolen store in Sandwich, and from that time forward was closely associated with commercial interests of the city until he sold out to his son. He was born August 7, 1833, in Jackson, Washington county, New York, and was therefore a young man of only twenty-two years when he arrived in De Kalb county. He had learned telegraphy and at intervals acted as telegraph operator for the Illinois & Mississippi Telegraph Company. After embarking in merchandising he concentrated his energies upon the upbuilding of his business and in 1865 admitted a partner, for the demands of a growing trade were heavy upon him and he needed assistance. He carried a line of ready-made clothing and boots and shoes and also conducted a merchant tailoring establishment. At a later date he bought his partner's interest and conducted the business alone until he was joined by his son.

J. LeRoy, who became his successor by purchase of the stock in 1889.

James LeRoy Warner is one of the native sons of Sandwich, his birth having occurred on the 19th of May, 1863. At the usual age he entered the public schools and passed through successive grades, eventually pursuing a course in a business college, thus becoming well qualified for the onerous and responsible duties that have devolved upon him in his later commercial connections. As stated, he joined his father, assisting him in the conduct of the store, and in 1889 became sole owner of the business. He now has one of the most complete lines of dry goods, boots and shoes, clothing and groceries in the county and occupies four stores, the building being three stories in height with basement. The entire place is utilized in the accommodation of his extensive stock of goods and his trade has had a steady and substantial growth, the volume of business transacted over his counters having reached large proportions. He is systematic and methodical in all that he does, faithfully meets every obligation that devolves upon him and has won a position in commercial circles that is accorded only in recognition of genuine worth and commercial integrity and honor.

Mr. Warner was married to Miss Caro Mosher, a daughter of Captain Fred S. Mosher, a banker at Sandwich, mentioned elsewhere in this volume. The wedding was celebrated February 23, 1897, and the Warner home is now justly celebrated for its gracious and charming hospitality. Mr. Warner and his father are members of the Masonic fraternity. In the city of his nativity, where his entire life record is as an open book which all may read, he enjoys the good will and confidence of his fellowmen and his warmest friends are those who have known him from his boyhood days.

MRS. HULDAH H. CARTER.

Mrs. Huldah H. Carter, who more than half a century ago came to De Kalb county and is therefore numbered among its earliest residents, has through passing decades witnessed the changes which have occurred and transformed this part of the state from a pioneer region into one of the

most prosperous agricultural and manufacturing districts of the state. What a difference in the mode of living at the present and that of half a century ago, when the telephone was unknown and the telegraph but little used. Comparatively few railroads had been built in this part of the state and it was a long and wearisome journey for the family from New York to Illinois, coming as they did in covered wagons.

Mrs. Carter was born in Chautauqua county, New York, February 5, 1837. Her parental grandparents were Alfred and Huldah (Simons) White, both natives of Vermont, and it was in that state that her father, William White, was born in 1810. He married Catharine Elizabeth Ravlin, who was born in Vermont in 1813. Her father, the Rev. Thomas Ravlin, was a Baptist minister and married Hannah Whitman. They, too, were natives of the Green Mountain state. William White was a farmer by occupation and in the year 1844 he started for what was then the far west, making the journey to Illinois in a covered wagon, after the primitive manner of travel in those days. He located in Kaneville, Illinois, and in 1853 came to De Kalb county, which was then largely an unsettled district, the work of improvement and development lying largely in the future. He died a year later and one of the five children of the family has also passed away.

His daughter Huldah, the third in order of birth, was educated in the common schools of Elburn, Illinois, and remained at home until her marriage, which was celebrated in De Kalb, December 25, 1855, when she became the wife of Orlando Carter, a native of Chenango county, New York, and a son of Jerry and Lydia (Ames) Carter, early settlers of this county and prominent farming people. Orlando Carter followed general agricultural pursuits until the last few years of his life, when he was engaged in the livery business in De Kalb. He was an enterprising agriculturist and a successful business man, and he thus left a comfortable property to his widow, when on the 2d of August, 1896, he was called to his final rest. He was respected because of his genuine personal worth and he had a wide and favorable acquaintance in the county.

Mrs. Carter, thus relieved of all need for anxiety about her business interests, devotes her time to her home, church and social interests. She is a

member of the Baptist church and of the Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Societies and also of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union and the State Equal Suffrage Association. She is very active in all of these different organizations and her labors are effective, far-reaching and beneficial. She is generous in her contributions to their support, is a lover of music, a friend of education and, in fact, is interested in all the movements and organizations for the benefit and uplifting of mankind. Moreover, she possesses a social, genial nature that wins her friends wherever she goes.

HARRY F. ROLAND.

Harry F. Roland is a self-made man, who as the architect of his own fortunes has builded wisely and well. He deserves much credit for what he has accomplished and his life record should serve as a source of inspiration and encouragement to others, showing what may be done even when one has no special family or pecuniary advantages to aid him at the beginning of life. Mr. Roland was born in Clinton township, De Kalb county, Illinois, March 16, 1869. His father, George W. Roland, was a native of Ohio, born in the year 1839, and when eighteen years of age he came to Illinois, settling first at Plano. There he worked at farm labor until his work had brought him sufficient capital to justify his purchase of one hundred and sixty acres of land in Milan township, De Kalb county, which he still owns. He was married to Miss Sarah J. Taylor, a native of New Jersey, and they became the parents of four sons. Mr. and Mrs. Roland are now residents of Kendall county, having resided at Plano for the past seventeen years amid friends and neighbors who entertain for them the warmest respect and regard.

In his boyhood days Harry F. Roland pursued a common-school education. He had no special advantages to aid him at the outset of his career and he started out in life empty-handed. He early came to a realization of the fact that labor is the only safe foundation upon which to build success and he put forth earnest and strenuous effort to advance from a humble financial position to one of affluence. As a companion and helpmate for life's journey he chose Miss Minnie Abbot,

whom he wedded on the 18th of January, 1893. She was born February 15, 1873, in De Kalb county, a daughter of William and Saphrona Abbot. Her father was born June 21, 1854, and her mother on the 25th of July, 1856. They are still living. At the time of their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Roland took up their abode upon a rented farm, where they lived for ten years. Carefully saving his earnings and receiving much assistance from his wife in her careful and economical management of the household, Mr. Roland was at length enabled to purchase a farm and became owner of one hundred and fifty acres on section 6, Afton township. He has since built a fine house on the place and also a good barn and other outbuildings for the shelter of grain and stock. He uses the latest improved machinery to facilitate the work of the fields and annually gathers good crops as the result of the wise judgment which he manifests in the cultivation of his fields.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Roland have been born three daughters: Winona V., born March 10, 1894; Ila D., born June 8, 1896; and Myrtle F., born January 8, 1901. The parents attend the services of the Methodist Episcopal church and contribute to its support. Mr. Roland votes the republican ticket and for one year served as tax collector of Milan township. While he is never remiss in the duties of citizenship, his time and attention are largely given to the farm work and his good management and unfaltering diligence constitute the basis of his financial advancement. An analysis of his history shows that he is deserving of much credit for what he has accomplished, for he has not only won success but has manifested in his business life the utmost integrity and reliability in all trade transactions. He is yet a young man but has attained a success which many an older man might well envy.

JAMES K. EGBERT, M. D.

Dr. James K. Egbert, one of Sycamore's leading physicians, was born in Peoria, Illinois, November 15, 1862. He is a son of Andrew J. Egbert, who on coming to Illinois settled near Peoria, where he engaged in the stock business, becoming a large

dealer in live stock. After the father died the mother and children removed to Chicago. There were five sons, all of whom have passed away, save the subject of this review.

Dr. Egbert was educated in the old University of Chicago, and pursued his professional course in Rush Medical College, from which he was graduated with the class of 1886. He began the practice of medicine at Lisbon, Illinois, where he remained for two years and then went to Chicago, where he was county physician for six years. Later he removed to the west for the benefit of his son's health, remaining in that section of the country for four years. Since 1903 he has made his home in Sycamore, engaged in the active practice of medicine and surgery with excellent results, having won a liberal patronage which is indicative of the confidence reposed in his skill and ability by the general public.

Dr. Egbert married Kellie B. Searce, of Danville, Illinois, and they have three children, Donald, Jean and Russell. In his political views Dr. Egbert is a stalwart republican and he belongs to the Masonic lodge, at Aurora, Illinois. He owns a fine home at No. 860 De Kalb avenue in Sycamore, and he and his wife are prominent in social circles. He is a man of fine personal appearance, excellent physique, of jovial, genial nature and his social qualities and genuine personal worth have made him popular with a large circle of friends, while his professional ability is gaining him constantly growing success.

FRANK MOSHER.

De Kalb has many energetic, wide-awake and progressive business men, else it would not have attained to its present prominent position as a manufacturing and commercial center in the great state of Illinois. To this class belongs Frank Mosher of the firm of Mosher & Embree, coal and lumber dealers. He is also connected with other business enterprises, and his prominence in commercial circles renders it expedient that mention be made of him in a history of the representative men of the county.

Moreover, he is one of De Kalb county's native sons, his birth having occurred in Afton township

on the 4th of July, 1865. His elder brother, Grant E. Mosher, is a resident farmer of Afton township. These are the surviving members of a family of four children, whose parents were Edwin L. and Mercy Ann (Waterbury) Mosher. The father was born in Yates Center, New York, January 2, 1834, a son of Levy and Caroline L. (Smith) Mosher, both of whom were members of old and prominent families of New York. Edwin L. Mosher was reared at Yates Center and was married there shortly after attaining his twentieth year. In 1857 he came west, locating in Clinton township, De Kalb county, Illinois, where he engaged in farming rented land for about six years when, his labors having brought him sufficient capital, he was enabled to purchase a tract of land of one hundred and sixty acres in Afton township. This was in 1863 and he at once took up his abode upon the property. In 1884 he left his son Grant on the farm and removed to De Kalb, where he lived retired up to the time of his death, which occurred on the 28th of September, 1900. His early political support was given the republican party but in later years he voted the prohibition ticket. He served as a member of the board of aldermen of De Kalb but was in no sense an aspirant for political office. He held membership with the Advent Christian church and was much esteemed throughout the county as an honored citizen and honorable man. His wife, who was born in New York in 1835, was a daughter of George H. Waterbury, a prominent farmer of that section. Her death occurred August 21, 1899.

No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for Frank Mosher in his boyhood and youth. He worked in the fields through the summer months and in the winter season attended school, passing through successive grades in the public schools of De Kalb until he became a high-school student. At the age of nineteen he put aside his text-books and entered upon his business life as a salesman in the grocery store of Roberts & Tyler of De Kalb, with whom he remained for about three years. He then accepted a position in the dry-goods store of H. H. Wagner, under whose training he acquired a valuable knowledge of business, continuing with Mr. Wagner for four years. In August, 1891, he formed a partnership with Ernest Carter and purchased the coal and lumber business of Brown & Young. They

conducted business under the firm style of Carter & Mosher for ten years, when in 1901 Mr. Carter withdrew and E. Embree became a member of the firm, since which time the business has been carried on under the firm style of Mosher & Embree. They have a liberal patronage and the business is conducted in a manner which secures to them a continuation of a growing trade.

Mr. Mosher was married in 1885 to Miss Mary A. Boardman, of De Kalb, a daughter of Cyrus and Harriet (King) Boardman, who were married in De Kalb and recently celebrated their golden wedding. Mr. and Mrs. Mosher have one daughter, Myrtle L., at home.

Mr. Mosher is a member of De Kalb lodge, No. 155, I. O. O. F.; De Kalb camp, No. 46, M. W. A.; and of the De Kalb lodge of the Knights of the Globe. He takes a deep and helpful interest in church work and holds membership in the Baptist church, while for years he has been superintendent of the Sunday school. He was president of the Illinois State Baptist Young People's Union for three years and president of the De Kalb County Sunday School Association for two years. He is likewise the president of the Illinois & Wisconsin Retail Coal Dealers' Association. At the present writing he is a member of the board of aldermen of De Kalb and is serving as chairman of its finance committee. He is a very busy man, yet he is ever ready to pause in the midst of his business duties to aid in the public welfare. He is wholly worthy the respect which is everywhere tendered him, for his name is synonymous with honorable dealing and with all that is elevating and beneficial to the city and to the individual.

OSGOOD P. HERRICK.

Osgood P. Herrick, who was formerly closely associated with mercantile interests in Sycamore but is now living retired, belongs to that class of men who owe their success to unflagging diligence, unabating energy, careful management and judicious investment. His salient characteristics have stood the test of time and he has been found a dependable man in all relations of life. He was born in Marlboro, New Hampshire, in 1841, and his parents, Jeremiah and Hannah (Smith) Her-

rick, were also natives of that place. The father was a farmer by occupation and was descended from an early American family, the genealogy being traced back to 1629. A still earlier record dates back to a Danish nobleman by the name of Ericke but succeeding generations transformed the orthography to its present style. Henry Herrick, a son of Sir William Herrick, was one of the founders of the first church at Salem, Massachusetts. Jeremiah Herrick, the father, was a prominent citizen of New Hampshire, who served as selectman of his native town and was for two terms the representative from same in the state legislature.

Osgood P. Herrick, whose name introduces this record, was one of six children but only two are now living, his sister being Mrs. H. P. Hall, of Sycamore. He remained with his parents until he reached the age of seventeen years, when he started out in business life by learning the machinist's trade. In 1862 he went to Fitchburg, Massachusetts, where he remained until 1887, being engaged in the stove and plumbing business for five years and working as a machinist in the shops of that city during the remaining years of his residence there. He then sought a home in the middle west, locating at Sycamore, where for twelve years he was a partner of J. C. Joslyn in the sale of books, stationery and fancy articles. They had a well equipped store and secured a liberal share of the public patronage. After twelve years of active connection with the firm, having been in the business from 1891 until 1903, Mr. Herrick retired from the firm and is at the present time a stockholder and one of the directors of the De Kalb County Telephone Company. He owns a half interest in a business block in Sycamore, together with a beautiful residence at No. 305 West Exchange street.

In 1867 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Herrick and Miss Mary F. Miller, of Chester, Windsor county, Vermont, and for nearly forty years they have traveled life's journey happily together. Their greatest sorrow came to them in the death of their only child, a son, who died at the age of five years. Mr. and Mrs. Herrick attend the Congregational church, of which the lady is a member, and they contribute to its support. In politics Mr. Herrick has always been a republican. He carried a torch in processions held during the campaign for John C. Fremont and as soon as age

conferred upon him the right of franchise he became a supporter of the republican principles and has since been a staunch advocate of the policy of the party. He has never aspired to political office, nor has he held any. He is a blue lodge Mason and is in sympathy with the teachings and tenets of the craft. In all of his business life he has been true to principles of manly conduct and his activity and energy have been the crowning points in his business success.

WALTER D. WALROD.

Walter D. Walrod, a farmer residing at No. 743 West State street, Sycamore, is the oldest native born resident of the city now living. The first white child born here was Hiram Kellogg, but he has been deceased for several years. The date of our subject's birth is March 13, 1843. His father, Erasmus D. Walrod, was a pioneer of De Kalb county, who was born June 13, 1816, at Oak Hill, Montgomery county, New York, and whose parents were Peter W. and Mary (Wayt) Walrod. They were natives of the state of New York, as were their respective parents, though the family comes more remotely from German ancestry. Peter W. Walrod and his family removed to Wyoming county, New York, when his son Erasmus was seven years of age, and purchased a farm in Eagle township. In 1835 the family removed to Illinois, bringing with them all their household effects in two wagons drawn by horses. Erasmus Walrod was then nineteen years of age and he drove a team of three horses attached to a heavy wagon. In crossing the black swamp in Ohio they were obliged to double teams with other immigrants in order to make their way over the mud, in which the wagon wheels sank to their hubs. The trip consumed six weeks. On arriving in De Kalb county the father and his elder brother located at Union Grove in De Kalb township, and here two sons and their father each secured a claim, on which log cabins had been erected. They took up their abode in these primitive dwellings and made puncheons for doors, floors and tables. They lived in true pioneer style, sharing in the hardships and trials incident to life on the frontier. Peter Walrod retained the ownership of his claim

for about three years, when he sold that property and purchased a tract in what is now Sycamore township. There he also built a log house and began the work of improving his land, continuing his abode there until his death, which occurred in 1844, while his wife survived until 1856. In their family were nine children.

Erasmus D. Walrod was the eighth in order of birth. As soon as he arrived in De Kalb county he made a claim in Mayfield township, but it was jumped and he secured another by purchase from his brother. It is located in the same township, a mile west of Sycamore, and it is what is now the Fred Black farm. His home was a log cabin which he built and occupied until 1839, when he sold the property for ten dollars and a half and bought a claim of L. D. Walrod, situated on section 32, Sycamore township, a part of which is now included within the city limits. The land at that time, however, had not yet come into market and when the opportunity for securing his patent arrived, Erasmus Walrod borrowed the money and made entry according to the regulations made and provided. In 1850, attracted by the discovery of gold in California, he started on an overland trip to the Pacific coast, and after traveling over the hot plains and through the mountain passes for four months and three days he reached his destination. The party took with them an ample supply of provisions and spent their nights in camp, thus avoiding some of the hardships endured by their predecessors over that western route. They would have completed the entire journey in comfort had it not been that they overtook three men without provisions, with whom they divided, so that it was necessary to shorten the rations for the entire party somewhat.

Mr. Walrod remained in California for about two years, after which he returned by way of the isthmus route to New York, and thence across the country to Sycamore, where his family had remained during his absence. He had been married on the 1st of August, 1839, to Miss Melintha Powell, a daughter of Raschel and Ruth (Pierce) Powell. Her father was born in England and was married after arriving in America, his wife being a representative of an old Massachusetts family. Mrs. Walrod was born in Monroe county, New York, November 9, 1817. She lost her father in infancy, and her mother afterward became the wife



Walter D. Walcott

of James Cartwright, who with the family came to Illinois in 1837, settling at Union Grove, in De Kalb township. The land included in the claim which Mr. Cartwright entered is now the county poor farm, and upon it splendid improvements have been made. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Walrod were born five children, as follows: Ransom G., born October 30, 1840, was educated at Princeton, Illinois, but his health failed while he was in school and he died August 15, 1857. Walter D. is the second in order of birth and the only one now living. Edward died in infancy. George C., who was born August 3, 1849, completed a commercial course in Chicago and afterward engaged in teaching, and died February 9, 1875. James R., the youngest, died in infancy. The father passed away June 29, 1892, having for more than two years survived his wife, whose death occurred on the 21st of October, 1889. The family history is closely interwoven with the pioneer annals of De Kalb county, for the representatives of the family took an active and helpful part in reclaiming this region for the purposes of civilization and converting the wild land into richly improved farms.

Walter D. Walrod was born in a log cabin in Sycamore about twenty rods from where he now resides. Here he was reared, and the public schools afforded him his educational privileges. In early manhood he engaged in the livery business for some time and also in the sale of buggies and agricultural implements. Later he spent two years as a resident of Chicago. Having sold out the livery business and his agricultural implement store, he now follows farming. He formerly owned two hundred and forty acres of the homestead place but has sold off this in town lots until the place now comprises one hundred and ten acres, adjoining the city of Sycamore. Here he resides in a beautiful home, which he built at No. 743 West State street. In his farming operations he is enterprising, his labors bringing him a gratifying measure of success, and a glance at his place, with its well tilled fields and excellent improvements, indicates his careful supervision and practical methods.

Mr. Walrod was married to Miss Mary Watkins, of Kane county, Illinois, who died three years later, leaving one son, William E., who married Edith Petrie, by whom he has one daughter, Mildred.

He has been with the canning factory for twelve years and he and his family live near his father's place. For his second wife Mr. Walrod chose Eva Denmark, of Pennsylvania, a daughter of D. J. Denmark, who died of cancer in December, 1906, at the age of eighty-four years. By Mr. Walrod's second marriage there have been born six children. Melintha, the wife of George Sell, a butcher of Sycamore, by whom she has one daughter, Irene; George, who is engaged in the livery business in Sycamore with T. H. Helson, and who married Nellie Spears; Louis, who is a member of the grocery firm of Oleson, Whittemore & Walrod, and who wedded Maud Starks, by whom he has two children, Ardis and Norma Sylvia; Walter, who is in Chicago in the employ of Swartz & Sellsburger, packers of Chicago; Jennie, who resides at home; and Charles, who is with his brother Walter in the packing house in Chicago. Mrs. Walrod has one sister in Sycamore, Mrs. F. A. Maxfield, who is residing at No. 721 West State street.

Mr. Walrod exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party, but has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking. His wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church at Sycamore. Mr. Walrod deserves representation in this volume not only from the fact that he is the oldest living native son of the city, but also by reason of the fact that he has taken an active and helpful interest in the agricultural development of the county, making a creditable record in business circles as one who meets his obligations and is straightforward in all his dealings with his fellowmen.

OCTAVIOUS VANSTONE.

Octavious Vanstone, well known as a breeder and raiser of fancy horses and a successful agriculturist, was born in Devonshire, England, May 14, 1857. His father, John Vanstone, also a native of England, first opened his eyes to the light of day on the 31st of January, 1831, and when he had arrived at years of maturity, he was married in his native country to Miss Elizabeth Symons, whose birth occurred in England in 1831. They came to America in 1880 and are now living in the village of Malta, De Kalb county, but for many

years Mr. Vanstone was actively engaged in general farming in this locality. Octavious is the oldest of their twelve children, all living in this county with the exception of Rhode Vodbon, a resident of Devonshire, England.

In his native country Octavious Vanstone acquired a common-school education. He has always been connected with farming interests and is now the owner of seventy acres of land, while in connection with his son he operates three hundred acres. For twenty-four years he rented and cultivated the Bowlan farm and for some time has made a specialty of raising fine driving horses. In his live-stock interests he has met with success and has become well known as a business man in this connection.

Mr. Vanstone was married in the year 1877 to Mrs. Mary Simmons, a widow who was born in England, July 31, 1848. Her parents were also natives of that country and spent their entire lives there. By her first marriage Mrs. Vanstone had four children: William, born in 1870; Mary, born July 19, 1872; Alfred, born October 27, 1874; and Anna, born April 27, 1876. Mr. and Mrs. Vanstone became the parents of a son and daughter; Fred B., who was born October 8, 1878, and who is now married and engaged in business with his father; and Ada, who was born March 21, 1881, and is the wife of William Westberg, living in the city of De Kalb.

Mr. and Mrs. Vanstone are members of the Episcopal church and he belongs to the Knights of Pythias lodge, No. 215, at De Kalb. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to try his fortune in America, for in this country he has found good business opportunities and has advanced steadily, working his way upward by unfaltering energy and diligence. Politically he is a republican and has acceptably filled the office of highway commissioner for ten years.

WATSON & WILLITS.

The well known firm of Watson & Willits is composed of James Arthur Watson and Oron B. Willits, energetic business men of De Kalb, who well deserve mention in this volume.

James Arthur Watson, the senior partner, was born in Paw Paw township, this county, May 9, 1872, a son of Edward M. Watson, whose birth occurred in Oswego, New York, May 20, 1847. The mother, Mrs. Anna (Hare) Watson, was born in Illinois, September 10, 1849, and they were married in Paw Paw township, February 22, 1871. The father was a farmer by occupation.

The family numbered four children, of whom James A. Watson is the eldest. He was educated in the common schools of De Kalb and completed his course in the high school at Leland, La Salle county, Illinois. Subsequently he engaged in teaching for one year, after which he began clerking in a general store at Shabbona for M. F. Spoor. On the 13th of June, 1895, he came to De Kalb and entered the dry-goods store of A. E. Atwood, being employed as a salesman for nine years, his long continuance there well indicating his thorough reliability and trustworthiness. On the 1st of February, 1901, he became manager of the McCallister Dry Goods Company of De Kalb, and on the 20th of January, 1905, he embarked in business on his own account by purchasing the store of his former employer, Mr. Atwood, and conducting the enterprise until it was destroyed by fire on the 10th of January, 1906. On the 15th of February following he entered into partnership with Mr. Willits and the relation has since been maintained, the firm soon gaining recognition as proprietors of the leading business house of this city.

Mr. Watson is a member of the Knights of Pythias lodge at De Kalb and in politics has been a stalwart republican since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He is also a member of the First Congregational church and his life has been actuated by high and honorable principles and worthy motives.

On the 27th of May, 1896, in Aurora, Illinois, Mr. Watson was married to Miss Margaret M. Mahaffy, who was born at Hinckley, Illinois, June 30, 1872. Her father, John Mahaffy, was a native of Ireland and came to America at the age of nineteen years. He married Martha Brant, who was born in England and in early life crossed the Atlantic to the new world. This marriage was celebrated in Washington county, New York, and Mr. and Mrs. Mahaffy came to Illinois in 1869, settling near Sandwich, De Kalb county. There

were ten children in their family, of whom Mrs. Mahaffy was the eighth in order of birth, and three of the number are now deceased. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Watson has been born a daughter, Martha Ruth, whose natal day was November 9, 1899.

Oron B. Willits, the junior partner of the firm of Watson & Willits, was born in Mercer county, Illinois, November 5, 1873. His parents were John Burns and Amanda E. (Boyd) Willits, both natives of Wayne county, Indiana, born in 1832. The father's birth occurred on the 4th of July of that year. They removed to Mercer county, Illinois, prior to the birth of their son Oron and the father there followed the occupation of farming until his life's labors were ended in death. His widow is still living. In their family were five children, of whom two are now deceased.

Oron B. Willits, the youngest of the family, completed his education in the Aledo (Illinois) high school and then entered business life as a salesman in a dry-goods store, being thus employed for four years. On severing his business connections in that town he accepted a clerkship at Mason City, Illinois, where he continued for one year, when he embarked in business for himself at the same place, conducting his store for a year. On the expiration of that period he returned to Aledo, where he clerked for four years, and later he took charge of a store at Elmwood, Illinois, where he continued for fifteen months. He then came to De Kalb on the 1st of June, 1905, and was engaged in clerking here until the 10th of January, 1906, when he entered into partnership with Mr. Watson and the relation has since been successfully and pleasantly maintained.

On the 27th of June, 1900, at Mason City, Illinois, Mr. Willits was married to Miss Daisy B. Hartzell, who was born in Mason county, this state, a daughter of Oliver C. and Ella (Gairy) Hartzell, the former a native of Pennsylvania. There were three children in the family, of whom Mrs. Willits is the second. She is a member of the first Presbyterian church of Mason City, Illinois, and both Mr. and Mrs. Willits are well known socially in the city, the hospitality of the best homes being cordially extended to them. In his political views Mr. Willits is an earnest republican.

The firm of Watson & Willits is doing business at No. 157 East Main street and carries a full

line of dry goods and ladies' ready made apparel. They now have a large annual trade, carry a complete stock and well merit the success which is attending their efforts, their sales amounting to about forty thousand dollars per annum. The partners are both men of good business ability, of executive force and ready discrimination, whose intelligent and well directed labors are bringing to them gratifying prosperity.

FRANKLIN A. TURNER, M. D.

Dr. Franklin A. Turner, a graduate of the College of Physicians & Surgeons, at Chicago, who since 1899 has practiced in Sandwich with constantly growing success, was born in Oconee, Illinois, November 21, 1866, and is a son of John M. and Elizabeth (Woolard) Turner. The mother was born in Illinois, while her people came from Tennessee. It was in that state that John M. Turner was born, and following his removal to Illinois he followed the occupation of farming. His death, however, occurred at the comparatively early age of thirty-two years. The mother is still living, her home being in Oconee.

Dr. Turner pursued a public-school education and afterward engaged in teaching for three years but regarded this as an initial step to other professional labor, and when opportunity offered carried out his cherished wish, preparing for the practice of medicine and surgery. His special training for that work was received in the College of Physicians & Surgeons in Chicago, from which institution he was graduated with the class of 1894. He then located for practice in Magnolia, Illinois, where he remained until 1899, when he removed to Sandwich. Always desirous of advancing in his profession that his labors might be of more direct benefit to his patients, he pursued a post-graduate course in the Chicago Polyclinic college in 1901, and he has ever been a close and discriminating student, reading broadly and thinking deeply along the lines which have bearing upon the work of the profession. He is a member of the American Medical Association, the North Central Illinois Medical Society, the De Kalb County Medical Society and the Illinois State Medical Society, the interchange of thought and experience in the

meetings of these organizations bringing him into close touch with the advancement made by the profession.

Pleasantly situated in his home life, Dr. Turner was married September 25, 1895, to Miss Cora M. McCombs, of Chicago, who was born in Ohio, and is a daughter of John D. and Elizabeth K. McCombs, the former a shoe manufacturer. Dr. and Mrs. Turner hold membership in the Presbyterian church, in which he is serving as an elder, while the work of the church receives their hearty endorsement and co-operation. In community affairs the Doctor also does his full share of the work of public improvement, is serving at the present writing as alderman of Sandwich and is also a member of the health commission. In Masonry he has attained the Royal Arch degree and has served as scribe in the chapter. Possessed of laudable ambition, his life work characterized by earnest purpose, he has gained a place in the profession which wins him public support and has gained him favorable notice from his fellow members of the medical fraternity.

FRED A. GRIGGS.

Fred A. Griggs has for a quarter of a century been engaged in business in Kirkland and the spirit of enterprise and determination which he has displayed has enabled him to wrest a comfortable fortune from the hands of fate, while his life record proves that success may be attained through honorable and unfaltering effort. He was born in Boone county, Illinois, September 19, 1859.

His father, Calvin Griggs, was a native of Oneida county, New York, born in 1816, while the grandfather, Joseph Griggs, was also a native of the Empire state and was of Scotch parentage. In the family were three brothers who originally settled in Massachusetts, while later representatives of the name removed to New York. Joseph Griggs became the founder of the family in Illinois, coming with his wife and children to this state in 1835, at which time he located at Cherry Valley in Winnebago county. Much of the land was still in possession of the government at that time and he pre-empted a claim and opened up a farm.

Calvin Griggs came with his father in 1835, being a young man at that time. He assisted in the arduous task of developing new land and as the years passed by he carried on farming on his own account, opening up a farm in Boone county, where he pre-empted land. Later he added more land and in course of time improved an excellent farm property of two hundred and forty acres near Irene. He added to this place all modern equipments and accessories and as time passed the fields brought forth rich harvests, from which he derived an excellent annual income. He was married in Boone county to Miss Hannah W. Smith, a native of Ohio, who was reared in that state and was a neighbor of the Garfield family, having an acquaintance with James A. Garfield in his childhood days. In fact she took care of him on the day on which his father was buried, while the other members of the family were in attendance at the funeral. Mrs. Griggs came west to Illinois with her parents when a young lady. After their marriage Mr. Griggs located on a farm and there reared his family and spent his remaining days, passing away in December, 1883. His wife survived him for a long period and died in September, 1905. Both lie buried in Flora cemetery in Boone county. They were people of genuine personal worth and were well known throughout the county when it was a frontier district, Mr. Griggs bearing his full part in the work of general progress and improvement which converted the county from a pioneer region into a rich agricultural section. In the family were six sons and three daughters, of whom five sons and three daughters are now living.

Fred A. Griggs was reared to manhood upon the old home farm in Boone county and was provided with good educational privileges. He attended the common schools and afterward was a student in the high school at Belvidere. After arriving at years of maturity he engaged in teaching in Boone and De Kalb counties for several years and then spent two summers in South Dakota and North Dakota, dealing in farm implements. Upon his return to this county he engaged in general merchandising at Kirkland, carrying on the business for six years. He was again a teacher for two or three years, after which he once more became connected with commercial pursuits a dealer in furniture, buying out a store which



WILLIAM T. KIRK.

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he conducted for two years, when he once more sold out. In all of his business relations he has been found energetic and reliable and has made an excellent reputation as a straightforward, progressive business man.

On the 11th of September, 1889, Mr. Griggs was united in marriage to Miss Carrie Kirk, and to them have been born two children: Calvin A., who is now a student in the Kirkland high school; and Louisa, who is also in school. William T. Kirk, the father of Mrs. Griggs, was a pioneer of Kirkland township. He was born November 17, 1815, in Chester county, Pennsylvania, and was a son of Jonathan Kirk, who in company with his three sons, Elisha A., J. Huston and William T., removed to Michigan at an early day and was the first Free Mason buried in that state. In 1837 the three brothers came to Illinois and located on farms in this section of the state. J. Huston Kirk is still living at Rockford, Illinois. William T. Kirk located in Kirkland township, De Kalb county, and became one of its most prominent and highly esteemed citizens, as well as one of the largest rural tax-payers in the county, owning at one time over fourteen hundred acres. In connection with Mr. Byers he platted and laid out the town of Kirkland. He died at his home in Franklin township, this county on the 10th of March, 1900.

Mr. Griggs is now engaged in the real-estate and insurance business, handles his own lands and in addition to purchasing and selling property in this county he has made investments in Marinette county, Wisconsin, where he owns three hundred and forty-three acres of land, which he is clearing and improving. He also handles Dakota lands and has village property in Kirkland and farm property in De Kalb county.

Mr. and Mrs. Griggs are members of the Congregational church and he is one of its trustees, while his wife also takes an active part in church and Sunday-school work, being one of the Sunday-school teachers. Mr. Griggs gives his political allegiance to the republican party, which he has supported since age conferred upon him the right of franchise, being thoroughly in sympathy with its principles and purposes. The first office which he ever held was that of township clerk. He was afterward assessor for nine consecutive years and then after an interval of one year was again elected

filling the position to the present time or for ten years. He is now acting for the second term as justice of the peace, has served on the township committee and has been notary public for some years. He was likewise a member of the town board for a considerable period and has frequently been a delegate to county conventions. He is recognized as a prominent republican in his community, known as a leader of the party, and is a man who in public affairs has wielded a wide influence, his support being ever given to measures which prove of public benefit.

WILLIAM G. BAIE.

William G. Baie, postmaster of Hinckley and a stockholder in some of its leading business enterprises, was born in Squaw Grove township, De Kalb county, in 1874. His father, William Baie, a native of Germany, is now living in Hinckley at the age of sixty years. He came to the United States in the spring of 1865, locating in De Kalb county, and worked by the month on a farm in Squaw Grove township. He was then married and began farming on rented land and when his labors had brought him sufficient capital he purchased one hundred and seventy acres in Squaw Grove township. This was in 1890 and the place still remains in his possession. As a farmer he was remarkably successful, so conducting his business affairs that he annually marketed large harvests and commanded high prices for his products. He is also a stockholder in the Hinckley Grain Company. His political support was given the democracy until 1896, when his views upon the money question led him to support the republican party, of which he has since been a stalwart champion. He belongs to the German Lutheran church and is a man whose worth is acknowledged by all who know him. He married Minnie Bornemann, a native of Germany, now living at the age of sixty years. She came to the United States in 1861 with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ludwig Bornemann, who located at Leland, La Salle county, and became pioneer farming people of Kendall county, Illinois. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Baie were born six children: Clara M., the wife of Louis A. Bish, a resident farmer of Kane county; William

G.; Minnie D., who is assistant postmaster of Hinckley; Tillie C., principal of the East school of De Kalb; Edward C., who is operating the home farm; and Lillian May, who died in 1897 at the age of thirteen years.

William G. Baie was reared to farm life and pursued his education in the Hinckley schools following the removal of the family to that village. He afterward taught school for one year and in 1895 was appointed postmaster of Hinckley, in which position he has served continuously to the present time. He is also a stockholder in the Hinckley State Bank and until a recent date was one of its directors. He is likewise a stockholder in the Hinckley Grain Company. He has thus become well known in business circles. Mr. Baie is popular in the community where he resides, for he is a man of attractive social qualities. He attends the Methodist Episcopal church, is a member of the Masonic fraternity and gives his political support to the republican party.

CHARLES A. DARNELL.

Charles A. Darnell, engaged in the practice of law at Plano, is a son of Benjamin A. and Ann C. (Neer) Darnell. His father engaged in school teaching and farming and was also an ordained elder of the Christian church. He married Ann C. Neer on the 7th of April, 1848, and they were the parents of seven children, Thomas D., John W., George A., Henry B., Charles A., James R. and Frank M., of which number Frank and Henry are deceased.

Charles A. Darnell pursued his education in the common schools of De Kalb county, being a student in old district No. 5, Squaw Grove township, near Hinckley. He afterward attended Jennings Seminary in the winter of 1884-5 and was a student in the Union Christian College at Merom, Sullivan county, Indiana, for several terms. Resolving to make the practice of law his life work he began preparation for that profession in the Northern Illinois College, from which school in 1897 he received the degree of Bachelor of Law. In 1903 the University of Tennessee conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Law. In the meantime Mr. Darnell had engaged in teaching

for a number of terms. In 1885-6 he taught at Pierceville, Illinois, and then at Freeland in district No. 7. He was afterward the teacher in the district north of Sandwich, called the Coy district, and subsequently at Little Rock, Kendall county, Illinois, where he remained for ten terms. Later he was the teacher at Big Lake, Illinois, and in 1895-6 was principal of the Sugar Grove school founded by Professor Hall, his last year as a teacher being spent at Creston, Ogle county, Illinois. His work as a teacher enabled him to provide for the support of himself and those dependent upon him and secure his professional education.

Having prepared for the bar Mr. Darnell located for practice in Plano, in 1897, having been admitted on the 30th of March of that year. The first month his fees amounted to only a dollar and a half, which he collected on the sole case that was given him during that time. Within two years, however, he was making on an average of ten dollars per day. He has practiced continuously in Plano for the past ten years has been connected with much important litigation and by judicious investment of his earnings has accumulated considerable property.

Mr. Darnell enlisted with the Reserves at the outbreak of the Spanish-American war but was never called to the front. He has been prominent and active in community affairs, has served as a notary public for sixteen years, has been president of the Plano school board for five years, alderman for six years and at this writing in 1907 is city attorney. He was also secretary of the public library board and is now acting as secretary of the Plano Cemetery Association. He has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking but has always been a stalwart champion of republican principles and has delivered campaign addresses, notably in Indiana when Benjamin Harrison was candidate for the presidency. He is a trustee of the Plano Methodist Episcopal church and has been most generous in the support of church and charitable institutions and public interests, recently giving a donation of one thousand dollars toward the erection of the new Methodist church. His fraternal relations are with the Masons, holding membership in the Sunbeam lodge, No. 428, A. F. & A. M., and Illinois chapter, No. 107, R. A. M., at Sandwich, Illinois.

On the 25th of December, 1890, at West York, Illinois, Mr. Darnell was united in marriage to Miss Addah E. Willard, who died September 21, 1891. On the 15th of June, 1898, at Creston, Illinois, he married Alice M. Hiscock, and they have one child, Lucile R., who was born September 15, 1900. With the force of character that has enabled him to overcome difficulties and obstacles, with the laudable ambition that has prompted him to put forth strong effort for advancement, Mr. Darnell has made a creditable place for himself in legal circles and his ability is attested by the liberal clientage now accorded him.

G. D. HUEBER.

G. D. Hueber has extensive landed interests in De Kalb county, from which he derives an excellent annual income. His property holdings embrace one hundred and sixty acres of the rich land which has made De Kalb county famous as an agricultural center. A native son of the county, he was born July 8, 1870. His father, Gottlieb Hueber, was born at Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1828, and the mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Hueber, was also a native of Wurtemberg, born in 1829. The father came to America in 1854, first settling in Pennsylvania, where he remained for a year. He then came west to Illinois, taking up his abode in South Grove township, De Kalb county, where he carried on general agricultural pursuits for a year, after which he removed to Malta township and bought a farm of eighty acres. He has since accumulated more property, making judicious investment as opportunity has afforded, until his landed possessions now embrace five hundred and sixty acres in Malta township. He still lives upon the old homestead with one of his sons and has passed the seventy-eighth milestone on life's journey. His life has been characterized by unfaltering activity and usefulness, by good business ability and careful investment, and he well merits the success that has come to him with the passing years. In his family were eleven children, seven of whom are yet living, namely: Carrie A., John W., Fred J., George E., Laura L., William N., and G. D., of this review.

G. D. Hueber was the sixth in order of birth and was reared and educated in Malta township, spending his boyhood days on the old homestead and working in the fields through the summer months, while in the winter seasons he mastered the common branches of English learning. He has always given his time and energies to the task of plowing, planting and harvesting.

On the 19th of February, 1896, Mr. Hueber was united in marriage to Miss Cora A. Schweitzer. Her father, John H. Schweitzer, was born in Wisconsin and when a boy came to Illinois. He was married in Pierce township, De Kalb county, and unto this union were born four sons and a daughter, the latter becoming Mrs. Hueber. By her marriage she has become the mother of five children: Clyde M. and Claude H., twins, born November 4, 1896; Elroy, July 13, 1898; Percy, September 29, 1902; and Clara, October 20, 1904.

In his political views Mr. Hueber has always been a republican since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He has preferred to concentrate his attention upon business affairs rather than upon political service and has held no office save that for two terms he was school director. He belongs to Modern Woodmen lodge, No. 217, and gives his support to the Evangelical church. The home farm comprises one hundred and sixty acres of land, which is owned by Mr. Hueber and which he has brought under a high state of cultivation, the fields annually bringing forth rich crops that find a ready and profitable sale on the market.

JOHN M. BRENNAN.

John M. Brennan, who for three years has conducted the grain, coal and farm machinery business of the Great Western Grain Company, at Esmond, was born on the old farm homestead in Mayfield township, this county, June 23, 1862, his parents being Edward and Mary (Kelly) Brennan. The father was born in Ireland, and leaving his native country, took up his abode in Newfoundland in 1830, there remaining for fourteen years. He followed the life of a sailor and for a few years was master of a boat plying between Newfoundland and Boston, Massachusetts. Later he was engaged in seal fishing from New-

foundland to the coast of Labrador. In 1844, however, he left the sea and made his way to Illinois, casting in his lot with the farming population of Mayfield township, De Kalb county. Securing a tract of land, he carried on general agricultural pursuits for many years, transforming his property into a finely developed farm, upon which he lived until his death, which occurred May 3, 1881. His wife passed away August 2, 1893.

At the usual age John M. Brennan entered the district schools and therein acquired his education. He remained upon the old farm homestead until about five years ago, largely assisting in the task of developing and improving the place. In 1901, however, he took a position with the International Harvester Company as traveling representative, remaining with that corporation for two years, or until he entered upon his present business connection with the Great Western Grain Company, having charge of the grain, coal and farm machinery business at Esmond. He also owns a house and two lots in Sycamore.

On the 11th of January, 1893, Mr. Brennan was united in marriage to Miss Emma Masterson, a resident of South Grove township. They have become the parents of four children. Mary, Myrtle, John and Wallace, all in school. All were born on the old farm homestead, which was likewise the birthplace of their father. The parents are members of the Catholic church at Sycamore. Mr. Brennan is a republican, and for five years while in Mayfield township served as school director but otherwise has never sought or desired office. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp at Sycamore and to the Knights of Pythias fraternity at De Kalb. He is a worthy representative of the business life of his village and since starting out for himself has made steady and substantial progress.

WILDER G. POTTER.

Wilder G. Potter, who throughout his entire life has followed the occupation of farming and is now owner of one hundred and sixty acres of excellent land on section 10, Clinton township, where he resides, as well as three hundred and twenty acres in Canada, was born in Afton township, June 2,

1861. His father, William H. Potter, was a native of the state of New York, born in 1827, and wedded Miss Harriett Baxter, whose birth occurred in March, 1835. Mr. Potter came to the west in 1855 and engaged in farming. In his family were six children: Riley, who was born in 1856 and died in 1861; Wilder G., of this review; Edward, born in 1863; J. A., born in 1864; Emma E., born in 1869; and Frank, who was born in 1871 and died in 1876. The father of this family passed away on the 6th of April, 1895, while his wife survived until 1902.

Wilder G. Potter has spent his entire life in De Kalb county and was reared to the occupation of farming, early becoming familiar with the duties and labors necessary for the development of the fields and production of crops. For his companion and helpmate on life's journey, he chose Miss May Allen to whom he was married on the 3d of October, 1883. She was born in Clinton township, October 15, 1864, her parents being Charles F. and Ellen Allen, the former born in Vermont in 1834 and the latter in the state of New York in 1838. They were farming people of De Kalb county for many years but are now living retired in Waterman. In their family were two sons and a daughter: Fred A., born in 1860; Mrs. May Potter, born November 15, 1864; and Floyd C., born December 2, 1870, and died December 30, 1895. The marriage of our subject and his wife has been blessed with four children: Elnora M., born December 2, 1888; Florence R., born November 30, 1891; Francis E., born November 24, 1896; and Frank A., born June 6, 1901. The family home is pleasantly located in the midst of a good farm of one hundred and sixty acres near Waterman on section 10, Clinton township, and in addition to this property Mr. Potter owns a half section of land in Canada. Through their united efforts Mr. and Mrs. Potter have acquired a handsome competence sufficient to enable them to spend their remaining days in ease and comfort. They have given to their children good educational advantages. The parents are members of the Methodist Episcopal church of that place and Mr. Potter is a republican in politics. He has served as school director for six years and the cause of education finds in him a stalwart champion. He is now serving as supervisor of Clinton township to which office he was elected in the spring of 1907.

He is indeed a public-spirited citizen interested in all that pertains to the public welfare and wherever he is known, is esteemed because he possesses those sterling qualities which in every land and clime awaken confidence and regard.

HENRY EDWARD RAMER.

Henry E. Ramer is an honored veteran of the Civil war, who valiantly fought for the Union and deserves all the honor and respect which are accorded the soldier of the Civil war. He is now living retired in De Kalb, where he is highly esteemed by many warm friends. He was born in Richland county, Ohio, March 13, 1840, and is numbered among the pioneer settlers of this county, having been brought to Illinois in 1845 by his parents, Henry and Susan (Troup) Ramer, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania. The father was a farmer by occupation and in 1845, leaving Ohio, he brought his family to De Kalb county, where he took up his abode upon a tract of wild and uncultivated land. He then began the development and improvement of the property and it was upon the old homestead that Henry E. Ramer was reared. There were ten children, of whom he was the seventh in order of birth. Six of the number are now deceased. Two of his brothers, Philip and Anthony, served in the war of the Rebellion, Philip being a member of the Thirty-sixth Illinois Regiment, while Anthony faithfully defended the old flag as a member of the Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry.

Henry E. Ramer acquired a common-school education and was reared amid the environments of frontier life. He early assisted in the work of the farm and after leaving school gave his undivided attention to general agricultural pursuits. For many years he ably and successfully carried on general farming and became the owner of one hundred and twelve acres of choice land on section 26, Cortland township, which is still in his possession and from which he derives a good income. He also owns a house and lot in the city of De Kalb. After carrying on the active work of the farm for many years he put aside business cares and he and his wife removed to the city of De Kalb, where

they are now living, being pleasantly located at No. 725 East Grove street.

The passing years brought many interesting events to Mr. Ramer. He took one of the most important steps in his life when a young man of twenty-one years. He had watched with interest the progress of events in the south, had noted the attitude of the secessionists and resolved that if a blow was struck to overthrow the Union he would stand loyally in its defense. Accordingly the smoke from Fort Sumter's guns had scarcely cleared away when on the 17th of April, 1861, he joined the army as a member of Company F, Thirteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He served altogether for three years, two months and eleven days and was then honorably discharged. He belonged to the first regiment that was sworn into the three years' service from the state of Illinois and he participated in many important engagements, including the battles of Wetglaze, Missouri, October 14, 1861; Lynn Creek, Missouri, October 16, 1861; Chickasaw Bayou, Mississippi, December 27 and 28, 1862; Arkansas Post, January 11, 1863; Deer Creek, April 7, 1863; Black Bayou, April 10, 1863; Jackson, Mississippi, May 14, 1863; the siege of Vicksburg from the 18th of May until the 4th of July, 1863; the siege of Jackson, July 10 to 16, 1863; Brandon, Mississippi, July 19, 1863; Cherokee, Alabama, October 21, 1863; Kane Creek, Alabama, October 26, 1863; Tuscumbia Gap, October 26 and 27, 1863; Lookout Mountain, November 24, 1863; Missionary Ridge, November 25, 1863; and Ringgold Pass, Georgia, November 27, 1863. He relates many interesting incidents of the war concerning the scenes that occurred on the battle-field and in the midst of strife and is a veteran of long and varied military experience. To him and such as he the country owes a debt of gratitude which can never be repaid.

Following his return from the war Mr. Ramer was married in Sycamore, Illinois, November 1, 1865, to Miss Mary Jane Filmer, who was born in Ohio, September 18, 1840. Her father, William Filmer, was a native of England and late in life came to America. He wedded Margaret Gordan, who was born in Pennsylvania of Scotch parentage and they became the parents of seven children, of whom Mrs. Ramer is the youngest and the only one now living. By her marriage

she has become the mother of seven children: Hiram S. R., born August 16, 1866; Mrs. Isabelle May Schule, born February 12, 1868; Arthur E. B., born October 16, 1870; Alfonso L., born September 21, 1871; Mrs. Nellie I. Zigler, born June 18, 1873; Mrs. Minnie J. Vocum, born March 27, 1875; and Frank E., born April 3, 1877.

Mr. and Mrs. Ramer are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and he belongs to Merritt Simonds post, No. 283, G. A. R. in which he maintains pleasant relations with his old army comrades. His political support has always been given to the republican party and though he has never sought or desired office he has always been as loyal in citizenship and to the interests of his community as he was to the Union when he followed the old flag upon southern battle-fields. He is an earnest, honorable Christian man, always found on the right side of every question, giving his influence for all that tends to advance material, intellectual, political and moral progress.

JAMES MARTIN POSTLE, M. D.

James Martin Postle, engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery in De Kalb, was born in Cortland township, this county, October 10, 1861. His father, William Postle, was born in Lafayette, Madison county, Ohio, October 24, 1819, a son of David Postle, and came to Illinois in 1842. He located on a farm on section 25, Cortland township, De Kalb county, and it was to this place he brought his bride, being married on the 18th of July, 1858, to Miss Elizabeth R. Blackman, who was born in Macedon, New York, December 11, 1834, and was his second wife. Her father was David Jaynes Blackman, who was born in Cambridge, Washington county, New York, May 19, 1804, and died April 11, 1882. On the 22d of January, 1829, he was married in Macedon, Wayne county, New York, to Deborah Lapham Beal, who was born at that place, December 18, 1810, and died on the 11th of January, 1877. They were the parents of five children. David Jaynes Blackman was a soldier of the Civil war, enlisting in Virgil township, Kane county, Illinois, September 10, 1861, in Company A, Fifty-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry, for three years' service. He

was mustered in on the 25th of October, following, and was the oldest man in his regiment. He was transferred to the Invalid Corps July 7, 1863, but on the 6th of February, 1864, re-enlisted as a recruit in his old company, and was finally mustered out of service on the 6th of July, 1865.

Dr. Postle is the second in order of birth in the family of three children born of his father's second marriage. The oldest died in childhood, and the youngest, Bernard Beal Postle, was born March 29, 1875. The Doctor was reared upon the old home farm and was educated in the high school of De Kalb and at Wheaton (Illinois) College. Deciding on medicine as a life work, he entered the medical department of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, and was graduated therefrom on the 25th of June, 1885. For one year he was an assistant to the surgeon of the college at University Hospital, thus putting his theoretical knowledge to a practical test and gaining broad and varied experience. On the 16th of September, 1885, he entered upon the active practice of his profession at Hinkley, Illinois, where he remained for eighteen years, and then, seeking a broader field of labor in a larger city, he removed to De Kalb, October 5, 1903. He was not unknown here at the time of his arrival, and his professional skill won him almost immediate recognition in a good practice, which has been constantly growing in volume and importance. As the years have passed he has gained a good measure of financial success, such as is always the just reward of labor well performed. He was appointed acting hospital steward in 1904 under Colonel Fisher of the Third Regiment of Illinois National Guards. On the 13th of February, 1905, he was appointed assistant surgeon by Governor Deneen with the rank of first lieutenant of the Third Regiment. He belongs to the American Medical Association; the Illinois State Medical Society; the De Kalb County Medical Society; the Association of Military Surgeons; and was a member of the First Pan-American Medical Congress which convened at Washington in 1893.

On the 29th of October, 1885, in Urbana, Ohio, Dr. Postle was married to Miss Carrie Belle Glenn, who was born in that city on the 18th of May, 1866. Her father, Isaac Drake Glenn, was the founder of Glendale, Ohio. He was born in Cincinnati, that state, and is a direct descendant of Sir Francis Drake, the great navigator. He was



J. M. Postle, M. D.

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also related to Dr. Daniel Drake, who founded the Cincinnati Medical College in 1819, and to Edward L. McGuffey, the author of McGuffey's readers and spellers. The latter's son, Edward L. McGuffey, Jr., recently first assistant rector of St. Ann's Episcopal Cathedral at Brooklyn, New York, married Dr. and Mrs. Postle. Her mother, Mrs. Martha (McClellan) Glenn, was a native of Middletown, Ohio, and she and her husband remained residents of that state until death claimed them. In their family were nine children, of whom Mrs. Postle is next to the youngest.

Unto the Doctor and his wife have been born three children: James Glenn, born July 22, 1886; Marjorie Linneen, born June 28, 1888; and Stanley Drake, born December 5, 1900. The oldest son is a graduate of the Balatka Musical College of Chicago, and completed the course in 1902, winning the diamond medal. In 1905 he was graduated from the Chicago Musical College, where he studied under Emil Sauret, and in 1907 he completed the high-school course in De Kalb by graduation. The daughter is now attending the State Normal and the younger son is also in school.

Dr. Postle is independent in politics. He is a member of the Nu Sigma Nu, a fraternity of Ann Arbor, Michigan, belonging to Alpha Chapter. He also belongs to the Elks lodge, No. 765, and is a member of De Kalb lodge, No. 155, I. O. O. F., the Kishwaukee encampment, No. 959, and the canton. The Doctor started out in life without financial assistance. He possessed, however, laudable ambition and strong determination and, with a nature that could never content itself with mediocrity, he has worked his way upward and has gained a goodly measure of professional success. The family is prominent socially in De Kalb. The children are the pride of the home and very talented in music.

VICTOR E. HJERTSTEDT.

Victor E. Hjertstedt occupies a responsible and important position in industrial circles, being foreman of the field, fence and netting department for the American Steel & Wire Company of De Kalb. He is a native of Sweden and was born

October 5, 1862, being the son of Carl L. Hjertstedt, who was a farmer of Sweden and spent his entire life there. The son was reared at home and acquired his education in the common schools of his native country; also in the district schools of De Kalb county, Illinois, which he attended for a short time.

In the spring of 1880, when seventeen years of age, he bade adieu to friends and native land and emigrated to the United States, sailing from Gottenberg, Sweden, to Hull, England, and thence on the "Egypt," a steamer of the Allan line, on the 23d of March. On the 24th of April he landed at New York, whence he went direct to Chicago where he remained until the 7th of July, 1880, working at any employment he could secure. He was very small for his age and not being able to speak the English language, it was difficult for him to secure a position that would yield him a living wage. In fact he did not make expenses during the two months he spent in Chicago. This occasioned him to seek a home elsewhere, and on the 7th of July, 1880, he arrived in De Kalb. The following day Mr. Hjertstedt began work as a farm hand and was thus employed until the 8th of February, 1881, when he went to Batavia, Illinois, where he secured employment in the stone quarries. After a short time, however, he went to Elgin, Illinois, and was employed for three months on the gravel train of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad. On the expiration of that period he again went to Chicago and worked for three months on a street-paving force and for two months in a hardware store. On the day preceding Thanksgiving day, 1881, he returned to De Kalb county and was again employed at farm labor until the following spring, when he entered the Haish Wire factory, continuing in the employ of Jacob Haish for some time. In the following fall he accepted a position in the mills of the I. L. Ellwood Company, there continuing until June, 1882, when the wire business became slack and all the unmarried employes were laid off. Again Mr. Hjertstedt went to Chicago, where he entered the service of the Canadian Pacific Railroad, working on the construction of this line through the northwest. In the early winter, however, he returned to De Kalb and on the 4th of December of that year he went to work for the I. L. Ellwood Company. The value of his services was soon recognized and he was grad-

ually advanced from one position to another until in 1895 he was made foreman of the field and fence department, acting in that capacity until the 18th of September, 1891, when he resigned his position having purchased a half interest in the Barb City Grocery Company. For some months he devoted himself to the new enterprise and prospered in the undertaking but became convinced that he preferred his former business interests and returned to the mills on the 1st of March, 1902, again resuming his position as foreman of the field, fence and netting department. Here he has since remained and his services have been entirely satisfactory to the company which he represents, for he is an expert workman and has a thorough understanding of the business which well qualifies him to superintend the labor of the men under his supervision.

On the 1st of May, 1884, Mr. Hjertstedt was married to Miss Mary Anderson, daughter of Anders Gustav Anderson, and they have become the parents of three daughters and a son: Edith Victoria, Carl Roy Columbus, Myrtle Marie J., and Ebbo Louise. The parents are members of the Swedish Lutheran church and for six years Mr. Hjertstedt was one of the trustees, while for two years he was treasurer of the church. He takes an active part in this work and is a generous contributor to its support. In politics he is a republican, but has never sought or desired political offices. Since coming to America as a young man without capital yet possessing energy and determination, he has steadily worked his way upward and has won a goodly measure of success and also the respect and confidence of his fellowmen.

GEORGE WHITE.

George White, who is successfully engaged in general farming and dairying on section 9, Genoa township, was born on the farm where he still resides, October 14, 1849, and throughout life has been actively identified with the development and improvement of that locality. His father was John White, whose birth occurred in Bavaria, Germany, on the 5th of March, 1815, and whose parents were John and Barbara (Mamer) Weid, also natives of Germany. The spelling of the

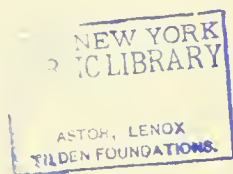
name was changed from Weid to White to correspond with the pronunciation in America.

The father of our subject grew to manhood in his native land and in May, 1846, came to America, sailing from Hamburg and being seven weeks on the voyage. He first located in Pennsylvania, where he remained two and one-half years, and while there he was married in May, 1846, to Miss Anne Margaret Hoffman, who was also born in Bavaria and came to the United States on the same vessel as her husband. They became the parents of seven children: Charles, who was born in Pennsylvania and now live in Delaware county, Iowa, where he follows farming; George, who is the next in order of birth; Maggie and Caroline, who live with our subject and are owners of the old home farm; John, also a resident of Delaware county, Iowa; Henry, who lives in Butler county, Iowa; and Mary, wife of John Billhorn and a resident of Delaware county, Iowa. In the spring of 1849 the father, accompanied by his wife and only child, came to De Kalb county, Illinois, and purchased eighty acres of government land, which now forms a part of the White homestead. He at once commenced the improvement and cultivation of his place and being an industrious and thrifty man success crowned his efforts and he was able to add to his possession from time to time until he became the owner of two hundred and sixty acres, all but thirty acres of which is under cultivation. He continued the management of his farm until the death of his wife, which occurred on the 6th of July, 1896, when she was seventy-six years of age, being born February 9, 1820. He then sold the place to his children, George, Maggie and Caroline, but continued to reside with them until called from this life January 8, 1898, at the age of almost eighty-three years. The parents were earnest, consistent Christian people and were highly respected by all who knew them.

George White was reared under the parental roof, early becoming familiar with the duties of the farm, and attending the district schools of the neighborhood until eighteen years of age, when he commenced work by the month for his father. He was thus employed until 1897, when he and his sisters bought the old home farm, which comprises two hundred and thirty acres of prairie land and thirty acres of timber just south of Genoa, and ten acres lying in Sycamore township.



JOHN WHITE.



This is devoted to general farming and dairy purposes, usually raising from fifty to sixty acres of corn, the remainder being meadow or pasture land. Mr. White raises good graded stock of all kinds, having a fine herd of Jersey cows, which he keeps for dairy purposes, and his sisters supply from twenty to thirty Genoa families with butter, which commands two cents a pound above Elgin prices in the home market. He gives considerable attention to the feeding of hogs and in 1906 sold one weighing six hundred and ninety pounds. The farm is supplied with a good set of buildings for the shelter of grain, stock and implements and nothing is left exposed to the weather. Mr. White has just completed thoroughly tiling the entire farm and the farm shows excellent management and good business ability on the part of the owner, who is considered one of the most progressive agriculturists of his community. He is also half owner in a threshing outfit and from that derives a good income. On the organization of the Farmers State Bank of Genoa in 1901 he was made a director and in 1904 was chosen vice-president, which position he still fills.

Being a strong temperance man, Mr. White supports the prohibition party and its principles but has never sought or cared for public office, preferring to devote his undivided attention to his business interests, though he served as school trustee two terms. He is an active member and trustee of the Ney Methodist Episcopal church and is also a trustee of the Ney Cemetery Association. He is a veteran Sunday-school teacher, having taught a class for more than twenty years, and his upright, honorable life has gained for him the confidence and high regard of all with whom he comes in contact.

WARNER D. WHIPPLE.

One of the enterprising, popular and well respected young farmers of De Kalb county is Warner D. Whipple of Cortland township. He was born in Sycamore, December 23, 1880, but when he was only three months old his parents removed to the farm whereon he has since resided. His father, Benjamin F. Whipple, was born in Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, October 25, 1856, and is one of the five children who were born unto

James and Mary (Warner) Whipple, who removed to De Kalb county in 1870, locating on the Arnold Brown farm, which has since been known as the Whipple farm in Sycamore township. The death of James Whipple occurred in June, 1905, and the widow is still a resident of Sycamore township, living three miles north of the city of Sycamore, which has been the family homestead for twenty years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. James Whipple were born four sons: William W., Benjamin F., Charles and Edward, and also a daughter who died in infancy.

Reared under the parental roof, B. F. Whipple early became familiar with farm labor. On the 16th of December, 1879, he wedded Miss Mary A. Dean, a daughter of Moses and Rachel Dean of Sycamore. She was one of a family of five children, the others being Delia, Ann B., Arthur and Ira. Her birth occurred in Hasbrouck, New York, September 19, 1854, and she was brought by her parents to De Kalb county in 1856. Her father was a very active man in the early history of this part of the state and became one of the prominent and distinguished citizens here. He settled at Charter Grove and developed about fourteen hundred acres of land, building thereon ten barns and six houses on the different farms. Mr. and Mrs. Whipple spent one year upon a farm at Charter Grove and one winter in the town of Sycamore before locating upon the farm where he has since lived and where his wife died on the 12th of March, 1897. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Whipple were born four children but Warner D. is the only one now living. A son, LeRoy J., who was born December 11, 1882, died February 8, 1893; a daughter, born March 17, 1885, died on the 27th of March following; and Bessie R., born December 24, 1890, died January 26, 1893. The family burying ground is in Charter Grove cemetery, where the mother and her children have been laid to rest.

Warner D. Whipple spent his youth in the usual manner of farm lads of the period, early becoming familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. He was married August 17, 1900, to Miss Florence M. Rowan, a daughter of James and Margaret Rowan, of Chicago, the former a native of Toronto, Canada, and the latter of Redbank, New Jersey. Mrs. Whipple was an only daughter and was born June 3, 1881.

Her father died April 22, 1894, while her mother survived until January 13, 1906. Mr. and Mrs. Whipple have two children: Mary Alice, born April 11, 1902; and James L., on the 7th of July, 1903. B. F. Whipple, the father of our subject, is also a member of the family, the three generations living in one house. Before the death of Mrs. Julia A. Warner of Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, in the summer of 1906, there were five generations of the Whipple family living, the connecting links in the chain being Mrs. Warner, Mrs. Mary A. Whipple, Benjamin F. Whipple, Warner D. Whipple and his little daughter, Mary Alice Whipple.

Warner D. Whipple owns a farm of two hundred and twenty-seven acres pleasantly located about two and a half miles from Sycamore. The improvements are modern in all respects and the place is well kept, neatness and thrift characterizing it in every department. A telephone keeps them in close connection with their friends and the home is such as is found in the cities in the ownership of men of progress and enterprise. Mr. Whipple keeps a good grade of stock and uses the latest improved machinery to carry on the work of his farm. He and his family are well known in the community, their circle of friends being almost co-extensive with the circle of their acquaintance, and it is with pleasure that we present to our readers this record of Warner D. Whipple.

CARLOS LATTIN.

Carlos Lattin, the founder of Sycamore, and the fourth child and the fourth son of Abner and Sarah (Bennett) Lattin, was born May 31, 1813, at Huntington, Hartford county, Connecticut, where he resided until the winter of 1819, when his parents removed to a little place called Veteran, in Chemung county, New York. The boy was bright and industrious and very soon attracted the attention of a neighboring family named Lyon who prevailed upon the parents to permit Carlos to come to them to live. The new relations became so mutually congenial that Mr. Lyon adopted the boy and kept him until he reached his twenty-first year, when in the autumn of 1834, with a horse which Mr. Lyon gave him and one thousand dollars

in money, which Mr. Lyon loaned him without interest, he rode westward to St. Louis. Then, as now, work was plenty and help was scarce and upon the day of his arrival he hired out to a nearby farmer and with the latter worked until the fame of northern Illinois came over the great prairies by those cosmic wings which lend their silent influence to great movements, and buzzed its message into the ears of Carlos Lattin.

At once he mounted his horse and traveling into southern Illinois, he worked with farmers along the route, days at a time, for his board, until in the month of March, he had reached the great grove which covered the country immediately to the north of Sycamore. The abundance of timber and water to be had at the Kishwaukee attracted him and he stopped and erected the first building upon what is now the city of Sycamore and became its first settler and founder. The Frenchman and the Norwegian who had tarried a short while during the previous autumn, were not then returned and when they did return, they proved to be birds of passage only and not settlers. On the spot approximately occupied by the Sycamore National Bank—a little back and a little to the north, the cabin stood and was occupied by him until the year 1849, when he removed to the two-story brick building, built by him on West High street, near the corner of California. That little log cabin was built eight logs high. It was sixteen by twenty-four feet, the floor and doors were rude puncheons and the roof was made of shakes, three rows of them to the side, held down by poles running lengthwise of the roof. One door and a window were made on the south side and a mud and stick chimney was built against the north gable. A little window peeped out from the south side of the little upper half-story.

On the 5th day of September, 1839, Carlos Lattin was married to Nancy Cartwright, who then lived on the farm known now as the County Farm. Then it was the property of her father. The newly married couple moved into the little log cabin and there lived and reared a family, until the year 1849 when the family removed to the brick house before mentioned. In the exciting days of the early county seat wars, it was Carlos Lattin, with two others, who furnished the ready money with which to buy from the government the present site for the courthouse. That event defi-

nately settled the contest and the land was conveyed to the county of De Kalb. Mr. Lattin was deeply religious. He early became identified with the Methodist church and remained its pillar until his death. He gave to that church the property upon which the parsonage now stands and the other where stands the church; both on Somonauk street. For the construction of that church, he also gave fifteen hundred dollars in money and continued a liberal supporter of it.

Carlos Lattin and his wife were what the old settlers always denominated as very jolly people, and it was no uncommon thing during the long tedious winters of the early days to "hitch up" and drive to the neighbors, for Mr. Lattin to join in games of ball, blindman's buff, etc., and make life merry with such harmless pasttimes. His fame is sung even to this day for such youthful games. Lattin's addition to Sycamore, was part of his old claim and so are Waterman & Ellwood's additions. From the latter, Mr. Lattin reserved two lots upon which he subsequently built his largest and last home upon the corner of Somonauk and High streets. This old homestead is still owned and occupied by his daughter, Mrs. Frank E. Stevens, and family, making a period of seventy-two years of consecutive ownership by the family—a very rare incident for Illinois.

Upon the 20th day of April, 1876, Carlos Lattin died. His widow, who had been his helpmate indeed for the years of hardship of those early days, survived him until the 1st day of March, 1901, when she too died in her eighty-first year.

C. M. FULLER.

C. M. Fuller is engaged quite extensively in the raising of chickens upon a farm in Clinton township. He makes a specialty of Plymouth Rocks and, while he also engages in the tilling of the soil, his poultry interests constitute an important source of revenue to him. His birth occurred in Clinton township, May 15, 1870, his parents being A. M. and Susan B. Fuller, natives of the state of New York, born in 1832 and 1834 respectively. The father came west in 1850 when a young man eighteen years of age and worked by the month as a farm hand in De Kalb county.

He was married, after which he purchased a tract of land upon which his son C. M. Fuller now resides. After cultivating this place for some years he retired from active life and removed to Waterman where he is now living in the enjoyment of well earned rest. As the years have passed by his fellow townsmen have recognized his many good qualities and given him their high regard. In the family were four children: Frank, who died in infancy; C. M., of this review; Lida, who is married and lives in Colorado; and John N., who is married and follows farming in De Kalb county.

Farm work early claimed the time and attention of C. M. Fuller and he was trained to labors of field and meadow. The public schools afforded him his educational privileges and his entire life has been largely a period of earnest toil. He was married in 1890 to Miss Eugenie C. Normandin, who was born in Kane county, Illinois, March 28, 1869. Her parents were residents of Waterman. They were natives of Canada and came to Illinois in 1843. In their family were eight children and it is a notable fact that the family circle yet remains unbroken by the hand of death. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Fuller has been blessed with seven children: Irene L., who was born December 7, 1891; Frances J., born October 2, 1893; Everett A., born June 25, 1895; Merle P., born November 2, 1897; Zila E., born November 2, 1901; S. Verdelle, born May 20, 1904; and Genelle G., born December 5, 1905.

Following his marriage Mr. Fuller rented the old homestead farm whereon he has since lived. It was his birthplace and therefore dear to him through associations of youth as well as manhood. He lives an active and busy life in the further care and development of the property, and in connection with the tilling of the soil he makes a specialty of raising poultry, including buff Plymouth Rocks. He uses an incubator in hatching and raises from eight to twelve hundred chickens per year. He gets from eight to ten dozen eggs per days all through the winter season and sells few fowls except for breeding purposes. His business is one of the most extensive of this character in the county and Mr. Fuller keeps only very high grade fowls. He votes with the republican party and for seven years served as school director and the cause of education finds in him a warm friend.

while his aid and co-operation are given many progressive movements which directly benefit the town and community.

EPHRAIM HALL.

Ephraim Hall was one of the prominent and successful pioneers of De Kalb county, figuring largely in the history of Sycamore township, his name being associated with many of the events which find record in the annals of the county. He was born in Wallingford, Connecticut, March 15, 1808, was reared in New England, and there married Miss Caroline Hall, who was a distant relative. In 1836 he removed to the middle west, settling in Sycamore township, De Kalb county, Illinois, where he purchased a claim for five hundred dollars. The Black Hawk war had been fought only four years before—an event which decided the supremacy of the white over the red race in this section of the country. There were still many traces of Indian occupancy, however, and the great broad prairies of this section of Illinois, which are now splendidly improved farms, were then largely covered with the native prairie grasses. Of the claim which Mr. Hall secured only five acres had been plowed, the larger portion being covered with timber and no buildings had been put upon the land. He built a little shanty sixteen feet square, in which he lived for one year. In 1837 he built a log house, which was his home for many years, and the old structure is still standing, being one of the landmarks of the township and a mute reminder of the changes which have occurred as the years have gone by. He was a man of good judgment and believed that timber land would become valuable. He therefore bought five hundred acres, which were covered with the native forest growth, and in one year sold timber from three hundred and twenty acres to the extent of seventeen thousand dollars.

While in Connecticut Ephraim Hall had been identified with manufacturing interests, but on coming to Illinois he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits and his life from that time forward was devoted to general farming. He was a very successful man, being seldom at error in matters of business judgment and making careful in-

vestments which proved profitable. His labors, too, were an element in the reclamation of this district for the uses of the white race and his work constituted an important source of the county's early progress and improvement.

Ephraim Hall lost his wife at the comparatively early age of thirty-six years. In their family were five children: Cornelia, who died at the age of twenty-six years; Ruth, the wife of Captain Almon F. Parke, a resident of Sycamore township, whose sketch is found elsewhere in this work; Franklin, who is also mentioned on another page of this volume; Eunice, the wife of John Trenor, who is living in Boone county, Iowa; and Henry, who died at the age of twenty-three years.

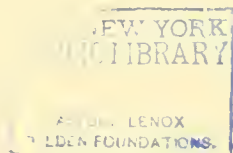
In politics Mr. Hall was a stalwart supporter of the republican party from the time of its organization and held several local offices, including those of justice of the peace and road commissioner, the duties of which he discharged with marked fidelity and promptness. He lived to the very advanced age of eighty-eight years and in his death the county lost not only one of its most venerable, but also one of its most respected citizens. He had lived here from 1836 until 1896—a period of sixty years—and no man figured more largely in connection with the history of Sycamore township or more deserves the gratitude of the present generation for what he accomplished in the processes of developing and upbuilding this section of the state.

EDWIN E. HUMISTON.

Edwin E. Humiston, a contractor and builder, thus extensively connected with the improvement of the city of Sandwich, was born in Newark, Kendall county, Illinois, July 18, 1862, his parents being Charles W. and Doreas (Hall) Humiston, both of whom were natives of this state. The maternal grandfather, Jacob Hall, was one of the men who laid out the north part of the town of Sandwich, subdividing eighty acres of his farm. The east side of his farm is now Main street, the best residence street of the city. Charles W. Humiston in his business life engaged largely in merchandising. He died at the age of forty-three years and is still survived by his widow who now resides in Sandwich.



Ephraim Hall



Edwin E. Humiston pursued a public-school education in Kendall county and following the removal of his father's family to Missouri, spent ten years upon a farm there. On the expiration of that period he came to Sandwich in 1882, being at the time a young man of twenty years. Here he began to learn the carpenter's trade, which he has followed to the present time, and on the 24th of January, 1893, he entered into partnership with William E. Ahrens, under the firm style of Ahrens & Humiston, contractors and builders. They have an extensive patronage, in which connection they have contracted for many of the finest residence, schools and hotels of the city and in the adjoining counties as well. Their patronage is now extensive and the character of the contracts awarded them is indicative of their expert workmanship and the confidence reposed in them by the general public.

On the 1st of September, 1887, Mr. Humiston was united in marriage to Miss Clara Smith, of Sandwich, a daughter of Edward F. Smith, a farmer by occupation. They have no children of their own but have an adopted son, Herbert Eugene, who was a son of Mr. Humiston's brother and was born September 15, 1900. Mr. and Mrs. Humiston hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and he also affiliates with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, while his political allegiance and support are given to the republican party but he has never been an aspirant for office, as he has preferred to concentrate his time and energies upon his business affairs which, growing in extent and importance, have made heavy demands upon his energies and at the same time have brought him a substantial financial return in reward for his labor and perseverance.

JOHN NELSON.

There is a considerable portion of the citizenship of De Kalb county that traces its ancestry to Sweden or claims that country as a place of nativity. Among the number in Afton township is John Nelson, who was born in Sweden on the 16th of February, 1862. His parents were likewise natives of that country and in 1868 they brought their family to the United States, making

their way into the interior of the country and settling in Malta, Illinois. In 1870 they removed to De Kalb, where the father worked at his trade as a wagonmaker. He was an industrious mechanic and continued actively in business until his death, which occurred on the 20th of April, 1904. His wife passed away in De Kalb in 1898.

John Nelson was but six years of age when brought to the new world. He was therefore practically reared in De Kalb county and in the public schools he acquired his education. After attaining his majority he entered the employ of a grain elevator company at De Kalb and subsequently acted as a salesman for A. W. Wood & Sons, hardware merchants of that city. Later he bought a half interest in a dray business in connection with C. W. Whitmore of De Kalb, and was engaged in teaming for five years, when he sold out. He afterward acted as agent for the Standard Oil Company for nine years and on the expiration of that period took up his abode on the Gurler farm in Afton township, since which time he has been foreman on this place and has operated the farm in connection with the conduct of a creamery business.

Mr. Nelson has been married twice. He first wedded Miss Bruhn, who was born October 2, 1866. Her father was a native of Germany and her mother of Sweden. Unto this marriage there were born two children: Floyd B., born September 22, 1888; and Minnie A., born December 16, 1890. The wife and mother passed away on the 4th of March, 1895, and subsequently Mr. Nelson was married to Julia S. Prussing, whose birth occurred in Iowa on the 18th of November, 1874, her parents, however, being natives of Germany. By the second marriage there have been born five children: Sylvia, on the 28th of August, 1897; Ruby, February 4, 1899; Raymond, in April, 1902; Jane, on the 20th of September, 1904; and J. Donald, on the 1st of February, 1907.

Mrs. Nelson holds membership in the Methodist Episcopal church of De Kalb and is interested in its work. Mr. Nelson has always been an earnest republican and while not an office seeker keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day, as every true American citizen should do. Almost his entire life has been passed in De Kalb county and therefore his record is as an open book to his fellow citizens. There have been no sensa-

tional chapters in his history; on the contrary his life has been quietly passed in the faithful performance of the duties that have devolved upon him in every connection. He has been diligent in business, reliable at all times and has made a record which has won for him the respect and confidence of his fellowmen.

WILLIAM WALLACE MARSH.

William Wallace Marsh, now living retired in Sycamore, is well known by reputation throughout the country as an inventor. In connection with his brother, Charles W. Marsh, he gave to the world the Marsh harvester, and from his fertile brain evolved many ideas which have found tangible form in inventions of practical utility, especially valuable in connection with agricultural interests. It is therefore a busy and useful life that is now being crowned with honorable retirement from labor.

Mr. Marsh was born April 15, 1835, near Trenton, Ontario, and is the second son of Samuel and Tamar (Richardson) Marsh. His father, who was born in Canada, February 7, 1804, died in De Kalb, in April 1884. He belonged to the Vermont line of the family, his immediate ancestors having been residents of the Green Mountain state. With all the male members of his family, including his father, uncles and brothers, he was an active participant in the rebellion in the Dominion of Canada in 1837, known to history as the Patriots of McKenzie's war. With the others he narrowly escaped the fruits of vengeance of the British government. All who were not arrested and placed in confinement escaped only by immediate flight. Samuel Marsh, the father, was captured at Kingston, where he was held in jail for five months. His trial was long and severe and he barely escaped conviction and execution. His wife, who was born March 22, 1827, in Canada, was a descendant of the Mohawk Dutch, belonging in the maternal line to the Schermerhorns. Her marriage occurred in Consecon Canada, and she became the mother of three children, two sons and a daughter. The latter was born March 10, 1838, while her father was a state

prisoner in the jail at Kingston, and she died at Chicago, March 13, 1881.

Samuel Marsh was a farmer by occupation and following his release resumed work along that line. In 1844 he sold his property in Canada and started for the Mississippi valley, then known as the west. He encountered a Millerite camp-meeting at the head of the bay Quinte known as the carrying place and attending its services, he became converted to the tenets of that sect. Firmly convinced that the coming of the Lord was at hand he returned to his family to await the crisis. The mother, however, trained and disciplined by the trials she had already experienced, exercised the practical view of Abraham Davenport, and wisely judging that in any event the prospects of her sons would be likely to be improved by mental cultivation, while her husband waited, she placed her boys in St. Andrews School at Coburg, William W. being at that time eight years of age. Two years later he entered Victoria College, where he was a student for three years.

In 1849 the necessities of the family demanded that they make an immediate change so that an income might be provided. The parents with their children then came to De Kalb county, Illinois, and settled on one hundred and ten acres of land near Shabbona Grove, on section 18, Clinton township, which had been purchased for them in 1847 by an uncle of our subject. Later the family purchased another tract of similar size. Both were unbroken prairie and it required much arduous toil on the part of the father and sons for nearly eight years to improve it and bring the raw land under cultivation and make it produce profitable crops. There is a strain of mechanical ingenuity in the family, and in 1857 were begun the experiments which resulted in the building of the machine that has brought fame to the name of Marsh. The idea upon which the Marsh harvester was founded grew first from a trial by W. W. Marsh on the grounds when he found he could bind a bundle of grain while another was being cut, and that gave the idea of the necessity of moving with the cutting apparatus in order to receive the sundered grain at the opportune moment. His brother the next day made a more careful trial, satisfying himself that the idea was practical. The years of experiment and struggle



W. W. MARSH.

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that followed brought many hardships to the family who invested their earnings in further experiment, believing firmly in the ultimate successful destiny of the work which they were undertaking. Time passed, the weak points of the original machine were learned and corrected, improvements were made, and at length the Marsh brothers felt that they were willing to make a test. This test took place in 1859 on the farm of Clark Barber, north of De Kalb, in the presence of hundreds of witnesses. A number of reaping machines were in the contest, among which were the pioneer wire binders, which proved failures, but the Marsh machine asserted the value of the principles upon which it was built and a complete triumph was achieved. From that time on brighter days were before the Marsh family. In the contest William W. Marsh occupied the platform, and in fifty minutes bound the grain cut on an acre, accomplishing the work with the utmost ease. The Marsh machine was thenceforward recognized of utilitarian value in agricultural life. The next step was to begin the manufacture of machines for the market. On the establishment of their business as manufacturers the financial interests and all relations specially pertaining to that branch of the business naturally fell under the supervision of Charles W. Marsh, the mechanical part becoming the portion of W. W. Marsh. For many years the latter was especially interested in the invention of farm machinery and with his brother and others has obtained patents on thirty-five different inventions. He has brought forth as the products of a fertile brain and skilled workmanship a score of harvester appliances and nearly as many more in other directions, including windmills, plows, cultivators, wire stretchers, paint mill, corn cutters, corn huskers, etc., all of which were manufactured together with the Marsh harvester for twenty years, the factory being located first at Plano and later at Sycamore. On the establishment of the shops at the latter place William W. Marsh took up his abode here and has since resided in the county seat.

In 1873 Mr. Marsh purchased the grounds and built a beautiful home on West State street, where he has since resided. He engaged in the agricultural implement business here until March 1, 1906, when he retired and is now spending his days quietly amid pleasant surroundings, and in

a community where he has many warm and stalwart friends.

On the 8th of January, 1871, in Chicago, Mr. Marsh was married to Miss M. J. Smith, and they became the parents of two children: William Wallace, who is now interested in mining in Idaho; and Sarah Alma, the wife of Edward Johnson, inventor for the International Harvester Company, at Chicago, Illinois. Mrs. Marsh was a daughter of Rufus and Sarah D. Brown, who were among the pioneer settlers of Chicago. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Marsh was married to Emma L. Eldridge, a daughter of Judge Eldridge.

In politics Mr. Marsh is a stalwart republican, and in 1873 was elected alderman, continuing to serve in that capacity for many years. He did much effective work in securing high license, which was adopted and is now in operation in Sycamore. He has labored earnestly and effectively in behalf of the best interests of the city and has given earnest co-operation to various movements for the public good. His life has been a useful one and the rest which he is now enjoying is indeed well merited.

ALBERT ZIEGLER.

Albert Ziegler, whose labor has been the measure of his success and who is classed with the representative agriculturists of the county, was born February 17, 1866, in Pierce township upon the farm where he has since resided. His parents were Lewis and Catherine (Schule) Ziegler. The father, a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, was born January 18, 1816, while the mother's birth occurred in the same country in 1828. After coming to America in the early '40s they lived in the vicinity of Chicago for about two years and then removed to Pierce township, De Kalb county, where they made their home for about fifteen years. The father bought a tract of land which he brought under a high state of cultivation, the fields returning to him golden harvests as a reward for the care and labor bestowed on them. Removing with his wife to Hinckley, they there spent their remaining days, Mrs. Ziegler passing away

in December, 1886, while the death of Mr. Ziegler occurred on the 15th of November, 1899.

In his boyhood days Albert Ziegler attended the district schools near his father's home. He was trained to the work of the fields and has been practical in his method of carrying on the farm work which has claimed his time and attention since he left the schoolroom. He now owns two hundred and forty acres of rich and cultivated land on sections 15 and 22, Pierce township. It is constantly increasing in value owing to the improvements he has placed upon it and by reason of the able manner in which he tills the soil, thus keeping it in good condition.

On the 28th of January, 1892, Mr. Ziegler was married to Miss Nellie Ramer, whose birth occurred June 18, 1873. Her parents were Henry and Mary J. (Fillmore) Ramer, the former born in Ohio, March 13, 1840, and the latter on the 18th of September of the same year. Mr. and Mrs. Ziegler have become the parents of five children, but two of the number are now deceased. Those still living are: Iva M., born August 28, 1895; Charles H., born December 8, 1898; and Rollin F., born August 7, 1902. The family are orthodox in religious belief and Mr. Ziegler is a democrat in his political duties. He may justly be termed a self-made man because he deserves all the praise that phrase implies. He is today the owner of one of the best farms of the township as a result of his perseverance and capable management and bears an unassailable reputation for business integrity as well as business activity.

CHARLES EDWARD BEAUPRE.

Charles Edward Beaupre, now living retired in De Kalb, has for forty-two years been a resident of the county and many important events in its early history have left their impress upon his memory, so that he relates many interesting incidents of the early days. He was born in Wilmington, Will county, Illinois, March 4, 1840, and in his youth frequently sat on the lap of Shabbona, the famous Indian chieftain, who so often proved himself the friend of the white man.

His father, Mathias Beaupre, was born in Canada about 1816 and became well known as a hotel man. He arrived in Illinois in 1836, making

his way first to Joliet and afterward to Wilmington, Will county. He served as deputy sheriff of Will county for a time and on one occasion took a prisoner to Coltenville when it was the county seat of De Kalb county. At a later date he removed to Ottawa and subsequently to Newark, Illinois, and while living there was elected sheriff of Kendall county. He afterward resided at Oswego, Illinois, and his last years were spent in De Kalb. He married Sarah Patrick, who was born in Canada about 1820 and she, too, has passed away. In their family were eight children, of whom Charles E. is the eldest. Three of the number are now deceased. The others of the family were William S., Arthur M., Evan F., George W., Calvin, Sarah Jane and one who died in infancy. Of this number Hon. Arthur M. Beaupre went to Guatamala as consul general and was afterward made a minister to Bogota in the republic of Colombia. At a still later date he became American minister to Buenos Ayres in the Argentine Republic and still holds that position. He is recognized as a prominent leader in republican ranks and has been an honored representative of his country at the different courts to which he has been sent.

Charles Edward Beaupre pursued his education in the public schools of Illinois, accompanying his parents on their various removals, and for forty-two years has lived in this county. After leaving school he entered the hotel business, in which he continued for about twenty years, after which he was connected for several years with the Glidden Barb Wire Company. He now owns a good residence at No. 129 to 133 West Main street and at the present writing is living retired.

His business interests were interrupted by his service in the Civil war, for he proved himself a brave and loyal defender of the Union cause, enlisting on the 23d of August, 1861, as a member of Company C, Fourth Illinois Cavalry. He remained at the front for three years and three months and participated in the battles of Fort Henry, Fort Donelson, Shiloh, Corinth, Coffeyville, Vicksburg, Natchez and others of lesser importance. He was with General Sherman's division and was promoted to the rank of sergeant. He proved most loyal to the old flag and the cause it represented and is now a member of Merritt Simonds post, No. 283, G. A. R. He also belongs to

the Masonic fraternity and in politics is a republican. He served as city clerk for three terms and was collector for one term. His civic, military and business history are alike commendable and have gained for him the respect and confidence of his fellow citizens.

Mr. Beaupre was married in De Kalb, January 23, 1866, to Miss Sarah Klock, who was born in Herkimer county, New York, July 19, 1849, a daughter of Aaron and Lucy (Wheeler) Klock, the former a carpenter by trade. Mrs. Beaupre was the youngest of three children. Her only brother, George Danford Klock, served as a soldier of the Civil war, being at the front during the greater part of the period of hostilities. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Beaupre have been born two daughters: Mrs. Anna B. Hamilton, who was born February 4, 1867, and has three children, Gale B., Harry D. and Dorothy; and Mrs. Elva B. Garner, who was born January 23, 1871, and has three children: Charles W., born January 29, 1896; John W., October 16, 1898; and Sarah C., February 4, 1903. Mrs. Hamilton acquired her early education in the common schools of De Kalb county and afterward attended St. Xavier College at Chicago. Mrs. Garner was also a public-school student in this county and later attended Mount St. Clair College in Missouri.

Mr. Beaupre in his life record proves the force of capable management, keen discernment and untiring industry as factors in business life. He had no special pecuniary or family advantages at the outset of his career but by honesty and industry he has worked his way upward, is well known as a reliable citizen and has a large circle of friends, who honor and respect this veteran of the Civil war. He and his wife have lived in De Kalb about forty-two years and are well known here. They occupy a beautiful home at No. 129 West Main street and in the front yard stands a historic tree, under which Abraham Lincoln made a speech while on one of his campaign tours, Mrs. Beaupre well remembering the circumstance. Mr. Beaupre is largely familiar with the history of this part of the state, in which his entire life has been passed, while for more than four decades he has been an interested witness of the changes which have occurred in this county. He can well remember a time when the Indians still lived in the neighborhood, the white people being on the most

friendly terms with Shabbona. This condition, however, indicated the fact that the country was largely unsettled and that the work of civilization and improvement had but recently been begun. What to many others are matters of history are to him matters of personal experience and few have more definite knowledge of the events which have marked the annals of the county.

A. CHARLES DOANE.

A. Charles Doane is closely associated with commercial interests in Sycamore as a marble dealer and manufacturer of tombstones. One of De Kalb county's native sons, he was born in South Grove township, August 2, 1855, and there resided until twelve years of age, when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Malta. He is a son of Joseph E. and Margaret (Murphy) Doane, the former a native of St. Lawrence county, New York, born December 18, 1832, and the latter a native of Ireland, whence she was brought to America by her parents when only two years old. In 1854 Joseph E. Doane came to the west, settling in South Grove township, De Kalb county. He was a carpenter by trade and being energetic and faithful he was always able to command higher wages than most workmen. On coming to Illinois he purchased a farm, which he operated for some time and later became owner of his present farm of three hundred and thirty-four and a half acres, adjoining the village of Malta. Unto him and his wife have been born seven children: Virginia L., now the wife of Rev. Cass Davis, of Sterling, Illinois; A. Charles; Leslie, who is farming in Wisconsin; William D., who died in November, 1899; Dorothy M., who possesses a superior singing voice; Seymour G., who died July 1, 1906; and Agnes K., the wife of W. I. Collins, of Malta.

As stated, A. Charles Doane remained upon the farm where his birth occurred until twelve years of age and then accompanied his parents on their removal to Malta. He acquired a good common-school education, supplemented by instruction in some of the higher branches and for some years he taught school during the winter months, while in the summer seasons he worked at the carpenter's

trade. In the spring of 1879 he went to Colorado, settling eighteen miles north of Leadville, where he remained for three and a half years, engaged in prospecting and mining. This did not prove profitable, however, and in the fall of 1882 he returned to Illinois, where he taught school during the succeeding winter. In the spring of the latter year he went to South Dakota but not being satisfied there he returned to Malta, where for five years he devoted his time and energies to carpentering and farming. He then went to Chicago, where he spent five months in a factory and afterward devoted four years to carpenter work there. In August, 1896, he came to Sycamore and engaged in his present line of business. He knew nothing whatever of the trade at the time but soon adapted himself to conditions and now has a thorough understanding of the business in which he does excellent work. On removing to this place he purchased the marble shop of W. W. Burkett, and with characteristic energy soon built up an extensive trade, which has constantly increased. His business is located near the Northwestern depot and he employs help in marble cutting, in teaming and in building foundations. It has been his ambition to make a creditable reputation for reliable work and for the quality of material used and a name equal to that of his father for probity and honesty.

Mr. Doane has been twice married. In 1886 he wedded Miss Jennie Earl, who died within a year, and in Malta township, in 1888, he married Miss Jeannette Morey, a daughter of Ariel S. and Elizabeth (Van Vlack) Morey. Her father was a native of Herkimer county, New York, born May 24, 1840, and when a boy came west with his parents, Smith and Jeannette (Smith) Morey. His grandfather was Jesse Morey. Mrs. Elizabeth Morey was a daughter of William and Maria (Oliver) Van Vlack. Ariel Morey and his wife are the parents of five children, of whom Mrs. Doane is the second in order of birth. Unto our subject and his wife have been born two sons, Harry and Milo, both of whom are in school.

Mr. and Mrs. Doane are attendants of the Methodist Episcopal church, in the work of which they are actively engaged, doing all in their power to promote its growth and extend its influence. Mr. Doane is a member of the Modern Woodmen camp and the Knights of the Globe, and his wife is con-

nected with the Daughters of the Globe. Mr. Doane comes of a family noted for musical talent and is himself a musician of more than ordinary ability. For four years he was the leader of the Malta band and under his direction the band gained an excellent reputation throughout northern Illinois. He is always regarded as a valued addition to musical circles and his ability in this direction adds to the enjoyment of many a social gathering. He and his family reside at No. 121 Alma street in a beautiful home which he purchased and which was erected in 1903. Since entering into business life in Sycamore he has made substantial and steady advancement, being now classed with the representative business men of this city, where he has gained a most notable reputation for reliability as well as enterprise.

ANDERSON BROTHERS.

The business firm whose name is given above is too well known in De Kalb to need special introduction to the readers of this volume. The partners, Frank G. and Andrew O. Anderson, have for many years been connected with the mercantile interests of De Kalb and have gained an unassailable reputation for diligence, enterprise and reliability. In the business history of De Kalb, therefore, they well deserve prominent and honorable mention.

Their parents were Andrew G. and Caroline S. Anderson, natives of Sweden, and in 1881 they came to the United States, arriving in De Kalb on the 25th of May of that year. Here the father continued to reside until his death, which occurred on the 25th of January, 1888, while his wife passed away on the 19th of August, 1891. They were the parents of nine children, all of whom are living, the youngest being now thirty-three years of age. These are: John A., a resident of Manhattan, Kansas; Osear W., of De Kalb; Mary L., the wife of Victor Hjerstedt; Charles A., representative business man of De Kalb; Martin E., also a prominent resident of De Kalb; Sophia, the wife of Charles A. Swanson, of this city; Frank G. and Andrew O., of this review; and Emma E., the wife of Harry H. Hanway.

Frank G. Anderson, the older brother and senior member of the firm, was born in Sweden on the

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A. O. Anderson



F G Anderson

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30th of March, 1869. He spent his early youth in his native country and in 1881 accompanied his parents on their emigration to the new world, after which he pursued his education in the common schools of De Kalb. In his early manhood he secured a clerkship in the dry-goods store of S. L. Graham and was afterward in the employ of Mott & Robinson. Subsequently he worked for J. C. F. Mott and afterward for Graham & Company, receiving thorough business training with these different firms during the period of ten years. On the 1st of October, 1895, in company with his brother, Andrew O., the firm of Anderson Brothers was organized and a clothing and men's outfitting business established in De Kalb.

Andrew O. Anderson was born in Sweden, May 4, 1872. He was a youth of nine years at the time of his parents' removal to De Kalb county and as a consequence his education was largely acquired in the public schools of this city. When fifteen years of age he began providing for his own support as an employe in the printing office of H. W. Fay, where he served a three years' apprenticeship. This work, however, was not congenial to him and he therefore accepted a position in the dry-goods store of A. A. Wright, with whom he remained for six years, resigning his position to engage in business on his own account in partnership with his brother as a clothing merchant. The brothers had made a host of warm friends while clerking in the town and business came to them soon. For twelve years they have made continuous progress, raising to a place in the foremost rank among the merchants of De Kalb, and the name of the firm has become a household word. Their integrity and modern business methods have gained for them the confidence of the community at large and their many excellent traits of character have endeared them to their patrons as well as to friends in more strictly social lines. On the 19th of April, 1901, they opened a branch store in Sycamore under the name of Anderson Brothers, J. L. Erickson being manager. They have also made this one of the modern mercantile enterprises of the county seat and are conducting there the principal clothing business of the town. On September 15, 1906, they opened another store in Harvard, Illinois, with William E. Doyle as manager, and the same

progressive business methods characterize its conduct and have already made it a good source of revenue. Frank G. Anderson is likewise a member of the board of directors of the Commercial Trust & Savings Bank of De Kalb and figures prominently in financial as well as commercial circles in the city.

On the 30th of July, 1901, was celebrated the marriage of Frank G. Anderson and Miss Millie Blomquist, a daughter of John Blomquist, one of the well known retired farmers of De Kalb. They now have one child, Marea. Mr. Anderson belongs to De Kalb lodge, No. 215, K. P., and is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church, while his political allegiance is given the republican party. Much of his life has been passed in this county and the years of his manhood have been characterized by steady progress in business activity and by successful accomplishment. Dependent almost entirely upon his own resources for everything that he has achieved and enjoyed, his life record shows what may be accomplished by a strong will guided by sound judgment and practical common sense—qualities which are too often lacking and cause a large per cent of the failures which are common in business life.

On the 10th of February, 1904, Andrew O. Anderson wedded Miss Hulda R. Erickson, of Sycamore. He is a member of De Kalb lodge, No. 215, K. P., and De Kalb lodge, No. 765, B. P. O. E. Mr. Anderson is also a member of the board of directors of the Commercial Trust & Savings Bank of De Kalb and is justly accounted one of the representative young business men of the city. Always affable and genial, he is popular, and investigation into his life record shows his fidelity to honorable manly principles. He is indeed an intelligent, energetic young man, spoken of in favorable terms throughout the community.

A. GATES WHITE.

A. Gates White, who is spoken of as the most efficient mayor of Sandwich, having wrought more practical reform and improvements than any other incumbent in the office in the same length of time, is now devoting his attention to the real-

estate business. His loyalty in citizenship was equally proven by military service in the Civil war, while his business capacity has been manifest in the capable discharge of various duties that have devolved upon him.

Mr. White was born in Elmira, New York, his natal day being March 2, 1841. He is descended from one of the old New England families, tracing his ancestry back to the seventeenth century, when one of the name came to America as a passenger on the Mayflower. Dr. Amos G. White, grandfather of A. Gates White, was born in Richmond, Berkshire county, Massachusetts, December 17, 1768, intervening generations of the family having continued their residence in the old Bay state. At Goshen, New York, on the 2d of February, 1798, he married Abigail Marvin, who was a sister of General Marvin, one of the commanders of the American forces in the Revolutionary war and a native of Orange county, New York, where his daughter was also born April 23, 1778. The mother of Dr. White was a sister of General Gates, also a noted officer of the Revolution. As his title indicates, Dr. White was a member of the medical fraternity and for many years successfully engaged in practice. His death occurred February 5, 1833, and the interment was at Elmira, New York, where many years before had been made the grave of his wife, who died at Seeley Creek, New York, July 30, 1816.

The children of Dr. White were as follows: Emily A., born July 31, 1799, married Harvey Jones, of Elmira, New York. Their children were William, deceased; Austin, deceased; Frank, Edward and Elliott. The family moved to Marion, Iowa, in the '50s, and both parents are now deceased. Elvira Green, born November 24, 1801, married Colonel Samuel Baker, of Elmira, New York, and the latter moved to Sun Prairie, near Madison, Wisconsin, and both are now deceased. Their family now reside in Wisconsin and Nebraska. Marcus Aurelius, born December 28, 1803, died in the spring of 1884. He married Betsy McConnell, of Chemung county, New York, but she is now deceased. Their children were Amos, deceased; Emily; and Mary Ann. Orlina Rebecca, born March 11, 1806, married Hunt M. Pomeroy. She died in the early '30s. Her only child was Marcus Mills Pomeroy, known the world over as "Brick Pomeroy." Diana Hyde, born

March 26, 1808, died unmarried. Seth Marvin, the father of our subject, was born February 3, 1810. Alanson Austin, born October 24, 1811, died November 12, 1877, at the residence of our subject. Sally Closson, born October 21, 1813, married Alpheus A. Sanderson. They moved to Red Wing, Minnesota, in the early '50s and both died there. Their children were Triphena, Mary, Charles, Seth, Loretta, Judge A. E., Helen, Marcus and Frank. William Wells, born July 1, 1816, died November 12, of the same year.

Seth M. White, the father of our subject, was a farmer and blacksmith and was born February 3, 1810. While still a resident of the east he married Sarah Ray, whose birth occurred in Orange county, New York, August 12, 1815, the wedding being celebrated in the town of Southport, Chemung county, New York, August 22, 1833. In the year 1854 they removed to the middle west but after two years returned to the Empire state. In 1861, however, they again came to Illinois, settling at Sandwich, where their remaining days were passed, the farmer departing this life March 20, 1891, while his wife survived until the 31st of August, 1892. In the east they had been members of the old school Presbyterian church but after taking up their abode in Sandwich placed their membership in the Congregational church. Their lives were in harmony with their professions and gained them the respect and high esteem of all with whom they were associated.

A. Gates White, the only child of his parents that lived to maturity, was reared upon a farm at Southport, New York. He is indebted to the district school system of that state for the educational privileges which he enjoyed and when still quite young he entered upon his business career as a fireman on the Williamsport & Elmira Railway, serving in that capacity for one year. In 1858 he came west and located in Sandwich, where he learned the machinist's trade but for a time engaged in farming and railroading. Returning to his native state, he spent a brief period in New York but in 1861 again came to the west and devoted a year to the completion of an apprenticeship in the machine shops at Sandwich.

In the meantime the country had entered upon the darkest hour in its history, having become involved in civil war, which was raging fiercely in the south with heavy loss on either side. Feeling

that his first duty was to his country, Mr. White enlisted in August, 1862, becoming a member of Company H, One Hundred and Fifth Regiment of Illinois Volunteers. He served for three years, being discharged as a sergeant and returning to his home with a military record that was characterized by loyalty and faithfulness under both hard and favorable conditions. With his regiment he marched from Louisville through Kentucky, Tennessee and Alabama, and joined Sherman at Murfreesboro in the spring of 1863. He participated in the Atlanta campaign and during a portion of the time had charge of a foraging party. The only battle in which his regiment participated when he was not present was at Bentonville, North Carolina, and the number of hotly contested engagements in which he took part reached nineteen. He was with Sherman on the celebrated march to the sea and afterward participated in the grand review in Washington, D. C., where the victorious army returning to the nation's capitol was cheered by waiting thousands, thus proclaiming that the war had ended and expressing their gratitude to the boys in blue who had fought so valiantly in defense of the old flag.

Mr. White was mustered out at Chicago and soon afterward went to La Crosse, Wisconsin, where he was employed by Brick Pomeroy. Later he returned to Sandwich and as foreman of a gang on the Fox River Railroad, now a part of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy system, began grading work. He was afterward given charge of track-laying and subsequently spent several years as train conductor. He is thoroughly familiar with the operative department of railroad-ing, having served in various capacities as engineer, conductor, train master and superintendent of the construction department of the building of the Texas & Pacific Railroad. While in the last named position he made his home in Dallas, Texas, where he built a street car line from the river to the Texas Central depot. About 1872 he returned from the south and for six months was in charge of railroad grading in Indiana. He then again came to Sandwich but soon afterward went to Kansas as a conductor on the Santa Fe Railroad, making his home first at Florence and later at Emporia. He also built a street car line in the latter city. Leaving the Santa Fe after several years' service, he removed to Fort Scott, Kansas,

and was conductor on the Missouri Pacific Railway. Later he was train master on the same road during the construction of a part of its system and following his return to Illinois in 1887 he spent nearly two years as a conductor on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, his run being between Aurora and Savannah. When he once more located in Sandwich he entered the employ of the Sandwich Enterprise Company, with which he was connected for six years. He is now engaged in the real-estate business, handling farm lands in Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Missouri, the Dakotas, Kansas, Nebraska and Canada. He has negotiated many important property transfers and has a large clientele in this connection.

Mr. White is recognized as a leader in republican circles in Sandwich and his fidelity to the party was rewarded by election to the office of mayor in 1895. His official service was evidence of the fact that the trust reposed in him was not misplaced. His fidelity and capability led to his reelection without opposition in 1897. He brought to the office excellent administrative powers, a ready understanding of the needs and conditions of the city and possibilities for improvement and at once undertook the work of progress along practical lines that produce immediate and far-reaching results. New walks were constructed, streets graded, electric lights introduced and other public improvements made, and it is said that during his incumbency Mr. White did more for the actual benefit of the city than had been done in a quarter of a century. He retired from the office as he had entered it—with the confidence and good will of all concerned, having received the endorsement of members of the opposition as well as of his own party.

On the 19th of April, 1867, Mr. White was married to Miss Sarah A. Dean, a daughter of Nelson A. Dean, then residing near Sandwich. Her death occurred three years later and for his second wife Mr. White chose Mrs. Mary B. Sanders, a daughter of Alexander Yourt. Mrs. White is a member of the Presbyterian church, in the work of which she is actively and helpfully interested. Mr. White is an exemplary member of the Masonic fraternity, in which he has attained the Knight Templar degree and he also belongs to the Knights of Pythias lodge. He is an honorary member of the Highland Association of Chicago, of which he was

at one time president, and in these different organizations he is highly esteemed. His business relations have taken him to many parts of the country and he has gained that broad knowledge which travel and a varied experience brings. He may truly be called a self-made man and as the architect of his own fortunes has builded wisely and well.

CASSIUS M. CONRAD.

Cassius M. Conrad, who is successfully engaged in the abstract business in Sycamore and is one of the popular citizen of that place, was born in the town of Northeast, Erie county, Pennsylvania, March 27, 1845, and is a son of John M. and Mary E. (Smedley) Conrad, the former a native of the Keystone state and the latter of Connecticut.

Cassius M. Conrad spent the days of his boyhood in the place of his nativity and attended the academy at Northeast, while subsequently he was a student at the Erie City Academy in Pennsylvania. The west with its broader opportunities attracted him and on the 7th of April, 1863, he arrived in Kingston township, De Kalb county, Illinois. Six days later he reached Sycamore and immediately afterward was appointed to the position of deputy county clerk, in which capacity he served about nine years, or until January 26, 1872, when he was appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Wallace W. Moore, who had been his superior officer, and at the April election of the same year he was chosen county clerk by popular suffrage. He held that position until July, 1890, and was likewise city clerk from July, 1870, until April, 1872.

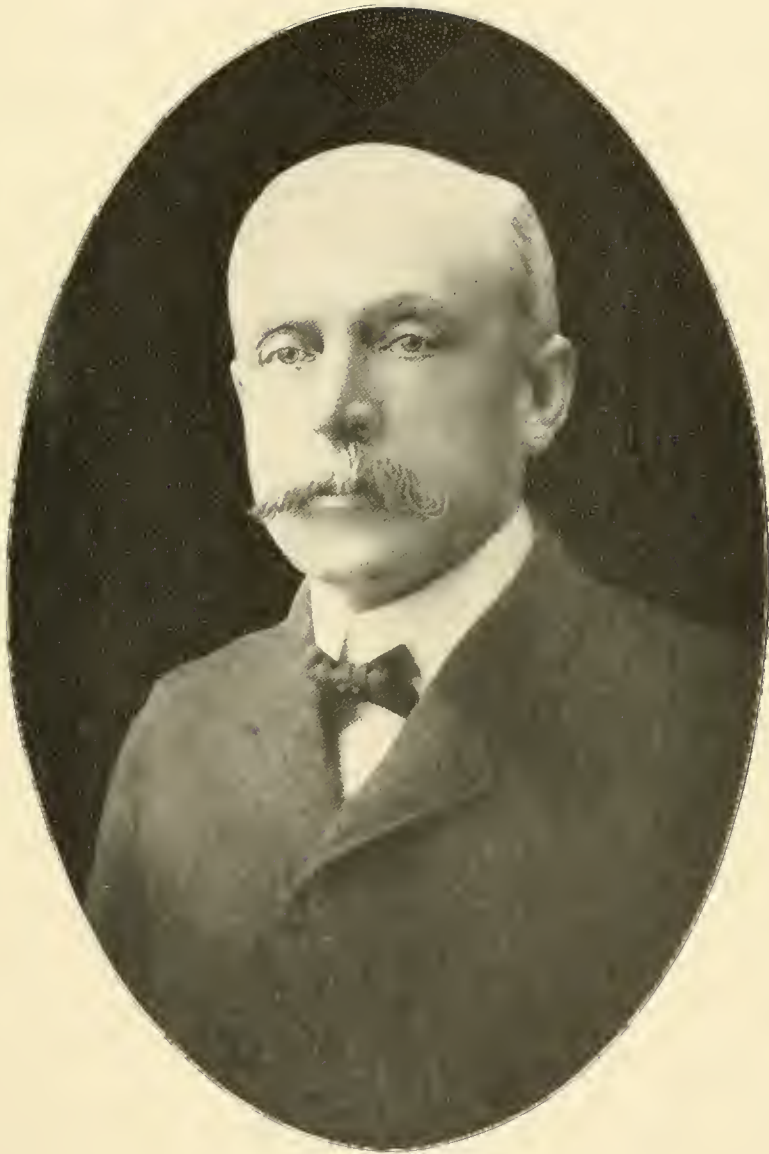
On resigning the position of county clerk, Mr. Conrad became a paying teller in the sub-treasury office at Chicago under General Daniel Dustin and later under Governor Tanner, who succeeded the General on the latter's death in 1892 and filled out his unexpired term. Mr. Conrad resigned that position in 1894 and accepted the cashiership in the Barb City Bank, of De Kalb, serving in that capacity for four years. In March, 1899, he bought out the De Kalb County Abstract Company, of which he has since been president and treasurer.

Mr. Conrad has been twice married, his first wife being Miss Anna H. Beavers, who died in 1886, and three years later he wedded Miss Nettie L. Bannister, a daughter of Daniel P. and Mary E. Bannister, and to them have been born two sons: Cassius Bannister and Charles Smedley. Mr. and Mrs. Conrad are members of the Congregational church and he is one of its trustees. Fraternally he affiliates with Sycamore lodge, No. 134, A. F. & A. M.; Sycamore chapter, No. 49, R. A. M.; and Sycamore commandery No. 15, K. T., all of Sycamore. Politically he has always been an earnest and unfaltering republican and has been called to various positions of honor and trust in the county. That he was most faithful, capable and loyal in office is indicated by the fact that he was long retained in public service, winning the trust and confidence of all concerned. He has ever kept well informed on the questions and issues of the day and has been unswerving in his loyalty to the principles in which he believes.

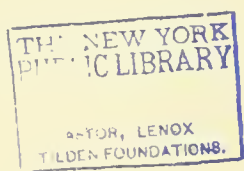
ALBERT WALLACE FISK.

Albert Wallace Fisk, attorney at law, bank director and confidential secretary to the firm of I. L. & W. L. Ellwood, was born near Reedsburg, Wisconsin, on the 21st of October, 1857. His paternal grandfather, Royal Fisk, a native of New England, removed westward with a cousin in the '40s and after remaining for some years in Erie county, New York, removed, about 1854, to Sauk county, Wisconsin, where he resided up to the time of his death.

Warren N. Fisk, father of our subject, was born in Danby, Vermont, February 5, 1834, and was a young lad at the time of the removal of the family to the Empire state. Soon after his parents went to Wisconsin he was married and in 1855 he took his bride to the new home of his parents in Sauk county. He remained a resident of Wisconsin until the breaking out of the Civil war, when he returned to Erie county, New York, where he resided until 1885. He then again became a resident of Wisconsin, where he has since remained, being now located at North Freedom. In early manhood he was for a long period identified with merchandising and in later years became a com-



C. M. CONRAD.



mercial salesman for the Superior Barb Wire Company and afterward for the Ellwood Wire & Nail Company. At length he retired from active business on account of the ill health of his wife. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and although never an office seeker he has always been progressive in matters of citizenship. He married Cordelia R. Harris, who was born in Erie county, New York, May 12, 1835, a daughter of Esek Harris, a farmer of Erie county. Mrs. Fisk died in May, 1904, at the age of sixty-nine years. Two of the three children of the family survive—Albert and Marion E., the latter a resident of Prairie du Sac, Wisconsin.

Albert W. Fisk was reared at home, acquiring his education in the common schools, also pursuing an academic course at Chamberlain Institute at Randolph, New York. During the winter following he taught in the public schools near his home and through the succeeding three years was variously employed. When about nineteen years he secured a position in the general store of Bates & White of Collins Center, New York, where he remained for four years, and during his service there he studied and mastered shorthand. He then went to Buffalo, entering the office of Slocum & Thornton, the official reporters of the eighth judicial supreme court district. For about a year he remained in that employ and in the spring of 1881 came west to accept a position which had been tendered him by mail. He made his way to Chicago, not knowing the nature of the position other than that it was that of amanuensis for a firm. On his arrival in Chicago he was sent to De Kalb to become stenographer for I. L. Ellwood & Company, barb wire manufacturers. For one year he took correspondence dictation and later, when he was given an assistant, Mr. Fisk was taken into Mr. Ellwood's office, where he was admitted more fully into his confidence and given a larger scope for his services. When W. L. Ellwood became extensively engaged in dealing in horses, having one of the largest stock farms of the state, Mr. Fisk had charge of his correspondence and after a brief period his entire time was absorbed in this way, excluding the business of the wire mills. In 1887 the private business office of I. L. & W. L. Ellwood was built near their residences and Mr. Fisk was made their private secretary, since which time he has had charge of their extensive office business.

On the 18th of April, 1900, Mr. Fisk was admitted to practice law in all the courts of Illinois, having previously pursued a course in Chicago Law School, from which he was graduated in June, 1899. He, however, gives his time to the business of the Ellwood firm, doing but little law practice outside. He is a director of the Commercial Trust & Savings Bank and is president of the De Kalb Building & Loan Association.

On the 27th of February, 1883, Albert Wallace Fisk was married to Miss Clara Perry, a daughter of Edwin S., and Lucinda J. (Downer) Perry, of De Kalb, the former now deceased. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Fisk have been born four children: Catherine L., Perry W., Alan W. and Harris D., all at home.

Mr. Fisk belongs to De Kalb lodge, No. 144, A. F. & A. M., and to De Kalb lodge, No. 765, B. P. O. E. He served as assistant supervisor of De Kalb township for ten years and was secretary of the county republican central committee for seven years, having always taken a deep interest in politics both local and national. He is well known in financial circles in De Kalb and is essentially a self-made man, securing advancement through fidelity to duty, through capability and unfaltering perseverance. He has always adhered closely to the high ideal which his lofty and laudable ambition placed before him and few men have the respect which is uniformly tendered Albert W. Fisk.

JOHN G. HUTCHESON.

John G. Hutcheson is an alert and enterprising young farmer of De Kalb county, owning and operating a well improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres in South Grove township, while he is also interested in the breeding and raising of polled Angus cattle and Poland China hogs, and he also buys and ships western cattle. Mr. Hutcheson was born on the farm which has always been his home, September 10, 1875, a son of Robert and Helen (McKenzie) Hutcheson, who were natives of Scotland, whence they emigrated to the United States in the early '50s and located on a farm in South Grove township, which is now the home of our subject.

The son acquired his education in the common schools of his locality, and during the period of his boyhood and youth was trained to the work of the fields, thus gaining the knowledge which has enabled him to carry on work along this line on his own account. He has always made his home on his present farm, and the work of development and improvement which was here begun by his father, has been continued by the son to the present time. He now has a well improved and valuable tract comprising one hundred and sixty acres, on which have been placed a nice residence and substantial outbuildings, while in addition to the cultivation of his land he is also engaged quite extensively in breeding and raising polled Angus cattle and Poland China hogs, and he also buys and feeds for shipment western cattle. This branch of his business is proving a very gratifying source of income to him, so that he is numbered among the prosperous farmers and stock-raisers of this community.

Mr. Hutcheson further established a home of his own by his marriage on the 20th of February, 1901, to Miss Jennie Vodden, a resident of South Grove township. Their marriage has been blessed with an interesting little daughter, Helen J. Mr. Hutcheson is a republican in his political views, but aside from serving as school director for one term, has never been active in local political affairs, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his private business affairs, in which he is meeting with very desirable success. Mr. and Mrs. Hutcheson attend and support the Methodist Episcopal church at Esmond. They are highly respected young people and their pleasant home is noted for its warm-hearted hospitality.

ALBERT W. BLAKE.

Albert W. Blake has since his marriage resided upon the farm which is now his home and which is pleasantly located in De Kalb township. It comprises a good tract of land of one hundred and fifteen acres, and everything about the place is indicative of the careful supervision of the owner, and in his farm work he is energetic, practical and progressive.

He is one of the county's native sons, for his birth occurred in the township of De Kalb, March 14, 1854. His father, James Blake, was a native of England, born February 7, 1820, while his mother, who bore the maiden name of Emily Sherid, was born in Ohio, February 7, 1820. James Blake came to America when but seven years of age and was a resident of Ohio until he attained his majority. He then married and removed to De Kalb county, casting in his lot with the pioneer settlers who were reclaiming this region for the purpose of civilization. He took up his abode on section 4, De Kalb township, and there he lived until his death, which occurred in 1896, when he was seventy-six years of age. For a long time he had been numbered among the substantial agriculturists of the community and was one of those who aided in laying broad and deep the foundation of the future development and prosperity of the county. He shared in the hardships and trials of pioneer life and aided in converting frontier conditions into foundations of modern civilization. His wife died February 28, 1904. In their family were five children, a son and four daughters.

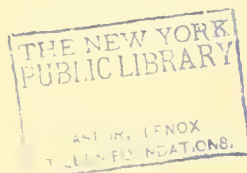
Albert W. Blake spent his boyhood days under the parental roof and no event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for him in his boyhood. He attended the public schools and when he was not busy with his text-books he worked in the fields, early becoming familiar with the tasks of plowing, planting and harvesting.

On the 14th of December, 1875, Mr. Blake was united in marriage to Miss Ella Heath, who was born in Herkimer county, New York, January 6, 1854. Her father, William Heath, was a native of the same state, born December 23, 1818, and in 1865 he brought his family to Illinois, settling on a farm in De Kalb county, where he lived for nine years. He then removed to Iowa, where he resided until his death, which occurred in 1895. His wife was born in New York in 1818 and her death occurred in 1874.

At the time of their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Blake took up their abode on the farm where they now live. They have one son, Clarence Eugene, who is married and has four children. He follows farming in De Kalb township. Mr. and Mrs. Blake attend the Methodist Episcopal church at De Kalb and contribute to its support.



James Blake.



Mr. Blake is a man of good business ability and in his farming interests has met with a goodly measure of success. He uses the latest improved machinery to carry on the work of the fields and annually gathers good crops. His entire life has been passed in this county and he has therefore witnessed in large measure its growth and development and has taken a just pride in what has been accomplished. He is esteemed because of his many excellent traits of character, and the circle of his friends is almost co-extensive with the circle of his acquaintances.

EPHRAIM P. NICHOLS.

Ephraim P. Nichols, who without special educational or other advantages at the outset of his career, has gained a place among the substantial citizens of De Kalb county, so that he is now enabled to live retired in Syeamore, deriving his income from a good farm, has a valuable property of two hundred acres under a high state of cultivation. He was born in Sullivan county, New York, October 2, 1829. His father, Peter Nichols, was a native of the Empire state, born December 1, 1803. He came to Illinois in 1837 and for eight years resided in Boone county, where he had taken up a claim. In 1845 he returned to Mayfield township, this county, where he purchased a farm of two hundred acres, upon which he lived until his death. For twenty years he was in poor health but during an active business career he manifested the strong traits of a successful business man and acquired a goodly measure of success. A staunch advocate of abolition principles, he became a conductor on the famous underground railroad and did much to assist many a poor negro on his way to freedom in the north. He always stood unflinchingly in support of any principle which he believed to be right and no one questioned his honor or his fidelity of purpose. He married Lueretia Carpenter, who was born in New York, April 13, 1806, and they became the parents of twelve children but only three are now living, namely: Ephraim P.; Stephen, a resident of Syeamore; and Mrs. Decker of Iowa. The father died on his farm near Syeamore, September 29, 1865, while the mother passed away on the 19th of

April, 1889, at the advanced age of eighty-three years.

Ephraim P. Nichols remained upon the old homestead farm with his parents until twenty-seven years of age. He was the only son who continued at home, the rest all starting out for themselves, and the poor health of the father required that some one remain to assist in the cultivation and management of the farm. Because his services were thus needed and also because of the frontier condition of the country Ephraim P. Nichols received but limited educational privileges. He mastered the elementary branches of English learning in a log schoolhouse in Boone county and also studied for a time in Mayfield township, De Kalb county. He was only eight years of age at the time of the arrival of the family in the former county and was a youth of sixteen when he took up his abode in Mayfield township upon the old homestead farm, the cultivation and development of which was attributable in no small degree to his efforts. His first purchase of land made him owner of eighty acres of prairie in Mayfield township. This he broke and fenced, afterward selling it with a crop of growing wheat. He wanted more land and bought one hundred and sixty acres which was entirely wild and destitute of improvements. He built and made a good home, which he occupied until 1887, when he retired to Syeamore to enjoy the fruits of his former labor in a well earned rest. He still owns a valuable farm property of two hundred acres which is under a high state of cultivation, and his prosperity is entirely due to his earnest purpose and unflinching labor.

On the 15th of January, 1857, Mr. Nichols was married to Miss Sarah Ann Mullen, who was born in Sullivan county, New York, October 8, 1833, and who is yet a well preserved woman although she is now in her seventy-fourth year. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Nichols were born ten children, namely: Voorhees W., who resides on his father's farm; Willard G., who died at the age of two and a half months; Elmer C., deceased; Mellie J., the wife of J. B. Westlake, who owns and occupies a farm north of the city; Maggie A., deceased; Lena A., the wife of W. A. Swarthout, of Iowa; David L., who died of diphtheria, the death of Elmer, Maggie and David occurring within nine days from that dread disease; Peter F., a farmer of Mayfield;

George L., a resident farmer of Oklahoma; and Lillian V., the wife of William J. Ferguson, who is living in Michigan.

At the age of seventeen years Mr. Nichols became a member of the Wesleyan Methodist church, with which he was identified for a long period, but since taking up his abode in Sycamore he has become identified with the Congregational church. For thirty years he was choir leader, was superintendent of the Sunday-school for many years, has acted as church trustee and is now a deacon in the Congregational church. He has long been deeply interested in church work and in the moral development of the community and has done all in his power to promote the growth and extend the influence of religious work in this locality. In politics he has been an earnest republican since first exercising his right of franchise in support of John C. Fremont. The office of highway commissioner is the only one that he has ever filled or ever desired. On removing to the city he built a home at No. 211 East State street, where he is now comfortably and pleasantly located. Here he is living at the age of seventy-eight years, one of the venerable and respected residents of Sycamore, whose connection with the county covers the greater part of its development and growth.

GILBERT N. BLACKMAN.

Gilbert N. Blackman, chief clerk of the De Kalb-Sycamore Electric Company, and also of the De Kalb-Sycamore & Interurban Traction Company, was born in the city of De Kalb, April 8, 1875, his parents being Austin B. and Josephine L. (Gilbert) Blackman. The father, a native of the state of New York, was left motherless at an early age and was reared to manhood by his paternal grandparents. When a young man he came west to De Kalb, Illinois, where he arrived about 1870, his brother Frank having preceded him here. He was a painter by trade but after his removal to the west was employed in various ways. In the early '80s he went to Iowa, where his brother Frank had located in the meantime and from that year until his death, which occurred in 1898, was a resident of Des Moines. His political allegiance was given to the republican party, and he was a

man who in all life's relations was true to his honest convictions and commanded the respect of those with whom he came in contact. He married Josephine L. Gilbert, who was born at Huntley Station, in McHenry county, Illinois, December 29, 1852, a daughter of Eli B. and Lois Annie (Needham) Gilbert.

The maternal grandfather, Eli B. Gilbert, was in his day one of De Kalb county's most prominent citizens. He was born at Laurens, Otsego county, New York, April 12, 1822, his parents being Abner and Betsy (Balcom) Gilbert, the former a native of Massachusetts, and the latter of New York. Their family numbered four children, George M., Eli B., Elizabeth E. and Martin M. Gilbert but all are now deceased. Of this number Eli B. Gilbert was about eight years of age, when his parents removed to Norwich, Chenango county, New York, where he was reared and there resided until 1847, when he came to the middle west, settling at Sycamore, Illinois. In his native state he attended the common schools to the age of sixteen years, when he entered Norwich Academy, which was then under the management of Benjamin F. Taylor, who later gained distinction as a poet. After two years devoted to academical studies he engaged in teaching, which vocation he followed for six years, spending three years as a teacher in Sycamore after his arrival in De Kalb county. In early life he had acquired a knowledge of the builder's trade and about 1850 he abandoned the work of the schoolroom to devote himself to carpentering. He was thus engaged for six years and in leisure hours during that period he read law. In 1852 he removed to the city of De Kalb and the following year was elected justice of the peace, serving continuously in that position up to the time of his death, which occurred August 30, 1895. So conscientious was he in the performance of his duties and so great was his desire for peace between his neighbors that many litigants who came under his care were placated by his good advice and sent away upon friendly terms without resorting to the law. Few communities are favored with such a man as this. His love for his fellow-men and his desire for good will far outweighed any desire for gain and at the sacrifice of his own financial interests he advised arbitration and the peaceful settlement of difficulties. In 1858 he was admitted to the bar of Illinois by application

to the supreme court, having previously been admitted to the Iowa state bar. In 1866 he was elected president of the village board of De Kalb and became ex-officio supervisor of De Kalb township. In the summer and fall of 1860 he was editor of the *De Kalb Leader* and advocated the election of Abraham Lincoln. He was among the first newspaper editors of the county and became one of the early and stalwart supporters of the republican party. In Masonry he attained the thirty-second degree and was an active worker for the craft, becoming a charter member of De Kalb lodge and doing everything in his power to advance the interests of the fraternity.

On the 25th of December, 1851, Mr. Gilbert was married to Miss Lois A. Needham, a daughter of Benjamin C. Needham, who was born at Ferrisburgh, Vermont, on the 4th of May, 1830. Three children were born of this marriage but only one is now living, Josephine L., the mother of our subject and now the wife of Esquire John Orr, of De Kalb. Mrs. Gilbert, the grandmother of Mr. Blackman, is also living and is a hale and hearty lady, making her home with her grandson of this review.

Gilbert N. Blackman was one of two children but the other has passed away. Spending the period of his minority in his parents' home, he attended the public schools of De Kalb and was graduated from the high school in June, 1895. He pursued a business course in the Chicago College of Commerce and subsequently he engaged in teaching stenography in that college for a short time but the salary paid was not sufficient to hold him and he accepted a position with the American Steel & Wire Company in the Rookery building in Chicago, where he remained for six or seven months. He then resigned to accept a clerkship in the offices of the round house and repair shops of the Lake Shore Railroad at Englewood, where he was employed for eight or nine months, when, in August, 1899, he returned to De Kalb. For fifteen or eighteen months he was clerk at the Normal School, resigning this position to accept a better one with the De Kalb Electric Company. He has remained with this company for seven years, gradually working his way upward until he is now chief clerk in the office, having a responsible position, the duties of which he discharges with ability and fidelity.

On the 21st of June, 1905, Mr. Blackman was married to Miss Myrtle Montgomery, of Sycamore, a daughter of Emile E. Montgomery, a merchant and owner of a gristmill in Sycamore. Mr. and Mrs. Blackman have very pleasant social relations in the city and their own home is justly celebrated for a charming and gracious hospitality. Mr. Blackman is a republican in politics and holds membership in De Kalb lodge, No. 215, K. P., De Kalb camp, No. 10, W. O. W. and also of the Masonic lodge, No. 144. He is well known in his native city and is popular in both social and business circles.

DR. F. H. BELL.

Dr. F. H. Bell is one of the younger members of the medical profession of Sycamore, where he has practiced since June, 1903, but his years seem no bar to his success, for he has already gained a patronage which many an older physician might well envy. A native son of Illinois, he was born at Woodhull, Henry county, on the 4th of August, 1876. His father, Theodore F. Bell, is owner of the electric light plant at that place and a retired merchant. He settled in Woodhull at a very early day, coming to Illinois from New Albany, Indiana, and with the growth and development of the city along commercial, political and other lines he has been closely identified. At one time he was mayor of Woodhull, proving a capable officer, his administration being characterized by business-like promptness.

Dr. Bell pursued his education in the public schools of his native town, and following his graduation from the high school became a student in Lombard University, at Galesburg, from which he was graduated in 1899. He read medicine with his uncle, Dr. N. H. Lowry, at Woodhull, during a part of the time for five years, and received his collegiate professional training in Hahnemann Medical College, at Chicago, completing the course by graduation in May, 1903. In June he came to Sycamore and has since engaged in general practice. He has already secured an excellent patronage in Sycamore and in the surrounding country, and has a well equipped suite of rooms in the Pierce block. He belongs to the State Medical

Society and the De Kalb County Medical Society and his knowledge is being continually augmented by further reading and study.

Dr. Bell was married to Jessie Colburn, of Woodhull, Illinois, and they have a little daughter, Jessie Virginia, now ten months old. Politically Dr. Bell is a republican and fraternally is connected with the Royal Arcanum, the Knights of the Globe and the Yeomen of America. In his social relations he affiliates with the Commercial Club, the Young Men's Industrial Club, the Tennis Club and other organizations at Sycamore and is popular with a large circle of friends, his many good qualities having won favorable recognition socially as well as professionally.

THOMAS MARSHALL.

Thomas Marshall, residing in Sycamore, where he recently purchased a fine home, is one of the prominent farmers of De Kalb county, owning over seven hundred acres of valuable and well improved land. He has been a resident of the county since 1854, covering a period of fifty-five years, and thus he has broad and intimate knowledge of the development and growth of this section of the state and of the methods of progress that have been employed in transforming it from a frontier region into one of advanced civilization.

Mr. Marshall is a native of England. He was born in Nottinghamshire, October 16, 1832, and came to the new world in 1851, when a young man of eighteen years, being passenger on a sailing vessel which weighed anchor at Liverpool and was twenty-nine days in making that voyage. This, however, was considered a very quick trip for that period in the history of navigation. From New York he went by Erie canal and around the lakes to Chicago and thence by team to St. Charles, Illinois. He worked on a farm in Kane county for one year for Mr. Perkins and afterward rented land for a year. His father and mother joined him in Kane county and spent their last years in his home, the father passing away at the advanced age of eighty-seven, while the mother was more than ninety years of age when called to her final rest.

Mr. Marshall continued to rent land for two years and in July, 1854, he made purchase of a tract of eighty acres which was raw and unculti-

vated. He still owns this property, but it bears little resemblance to the tract which came into his possession. He built a house upon it, improved the place and as a companion and helpmate for life's journey he chose Miss Rachel Siglin, to whom he was married in Sycamore township in August, 1857. Mrs. Marshall was born and reared in Monroe county, Pennsylvania, and was a daughter of Jacob Siglin, who came to Illinois in 1853. In De Kalb county he opened up a farm and spent his last years. Mrs. Marshall was reared and educated in Pennsylvania.

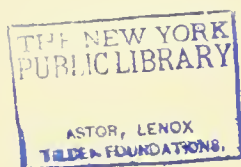
Following his marriage Mr. Marshall farmed and further improved his property and bought more land from time to time until his holdings are now extensive, aggregating more than seven hundred acres in this county. All three of his farms are located in Sycamore township and are well-developed properties, bringing to him a good financial return. He started out here a poor man, but he was diligent and determined in his business affairs and his property interests are today the visible proof of his life of industry, strong purpose and careful management.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Marshall have been born nine children. George N., who is married and has three children, is president of the First National Bank of Belvidere, Illinois. Edwin is married and resides in Kirkland, Illinois, where he is engaged in business as a grain and coal dealer. Taylor is engaged in the banking business with his brother in Belvidere. Mary is the wife of Frank Ernest, a farmer of Sycamore township. Wilbur is living on the home farm and assists in its cultivation. Leslie D. is a grain and implement dealer at Byron, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Marshall also lost a daughter and two sons: Jacob, the eldest, died in 1861, at the age of three years; Anna Jane, who became the wife of Joseph M. Carmack and died in 1900, at the age of forty years; and John Wesley, who died in 1871, at the age of five years.

In his political views Mr. Marshall is a stalwart republican, having supported the party since he became a naturalized American citizen. He was elected and served for nine years as highway commissioner, proving a capable officer. He is a believer in good schools and the employment of competent teachers and has done effective service as a member of the school board. He has also



MR. AND MRS. THOMAS MARSHALL.



been a delegate to county and congressional conventions and locally is recognized as one of the strong and leading members of the party. He and his wife are worthy Christian people, holding membership in the Methodist Episcopal church of Genoa, in which he is a trustee, and Mr. Marshall is also a Master Mason. As one of the pioneer residents of the county he has helped to improve and make it what it is today and has been a witness of almost its entire development. During the period of his residence here the railroads have been built, telegraph and telephones introduced and all the evidences of an advanced civilization have been secured and Mr. Marshall is one who has ever stood for progress.

F. E. GAMMON.

F. E. Gammon is numbered among the progressive and enterprising agriculturists and stock-raisers of De Kalb county. He operates two hundred acres of land in Malta township, of which he owns forty acres situated on section 7, and in addition to carrying on the work of the farm he is engaged in raising Angus cattle.

Mr. Gammon is a native son of Malta township, his birth having occurred here, July 13, 1867, of the marriage of J. G. and Jane (Bennet) Gammon. The former was born in Devonshire, England, July 6, 1838, while the latter was born in that country April 26, 1836. The father was but ten years of age when he emigrated to America. Landing in New York he made his way to Buffalo, where he remained for two years, subsequent to which time he came to the west, settling in De Kalb county. He was here engaged in general agricultural pursuits until the outbreak of the Civil war, when his patriotic spirit being aroused he offered his services to the government, enlisting January 4, 1862, as a member of Company L, Fifteenth Illinois Cavalry under Captain Ford for three years' service. He was discharged at Helena, Arkansas, January 4, 1865, and on the 6th of the following March, re-enlisted, becoming a member of Company G, Fourth Regiment United States Infantry, Hancock's Veteran Corps, with which he served until the close of hostilities, being discharged at Tod Barracks, Columbus, Ohio,

March 6, 1866. He then returned to his native land and was there married to Miss Jane Bennet on the 31st of May, 1866. Following his marriage Mr. Gammon brought his bride to Illinois, and settled on a farm in Malta township, De Kalb county. He was there engaged in general agricultural pursuits until the fall of 1872, when he retired and, taking up his abode in Creston, Illinois, has since made his home in that village. Unto him and his wife were born two sons and one daughter: F. E., whose name introduces this review; Henry B., who was born January 1, 1869; and Jessie A., born September 21, 1871.

F. E. Gammon was a little lad of five years when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Creston, where he pursued his education in the public schools, passing through successive grades until he had completed the school work. He remained under the parental roof through the period of his boyhood and youth and when starting out in life on his own responsibility he worked at the machinists' trade in Chicago for two years and then chose agricultural pursuits as his occupation. He is now the owner of forty acres of land lying on section 7, Malta township, and in addition to this he also leases a tract of land, operating altogether two hundred acres. He follows the most practical and progressive methods of farm work, using the latest improved machinery to facilitate his labors. In addition to cultivating the fields he is also engaged to some extent in raising Angus cattle, owning the mother of the champion Angus calf Brookside Isla, No. 49519, exhibited at the International Stock Show at Chicago in 1906. He has a well improved farm supplied with substantial buildings, and he is numbered among the alert and enterprising citizens of his community.

Mr. Gammon was married on the 29th of May, 1890, to Miss Clara A. Foster, their marriage being celebrated at Waverly, Iowa. She was born December 10, 1869, a daughter of J. R. and Carrie A. Foster, who were born in Bangor, Maine, where they were reared and married, subsequent to which time they removed to the west, taking up their abode at Belvidere, Illinois, where they remained for a time and then went to Marysville, Missouri. From that place the father enlisted in the Civil war, serving for a period of three years. Following the close of his army service he again returned to Missouri, where he was engaged in farming for

one year, and then removed to Iowa, the year of his arrival in that state being 1866. He there took up a claim of government land, on which he made his home until his death, which occurred in 1891. The mother is now living at Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Unto our subject and his wife have been born six children but only five of the number are now living, namely: Neil A., who was born March 26, 1891; Alta Maude, born June 9, 1893; Clifford A., born August 22, 1898; Perry B., born December 7, 1900; and Clarence, born January 15, 1902. Their youngest child, Lee Darwin, died at the age of three months.

Mr. Gammon's study of the political issues and questions of the day has led him to give stalwart support to the republican party. He is identified with the Masonic order, belonging to the blue lodge, No. 320, of Creston, and De Kalb chapter, No. 52. He likewise holds membership with the Modern Woodmen camp, No. 474, of Creston. He is a man whose integrity and sterling worth have gained for him the respect and confidence of all with whom he has come in contact and he is today numbered among the enterprising agriculturists of De Kalb county.

JOHN FARLEY.

John Farley, who owns and cultivates a good farm of two hundred and forty acres in De Kalb township and who is accounted one of the progressive agriculturists of the county, was born in Malta township, July 17, 1861, and has spent his entire life in this county. He comes of Irish lineage, his parents, Lawrence and Catherine Farley, having been natives of Ireland. The father came to America when seventeen years of age and the mother crossed the Atlantic at the age of sixteen years. They were married at Rockford, Illinois, and thence removed to De Kalb county, settling on a farm. In 1861 the father, with the capital he had acquired through his own diligence and economy, purchased eighty acres of land in Malta township and subsequently bought more land adjoining it, adding to his property from time to time until his possessions aggregated five hundred and seventy-one acres. Upon this

place he resided until 1894, bringing it under a high state of cultivation and making it one of the valuable farm properties of the county. In the year mentioned he retired from active business life and bought a fine residence in De Kalb. He and his wife then removed to the city, where he spent his remaining days in the enjoyment of a well earned rest. When he passed away in 1903 the community mourned the loss of one of its valued and respected citizens and his death occasioned deep regret to many friends as well as to his immediate family. His widow is still living in De Kalb, making her home with her youngest daughter. She was the mother of eight children: Thomas, who was born April 11, 1859, and died January 12, 1883; John, of this review; Mary J., born February 12, 1863; Lawrence, born April 14, 1865; James, born July 28, 1867; Catherine, born August 21, 1870; Anna, born September 22, 1872; and William H., who was born October 3, 1874, and died March 5, 1875.

In the usual manner of farm lads, John Farley spent the days of his boyhood and youth. He aided in the work of the home farm and acquired his education in the common schools. He made preparation for having a home of his own by his marriage, on the 2d of April, 1890, to Miss Agnes E. Carl, who was born in De Kalb, Illinois, June 28, 1876. Her parents were Michael and Anna Carl, natives of Ireland, whence they came to America when she was still single, their marriage being celebrated in this country. Mr. and Mrs. Farley began their domestic life upon rented land and worked diligently and persistently to achieve success, practicing economy that they might add to their capital. In this way they were at length enabled to purchase a farm. The home place now comprises two hundred and forty acres of rich and productive land in De Kalb township and the farm is well improved property, everything about the place indicating the careful supervision of the owner. Unto Mrs. and Mr. Farley have been born two sons: Thomas C., whose birth occurred October 7, 1896; and John H., born March 2, 1899.

Mr. Farley is an advocate of the democracy and he and his wife are members of the St. Mary's Catholic church. His life has been quietly passed and yet it contains characteristics which may well be followed by those who desire to gain success through honorable methods and at the same time

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win the good will and trust of those with whom they are associated. Mr. Farley is not only a successful farmer, but is also a public-spirited citizen who stands for progressive public measures which tend to benefit the community.

JOHN A. L. STOREY.

John A. L. Storey, following the occupation of farming in Shabbona township, was born on the old Storey homestead farm in that township, April 3, 1865. His parents, Septimus and Mary Storey, were early residents of this locality and the son John was reared to farm life, early becoming familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. He attended the district school, also spent two winter seasons as a student in the Shabbona high school and two winters in Jennings Seminary at Aurora. He taught for one term in Greentown and one in his home district but has made farming his life work, and whatever success he has achieved has been won through his devotion to agriculture, which, George Washington said, "is the most useful as well as the most honorable occupation of man." In 1889 he settled on a tract of eighty acres given him by his father on section 20, Shabbona township, where he now lives. Here he has erected the finest farm residence in the township and made other improvements in keeping with the attractive home. He also bought eighty acres from his father, making one hundred and sixty acres in the home farm. He feeds cattle to a considerable extent and his stock-raising interests are to him a source of profit, while he also annually harvests good crops that find a ready sale on the market. He is likewise a stockholder in the Shabbona State Bank and is one of the representative men of the township, enterprising, alert, active, determined and successful.

On the 11th of December, 1889, Mr. Storey was united in marriage to Miss Mary E. Kennedy, who was born in Shabbona township on the 12th of May, 1869, a daughter of John and Emma Kennedy, who were pioneer farmers of the township and are now living retired in the village of Shabbona. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Storey has been blessed with five children: Lester J., who was born July 24, 1891; Ethel K., who was born

August 24, 1893; Ruth L., who was born September 24, 1896; and Hazel I. and Harry I., twins, born on the 27th of May, 1901. The parents are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Storey is a member of the Modern Woodmen camp. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and he has filled some local offices, serving as assessor and as school trustee for several years, the cause of education finding in him a warm and stalwart friend. In business life he is energetic and diligent and is accounted one of the leading farmers of the county, while his strong personal characteristics are such as have gained for him the friendship and regard of the great majority of those with whom he has been brought in contact.

GEORGE R. BEERS.

George R. Beers, who owns and operates a valuable farm of over three hundred acres, of which two hundred and forty acres lies on sections 35 and 36, Kingston township, while about seventy acres is in Sycamore township, has been a resident of the state since 1855. He was at that time a youth of fourteen and accompanied his parents on their removal from New England. His birth occurred in Newtown, Fairfield county, Connecticut, June 4, 1841. His father, Charles Beers, also a native of Connecticut, was there reared to farm life and in that locality married Miss Mary A. Edmonds. They became the parents of seven children, all of whom reached years of maturity. On arriving in Illinois Charles Beers purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Mayfield township, De Kalb county, and began its cultivation and development, transforming the wild prairie into richly cultivated fields. There he lived throughout his remaining days, his death occurring in 1877 when he was eighty years of age. His wife reached the very advanced age of eighty-seven years and died in 1896.

George R. Beers, who was the third in order of birth in their family, aided in the development of the new farm and when eighteen years of age he went to California on a prospecting trip, traveling westward by team. His horses, however, became sick and died and he had to walk several hundred

miles. One year in the far west satisfied him that he preferred Illinois as a place of residence and he returned to De Kalb county, remaining with his father until his twenty-second year. He was then married in April, 1863, to Miss Elizabeth Judd, a native of De Kalb county and a daughter of John Judd, who was born in Ohio and after residing for some time in Indiana came to Illinois, where in 1835 he took up a government claim, making him a true pioneer of De Kalb county.

After his marriage Mr. Beers made his home with Mr. Judd for a time and later bought the place. His wife was born upon this farm, where she has always made her home. It is the place which was entered by her father from the government and thus it has never passed out of possession of the family. Mr. Beers has since his marriage bought and sold two other farms and he likewise has one hundred acres of timber land which he yet retains. Upon the old Judd homestead he has erected a good residence, barns and substantial outbuildings and he has set out every tree on the place. He also has a good tenant house and his tenant does the actual work of the farm, although Mr. Beers gives to it his personal supervision. He was a pioneer in raising of draft horses in this locality, owning an imported Norman horse. In later years he raised fancy bred Morgans and he was also a breeder and dealer in Poland China hogs. He was interested with his brother Edwin in a barb wire patent for a number of years, maintaining a factory in Chicago, but agricultural interests have been his chief business through life. While educating his children he rented his farm and lived for eight years in Sycamore, but preferring the quiet of a rural existence he returned to the old homestead, where he is spending his days in contented and happy existence and is enjoying a goodly measure of success, which enables him to secure all of the comforts and some of the luxuries of life.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Beers have been born three children: Ettie and Emma, at home; and Eva, the wife of Arthur Nichols, of Kansas City, Missouri, by whom she has one child, Everett.

In politics Mr. Beers is a stalwart republican and has been a life-long supporter of the party. He never sought or cared for office, but for several years acted as school trustee. He is a master Mason, belonging to the blue lodge of Sycamore, and

is also a member of the Modern Woodmen camp of Kingston. He and his family attend the Methodist Episcopal church at Kingston and are highly esteemed in the community where they reside, their many friends entertaining for them favorable regard.

HON. GEORGE W. CULVER.

The province of biography is not to give a man's modest estimate of himself and his accomplishments but rather to establish his worth and position by the consensus of public opinion, which, in the case of George W. Culver, was altogether favorable. His life was so varied in its activity, so honorable in its purpose, so far-reaching and beneficial in its effects, that it became an integral part of the history of Sandwich and likewise left its impress upon the annals of the county. He was in no sense a man in public life, yet nevertheless exerted an immeasurable influence on the city of his residence; in business life as a financier and promoter of extensive industrial and commercial enterprises; in social circles by reason of a charming personality and unfeigned cordiality toward those who came within the circle of his friendship; in politics by reason of his public spirit and devotion to the general good as well as his comprehensive understanding of many of the questions affecting the general welfare.

Mr. Culver was a native of Coila, Washington county, New York, born April 1, 1830, and his life span covered the period between that date and the 8th of August, 1903, when he was called to his final rest at the age of seventy-three years, four months and eight days. His parents, Nathan and Eliza Culver, people of genuine personal worth and high character, had a family of twelve children, eight of whom are yet living: Mrs. Martha Gow, of Norfolk, Nebraska; James H., of West Superior, Wisconsin; Mrs. Sarah Skiff, of Coila, New York; Mrs. Sophia Green, of Cambridge, New York; Mrs. Mary McKillipp, of Chicago; John, of Sandwich; and Julia and Electa, of Coila, New York. A sister and brother, Mrs. Mabel Phelps and Captain Charles Culver, were at one time residents of Sandwich, the former remaining here until her death, while the latter be-

came a resident of Sioux City, Iowa. Both he and his brother John, who has also passed away, were soldiers of the Civil war.

George W. Culver spent the days of his boyhood and youth in his native state, acquiring a public-school education and learning from his parents the lessons of industry and integrity which shaped his entire life. Attracted by the opportunities of the growing west, he came to Illinois in 1852, accompanied by his brother James, and for a time they made their home with Mr. and Mrs. Alexander R. Patten at Freeland Corners. In 1854 they took up their abode at Sandwich, a recently established station on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, where, as partners of Mr. Patten, they opened a mercantile enterprise. This was practically the first store of the new town and for twenty-one years occupied the leading place in business circles here. After a few years Mr. Patten retired, the business being continued by George and James Culver, who won success in its conduct. In 1875 they sold the store and established the Culver Brothers Bank, of which they were proprietors for eleven years, when they disposed of their banking interests in 1886 to Sedgwick & Sons. At that time George W. Culver retired from the active management of business interests, although he was financially interested in various important commercial and industrial pursuits in Sandwich up to the time of his death. The name of Culver ever stood as a synonym for business enterprise and integrity in Sandwich and was foremost on the list of those promoting business interests in the city along progressive modern lines.

In September, 1857, occurred the marriage of George W. Culver and Miss Harriet Delia Beardsley, of Sandwich, and unto them were born four children: Mrs. Minnie L. Hills, now of Denver, Colorado; Mrs. Helen C. Latham, of Sandwich; Freddie, who died August 5, 1870, at the age of ten months and seven days; and Mrs. Mabel G. Mitten, of Genoa, Illinois. After a happy married life of nearly thirty years the wife and mother was called to her final rest, her death occasioning deep regret to all who knew her.

Several years later, on the 9th of March, 1892, Mr. Culver wedded Mary Elizabeth Palmer, who was born in Sandwich, a daughter of Alexander H. and Nancy Ann (Childs) Palmer. The father was

for years a druggist of Sandwich. On the 8th of September, 1834, he wedded Miss Childs, a native of Columbia, Pennsylvania, while his birth had occurred in Madison County, New York, in May, 1815. They came to Illinois in 1843 and established their home in Sandwich in 1865, the father's death occurring here when he had reached the age of seventy-two, while his wife passed away at the age of seventy-seven.

The life record of no resident of Sandwich has been more closely connected with its history than was that of George W. Culver. Aside from the business interests previously mentioned many other enterprises felt the stimulus of his activity, sound judgment and keen business discernment. For eighteen years he was the president of the Sandwich Manufacturing Company, the leading business institution of the city, and his prudence, his sagacity and wise counsels contributed greatly to its success. He was always deeply interested in everything that pertained to the prosperity of the city and with generous hand supported each enterprise that advanced its welfare and growth. For many years he was president of the Oak Ridge Cemetery Association and to his earnest and constant attention is due much credit for the enlargement and improvement of the city of the dead.

His political allegiance was given to the republican party and he was twice elected mayor of Sandwich. He was filling the office for the second term at the time of his death, having been elected by the largest majority ever given to a candidate for the position. He was a trustee of the Presbyterian church for years and for a long period was one of the members of the school board, the cause of education finding in him a stalwart champion. All things that tended to promote civic virtue and civic pride were of interest to him and his name headed the list for the support of every movement that had for its object the upbuilding and development of the city. Perhaps no better estimate of his life and character can be given than in the words of one who knew him well and who said: "He was reserved and retiring in manner, and was more given to thought than to words. He was modest and unassuming, shrinking from all display and desired no trumpet to be sounded before him to herald his deeds. He was a man of peace, loving quiet and pleasant surroundings, and above all things, hating noise and discord. He lived

within himself and his words that were few were the expression of well considered thoughts. Yet those who knew him best were admitted into his intimacy, well knowing how genial and social was his nature. He loved his friends but the expression of his devotion was not in words but in deeds. Loyal to his friends he was also loyal to his country and few had deeper interest in its welfare in its hour of peril and distress.

"In all his business relations he was a man of the strictest and most inviolable integrity, and through his long and active business life, and in all his positions of responsibility there can be found no stain, no reproach. His heart was tender and sensitive as a child's and the fountain of his tears was readily reached by some tale of sorrow or of need. It was in his home where tender and beautiful traits of his character were revealed. To the comfort and welfare of wife and children he gave his heart's best devotion. Here was his sanctuary, where he ministered with a hand that never wearied, with a patience that never failed, with a watchfulness that knew no intermission. Here at this shrine was offered up continually his heart's choicest incense through all the long years."

George W. Culver was a great man because of the use he made of his talents and his opportunities, because his thoughts were not self-centered but were given to the mastery of life problems and the fulfillment of his duty as a man in his relations to his fellowmen and as a citizen in his relations to his city, state and country.

LORENZO D. EVANS.

There is perhaps no man in De Kalb county who is more familiar with its history and the development of its agricultural interests than is Lorenzo D. Evans, who has lived in the county for sixty-eight years. He makes his home on a well improved farm of about two hundred acres, located on section 2, Sycamore township. Mr. Evans was born in Ash county, North Carolina, February 9, 1834, a son of Benjamin Evans, who was likewise born in Ash county, February 21, 1811. He was there reared and married to Miss Frances Perry, a native of the same county. In 1834 the

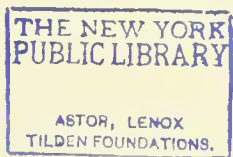
father removed with his family to Illinois, settling on a farm in Kendall county in the spring of 1835. He there carried on farming operations for a few years, or until 1838, when he came to De Kalb county, locating on a farm near Charter Grove, where he pre-empted land. He added to his possessions from time to time as his financial resources permitted until he became the owner of six hundred acres, all of which was well improved. He died on his farm, February 5, 1854, at the age of forty-three years, and was survived by his wife for a long period, her death occurring in 1900, when she had reached the advanced age of eighty-five years.

Lorenzo D. Evans is one of a family of two sons and two daughters, all of whom reached mature years, but Mary B. is now deceased, while the surviving sister is Mrs. Lucinda Dean, a widow, residing at Genoa, and the brother, Ira Evans, is a farmer of Charter Grove township. Mr. Evans of this review was less than a year old when brought to Illinois by his parents. He was reared to agricultural pursuits, assisting his father in the work of the fields during the summer seasons, while in the winter months he pursued his studies in the district schools. He remained with his father until the latter's death, after which he assisted his mother in carrying on the homestead farm until the time of his marriage, which occurred at Sycamore, April 26, 1857, at which time Miss Mary Jewell became his wife. She was born in Ohio but was reared in Illinois, having been brought to this state by her parents in 1836. She was a daughter of Eli G. Jewell, who settled on the site of what is now Sycamore, and for a time conducted a wagon shop. Later he engaged in farming near Charter Grove, where he resided until the spring of 1857, when he removed to Kansas.

Following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Evans located upon the farm which is still his home. The tract at that time comprised one hundred and forty-seven acres but as he prospered in his undertakings Mr. Evans has added to his holdings until he now owns two hundred acres, all of which has been placed under a high state of cultivation. He has tiled and fenced the land, built a good residence, barns and outbuildings, and altogether the farm is one of the best improved of this section of the state.



ELI G. JEWELL.



After a happy married life of more than forty-three years Mrs. Evans was called to her final rest, her death occurring November 9, 1899, and her remains were interred in Charter Grove cemetery. Their home was blessed with two sons and two daughters. Frances J. and May E. are both at home with their father. Elmer B. wedded Miss Ocia Sellers, and his death occurred in July, 1898. He left a son, Merle, who now makes his home with his grandfather. Ira Leroy Evans is a telegraph operator, now acting as agent for the Illinois Central Railroad at Charter Grove.

Politically Mr. Evans has been a life-long republican and cast his first presidential ballot in support of John C. Fremont in 1856 and has voted for each candidate of the party since that time. Although he keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day he has never been active as an office seeker, preferring to do his duty as a private citizen. Having spent almost his entire life in De Kalb county, Mr. Evans is one of the well known pioneer settlers of this part of the state, and from his earliest boyhood down to the present time he has been interested in the development and progress that has been made along various lines and takes just pride in what has been accomplished, for the county today stands among the foremost district of this great state of Illinois.

J. PHELPS ADAMS.

A death is seldom so uniformly and deeply regretted as was that of J. Phelps Adams, who passed away on the 12th of May, 1904. He was greatly missed in business circles by reason of the importance of the trade interests which he controlled, his labors proving an element in the commercial growth and prosperity of his city. His loss was keenly felt, too, in church circles and in every gathering where the subject of public improvement and progress was up for discussion. In all such organizations he was esteemed for his public spirit and his active co-operation but his best traits of character were reserved for his own home and fireside and were most largely recognized by those who came within the closer circle of his personal friendship.

Mr. Adams was born in Chemung county, New York, September 18, 1835, a son of the Hon. Augustus Adams, who is mentioned elsewhere in this volume. He was brought to Illinois by his parents when but five years of age, and after acquiring his elementary education in the public schools of Elgin he attended a business college in Chicago. When twenty years of age he was employed as an accountant in Michigan and later entered mercantile lines. Subsequently he became a messenger for the American Express Company. His father in the meantime had established a small manufacturing business at Sandwich, and J. Phelps Adams came to this city in 1861, assuming charge of the office work, under the firm style of A. Adams & Sons. The outgrowth of this concern is the Sandwich Manufacturing Company, which is capitalized for five hundred thousand dollars. The business was organized under company control in 1867. The capital, however, was very small at that time and the plant, too, of meager proportions when compared with the enterprise which is now familiar to the residents of Sandwich. Mr. Adams was made secretary and treasurer, which position he filled until his death. The greater part of his life was devoted to the implement business and he made a study of such lines of implements as he was directly interested in.

While not an inventor, he possessed rare capacity for judging the value and probable development of inventions, their practicability in point of cost to manufacture and their probable reception by the trade. His knowledge of patent and patent law was good and his judgment in discriminating between invention and adaptation was as keen as that of most patent attorneys. His judgment of men and their adaptability for various positions in his business was excellent and he had the rare quality for being able to impartially weigh the strength as well as the weak points of his employes. His nature was such that he was always glad to see the former predominate and he was never swayed in his judgment of men by personal prejudice. He kept about him an efficient operating force, and graduated a number of men now prominent in other branches of the largest implement manufacture in this country. Of splendid business poise, he was never unduly elated by marked success in business nor unreasonably depressed by adverse conditions sure to be met in a long term of

years. He was in every sense a broad gauged, liberal minded business man, always desiring to keep up closely with the times. His manufacturing policy from the outset was to build only the best goods and insist upon receiving for them prices that should be fairly remunerative, regardless of what competition might be doing in points of price or construction. Through all the years of his management of the Sandwich Manufacturing Company he pursued this plan unswervingly and to some extent persuaded other manufacturers of standard goods of the same lines to adopt approximately his plan, which was the rigid maintenance of fair retail prices, with the result that the Power corn sheller business is today in the best condition of all the heavy machinery offered to the farmers in this country. In 1884 he took an extended trip in the interests of his company to South America, visiting Brazil, Buenos Ayres and Argentine Republic, making a study of the country and the possibilities for developing an extensive trade.

Mr. Adams, however, not only figured conspicuously and honorably in business circles but was also recognized as a valued factor in educational, church and municipal development. He held membership in the Congregational church, and for twelve years was superintendent of its Sunday school. When Sandwich was incorporated as a city he served for several terms as president of the village board. He was also a member of the State Agricultural Society, was its president for one term and did much to advance the farming interests of Illinois. He was likewise president of the school board for a number of years, the cause of education finding in him a stalwart champion who worked for high ideals along practical lines. In politics, an unfaltering republican, he many times served as a delegate to county and congressional conventions.

On the 26th of June, 1861, J. Phelps Adams was united in marriage to Miss Mary B. Phelps, who was born July 26, 1839, a daughter of Dr. A. E. and Julia B. Phelps, of Kirkland, New York. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Adams were born five children: Eleanor Louise, who was born March 24, 1863, and died on the 31st of December following; Fred Augustus, who was born June 24, 1865, and died on the 2d of September, 1866; Henry E., who was born May 29, 1868, and is now assistant treasurer of the American Radiator Company of

Chicago; William Morse, who was born August 8, 1870, and died March 22, 1884; and Florence Bradley, born January 27, 1877.

In his home life Mr. Adams was largely the ideal husband and father, doing everything in his power to enhance the welfare and happiness of his wife and children. He also held friendship inviolable. He won success in his business but his accumulation of wealth in nowise affected his relations toward those who were less fortunate. On the contrary he was ever willing to extend a helping hand when occasion presented and he sought his friends among those of character worth and congeniality rather than among those whose business capacity was their sole claim to public attention.

LAWRENCE FARLEY.

At an early period in the development of De Kalb county, the Farley family was established within its borders. Lawrence Farley was born in Malta township, April 14, 1865. He is the son of Lawrence and Catherine Farley, who are mentioned at length on another page of this work in connection with the history of their son John Farley. At the usual age Lawrence Farley entered the common schools and therein pursued his education. The occupation to which he was reared he also made his life work and that he is one of the leading progressive farmers of Malta township is indicated by the fact that he is now the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of land on section 12. The farm is a splendidly improved property, equipped with all the modern accessories and conveniences. Everything about the place is neat and thrifty in appearance and the work is carried on along systematic lines with careful attention to the rotation of crops, so that the soil is kept in excellent condition. He raises the cereals best adapted to the climate and soil, and annually gathers large crops.

Mr. Farley was married on the 20th of February, 1900, to Miss Anna Carl, who was born in De Kalb county, April 17, 1877. Their union has been blessed with an interesting little son, Bernard C., who was born October 22, 1906. The parents are members of the St. Mary's Catholic church

of De Kalb and Mr. Farley gives his political allegiance to the democracy, being a firm supporter of its principles though never seeking or desiring public office, his attention being concentrated upon his business interests in which he is meeting with signal success.

CHARLES C. POND.

Charles C. Pond, deputy county treasurer and a resident of Sycamore, was born on a farm in Sycamore township, De Kalb county, December 24, 1856, his parents being Americus H. and Amy (Hollenbeck) Pond. He was reared on a farm in the township of Genoa and attended the district schools. He continued to assist in the labors of the home farm until twenty-four years of age, when he came to Sycamore and was connected with its business interests as owner of a jewelry store, which he conducted for six years. He afterward engaged in the fire insurance business as special agent and adjuster, principally for the Concordia, for about ten years, when in 1898, he went into the county treasurer's office under Captain James N. Shafter. Later he served in the same capacity under Daniel Holm and is now deputy county treasurer under L. C. Shaffer. His long continuation in the office has thoroughly acquainted him with the duties of the position and his work has been highly satisfactory to his superior officers and the public at large.

Mr. Pond was married, in September, 1880, to Miss Rosetta Harned, who was born in Mayfield township, December 7, 1858, a daughter of Edmund B. and Susan (Sivwright) Harned, who were pioneer farming people of this county, coming here from Nova Scotia, during the girlhood of Mrs. Pond. Her father was born in Smithtown, Suffolk county, Long Island, July 13, 1829, a son of Hosea Harned, who was born in Smithtown, in 1798, and married Rosetta Brown, whose birth occurred in 1799. Jacob Harned, father of Hosea Harned, was born in Perth Amboy, New Jersey, and after the Revolutionary war settled on a tract of one thousand acres of land on Long Island, where he reared his family and died in 1824. His son Hosea, in 1832, removed to Ohio, by way of the Hudson river from Sandy Hook, thence to

Troy, by canal to Buffalo and by lake to Ohio. In 1851 he came to Illinois.

Edmund B. Harned, his son and the father of Mrs. Pond, married Susan Sivwright, a native of Nova Scotia, born January 6, 1833, and a daughter of James M. Sivwright, who was born at Windsor, Nova Scotia, in 1778, and died at the age of seventy-four years. He removed to the United States in 1844 and located in Mayfield township this county. He was a son of James Sivwright, whose birth occurred near Aberdeen, Scotland, and who served in the British army against the Americans, participating in the battle of Bunker Hill. He remained in this country and married Susan Dalrymple, a native of Ireland, but whose ancestors were originally from France. She died at the age of one hundred and five years. James M. Sivwright married Prudence Eaton, who was born in Nova Scotia in 1806, a daughter of David and Eunice (Wells) Eaton.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Pond have been born two children: Ethel C., who is a graduate of the high school and now science teacher in the high school of Genoa; and Amy S., also a high-school graduate. Mrs. Pond is a member of the Congregational church and Mr. Pond belongs to the different Masonic bodies and to the Modern Woodmen camp. His political support is unswervingly given to the republican party and he is recognized as one of the active and helpful workers in its ranks. He is popular and well liked in the county and his capable official service is indicated by his long retention in the office which he is now filling.

RUSSELL THOMAS SMITH.

Russell Thomas Smith, of De Kalb, was born in Akron, Ohio, April 13, 1867. His paternal grandfather was of German birth, while the grandmother was French. Vincenz Smith, the father of our subject, was born in Germany and in early life learned and followed the blacksmith's trade. For many years he made his home in Illinois and at the time of the Civil war he joined Taylor's Battery, enlisting on the 27th of July, 1861, and serving until mustered out on the 23d of July, 1864. He was married to Miss Mary Kenney, a native of Ireland, and they became the parents of eleven children.

Russell Thomas Smith, the second in order of birth, was educated in the common schools of Wayne, Du Page county, Illinois, and in the town schools of Hampshire, this state. When thirteen years of age he began work at the butchering business, which he has followed throughout his entire life. In 1889 he began business on his own account at Kirkland, Illinois, where he remained for about six and a half years, coming to De Kalb in 1896. Here he established a meat market, which he conducted with success until about eight years ago, when he and his family went to California, where they spent the winter. Upon returning, however, he again became a factor in business life as owner of a meat market, in which line he has since continued. He has been accorded a liberal patronage and is a worthy and reliable merchant who justly merits the success that has come to him.

On September 25, 1894, at Kirkland, Illinois, Mr. Smith was married to Miss Harriet A. Grout, who was born in the northwestern part of Kingston township, De Kalb county, January 28, 1874, and is a daughter of Henry P. Grout, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Smith have been born three children, namely: Henry Grout, deceased; Russell G., aged six years; and Mary G., aged four years. Mr. Smith belongs to the Elks lodge and to the Modern Woodmen camp, and his wife is a member of the First Congregational church..

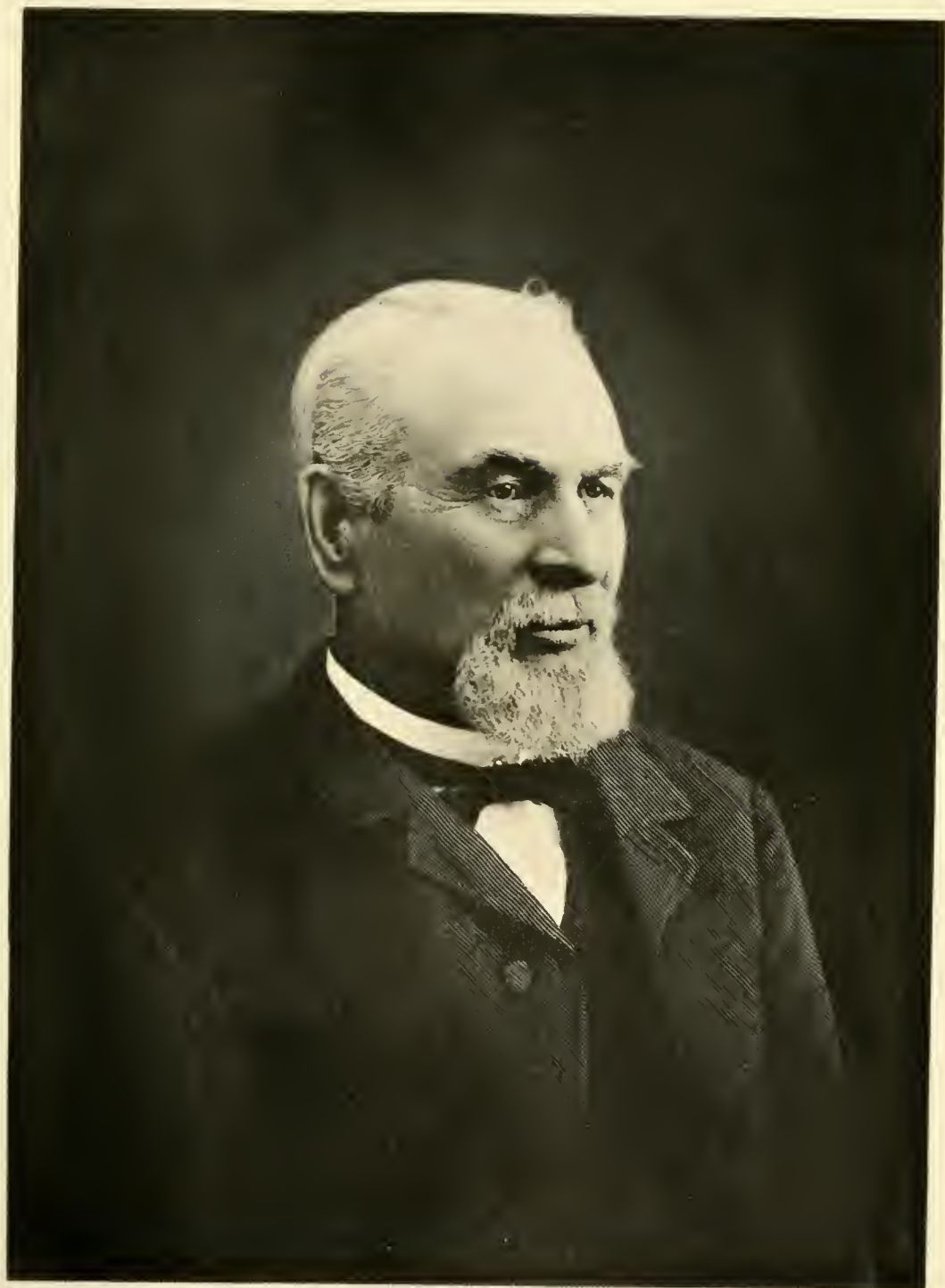
JAMES BYERS.

Nature seems to have intended that man should enjoy a period of rest in old age. In youth he is full of energy, zest and zeal, and in middle life his energies are guided by the sound judgment that comes through experience, but in late years, when one's powers are somewhat diminished, there should come a period of rest from more arduous labor if time and talents have not been wasted in former years. Well directed labors as a farmer have brought to James Byers an opportunity of living in a pleasant home in Sycamore with a competence sufficient to supply him with all of the comforts and some of the luxuries of life. He was

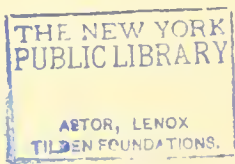
born in Delaware county, New York, October 14 1828.

His father, James Byers, was a native of Eskdale Muir, Dumfriesshire, Scotland, born in the year 1797. Emigrating to America in 1818, he settled in New York and there resided for many years, or until 1841, when he came overland with his family to Illinois, establishing his home in South Grove, De Kalb county. He had met with reverses in the east and on reaching this state had but thirty cents. He made arrangements, however, for the purchase of a claim and engaged in farming until 1871. Here he retrieved his lost possessions, continuing in business until the year mentioned, when he retired. He died at the home of a daughter in Buffalo Grove, Ogle county, Illinois, December 8, 1874. For a third of a century he was a resident of South Grove. He possessed good judgment, was a faithful adviser and did more to mold the business character of the town than any other man. He taught the first school in the town in one-half of his double log house, which had a puncheon floor, shake roof and mud chimney. He labored earnestly for the development of the community along the lines of material, intellectual and moral progress. He was an example of industry and honesty and left to his family an untarnished name. During his first year in the county, in the fall of 1841, he and his wife traveled eight miles to husk corn for thirty cents per day. He was very benevolent, liberal with whatever he possessed, and was always unostentatious in his giving. As the years passed he became wealthy and left to his family a comfortable estate. In early manhood he wedded Jane Scott, who was also a native of Dumfriesshire, Scotland, born in 1794. They were married in that country on the 18th of May, 1818, and she accompanied her husband on his emigration to America. She was a lady of many splendid traits of character, of rare excellence and genuine worth, and indeed proved a valued helpmate to her husband. She died in 1873 and her death was deeply regretted by many friends as well as by her family.

James Byers was one of a family of seven children, but he and his brother William, also a resident of Sycamore, are the only ones now living. One brother, Asa B. Byers, was in his lifetime one of the largest landholders of this county. James



James Byers.



Byers was reared to farm life and began work when quite young, driving a team to a breaking plow. As the years passed he did his full share toward developing the wild land and made many trips to Chicago with wheat which he sold for thirty-five and forty cents per bushel. On one occasion he started to Milwaukee with a load of dressed hogs and in crossing a stream one wheel broke through the ice and the wagon-box fell off and the hogs were thrown into the water. Mr. Byers, then sixteen years of age, went to the rescue with all his clothes on. He succeeded in pulling the hogs out of the water, but his clothes were frozen upon him. However, he suffered no disastrous effects from his icy bath. When he attained his majority he bought one hundred and sixty acres of government land. Not a furrow had been turned nor an improvement been made upon it, but he at once began its development and made it his home until 1900, when he retired to Sycamore. In the meantime he had added greatly to his possessions and is still the owner of six hundred and twenty acres of valuable, productive land from which he now derives a good annual income.

Mr. Byers has been married twice. His first wife was Olive Mason, a native of New York state, who died about 1878. By that marriage there were six children: John, now deceased, who married Stella Jones; Robert, who married Jane Gibson and is a farmer of South Grove, De Kalb county; William, a resident of Sioux City, Iowa; Olive, who married Charles Black, of Sycamore, and they now live in Oakland, California; and two who died in infancy. In 1884 Mr. Byers wedded Miss Sarah Adams, a native of New Hampshire. She is a highly educated woman, having attended an eastern college, and for ten years prior to her marriage she was a successful teacher in the schools of Sycamore.

Mr. Byers has long been recognized as one of the prominent and influential residents of De Kalb county. His residence here covers two-thirds of a century and few men have, through as long a period, been witnesses of the changes that have occurred and the transformation that has been wrought by time and men. He served as chairman of the board of supervisors for many years and in his political views has always been a stalwart republican. In his township he was always called the peacemaker for he did much to settle

disputes among friends and neighbors and his own amiable disposition and equable temperament proved an excellent example in this direction. He is today enjoying a well earned rest, occupying one of the finest homes in Sycamore, on South California street, and is justly accounted one of the honored residents of this part of the state.

ANTHONY DARLING.

Anthony Darling, a veteran of the Civil war now following farming in Clinton township, was born in Lodi, Seneca county, New York, July 22, 1844. His parents were natives of the Empire state and there spent their entire lives. They had eleven children, six daughters and five sons, of whom Anthony Darling was the fifth in order of birth. He remained a resident of the east until about forty-one years of age when in 1885, he came to this state, making his way direct to Clinton township.

On the 26th of December, 1867, Mr. Darling was married in Pennsylvania, to Miss Clara Wilcox, who was born May 8, 1846. Her father was a native of the state of New York, while her mother was born in Pennsylvania. After losing her first husband Mrs. Wilcox became the wife of David Hoagland, also a native of the Keystone state. In 1890 they removed to Illinois where Mrs. Hoagland died in 1904, at the advanced age of seventy-eight years. Mr. and Mrs. Darling became the parents of six sons: George L., who was born November 18, 1868, and married Miss Hattie Rowland, and unto them were born three children; William S., who was born July 21, 1871, and married Miss Laura McConothly, a native of Kentucky, and now residing in Iowa where he owns two hundred and forty acres of land; Cyrus B., who was born July 21, 1873, and died April 9, 1888; Leon A., born September 21, 1883, and who is at home; and James and John, twins, who were born October 4, 1887, and of whom the former died in 1892.

Mr. Darling has always followed the occupation of farming and is now owner of eighty acres of good land in Clinton township, in addition to which he rents and cultivates one hundred and sixty-seven acres on section 3, same township. He has worked earnestly and persistently to acquire a comfortable competence and thus provide a good

living for his family, and in addition to tilling the soil he is engaged quite extensively in stock-raising. The only interruption there has been to his business life since he attained his majority was when, at the time of the Civil war, he offered his services to the government and for four years aided in defense of the Union as a member of Company H, One Hundred and Second New York Volunteer Infantry. He participated in the battle of Cedar Mountain and Bull Run and also in the engagements of Antietam, Gettysburg, Vicksburg and Chancellorsville, from which point the troops marched to Lookout Mountain where his company was the first to gain the heights. Mr. Darling was also with the command which captured Atlanta, Georgia, and was with Sherman on his famous march to the sea, afterward participating in the campaign through the Carolinas. When Lee had surrendered, the regiment went to Washington where the men were honorably discharged. Mr. Darling made a splendid military record as a brave and loyal soldier. When the country no longer needed his aid he went to Pennsylvania where he followed farming until 1885, when he came to Illinois. Here he has since been identified with agricultural interests in Clinton township and is accounted one of the successful farmers of the community.

In politics Mr. Darling has always been a stalwart republican, supporting the party with unfaltering loyalty. He was town collector for one term and school director for five years. He and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and have gained many friends during the period of their residence in the middle west.

WALTER MORRIS HAY.

Walter Morris Hay, whose public-spirited citizenship and intense interest in the welfare of his county is manifest in the prompt and able manner in which he discharges his duties as circuit clerk and recorder of De Kalb county, was born in Somonauk township on the 25th of November, 1871. His father, Isaac Morris Hay, now a retired farmer living in Sandwich, was a son of George P. and Harriet (Morris) Hay, and the family was established in this county at an early day. The

biographical sketch of Isaac M. Hay is published in this history. His mother, Mrs. Hay, who bore the maiden name of Aurelia Latham, is a daughter of Thomas Fish and Jane Latham, who were among the earliest settlers of the southeastern portion of De Kalb county. Her father was born February 23, 1812, in Groton township, New London county, Connecticut. Her grandfather, Joseph Latham, was in early life a farmer but later removed to New York city. Her grandmother, whose maiden name was Fish, was in her declining years a resident of Sandwich, widely known as Grandmother Latham. In the year 1833 Thomas F. Latham entered mercantile life in New York and after several years spent in that way decided to try his fortune upon the sea. As a supercargo on a merchant vessel his work took him to the prominent European ports and around the world. Through this experience he gained extensive knowledge of the customs and habits of the various countries whose sea coasts he visited. On the 27th of March, 1837, he married Jane Ayers and soon afterward came to the west. While visiting a friend at Bristol, Illinois, he was informed of a claim for sale on Somonauk creek. This land, consisting of two hundred acres, he concluded to purchase and gave the horses which had carried him to this country from his eastern home as part payment for the property. He then became connected with agricultural interests in De Kalb county, his farm adjoining the present northern city limits of Sandwich, Illinois. His death occurred January 10, 1902. In his family were seven children, including Mrs. Aurelia Hay, who is now living with her husband in Sandwich.

At the usual age Walter M. Hay began his education in the public schools, passing through successive grades until he was graduated from the Somonauk high school in the class of 1887. He then matriculated in the University of Illinois and on the completion of a course in civil engineering was graduated in 1891. Following his graduation he was employed at structural iron drafting and designing in Chicago and in 1892 and 1893 was employed as field engineer to secure topographical data for the relief map of Illinois made under the direction of the state board of agriculture for the World's Columbian Exposition at Chicago. In 1893 he was also employed in connection with the sewer and water department upon the fair grounds

in Chicago. During the three succeeding years he was at Muscatine, Iowa, where he acted as assistant city engineer and later as city engineer. In 1896 he resigned on account of a change in the political administration in Muscatine after being tendered a complimentary vote by a democratic city council.

It was on the 24th of June of the same year that Mr. Hay was married to Katherine Lowman, a daughter of John and Melissa Lowman, of Somonauk township. The young couple began their domestic life in Muscatine but in 1897 located on a farm in Somonauk township, De Kalb county, where they resided until 1902. Mr. Hay devoting his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits and surveying work. In January, 1904, he was elected a member of the executive board of the Illinois Society of Engineers and Surveyors. In 1900 he was elected county surveyor of De Kalb county and removed to the city of De Kalb in 1902 to pursue civil engineering and surveying work there. In 1904 he again took up his abode in Somonauk township and in November of the same year he was elected circuit clerk and recorder of De Kalb county, which position he is yet filling, discharging his duties with promptness and fidelity.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hay have been born two children: John Gilbert, who was born November 27, 1897, and died on the 9th of January, 1907; and Isaac Morris, born August 19, 1899. Mr. Hay is a member of the Masonic fraternity, De Kalb lodge, No. 765, B. P. O. E., and the Royal Arcanum; and of the latter is a past regent. He is well known in this, his native county, and his good qualities are widely recognized, his fellow citizens giving tangible evidence of their faith in him by electing him to his present position.

ABRAHAM ASHELFORD.

Abraham Ashelford, now deceased, came to De Kalb county in 1855, and made permanent location within its borders in 1856. He was a self-made man, owing his advancement to his business enterprise and utilization of opportunity for investment, and as the years passed by he became one of the extensive landowners of this part of the state. He

was born in Somersetshire, England, February 24, 1832, and was a son of George and Sarah (Blackmer) Ashelford. In 1858 the father came to America, accompanied by some of his children, but soon afterward returned to the mother country and died in his native shire in 1876, when about seventy-four years of age. The mother survived him for some time and passed away at an advanced age.

Abraham Ashelford was one of six children and was reared in his native country, where he received but limited educational privileges. He was a young man of about twenty-three years, when, in October, 1855, he made the voyage across the Atlantic to the new world. After a brief sojourn in Ontario he came to De Kalb county, Illinois, arriving at the city of De Kalb on Christmas day of 1855. In March of the following year he returned to Canada but after a brief period came again to Illinois and made permanent location in this county, settling in South Grove township, where he spent the greater part of his remaining days. He was almost wholly without means when he arrived in this county but he obtained employment on the farm of John Orbut, working for some time for Mr. Orbut and his brother. With his first savings he bought a yoke of oxen and afterward operated land on the shares for a time, while subsequently he leased and cultivated a large farm for a period of five years. When four years had passed his savings had accumulated sufficiently to enable him to purchase one hundred and sixty acres of the farm which he was cultivating and there he established his homestead. As the years passed he lived frugally and economically for some time in order to add to his possessions and at the time of his death he was the owner of one thousand acres of finely improved land in South Grove township and seven hundred and eighty acres in Kansas, together with other property. All this was the tangible evidence of a life of thrift and industry, proving what could be accomplished through determination and unfaltering perseverance in a country untrammelled by class conditions.

Mr. Ashelford was married in Pierce township, Kane county, Illinois, February 3, 1863, to Miss Ellen McMurehy, who was born July 6, 1834, in Ontario, Canada, and when a child was brought to Kane county by her parents. She died May 27, 1877, at the age of forty-three years. The five

children of that marriage were: Mrs. Sarah Hewitt, of Linden, Kansas; James, who is living at Horace, Nebraska; Mrs. Lizzie Chapman, of Sycamore; Robert, also of Sycamore; and John, who died when two years of age. In 1890 Mr. Ashelford again married, his second union being with Anna Sullen, who was born in South Grove township, this county, and is a daughter of Edward and Eliza (Morris) Sullen. Her father was born in Kent, England, and at an early day came to America, settling in New York state, whence in 1860, he removed to Illinois, establishing his home in South Grove township. Both he and his wife are now deceased. By the second marriage of Mr. Ashelford there were born seven children: Francis, who is now in school at Glenwood, Illinois; Olive May, who died in infancy; Grover; Alta May; Lida; Mabel; and Harold.

In his political views Mr. Ashelford was a republican from the time he cast his first presidential ballot for Abraham Lincoln. He died September 30, 1906, at his home in Sycamore, where he had located several years before on retiring from active life. He left a large amount of land beside a beautiful home in Sycamore, where his widow is now living, and in business circles he made an unassailable reputation by his straightforward methods, being never known to take advantage of the necessities of his fellowmen in any trade transaction.

GEORGE J. PATTERSON.

George J. Patterson, who is now so efficiently serving as postmaster of Genoa, was born in Varna, Saline county, Nebraska, June 28, 1875. His father, George Patterson, was a native of Pennsylvania, in which state he was reared, and when a young man he came to Illinois, following farming in De Kalb county for some time. He enlisted from Genoa, August 6, 1862, in Company A, One Hundred and Fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry and remained in the service until the close of the Civil war. He was married in Genoa to Miss Abigail Brown, who was born in Genoa township and is a daughter of Jeremiah Brown, a pioneer of this state, having located here in 1837. She is a

sister of D. S. Brown, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. After his marriage Mr. Patterson continued to follow farming in De Kalb county for several years and became the owner of eighty acres of land, but in 1868 he removed to Johnson county, Nebraska, and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land some forty miles from Lincoln. Later he removed to Saline county where he pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres. He proved up his claim and lived there for some time but finally returned to Illinois in 1876 and located on his farm three and a half miles northeast of Genoa. Here he died the same year at the age of forty years. After her husband's death Mrs. Patterson rented her farm and built a good home in Genoa, where she lived until 1885, when she removed to Hand county, South Dakota, and entered one hundred and sixty acres of land. She improved her claim and continued to make her home thereon until 1896, when she returned to Genoa, where she is now living in her sixty-seventh year.

In the family of George and Abigail Patterson were six children: Hattie, born October 1, 1859, married E. H. Griggs, who resides in Genoa, and she died February 12, 1905. Emma Judith, born May 24, 1862, married Milton J. Carson and resides in Genoa township. Joseph Allen, born January 17, 1867, married Margaret Peters and lives in Genoa. Margaret Eleanor, born October 4, 1868, married William W. Stephens and resides in Miller, South Dakota. Jeremiah L., born December 20, 1872, married Bertha Wharton and makes his home in Genoa. George J. completes the family and is one of the three children born in Nebraska.

The early education of George J. Patterson was acquired in the public schools and for two years he was a student in the Agricultural College at Brookings, South Dakota. After putting aside his text-books he engaged in clerking in various stores in Genoa for some years. In October, 1903, he was appointed assistant postmaster under C. B. Crawford, who died in October, 1905, and was succeeded by Mr. Patterson on the 26th of that month. In the following January he received his commission as postmaster and has since most ably and conscientiously filled that position, for which he was well fitted on account of his previous connection with the office.

On the 1st of December, 1903, Mr. Patterson was united in marriage to Miss Verda Rockhold, whom he first met in Genoa, though she was born in Lineville, Wayne county, Iowa, and is a daughter of Frank Rockhold, a native of the same state. They are not connected with any religious denomination but attend various churches. Externally Mr. Patterson is a prominent Mason, belonging to Genoa lodge, No. 288, A. F. & A. M., of which he has now served as worshipful master for over three years. He is also a member of camp No. 163, M. W. A., of Genoa, and the Mystic Workers, while his wife is a member of the Eastern Star. They are widely and favorably known and have a host of friends in the community where they reside.

A. G. SCHULTZ.

A. G. Schultz, who is engaged quite extensively in feeding stock as well as in general farming, started out in life upon rented land but is now owner of one hundred and sixty acres on section 1, Clinton township. He was born in Oldenburg, Germany, and his parents were natives of that country, whence they came to the United States in 1865, settling in New York state where their remaining days were passed. After their death A. G. Schultz, of this review, came to Illinois and was employed as a farm hand until twenty-four years of age.

About that time he was married, the lady of his choice being Miss Lena Schmidt. The wedding was celebrated on the 20th of February, 1890, and Mrs. Schultz was born in Squaw Grove township in 1871. Her parents are also natives of Germany and came to this country in early life, the father following the occupation of farming. He still carries on general agricultural pursuits in Squaw Grove township, where he owns and cultivates two hundred acres of rich and productive land. Mr. and Mrs. Schmidt are still living in Squaw Grove township and are now about eighty-four years of age. Mrs. Schultz is the oldest of nine children, the others being: Mollie, Ernest, Lenora, Anna, John, Emma, Otto and Le Roy. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Schultz have been born three children: Fred Edward, born February 22, 1891; Adlai John,

born November 11, 1892; and Irene Eleanore, born April 15, 1898.

Mr. Schultz has always followed farming and after his marriage rented a tract of land which he cultivated until he was enabled to purchase a farm in Clinton township. He thus became owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 1, which he has since further cultivated and developed and now operates this farm with good success, annually gathering rich harvests. His political allegiance is given the democracy and that he is prominent in its ranks is indicated by the fact that he is now serving as one of the committee men. He is also road commissioner and for several years has filled the office of school director. Both he and his wife are members of the German Lutheran church in Squaw Grove township and are much esteemed in the community, having a host of warm friends. In his business affairs Mr. Schultz has met with an enviable measure of success and now in addition to the cultivation of his fields is engaged quite extensively in raising stock. His diligence and perseverance constitute the basis of his prosperity, making him a leading farmer of Clinton township.

ORVILLE MEAD BLOOD, M. D.

Dr. Orville Mead Blood, of De Kalb, who in the practice of his profession has largely made a specialty of surgery, in which he has received superior training, was born at Bloods, Steuben county, New York, July 26, 1862. The ancestry of the family can be traced back through several generations. The paternal great-grandfather of the Doctor was Frederick Blood, the first settler of Steuben county, New York, and the founder of the town of Bloods, the postoffice being established in 1826. The great-grandfather conducted a hotel at Bloods Corners as early as 1800, it being the first hostelry in that section of the country. His son and namesake, Frederick Blood, Jr., devoted his life to agricultural pursuits and became what was then considered a very wealthy man.

James H. Blood, the son of the latter and the father of Dr. Blood, was born in the town of Bloods, New York, in 1838. He was there

reared and on reaching his majority adopted farming as a life work. At the outbreak of the Civil war, however, he put aside all business and personal considerations and volunteered his services in defense of the country, enlisting in Company L, Fourth New York Heavy Artillery. He was accidentally killed while on his way to the front when but twenty-six years of age. He had previously married Hannah M. Raymond and unto them had been born two children: Frederick J., now a commercial salesman at Burlington, Vermont; and Orville Mead, of this review. Following the death of her first husband Mrs. Blood afterward married Thaddeus Spike and died about 1890, leaving a daughter of the second marriage, Blanche Spike, who is now residing in Chicago.

Dr. Blood of this review spent his boyhood days in his mother's home and attended the public and high schools of his native town, also the Geneseo State Normal at Geneseo, New York. For three years he devoted his attention to teaching and in 1884 determined to enter upon the practice of medicine, to which end he began reading, and in the fall of 1885 matriculated in Bennett Eclectic College of Medicine and Surgery at Chicago. He pursued the full course and was graduated in the spring of 1888. He served as interne at Cook County Hospital and in 1889 located at Lily Lake, Illinois, where he remained for three years, removing to Elburn, Illinois, in 1892. There he continued in practice for fourteen years. As a general practitioner and surgeon he has been unusually successful and has won the unqualified confidence of his many patients. In the spring of 1906 he served as externe in Augustana Hospital, Chicago, in the service of Dr. A. J. Ochsner, one of Chicago's most eminent surgeons. Following his externship in the Augustana, he took a post-graduate course at the Chicago Polyclinic. In September, 1906, seeking a still broader field, he removed to De Kalb, where he has already secured a liberal and constantly growing patronage. His study in recent years has largely been along the lines of surgery, in which he has become very proficient, and indeed he has been very successful. His ability is widely acknowledged and in addition to his own extensive practice he is frequently called in consultation with others in surgical cases. He is a member of the De Kalb County Medical and Illinois State Medical Societies, and through

continued reading and investigation he has constantly promoted his knowledge and efficiency.

In 1884 Dr. Blood was married to Miss Alice Clark, of Rochester, New York, who died in 1886, and in 1893 he wedded Miss Jennie Marvin of Maple Park, Illinois, a daughter of George W. Marvin, a prominent farmer of that place. Unto this marriage has been born one daughter, Marcella. Dr. Blood belongs to the Masonic fraternity and also has membership relations with the Modern Woodmen of America, the Yeomen of America and the Mystic Workers. His political support is given the republican party and for many years he served as health officer at Elburn. While a recent addition to the ranks of the profession in De Kalb, through his pleasing personality and his skill as a medical practitioner and surgeon he is rapidly acquiring an enviable practice and is already accounted one of the foremost members of the profession at this place.

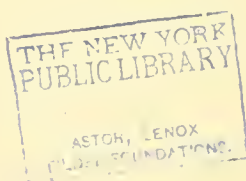
JOSEPH C. PIERCE.

In every community are found men who are leaders in business and public life, who leave the impress of their individuality for good upon the general welfare and who by their enterprising spirit and unfaltering endeavor promote public prosperity as well as individual success. To this class belongs Joseph C. Pierce, whose worth and ability have been recognized by his fellow townsmen in various elections to local offices. He is, moreover, a representative business man, now connected with the coal and grain trades. Born in Sullivan county, New York, on the 23d of April, 1844, he was the second in order of birth in a family of five children, whose parents were John and Frances (Currey) Pierce, both of whom were natives of Sullivan county, New York, the former born in July, 1812, and the latter on the 4th of July, 1820. A maternal uncle of our subject, Stephen Currey, was a soldier of the Revolutionary Army.

Joseph C. Pierce arrived in De Kalb county, Illinois, in the spring of 1866, locating at Sycamore. He was educated in the common schools of the Empire state and in the Normal School



J. D. Pierce



at Liberty, Sullivan county, New York, and he came to the middle west when a young man of twenty-two years. In October, 1867, he removed from Sycamore to Malta, where he embarked in general merchandising, continuing in that trade for fourteen years, or until 1881. In 1890 he began dealing in grain and coal and has since continued in this line of activity, handling a large amount of fuel and of grain annually. In fact his business has grown to extensive proportions and he has thus won gratifying success. He owns a large elevator and a half block upon which it stands, and he is also the owner of much village property, including the residence which he occupies.

Before coming to the middle west, Mr. Pierce proved his loyalty to his country by active service in the Civil war. He joined the army in July, 1863, as one of the boys in blue, in Company A, One Hundred and Forty-third New York Infantry, and in October, 1864, he was promoted to the rank of first lieutenant. On the 21st of March following he was brevetted captain and was assigned to the command of Company G of the same regiment, acting in that capacity until mustered out after the close of the war in August, 1865. He participated in a number of important engagements, including the battles of Savannah, Georgia, Averysboro, Goldsboro, Raleigh, a number of skirmishes and the celebrated march to the sea under General Sherman. He was always at his post of duty whether upon the picket line or the firing line, and no word was ever uttered against his valor or his fidelity. In fact his personal bravery inspired his men to deeds of courage and he was recognized as an able officer.

Mr. Pierce is a member of Dement lodge, No. 320, A. F. & A. M., Wayside lodge, No. 544, K. P., and Edward Bridge post, No. 328, G. A. R., thus maintaining pleasant relations with his old army comrades. His political allegiance is given to the republican party. He attends and supports the Congregational church, of which he has served as treasurer for fifteen years. He has also held many political offices within the gift of the people. He was village treasurer for two years, supervisor of his township for four years, tax collector two years, alderman eight years and mayor for four years. He has also been justice of the peace for twenty-six years and is still the incumbent in that office.

Mr. Pierce was married in Ulster county, New York, April 14, 1870, to Phebe A. Brundage, who was born in that county, July 18, 1843. Her father was Francis Taylor Brundage, and her mother Catherine (Porter) Brundage. Both were natives of the Empire state, the former of Sullivan county and the latter of Dutchess county, and of their five children Mrs. Pierce was the fourth in order of birth. By her marriage she has become the mother of two daughters: Katherine B., born December 1, 1873, and Mrs. Frances C. Richardson born May 5, 1876, both of whom are members of the Daughters of the American Revolution. The family live in a beautiful home on Sprague and Fourth streets in Malta.

Mr. Pierce deserves all the credit and praise that is implied in the term of a "self-made man," for he had no special family or pecuniary advantages to aid him at the outset of his career. He has overcome difficulties and obstacles by determined purpose and by probity and unflagging industry, has pushed his way forward in the midst of these scenes and has attained a measure of success in excess of that of most men. He keeps informed upon matters of public moment and has decided views upon many of the questions of the day. He has indeed made a creditable record for honorable citizenship and for progressiveness in business. He has contributed to the material, intellectual and moral progress of his community and has exercised his official prerogatives to support many valuable community measures and interests. Indeed his public and private life are alike above reproach and without invidious distinction he may be termed one of the foremost citizens of Malta and De Kalb county.

ORVIN W. BEEMAN.

Orvin W. Beeman, at one time an active farmer of De Kalb county, now living retired in Sycamore, was born in Allegany, now Wyoming, county, New York, June 4, 1832. He was one of twins in a family of fourteen children but only three of the number are now living, while he is the only one in Illinois. The parents were Orange and Hannah (Kilbourne) Beeman, natives of Vermont. They were people in limited circumstances and al-

though the father carried on farming he did not own land. He died at the venerable age of eighty years, while his wife passed away at the age of sixty-six.

Orvin W. Beeman received but little education. Until twelve years of age he was a sufferer from what was called white swelling and at the age of fourteen years he went to work on a farm by the day, eagerly accepting any employment that he could secure. During the last year spent in New York he worked at a salary of eighteen dollars per month, the largest wage being paid for farm labor at that time. He then sought a home in the middle west. He was twenty-four years of age when in 1857 he came to Illinois, where he again worked as a farm hand, by the month up to the time of his marriage in February, 1859. On the 16th of February of that year he wedded Miss Mary C. Carpenter, a native of Ohio and a daughter of William Carpenter, who at an early day came to Illinois, where he followed farming.

At the time of his marriage Mr. Beeman and his brother owned eighty acres of land in Shiawassee county, Michigan, and he removed to that place, there engaging in farming for a few years. In 1865 he returned to De Kalb county, where he purchased eighty acres of land in Mayfield township. Upon this place was a small frame house and a prairie stable. With characteristic energy Mr. Beeman began the further cultivation and improvement of the property and as the years passed by brought his fields under a higher state of cultivation and continued in the active work of the farm, annually harvesting large crops as he carried on the work along progressive lines of agriculture. He now owns a good farm of two hundred acres, all well improved. The land was open prairie but Mr. Beeman planted a grove thereon and is now getting his fuel from his own timber. On retiring from active farm life he took up his abode in the city of Sycamore, where he now resides.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Beeman were born three children, but the second died in infancy. The others are Frederick William and Isabelle, the latter at home. The son is living on his own farm in McHenry county, Illinois. He married Miss Alice Clark and they have one son, Leslie, who is now attending school in Sycamore and is living with his grandparents. Mr. and Mrs. Bee-

man have always been hard workers, taking care of what they have made and they have every reason to be proud of their record. They now own and occupy a nice residence at No. 227 East State street and also have two other residences in the city. Mr. Beeman has ever given his political allegiance to the republican party since casting his first presidential vote for Fremont. He served as road commissioner, as school director and as school trustee, and the cause of education has found in him a warm friend, who believes in providing good schools for the youth of the country. His life record is an indication of what may be accomplished even under adverse circumstances and although he had no assistance at the outset of his career he has through his own labor and diligence gained a place among the prosperous residents of the county, so that he is now enabled to live retired.

BERNHARD H. OLESON.

Bernhard H. Oleson, son of Ole and Elsie (Hendrickson) Oleson, was born in the city of Solvesburg, province of Blenkinge, Sweden, October 6, 1864. His father owned a fine home in Sweden and his parents, brothers and sisters remained in the old home on the shores of the Baltic sea. Mr. Oleson came to Sycamore twenty-five years ago and was employed by Honorable Isaac Ellwood, and later became a clerk in the grocery and drug store, where he has remained as clerk and proprietor, the firm being now known as the Oleson, Walrod & Whittemore Grocery & Drug Store.

Mr. Oleson married Huldah Anderson, daughter of August and Annie Anderson, both natives of Sweden. They have an adopted daughter eight years of age, a bright, beautiful child, who is certainly fortunate in the care of her foster parents. Mr. Oleson is an active, progressive business man and has enjoyed a splendid remunerative patronage. In politics he is a republican, being at present a member of the republican county central committee. He is an enthusiastic member of the Masonic fraternity and was eminent commander of Sycamore commandery in 1902. Mr. and Mrs. Oleson are affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal church. We present him as an example of that sturdy ele-



B. H. OLESON AND FAMILY.

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ment known as the Swedish-American; one who has made opportunity and in spite of drawbacks and discouragements has attained a lasting position among the business men and one of influence among the citizens of Sycamore.

JOHN H. LATHAM.

With varied and extensive business interests claiming his time and attention John H. Latham has so directed his labors and energies that he has made steady advancement in the business world, having long since left the ranks of the many to stand among the successful few. He is a son of Joseph F. and Charlotte A. (Esterbrooks) Latham. The Latham family was established in De Kalb county in 1838 and the Esterbrooks in 1835, so that in both the paternal and maternal lines John H. Latham comes from an ancestry long connected with the history of this part of the state and figuring prominently in connection with its pioneer development and early progress and upbuilding. His father drove an ox team from Sandwich to California in 1849, in company with his brother, attracted by the gold discoveries which, as a lodestone, were drawing so many from the east and middle west to the Pacific coast in the hope of rapidly realizing a fortune there. Because of ill health Mr. Latham returned by way of the water route to New York and thence to Chicago, reaching his home after an absence of two years. Once more he took up farming but later again went to California and to Colorado, each time, however, returning to his farm after a period spent in the mining regions. He married Charlotte A. Esterbrooks, a daughter of James L. Esterbrooks, a farmer, who came originally from Pennsylvania. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Latham were born eight children, of whom four are yet living: Ada L. is the wife of Howard Tuttle, of Webster City, Iowa; John H. is the subject of this review; Justin is associated with his brother in merchandising and farming interests; and Mary L., is the wife of J. B. Castle, of Sandwich, mentioned elsewhere in this volume.

John H. Latham was born upon the home farm in De Kalb county, March 16, 1856, and at the usual age entered the public schools to acquire an

education, which he completed in the high school of Sandwich. He was reared to farm life, early becoming familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist, and when he put aside his text-books, thinking to find mercantile pursuits more congenial than the labors of the fields, he began clerking in an implement house, where he remained for four years. At that time, however, he returned to the farm and engaged actively in general agricultural pursuits until 1890. Later he purchased the interest of J. B. Castle in the hardware business and joined his brother Justin in a partnership under the name of Latham Brothers. This business had been established in 1892 under the style of Castle & Latham and in 1899 it became the property of the present firm. They have a large and well appointed store, carrying a carefully selected stock of goods, and their patronage has continually grown. John H. Latham is one of the directors of the Sandwich Manufacturing Company.

On the 26th of April, 1894, Mr. Latham was united in marriage to Miss Helen C. Culver, a daughter of George W. Culver. She was born April 1, 1868, and by this marriage there is one son, Hollis Culver Latham, born December 11, 1898. The family attend the Presbyterian church and are generous contributors to its support. Mr. Latham is a Mason and past master of his lodge. He is also a past high priest of Sandwich chapter, No. 107, R. A. M., belongs to the Knight Templar commandery at Aurora, Illinois, and to the Mystic Shrine at Rockford. For a number of years he served as road commissioner and while not an aspirant for office he has discharged every duty devolving upon him in a public connection with promptness and fidelity. For a half century he has made his home in De Kalb county, an interested witness of its changes and its growth and an active participant in the development that has been wrought in Sandwich through its business interests and through those avenues into which public-spirited men turn their energies for the general good.

Justin Latham, associated in business with his brother, John H. Latham, was born February 18, 1858, and after completing a high-school course in Sandwich he spent sometime in business positions in Chicago. In 1892 he joined J. B. Castle in the conduct of a hardware store, this partner-

ship being maintained until 1899, when Mr. Castle sold his interest to John H. Latham and the present firm of Latham Brothers was established, continuing the business to the present time with growing and well merited success.

Justin Latham was married November 21, 1895, to Miss Grace Abbott, of Sandwich, a daughter of Asher M. Abbott, who was a merchant. They have two children: Wendell A., born March 16, 1897; and Charlotte, born May 28, 1900.

Justin Latham was at one time alderman of Sandwich but has preferred a strictly business life to political service and his concentration of his energies upon his mercantile interests has been an element in the success which has attended the store from its establishment. The brothers are both enterprising men of keen discernment and progressive spirit, who do honor to a name that has figured in the history of De Kalb county from earliest pioneer times.

BENJAMIN HARVEY WESTLAKE.

Benjamin Harvey Westlake, a public-spirited man and one of the best citizens of De Kalb, according to public report, is now engaged in the feed and livery business. He was born in Newburg, New York, March 27, 1855. His father David B. Westlake, also a native of New York, died in August, 1906, but the mother, who bore the maiden name of Catharine N. Du Boyce, was born in New York state and is still living. David B. Westlake was a farmer by occupation and in the year 1857 came to Illinois, settling in Mayfield township, De Kalb county. Three years later he bought a farm in Sycamore, where he remained until his death. In the family were nine children of whom Benjamin was the second in order of birth. Five of the number are now deceased.

Benjamin Harvey Westlake is indebted to the public-school system in Sycamore for the educational privileges he enjoyed. He was only two years old when brought by his parents to De Kalb county and after leaving school began farming on his father's land, continuing actively in general agricultural pursuits until 1886, when he entered the implement business in which he continued for a year. Subsequently he devoted two years to the

conduct of a grocery and restaurant business, after which he established a feed barn on a large scale and four years later added a livery barn and is now conducting both branches of the business. He has built up an excellent trade and has made this a profitable venture.

On the 14th of November, 1875, at Clinton Junction, Wisconsin, Mr. Westlake was united in marriage to Miss Rhoda Wood, who was born in Cortland township, De Kalb county, Illinois, November 1, 1854. Her father, David Wood, was born in Ohio and came to Illinois at an early date. He wedded Ruth Carey, a native of Ohio, and they became the parents of seven children, of whom Mrs. Westlake was the sixth in order of birth. Mr. and Mrs. Wood were early settlers of Illinois and were numbered among the prominent pioneer people of De Kalb county. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Westlake were born eight children: Hiram D.; Gilbert A.; Mabel C.; Myrtle, deceased; Charlotte Anna E.; Lena May; Ethel Maud; and Emma, deceased.

Mr. Westlake exercises his right of franchise in support of the republican party. He is a member of the United Brethren church and his family are all believers in the Christian faith. He belongs to the Modern Woodman camp, No. 46, and is an esteemed and progressive citizen who gives his aid and co-operation to many movements for the public good. He has through honesty and industry gained a substantial property and paying business and is widely recognized as a reliable business man whose success is well deserved because it has been honorably won. He and his family are now pleasantly located at No. 307 Gurler street, De Kalb.

JAMES DIVINE.

James Divine is a member of the real-estate firm of Divine Brothers of Sycamore well known throughout De Kalb county by reason of the important property transfers which they have negotiated. The members of the firm are James and John Divine, sons of Eleazer Divine, now deceased, who was born in the town of Grahamville, Sullivan county, New York, March 1, 1820. The paternal grandfather, David Divine, was also born in Sul-

Sullivan county, January 6, 1800. His father, Eleazer Divine, married Lydia Betelbrunt, and for many years was an inn keeper in Sullivan county, New York. His death occurred when he was about seventy-five years of age. It was his son David who became the grandfather of our subject. He married Harriet Lowe, who died at the very advanced age of ninety-seven years. She was a daughter of Cornelius and Hannah (Hornbeak) Lowe, both of whom lived to a ripe old age, the family being noted for longevity. David Divine was engaged in farming and lumbering to a great extent in his native county and died about 1866.

Eleazer Divine, the father of our subject, was reared in his native county and attended the district schools until about twenty years of age, working through the summer months at farm labor. He then bought a leasehold of one hundred acres and afterward secured the fee simple to the land. Thereon he engaged in farming for twelve years, and in June, 1852, he came to the middle west, purchasing three hundred acres of land at Charter Grove, De Kalb county, Illinois. He then returned to his eastern home, disposed of his property there and in the fall of the same year removed with his family to De Kalb county. For the first few years after his arrival in this county he raised corn and stock and was quite successful in his farming operations. As time passed he purchased more land until he had six hundred acres, the greater part of which was under cultivation and returned to him good crops annually. During the later years of his life he traded in cattle and live-stock, buying and shipping to Chicago and other markets. His political allegiance was given to the democracy. When he first settled in De Kalb county there was some open country but the greater part was partially improved, and with the further work of development and progress he became actively identified. He married Sallie Ann Sheely, who was born in Grahamville, Sullivan county, New York, September 26, 1822, a daughter of Elisha Sheely, also a native of Sullivan county, who died in the early '60s, when eighty-four years of age. By occupation he was a farmer and cleared much land for agricultural purposes. He was the son of Conrad and Elizabeth (Hornbeak) Sheely, the latter dying in the early '20s, when a very old lady. Conrad Sheely settled in the wilderness, peeled tan bark for the market and cut

and sold lumber but did very little toward cultivating the land. He died when about eighty years of age. Elisha Sheely married Dorothy Grant, of Scotch descent, who died at the age of eighty-two years, about two weeks after the death of her husband.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Eleazer Divine were born eight children, seven of whom are yet living, Samuel, the fifth in order of birth, having died in infancy. The others are: Nancy, now the wife of Ira Evans, of Sycamore township; Mary, the widow of Richard Triscott; David, who lives in Sycamore township; Frank, who resides in Charter Grove, Illinois; Eunice, who married Charles Davie, a farmer of Sycamore township; and James and John, who are twins.

The last named constitute the firm of Divine Brothers, real-estate dealers of De Kalb county, carrying on business with headquarters in the Ellwood & Johnson building, at Sycamore. They handle a large amount of farm property, and together are owners of one thousand acres of land in this county. Beside buying and selling property on their own account they also buy and sell on commission and handle land in other parts of Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, North and South Dakota and Wisconsin. They likewise have another department of business, for they are engaged in buying, feeding and selling live-stock, in which they have been very successful. They are well known business men, energetic and enterprising and they secure the highest degree of perfection possible in all their business dealings, thus meeting with gratifying success.

DAVID PLAPP.

David Plapp owns and occupies a residence that stands in the midst of an entire block of ground in Malta. He was born in Pierce township, De Kalb county, Illinois, January 29, 1853, and is one whose life record proves the attractiveness of this county as a place of residence, for although he left the county at one time and was for fifteen years a citizen of Nebraska he returned to De Kalb county to take up his abode here and make it his permanent home, having seen no district which is preferable to him.

His parents were Jacob F. and Elizabeth B. Plapp, both natives of Germany. The father came to this country where about eighteen years of age and the mother accompanied her parents to the new world in 1830 when she was a maiden of eleven summers. Following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Plapp settled in Ohio and later came to De Kalb county, locating in Pierce township, where for many years the father carried on general agricultural pursuits. He died in 1885 and his widow is now living with her son in Malta township at the advanced age of eighty-seven years. Unto this marriage were born eleven children, nine of whom yet survive.

David Plapp was reared in his native township and at the usual age began attending the public schools, wherein he mastered the usual branches of English learning. When he reached his majority he started out in life on his own account, learning the blacksmith's trade, which he followed for several years. He continued a resident of De Kalb county until 1878, when he removed to Nebraska and took up a homestead claim, upon which he lived for fifteen years, greatly improving the property during that time. He then came to De Kalb county and located at Malta.

On the 11th of May, 1876, occurred the marriage of David Plapp and Miss Mary E. Schweitzer, who was born in Illinois. Her father was a native of Switzerland and her mother of Illinois. Mrs. Plapp became the mother of thirteen children: Ezra, Jessie J., Jacob, Samuel, Joseph, Aaron, Sylvester, Amelia, Mary, George, Katie, Andrew and Calvin, all of whom are still living. The mother, however, died November 30, 1903, and her death was deeply deplored by many friends, for she had gained a wide and favorable acquaintance during her residence in this county.

Mr. Plapp gives his political allegiance to those candidates who stand as the champions of republican principles. That he is a stalwart advocate of the party is indicated by the fact that while in Nebraska, in 1878, he walked fifty-five miles in order to vote the republican ticket. While living in that state he also had the honor of sitting on a jury with William Jennings Bryan. He belongs to Modern Woodmen camp, No. 217, at Malta, also to the Evangelical church and one of his sons is a minister of that denomination. Mr. Plapp is a man of high principles, his life actuated by worthy

purposes and characterized by honorable conduct in every relation. Thus he has won the respect of his fellowmen and is numbered among the worthy sons of De Kalb county.

J. J. KINGSLEY.

J. J. Kingsley is the owner of an excellent farm of two hundred and twenty-six acres of rich and arable land on sections 17 and 20, De Kalb township. He was born in Afton township, this county, on the 1st of November, 1869, and is a son of Henry and Mary (McDole) Kingsley. The father was a native of Pennsylvania, but the mother was born in Kane county, Illinois. They settled on a farm in Afton township, in October, 1863, and upon this farm J. J. Kingsley was reared and early became familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. He worked in the fields when not busy with the duties of the schoolroom and acquired his education in the public schools.

Having arrived at years of maturity Mr. Kingsley was married, on the 12th of March, 1896, to Miss May Broughton, also a native of Afton township. Her father, C. W. Broughton, was born in Vermont and on coming to the middle west in 1844 settled in Kane county, Illinois, where he lived until 1855 and then came to De Kalb county. He was one of the leading citizens of his community and was classed with the respected and worthy pioneers who were actively connected with the substantial development of the county. He died in 1893. Mrs. Kingsley was a child of his second wife.

Throughout his entire business life Mr. Kingsley has followed the occupation of farming and that he has prospered in his undertakings is indicated by the fact that he is now the owner of two hundred and twenty-six acres of land in De Kalb township. The farm is equipped with all modern conveniences and accessories, including the latest improved machinery for carrying on the work of the fields. He has good stock upon his place and neatness and thrift characterize every department of the farm, which in its attractive appearance indicates the practical ideas and progressive supervision of the owner. In addition to his farm Mr.



C. W. BROUGHTON

1871
ESTOR, LENOX
TILDEN FOUNDATIONS

Kingsley owns a half interest in the Elva Lumber Company of Elva.

Mr. and Mrs. Kingsley attend the Congregational church and contribute to its support. He is an earnest republican in politics, having voted with that party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He has held the office of township commissioner and is a member of the township high school board, but has not been a politician in the sense of office seeking. His name on the membership list of the Elks lodge, No. 765, of De Kalb, and of the Modern Woodmen camp of Afton.

A. C. BAIE.

A large percentage of the residents of Clinton township have had their nativity in Germany or are descendants from German ancestry. Such is the case with A. C. Baie who is now carrying on general farming in Clinton township. He was born in this township, April 10, 1865, but his parents were natives of Germany, whence they came to the United States in 1848, first locating at Sandwich, Illinois. The father began work as a farm hand by the month and after he had gained a little ready money in this way, he rented land which he continued to cultivate for several years. When his business ability and enterprise had brought him still more capital, he purchased a farm in Clinton township on section 13, where his son, A. C. Baie, now resides. The father at the present time is living retired at Hinckley and both he and his wife have passed the age of seventy-five years. They are highly esteemed people who, during the long years of their residence in De Kalb county, have proven their worth and thrift and enjoy the respect of all with whom they come in contact.

A. C. Baie was sixth in order of birth in a family of thirteen children and in his youth his time and labor were largely given to farm work, while in the district schools he pursued his education. He has never sought other occupation than that to which he was reared and, as the years have passed, he has prospered. He is now owner of the old family homestead farm which comprises one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 13, Clinton township. Here he has made many modern improve-

ments and everything about the place is indicative of his careful supervision and skill.

In 1887 Mr. Baie was married to Miss Minnie Nehlhorn, who was born in Germany, June 17, 1869. Her parents were also natives of that country and there her father died. The mother afterward came to the United States in 1883, settling at Hinckley, Illinois. Her death occurred in 1904. She was the mother of ten children. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Baie has been blessed with an interesting family of three daughters and two sons: Elma May, born May 11, 1888; Everett Ray, born January 15, 1890; Ethel M., born February 18, 1896; Marvin C., born May 6, 1903; and Esther Roselle, born February 7, 1906.

Mr. Baie gives his political support to the democracy and is recognized as one of the strong and able defenders of its principles in this locality. He was road commissioner for eleven years and was school director for six years. He and his wife are members of the Evangelical church at Hinckley, are worthy people and, as the years have gone by, have accumulated enough to buy the farm upon which they have lived since their marriage. That De Kalb county is a favorite place of residence is indicated by the fact that so many of her native sons have continued to live within her borders, enjoying the advantages here afforded and improving the business opportunities.

M. R. ZELLAR.

M. R. Zellar is one of the native sons of De Kalb township, having been born on the 22d of September, 1880, upon the farm which is now his place of residence. He is a son of E. R. Zellar, who lives in the village of Malta and who is mentioned on another page of this work.

M. R. Zellar was reared in his father's home and pursued his education in the common schools, in the high school of Malta and in the State Normal School at De Kalb, there completing his course. When he sought a companion and helpmate for life's journey he chose Miss Adelia Butler, who was born in Malta township on the 4th of September, 1880. Her father Sewell Butler, was a native of Du Page, Illinois, whence he removed to De Kalb county, where he spent his remaining days, his

death occurring in 1898. He is still survived by his wife, who is a resident of Malta. In their home Mrs. Zellar remained in her girlhood and was well trained in the duties of the household, so that she was qualified to take charge of a home of her own at the time of her marriage on the 6th of November, 1902. This union has been blessed with one son, Edwin Sewell, whose birth occurred October 13, 1903.

Following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Zellar located on his father's farm in De Kalb township, where they still live, and in its cultivation he displays a knowledge of the best methods of farming, practicing the rotation of crops, using the latest improved machinery to facilitate the work of the fields and keeping everything about the farm in a state of good repair. He possesses the diligence and determination which are so necessary to success and which are winning for him a goodly measure of prosperity. The young couple attend the Methodist Episcopal church of Malta and Mr. Zellar's support can be counted upon by the republican party, for he has always voted its ticket and labored for its success. He is classed with the enterprising young farmers of De Kalb township and as such deserves mention in this volume.

BERT A. BARK.

Bert A. Bark, who is living on section 3, Sandwich township, and who is familiarly known as "Jack" by his numerous friends, is one of the prosperous farmers and stock-breeders of the county. He owns and operates the old Bark homestead—the Oakdale farm of two hundred and ninety acres of rich and productive land. It was upon this farm that his birth occurred March 9, 1869.

His father, George Bark, was a native of Troy, New York, born on the 24th of May, 1826. He came westward to Illinois about 1847, settling near Sandwich but across the line in La Salle county, where he purchased a tract of land and developed the farm. Subsequently, however, he took up his abode upon the farm where his son Bert now resides. There he bought one hundred and twenty acres of land and to this he added from time to time until he had an extensive and

valuable tract of land. His buildings were situated along the old Indian trail and Mr. Bark laid out the first road of the locality. He was actively associated with the early development and progress of the community and continued in the farm work until 1887, when he removed to Sandwich, where he has since lived retired. He was married in De Kalb county to Miss Clarissa Wright, who died about 1863 and subsequently, in 1866, he wedded Mariun Peterson, a widow who was born in Maine and was the daughter of Barney Carlton. Her death occurred in October, 1906.

Bert A. Bark was one of the four children born of his father's second marriage. He was reared to manhood upon the homestead farm and acquired his early education in the common schools here and later attended the Sandwich high school. He continued to aid his father in the development and management of the fields until the father retired from business life, since which time our subject has cultivated the old homestead property. He received thorough training in farm labor in his youth and continued to reside upon the old homestead which he purchased in 1903. In connection with tilling the soil he has made a business of raising sheep, horses, cattle and hogs, but gives his attention especially to hogs and sheep. The farm is well improved in many particulars and therefore constitutes one of the attractive features of the landscape. He uses for a corn crib the old school house, which is one of the landmarks of the county. It was one of the early "temples of learning" in this part of the state and pupils came from a distance of seven miles to attend school here. Mr. Bark is well known as a stock-dealer and now feeds and ships hogs, sheep and cattle. In fact, his business as a stock-dealer exceeds that of almost every feeder in the township and he is meeting with well merited success in his undertakings.

On the 28th of November, 1894, in Somonauk, Mr. Bark was united in marriage to Miss Grace Wesson, daughter of S. D. Wesson, of Victor township. They became the parents of three children: Marion Reinette, Herdman W. and Ella Esther.

Politically Mr. Bark has been a life-long republican, but has never sought nor desired office, preferring to give his undivided time and attention to his business interests, in which he has met with



GEORGE BARK.

signal success. He is a representative of one of the old families of the county and the name of Bark has figured in connection with agricultural interests here for more than six decades, while for almost four decades the subject of this review had been a resident of the county, witnessing its growth and progress. He has seen many changes as the years have gone by, especially in the methods of farming and his labors have been in keeping with advanced ideas of agriculture. He is at once practical, diligent and determined in his business affairs and his close application and energy constitute the salient features in his success.

J. D. FOSTER.

J. D. Foster is owner of a good tract of land in Shabbona township. He was born in this township, August 14, 1846. His father, Moses Foster, a native of Germany, was brought to the United States by his parents when only two weeks old. He was reared upon a farm in Ohio. When a young man he came to Illinois and worked on a farm at Holderman's Grove, De Kalb county. Later he married and removed to Morris, Illinois, where his death occurred at the comparatively early age of forty-five years. He lived in this state at the time of the early Indian troubles and is said to have taken part in the warfare against the red race. At all events he aided in reclaiming this part of the state from the dominion of the savage and well deserves mention among the pioneers of Illinois. He married Harriet Horton, who was born in New York in 1820, a daughter of Miles Horton, an early settler of De Kalb. She was brought to Illinois when a little maiden of ten summers and her last days were spent in the state of Washington where she passed away in July, 1906. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Moses Foster were born seven children of whom three are now living: J. D., of this review; Mrs. Lafayette Gates, of Shabbona Grove; and Isaac W., of Seattle, Washington.

Upon the death of the father, the mother and children came to Shabbona township, De Kalb county, and lived for years on the Miles Horton homestead. Mr. Foster of this review went to live with an uncle, Alonzo Olmstead, with whom he was to remain until twenty-one years of age but

after three years Mrs. Olmstead died and Mr. Foster then began working as a farm hand for different people, being thus employed until eighteen years of age. His uncle, Dexter Horton, then purchased five acres of land which he gave to Mr. Foster that he might make a home for his mother and sisters. They remained with him until the sisters married, after which the mother went to live with her brother, Dexter Horton, in Seattle, Washington. As the years have passed Mr. Foster has prospered in his undertakings and is now owner of one hundred and fifty-six acres of good farm land which he bought in small tracts of from one to five acres. Most of it was stump land, which he cleared. It was an arduous task to grub up the stumps and transform the land into productive fields but this he has accomplished and throughout his life has followed farming. He is now the oldest native resident of Shabbona township. He has borne all the experiences and hardships of pioneer life and for fifteen years followed the streams and woods, trapping and hunting with good success. He has also broken many a yoke of oxen and with ox-teams has hauled grain to Earlville and De Kalb.

When twenty-five years of age Mr. Foster was married to Miss Hannah M. Parish, a native of Michigan. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Cyrus Parish are now aged people living near the Foster farm. Unto our subject and his wife have been born five children but only two are now living: Rosa M., wife of John Chantrill, a resident farmer of Shabbona township; and Harriet M., at home. The mother and daughters are members of the Methodist church. Mr. Foster gives his political support to the republican party but has never cared for office, preferring to concentrate his time and energies upon the cultivation of his farm.

LUTHER AUGUSTUS HATCH.

Professor Luther A. Hatch, who since 1899 has been principal of the training school of the Northern Illinois State Normal, with the exception of the year 1905-6, which he spent in college, has devoted his entire life to educational work and has gained a position of prominence as an able instructor who has kept in touch with modern meth-

ods and has also successfully worked out new and original ideas in connection with his teachings. His life record began in Lisle, Illinois, June 19, 1868. He is the eldest of the seven children of Frederick and Hannah (Burtis) Hatch. The father was born in Lisle, February 5, 1839, and when a young man engaged in teaching for nine years and afterward devoted part of his life to farming. His wife was a native of Iowa.

Professor Hatch began his education in the public schools of his native village and afterward attended the high school at Downer's Grove, Illinois. He was graduated from the Illinois State Normal University at Normal, in the class of 1892, and later spent one year in Columbia University, in New York city. After leaving the Illinois State Normal in 1892, he became principal of No. 2 school, in Moline, Illinois, having under his direction twelve teachers. When two years had passed he became principal of South School, Oak Park, Illinois, where again twelve teachers were under his charge, his service there continuing for six years. In the fall of 1900 he came to De Kalb, where he accepted the principalship of the training school in the Northern Illinois State Normal School, where he has since continued with the exception of the year 1905-6 spent as a student in Columbia University. He has made substantial advancement in his profession and is regarded as an able educator, the value of his methods being demonstrated in practical work which has given uniform satisfaction. He early displayed the elemental strength of his character by planning for his own education and accomplishing it in spite of the difficulties and obstacles in his path. His labors as a teacher provided him with the means of continuing his own education and by other labor he added at time to the capital which enabled him to pursue a college course. He is especially interested in manual training and nature study and in training teachers for public school work he is emphasizing this. The value of both of these has been so conclusively proven that they are being more and more largely adopted in the schools throughout the country and Professor Hatch has taken an advanced stand in this direction.

At Normal, Illinois, on the 8th of June, 1893, Professor Hatch was married to Miss Alma Boyer, who was born in Champaign county, Illinois, January 9, 1869, a daughter of John and Lydia A.

(Henry) Boyer, in whose family were two children, Mrs. Hatch being the younger. They have a pleasant home at No. 337 Augusta avenue, De Kalb, where their many friends are always welcome and are entertained with most cordial hospitality. Professor Hatch is also the owner of an excellent farm of one hundred acres in Du Page county, Illinois, whereon he spends his vacation, finding there both pleasure and profit. He always keeps in touch with the most advanced ideas on agriculture and is a practical farmer, whose fields are under a high state of cultivation and whose improvements are modern and substantial.

In his political views Professor Hatch is a stalwart republican but never an office seeker, and he and his wife are members of the First Congregational church of De Kalb. Interested in the growth and development of the city he gives his aid, encouragement and support to many movements which tend to advance the city along intellectual and moral lines, of aesthetic culture and of material improvement.

S. M. HENDERSON.

On the roster of officials in De Kalb county appears the name of S. M. Henderson in connection with the office of county clerk. He was born in Clinton township, April 14, 1857, and his entire life has been passed in this section of the state. His parents were Alexander and Julia Henderson. The father came to Illinois in 1854, from Perry county, Pennsylvania, and settled in Clinton township, where he successfully carried on farming until 1886, when he retired from business life. He is now a resident of Waterman, Illinois, but his wife died many years ago, when her son, S. M. Henderson, was but five years of age. There were three children in the family, of whom two are living, S. M. and Mrs. Riley Hampton, of Paw Paw, Illinois. The Henderson family is a very old one in Pennsylvania.

In the common schools the subject of this review pursued his early education, which was supplemented by study in Paw Paw Seminary. He afterward engaged in teaching school for three years and later he followed farming until 1901, when he turned his attention to the insurance

business, handling both life and fire insurance. In this connection he has since continued.

Mr. Henderson married Harriet D. Hampton, of Paw Paw township, a daughter of Robert and Lydia (Zemmer) Hampton, of Paw Paw, Illinois, who were early settlers there. Her father was born in Ontario, Canada, March 27, 1821, and came to De Kalb county, Illinois, in 1846. The family are of English descent. The father was county treasurer of De Kalb county at one time and was also representative from that district in the state legislature. He is a republican, and for eleven years has been supervisor of Paw Paw township.

Mr. Henderson gives his political allegiance to the republican party and has been a member of the county central committee for about ten years. He served as assessor of his township for eight years and also as notary public. He was elected clerk of the De Kalb county court in November, 1906, and is now serving in that capacity. He is a business man of reliability and a public official who well merits the trust and confidence reposed in him.

CARL BAIE.

Carl Baie, a practical and progressive farmer of Clinton township, who is also engaged in the raising of full blooded Hereford cattle, was born in this township, May 25, 1874. He is a son of Christian Baie, who was a native of Germany and came to the United States in 1848. Mention is made of him on another page of this work.

The boyhood days of our subject were quietly passed on the old family homestead. He obtained his education in the common schools and was reared to the work of the farm, early becoming familiar with the duties of field and meadow, so that he was well qualified to carry on farming on his own account when he married and started out in life for himself. That he has prospered as the years have gone by is shown by the fact that he is now the owner of one hundred and sixty-eight acres of land and he operates two hundred and eight acres on sections 13 and 24. He raises full blooded Hereford cattle and has been quite an extensive feeder. In fact his stock-raising interests are one of the most important branches of

his business and contribute largely to his annual income.

Mr. Baie was married in 1896 to Miss Hattie George, whose birth occurred in Northville township, La Salle county, Illinois, November 15, 1875. Her parents were natives of Germany and came to the United States in 1858. The father was a farmer by occupation and both he and his wife are still living. He has retired, however, from business cares and now makes his home in Somonauk, Illinois. Unto Mr. and Mrs. George were born seven children: Mary, Ida, Amelia, Lewis, Hattie, Willie and Irvin, but the last named died in infancy. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Baie, which was celebrated December 15, 1896, has been blessed with five children: Iona V., born November 11, 1897; Phoebe M., born September 5, 1899; Mary M., born November 14, 1901; Leila R., born January 13, 1904; and Ora H., born April 7, 1906.

Mr. Baie has ever been a stalwart champion of education and has done effective service in behalf of the system of public instruction while serving for several years as a school director. He is a member of the Masonic lodge, No. 728, at Waterman, also the Modern Woodmen camp, No. 1572, at that place, while he and his wife are faithful and devoted members of the Evangelical church at Hincley. They have always remained residents of De Kalb county and have many friends within its borders, for though their lives have been quietly passed they have displayed many of those sterling traits of character which win kindly regard and good will and awaken sincere respect.

ELI BOECKENHAUER.

Eli Boeckenhauer, who now operates his father's farm of two hundred and twenty-five acres in Clinton township, not far from Waterman, was born in this township on the 5th of November, 1884. His parents were natives of Germany and came to the United States when young people, settling in Clinton township, De Kalb county, upon a farm which remained their home for many years or until Mr. Boeckenhauer put aside active business cares and took up his abode in Waterman where he and his wife now reside. He prospered in his un-

dertakings, and his careful management of his business affairs, his straightforward dealings and his enterprise brought him a good measure of success, so that he now owns valuable farming property and has a competence sufficient to supply him with all the comforts of life. Unto him and his wife were born five children: Fred, Clara, Edward, Eli and Lillie, and the family circle yet remains unbroken by the hand of death.

Eli Boekenhauer was reared in the usual manner of farm lads, his time divided between the duties of the schoolroom, the pleasures of the playground, and the work of the home farm. The occupation to which he was reared he has chosen as his life work and is now conducting farming interests, operating the old homestead farm in Clinton township which, under his supervision, is kept in a state of high cultivation.

On the 23d of February, 1907, Mr. Boekenhauer was married to Miss Mollie Hartman, who was born April 15, 1888. Her parents were natives of Germany and came to the United States in early life, settling in Squaw Grove township upon a farm. Their family numbered five children: Ernest, Minnie, Mollie, Elma and Violet. Mr. Hartman owned two hundred and forty acres of land in Squaw Grove township, where for many years he successfully carried on general agricultural pursuits. He is now living retired in Hinckley, and the rest which he is enjoying is well earned.

Mr. Boekenhauer of this review exercises his right of franchise in support of the republican party but the honors and emoluments of office have never had attraction for him. He and his wife are members of the Lutheran church of Squaw Grove township and are much esteemed people who enjoy the warm friendship of many friends throughout the community in which they live.

ELIJAH CURTIS.

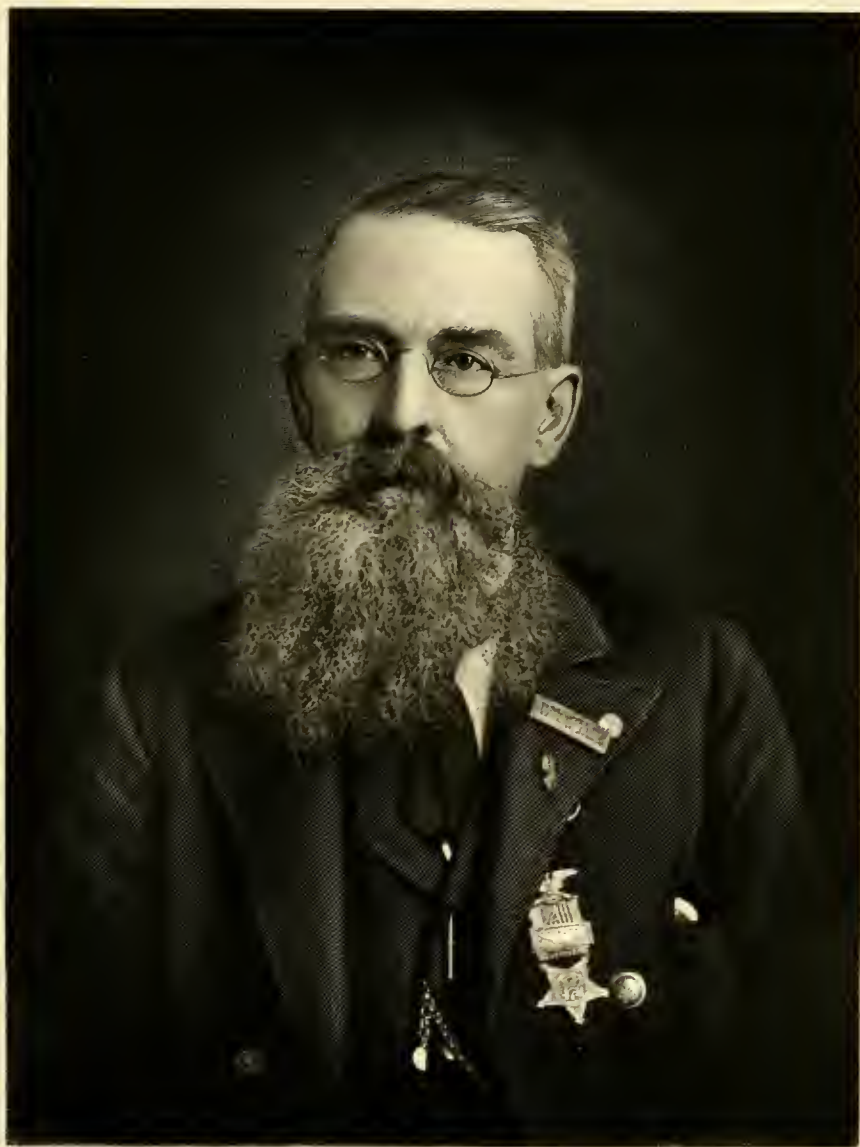
Among the residents of De Kalb who are now living retired but who in former years were closely identified with agricultural interests, is numbered Elijah Curtis, and his record as a man and citizen, and as a soldier, well entitle him to representation in this volume among the respected and worthy citizens of the county. A native of Massachusetts,

he was born in Douglas, Worcester county, November 23, 1836, his parents being Bryant and Patience (Powers) Curtis. The father was a native of Worcester county, born December 8, 1803, and followed agricultural pursuits in the east and also after coming to Illinois. Removing to the middle west, he located in Afton township, De Kalb county, where he spent his remaining days, passing away December 8, 1880, respected by all who knew him. His wife was a native of Croydon, Sullivan county, New Hampshire, born June 11, 1803, and died March 12, 1876.

Bryant Curtis was a son of Ebenezer Curtis, who won for himself an enviable reputation for his daring and courage in the Revolutionary war. He participated in the battles in which Burgoyne's army was defeated and captured. His descendant, Elijah Curtis, owns the musket which his grandfather carried in the struggle for independence and also has in his possession a cutlass captured by his great-granduncle at Cape Town, South Africa. The mother of Mr. Curtis had four uncles who fought for the liberty of the nation at the battle of Bunker Hill. The Curtis family, as far back as the fourth generation, lived on land in Worcester county, Massachusetts, deeded to them by the king of England. Mrs. Curtis was also a cousin of Abigail Fillmore, wife of President Fillmore.

Upon the home farm in his native county, Elijah Curtis was reared and when not busy with his text-books his time and attention were given to the work of the fields. He was nineteen years of age when he became a resident of De Kalb county and here he has since resided. He first provided for his own support by working as a farm hand, being thus employed until 1859, when, wishing that his labors might more directly benefit himself, he began operating land on shares. For two years he was thus engaged, at the end of which time he responded to his country's call for troops. The south made its attack upon Fort Sumter and the call to arms was heeded by men who flocked to the standard of the nation from work shops, offices, counting rooms and fields. Mr. Curtis proved a most loyal soldier and in every position in which he was placed he was true to the duty which devolved upon him as a defender of the stars and stripes.

In 1861 he was enrolled as a member of Company C, Fifty-eighth Illinois Volunteer Infantry,



Elijah Curtis

G. W. Kittell, captain, and W. F. Lynch, colonel. The regiment was assigned to the Second Division of the Sixteenth Army Corps, and participated in the battles of Fort Donelson, Shiloh, Corinth, Red River, Kansas City, Nashville and Bayou La Mourie. At Shiloh, April 6, 1862, Mr. Curtis was wounded and was laid up for four months, during which time he visited his home in Afton township, De Kalb county, Illinois. After the expiration of his furlough, he returned to his command, then stationed at Camp Danville, Mississippi. At the battle of Corinth he was again wounded in the ankle, October 4, 1862. This caused an absence of seven months, during which time he again received a furlough to visit his home. At this time his regiment was recruiting at Springfield, and he joined it at that place. In the winter of 1863-4, his regiment joined Sherman's army at Vicksburg, and participated in a raid through Mississippi. At a battle fought during the Red River expedition, Mr. Curtis received another wound, May 16, 1864, this time in the thigh. After a four months' furlough and rest, he returned to his command, then stationed at Jefferson Barracks.

After its first brush with Price at Kansas City, the Fifty-eighth returned to St. Louis and shipped for Nashville, to join General Thomas, and arrived just in time to engage in a battle at that place. The regiment was then sent to Eastport, at which place Mr. Curtis left it, his time having expired. He was honorably discharged at Chicago, February 7, 1865, as sergeant of his company, being promoted to that rank at Corinth, Mississippi, as a reward for his bravery in that contest. He still carries the ball received at that battle. At the battle of Shiloh, his regiment was surrounded and after a well contested struggle it was obliged to surrender, but after being imprisoned seven months it was paroled. A brother of Mr. Curtis was a member of Company G, Fifty-seventh Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry and died in a rebel prison at Danville, Virginia.

When the war was over and the country no longer needed his aid, Mr. Curtis began farming in Clinton township, cultivating forty acres which he owned. Subsequently he sold that farm and bought eighty acres and afterward added a tract of eighty acres in Milan township, which he later exchanged for a valuable farm of two hundred acres in Afton township. Since his retirement

from active business life he has sold that property but owns a good residence in De Kalb and three other houses in the city.

On the 2d of July, 1865, Mr. Curtis married Miss Candace E. Bovee, a daughter of Richard and Orpha (Parks) Bovee. She was born in Erie county, New York, September 14, 1836, and was one of the pioneer school teachers of De Kalb county. She was betrothed to Mr. Curtis before the war but gave him up at the call of his country and cheerfully waited his return. She died on the 22d of June, 1875, leaving one son, David G.

For his second wife Mr. Curtis chose Miss Juliette E. Hurd, a native of Marion county, Indiana, born August 14, 1844, a daughter of Alanson and Jerusha A. (Springer) Hurd, both natives of the state of New York. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Curtis was celebrated April 3, 1879, and two daughters blessed this union: Hortense, who was born September 9, 1880, and died October 10, 1884; and Sarah Eloise, who was born January 10, 1883. The wife and mother died December 1, 1886, at the age of forty-two years.

On the 3d of December, 1891, Mr. Curtis married Mrs. Wealthy M. White, the widow of James White, a sergeant of the Twelfth New York Volunteer Infantry, and a daughter of Robert Morse and Caroline Smith, both of whom were natives of New York. She was a student in a boarding school in New York state, afterward pursued a two years' medical course at Blackwell's Island, New York, and was graduated at a trained nurse. She also pursued a business course in Binghamton, that state, and is an accomplished lady. By her first marriage she has one daughter, Nina, and unto Mr. and Mrs. Curtis has been born one son, Leland Powers, whose birth occurred June 15, 1898.

In his political allegiance Mr. Curtis is a staunch republican and has been called to a number of local offices, serving as town clerk, as road commissioner and as school director. He now receives a pension which was granted him by special act of congress. He was formerly a member of the Merritt Simonds post, G. A. R., of De Kalb, of which he served as commander in 1896, and was transferred to Potter post, No. 12, G. A. R., of Sycamore, to which he now belongs. Mr. Curtis is a man of many excellent traits of character, possesses a kindly and genial disposition and when

ever he goes he wins friends. He continued actively in business for many years and then, with the competence acquired through his former labor, he retired to private life. He is today as true and loyal a citizen as when he followed the old flag on southern battle-fields. He possesses considerable poetical talent, in proof of which we append a song which was written by him and dedicated to his comrades of the Third Brigade, and which was sung to the tune of "Wearing of the Green."

General Grant to Sherman said:

"Abe depends on you and me,
And with a hundred transports
We'll ascend the Tennessee."

At Shiloh on one April morn
When the first attack was made,
The long roll beat and bugles rang
Throughout the Old Brigade.

Our gallant Wallace led us out
Amid the shot and shell
We formed in line and fought that day
And our brave Wallace fell,
And some of us were wounded,
And on a boat were laid,
While Sweeney with an empty sleeve
Stood by the Old Brigade.

Our orders were to hold the line,
Said Sweeney, "We'll do our best";
Four times they charged and were repulsed,
While we held the "Hornets' nest."
'Twas there that General Johnson fell
In a fearful charge they made,
The field was covered with the slain
Where fought the Old Brigade.

The army of the Cumberland
Crossed the river in the night,
Helped plant the guns that mowed the woods,
And put our foes to flight.
The *Lexington and *Tyler said:
"For the record you have made
With our big guns and mortars too
We'll guard the Old Brigade."

When night came on that bloody field,
With twenty thousand slain,
In common lay both blue and gray

All drenching in the rain:
Which bathed the wounds and cooled the brows
Of all the dying o'er hills and glade
And washed "Old Glory's" stains away,
The blood of the Old Brigade.

We're marching on with feeble steps
To fight one battle more,
Then they will lay us down to rest
With comrades gone before,
To wait the final reveille
To join the grand parade—
"On fame's eternal camping-ground"
We'll find the Old Brigade.

*Gunboats.

WILLIAM I. KUNES.

That De Kalb is an attractive place of residence and affords good advantages to its citizens is indicated by the fact that many of her native sons have continued to abide within her borders. Such has been the case with William I. Kunes who still lives in Pierce township, where his birth occurred, on the 5th of November, 1855, his parents being Jacob and Eva (Kuter) Kunes. The father was born in Pennsylvania, December 18, 1825, and in the early '40s removed to Illinois, settling in Pierce township where he continued to make his home until his death in July, 1900. His wife died December 24, 1891, at the age of fifty-six years, her birth having occurred on the 31st of August, 1835.

At the usual age, William I. Kunes entered the district schools of Pierce township. He was early trained to farm work under his father's direction. He has always carried on general agricultural pursuits and by purchase has come into possession of an excellent property, owning a half interest in one hundred and seventeen acres of choice land on section 24, Pierce township, valued at one hundred and twenty-five to one hundred and fifty dollars per acre. His is one of the finest homes of the township. The fields present a very attractive appearance owing to the care and labor he bestows upon them, and in the late summer months and through the fall, he gathers rich harvests of wheat and grain and other crops. His place is indeed

well developed and indicates his careful supervision and practical farming methods.

Mr. Kunes was married on the 11th of March, 1885, to Miss Sarah Reams who was born January 22, 1859. They have become the parents of one daughter, Luella, who was born March 16, 1886. Mrs. Kunes is a daughter of Ephraim and Annie (Klick) Reams. Her father was born November 5, 1828, in Ohio, and came to Illinois at an early day, while the mother was born in 1834 and died in 1902. Mrs. Kunes was educated in the district schools and has been to her husband a faithful companion and helpmate on the journey of life. The family are members of the United Evangelical church and Mr. Kunes is a republican in his political views and strongly endorses the principles of the party because he believes its platform contains the best elements of good government.

DAVID DE GRAFF.

David De Graff, deceased, was one of the early residents of De Kalb county and for many years figured prominently in connection with agricultural interests here. He was a native of Schenectady county, New York, and ere his marriage emigrated westward, casting in his lot with the early settlers of central Illinois. In 1855 he wedded Miss Sarah Hoyt, who was born near Morristown, New Jersey. When she was nine years of age the Hoyt family was established in Boone county, Illinois, where she lived up to the time of her marriage. She often told her children of the Indians who came to the home of her parents and of the deer that hunters shot in the locality—indications of wild pioneer life. Mr. De Graff had arrived in Illinois in 1854, locating in Winnebago county. While still residing at the home in Schenectady county, New York, he saw the first steam cars in America, the railroad line being only eighteen miles in length and passed through his father's farm. However the railroads advanced westward as he moved toward the setting sun and three separate railroad lines now cross his farm in Cortland township.

When he located in De Kalb county Mr. De Graff turned his attention to the production of broom corn, often devoting from five hundred to

seven hundred acres to the cultivation of that product. He shipped the cured product to the Chicago market. He employed men, women and children in connection with the business and for years he was the only man in the locality who employed labor. Some of the crop was worked up at home, while some was cured, pressed and shipped to the Chicago market. He had sheds for drying and curing and many men were given work upon his place, so that the enterprise proved of the utmost value in the community. He was very successful in cultivating broom corn considering the short seasons, but in 1875 he ceased to engage in that department of agriculture and afterward gave his attention to general farming. When he removed to De Kalb county the land on which he located was wild and undeveloped but through careful tillage the soil has been kept fertile and the farm has been transformed into a very valuable and productive tract of land. The house and grounds conform to the style of city property, and being so near Sycamore, the family are enabled to enjoy all of the advantages of city life.

The De Graff family have long been prominent in social and business development of the community and although the parents have now passed away the son and daughter, Charles H. and Kate H. De Graff, are still identified with the interests of the community. The death of Mrs. De Graff occurred November 27, 1898, while Mr. De Graff passed away on the 17th of May, 1903, their remains being interred at Elmwood, the beautiful cemetery that adjoins the farm upon which they lived throughout their entire residence in De Kalb county. David De Graff was one of a family of seven children and now his son and daughter, Charles H. and Kate H. De Graff, are the only persons who bear the name.

Charles H. De Graff is engaged in farming and stock-raising, paying special attention to the breeding of driving horses. He supplies many families with "city broke" horses and finds it a profitable business. His sister, with whom he lives, looks after the home and they are surrounded with many of the comforts of life, the farm being a valuable one and returning a good income. Theirs is a beautiful suburban place standing in the midst of fine shade trees, and the farm comprises two hundred acres. The family history forms no unimportant chapter in the annals of

the county, for the De Graffs have for many years been widely and favorably known in this part of the state and it is with pleasure that we make mention of the parents, David and Sarah (Hoyt) De Graff, who were indeed worthy pioneer people, respected by all who knew them.

THOMAS M. HOPKINS.

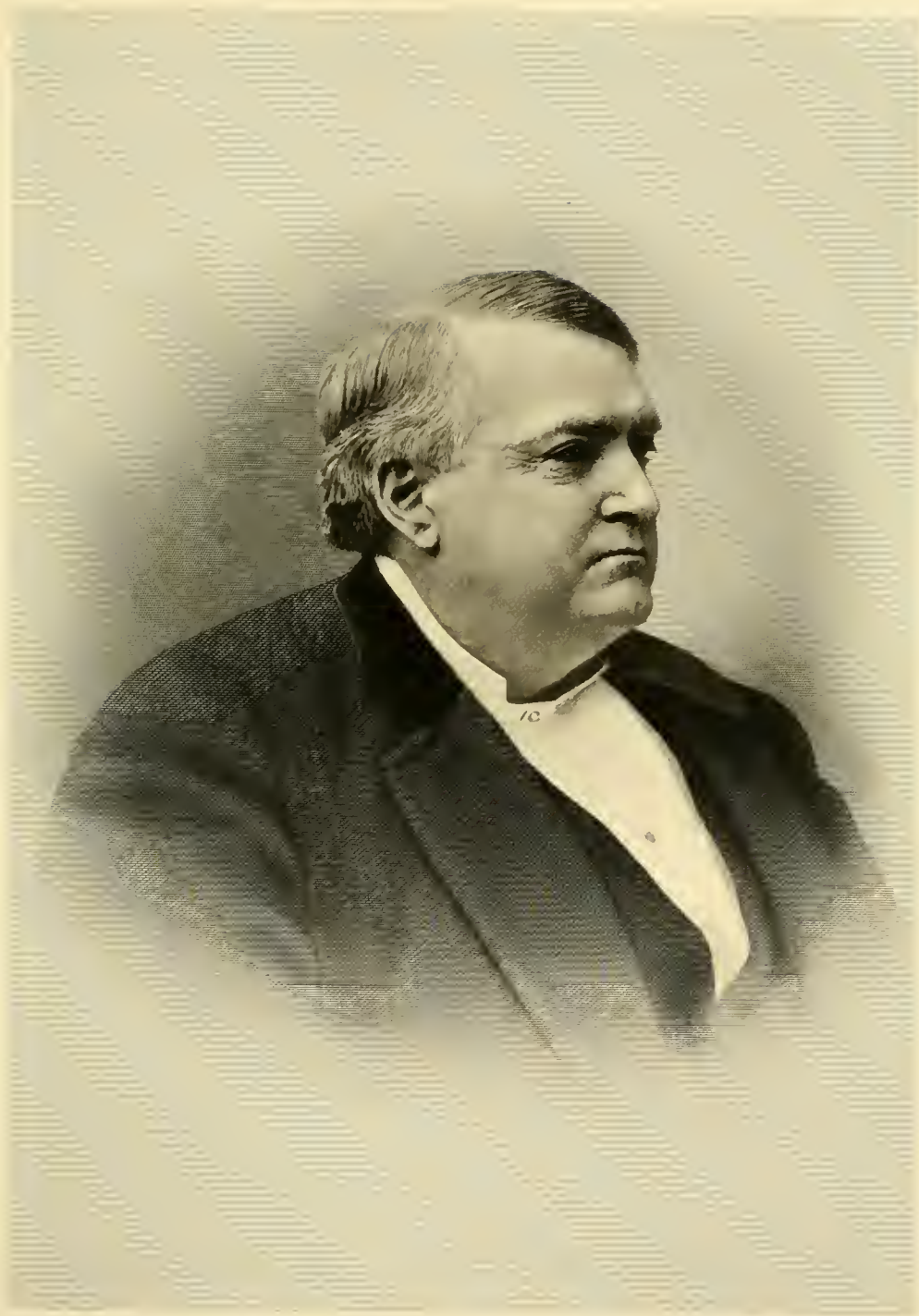
Advancement is proverbially slow in the arduous and difficult profession of the law, yet rising above the heads of the mass are many men of sterling worth and value who by sheer perseverance and determination and the fit utilization of the innate powers which are theirs have risen from the ranks of the commonplace to distinction and prominence. Such a one was Thomas Montgomery Hopkins, for forty years a leading practitioner at the De Kalb county bar. Gifted by nature with strong intellectual force, he used his talents to the best advantage and became conspicuous by reason of the measure of success which he achieved as the result of his knowledge of the law and its correct application to the points in litigation.

Mr. Hopkins was a native of New York, born in Salem, Washington county, on the 23d of April, 1818. His parents were Hiram and Sarah (McClary) Hopkins, who were strong and sturdy in character. They were of Scotch-Irish extraction and in religious belief were Scotch Presbyterians of Covenanters, believing in the doctrine of election, in the strict observance of the Sabbath and in the most rigid integrity and honor. It was in such an atmosphere that Thomas M. Hopkins was reared and this undoubtedly accounts in a measure for his unfaltering allegiance to truth. He was known as "an honest lawyer"—a term too frequently undeserved by the followers of the profession who regard success and not the attainment of justice as the end and aim of legal practice. Mr. Hopkins was the eldest of five children, four sons and a daughter: Thomas, Henry, Rufus, Robert and Sarah. Rufus and Robert were twins and each attained an enviable reputation as a physician, the former practicing in De Kalb county and the latter in Kendall county, Illinois.

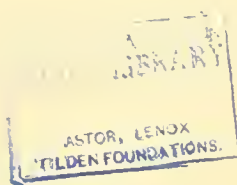
Having acquired his preliminary education, Thomas M. Hopkins became a student in Washington Academy, at Salem, New York, and after completing his course there he took up the study of law in the office of Judge Fairchild, receiving his license to practice from the supreme court of the state of New York, January 14, 1842. In early life he displayed most industrious and studious habits and his reading covered a wide range. He possessed a very retentive memory so that in later life, as an advocate and public speaker, he strongly impressed his hearers with his intellectual depth and breadth. After finishing his law course he went to St. Louis county, Missouri, where he engaged in teaching school for three years.

It was during this period that Mr. Hopkins was married, on the 22d of May, 1846, to Miss Julia A. Hawken, the daughter of a prominent St. Louis business man. She was born November 27, 1828, in St. Louis, was there reared and acquired her education in her native city and in St. Charles Seminary. With his young wife Mr. Hopkins, immediately after their marriage, came to De Kalb county, where he acquired a piece of land from the government, to which he added from time to time in later years until he became known as an extensive land owner. He practiced law successfully in this county for nearly forty years and was recognized as an advocate of unusual force and brilliancy. He possessed not only a logical, analytical mind but also superior powers of oratory which enabled him to present his cause with clearness, force and eloquence, and he never failed to give a thorough preparation—which is the real basis of success at the bar. A large and distinctively representative clientage was accorded him and his name was associated with the prosecution or defense of the large majority of the important suits heard in the courts of the district.

Mr. Hopkins was a life-long and militant democrat in a community which had an overwhelming republican strength and he could always be counted upon as a speaker for his party in political campaigns. He was a natural orator, his theme always arousing him and kindling within him the fire of eloquence. For a number of terms he filled the office of supervisor, but the numerical weakness of his party made it impossible for him



Thomas Hopkins



to gain the offices for which nature and acquired ability well fitted him. He did not care, however, to enter political life and gave his attention to his practice, his farms and his social interests. In religion he was non-sectarian but believed in the divinity of Christ and the inspiration of the scriptures. He was a man who possessed the highest sense of honor and great dignity of character. His career, in both public and private life, was marked by the strictest honesty and integrity, and this was manifest in his professional service. He could not be urged into a case for the sake of the fees, but made it his rule to aid the court in winning justice.

Mr. Hopkins was, moreover, a man of domestic taste, most devoted to his family. By his marriage there were five children: Montgomery, now deceased, who was married to Mary Brundage, of Sycamore, Illinois; Charles O., who died unmarried; Christopher M., who married Miss Viola Reynolds, of Lake City, Iowa, and has passed away; Alice, the wife of Charles E. Bradt, of De Kalb; and Jacob H. Hopkins, who is practicing law in Chicago. Mr. Hopkins was a faithful and loving husband and father, and his interest in life centered in his family, it being his great desire that his children should be well educated and trained along the lines of an honorable citizenship.

Mrs. Hopkins still survives her husband at the age of seventy-eight years and appears much younger, retaining undimmed her mental faculties. She lives with her daughter, Mrs. Bradt, at No. 218 South Fourth street, and owns a beautiful residence across the road at No. 215 Fourth street. She is an excellent Christian lady, long prominently known in social circles of the city and today she receives the love and veneration of her many friends and acquaintances, among whom she has lived for so many years.

FRANK E. WRIGHT.

Frank E. Wright, filling the office of city clerk of De Kalb, his native city, was born March 19, 1856. His parents were Thomas and Amanda R. (Richardson) Wright. The father was born on the 11th of March, 1833, in St. Charles, Illinois.

His parents, two brothers and a sister were natives of England and came to the United States about 1830, the family home being established in St. Charles, where William Wright, the grandfather of our subject, died about 1834 or 1835. In 1837 his wife and children removed to De Kalb county, locating on a tract of land that now constitutes the county farm. They were among the earliest settlers of this part of the state and aided in its pioneer development and improvement. Mrs. Wright, the grandmother of our subject, afterward married a Mr. Cartwright, by whom she had one child.

At the age of twelve years Thomas Wright began earning his own living as a farm hand, working for four dollars per month. He was employed in this way until his twenty-first year, when he entered one hundred and sixty acres of government land a mile and a half south of De Kalb, comprising one hundred and forty-seven acres which he still owns. For many years he was actively and closely associated with agricultural interests, bringing his fields under a high state of cultivation and annually harvesting good crops. In 1894 he retired from active business and removed to De Kalb, where he is now living in the enjoyment of a well earned rest. In politics he is a stalwart republican and for six or eight years he served as road commissioner. In the county where he has so long resided he has a wide and favorable acquaintance and the Masonic fraternity finds in him a worthy exemplar. He belongs to De Kalb lodge, No. 144, A. F. & A. M.; to De Kalb chapter, No. 52, R. A. M.; and to Sycamore commandery, No. 15, K. T. His wife, who was born August 18, 1836, probably in De Kalb, is a representative of an old New England family, her parents having come from Vermont at a period when the work of improvement and civilization had scarcely been begun in this portion of Illinois.

Frank E. Wright, an only child, was reared upon the home farm and after attending the public schools pursued a business course in the Worthington school in Chicago. Through the summer months he aided in the work of the farm and continued to engage in the task of cultivating the fields until 1880, when he went to Clinton, Iowa, where he engaged in the grocery business. Two years later he disposed of his business there and returned to De Kalb, Illinois. He then engaged

in farming for two years upon rented land and in 1884 he invested in ninety-four acres adjoining the home farm, which he still owns. There he resided until 1891, when he became a resident of Chicago, where he spent five years, being employed for four years as a Pullman conductor, running out of that city. Once more he took up his abode in De Kalb county in 1896, purchasing a residence and locating in the city of De Kalb, where he was variously employed until December 14, 1901, when he was appointed city clerk. He has since been twice regularly elected to the office, serving continuously in this capacity since his appointment. In the discharge of his duties he is prompt, methodical and accurate and the fact that he has twice been elected since first called to the office indicates the confidence reposed in him by his fellow citizens and the able manner in which he discharges his duties. He is a stalwart republican, unfaltering in his advocacy of the principles of the party.

In his social relations Mr. Wright is a Mason and has attained a high degree in the York rite. He belongs to De Kalb lodge, No. 144, A. F. & A. M.; De Kalb chapter, No. 52, R. A. M.; and Sycamore commandery, No. 15, K. T.; and is serving as worthy patron of the Eastern Star. Pleasantly situated in his home life, he was married October 12, 1881, to Miss Ida M. Cheasbro, a daughter of Jabez and Mary A. (Ingersoll) Cheasbro, of De Kalb. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Wright has been born a daughter, Jessie E., who is a graduate of the De Kalb high school and of the Metropolitan Business College of Chicago. In the city of his nativity Mr. Wright has a wide acquaintance and many of his staunchest friends are those who have known him from his boyhood.

HUGH McQUEEN, JR.

Hugh McQueen, Jr., is the owner of a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres, situated on section 21, South Grove township. He was born in Ayrshire, Scotland, October 22, 1854. His paternal grandparents were Francis and Mary (McMillen) McQueen, while his father, Hugh McQueen, Sr., was also a native of the land of hills and heather, his birth having occurred near Ayrshire, the home of Robert Burns, the famous

Scottish poet, his natal day being July 29, 1829. The father was reared and educated in his native country, and was there married at the early age of eighteen years, to Jane McKenzie, a native of the same shire, and a daughter of John and Ellen K. McKenzie. Mr. McQueen was superintendent of a brick and tile factory in Scotland but having heard favorable reports concerning the opportunities to be enjoyed in the new world, he decided to try his fortune in the United States, and accordingly, in 1867, accompanied by his family, he embarked on a vessel at Glasgow and emigrated to the new world. Landing in New York, he at once made his way to De Kalb county, where his wife's parents had located some years previously. He took up his abode on land in South Grove township, where he made his home for thirty years, or until his death, which occurred January 12, 1897. His widow still survives and now makes her home with her son, William A. McQueen, in South Grove township. In the family of this estimable couple were ten children, of whom seven still survive, namely: John; Hugh, whose name introduces this review; Mary; Ellen; Frank; Jane; and William A. Those deceased are Jane, Elizabeth and Ellen.

Mr. McQueen of this review acquired his education in the common schools of his native country, and was there reared to the age of thirteen years, when, in 1867, he accompanied the family on their emigration to the new world. Following his arrival in De Kalb county he was employed at farm labor in South Grove township. During his youth he worked persistently and diligently to acquire a competence that would enable him to engage in farming on his own account, and as the years passed he lived frugally and economically and at length was enabled to embark upon an independent business venture. He is now the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 21, South Grove township, which is well improved with good buildings, while the land is all under a high state of cultivation. He is here engaged in general agricultural pursuits, following only the most practical and progressive methods in carrying on his work, while he uses the latest improved machinery to facilitate his labors.

Mr. McQueen further made arrangements for the establishment of a home of his own, when, on the 30th of November, 1892, he was united in

marriage to Miss Mary Florence Harkness, a daughter of J. B. Harkness, who was at one time a very prominent business man of Sycamore and for two years served as mayor of that city and held a number of other city offices. His death occurred in 1877. He held membership with the Knights Templar at Sycamore. Unto our subject and his wife have been born three children but the eldest, Willie Douglas, who was born August 24, 1894, is now deceased. The two surviving children are: Jean H. Elizabeth, who was born February 22, 1897; and Rosa Mary, born August 15, 1899.

Mr. McQueen gives his political support to the republican party, and his wife holds membership with Eastern Star lodge at Sycamore, while both attend and support the Methodist church at Esmond, although Mrs. McQueen is a member of the Episcopal church, and her husband was reared in the faith of the Presbyterian church. They are highly respected in the community where they reside, having won many warm friends not only in their locality but in Sycamore as well.

JAMES H. LATIMER, SR.

Among the residents of foreign birth who have become valued citizens of De Kalb county is numbered James H. Latimer, Sr., who owns and cultivates an excellent farm of one hundred and sixty acres, on which he has lived since 1890. He has, however, resided in the county for about forty years. His birth occurred in Ireland, March 9, 1845, and having spent the days of his boyhood and youth in that country, he was married there on the 15th of February, 1866, to Miss Matilda Scott, whose birth occurred in the same country on the 10th of June, 1843. Her parents were likewise natives of the Emerald isle and there spent their entire lives. For a brief period after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Latimer remained in their native country but on the 14th of May, 1866, bade adieu to their friends and the old home and started for the new world. They landed in New York and Mr. Latimer was employed as a farm hand in the Empire state for about five months. He then came westward to De Kalb county, Illinois, and for one year was employed by Mr. Corey. He also spent one year in the employ of Captain Drake,

after which he rented land from Mr. McMullan, which he cultivated for one season. He afterward rented from Asa Beyers and farmed that place for four years. He next removed to the farm owned by W. M. Beyers, which he operated for one season, and then, with the capital he had acquired through his well directed labors and his economy, he purchased one hundred and five acres of land lying on section 6, De Kalb township. There he resided until 1890, when he sold that property and bought another one hundred and sixty acre tract on the same section. Taking up his abode on his new farm, he has since made it his place of residence and has converted it into a splendidly improved property. In addition to this he owns a good residence in the city of De Kalb on West Main street.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Latimer have been born ten children. Those still living are: J. W., who was born November 26, 1866; J. H., April 17, 1868; Robert C., August 14, 1871; Thomas C., March 14, 1873; Herbert D., May 6, 1875; and Jennie M., April 6, 1880. The parents attend the Congregational church and contribute to its support. Mr. Latimer is a stalwart advocate of republican principles, having always supported the party since he took out his naturalization papers. He held the office of school director for sixteen years. He is interested in all that pertains to the general welfare and is a public-spirited citizen, manifesting loyalty and allegiance to his adopted country unsurpassed by that of her native sons. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to come to the new world, for he has enjoyed good business opportunities here, which, by the way, are always open to ambitious, energetic men, and as the result of his carefully directed labor he has gained a place among the substantial citizens and representative farmers of De Kalb county.

CHARLES HENRY MAYNARD, D. D. S.

Dr. C. H. Maynard, a member of the dental profession of Sycamore, was born in Springfield, South Dakota, August 8, 1874. His father, Henry H. Maynard is a native of Rockford, Illinois, and is now living in Oregon, Illinois, at the age of sixty-one years. He was a butcher by trade and followed

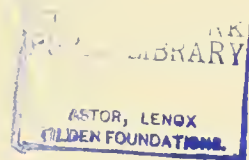
that pursuit in early life. He afterward engaged in farming in Ogle county, Illinois, for about ten years but is now living retired. He won a goodly measure of success that enabled him to put aside business cares and yet enjoy the comforts and some of the luxuries of life. He holds membership in the Masonic fraternity and is true to the teachings of the craft. At the time of the Civil war he proved his loyalty by enlisting in the One Hundred and Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He joined the army at Rockford and was mustered in under command of Colonel Bush. With his regiment he went to the south and participated in a number of important battles. He is now a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and gives his political support to the republican party. In early manhood he married Frances Josephine Tripp, a daughter of Patrick and Cornelia Tripp. She was born in Oregon, Ogle county, Illinois, about fifty-three years ago. She is a member of the Lutheran church and is a most estimable lady. By her marriage she became the mother of eight children: Harvey E., who is with the International Harvester Company in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Clyde, deceased; Cornelia E., a trained nurse now at Rockford; Fred B., who is with the International Harvester Company in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Frank E., who is in an abstract office in Oregon, Illinois; Alice M.; and Henry Curtis who is attending school.

Dr. Maynard of this review lived upon the home farm until eighteen years of age. He was a student in the public schools of Oregon and after completing his education was engaged in the restaurant business in Oregon for two years. Later he was employed in a mercantile establishment in Chicago but determined to make the practice of dentistry his life work and entered the Chicago Dental College in 1901 and was graduated on the 3d of May, 1904. He began the practice of his profession the same year at Sycamore and has here conducted his office with excellent success. He has made a specialty of orthodontia and porcelain work, is thoroughly progressive in all of his methods and possesses that mechanical skill which is essential to success in the practice of dentistry. Moreover, he has an intimate knowledge of the science of dentistry and keeps in touch with the advancement that is continually being made by the followers of this calling. Dr. Maynard is prominent in social

circles and belongs to the Royal Arcanum. He is likewise a member of the Chicago Dental College Alumni Association and the Delta Sigma Delta, a college fraternity. His political duties are in accord with the principles of the republican party. In manner he is social and genial and is recognized as a popular citizen who has many friends in Sycamore.

GEORGE EDGAR BRISTOW, D. V. S.

Dr. George Edgar Bristow, engaged in the practice of veterinary surgery at De Kalb, was born in Creston, Ogle county, Illinois, on the 12th of June, 1860. His father, Joseph Bristow, was a native of Oxfordshire, England, born in 1823. There the grandparents of our subject lived and died and in the place of his nativity Joseph Bristow was reared and educated. In that country he was married to Miss Ann Jones, also a native of that locality, and two of their children were born in England. In 1854 they emigrated to the United States, landing at New York. They then started to De Kalb county, but while on the way their daughter Fannie died and was buried at Dunkirk, New York. Following his arrival in this county Mr. Bristow worked for some time on the railroad and at various other occupations that would make immediate provision for his necessities. He was industrious and ambitious, and with the savings accumulated from many months of work he was at length enabled to engage in the meat business on his own account, being one of the pioneer butchers of De Kalb. He brought to this undertaking the energy which characterizes him in all life's relations and his business prospered. He conducted a meat market until 1890, when he retired from active life, being succeeded by his sons, George E. and W. L., in the ownership and conduct of the store. He was a man of genial personality, who numbered his friends by the scores. He was popular in business circles and through his careful management and well directed enterprise acquired a competence. His death occurred September 26, 1898. He had been an active and helpful member of the Baptist church for many years and for a long period had served as one of the officers. He held membership with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, was a republican





JOSEPH BRISTOW.



DR. GEORGE E. BRISTOW.

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in politics and was recognized as one of De Kalb's most honored and respected citizens. His wife, who was born in Oxfordshire, England, in 1823, was a daughter of Joseph Jones, a prominent farmer of that county, where he lived and died. She was one of five children, four daughters and a son, all of whom are now deceased. Mrs. Bristow was a Baptist in her religious belief and for many years was an active worker in the church and charities, her many kindnesses and her good qualities of heart and mind endearing her to all who knew her, so that her death was deeply regretted when on the 26th of August, 1890, she passed away. In the family were six children, but only three are now living: Sarah Ann, who resides with her brother George; and Willard Lincoln, of De Kalb.

Dr. Bristow, who is the second of the surviving members of the family, was reared under the parental roof, acquiring his education in the public and high schools of De Kalb. He was practically reared in the meat business, for from early boyhood he assisted his father in the shop and upon the father's retirement in 1890 he and his brother became partners in the ~~conduct~~ enterprise, which they carried on for three years, selling the business in 1893 to B. A. Steuben. From early manhood Dr. Bristow had been a student of veterinary surgery and in the fall of 1889 he entered the Chicago College of Veterinary, from which he was graduated on the 24th of March, 1891. Immediately afterward he began the practice of his chosen profession, opening his office in De Kalb, and in this vocation he has been very successful, securing a remunerative practice. Moreover, he has been prominent and active in public affairs and in the spring of 1902 was elected to the office of township assessor, in which position he has since been continued by re-election. He also served as deputy township collector for eight consecutive years. He became a member of the first hose company organized in De Kalb and for a quarter of a century was identified with that organization, acting as its captain for fifteen years. He is a member of De Kalb lodge, No. 215, K. P., and also of the Improved Order of Redmen. In politics he is a republican and one of the stalwart champions of the party.

On the 30th of March, 1898, Dr. Bristow married Miss Lucy M. Stevens, a daughter of Sidney

M. and Mary Ella (Austin) Stevens, the former a native of Michigan and the latter of Rhode Island. Her father came to Illinois when a youth of thirteen years. Being of humble but respectable parentage, he was early thrown upon his own resources and took up the life of a machinist, becoming an expert in that line. He patented several mechanical devices, among them being a machine for making barb wire. He was a resident of De Kalb for twenty-eight years and for many years was a member of the board of aldermen of the city. He was employed for years in the wire factory of Jacob Haish and set up the machinery in the plant upon its construction. In June, 1906, he purchased a farm near Petersburg, Virginia, to which he removed and there he is now residing. His daughter, Mrs. Bristow, is a graduate of the De Kalb high school and for some years was a teacher in De Kalb. By her marriage she has become the mother of one son and two daughters: Joseph Sidney, Dorothy Lurena and Ella Margaret. The family are well known in De Kalb, Dr. and Mrs. Bristow having an extended circle of friends here.

GEORGE W. HUBBARD.

George W. Hubbard was born December 29, 1855, upon the farm in Pierce township which has always been his home. The place is therefore endeared to him through the associations of boyhood and youth as well as late manhood. At an early day his parents, Charles A. and Eunice (Apthorp) Hubbard, took up their abode upon the old homestead. The father was a native of Massachusetts, born June 2, 1827, and came to Illinois in the fall of 1852, settling in Pierce township, after which he was closely identified with the farming interests of that locality for many years. His wife was also a native of the old Bay state, and was born on the 4th of June, 1830. They celebrated their golden wedding, May 1, 1900.

In retrospect one can see George W. Hubbard as he trudged off to the district school during the winter season, while in the summer months he assisted in the farm work, and as his years and strength would permit, gradually becoming more and more active in the duties of the fields.

Eventually he assumed the management of the old home place, which he is now carrying on. Here he owns one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 27, Pierce township. The farm is well improved with modern equipments and indicates in its neat appearance, his careful and practical supervision.

On the 17th of November, 1886, Mr. Hubbard was married to Miss Leah M. Posson, who was born November 17, 1865, her parents being Martin Luther and Sophie E. (West) Posson. The father was born July 8, 1831, in New York, and died May 6, 1897, in this county, while the mother, whose birth occurred in 1836, passed away in 1870. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hubbard have been born three children of whom two are yet living: Ruth E., born June 10, 1889; and Clara B., born August 20, 1892.

Mr. Hubbard exercises his right of franchise in support of the republican party and its principles. He has held the office of town clerk and assessor and his official duties have always been promptly and capably discharged. He has, moreover, made a good record in business life as an enterprising agriculturist and has acquired a goodly measure of success through his own labors. Early trained to habits of industry and economy, these qualities have borne rich fruit as the years have gone by and his name is now on the roll of the representative farming people of Pierce township.

ISALAH VANDEBURG.

Isaiah Vandeburg, living on section 32, Kingston township, is a breeder of and dealer in registered shorthorns, Norman Percheron horses and Chester White hogs. He is accounted one of the leading representatives of stock-raising interests in the county, conducting an extensive and successful business. He was born on the farm where he now resides, August 28, 1855. His father, Hiram Griffin Vandeburg, is a native of Kayuta, Chemung county, New York, born August 4, 1827, and is a son of Cornelius Vandeburg, a native of New Jersey. The latter was a son of John Vandeburg, a native of Holland. Cornelius Vandeburg was married in New York to Miss Nancy Swartwood and they became the parents of twelve chil-

dren. With his family he removed to Pennsylvania and afterward to Ohio, whence he came to De Kalb county, Illinois, in 1845. This was still a frontier region, in which the work of improvement and progress had scarcely begun, and from the government he entered two hundred and forty acres of raw land, which has since been in possession of the family under the original patent. Cornelius Vandeburg was thenceforward connected with agricultural interests of the county and remained upon the old homestead until shortly before his death, which occurred in 1871, when he was eighty-two years of age. His wife Nancy died in 1833 when forty-two years of age, her death being occasioned by a rattlesnake bite.

Hiram Griffin Vandeburg was reared amid pioneer scenes and environments upon the old family homestead which his father had secured from the government. He was married in this county to Caroline Faircloe, a native of Indiana and a daughter of Isaiah Faircloe, a native of New Jersey, who on coming to Illinois settled on a farm in the eastern part of Kingston township, De Kalb county. Two children were born unto Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Vandeburg: Isaiah, whose name introduces this record; and Orilla, the wife of Charles W. Parker, a native of Kingston township, this county, and a son of Parley and Eliza J. (Rust) Parker, the former a native of Connecticut and the latter of Indiana. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Charles Parker has been born a daughter, Jessie. Mrs. Hiram Vandeburg died in 1861, at the age of thirty-one years, and on the 31th of March, 1865, Mr. Vandeburg was married to Miss Mary E. Knight, a native of Columbus, Adams county, Illinois, and a daughter of Samuel Knight, a native of Maryland. By this marriage they have one child, Lydia, the wife of Frank Stafford, of Sycamore, Illinois. The father is now in his eightieth year and has spent sixty-two years of his life upon the farm where he yet resides. He has ever been an honorable, upright man, respected by those who know him because of his fidelity to duty in every relation. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and for years he served on the county and township central committees, while his opinions carried weight in local councils and his labors did much to shape the policy of the party in his district. He became a charter member of Kishwaukee lodge, No. 402, A. F. & A. M., of

Kingston, and was the first member raised to the degree of a Master Mason. He is now the only living charter member who attends the lodge. As one of the representative pioneer settlers of the county he certainly deserves mention in this volume, for few residents of this part of the state have longer lived here or have more intimate knowledge of the history of its development and upbuilding.

Isaiah Vandeburg was reared on the old homestead farm and after attending the district schools spent one term in the Sycamore high school. When twenty-one years of age he rented land from his father, which he still operates. In 1887 he purchased eighty acres and in 1901 he purchased an additional eighty acre tract and he is now operating a half section of land. His farm is valuable, the land being rich and productive, while the modern farming methods which he follows have enabled him to bring forth abundant harvests. After his marriage he built a good house and barn and other outbuildings upon his land and now has an excellent property, on which none of the equipments or accessories of a model farm are lacking. In connection with his own land he also operates a quarter section belonging to his father. All is well drained, having five hundred rods of tiling upon it, and the farm presents an excellent appearance because of the neatness which characterizes it in every department. Mr. Vandeburg has bred and dealt in registered shorthorn cattle since 1899, having considerable registered stock. He also raises Chester White hogs and Norman Percheron horses, and his stock-raising interests are an important and profitable branch of his business.

On the 7th of December, 1881, was celebrated the marriage of Isaiah Vandeburg and Miss Margaret Upplinger, a native of Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, and a daughter of John Upplinger, who was also a native of the Keystone state and came to De Kalb county in 1870. Mr. and Mrs. Vandeburg are now the parents of three sons and two daughters: Harry G., who assists in carrying on the home farm, and is also a member of Kishwaukee lodge, No. 402, A. F. & A. M.; Lizzie, the wife of George Astling, a farmer of Sycamore township, by whom she has one child, Kenneth; Florence, a graduate of the Kingston high school and now a teacher in Kingston township; and Chellis and Glen, who are attending school.

In politics Mr. Vandeburg is a republican, having supported the party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He has never sought or cared for public office, but for twenty-five years has served as school director and the cause of education has found in him a stalwart champion. He belongs to Kishwaukee lodge, No. 402, A. F. & A. M., in which he has filled most of the offices, serving for one year as master. Since 1888 he has been a member of the Modern Woodmen camp and was venerable consul for several terms. Both he and his wife and their daughter Lizzie are members of the Order of the Eastern Star, in which Mrs. Vandeburg has held office, while his sister, Mrs. Parker, is a past worthy matron of the organization. The Vandeburg family has long been prominently and honorably known in the county and in fact no history of Kingston township would be complete without mention of the representatives of the name, for from an early period the grandfather, father and son and now the great-grandson of Cornelius Vandeburg have been actively and honorably connected with agricultural interests and have ever stood for progress along agricultural interests and have ever stood for progress along agricultural lines and for advancement in business circles.

JAMES H. LATIMER, JR.

The name of Latimer has figured in connection with agricultural interests in De Kalb county for more than four decades and the subject of this review has throughout his entire life been connected with farming interests here. He was born in Franklin township on the 17th of April, 1868, and is now living in De Kalb township, where he has a good property, comprising one hundred and seventy-four acres of land. His parents are James H. and Matilda Latimer, who are represented on another page of this work. In his boyhood days the subject of this review divided his time between the duties of the schoolroom, the pleasures of the playground and the work of the home farm. He assisted his father in cultivating the fields to the time of his marriage, which was celebrated on the 19th of April, 1893, the lady of his choice being Miss Caroline Rich, who was born in Somerset,

England, May 1, 1811. Her parents were natives of that country and came to the United States in 1819, settling upon a farm in De Kalb county, comprising ninety-nine acres. The father purchased the property and continued to devote his time and energies to its further development and improvement until his life's labors were ended in death on the 8th of July, 1903. His widow still survives and is yet living upon the farm. In their family were eleven children and all still survive.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Latimer has been blessed with four interesting sons: Ray J., born November 1, 1894; Boss R., January 28, 1897; George Chester, February 17, 1899; and Edward A., on the 18th of December, 1900. The family home is a comfortable residence which stands in the midst of a good farm of one hundred and seventy-four acres. De Kalb county is famous for its fine farming property, for the rich prairie land of Illinois is exceedingly productive and responds readily to the care and labor bestowed upon it, bringing forth large and abundant harvests. Mr. Latimer works diligently in the cultivation and improvement of his place and as a result has met with gratifying success. He and his wife attend the Methodist Episcopal church and he gives his political allegiance to the republican party, with which he has voted since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. Mr. Latimer has held the office of school director for three years. He has many good friends in the county, including a large number of those who have known him from his boyhood days to the present time, and this is indicative of the fact that many of his strongest characteristics are those which win respect and admiration.

AARON S. JACKSON.

Aaron S. Jackson, deceased, was for many years a leading and prominent citizen of De Kalb. He was a native of New York, born July 26, 1830, and was of English descent. His father, William Jackson, was born in England, September 4, 1804, and in early life came to this country, here marrying Eliza M. Stevens, whose birth occurred in Schenectady, New York, March 10, 1807.

Aaron S. Jackson spent the days of his boyhood and youth in the Empire state. He had two brothers, David and Robert Jackson, who were soldiers of the Union army in the Civil war and one died in the service, while the other passed away two years after the close of the war as the result of the hardships and rigors of military life.

In early manhood Aaron S. Jackson was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Margaret Van Vlack, who was born in Albany county, New York, August 14, 1834, and was a daughter of John W. and Anna Maria (Oliver) Van Vlack, also natives of that county. Her father was born May 11, 1811, and died March 9, 1851, while her mother was born May 21, 1812, and died on the 7th of February, 1863. Mrs. Jackson was the oldest in their family of three children, and by her marriage became the mother of three children, of whom two are now deceased, the only one now living being Mrs. Carter, who is mentioned below.

In the spring of 1855 Mr. Jackson brought his family to Illinois and settled in De Kalb county, purchasing a farm of two hundred and fifteen acres at Shabbona Grove. A few years later he established a store in the village of Shabbona and conducted it in connection with his farming operations, continuing to actively engage in agricultural pursuits until his removal to De Kalb in 1875. Here he embarked in the hardware business in partnership with Colonel I. L. Ellwood, and four years later purchased his partner's interest, carrying on the business alone until 1883, when he was appointed postmaster of De Kalb and filled that office during President Arthur's administration. An ardent supporter of the republican party and its principles, he took an influential part in political affairs and served as mayor of the city for two terms. He was a prominent member of the Masonic fraternity, and at his death, which occurred on the 10th of December, 1897, he was laid to rest by that order. He was a man honored and respected wherever known.

Lila Jackson, a daughter of our subject, was born in Schenectady, New York, November 2, 1854, and was only an infant when brought by her parents to this county, her early life being passed on the farm at Shabbona Grove. She attended the public schools and completed her education in the schools of Shabbona. On the 15th of December, 1879, in the city of De Kalb, she became the



*Yours truly
Aaron S Jackson*

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wife of William Carter, who was born in this county, October 14, 1856, and died December 10, 1900. They began their married life upon a rented farm, but Mr. Carter subsequently turned his attention to mercantile pursuits, from which he at length was obliged to retire on account of ill health. Success was assured from the start, because industry and economy were the watchwords of this worthy couple. Their business enterprise and careful management bore them a goodly measure of success and, as the years passed, brought them prosperity.

Mr. and Mrs. Carter became the parents of two children: Allan C., born March 24, 1884; and Jessie, born February 23, 1886. Both are graduates of the De Kalb high school and the former is now a student in the University of Chicago, while the latter is a graduate of the Metropolitan Business College of Chicago and is now a stenographer in a Chicago business house. Mrs. Carter is now living with her mother at No. 328 North Third street, where they own a beautiful home and are enjoying life to a large extent. Books and music add to their pleasures and Mrs. Carter, being a firm believer in education, is giving her son excellent opportunities in that direction. In social circles she occupies an enviable position and has many warm friends who esteem her highly.

THE MELVILLE CLARK PIANO FACTORY.

The principal industry in the county of De Kalb is the Melville Clark piano factory. It is not only the principal industry in De Kalb county, employing fully three hundred men and paying out in wages, during the year 1906, fourteen thousand dollars a month or more, but it is one of the leading piano establishments in the state of Illinois and also one of the foremost in the west.

The company was organized in 1900 by Mr. Melville Clark, with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars. Its business increased so rapidly that it soon outgrew its original capitalization, which in the summer of 1906 was increased to five hundred thousand dollars, a sum sufficient to give the company, for the present, the resources necessary to cultivate its trade in a virile manner. Its

business ramifications are extensive and reach many foreign countries, among them Great Britain, France, Germany, Spain, Italy, China, Japan, Australia, the Philippine Islands, the Hawaiian Islands, South Africa, Brazil, India, New Zealand, Cuba, the Argentine Republic, Norway, Sweden, Samoa and Mexico. Few people in or out of the piano trade, realize the extent of the Melville Clark Piano Company's foreign demand, nor do they know the vigor with which it is being pushed forward in all directions.

The major part of this export business is in the Apollo player pianos and piano players. Besides the pianos, player pianos and cabinet players, the company makes many hundred player actions every year, which are used by other manufacturers of player pianos. The total value of goods sold by the company in 1906 was six hundred thousand dollars.

The Melville Clark factory is exceptionally commodious and convenient. In fact, there are few factories in the United States that can equal it for cleanliness, orderliness and the arrangements that ensure the conservation of energy on the part of the workmen, and the saving of friction in the building of its product. The factory floor is kept scrupulously clean, thus minimizing the dangers from fire. It is finely lighted and ventilated so that the men engaged in the various tasks find it a pleasure to work. The appliances ensuring protection against fire are among the best that money can buy. Nothing has been left undone to make it a model factory building in every detail.

The first work on the foundations was begun on September 1, 1904. The structure was completed in April, 1905. It is a solid, substantial edifice, built on honor. With its equipment of machinery, it represents an investment of one hundred thousand dollars. The main building is three hundred by five hundred feet, and three stories high: the wing is one hundred and seventy-five by fifty feet and three stories high. The power plant, containing a two hundred horse power engine, is fifty by seventy feet and the dry kiln affords accommodation for the drying of one hundred and fifty thousand feet of lumber a month. The factory site embraces ten acres and not its least important feature is an artesian well, two hundred and twenty-five feet deep, that furnishes water as clear and as cold as if it flowed from a hillside spring.

The factory is furnished with one pressure tank containing six thousand gallons of water and a gravity tank containing twenty thousand gallons of water, so that, with the complete sprinkler system that runs through the entire factory and its series of automatic electric alarms, there is little peril to be apprehended from fire.

Mr. Clark, the founder and head of the corporation that is of such material benefit to De Kalb county, in his life time has established a number of factories. His skill as a builder-up of industries is shown in some of the institutions that he founded and that still continue to prosper, although the master hand that reared them is flourishing elsewhere.

Melville Clark is a native of Oneida county in New York state. At an early age he showed a marked musical instinct and a love for music. Happily for him, he managed to find the opportunities to gratify his tastes. After taking a course at a commercial college and securing his diploma, the alternative was offered him to become a clerk at a lace counter in a dry-goods store in Syracuse, New York, or to learn the art of tuning reed organs, under the guidance of a brother who was at that time the leading organ tuner in that city. Mr. Clark facetiously remarks, with a merry twinkle in his eye, that as between a lace counter clerk and an organ tuner he did not hesitate a moment. So he at once began to learn the tuner's trade. He smiles as he refers to his potentialities as a lace counter clerk.

In 1876, the western fever took a strong hold upon the young artisan and he determined to seek his fortunes in the far west, so in that year he journeyed to Oakland, California, where he entered into partnership with W. E. J. Baughman, as manufacturers of reed organs under the firm name of Clark & Company. There was ambition as well as ability back of the new firm and it prospered apace. Young Clark had thoroughly mastered his trade and knew exactly what a good organ ought to be and knew also how to build one. It was not long before the Clark & Company goods were exhibited at a California agricultural fair, where they were awarded a silver medal and a diploma.

But the field was not inviting enough to hold Mr. Clark, and, moreover, business conditions were not to the liking of himself and his partner. In 1877, the two left California and settled in Quincy,

Illinois, where as Clark & Baughman, they made a reed organ bearing that name. Their California experience had been of large practical value and the organ built in the Quincy factory quickly won trade and awards at various fairs. Yet the ambition of Mr. Clark was not satisfied. The Quincy field was profitable but not big enough. In 1880 he bought out the firm of J. D. Davis & Company, of Chicago, and with a Mr. Rich formed the firm of Clark & Rich. He at once made a contract with Story & Camp to build all their reed organs. This contract was continued until 1884 and was a source of much profit to the organ makers. At the beginning of 1882, Mr. Rich retired and the firm was transformed into the Melville Clark Organ Company. Hampton L. and Edward H. Story, father and son, bought into the firm in February, 1884, and the Story & Clark Organ Company then formed, continued until 1887, when the business was incorporated.

When the Apollo piano player was invented by Mr. Clark, he at once appreciated the possibilities of the mechanism and its future influence upon the musical life of the nation. Desiring to make this new discovery in the field of pneumatics the pivotal point of his business career, and standing exceptionally high in the financial and business life of Chicago, he determined to take advantage of the conditions and start anew for himself. He sold out his interest in the Story & Clark corporation in 1899 and in February, 1900, organized the Melville Clark Piano Company.

Mr. Clark enjoys the highest prestige in the piano industry of the nation and is one of its most brilliant and original explorers in the field of pneumatics. His brain is singularly active and fertile in inventing devices that add greatly to the intrinsic musical worth of the Apollo instruments. They contain improvements that no other players can boast. The Apollo is the only player in the world that has a range of eighty-eight notes, or the entire piano keyboard. It is the only player in the world with the effective transposing mouth-piece, which represents ninety-five per cent of player value. Naturally, this gives the Melville Clark Piano Company and its players a powerful leverage upon public admiration and patronage. Mr. Clark holds one hundred and twenty-five patents covering Apollo devices, besides has a number of applications for patents pending.

The Melville Clark piano is an instrument of high artistic quality, widely recognized as one of the best pianos in the country, and embodies the best phases of twentieth century piano construction. In the Melville Clark corporation the people of De Kalb county have an industry in which they may take a deep pride. Its prosperous condition today is merely an indication of its larger dimensions in the years to come.

C. E. HURD.

C. E. Hurd, engaged in the jewelry business in Sycamore, was born in Winnebago county, Illinois, in 1860, and is a son of Chester A. Hurd, who came from Connecticut to Winnebago county, Illinois, in 1840, and is still living at the age of eighty-seven years, a hale and hearty old man. Our subject was educated in the public schools of Durand and after leaving school was in the employ of the Chicago & Great Western Railroad as station agent at Maywood, Byron, Sycamore, De Kalb and other points. He continued in that service for seventeen years and was one of the oldest agents in their employ in years of continuous connection therewith. In October, 1905, he removed from De Kalb to Sycamore and established his present business at No. 321 State street.

In 1891 Mr. Hurd was married to Miss Lou A. Foster, of Crown Point, Indiana, a daughter of Captain J. M. Foster, and they have one daughter, Helen Mildred. In his political adherence Mr. Hurd is a republican and fraternally is a member of the Masonic order and the Modern Woodmen of America. Both he and his wife belong to the Congregational church.

NEAL M. FIRKINS.

Neal M. Firkins, one of the prominent farmers and stock-raisers of Shabbona township, is operating extensively along both lines and in the control of his business interests displays marked energy, keen foresight and unfaltering diligence. He was born in Paw Paw township, De Kalb county, on the 13th of January, 1859. His father,

Leonard Firkins, was a native of the state of New York and a successful business man, who in early manhood came to Illinois and took up his abode in Paw Paw township. In the Empire state he had learned and followed the tailor's trade but in Illinois he devoted his time and energies to farming and met with a goodly measure of prosperity in that work. He wedded Mary Abbott, a native of Vermont, who died on a farm in Paw Paw township. She was a widow with four children when she became the wife of Leonard Firkins. By her first marriage she had several children but only one is now living—Mrs. Goss of Texas. Both Mr. and Mrs. Firkins are now deceased, having passed away in Paw Paw township, the father of our subject being eighty-five years of age at the time of his demise. In their family were six children: Leonard, who is living in Iowa; Edward L., a resident of Nebraska; Neal M., of this review; Reuben, who is living on the old homestead; Alonzo J., who makes his home in Nebraska; and Mary, the deceased wife of Fred Olmstead of Shabbona Grove.

No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for Neal M. Firkins in his boyhood days. He worked in the fields through the summer months and in the winter seasons attended the district schools. After putting aside his text-books his entire time was given to the work of the farm until he reached the age of twenty-one years, when he began farming on his own account by renting a part of his father's land. He afterward purchased two hundred and forty acres on section 32, Shabbona township, where he now resides. In 1906 he bought one hundred and five acres, and he now owns altogether three hundred and forty-five acres, constituting a splendid farm property, which returns to him an excellent income in return for the care and labor he bestows upon the fields. He is a self-made man, whose possessions are attributable entirely to his own labors. He has lived a life of activity and industry and has been determined in carrying forward to successful completion the plans which he has made, brooking no obstacles that could be overcome by determined and honorable effort. As the years have advanced he has become more and more largely engaged in raising stock and now ships from two to three carloads of cattle to the market each year. He is also extensively engaged in fruit growing and makes a spe-

cial study of horticulture, few men being better informed concerning that subject in this part of the state. He has produced some of the finest fruit raised in Illinois and this branch of his business is likewise an important source of revenue to him.

On the 14th of February, 1883, Mr. Firkins was united in marriage to Miss Gertrude M. Price, who was born in Shabbona township and is a daughter of James and Sinah (Dart) Price, the former a native of Prince Edward Island and the latter of Indiana. They came to Illinois at an early day and the father engaged in farming in Shabbona township. He was also a Wesleyan minister and put forth earnest and effective effort toward the moral development of the communities in which he lived. His death occurred in 1872 but his widow is still living in her eighty-sixth year, enjoying excellent health for one of her age. She came to Illinois when a maiden of twelve summers, settling in La Salle county, and is now one of the oldest residents of this part of the state, having witnessed the remarkable changes which have occurred as the county has emerged from pioneer conditions and taken on all the evidences of an advanced civilization. By her marriage she had nine children, of whom four are yet living, namely: Enoch S., who is a professor in a college in Pennsylvania; Peter M., general manager for the Moline Plow Company at Moline, Illinois; Mina, the wife of H. S. Miner of Earlville, Illinois; and Mrs. Firkins.

Unto our subject and his wife have been born nine children: Ashley M., who is now teaching in the Shabbona Grove school; Gertrude, who died at the age of four years; Russell H. and Oliver S., at home; Rollin, who died in infancy; Zilpha J., Peter T., Stanley I. and Neal E., all yet under the paternal roof.

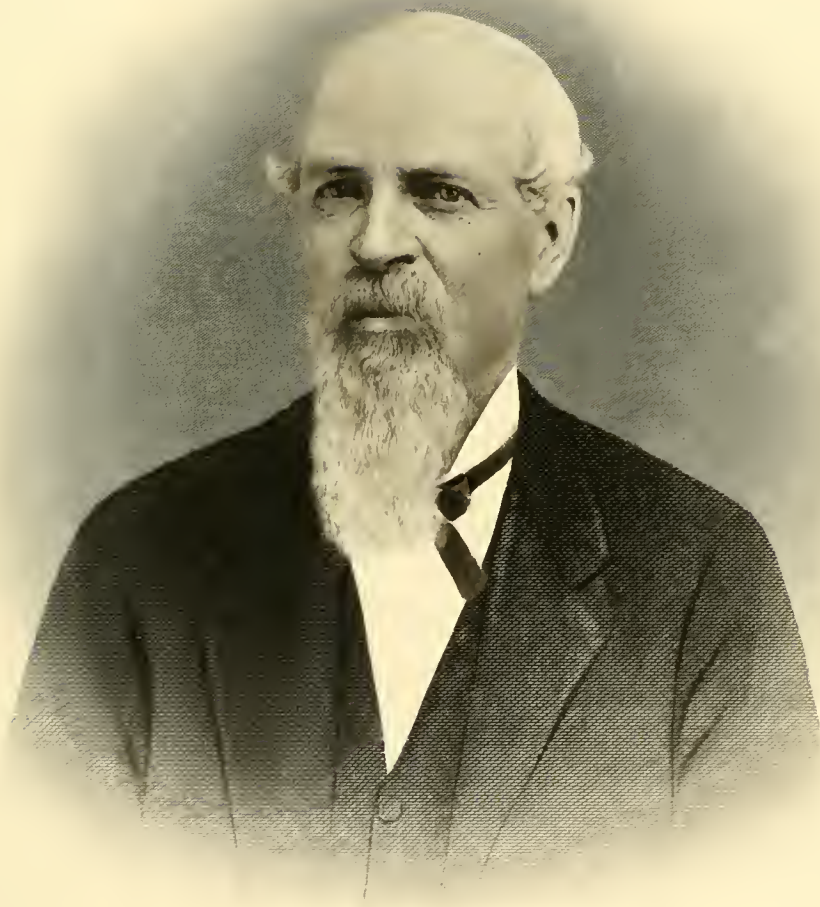
Mr. Firkins formerly gave his political allegiance to the democratic party but is now a prohibitionist, being in hearty sympathy with the temperance movement and doing all in his power to secure the inculcation of temperance principles. In fact he stands for all that is honorable and upright in life and for all that is just in man's relations with his fellowmen. His life record may well serve as a source of inspiration and encouragement to others, showing what may be accomplished by determination and earnest purpose.

Without assistance at the outset of his career Mr. Firkins has steadily worked his way upward, making the most of his opportunities until he stands today among the prosperous agriculturists of the county and one whose efforts have also demonstrated the possibilities of this district for horticultural development.

DAVID MARSELUS.

No history of Sandwich township would be complete without mention of David Marselus as one of the few remaining old settlers. He was for many years closely identified with agricultural interests, owning and operating a farm of two hundred acres near Sandwich, but for twenty-five years he has lived retired, enjoying in well earned ease the fruits of his former toil. His residence in De Kalb county dates from 1866, covering a period of forty-one years, and he is therefore familiar with many of the changes and events which have shaped the history of the community and the policy of the county. His birth occurred in Amsterdam, New York, April 24, 1821, and hence he has passed the eighty-sixth milestone on life's journey. His father, Manning Marselus, was born in Montgomery county, New York, and having reached adult age, was married there to Deborah De Graff, also a native of the Empire state. Mr. Marselus followed farming in Montgomery county and upon the old family homestead reared his family.

No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for David Marselus in his youth. He had good common-school advantages. On the 20th of June, 1850, he married Sarah Knights, also a native of New York, and, taking up their abode upon a farm in that state, they there lived for fifteen years, during which time six children were born to them. In 1866 they came to De Kalb county, Illinois, and in the fall of that year Mr. Marselus purchased a farm fairly well improved, repaired the dwelling, built a barn and other outbuildings, drained his land by the judicious use of tiling, fenced his fields and in the course of years developed a valuable property. In addition to raising the cereals best adapted to the soil and climate, he also fed stock, making a



David Marshall

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specialty of hogs. He fattens a carload each year, also raises good cattle and feeds a carload of steers annually.

In 1876 Mr. Marselus lost his first wife, who died upon the home farm. There were six children, five sons and a daughter, in the family, of whom the oldest, James D. Marselus, is mentioned elsewhere in this work. The others are: Edwin, a farmer of York, Nebraska, who is married and has two children, Harry E. and Raymond E.; Alfred, a business man of Mendota, who is married and has one son, David; Hattie, who grew to mature years and became the wife of Edward M. Patten, but died at their home in Colorado; Elmer E., a farmer of Lee county, Illinois, who is married and has four children, Charles B., Glenn, Ruth E. and Belle S.; and Harmon, who is now in Alaska.

On the 5th of December, 1877, Mr. Marselus was again married, the wedding being celebrated at Delevan, Walworth county, Wisconsin, and the lady of his choice being Sarah E. Carter, who was born and reared in New York and who was for some years a teacher in Wisconsin prior to her marriage. She later returned to the Empire state and it was there that she met Mr. Marselus. Her father, John Carter, was a native of England and when a young man came to New York, where he lived for some years, after which he removed to Wisconsin. He was married in the Empire state to Ann Pentecost, an English lady. Mr. and Mrs. Marselus began their domestic life upon the old homestead farm in De Kalb county, where they lived for five years, at the end of which time Mr. Marselus bought a tract of one acre in Sandwich, in the midst of which he erected a large substantial residence that has since been his home. He and his wife are members of the Sandwich Presbyterian church, take an active part in this work and also in the Sunday school and contribute generously to its support.

In politics Mr. Marselus was originally an old line whig and cast his first presidential ballot for Henry Clay. He continued to support the party until its dissolution, when he joined the ranks of the republican party, of which he has since been a stalwart advocate. He has never sought or desired office, preferring to give his time and attention to farming interests, and retired from active business life about a quarter of a century ago. He

is indeed a self-made man. He started upon his business career as a farm hand, working by the month for his father for four years for fifty dollars a year, and when he had gained sufficient capital he made a purchase of land and continued agricultural pursuits on his own account. He worked earnestly and persistently to acquire a property and make it a well developed farm, and his success was richly deserved. He is now eighty-six years of age, having traveled far on life's journey, and his honorable and upright methods have gained for him the veneration and respect of his fellowmen and won for him the friendship of many with whom he has come in contact.

EDWIN C. HENNIS.

Edwin C. Hennis, of Sandwich, is numbered among the native sons of De Kalb county. He was born November 23, 1868, and is a son of Henry Hennis, a farmer by occupation. The son was brought to Sandwich when only a year old and pursued a public-school education, after which he became a bookkeeper. Later he entered the United States railway mail service, with which he was connected for eleven years, when he retired from that field of activity and in 1902 was made secretary of the Northern Illinois Telephone Company. On the 1st of November, 1903, he was elected secretary and general manager and has since acted in that capacity. The company has twenty-six hundred phones and connection with ten thousand more. The capital stock is two hundred and fifty thousand dollars and the lines cover five counties or two thousand square miles. The company was organized December 19, 1898, with a paid up capital of ten thousand dollars and today there is a paid up capital of one hundred and thirty-two thousand nine hundred dollars. For the past five years the company has paid good annual dividends and the business is substantially increasing—a fact which is attributable in no uncertain degree to the efforts and business capacity of Mr. Hennis. He also controls the Sandwich Pole Changer Company, which manufactures telephone apparatus, including pole changers, ohmmeters, duplexers, roughplex and composite telegraph apparatus. This company was organized in 1906 with a paid up

capital of five thousand dollars and is destined to become one of the successful business enterprises of Sandwich.

Mr. Hennis was married to Corinne Grace Winne, a daughter of Dr. Charles Winne, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this volume. The wedding was celebrated in June, 1901, and has been blessed with one daughter, Ruth Amelia. Mr. Hennis is one of the native sons of De Kalb county, whose continued residence here is indicative of the excellent opportunities along business, educational and other lines that the county offers to her citizens. He has here found ample opportunity for the exercise of a spirit of energy, perseverance and ambition and although yet a young man has made for himself an enviable place in business circles.

JAMES W. DODGE.

James W. Dodge owns and cultivates a farm of eighty acres on section 4, Malta township. A native son of New England, he was born in Vermont, July 25, 1868, and is the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas W. Dodge. He spent his boyhood days with his parents, enjoying the usual advantages of a common-school education and the practical training in the labors of the farm, whereby he was qualified to carry on general agricultural pursuits on his own account after he had attained his majority. On the 2d of April, 1896, he won a companion and helpmate for the journey of life in his marriage to Miss Bernice Williams, who was born in Lake county, Ohio, December 8, 1868. Her father, G. W. Williams, was a native of Pennsylvania and married Miss Ruth Mitchell in 1857. She was likewise a native of the Buckeye state and after their marriage Mr. Williams began farming in Ohio. He there carried on the work of the fields until 1861, when his patriotic spirit was aroused by the attempt of the south to overthrow the Union and he offered his services in its defense. Joining the Sixty-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, he remained at the front until victory perched upon the Union banners and then when his aid was no longer needed in the south he returned to his Ohio home. In 1867 he brought his family to De Kalb county, Illinois, where for six

years he engaged in general farming, removing on the expiration of that period to Kirkland, where he worked as a carpenter and contractor. He has since continued in that line of business, being closely associated with the substantial improvement of the city. He owns a fine residence in Kirkland and is one of the leading business men of the town. In his family were twelve children: Lewis, Isabel, Georgia, Grant, Bernice, Maude, Musa, Kirk, Sumner, Asa, Oda, and Nina, and with the exception of Asa all are yet living.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Dodge has been blessed with two sons and a daughter: Warren E., born April 11, 1897; Ruth E., December 10, 1899; and Harold A., August 27, 1905. The family home is a good farm of eighty acres on section 4, Malta township, and the labors and progressive spirit of Mr. Dodge are the elements which make this farm a productive property, equipped with all of the modern accessories and conveniences that go to make up the model farm of the twentieth century.

Politically Mr. Dodge is a republican but has never had ambition for office. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias lodge, No. 541, and to the Modern Woodmen camp, No. 217, and has taken the Entered Apprentice degree in Masonry at Creston, Illinois. He and his wife attend the Congregational church at Malta. Mr. Dodge is a worthy representative of that class of citizens who lead a quiet, industrious, honest and useful life and who constitute the best element of a community. In manner he is pleasant and cordial and these qualities, combined with his sterling worth, make him one of the popular citizens of the township.

THOMAS McCORMICK.

Thomas McCormick, who started out in life a poor boy when land and labor were cheap, and who has added to his possessions acre by acre until he has become one of the county's large landowners, is now living retired in the city of De Kalb, his labors in former years having made it possible for him to enjoy life without further recourse to business. A native of Ireland, he was born April 22, 1840, and was the third in a family of eight chil-

dren, whose parents were Daniel and Mary (Farrel) McCormick, also natives of the Emerald isle, the former born in 1820 and the latter in 1815. They came to America in 1853, settling first at Chicago, where they remained for three years, after which they removed to De Kalb county and in December, 1856, took up their abode upon a farm in Clinton township. There they spent their remaining years. One of their sons, John McCormick, was a soldier of the Civil war. Both he and Thomas of this review, enlisted as members of Company E, One Hundred and Fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, on the 13th of August, 1862, and remained members of that command until mustered out on the 7th of June, 1865. They participated in the battles of Resaca, Georgia, September 20, 1863, Kenesaw Mountain, Burnt Hickory, New Hope Church, Manhattan, Peach Tree Creek, and Atlanta. They later went with Sherman on the celebrated march to the sea and took part in an engagement at Savannah in the Carolina campaign, proceeding to Raleigh, North Carolina, thence to Richmond, Virginia, and on to Washington, D. C., where they took part in the grand review, the most celebrated military pageant ever seen in the western hemisphere. The brothers there received an honorable discharge and returned home.

Thomas McCormick was educated in the schools of Ireland and De Kalb county, being thirteen years of age when he came with his parents to America. After leaving school he worked by the month as a farm hand being thus employed for three years, when, desiring that his labors more directly benefit himself, he began the cultivation of rented land and was thus employed for four years. The Civil war then came on and he put aside all business and personal considerations in order to respond to his country's call. He went to the front where he remained for two years and ten months, and upon his return home he worked for his father on the home farm for two years. He then began farming on his own land, purchasing sixty acres in Clinton township, after which he purchased eighty acres in Shabbona township and took up his abode thereon. Three years later he disposed of that property and bought one hundred and sixty acres in Victor township, where he made his home for ten years, when he again sold out and also disposed of his first purchase of one hundred and sixty acres. His capital was then in-

vested in two hundred and twenty acres in Shabbona township and from time to time, he has bought more land, including a quarter section adjoining the farm of two hundred and twenty acres. He afterward bought one hundred and ninety acres more in the same township and later one hundred and sixty acres in De Kalb township, while two years ago he purchased a house and two lots in the city of De Kalb. His property interests are now valuable, his landed possessions aggregating five hundred and seventy acres, which constitute a very desirable farm property.

Mr. McCormick was married in Aurora, Illinois, February 13, 1867, to Miss Margaret Grady, who was born in Ireland, September 22, 1844, and came to America with her parents when she was a child. Her father, Patrick Grady, was born in Ireland about 1815, while her mother Mrs. Bridget (Irving) Grady, was born in Ireland about 1825. They came to America in 1845 and located upon a farm near Belvidere, Illinois. There were twelve children in their family of whom Mrs. McCormick was the seventh, while six of this number are now deceased. For a time the Grady family lived in De Kalb county and later became residents of Butler county, Iowa, where the death of Mr. Grady occurred. His widow then returned to Illinois and made her home with her daughter Mrs. McCormick, until her death on the 16th of August, 1885.

Mr. and Mrs. McCormick have become the parents of eight children: Mary E., who was born November 10, 1868, and died September 20, 1870; Margaret, who was born April 4, 1870; Daniel J., born November 29, 1871, and died June 6, 1906; William J., born September 6, 1873; Mary E., born April 20, 1875, and died July 3, 1875; John E., born October 21, 1877, and died April 24, 1890; Edward J., who is a twin of John; and Thomas F., born September 20, 1881. There are also several grandchildren, and the children of Daniel J. McCormick are: Ruth L., who was born July 21, 1897; Florence M., who was born April 9, 1901; and Margaret L., born January 24, 1904. Edward M. also has a son Thomas Edward, born December 29, 1905.

Mr. McCormick maintains pleasant relations with his old army comrades through his membership in the Shabbona post, No. 436, G. A. R. He exercises his right of franchise in support of the

democracy and is a member of the Catholic church, of which all his family are communicants. In the review of his life history, it will be seen that his success is attributable entirely to his own labors. Wages were small when he started out for himself in this country, but land was also cheap and he made his first purchase at a low figure. His prosperity is largely due to the fact that he has made judicious investments, being now most comfortably situated in life with valuable property interests to return to him a good living. He resolutely set to work when ambition was strongest and hopes were brightest and though he has led a busy life, he did not forget the duty he owed to the land of his adoption and put aside business cares when his country needed his aid, faithfully following the old flag upon southern battle-fields. Still enjoying the companionship of the wife of his youth, they are pleasantly located in a comfortable and attractive home of their own at No. 306 North Third street, De Kalb. Mrs. McCormick has indeed been a faithful companion and helpmate to her husband on the journey of life, being an excellent housekeeper and capable manager, and Mr. McCormick acknowledges his indebtedness to her assistance. Both are most highly esteemed people and it is with pleasure that we present this record of their life to our readers.

JAMES SHARP RANKIN, M. D.

Dr. James Sharp Rankin, an active member of the medical fraternity at De Kalb, was born in Plainwell, Michigan, April 15, 1871. His father, Dr. John M. Rankin, was born in Clarion county, Pennsylvania, in 1833. He remained a resident of his native state until after the Civil war, in which he served for one year as surgeon of the Eleventh Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry. He then removed to Michigan, locating in Plainwell, after which he went to Richland, that state, where he now resides. His wife, Mrs. Harriet Sharp Rankin, was also a native of Clarion, Pennsylvania, born about 1834. She died soon after the birth of her son James. The father married again and there were six children in the family, Dr. Rankin of this review being the third in order of birth.

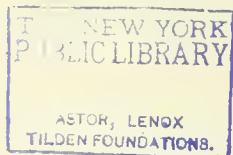
Accompanying his father on his removal to Richland, Michigan, Dr. Rankin of this review there acquired his early education, while later he attended the Normal School at Clarion, Pennsylvania. He was graduated from the Chicago College of Pharmacy in 1890 and received his medical degree from the Northwestern University Medical School in 1895. Soon after graduation from the school of pharmacy he went to Kalamazoo, Michigan, as a pharmacist, there remaining until 1892, when he entered medical college. When he had completed his medical course he served as house physician at Mercy Hospital in Chicago for a year. In April, 1897, he came to De Kalb, where he still continues in practice, having a well equipped office at 157 East Main street. His business has developed along healthful and gratifying lines and he has a good patronage, which is indicative of the trust reposed in his professional skill by the general public.

Dr. Rankin was married in De Kalb, on the 30th of March, 1898, to Miss Clara Louise Tyler, who was born in this city in 1870. Her father, Sanford A. Tyler, was a native of the state of New York, and after removing to the west engaged in business as a stock-buyer, but later was connected with the American Steel & Wire Company. He married Sarah L. Taylor, a native of Kentucky, and they became the parents of four children, of whom Mrs. Rankin is the eldest. In 1854 her father came to De Kalb and entered land from the government, being numbered among the pioneer settlers of the county. Unto Dr. and Mrs. Rankin has been born one child, James Tyler Rankin, whose natal day was May 7, 1906.

The Doctor owns a nice residence on Locust street, where he and his family are now comfortably located. He belongs to the Elks and Masonic lodges at De Kalb and is also a member of the Illinois State Medical Society; the De Kalb County Medical Society, and the American Medical Association. He gives his political support to the republican party. He is a self-made man, who by his determination and enterprise has gained a place among the representative members of the medical profession in De Kalb, making substantial advancement in a calling where success depends entirely upon individual merit and knowledge. He now holds the position of district surgeon for the Chicago & Northwestern Railway Company, is



DR. J. S. RANKIN.



local surgeon for the American Steel & Wire Company, physician to the De Kalb county poor farm, and is also examining physician for the New York Life, the Mutual Life and the Equitable Life Insurance Companies, all of New York. He and his wife are very prominent socially and the hospitality of their own attractive home is greatly enjoyed by their many friends, who esteem them highly because of their genuine worth.

GEORGE REMINSNIDER.

George Reminsnider, whose name indicates his German ancestry, was born in the kingdom of Hanover, August 10, 1845, but for a long period has been numbered among the loyal citizens of De Kalb county, having come to America in his eleventh year. His mother died when he was only three years of age. His father, August Reminsnider, was born in Germany in 1820 and in the year 1844 sailed for the new world, making the journey about a year before the other members of his family as he had not enough money to bring them with him at the time of his emigration. Arriving in this country, however, he sought immediate employment and saving every cent that he could, he soon sent for his family to join him in the new world. For many years he was a resident of De Kalb county where he died in 1899.

George Reminsnider, coming to De Kalb in his eleventh year, has since made his home here. He acquired a public-school education and was married to Miss Caroline Hartman who was born in Brunswick, Germany, February 19, 1845. Her parents were Chris and Frederica (Walter) Hartman, natives of Brunswick, the former born June 4, 1820, and the latter on the 1st of May, of the same year. They came to the United States in 1844, arriving on the 4th of July—the nation's birthday. They are still living and yet enjoy good health. Unto the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Reminsnider twelve children have been born: Herman H., born June 19, 1867; William, born February 30, 1869; Mrs. Amanda Gleckner, born April 10, 1871; Frederick, born May 5, 1873; Mrs. Clara Hartman, born May 7, 1875; George, born January 19, 1877; Hattie, born September 9, 1878; Ida, born May 1, 1880; Caroline, born April 28, 1883;

Edward, born October 5, 1884; Elmer, born May 13, 1886; and Elva, born April 21, 1888.

Mr. Reminsnider and his family are members of the Evangelical Lutheran church while his political allegiance is given the men and measures of the republican party. For several years he has been school director and while he is interested in all that pertains to the improvement and upbuilding of the community, his time and energies are most largely given to his farming operations. He has engaged in tilling the soil throughout his entire life and has worked perseveringly until now he is the owner of two hundred acres of productive land on section 34, Pierce township. He has earned this property with the assistance of his family, his wife being indeed a faithful companion to him on life's journey. He has now one of the finest farms in Pierce township and has continuously cultivated this until a very recent date. He and his wife, however, are now preparing to move to Hlinckley where they will spend their remaining days without recourse to further labor. They will leave behind them in this neighborhood many warm friends but will win friends where they are going for they are people of genuine personal worth and possess those qualities which in every land and clime command respect and confidence.

LORENZO C. SHAFFER.

De Kalb county has been signally favored in the class of men who have filled her public offices, for they have usually been men who have held for high ideals in citizenship and have been prompt and reliable in the execution of the duties devolving upon them. The public service of Mr. Shaffer, county treasurer, has been thus characterized and he is, moreover, well known as a successful merchant, having been engaged in the grocery and drug business at Kingston, Illinois, for nineteen years. He is a registered pharmacist and a graduate of the Chicago School of Pharmacy.

He was born in Earlville, Delaware county, Iowa, April 12, 1865, and is a son of Ira and Helen (Williams) Shaffer, both of whom were natives of Ohio, the father following the occupation of farming throughout his entire life. The maternal grandparents, Chester and Sallie Williams, were

born in 1800 and in 1840 removed to Illinois, locating in North Kingston, where Mr. Williams took up four hundred acres of government land. He built upon this place and immediately began to improve the land, developing a new farm which afterward became the property of his daughter, Mrs. Shaffer, who for some years lived upon that place. She is now living quietly in the home of her son Lorenzo, however, and is a most highly esteemed lady. She was born in Ohio in 1836. Her father, Chester Williams, died in 1848, at the age of forty-eight years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Shaffer was born but one son, the subject of this review.

In taking up the personal history of Lorenzo C. Shaffer we present to our readers the life record of one who is widely and favorably known in De Kalb county. He was reared and educated in Kingston, being but a year old when brought by his mother to this county. After attending and graduating from the Kingston high school he entered the Northwestern University at Chicago and spent one year in the study of pharmacy. Previous to this time, however, he was in the employ of Dr. J. H. Fellows and following his graduation in Chicago he bought the establishment of his former employer and has since been continuously engaged in the drug and grocery business, having a patronage equal in extent to that of any other merchant of the town. He carries a complete line of drugs and groceries and his reasonable prices, his straightforward dealing and his courteous treatment of his patrons secures him a liberal support from the public, while his strict adherence to business principles and to a high standard of commercial ethics has made him a successful merchant.

Mr. Shaffer was married November 26, 1892, to Miss Effie McCollom, a native of De Kalb county, born in Mayfield township, November 5, 1869, and a daughter of Isaac A. and Roxie McCollom. Her father was an early settler here and was born in Mayfield township. He is now secretary of the Kingston Mutual Insurance Company.

In his political views Mr. Shaffer is a stalwart republican and for several years has been president of the village board of Kingston, giving a public-spirited, business-like and progressive administration. In November, 1906, he was elected treasurer of De Kalb county, in which capacity he

is now serving, but he still retains his residence in Kingston. He is a highly valued member of the Masonic lodge and also of the Modern Woodmen camp, and is a self-made man who in his business and private life and in his official service has made a most creditable record. Many there are who esteem him for his genuine personal worth, and his efforts along public lines have been of direct and permanent value to the town in which he makes his home.

DAVID F. HIPPLE.

In a history of Clinton township mention should be made of David F. Hipple, who in former years was identified with educational interests as a successful teacher but who is now engaged in agricultural pursuits as the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 22. He was born in Perry county, Pennsylvania, January 9, 1868, and is a son of John H. and Louisa A. Hipple, who were likewise natives of that state. The father was born in 1841, while the mother's birth occurred in 1847, and in the year 1870 they came to the west, settling on a farm in Clinton township. In their family were six children, of whom David F. is the eldest, the others being Alice M., the wife of C. C. Dean; William G.; Elmer J.; Edgar E.; and Mabel J. The father died in 1901 but the mother is still living, being a resident of Waterman. In his business life Mr. Hipple had prospered and had become a large landowner, his possessions aggregating at the time of his death five hundred and twenty-two acres of rich and valuable land in De Kalb county and nine hundred and sixty acres in Nebraska.

David F. Hipple accompanied his parents on their removal to the west and largely acquired his education in De Kalb county but was also a student at the Jennings Seminary and the Aurora Business College at Aurora, Illinois. He has always been a man of scholarly tastes and habits and constant reading, investigation and observation have made him a thoroughly well informed man. Having arrived at years of maturity, he was married on the 29th of March, 1893, to Miss Daisy A. Woods, a daughter of Isaac and Pluma Woods. Mrs. Hipple was born August 4, 1873, and, like

her husband, was liberally educated, having attended the Illinois State Normal School at Bloomington, Illinois, for one year. Both engaged in teaching school for several terms prior to their marriage and proved capable educators. Unto them have been born five children: Roy E., born May 28, 1895; Gladys M., born November 22, 1898; Francis R., born June 15, 1901; Arleen Woods, born January 29, 1903; and one who died in infancy.

The family home is on section 22, Clinton township, where Mr. Hipple now owns and operates one hundred and sixty acres of land, giving his entire time and attention to its further development and improvement. There are substantial buildings upon the place, together with the latest improved machinery, and everything necessary to facilitate the work of the farm. Mr. Hipple is also an extensive stock feeder and is well known in this business connection, making large purchases and sales of stock. His business is capably managed, his judgment is sound and his discrimination keen and accurate. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and he is now serving as a school director, the cause of education ever finding in him a warm friend who does everything in his power to advance school interests. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and their friends in De Kalb county are legion. They occupy an enviable position in those social circles where true worth and intelligence are received as the passports into good society.

JEREMIAH LIBBY BROWN.

Jeremiah Libby Brown was numbered among the founders of De Kalb county by reason of the early period at which he established his residence within its borders and it is therefore imperative that mention be made of him in this volume, lest the record of the county and its representative men will be incomplete. He resided for forty-five years within its borders, taking an active and helpful part in reclaiming its wild land for the uses of civilization, and when he passed away his death was deeply regretted by many who had come to know and esteem him highly.

Mr. Brown was a native of Maine, his birth having occurred in Scarborough, on the 17th of April, 1805. The family is probably of Scotch lineage, for it is thought that Benjamin Brown, the father of Jeremiah L. Brown, was born in the land of hills and heather. He married Ruth Libby, and in 1837 came to De Kalb county, where his death afterward occurred.

Jeremiah L. Brown was a pupil in the public schools of his native state during the winter months until he reached the age of eighteen years, when, anxious to see something of life and to have more varied experiences than came with the routine of work on the farm, he ran away and shipped on a sailing vessel, which started out upon a three years' cruise. During all of that time he heard not a word from home. He returned, however, during the year in which he attained his majority and accompanied his parents on their removal to the town of Hope, Hamilton county, New York.

While living in the Empire state he was married on the 17th of August, 1830, to Miss Judith Richardson, of Johnston, New York, who died on the 4th of March, 1848. During the years of their married life seven children were added to the household, Julia A., James P., Judith, Esther E., Abigail J., Ruth S. and Jeremiah W. Of these Julia A. and Ruth S. are now deceased. Having lost his first wife, Mr. Brown was again married on the 2d of May, 1850, his second union being with Eliza A. Jackman, who was born in Shadigee, New York, May 26, 1826, a daughter of Abner and Mary Jackman of Sycamore township, this county. Mrs. Brown taught school in Genoa, De Kalb county, in 1849, where she now resides. The children of this marriage are Emma R. Hollembeak, Dillon S., Charles A. and Lizzie M. Holroyd.

Jeremiah L. Brown continued a resident of the Empire state until 1836, when he resolved to try his fortune on the frontier of the middle west. By way of the canal and lakes he traveled to Peoria, Illinois, but did not remain in this state at that time. He returned once more to New York but in 1837 came again to this state, driving across the country with team, and just at the sunset on the 20th of September, 1837, he reached Genoa, De Kalb county. He had previously learned and followed the shoemakers' trade in the east but on coming to his western home he turned his

attention to general farming, securing a tract of land on section 30, Genoa township, which he entered from the government. The conditions which confronted him at the time of his arrival here were such as are usually seen on the frontier. Five years before the Black Hawk war had been fought. Hardly three years before the arrival of Mr. Brown the white men had scarcely set foot in De Kalb county. Indians still visited the neighborhood and passed back and forth through the forests on their hunting expeditions or rode at will over the prairies. Only here and there had a claim been made and a little cabin built for the shelter of some hardy frontiersman who had left the older east with its comforts and civilization to establish a home in the then far west. Mr. Brown cast in his lot with the early settlers and with resolute spirit took up the work of the farm. Not a furrow had been turned nor an improvement made upon his land but he placed the breaking plow on the prairies and soon turned the furrows. In course of time the seed was planted and the summer sun ripened the grain until he gathered good harvests. Year by year his farm work was successfully prosecuted and as his financial resources increased he added to his original holdings until he had acquired more than a section of land in Genoa township. He was known as one of the leading and prosperous farmers of his community and his life was an excellent example of the power of thrift and industry in obtaining prosperity.

In antebellum days Mr. Brown was a supporter of the abolition cause and when the republican party was formed to prevent the further extension of slavery he joined its ranks and continued as one of its stalwart supporters until called to his final rest. He was a man ever firm in support of his honest convictions and he had no untried standards. His neighbors and fellow townsmen recognizing his worth and ability frequently called him to office, so that he filled various positions of public honor and trust. For many terms he served on the county board of supervisors. He was a man of broad and liberal education, whose views of life were sane and not biased by strongly marked prejudices or hobbies. In all things he was eminently practical and this was manifest in his public life as well as in his business affairs. Those who came in contact with him gave him their respect and warm regard and his value as a citizen

and as a friend caused his death to be regretted with a sense of personal bereavement by all who knew him, when, on the 5th of January, 1882, he passed from this life in the seventy-seventh year of his age.

ERWIN PERRY ELLWOOD .

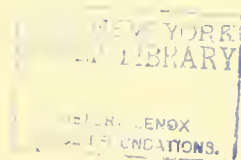
Erwin Perry Ellwood, president of the First National Bank and one of the native sons of De Kalb, whose business development has brought him to a place of prominence in financial circles, was born in this city, August 10, 1873, a son of Colonel I. L. Ellwood, to whom the city is indebted more largely than to almost any other individual for its industrial and commercial progress and prominence. The son spent his early years in De Kalb, where he attended the public schools to the age of sixteen, when he matriculated in the Michigan Military Academy at Orchard Lake, Michigan. Subsequently he attended Beloit College, at Beloit, Wisconsin, and made further preparation for the practical and responsible duties of a business career by a course in the Metropolitan Business College of Chicago, from which he was graduated in 1894.

The same year he entered the First National Bank of De Kalb in a clerical capacity and resolutely set to work to master the banking business in every detail. Two years later he was made assistant cashier of the institution, in which capacity he served until 1900. During that year he filled the office of treasurer of the Kansas City Southern Railway Company, with offices in Chicago. In 1902 he became a director of the De Kalb First National Bank, and on the 1st of October, 1903, at a special meeting following the resignation of J. H. Lewis, he was elected to the presidency of that institution, in which capacity he has served continuously since. The safe, conservative policy instituted at the establishment of the bank has always been maintained, and yet under the guidance of the present chief executive officer the business is also carried on along modern lines of progress and development.

Mr. Ellwood is a member of De Kalb lodge, K. P., and De Kalb lodge, No. 765, B. P. O. E. His political allegiance is given to the republican



E. P. Ellwood



party and he is interested in its success and growth, yet is without aspiration for position of political preferment.

On the 6th of September, 1898, was celebrated the marriage of Erwin Perry Ellwood and Miss May Gurler, a daughter of H. B. Gurler. They occupy a prominent position in social circles and Mr. Ellwood is regarded as one of the representative men of De Kalb, possessing the alert, enterprising spirit which has been the basis of America's wonderful business development.

PETER S. WARBER.

Peter S. Warber, who is now engaged in the grocery business in De Kalb as a member of the firm of Barker, Warber & Glidden, was born in Sweden, January 8, 1855. His parents were also natives of that country and in the year 1862 crossed the Atlantic to the new world, settling first at Elgin, Illinois, where the father worked at the carpenter's trade on the asylum. He was connected with building operations there for four years and then removed to a farm in Kane county, purchasing fifty acres of land with the money that he had saved from his earnings. There he carried on general agricultural pursuits until after the death of his wife. In their family were six children: Charles, John, Anna, Peter S., August and William, all still living with exception of the last named.

Peter S. Warber was a little lad when brought by his parents to the new world and was reared in Illinois. Having attained his majority he was married on the 9th of November, 1886, to Miss Florence Helmer, who was born in Herkimer county, New York, May 14, 1858, a daughter of Peter and Rosannah (House) Helmer, who were also natives of the Empire state and came to the middle west in 1862, settling on a farm on sections 12 and 13, De Kalb township. There they lived until called to the home beyond. They had five daughters: Celinda, Elizabeth, Frances, Clara and Florence, all of whom are yet living with the exception of Frances. The father met with good success in the west and at the time of his death was the owner of one hundred and thirty acres of land. The ancestry of the Helmer family can be traced

back to a still more remote period. The father of Mrs. Warber was the fourth son of Adam F. and Anna M. Helmer. Her great-grandparents on her mother's side, Captain Henry and Catherine Harter, were taken prisoners in the French and Indian war in 1757, when crossing the St. Lawrence river in a birch-bark canoe on their way to Canada. A daughter of the family was afterward captured by the Indians but later was recaptured by her father and when she grew to womanhood she became the wife of General Michael Myers. Adam Helmer, the grandfather of Mrs. Warber, served in the Revolutionary war under Washington and was a valiant defender of the colonial cause. Mrs. Warber was provided with excellent school advantages, as were her sisters, and is a graduate of the Sycamore high school. After completing her own course she engaged in teaching music for several years. She was an able instructor and those who came under her direction benefited much by her teaching.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Warber have been born four children. Birdie R., who was born April 26, 1887, is a graduate of the De Kalb high school and is now attending the State Normal school. Pansy Helen and Pearl Ellen, twins, were born January 12, 1889, and will graduate from the De Kalb high school in 1907. The only son, Frank Helmer, born February 16, 1896, is now attending school.

Following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Warber located on a farm in De Kalb township, comprising one hundred and thirty acres. He sold a tract of one hundred acres to the county poor farm, and today owns six hundred and forty acres of land in Canada besides his property in this county. In his farming operations he prospered and now has a valuable property, his fields being under a high state of cultivation and devoted to the raising of cereals best adapted to soil and climate. In his farm work he is methodical, systematic, practical and progressive, and his capably directed labors have brought to him a goodly measure of success. On the 11th of April, 1907, Mr. Warber formed a partnership with Lester I. Barker and William Glidden under the firm name of Barker, Warber & Glidden and they purchased the grocery business of ex-Mayor V. A. Glidden at De Kalb and are now conducting a first class store, which promises to be one of the leading establishments of the kind in this part of the county. All of the partners are

well known and reliable business men and are highly respected.

Mr. Warber is a valued and interested member of the Elks lodge, No. 765, at De Kalb, and he and his wife are faithful members of the Congregational church. In politics he has been an earnest republican since casting his first presidential vote and his fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, have called him to several local offices. He was a school director, serving in that capacity for fourteen years, the cause of education finding in him a stalwart champion. He has also filled the office of pathmaster. Wherever known he is highly esteemed and both he and his wife have an extensive circle of friends in De Kalb county.

SILAS DEXTER WESSON.

In the years which have come and gone, to the number of more than sixty, since Silas Dexter Wesson took up his abode in De Kalb county, there have occurred many changes wrought by time and man until the county today, with its large commercial and industrial interests, its educational advantages and its agricultural improvements, bears scarcely any resemblance to the district into which Mr. Wesson made his way in 1845. He arrived here on the 9th of October of that year, finding large tracts of land on which not a furrow had been turned or an improvement made, while some of it had not yet been entered from the government. In future years roads were laid out and the farms were fenced but at that time one could ride for miles over the prairie without coming to a habitation to impede his progress. An arduous task lay before the early settlers in the development and improvement of the fields and the planting of a modern civilization in the western wilderness, and in this work Mr. Wesson bore his part as he grew in years and strength. He was a little lad of about six years at the time of his arrival here, his birth having occurred in Jamestown, Chautauqua county, New York, August 22, 1839.

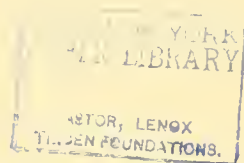
His father, James W. Wesson, was a native of Virginia and a son of James Wesson, who was a soldier of the war of 1812 and was killed at the

battle of Plattsburg. James Wright Wesson, father of our subject, in his boyhood days went to New York with the Mormons under Brigham Young and was reared in Chautauqua county, where he married Sybil Hatch, a native of Vermont, who was reared in New York. Mr. Wesson engaged in the manufacture of lumber and shingles and made many trips down the rivers with rafts of logs. All of his children were born in Chautauqua county and in 1845 he removed to the west, making the journey with ox teams. He came direct to this county and Silas D. Wesson of this review is the only surviving member of the party, comprising two families, that journeyed to De Kalb at that time. The father secured one hundred and sixty acres of land with a Mexican soldier's land warrant but rented and farmed for four years, living in a log cabin in true pioneer style. He located on his own place about 1850, built a small house, broke the prairie and fenced and cultivated the fields. He served as justice of the peace for a number of years and was a prominent and respected pioneer settler of the community. He was born in 1808 and died August 29, 1880, when in the seventy-third year of his age. His wife survived him for about five years.

S. D. Wesson was the only son in the family of four children and is now the only survivor. He was reared upon the old homestead farm, living in the little log cabin in his boyhood days, and as he could he assisted in the work of reclaiming the wild land and converting it into the uses of civilization. There were pleasures to be enjoyed unknown at the present day and yet hard work fell to the lot of all early settlers. He remained with his father until he joined the army in August, 1861, becoming a private of Company K, Eighth Illinois Cavalry. This regiment participated in all the important engagements in which the Army of the Potomac took part from Williamsburg to Appomattox and fired the first shot in the seven days' fight in front of Richmond and also the first shot at Gettysburg. Mr. Wesson was promoted to orderly sergeant and was wounded at Beverly Ford by a gun-shot through the right thigh. He now has in his possession the bullet that wounded his horse. When the regiment was mustered in they had twelve hundred horses, but when mustered out only twelve of the original



S. D. Wesson



number remained, including the one on which Mr. Wesson rode during his four years' service. When the war was over he paid the government ninety dollars for the horse and brought him home, keeping him until he died and burying him on the farm. Mr. Wesson remained at the front until hostilities ceased and was mustered out July 17, 1865, after which he was honorably discharged and paid off on the 22d of the same month. During his service he was twice wounded. He kept a journal during the war and takes great pleasure in looking over it now, recalling the events in that momentous period of the country's history and the people who figured in the experiences of the war. Following his return home Mr. Wesson resumed farming, which he carried on here until 1872.

In 1866, Mr. Wesson was married in Suydam church to Miss Maggie Suydam, a native of Illinois, born in a log cabin in Fairview, Fulton county. They lived in this state until 1872, when they removed to Kansas, settling at Council Grove, Morris county, where Mr. Wesson secured a homestead claim of one hundred and sixty acres. There he opened up a farm, which he cultivated for eight years, after which he sold out and returned to the old homestead, of which he took charge, his father having recently died. He then cared for his mother and has since lived upon the home place. He has built good buildings, including a comfortable residence, and he bought one hundred and sixty acres adjoining. He has two sets of farm buildings and all of the equipments and accessories of a model farm property. He also raises pure blooded shorthorn and Durham cattle and feeds and fattens about two carloads of hogs and also a large number of cattle each year. He is a prosperous farmer, capable in the management of his business affairs, and he is also a member of the Farmers' Elevator of Leland and a director of the Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company of Victor township, of which he was at one time secretary.

Mr. and Mrs. Wesson have become the parents of eleven children, of whom ten are living. Mason, the eldest son, was a railroad man and in an accident lost a leg at Sandwich. He died two years later, leaving a wife and five children. The others of the family are: J. W., who is married and resides in Oswego, being manager of a stock farm;

Wilbur, Lloyd, Elon F., and Ben Harrison, all of whom are engaged in the work of the home farm; Sybil, at home; Elvie, the wife of Burt Sweet, now of Wisconsin; Grace, the wife of Bert A. Bark, who is mentioned elsewhere in this work; Minerva, the wife of William Todd, a Minnesota farmer; and Sarah, the wife of Henry Von Ohlen, a farmer of Victor township.

Politically Mr. Wesson is a staunch republican. He is one of the public-spirited citizens of the community and has served as township clerk, has been supervisor at different periods for nine years and was assessor for three years. He is now filling the office of justice of the peace and has been the incumbent in that position altogether for twenty-four years. His official service has been characterized by the utmost fidelity to duty and he has served as a delegate to various state and county conventions. He belongs to the Masonic lodge at Leland and both he and his wife are members of the Eastern Star chapter. He has filled all of the offices of his lodge and is a past grand master. He likewise belongs to Shabbona post, No. 463, G. A. R., has been the chief officer in that organization and is deeply interested in the order, thus maintaining pleasant relations with his old army comrades. He is today as true and loyal to his country as when he followed the old flag on southern battle-fields and he has a military record of which he has every reason to be proud.

Mr. Wesson helped to break the prairie sod with ox teams in the pioneer days and he has seen and talked with Shabbona, the old Indian chief who was friendly to the whites and warned them of the impending danger at the time of the Black Hawk war. He lived here at the time of the building of the railroads and has in fact witnessed almost the entire growth and development of the county, being one of the few remaining old settlers. Events which are to many matters of history are to him matters of experience and his mind is filled with many interesting reminiscences of the early days when the settlers were dependent upon what they could raise and make in their own homes for nearly everything that was used. It was a time, however, when true hospitality reigned in almost every household and no settler would refuse to do any favor for one whom he could accommodate. Mr. Wesson is in-

deed one of the interesting figures in the history of the county and it is with pleasure that we present the record of his life to our readers.

GUS NELSON.

No resident of Sycamore is more deserving of credit for what he has accomplished than Gus Nelson, now a retired farmer of De Kalb county, who for more than a quarter of a century was closely and actively associated with agricultural interests here, and thereby won the competence that enabled him to put aside business cares and enjoy rest from further labor. He is still the owner of two good farm properties which yield him a substantial income.

Mr. Nelson was born in Sweden, June 6, 1845. His parents were poor, and when nine years of age he left home to earn his own living, since which time he has always provided for his own support. He early learned that energy and industry constitute the basis for success and he started out determined to acquire a competence for old age. In 1870 he emigrated to the United States with a party of his countrymen and the fact that he had an uncle living in De Kalb county led him to this locality. He had but five cents in his pocket when he arrived in Sycamore and he could not speak a word of English. He spent his small coin for two apples and then started out to find his uncle. That summer he worked for his uncle for his board and clothes. The first money he earned was six dollars which was paid him by a neighbor for a week's work, and he felt himself rich. The next summer he was employed grubbing and clearing land for seven months and he continued working as a farm hand for several years. His first purchase of land was three acres in Cortland township. Two little shanties had been built upon the land, for the use of wood choppers in clearing the land, and putting the two shanties together he made a home. About one acre of the land was broken, while the remainder was covered with stumps. He at once began clearing out the stumps, and as he was able he bought more land in two, three, five and ten acre lots, until he had over seventy acres. Soon he wanted more land and as his seventy acres was in small tracts and lay in bad

shape, he sold out and bought one hundred and eleven acres, upon which he lived for twenty-one years, developing a fine farm, with all modern equipments and accessories. He brought the fields under a high state of cultivation and annually harvested good crops as the reward of the labors he bestowed upon his land. Five years ago he removed to Sycamore and purchased a beautiful home at No. 519 South Main street. It was the realization of the dream of his youth—the possibility of rest in his old age, without necessity for further labor. He is not by any means an old man, in fact seems yet in his prime, but he has achieved his ambition and is now enjoying a well earned and richly deserved rest. Six years ago he purchased another farm, of one hundred and sixty acres, and the two properties bring to him an excellent income.

In 1876 Mr. Nelson was united in marriage to Miss Johannah Christine who was born in Sweden, August 8, 1844, and came to the United States in the same year as her future husband. She had a brother living at St. Charles, Illinois, and later she came to De Kalb, where for four years she was employed in the home of the late Judge Robinson, in whose home her marriage was celebrated. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Nelson have been born four children: Edith, aged four years, and Nellie, aged thirteen months, died of diphtheria one day apart. Anna S. is the wife of Carl Anderson, living on one of her father's farms, and they have one daughter, Ella Lillian: Hulda is the wife of Albert Carlson, a farmer, and they have one child, nine months old, Myrtle V.

Mr. and Mrs. Nelson are members of the Swedish Lutheran church of Sycamore, of which he was one of the organizers. He was also a member of the building committee for the erection of the new church, which is one of the finest of the city, and he hauled the first load of gravel for the building, also contributing liberally in money for its erection. He has always been active and helpful in the work of the church and for several years served as trustee and deacon. He has indeed done much for the upbuilding and progress of the church and his labors have had far-reaching influence. He is always ready to contribute of his time and means for the development and progress of the city. Soon after coming to America he took out naturalization papers and has always been a

republican but not an office seeker. He is thoroughly American in thought and interests. His life record proves the sure rewards of character, for he is most highly esteemed wherever known, and also indicates that success is not a matter of genius, but the outcome of clear judgment and unfaltering industry.

LOUIS ROHRER.

Louis Rohrer, now living retired in Sandwich, has a record as a successful business man and one who, moreover, has been a potent factor in influencing public thought and action. He has stood for progress, reform and improvement along many lines and as a member of the general assembly left his impress upon the legislation of the state. His business career is marked by steady advancement and shows a keen recognition of opportunities. He realized fully the value of the present moment nor placed his dependence in the future and thus his life became a strong moving force in agricultural and banking circles and in political service, while his three score years and ten are now crowned with the honor and respect of his fellowmen.

Louis Rohrer was born in Lorraine, France, now a part of Germany, in 1837, his parents being Joseph and Mary Ann (Holter) Rohrer. The father was a farmer by occupation and in 1845 brought his family to the new world, establishing his home near Northville, La Salle county, Illinois, where he purchased and cultivated a tract of farm land.

Louis Rohrer was therefore reared to the work of the fields, early becoming familiar with the task of plowing, planting and harvesting. He pursued his education in the common schools and when he put aside his text-books his entire attention was concentrated upon agricultural interests, which increased in value as the years passed by. He had an excellent farming property, brought his fields under a high state of cultivation and in addition became widely known as a large importer of Percheron horses and brood mares. He did much to improve the grade of stock raised in this part of the state and this department of his business proved to him an important source of income. His home farm comprises four hundred and fifty acres

of valuable land and he also owns three hundred acres in another tract in La Salle county, together with one hundred and ninety acres in De Kalb county. At length he put aside the active management of his general farming and importing and breeding interests and removed to Sandwich, where he has practically lived retired since 1894. He is, however, financially interested in a number of important business concerns, being president of the Somonauk & Sandwich Farmers Insurance Company, a stockholder in the Northern Illinois Telephone Company and a director of the Farmers State Bank of Somonauk, which he aided in organizing. The deposits now amount to three hundred and thirty thousand dollars and the surplus at this writing exceeds the capital and pays an interest of eight per cent.

While Mr. Rohrer has won notable success in his business life and become widely known in connection with his varied interests, he has perhaps attained even greater prominence in connection with his legislative service. He was elected to represent La Salle county in the state legislature in 1890 and again in 1892, and was one of the famous "101" who elected John M. Palmer to the United States senate. He also assisted in securing the passage of the Australian ballot law. He was chairman of the drainage committee, one of the most important committees of the house, and also served on the committees on railroads and warehouses and others. He was especially interested in a law to reduce the interest rate and later had charge of the bill, putting up a stalwart fight for a legal rate of five per cent and six per cent on contract, but the bill passed for five per cent as the legal rate and seven per cent on contract. Mr. Rohrer also drew up a bill for the adoption of a uniform set of school books but did not succeed in getting it before the house. He was an active, influential and prominent member of the legislature while representing La Salle county, but upon his second term he retired from politics although offered the nomination for state senator. He did not desire further political honors, emoluments or service and since his removal to De Kalb county has withdrawn entirely from active political work. He did not come to De Kalb county a stranger, for his reputation had gone far beyond the bounds of La Salle county and in fact he had many personal acquaintances in this county prior to his removal

here. In La Salle county he had filled some local offices, having been school director continuously for twenty-eight years, commissioner of highways for twelve years and supervisor for four years.

On the 4th of July, 1857, Mr. Rohrer was married to Miss Mary Elizabeth Smith, of Somonauk, Illinois, a daughter of Frederick Smith, who was a farmer by occupation and settled in La Salle county in 1834. He came from Germany in 1832 and for a short period was a resident of Pennsylvania, whence he removed to Illinois and took up a claim from the government. Mr. and Mrs. Rohrer became the parents of six children: Ann, now the wife of Charles Brignon, a retired farmer of Leland, Illinois; Charles E., a farmer of La Salle county, who married Adaline Bernard of that county; Clara, the wife of Charles Goodman, a farmer of Rhodes, Iowa; Matilda Jane, the wife of Joseph Miller, a resident farmer of Northville, Illinois; Herbert C., a druggist at Sandwich; and William J., who married Miss Anna Rohrer of Sandwich and has two children. Mr. and Mrs. Louis Rohrer also lost two children in infancy, while a daughter, Elizabeth, died at the age of fifteen years and Emma at the age of three years. The wife and mother died in Sandwich, November 15, 1893.

Mr. Rohrer has since wedded Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Wing, of Newark, Illinois, a daughter of John Canhan, a manufacturer of shoes. She was born in England and came to America at the age of ten years. She holds membership in the Congregational church and Mr. Rohrer attends services with her. He has attained the Knight Templar degree in Masonry, being a member of the commandery at Ottawa, Illinois. He is a broad minded, public-spirited citizen, who takes a deep interest in general affairs and has done much for public progress in Sandwich since locating here. His life has been one of great activity and usefulness and since putting aside the more arduous cares of the farm he has concerned himself with interests of public moment, yet never seeks office. His life record proves that faithfulness to duty and strict adherence to a fixed purpose will do more to advance a man's interest than wealth or advantageous circumstances. The successful men of the day are they who have planned their own advancement and have accomplished it in spite of many obstacles

and with a certainty that could have been attained only through their own efforts. This class of men has a worthy representative in Louis Rohrer.

CHARLES WICKS GARNER.

Charles Wicks Garner, proprietor of one of the leading drug stores of De Kalb, his native city, was born October 16, 1858, his parents being John C. and Eliza (Rolf) Garner, whose family numbered four children. Two of the number are yet living, the brother of our subject being John P. Garner, who was born April 2, 1867, and at one time was county commissioner of Cook county. He resides at Austin, a suburb of Chicago.

The father, John C. Garner, was a native of Chilton, Buckinghamshire, England, born January 31, 1832, and a son of Richard and Mary (Wicks) Garner. Richard Garner was a shoemaker by trade and spent his entire life in England. John C. Garner learned the trade of shoemaking in the large shop conducted by his father and uncles in Ickford, England. On the 3d of March, 1855, he married Miss Eliza Rolf in the city of Oxford, and on the 5th of April the newly wedded couple started for the United States, arriving in De Kalb, Illinois, on the 28th of May following. The journey across the Atlantic was made in a sailing vessel called the City of New York and consumed five weeks. A sister of Mrs. Garner had come to De Kalb about a year previous and her letters telling of the new country and its possibilities influenced John C. and Eliza Garner to seek a home in the new world. After coming to De Kalb Mr. Garner worked for some time at his trade but as there was not enough patronage to keep him busy all the time he devoted some days to farm labor in De Kalb township. Later he accepted a position in the mercantile establishment of R. K. Chandler, with whom he remained for several years, while later he was employed by the firm of Tyndal & Brown. Later he and his son Charles purchased the mercantile business of John H. Lewis, conducting the store under the firm style of John C. Garner & Son until the death of the father on the 10th of January, 1898. He was thus long associated with commercial interests in De Kalb and was always known as a man of resolute spirit and



JOHN C. GARNE

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unflinching integrity. In politics he was a staunch republican and while never an office seeker he served as alderman of De Kalb. He was always active in support of any movement for the betterment of the community in which he lived and was a very successful business man and worthy citizen, who was held in the highest esteem by all with whom he came in contact. A thirty-second degree Mason, he was one of the active workers of the lodge and in his life exemplified its beneficent principles. He possessed superior musical talent and for many years in his earlier life was a member of the De Kalb band.

His wife, who was born in Ickford, Buckinghamshire, England, November 18, 1829, was a daughter of George and Frances (Gunthrip) Rolf. Her father was a stone-mason by trade and came to De Kalb county with Mr. and Mrs. Garner in 1855, making the city of De Kalb his home up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1890, when he was eighty-nine years of age. He followed his trade up to within two years of his death. An active and devoted member of the Baptist church, he served for many years as one of its deacons and he was also one of the well known pioneer residents of De Kalb. His daughter, Mrs. Garner, is still living and makes her home with her son Charles at the age of seventy-seven years, being a remarkably well preserved lady. She, too, is a member of the Baptist church. She has one brother, Raymond Rolf, who is a mason by trade and resides in De Kalb.

Charles Wicks Garner, whose name introduces this review, was reared at home, acquiring his education in the De Kalb public schools. At the age of eighteen years he entered the drug and grocery store of John H. Lewis, under whose direction he became thoroughly acquainted with the drug trade. That he was faithful and competent is indicated by the fact that he was retained in Mr. Lewis' employ for nine years, and on the 17th of May, 1886, he and his father purchased the business from Mr. Lewis, conducting it together up to the time of the father's death in 1898, since which time Mr. Garner of this review has carried on the business. After his father's death he purchased his interest in the business and has since conducted the store under his own name. He is one of the able and successful merchants of De Kalb, carrying a large and well selected stock of

groceries and kindred goods, and his enterprise and careful management are bringing to him a gratifying measure of success.

On the 31st of July, 1895, Mr. Garner was married to Miss Elva Beaupre, a daughter of Charles E. Beaupre, who is mentioned elsewhere in this volume. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Garner have been born three children: Charles W., who was born January 29, 1897; John W., October 20, 1898; and Sara C., February 4, 1903.

Mr. Garner belongs to De Kalb lodge, No. 144, A. F. & A. M.; De Kalb chapter, No. 52, R. A. M.; Sycamore commandery, No. 15, K. T.; and to Medinah Temple of the Mystic Shrine in Chicago, being a member since 1892. He is also identified with De Kalb lodge, No. 215, K. P., and with the uniformed rank of that order, and he is a charter member of De Kalb lodge, B. P. O. E. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and he served for two years as city treasurer of De Kalb. In his business career he has placed his dependence upon energy and determination and as the years have passed he has demonstrated the force of these qualities as a factor in winning prosperity. Few men are better known in De Kalb than Mr. Garner, for he is one of its native citizens, having spent his entire life here, covering a period of forty-eight years. Wide-awake, alert and enterprising, he manifests the spirit that has been the dominant factor in the upbuilding of the middle west and a successful business is now the tangible evidence of his well directed life work.

HENRY HURLBUT WAGNER.

Henry Hurlbut Wagner, a dry-goods merchant of De Kalb and one of its best known business men, was born in La Salle county, Illinois, July 6, 1847, his parents being Joseph H. and Lois (Hough) Wagner, in whose family were two children: Theodosia, the wife of D. E. Butts, of Paola, Kansas; and Henry H.

The parents died during the early boyhood of their son Henry, who came to De Kalb county to make his home with his maternal grandmother on the old family homestead in Somonauk township. There he was reared to his sixteenth year, when he located in De Kalb and found employ-

ment with the mercantile firm of W. & F. Winship. In the spring of 1864 he terminated his mercantile relation in order to join the army, enlisting as a member of Company K. One Hundred and Thirty-second Regiment of Illinois Volunteers, for one hundred days' service. Soon after his return he entered the employ of R. K. Chandler, one of the early merchants of De Kalb, with whom he remained until the death of Mr. Chandler in 1875. He then embarked in the dry-goods business on his own account and from that period has been continuously and successfully connected with mercantile interests in De Kalb, being one of the best known merchants of the county. His previous experience well qualified him to conduct a store of his own and he has always carried a good and well assorted line of dry goods, putting forth earnest effort to please his customers and conducting his business in harmony with the old and time-tried maxim that honesty is the best policy.

Mr. Wagner is now a member of Merritt Simonds post, No. 383, G. A. R., and maintains pleasant relations with his old army comrades in this manner. He is also connected with the Modern Woodmen of America, and his political allegiance is given to the republican party, of which he has been a staunch advocate since age conferred upon him the right of franchise.

On the 24th of March, 1871, occurred the marriage of Mr. Wagner and Miss Nancy E. Waite, a daughter of William W. Waite, of North Adams, Massachusetts. Six children have been born unto them. Eva Lenore, the eldest, is the wife of E. E. Embree, a coal merchant of De Kalb. Cora F. is the wife of V. C. Goodyear, of De Kalb. Elvin Henry, born November 12, 1879, enlisted in 1898 in the regular army for service in the Spanish-American war, took part in the Santiago campaign and was discharged after peace was declared. He immediately re-enlisted in his regiment and the following spring was sent to the Philippines, where he was on duty for five years. On the 1st of February, 1901, while at Manilla, he was commissioned second lieutenant and was commissioned first lieutenant August 21, 1905, while at Fort McPherson, Georgia. He is now stationed with his regiment at Fort Douglas, Salt Lake City, but the command at the present time is under orders to return to the Philippines. Lieutenant Wagner

is a young man deserving much credit. He has risen from the ranks by his own ability and merit, receiving a lieutenant's commission shortly after he had passed the twenty-first anniversary of his birth. The sons come naturally by their love of and proficiency in military matters, for not only was their father a soldier but their uncle, Arthur L. Wagner, was a graduate of West Point in the class of 1875 and was a recognized authority on military tactics not only in this country but in foreign lands as well. He served as adjutant general during the Philippine service and his commission as brigadier general lay on his desk at the time of his death. The younger members of the family are: Nina Louise, who resides at home; Hayden Waite, who was born December 21, 1885, and is now a cadet at West Point, representing the Twelfth District of Illinois; and Harry Hough, who is a graduate of the De Kalb high school of the class of 1906 and is now the chief assistant of his father in the mercantile business.

Mr. Wagner's connection with commercial interests in De Kalb covers a long period. No other dry-goods dealer of the city has been so long associated with its business affairs and none sustain a more unassailable reputation for commercial integrity and honor. He has won success through close application and unfaltering diligence and at the same time has gained the good will and esteem of his fellowmen.

GEORGE O. GREELEY.

George O. Greeley, whose farm of eighty acres on section 10, Clinton township, responds readily to the care and cultivation which he bestows upon it, returning good harvests, was born in Orleans county, New York, November 6, 1835, and, during his boyhood while living on the shores of Lake Ontario, he saved three of his schoolmates from drowning at different times by dragging them from the water. His parents were natives of New Hampshire and unto their marriage were born ten children, the family coming to the west in 1852, at which time they took up their abode near Aurora, Illinois, upon a farm which the father cultivated.

George O. Greeley was at that time a youth of seventeen years. He has always been identified with general agricultural pursuits. When he first came to Illinois he assisted in the arduous task of breaking the sod and tilled the land where the village of Waterman now stands. This was in 1854. He has otherwise aided in the improvement and development of the county and today carries on general agricultural pursuits on his own account, having a good property of eighty acres on section 10, Clinton township. The entire farm presents a neat and well cared for appearance, indicating the careful supervision and practical methods of the owner. In 1857, with other boys from Aurora, he went to Kansas to aid John Brown and Jim Lane in their fight for freedom and to add another free state to the Union. He voted for the Topeka constitution and acted as one of the judges of election, besides taking an active part in other elections. He saw Governor Gary at Tecompton, guarded by soldiers to protect him from the border ruffians that came from Missouri.

Mr. Greeley was married to Miss Cynthia M. Wilcox, who was born in Bradford county, Pennsylvania, of which state her parents were also natives. In their family were four children and by her marriage Mrs. Greeley has become the mother of four children. Clarence L., born September 16, 1867, is still single and lives with his father upon the home farm, cultivating the fields and also carrying on a dairy business. Liston Q., who was born October 25, 1868, is now a practicing physician and surgeon of Duluth, Minnesota; Henry P. and Harold W., twins, were born August 16, 1874. The latter is a dentist practicing at Duluth, Minnesota, while the former is a jeweler and oculist of Chicago. Harold married Miss Cora Crum and they have become the parents of two children, Rosa and Cynthia. In addition to their own children Mr. Greeley has reared and is educating an adopted daughter, Bessie, who is now attending school at Aurora, Illinois. Mrs. Greeley, the wife of our subject, died October 9, 1906, her death being caused by the explosion of a lamp. The news of this catastrophe was a shock to the entire community and her death was the occasion of deep regret among her many friends.

Mr. Greeley and his family spent ten years in the state of Minnesota on account of his health but in 1893 he returned to Illinois and took up

his abode upon the farm which is still his home. He and his children are members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Waterman and in politics he is an earnest and ardent prohibitionist, firmly believing in the principles of the party. He was a member of the state legislature while in Minnesota and has always been interested in the growth and success of the party and in the adoption of its principles, yet has never been an active politician in the sense of office seeking. He is much esteemed as a man of genuine worth and is well known as a pioneer settler of the county, for more than a half a century has passed since he came to the middle west.

BURR B. SMILEY.

Burr B. Smiley, who is well known in financial circles as the vice president and manager of the First National Bank of Malta and whose name carries weight on commercial paper, was born in Kaneville, Kane county, Illinois, April 30, 1859, his parents being George W. and Azubah (Smith) Smiley. The father, a native of Pennsylvania, was a farmer and merchant and lived a life of great activity and business enterprise, whereby he was enabled to accumulate a remunerative estate. He died in Malta in 1896 and Mrs. Smiley is still living in that city.

Burr B. Smiley, the eldest of the family of five children, accompanied his parents on their removal to De Kalb county in his boyhood days and the public schools of Malta afforded him his educational privileges. Like his father, he has led a busy life, for after putting aside his text-books he entered his father's store at Malta and became thoroughly acquainted with the various business enterprises which claimed the time and attention of the elder Smiley. About 1895 the son began business on his own account as a dealer in hardware and farm implements, conducting his store successfully for about five years, when he sold out. Two years later he became the vice president and manager of the First National Bank of Malta and has continued in the business to the present time. The name of Smiley has ever stood as a synonym for business integrity, diligence and reliability and in his present connection Mr. Smiley has done

much to promote the welfare and insure the success of the financial institution with which he is connected. He is a man of good business discernment, seldom at fault in matters of judgment, and recognizes possibilities and opportunities with keen foresight.

On the 21st of October, 1880, Mr. Smiley was united in marriage, at Malta, to Miss Emma J. Peters, who was born on the 16th of June, 1858, a daughter of Caleb and Mary (Graves) Peters, natives of England, in whose family were six children. Her parents now reside in Chicago. The daughter, Emma J., is the eldest of their family. Mr. and Mrs. Smiley became the parents of three children: Eva Maywood, born July 3, 1882; Bernice B., born June 19, 1890; and George Clifford, who was born April 29, 1892, and died on the 6th of November, 1897. The daughters are now living in De Kalb, where they can have the benefit of instruction in the schools and also in music in that city. To bring about this result Mr. Smiley purchased and furnished a pleasant home at No. 608 Sycamore road, where the daughters now live and there Mr. and Mrs. Smiley make their headquarters while in De Kalb, but as yet they have not changed their residence from Malta, being greatly attached to this place, where they have for more than a quarter of a century made their home and where Mr. Smiley's business interests are largely located.

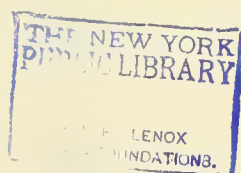
Mr. Smiley has not only figured prominently in commercial and financial circles but has also been a recognized leader in local political affairs and has been honored with a number of offices. For eight years he served as postmaster of Malta, was president of the village for seven years, for one year was clerk and for four years has been a member of the board of trustees. He succeeded his father as township treasurer after George Smiley had filled the office for thirty years, and Burr B. Smiley has now been the incumbent for ten years. He has also been a member of the board of supervisors for seven years and his official service has been characterized by the utmost devotion to duty, a thorough understanding of the work that devolves upon him and an unquestioned conscientiousness in its execution. He belongs to Wayside lodge, No. 41, K. P., of Malta, and in fact is one of its most prominent representatives. He stands as a worthy type of the knight and for

all that the order means, and was selected by his lodge as its first grand representative and has attended seven sessions of the grand lodge. Here his energy, zeal and ability have met recognition by appointment to the chairmanship of important standing committees for three terms, refusing for business reasons the appointment for another term from the grand chancellor. He acted for two terms as deputy grand chancellor and has a wide acquaintance of loyal friends among the knights in the district where he resides, beside being well known by nearly all the members of the grand lodge.

His political allegiance is given to the democracy and for twenty years he has been chairman of the democratic county committee—a fact which shows that he is the recognized leader of the party in this locality. He attends the Congregational church and as a citizen he is progressive and aggressive when good to the commonwealth is to be achieved. He is identified with every business and social movement worthy of note in his home town and no history of Malta would be complete without the mention of Burr B. Smiley. There is in him a vein of seriousness which enables him to judge life at its true value and yet he is not without that social, genial nature which renders him very popular and makes him an entertaining friend and companion.

MRS. CATY S. CARTER.

Mrs. Caty S. Carter, well known in De Kalb county, has resided within the borders of the state for more than seventy years. She was born on the 14th of May, 1836, in Cortland county, New York, and on the 19th of September of the same year started with her parents for Illinois, arriving in Kane county on the 29th of November. From that time to the present she has resided in this state. Her father, Harvey B. Densmore, was born in Hartford, Windsor county, Vermont, September 25, 1815, while her mother, Mrs. Caty S. Densmore, was born March 25, 1811. Her death occurred on the 21st of July, 1841, and later Mr. Densmore wedded Mary J. Mather. The family lived in true pioneer style during the early years of their residence in this state, sharing in the hardships





JAMES CARTER.



MRS. CATY CARTER.

and trials incident to pioneer life when the prairies were largely uncultivated, the streams unbridged and the land unclaimed.

Amid pioneer environments Mrs. Carter was reared and was trained to the duties of the household such as usually falls to the lot of the maidens who live upon farms in frontier settlements. She was taught to make candles and do all the work of the household. At the age of eleven years she visited Chief Shabbona at his sugar camp and on several occasions met and talked with him. She became one of the pioneer teachers of Illinois, commencing that work when only sixteen years old. She remained a resident of Kane county until she was married in Aurora on the 27th of March, 1858, to Smith D. Avery, and then came with her husband to De Kalb county, which has since been her home.

Mr. Avery was born August 27, 1836, and when the Civil war broke out enlisted on the 21st of August, 1861, in the Aurora Dragoons, which was one of two cavalry companies attached to an infantry regiment, becoming Company A, Thirty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He remained at Camp Hammond, Aurora, Illinois, until September 18 and then went with his command to Camp Rolla, Missouri, where the regiment remained until after Mr. Avery's death. They did scouting duty in that state and on one of these expeditions he contracted a cold which resulted in his death on the 1st of January, 1862, and he was buried at Camp Rolla. Mr. and Mrs. Avery became the parents of three children: Anna D., born April 5, 1859, lives with her mother on section 3, Afton township; Anson A., born September 21, 1860, is mentioned more fully below.

Smith D., Jr., who was born January 7, 1862, and died August 21, 1893, married Lida Brown and they had one child, Harold Smith, who lives with his mother in De Kalb.

On the 21st of November, 1862, Mrs. Avery gave her hand in marriage to James Carter, who was born in Springfield, Massachusetts, December 25, 1832. He was a son of James and Anna M. (Nye) Carter, both now deceased. His father was a clergyman of the Methodist Episcopal church, was a native of New England and was of English lineage. At his death, which occurred in 1845, he left to his son James, then a youth of thirteen years, a fortune amounting to about sev-

enty thousand dollars. A guardian was appointed who squandered a portion of the estate but Mr. Carter received the remainder and thus started out in life in comfortable financial circumstances. His grandfathers in both the paternal and maternal lines were soldiers of the Revolutionary war.

Mr. Carter lived under the parental roof until the death of his father and during that time attended the common schools. He continued his education until he attained the age of seventeen years, when his desire to increase his worldly possessions was augmented by a knowledge of the discovery of gold in California and he determined to make his way to that state. He therefore crossed the plains and after a long and tedious trip safely arrived on the Pacific coast. On one occasion, while out prospecting in a gulch, a fog came up and he was lost. His mates began a search for him but did not find him until three days and nights had passed. He almost perished from want of food. For about ten months he remained in California and then returned overland to the east, settling in Cayuga county, New York. In the meantime he had spent his fortune and was compelled to go to work to provide for his own livelihood. He entered the employ of a German and the first day's work which he ever did was chopping wood. He remained with the German for two months and two days and at the end of that time received a salary of but fifteen dollars. He then came to Illinois but shortly afterward returned to New York. For ten months he worked in a machine shop, after which he purchased a threshing machine and engaged in threshing grain. He was thus employed for ten years and when not busy in the harvest fields he would purchase horses in all parts of the country, speculating wherever he could make a dollar. In July, 1861, he came to De Kalb county, Illinois, and for two or three years operated land on shares. In 1866 he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, to which he afterward added four hundred and forty-seven acres, and at the time of his death he was the owner of a very valuable farming property of seven hundred and forty acres. In this business he displayed keen discernment and careful management, was thoroughly reliable in all his transactions and was never known to take advantage of the necessities of his fellowmen in any business. He served as highway commissioner and assessor

for a number of years and was school director at the time of his death, having filled that position for a long time and being succeeded by Miss Avery. He and his wife attended the Methodist church of De Kalb and he contributed to the support of all churches. He died August 27, 1902, respected by all who knew him because of what he had accomplished and by reason of the honorable, straightforward methods which he ever followed.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Carter were born four children: Charles E., now of Columbus, Ohio, was born September 27, 1863, and was married June 29, 1904, to Nora Robbins. James H., of Afton township, was born October 16, 1865, and married Lulu Downer, by whom he has one child, Charlotte Sara. Caty S., born June 22, 1867, is the wife of George E. Wilcox, of Afton township, and they have three children, Stanley E., Faith and Anna A. Grace E., born July 29, 1869, is the wife of J. H. Bliss, of Sugar Grove, Kane county, and they have four children, J. H., Jr., Janette E., Catherine H. and Carter A. Living on the old homestead with her mother is Miss Anna D. Avery, who is now serving as school director of her district and is clerk of the board, having acted in that capacity for four years. She is a lady much esteemed and has many friends in De Kalb county. Anson Avery assists in the management of his mother's property and has acted as trustee of schools for three years. He was married October 9, 1884, to Carrie M. Breese, of Aurora, and they have three children: Grace C., who was born October 1, 1886, and was married November 8, 1906, to A. E. Pelton, now living with Mrs. Carter; and Anson Raymond and Rowland Alonzo, twins, born March 5, 1891.

For almost a half century Mrs. Carter has been a resident of De Kalb county and has made her home in Illinois for about seventy-one years. She enjoys the warm regard of those who know her and has a very wide acquaintance in this part of the state owing to her long residence here. The traveler of today noting the splendid condition of the country can scarcely realize the condition which met the family when they came from New York more than seven decades ago. The land was in its primitive condition to a large extent, for only a few tracts had been placed under the plow. It would require years of arduous, untiring effort to transform the wild prairies into richly culti-

vated fields which are today seen. Only four years before had the Black Hawk war occurred and there were still many traces of Indian habitation in the state. Crude farming machinery was used, for invention had not brought improved agricultural implements. While the homes were widely scattered a spirit of hospitality pervaded the frontier settlements and the neighbors were always willing to do everything possible to favor one another, and many pleasures were enjoyed in the visits they paid each other, while at the same time they endured many hardships and difficulties in their efforts to reclaim the region from the domain of the red men and convert it into uses for the white race.

JOHN LEE COOPER.

John Lee Cooper is a genial and popular man who has gained many friends during the period of his residence in De Kalb, where he is now engaged in the grocery business. He was born in Sandusky, Wisconsin, August 11, 1816. His father Francis M. Cooper, was born in Terre Haute, Indiana, November 10, 1850, and is a minister in the church of the Latter Day Saints. He wedded Laura Lee, who was born at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, in 1853. They had three children of whom John Lee Cooper is the second. His maternal grandfather, John Lee, was a soldier of the Mexican war and also defended his country in the war of Rebellion.

John Lee Cooper was educated in the common schools of Sandusky, Wisconsin, and afterward worked at farm labor for four months. He then went to Plano, Illinois, where he learned the carpenter's trade and for six months remained in that place, after which he came to De Kalb, where for a year and a half he was employed by Dr. Carter. He afterward spent eight years in the employ of V. A. Glidden, acting as bookkeeper of the store during the latter part of that time. Subsequently he spent a year and five months as a traveling salesman for the National Biscuit Company and on the expiration of that period, entered into partnership with G. C. Pearl under the firm style of Pearl & Cooper at the corner of Main and Sixth streets, De Kalb. They opened a gen-

eral grocery store which they are still conducting, carrying a large and carefully selected line of staple and fancy groceries. Their business is growing and has already reached large proportions.

Mr. Cooper was married in Beloit, Wisconsin, April 25, 1896, to Miss Jean Proban Keir, who was born in Braidwood, Illinois, April 10, 1878. Her father, James Keir, was manager of a grocery store. Her mother, who bore the maiden name of Jennie Proban, was born in Utah. In their family were three children, of whom Mrs. Cooper was the second. She was educated in the schools of Braidwood, Illinois, and of West Bay City, Michigan. By her marriage she became the mother of three children: Maud May, who was born March 16, 1897; Ruth Gladys, who was born November 6, 1899; and Irene Lucille, who was born November 6, 1901.

The family have a pleasant home at No. 428 East South street and the hospitality of the household is greatly enjoyed by those who know them. Mr. Cooper is a republican prohibitionist and believes firmly in the cause of temperance, frequently voting in support of the candidates who stand for the same principles. He is a member of the church of the Latter Day Saints and has attained a prominent place in the citizenship of De Kalb. He possesses a genial disposition and kindly manner which have rendered him popular and he is now numbered among the prominent young merchants of the city.

JOHN HOUGHTBY.

John Houghtby, a farmer residing on section 21, Shabbona township, is a native of Lincolnshire, England, born on the 1st of March, 1858. His father, John Houghtby, Sr., was also a native of the same country and the year of his birth was 1819. Before coming to the United States he was foreman on a large farm in England and in 1876, accompanied by his family, crossed the Atlantic to the new world and engaged in farming in Shabbona township, De Kalb county, Illinois. He met with a good measure of success here and later purchased land which he divided among his children several years prior to his death. He

lived to the advanced age of eighty-two years, making his home with his son John during his last days. Of the Methodist Episcopal church he was a faithful member. He married Margaret Gibson, who was born in England, September 5, 1815, and died at the home of her son John on the 31st of August, 1899. She was a worthy woman of many good traits of character and was a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. and Mrs. Houghtby had a family of eight children: George A., now living at Shabbona Grove; Susan, who died in England two years ago; Titus, who died in Canada; Charles G., a resident farmer of Shabbona township; Elizabeth, now Mrs. Hall, a widow living in England; Mrs. Marian Nicholson, a widow living in the village of Shabbona; John, of this review; and Mrs. Ray, of Belvidere, Illinois.

John Houghtby attended the common schools of England and worked at farm labor there until he came to America with his parents when nineteen years of age. He and his father were employed on the Storey farm for ten years and Mr. Houghtby of this review afterward bought the land upon which he now resides. He then bought eighty acres of the land which his father had purchased, and by additional purchases from time to time has extended the boundaries of his place until he now owns two hundred and forty acres of very productive land, upon which are good buildings, while everything about the place is indicative of his careful supervision and able management. He carries on general farming and in addition to tilling the soil, feeds about one carload of cattle and hogs each year.

When twenty-six years of age Mr. Houghtby was married to Miss Elizabeth Stimpson, a native of this county, daughter of George Stimpson, one of the early settlers. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Houghtby has been blessed with seven children: Sarah E., now the wife of George Mullins of Lee county; John F., who married Ellen Hanson and now lives in Shabbona township; George S.; Clyde W.; Edward E.; Harry W.; and Bessie M.; all at home. Mr. Houghtby is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and in politics is a republican. He served as school director for a number of years but is not filling that position at the present time. Fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America. With no

special family or pecuniary advantages at the outset of his career he has worked steadily and persistently and has won not only success but also an honored name. He is truly a self-made man and deserves much credit for what he has accomplished. It is the men who are self-reliant and industrious, who depend upon their own resources and are of recognized value who are real factors in a community's upbuilding, and to this class Mr. Houghtby belongs.

MRS. LURENA KINGSBURY DE FOREST.

Mrs. Lurena Kingsbury De Forest, who since 1837 has been a resident of De Kalb county and now makes her home in the city of De Kalb, where she is widely and favorably known, was born in Lewis county, New York, December 30, 1831. She is a granddaughter of Asa and Lurena (Hartsen) Kingsbury, both of whom were natives of Connecticut. Her father, Flavel C. Kingsbury, was born in Connecticut in 1796 and after reaching adult age he married Tryphena Holmes, whose birth occurred in Connecticut in 1797, her parents being John and Rachel (Eason) Holmes. Mr. and Mrs. Kingsbury became the parents of eight children, of whom Mrs. De Forest is the seventh in order of birth. The father learned and followed the trade of cabinet-making, thus providing for his family.

Mrs. De Forest was educated in the common schools of Herkimer county, New York, and in the academy at Rome, that state, which she attended to the age of eighteen years, leaving school in 1849. She lived at home and with an aunt until her marriage, which was celebrated in Utica, New York, February 5, 1852. She became the wife of Lansing De Forest, who was born in Southville, New York, May 10, 1831. His parents were John and Elizabeth (Pooler) De Forest, the latter a native of the Empire state. John De Forest was a farmer by occupation and in his family were five children, of whom Lansing De Forest was the second. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Lansing De Forest were born seven children, namely: Mary Ella, who was born October 24, 1852, and died September 4, 1902; Albert Eugene, born February 17, 1854; Lizzie Antoinette, December 25, 1855;

Inverna Belle, who was born March 15, 1858, and died July 20, 1867; Sarah Phenia, born October 18, 1861; Carrie Melvina, January 1, 1864; and Lettie Eugenia, July 3, 1870. Mrs. De Forest has the following grandchildren: Fred E. Ingham, born April 12, 1870; Roy F. Ingham, born March 31, 1878; Lurena A. Smith, born October 30, 1878; Gertrude G. Mosher, born October 5, 1886; Inverna B. Mosher, born June 6, 1888; Harold L. Mosher, born February 2, 1890; Mildred L. Mosher, born December 25, 1892; Gladys A. Mosher, born April 11, 1895; Wylda C. Mosher, born June 27, 1897; George E. Mosher, born March 30, 1901; Lynn D. Chambers, born July 26, 1887; and L. De Forest Hunt, born October 17, 1901. There are also seven great-grandchildren.

It was in the year 1857 that Lansing De Forest came with his family to De Kalb county, settling in Cortland township, but later he purchased a second farm in Afton township that is still the property of his widow. His time and energies were given to general agricultural pursuits with good success until 1884, when, having acquired a handsome competence, he retired from active business life and with his family removed to the city of De Kalb, where he spent his remaining days, passing away July 5, 1898, at the age of sixty-seven years. He was quite active and influential in community affairs and for a third of a century he filled the office of commissioner of highways. His political allegiance was given to the republican party and he was deeply interested in its growth and success. Wherever known he was esteemed for his many good qualities, for he was reliable and honorable in business and progressive in citizenship, faithful in friendship and most loyal to the ties of home and family.

Mrs. De Forest still makes her home in De Kalb and is a most estimable lady, who enjoys the warm regard and friendship of all with whom she has been brought in contact. She stands for all that is right, true and just and co-operates in many movements for benevolent work. She holds membership in the Woman's Relief Corps, in the Woman's Christian Temperance Union and in the Home Missionary Society. Mr. and Mrs. De Forest had little means when they came to the west but through their united efforts they won a goodly measure of prosperity, becoming the own-



Samuel DeHonest

ers of a very valuable farm property of three hundred and ten acres of choice land and a beautiful home in the city. Although she has reached the age of seventy-five years Mrs. De Forest yet enjoys excellent health and is a most social and entertaining lady, who has been an excellent mother to her family and is popular with her many friends, who are numbered among the rich and poor, the young and old.

ISAAC MORRIS HAY.

Isaac Morris Hay is a retired farmer of Sandwich, owning five hundred acres of valuable land in De Kalb county, from which he derives an excellent income. He was born in New York city, December 9, 1835, and has therefore passed the seventieth milestone on life's journey. His parents were George P. and Harriet (Morris) Hay. The father in early life learned the tailor's trade and conducted a clothing business in New York. He was born in the eastern metropolis and belonged to a family of sailors who were of Scotch descent. The grandfather of our subject was a native of New York city but in early childhood was taken back to Scotland, where he lived until he was eleven years of age, when he again came to the United States. He married a Miss Pew, a Virginia lady, and their son, George P., was born in New York, where he continued through his boyhood and early manhood, when, seeking broader business opportunities in the middle west, he came to Illinois in 1837. Settling in Kendall county, he there followed the tailoring business until 1854, when he removed to Sandwich and opened a shop and clothing store. This he conducted successfully until 1875, when he retired from business life, spending his remaining days in the enjoyment of a well merited rest. He died February 11, 1887, at the age of eighty-two years, while his wife passed away at the advanced age of ninety-six years. She was a native of New Jersey and of Holland Dutch extraction, belonged to the same family of which Gouverneur Morris, the noted financier and the financial savior of the country in the war of the Rebellion, was a member. Both Mr. and Mrs. Hay attended the Methodist church and in his political allegiance

Mr. Hay was a stalwart republican from the time of the organization of the party.

Isaac Morris Hay was brought to Illinois in 1837 when but two years of age and pursued his education in the public schools at Yorkville. He began earning his own living at farm labor, for which he received five dollars per month, and as time passed and his business ability increased his wages were enlarged proportionately. At length from his earnings he was enabled to save a sufficient sum to purchase a farm and became the owner of two hundred and fifteen acres of land, which he still owns. He then began farming on his own account and transformed his property into a richly developed tract, the fields returning to him golden harvests as a reward for the care and labor he bestowed upon them. As his financial resources have permitted he has increased his realty holdings until he now has over five hundred acres and from this he derives an excellent income, enabling him to enjoy the comforts and some of the luxuries of life without recourse to further labor.

Mr. Hay has figured prominently in community affairs, his worth and ability being widely recognized by his fellow townsmen, who have kept him almost continuously in public office. He was highway commissioner for twenty-four years in Somonauk township and the excellent condition of the roads was due to his efforts and his progressive spirit in this connection. He was also drainage commissioner for district No. 1, Victor township, for seven years, supervisor of Somonauk township for four years and school director for thirty years. He does not now, however, participate actively in public office, preferring to leave such duties to others, but still maintains a deep interest in the success of the republican party, of which he has been a staunch advocate since its organization.

On the 16th of January, 1866, Mr. Hay was united in marriage to Miss Arelia Latham, a daughter of Thomas F. Latham, a farmer and miner. Following the discovery of gold in California her father made a trip to the Pacific coast in 1849, traveling across the plains with ox teams and sharing the usual hardships, privations and trials incident to such a journey. He spent four years in the far west and then returned by the water route. After a short period, however, he soon went again, spending a few years in the

Golden state, after which he located in Colorado, where he remained for ten years. He was a native of Woodstock, Connecticut, and died at the venerable age of eighty-seven years.

Mr. and Mrs. Hay are the parents of five sons. Walter Morris, born November 25, 1871, and now living in Sandwich, was married June 23, 1896, to Miss Kate Lowman and they have two sons, Gilbert and Isaac M. Archie Thomas Hay, born February 24, 1876, and now a traveling salesman residing in Aurora, was married in June, 1904, to Gertrude Robinson, of Sandwich. Charles P., a farmer of Somonauk township, was born January 17, 1878, and on the 6th of January, 1904, wedded Anna A. Gundson. Fred L., born December 16, 1879, and living at Sandwich, was married September 6, 1906, to Dora Burkhart of Somonauk. George L., born October 11, 1884, is at home. Mr. and Mrs. Hay have also lost two children: Julia Helen, who was born December 8, 1869, and died at the age of six months; and Hattie A., who was born March 28, 1874, and died April 1, 1904.

Mr. and Mrs. Hay are people of the highest respectability, enjoying in large measure the friendship, confidence and good will of those with whom they have become acquainted during the long years of their residence in De Kalb county. Mr. Hay has led a busy, active and useful life and his well directed labors have been crowned with a goodly measure of success. Starting out to earn his own living at the meager wage of five dollars per month, he is today numbered among the men of affluence in the county whose financial possessions are such as to render further business no longer a necessity.

THOMAS ADAMS.

Thomas Adams is one of the worthy citizens that Ireland has furnished to De Kalb county and that he has worked his way from a humble financial position to one of prosperity is indicated by the fact that he today owns a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres situated on section 28, Malta township. He was born in Canada, May 5, 1842, a son of James and Margaret Adams, who were natives of Ireland. Upon their emigration to the new world they settled in the state of

New York, where they lived for one year, subsequent to which time they removed to Durham county, Canada, and there the father passed away. The mother passed away in Canada, March 17, 1889. Their family numbered three sons and two daughters.

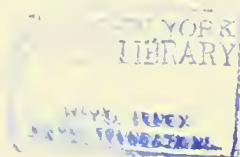
Thomas Adams was but a small boy at the time of his father's death and he was therefore early thrown upon his own resources. The year 1865 witnessed his arrival in Illinois and for seven years he was engaged at farm labor, at the end of which time he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land where he now lives, situated on section 28, Malta township, De Kalb county. He began the work of cultivating and improving his farm and as the years have passed by he has prospered in his undertakings until he is today the owner of two hundred and forty acres of well improved land, thus constituting him one of the substantial citizens of this section of the state. He has worked diligently and energetically in carrying on his farm and his efforts have been rewarded by the fine property which is today his.

Mr. Adams was married in De Kalb county, February 11, 1873, to Miss Rebecca Mutton, who was born in Canada, February 19, 1850. His parents, John and Elizabeth (Braden) Mutton, were natives of England, the former born in Cornwall, November 26, 1825, and the latter November 26, 1821. They were married in their native country, after which they emigrated to Canada, and later came to Illinois, settling at Creston, Ogle county. Their family numbered two sons and five daughters. The mother passed away in 1892.

Unto our subject and his wife have been born fourteen children, of whom nine still survive, the family record being as follows: Edith, born December 6, 1873; George, who was born November 11, 1874, and died at the age of twenty-four years; John J., who was born July 26, 1876, and died at the age of five months; Margaret E., born July 20, 1878; William Roy, born June 16, 1879. Charles G., born July 26, 1880; Edgar, born July 10, 1882; Stanley H., who was born January 12, 1885, and died at the age of about twenty years; Walter, born July 20, 1886; Frank, born December 5, 1887; Ruby and Ruth, twins, who were born October 14, 1890, and the former died at the age of one year; Cornelia, born August 6, 1893;



MR. AND MRS. THOMAS ADAMS.



and Ferial, who was born April 18, 1895, and died when ten months old.

Mr. Adams has supported the men and measures of the republican party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He served as commissioner of Malta township for three years but aside from that office has never been active in political affairs. He and his family attend the services of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Adams is truly a self-made man for, being dependent upon his own resources from an early age, he has gradually worked his way upward until he is now in possession of valuable landed interests in De Kalb county. He possesses the sterling characteristics so dominant in the Irish race—those of industry, honesty and economy—and through this means he has gained a place among the well-to-do citizens of this section of the state.

A. G. LINDBERG.

A. G. Lindberg is the owner of a valuable farm property in Afton township and is engaged quite extensively in the raising of Roan Durham cattle, Poland China hogs and Shire horses. His business interests are carefully managed and as the years pass he is making substantial progress toward the goal of prosperity. A native of Sweden, he was born April 23, 1859. His parents were likewise natives of that country. Mr. Lindberg remained a resident of Sweden until after he had attained his majority, when he bade adieu to friends and native country and sailed for the new world, for he had heard favorable reports concerning the opportunities offered in this land and believed that he might enjoy greater success in business in the United States. On the 8th of May, 1881, therefore, he sailed from the old world, landing at Philadelphia. For a year thereafter he remained a resident of Pennsylvania and in 1882 he came to De Kalb county, Illinois. Here he sought and obtained employment in a barb wire factory, where he spent three years, after which he was for two years in the employ of the L. M. McEwen Company. On the expiration of that period he went to Colorado, where he remained for three years, being employed at various kinds of labor but spending his time largely at teaming over the moun-

tains. He returned to De Kalb in 1890 and has since remained continuously in this county.

It was about that time that Mr. Lindberg was united in marriage to Miss Helen C. Anderson, who was born in Afton township, December 25, 1862, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Anderson, who were natives of Sweden. Her father was born October 21, 1832, and came to America in 1854, first settling in Sycamore, De Kalb county. There he followed farming upon rented land and later he removed to Afton township, where he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres. To this he kept adding until he owned four hundred and twenty-three acres, constituting a very valuable property. He died March 19, 1894. His wife was born April 30, 1834, and her parents were natives of Sweden. The maternal grandmother of Mrs. Lindberg came to America and died in this county, September 15, 1898. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Anderson, parents of Mrs. Lindberg, was celebrated March 19, 1862, and unto them were born six children, of whom their daughter Helen was the eldest. The others were: Theodore, born September 22, 1865; Ella G., born November 22, 1867; Hannah S., June 21, 1870; John W., who died in infancy; and Lida W., born January 23, 1875.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Lindberg has been blessed with four children: Vendall G. A., born May 20, 1892; Thyra C., born May 10, 1896; Thora H., May 10, 1898; and Lydia M., February 11, 1901. The family home is a fine residence which was erected by Mr. Lindberg and stands in the midst of his farm of one hundred and three acres. He operates altogether two hundred and sixty-three acres of land and is one of the leading agriculturists of the community, having brought his fields under a high state of cultivation and carried on farm work along most progressive lines. In addition to the tilling of the soil he makes a specialty of raising Roan Durham cattle, high grade Poland China hogs and Shire horses and he is now part owner in an imported Shire horse, which is kept for breeding purposes. His livestock interests are to him an important source of revenue. He and his wife are members of the Swedish Lutheran church, in the work of which they are actively interested, while Mr. Lindberg is serving as one of the trustees of the church. He is a stalwart republican, who has served as tax col-

lector of Afton township for two years and as school director for ten years, the cause of education finding in him a warm friend. Investigation into his life history shows that whatever success he has achieved and enjoyed is the reward of his own labors. His farm is the visible evidence of his life of thrift and industry and such a record should serve to encourage and inspire others who have to start out empty-handed. Both are well known people of the community and enjoy in large measure the esteem of many friends.

MRS. MARY E. KINGSLEY.

Mrs. Mary E. Kingsley, well known throughout the county where she has a large circle of warm friends, was born in Kane county, Illinois, February 4, 1838. Her husband, Henry Kingsley, now deceased, was born June 22, 1831, in Crawford county, Pennsylvania, and was the son of Ransom and Eliza A. (Cornell) Kingsley. His father was born February 11, 1799, and died on the 23d of September, 1877, in Du Page county, Illinois, while the mother was born at Fort Ann, Washington county, New York, December 12, 1802. The Kingsleys are of English ancestry and the father of Mr. Kingsley was a farmer by occupation. Under the paternal roof, Henry Kingsley was reared. He acquired a good common-school education and early became familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. Soon after attaining his majority, he came west to Illinois, settling with his sister in Du Page county. He was employed at farm labor in Du Page and Kane counties until March, 1863, when with the money he had acquired through his own energies, he purchased the farm on which his widow now resides. His entire life was devoted to agricultural pursuits and in his farm work he was both practical and progressive.

On the 5th of March, 1863, Henry Kingsley was united in marriage to Miss Mary McDole, the daughter of Rodney and Abigail (Lounsberry) McDole. Her father, born in New Hampshire, January 31, 1809, was of Scotch descent and a farmer by occupation. His wife was born in Chemung county, New York, July 31, 1813, and died January 14, 1876. Mr. and Mrs. Kingsley

were the parents of four children: Nellie, born December 7, 1863, was married on the 15th of October, 1884, to Fred H. Rollins, and now resides in Kane county, Illinois; Addie, born October 25, 1866, became the wife of George Marston and died June 26, 1892, leaving two children who are now living with their grandmother, Mrs. Kingsley; J. J., who was born November 1, 1869, and is mentioned elsewhere in this volume; and Walter D., who was born May 16, 1878, and lives with his mother, operating the homestead farm. He is well known as a good business man and has a wide and favorable acquaintance throughout the township and county.

Henry Kingsley gave his political support to the republican party and had firm faith in its principles. He held the office of justice of the peace for many years and his decisions were strictly fair and impartial, so that by re-election he was continued in the office for a long period. He was also supervisor and road commissioner of Afton township. His death occurred August 19, 1884, and was the occasion of deep and widespread regret, for many friends, as well as the immediate family, mourned his loss. Wherever known he was respected as a man of good business ability, as a citizen of genuine worth and as a gentleman who held friendship inviolable. Since her husband's death Mrs. Kingsley has managed her property interests and business matters with the assistance of her son. She has been a devoted mother and her many good traits have won her a large circle of friends throughout the county.

WALTER H. LOOMIS.

Walter H. Loomis, a real-estate dealer and land speculator residing in Sycamore, was born August 14, 1865, in Georgia, Franklin county, Vermont, and is a son of Samuel Loomis, who belonged to an old family of the east and who in 1867 came westward to De Kalb county, Illinois. He settled in Sycamore, where he engaged in the lumber business, continuing in that line until his death, which occurred in April, 1876. His wife survived him until about 1880. They were the parents of two children: Walter H.; and Mrs. Dr. E. G. Colton, of Brooklyn, New York.

The son was educated in the Sycamore schools and during the greater part of his business career has engaged in speculating and dealing in real estate. He has met with a goodly measure of prosperity along these lines and few men are better informed concerning the value of property, so that his investments have been judiciously made and he is now classed with the substantial residents of the city.

On the 30th of October, 1878, Mr. Loomis was united in marriage to Miss Fannie Florence Mason, a daughter of Horatio H. Mason, of Sycamore, who is mentioned elsewhere in this volume. They have three sons: Mason Walter, who was born March 14, 1881, and is a lumber inspector; Sam Colby, born July 14, 1882, who is a graduate of Annapolis college and an ensign of the United States navy, now in Shanghai, China; and Harold H., January 1, 1889, who is in Chicago with Nelson Morris & Company.

Mr. Loomis is a republican, stalwart in his views yet without aspiration for office. He and his wife own many fine residences in Sycamore and in 1905 laid out a beautiful street, which they very properly called Mason court, erecting several beautiful dwellings thereon. Their own home is a most attractive residence and is justly celebrated for its charming and gracious hospitality.

J. E. WRIGHT.

J. E. Wright is the owner of a well improved farm of one hundred and fifty-seven and three quarter acres, situated on section 4, Malta township. He is a native son of De Kalb county, born in Shabbona township, March 25, 1861. The father, George Wright, was born in Sheffield, England, October 10, 1832, and in 1849 emigrated with his parents to the new world. He first located in Oswego, New York, whence he came to De Kalb county, Illinois, locating on a farm in Shabbona township, where he engaged in general agricultural pursuits for a time, and then removed to Lee county, Illinois, where he made his home until his death, which occurred December 9, 1899. His first wife was Elizabeth Scott, the mother of our subject. She was born in 1836 and passed away in 1877. Of their seven children, six still

survive. For his second wife the father married Emily Johnson, who is now living in Knierim, Iowa.

Mr. Wright of this review was reared to the occupation of farming, assisting his father in the operation of the homestead property during the summer season, while in the winter months he pursued his education in the schools near his father's home. He remained under the parental roof until the time of his marriage, when he started out upon his own account, following the occupation to which he had been reared, and he is today, in connection with his wife, the owner of a well improved and valuable farm of one hundred and fifty-seven and three quarters acres of land situated on section 4, Malta township. He is here engaged in carrying on general agricultural pursuits and his labors are being richly rewarded by the splendid crops which he annually harvests as the result of the care and labor which he bestows upon the fields.

Mr. Wright further established a home of his own by his marriage on the 3d of December, 1884, to Miss Sarah J. Willrett, who was born in Malta township, November 14, 1864. Her parents were natives of Germany, whence they emigrated to the new world in 1855, settling on a farm in Malta township, whereon they made their home until they passed away. Their family numbered ten children, but only eight now survive. Mrs. Wright was the heroine of an adventure which was written up in the *De Kalb County News*, August 28, 1867, as follows:

"A Little Girl Three Years Old Lost on the Prairie.

"Quite an excitement was created in our neighboring town of Malta by the announcement at an early hour on Friday morning last, that a little girl aged about three years, a daughter of Mr. Jacob Willrett, a farmer residing about four miles north of Malta, had wandered from home during the morning of Thursday and had not been found; though diligent search had been made by Mr. Willrett and his neighbors all through Thursday evening and night. As soon as the distressing fact was made known, prompted by that humanity which is so characteristic of the great hearted western man, nearly one hundred earnest hearts volunteered to prosecute the search. At an early hour in the day,

they had gathered at the point where the little one was last seen.

"Through the suggestion of Captain Corbett we believe the plan of search was arranged by forming a line with a space between the men of about five yards and thus sweep the prairie from side to side. Hour after hour passed in this labor of mercy and though the day was fearfully hot and the deep prairie grass sometimes impassable, these noble men labored on determined to save the little wanderer if yet alive and relieve the awful anxiety of the distracted parents. Once the tracks of little bare feet (it was bonnetless and shoeless) were perceptible in the edge of a cornfield but it penetrated only a short distance. It is supposed that night was coming on when it reached the cornfield and the heavy shadows in the thick corn had terrors for the little one which drove it back to the prairie again. Now and then marks on the heavy prairie grass were discernible where possibly exhausted and wholly overcome it would fall down and lie until rest and the cool grass would again revive it, and then off it would move to repeat time after time these efforts which probably before the rising of another sun would have released its spirit from the suffering clay and its wanderings ended in Heavenly sleep.

"These traces of the little one of course gave renewed energy to the sweltering and wearied searchers—there was no resting, no faltering—a minute lost might be the death knell of the little one. At last, about five o'clock a shout was started from one end of the line that the lost was found. As soon as it was known to be a fact and the little one was alive then a shout went up from a hundred lungs, which could only be given by men whose hearts throbbed with the consciousness of having done that which they deemed a duty from Divine injunction and the promptings of their own manly bosoms. The poor little creature was found in the deep tangled prairie grass, with its face resting on its little hands, conscious but overcome by hunger, exhaustion and exposure, it probably could never have risen again. The exposure to one of its tender years was enough to cause the parents to fear that if found on Friday it could hardly be alive. We will not attempt to describe the demonstrative joy of the mother and the tearful happiness of the father at the recovery alive of their lost one. Nor will we attempt to imagine what the

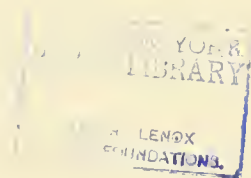
agony of the little one must have been during the lonely, terrible hours—its unanswered wailings—the terror of the night with no one near to give a soothing word. When we pray that we may be spared this terror, where is the parent who will not join us in deep earnestness in this supplication? Monday, August 26th: The child is gradually gaining strength and will recover."

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Wright have been born eight children, as follows: Edith C., who was born September 1, 1885; Florence M., born October 20, 1887; Anna E., who was born June 7, 1889; Esther S., November 21, 1894; John E., November 26, 1896; Mildred C., June 28, 1899; Harold W., January 31, 1903; and Marjorie E., whose birth occurred October 20, 1904.

Mr. Wright gives his political support to the republican party and for nine years served as road commissioner, while for a similar period he filled the office of school director. His fraternal relations are with Modern Woodmen camp, No. 217, at Malta, the Royal Neighbors, and the Foresters, belonging to lodge No. 740. Both he and his wife hold membership in the Evangelical church. He and his family are highly esteemed in the community where they reside, and their eldest daughter, Edith C., has engaged in teaching for two terms.

THE HAISH FACTORY.

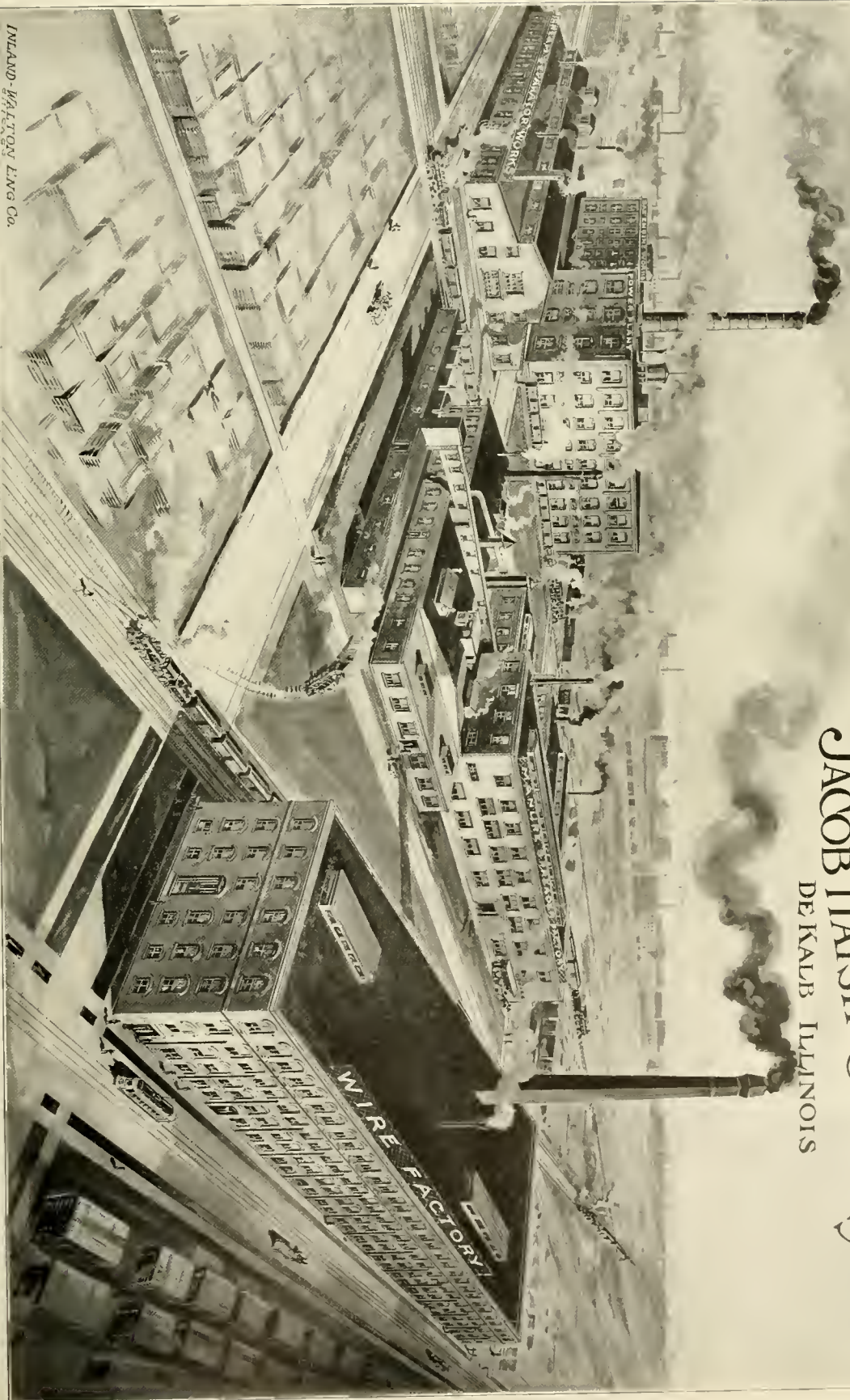
We presume a history of De Kalb county would not be completed without a sketch of one of the greatest industries of modern times, originating in the city of De Kalb in the year 1872, and known as the barbed wire industry. It is true that prior to this date patents had been issued and attempts made to produce a merchantable barbed wire, yet nothing had been evolved of this character until Jacob Haish, in a building shown with this article, after a long and persistent effort proved to the world that a stock-proof fence such as had been a dream through the years of herdsmen and cattle growers was an accomplished fact. In this structure you see the first barbed wire factory in the world, wherein the first attempt was made and successfully completed in the production of a barbed wire—simple in design, eco-





OLD HAISH FACTORY.

JACOB HAISH COMPANY
DE KALB ILLINOIS



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TILDEN FOUNDATIONS.

nominically manufactured and put up in such form as to make it commercially valuable, as it provided a way whereby it could be shipped safely and expeditiously to any point where man lives and thrives. From the womb of this factory all other factories gathered their nourishment. From the simple two strands of twisted wire with a barb wrapped around both wires, came the impulse that has been felt the wide world round. This old factory building has witnessed many a struggle of brain and muscle to overcome the difficulties hedging the way. As no one had trodden the path before, it seemed to fall to the lot of Mr. Haish to pioneer a route, which led to a process of dipping the wire—the production of a spool over which no advance has been made since, and finally in the introduction of an automatic machine for manufacturing barbed wire, which became the pattern from which all others drew their inspiration. The patents on this machine were considered the foundation patents and materially assisted in adjusting the legal status of Mr. Haish's rights in a court of equity in one of the hardest fought legal battles of a generation ago. These patents, together with the patents and claims upon barbed wire which he owned, won for him a substantial victory, as it finally settled all difficulties and contentions among the various licenses and gave to him the right to conduct his business without let or hindrance, which was the only thing in controversy with him. Of that famous coterie who trod the boards thirty years ago, he is the only living representative in the barbed wire business today. With one or two exceptions the others have been "gathered unto their fathers."

Leaving the old structure and its memories of men and things, let us note what has transpired since in the advancement of trade and commerce and behold the growth and enterprise shown in wire and kindred industries in the size and extent of the various departments devoted to mechanical pursuits as shown in the buildings erected and portrayed at the conclusion of this article, which is convincing proof of the rapid stride made by the Jacob Haish Company under the leadership of its veteran president who is favorably known wherever barbed wire has a foothold—whose reputation as a philanthropist is beyond question, while his local reputation as a landlord with a

numerous tenantry under his control, attest his kindness of heart in deeds of charity. To the needy poor he always extends the desired help and the welcome sympathy—but woe betide the one who seeks to prey upon his generosity or question his integrity; it were better a mill-stone were hanged about his neck, etc. In the created industries which he fostered and maintained and which will pass on to bless posterity, his memory will ever be cherished. So "Requiescat in Pace" thou scion of sturdy German parentage—whom the king delighteth to honor.

DANIEL HOHM.

On the roster of county officials in De Kalb county appears the name of Daniel Hohm, who is occupying the position of sheriff in a most capable and satisfactory manner. He was born in New York City, on the 15th of September, 1860, and is a son of Vincent and Charlotta (Snyder) Hohm, both natives of Germany. There the father was reared and early learned the shoemaker's trade. As a young man he came to the United States about 1855 and for a time worked at his trade in the east, but in 1863 came to Illinois, locating at Plano, Kendall county, where he conducted a shoe shop for several years. It was in 1878 that he came to De Kalb county and settled on a farm, devoting his attention to agricultural pursuits for a time. Later he removed to Hinckley, where he followed his trade until called to his final rest at the age of seventy-four years. His widow now makes her home with our subject and another son, at the age of seventy-five years. She came to the new world in girlhood.

Daniel Hohm passed his boyhood in Plano, Illinois, where he attended the public schools until ten years of age, when he began earning his own livelihood, his parents being in limited circumstances. He is therefore mainly self-educated. He was engaged in farm work and the care of horses both before and after coming to this county, being foreman of the Glidden stock farm for a couple of years. He was engaged in the livery business at Hinckley for a time and also served as city marshal.

In 1885 Mr. Hohm was united in marriage to Miss Bertha Bastian, a native of De Kalb county, and to them have been born four children, namely: Mae L., Lola Charlotte, Harley D. and George E., all at home. Politically he is prominently identified with the republican party and has taken quite an active and influential part in public affairs. Since coming to De Kalb county he lived continuously in Hineckley, with exception of two years passed in De Kalb, until 1898, when he removed to Sycamore, where he now owns and occupies a beautiful home on North Locust street.

In 1898 that Mr. Hohm was first chosen to the office of sheriff and after filling that position for four years he was elected county treasurer for a term of four years. On his retirement from that office he was re-elected county sheriff in November, 1906, his prompt, faithful and fearless discharge of duty during his former incumbency giving evidence of what might be expected in his present term.

CAPTAIN E. P. SAFFORD.

Captain E. P. Safford, an honored veteran of the Civil war, and at one time prominently identified with the political work of De Kalb county, has made his home for forty-eight years in Illinois. For a long period he was classed among the substantial agriculturists of Mayfield township, where he still owns one hundred and sixty acres of land but he is now living retired in Sycamore. He was born at Gilmanton, New Hampshire, a son of Charles and Mary Safford. From his native state he removed to Massachusetts, where he lived for a time, but on attaining man's estate and believing that in the new and rapidly developing western country he might more readily acquire a competence, he made his way to Illinois forty-eight years ago, and has since made his home in this state.

Arriving in Illinois Mr. Safford was employed at farm labor and was thus engaged until the outbreak of the Civil war, when his patriotic spirit being aroused, he enlisted, in 1862, as a member of Company A, One Hundred and Fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry under Captain H. D. Brown and Colonel Dustin. Going to the front he partici-

pated in many important engagements and on the field displayed great valor and courage, so that he was soon promoted from the ranks to the position of captain and given command of colored troops. Captain Safford was wounded at Decatur, Alabama. After three years' meritorious service, he was mustered out in March, 1865, being incapacitated for further duty.

Returning from the war, he once more took up his abode in De Kalb county, where he was soon afterward married to Miss Sarah Safford, who was likewise a native of the east. Mr. Safford was elected sheriff of De Kalb county, which position he capably filled for one term. He finally purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Mayfield township, which he cultivated and improved, carrying on general agricultural pursuits throughout a long period. In his work he always followed the most practical methods of farm labor and was classed among the substantial citizens of his locality. He still retains possession of this property but is now living in well earned ease in a pleasant home in Sycamore. In addition to his realty in De Kalb county, he also owns land in other western states.

Mr. Safford gives stalwart support to the republican party and has taken an active part in local political affairs. From 1858 until 1861 he served as deputy sheriff of De Kalb county and also served for one term as sheriff. He has also filled the office of supervisor, assessor, school director and treasurer and in these various capacities he has discharged his duties in a most prompt and efficient manner. He holds membership in the Congregational church at Sycamore. Mr. Safford has been as loyal to the duties of citizenship as he was when on southern battle-fields he followed the stars and stripes. He is honored and respected wherever known and no one is more deserving of mention in this volume than he whose name introduces this record.

GEORGE TERWILLIGER.

George Terwilliger, senior partner of the firm of George Terwilliger & Company, dealers in coal, lumber and building materials in De Kalb, is a native of Ulster county, New York, having been

born in the town of Shawangunk, on the 11th of May, 1842. His father, Levi H. Terwilliger, also a native of Ulster county, was there reared and spent his entire life. On reaching manhood he engaged in farming and in the operation of a saw-mill, continuing his connection with those lines of business until his death. He was a democrat in political views but without aspiration for office. He married Fannie Terwilliger and died in the year 1874. His wife is also deceased. They were the parents of five children, all of whom survive, namely: Leander, a resident of Humboldt, Iowa; George; Mary, the wife of C. W. Baker, of Ulster county, New York; Rachel, the wife of William Robertson, of Minnesota; and Emma, the wife of a Mr. Brock, of New York city.

George Terwilliger spent the first fourteen years of his life in the place of his nativity and then came to Illinois with his brother Leander, settling in De Kalb county about twelve miles south of the present city of De Kalb. The brothers began working as farm hands. This was in 1856 and George Terwilliger was employed for about ten years at farm labor, spending the winter months, however, as a pupil in the Broughton school. In the winter of 1866-7 and also through the following winter he taught in the district schools, while through the summer months he traveled as a commercial salesman for C. W. & W. W. Marsh, selling the Marsh harvester. In the fall of 1869 he came to De Kalb and in partnership with Captain A. B. Pollock built a grain elevator and engaged in the grain business. Soon afterward he began dealing in coal, lumber and building materials under the firm style of Pollock & Terwilliger. Two years later Captain Pollock died and in 1873 L. M. McEwen became a member of the firm and from that year until 1900 the business was conducted under the firm style of L. M. McEwen & Company. In 1900 Mr. McEwen retired from active business and F. L. Terwilliger, the second son of George Terwilliger, became a member of the firm and business has since been carried on under the name of George Terwilliger & Company. They conduct the leading business in their line in De Kalb, having a large trade in coal, lumber and building materials. Success in a mercantile venture is never the result of chance. It results from the fact that the merchant carries goods which the public demands, that his prices are reasonable and his

methods honest, and added to this he must possess energy, enterprise and executive ability. Lacking in none of these requisites, Mr. Terwilliger has long maintained a prominent position as one of the leading business men of De Kalb.

In 1873 occurred the marriage of Mr. Terwilliger and Miss Ginevra D. Snow, a daughter of Pearley and Lois (Gurler) Snow of De Kalb. They have become the parents of five sons and a daughter: Roy L., who is chief of the designing department in the retail store of Marshall Field & Company of Chicago; Fay L., who is associated with his father in business; Pearley S., who has recently located and resides upon a homestead claim in New Mexico; George Covell, assistant cashier of the First National Bank of De Kalb; and Ginevra E. and Percy E., both at home. The family is prominent in social circles of the city and to the members of the household is freely accorded the hospitality of many of the best homes of De Kalb.

Mr. Terwilliger is a staunch republican in politics, casting his first vote for Abraham Lincoln, and for two terms has served as alderman of this city. He is not, however, an active politician in the sense of office seeking but he keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day and in matters of citizenship is progressive and public spirited, withholding his support from no movement or measure which he deems will prove of general benefit.

THOMAS JEFFERSON WINDERS.

Thomas Jefferson Winders, editor and proprietor of the *Malta Record* and *Creston Observer*, was born in Nevada City, Colorado, January 20, 1863, a son of John N. and Susan (Powell) Winders, both of whom were natives of Washington county, Maryland, the former born in 1829 and the latter in 1834. In 1855 the parents came to Illinois, settling in Polo, but after two years removed to St. Joseph, Missouri, where they remained for a year and a half. On the expiration of that period they removed to Nevada City, Colorado. The father was both a civil and mining engineer and he opened and conducted a gold and silver mine, which he owned for some time, later disposing of it to an English syndicate. He remained in Nevada City until 1875 and then removed to Silver Plume,

Colorado, where he lived until his death, which occurred in 1897. In 1874, Mrs. Winders, accompanied by her little son, returned to Polo, Illinois, and there resided until called to her final rest March 28, 1905, at the age of seventy-two years, four months and ten days.

Mr. Winders of this review was educated in the public schools of Polo and in the Northern Illinois College of Fulton, this state. Subsequently he spent one year as a student in the Northern Indiana Normal College at Valparaiso. He remained a resident of Polo until 1882, after which his time was divided between Clinton and Chicago until 1894. When the printing office was removed from Creston to Malta Mr. Winders came to the latter place and has since been editor-in-chief of the *Malta Record* and *Creston Observer* and is likewise the owner of the paper. He made this a bright, newsy sheet, well edited and carefully conducted, also from the mechanical and financial standpoints, so that the enterprise is proving a success viewed in every way. In addition to his printing plant and the business connected therewith, Mr. Winders is the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of land in Thomas county, Kansas, and a residence in Malta.

On the 15th of July, 1896, in Malta, Mr. Winders was united in marriage to Mrs. Alice Anna Chapell, who was born in Egremont, Berkshire county, Massachusetts, November 3, 1865. Her father, Irwin DeWitt Baldwin, was born in Tyngham, Massachusetts, January 20, 1815, and spent a great many years of his life in Great Barrington, that state, but afterward removed to Egremont, where he built a large furniture factory. He served as state senator and was very prominent and influential in public life, leaving the impress of his individuality for good upon the state legislation and upon public thought and action. He was a most active worker in the ranks of his party, also took a prominent part in church matters and possessed considerable musical talent. He married Clarissa Smith Booth, who was born in Chatham, Columbia county, New York, October 16, 1817, and died at Malta, Illinois, March 9, 1904. Mr. Baldwin died at Egremont, Massachusetts, on the 20th of April, 1889.

Mrs. Winders is the youngest of the four children in the Baldwin family and two of the number are now deceased. She was educated in the

public and high schools of Massachusetts, completing her education at a private young ladies academy. She studied music under the best German professors and held lucrative positions as organist in the Congregational and Methodist churches of Berkshire county. She was also leader of a large chorus choir. After coming to Malta, Illinois, she united with the Congregational church and was appointed organist, which position she held for seven years, and she has been clerk of the church for twenty-two years. She is very active in all church work, is a leader in social affairs and a great reader, having a beautiful library in her home. She is a woman of progressive ideas and is possessed of unusual intellect, culture and ability. On the 27th of August, 1884, she became the wife of Clarence E. Chapell, who died March 8, 1893, and three years later she gave her hand in marriage to Mr. Winders.

Mr. Winders is also a member of the Congregational church of Malta and belongs to Creston lodge, No. 328, A. F. & A. M.; to the Knights of Pythias lodge, No. 501; to the Knights of the Globe, No. 152; to the Modern Woodmen camp, No. 217; and to the Mystic Workers, No. 52. He is a stalwart advocate of republican principles, publishes his paper in the interests of that party and is chairman of the county republican committee. He is serving his second term as justice of the peace. He is an advocate of all that tends to secure reform, progress and improvement in the city and is accorded a foremost position in journalistic ranks in this part of the state. He is also meeting with financial success in his venture. He and his wife live in a beautiful home on Main street and are among De Kalb county's best citizens.

LOUIS HAROLD MARSTON.

Louis Harold Marston is an architect whose work needs no other proof or recommendation than the evidence presented in the fine structures he has designed. In various parts of the county are found beautiful and substantial buildings modeled after the plans he has executed, and he is now closely associated in his profession with the building interests of De Kalb.



Louis H. Marston.

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Mr. Marston is a native of Grant county, Wisconsin, born December 19, 1859. His father, John R. Marston, was born in Kentucky in 1834, and in early manhood wedded Minerva Manlove, whose birth occurred in Schuyler county, Illinois, in 1836. The father engaged in carpentry and also in operating in the lead mines. He was a son of James Marston, a captain of the Black Hawk war, who entered the army from Wisconsin. Three uncles of our subject in the maternal line fought in the war of the Rebellion, so that the family has a creditable military record. John R. Marston is still living, but his wife passed away in Indiana in October, 1904. In their family were six children, of whom Louis Harold is the second.

In taking up the personal history of our subject we present to our readers the life record of one who, in his business connections, is widely known not only in De Kalb but also in northern Illinois. Honored and respected by all who know him, he has made an excellent reputation as a business man, not only by reason of the success he has achieved, but also owing to the straightforward policy he has ever followed. He acquired his preliminary education in the common schools of Wisconsin and Illinois, and completed his course at the Northern Indiana Normal School of Valparaiso as member of the class of 1881. He afterward entered the contracting business with his brother, operating at Minneapolis, Minnesota, and at Grand Forks, North Dakota. In 1883 he went to Chicago, where he entered the office of W. A. Furber, with whom he remained four years. He next became an employe of the well known firm of Holabird & Roche, architects, with whom he continued for three years, when, in 1890, he formed a partnership with R. B. Hotchkiss. This connection was maintained until 1895, since which time he has been alone in business. He has followed his profession in Indiana, in the state of Washington, in Chicago and now in De Kalb, and is known as a foremost representative of his profession in northern Illinois and in the northwest as well. He has designed important and beautiful buildings in several cities, including the Tacoma building at the corner of Madison and La Salle streets, Chicago, at which time he was in the employ of Holabird & Roche; also the Sheridan Military post, including the barracks' hospital, commandant house and the colonels' and captains' residences. This work was

done in collaboration with William Swern while in the employ of Holabird & Roche. He also designed the Carnegie library at Kokomo, Indiana; was the architect of the Grace English Lutheran church at the corner of Belden avenue and Larrabee streets in Chicago; and the residences of J. K. Farley and P. A. Stark at Edgewater; the residence of J. M. Wilder at Sheridan Park; the home of E. A. Storey at Riverside; and the home of Melville Clark in Chicago. He likewise furnished the designs for the residence of James Devine at Sycamore; for David Klein at Rochelle, Illinois; and several apartment buildings for Jerome P. Bowes in Chicago. His work in De Kalb county includes the residences of Charles Anderson, J. E. Johnson, J. V. Shipman, F. L. Charles, Peter Christenson, Edwin Kool, and several houses for G. W. Vandergrift. The buildings of more public nature include three apartment buildings for Sherman Boardman; and an apartment building for J. Cortopassi; a store building for John Uehlin; a double store building for J. S. Wiltberger; two store buildings for John Davy; a store building for H. E. Heise; the Ladies' Club and park pavilion for the city; the patrol barn for the city; the piano factory and the De Kalb Hospital. All this indicates his high standing in professional circles and the splendid nature of his work. He has long since advanced from the ranks of the many to stand among the more successful few in his chosen calling and is now classed with the prominent architects of this portion of the state.

Mr. Marston was married, December 19, 1881, at Harvard, Illinois, to Miss Ella M. Ellis, who was born in Delavan, Wisconsin, July 31, 1861. Her father, James Ellis, was also a native of Delavan, and died while serving his country in the Civil war. Mrs. Marston's mother, who in her maidenhood was Miss Marcia V. Chapin, was born in Saginaw, Michigan, in 1846, and is now deceased. Mrs. Marston was the only child of their marriage. By her marriage she has become the mother of four children: Mabel C., born March 15, 1884; Louis H., born December 23, 1887; Marcia V., born November 8, 1890; and Leonard L., born April 25, 1892.

Mr. Marston is a member of the Masonic lodge, the Elks lodge and the Fraternal Order of Eagles, and is thoroughly in sympathy with the beneficent principles of these organizations. In politics he

is a republican. He is not a member of any church, but is a believer in the tenets of Christian Science. He has justly won the proud American title of a self-made man, for he started out to win his own way in the world as a farm hand and in early life also followed school teaching. By industry and energy he has improved the talents which nature bestowed upon him and has made rapid and continuous advancement in his profession until he has won more than local renown. In fact his ability places him among the foremost representatives of his calling in the middle west. His efforts have ever been discerningly directed along well defined lines of labor and he has gained that recognition which always rewards merit well displayed. He and his family reside on South First street in De Kalb and are prominent socially, being numbered among the best residents of the city.

DWIGHT K. CROFOOT.

Dwight K. Crofoot, deceased, was one of the most respected and best loved citizens of Sandwich. He came to De Kalb county in early life, and as the years passed by made an excellent record as one whose business career was crowned with success and whose methods were in strict conformity with a high standard of commercial ethics. Moreover, he was one who held sacredly all the ties of home and friendship. A gentleman of attractive social qualities he won favorable regard wherever he was known and when he was called to his final rest there was a universal feeling of deep sorrow and regret in the city and county of his residence.

Born in Turin, Lewis county, New York, his natal day was November 19, 1851, and his parents were Russell D. and Hannah M. (Kent) Crofoot, natives of Connecticut and New York respectively. Removing to the west during the youth of our subject, they spent their remaining days in De Kalb county, and the father laid out that part of Sandwich west of Main street to the fair grounds. He sold property on the installment plan, allowing creditors to have any length of time they desired to make payments and thus enabled many to obtain homes who otherwise could not have done so. A man of benevolent spirit, his charity was thus

of a practical character and its beneficence immediate and far-reaching. He was a believer in the faith of the Universalist church and he and his wife attended its services. The latter died in January, 1897, at the age of eighty-three years, while Mr. Crofoot passed away in 1904. Their family numbered four children: Adelbert B., who is engaged in the wholesale boot and shoe trade in Peoria; Anna E., who died at the age of thirteen years; Dwight K.; and Ralph, who died at the age of four years.

Dwight K. Crofoot began his education in the public schools of his native town and continued his studies for a brief period following the removal of the family to Illinois in the year 1869. His elder brother, Adelbert, was already engaged in business in Sandwich and it was to this place that Mr. Crofoot came on leaving the east. Putting aside his text-books, he was employed as a salesman in a dry-goods store, and afterward joined his brother and C. H. Pratt in the conduct of a similar enterprise under the firm style of Crofoot Brothers & Pratt. The latter retired and after a few years the mercantile firm of Crofoot Brothers & Manchester was formed, and when Adelbert Crofoot withdrew two years later, the firm name of Crofoot & Manchester was assumed, so continuing for twenty years. These two decades constituted a period of gratifying prosperity in the life of the firm. Their trade constantly increased, growing to large proportions, and the house ever maintained an unassailable reputation as one whose business integrity was above question and whose enterprise was most commendable and exemplary. On retiring from the field of commercial activity Mr. Crofoot did not put aside business cares but was connected more or less actively with many important industrial and financial concerns. On leaving the store he entered the Sedgwick Bank for two weeks and there remained for two years. In June, 1897, he was appointed assignee of the Sandwich Enterprise Company, in which capacity he served for three years, when, in connection with S. P. Sedgwick he purchased the business. At his death Mr. Crofoot owned two-thirds of the stock, which is now owned by his wife and children. He was also secretary of the Oak Ridge Cemetery Association for years and it was through his efforts that clear titles to all lots were obtained, for previous to this time titles were absolutely of no

account. Mr. Crofoot was also one of the organizers of the Sandwich Fair Association and very active in its promotion and development. He was widely known as a business man, of marked enterprise, displaying a keen discernment which readily enabled him to solve intricate problems and place upon a substantial basis the interests which led not only to individual success but also contributed to general prosperity.

On the 18th of February, 1875, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Crofoot and Miss Minnie A. Chapman, a daughter of Captain S. M. Chapman, who spent much of his early life as a sailor and was captain of vessels on the ocean and Great Lakes. He visited many countries in this capacity and his anecdotes and reminiscences enriched his conversation and made him a most entertaining companion. During his later life he was correspondent for a number of papers. Years prior to his death he retired from business life and he passed away in 1903. He had long survived his wife, who bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Spencer, and who died on the 8th of December, 1874. Mr. and Mrs. Crofoot have a daughter, Clara E., now the wife of Albert H. Adams, with the National City Bank of Chicago, while the other daughters, Olive, Hazel E., Hannah and Doris Kathlyn, are at home. Their only son, Ralph C., born February 27, 1879, died January 20, 1891.

The death of the husband and father occurred April 22, 1905, when he was in his fifty-fourth year. His life was one of signal usefulness. His political allegiance was given to the democracy and he frequently represented his party as a delegate in various conventions. For years he was a member of the board of review but political honors and emoluments had no attraction for him. He served, however, as alderman of this city, and as a member of the school board did much in shaping the educational policy of Sandwich and in promoting the interests of the school. He preferred, however, to aid public progress as a private citizen and his co-operation was never withheld from any plan or movement which he deemed would prove of actual benefit. He was never reserved or reticent in manner but on the contrary possessed a jovial, cordial disposition that went out in sympathy and kindness to all with whom he came in contact. In spirit he was amiable and his

jovial, hearty good nature was apparent to all. He regarded it a privilege as well as a duty to assist those in trouble and the poor and needy found in him a friend. In his home life he was largely an ideal husband and father, considering no personal sacrifice on his part too great if it would promote the happiness and welfare of his wife and children. It is in his home that his death caused an incalculable loss but the memory cherished there is a most precious one. The circle of his friends, too, was almost co-extensive with the circle of his acquaintance and there was in him not only a kindly spirit but also great strength of character that made him stand everywhere in support of whatever he believed to be right and follow out a course of action with unswerving loyalty. He looked at life from a broad and practical standpoint that enabled him to use the opportunities at hand not only for his business but for the public welfare, and he knew, too, the rare joy of living—that satisfaction and happiness which comes from consideration of the rights of others and from close adherence to high ethical standards.

ALFRED P. SELF.

Alfred P. Self, who is now engaged in general merchandising at De Kalb, was born in England, October 9, 1868. His father, Charles Self, is a native of that country and was a miller by trade. He wedded Mary Ann Palmer, who was also born in England, and in 1871 they came to the United States, taking up their abode at Malta. There were eleven children born of this marriage, of whom four are now deceased.

Alfred P. Self was the eighth child and is a product of the public schools of De Kalb county. When his education was completed he began farming, continuing actively in the work until nineteen years of age. He was afterward employed in a machine shop for three years and subsequently spent eight years in the employ of the Northwestern Railway Company. For six years he has been conducting a general store, this being his business connection at the present time.

Mr. Self was married in Sycamore, Illinois, November 25, 1897, to Rose M. Sample, who was

born in Sycamore, May 6, 1818, a daughter of Thomas and Lillie Sample, the former a native of Canada and the latter of the state of New York. They came to De Kalb county at an early date and are now living in Sycamore. Mrs. Self is the eldest of four children and by her marriage has two children: Leslie M. and Louis M. The family home is at No. 720 South Second street, which property Mr. Self owns. He is a member of the Mystic Workers lodge No. 31, and attends the Congregational church, while his political support is given the republican party. Industry and honesty are the basis of his success and he is now well known in business circles in De Kalb. He and his wife are people of culture and refinement, being lovers of education and music and their many good qualities are passports into the best society of De Kalb.

LORENZO CLARK SCHERMERHORN.

Lorenzo Clark Schermerhorn, for many years connected with industrial and commercial interests in De Kalb, is now engaged in dealing in coal, lumber and builders' supplies and has gained a measure of success that places him among the foremost merchants of the city. A native of New York, he was born at Cape Vincent, August 21, 1815. The Schermerhorns are descended from old Dutch stock and came to this country at an early period in its colonization and later furnished many bright men to the nation.

Lorenzo C. Schermerhorn is a son of Henry and Miranda Schermerhorn, who removed from the Empire state to Illinois when their son was but six months old, settling in Aurora. Later they took up their abode near Watertown, De Kalb county, where the father entered a claim of three hundred acres of government land, his remaining days being devoted to its cultivation and improvement. In connection with his farming enterprises, he also engaged in carpentering and was one of the most extensive builders in his day in his section of the county. He died at the venerable age of ninety-two years. His wife was also born in the Black river country, near Watertown, New York, and was a member of a prominent and influential family, being an own cousin of Governor Joel Ma-

teson, of Illinois while many others of the family were prominent in professional and business life.

L. C. Schermerhorn was reared in his parents' home and learned the trade of a carpenter and builder under his father's instruction. In November, 1868, he married Miss Mary Josephine Stewart, a daughter of Charles N. and Phoebe J. (Andrus) Stewart. The Stewarts were of old Scotch Presbyterian stock and came to this country at an early day, locating in Johnstown, New York. Their descendants figured prominently in public affairs in that section of the state. Major John Little, a relative, was promoted for bravery displayed in the defense of Johnstown in the Revolutionary war. He was the great-grandfather of Mrs. Schermerhorn. In the maternal line she is descended from James Andrus, also an officer of the Revolution and one of the very wealthy and influential men of Saratoga Springs of that day.

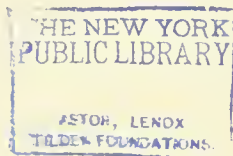
In the spring of 1869, soon after his marriage, Mr. Schermerhorn came to De Kalb and has since been connected with its business development. For several years he followed the trade of carpentering and building, but later began dealing in coal, lumber and builders' supplies and has developed a trade which places him among the leading business men of De Kalb. He is energetic, diligent and determined and his business methods have advanced him far on the high road to success. His social relations connect him with the Knights of Pythias and his political belief with the republican party. He is well known in De Kalb, where he has made his home for thirty-eight years, and his wide circle of friends in indicative of the warm regard in which he is uniformly held.

HORATIO H. MASON.

No history of De Kalb county would be complete without mention of Horatio H. Mason, who in the spring of 1853 located at Sycamore, his first home here being a log cabin that stood in the midst of a farm that is now included within the corporation limits of the city. For many years he was prominent in business life and his interests were largely of a nature that contributed to general progress and improvement as well as to individual



L. C. SCHERMERHORN.



success. In all of his dealings he was strictly reliable. His path was never strewn with the wreck of other men's fortunes and on the contrary was characterized by straightforward and honorable dealing, his success being due to his sound business judgment, his keen sagacity and his improvement of opportunities which others might have seen.

Mr. Mason was a native of the town of Warren, Herkimer county, New York, where his birth occurred February 19, 1829. Family history has it that there are three distinct branches of Masons in America and that the ancestry is traced back to John Mason, a Puritan, who in 1630 braved the dangers of ocean travel and settled in Massachusetts. He was a man of prominence who took an active part in settling the Piquod war. Colonel George Mason, a member of the English parliament, established another branch of the family in Virginia and representatives of that line became prominent in the war of the Revolution. The ancestral line of Horatio Mason was traced back to Sampson Mason, known as the "Baptist officer" of Cromwell's army. He was probably a member of the Old Ironsides regiment and a radical. He emigrated to America about 1650, prior to Cromwell's defeat, and established his home in Massachusetts. An interesting history attaches to the life of this man as well as to that of his several descendants, by which the strain is brought down to the present. Sampson Mason settled at Rehoboth, Massachusetts, and although owning property at Swansea, which he was instrumental in establishing, never removed there. In earlier generations the family lived in Rhode Island or Massachusetts, near the border. One of the founders of Swansea became a man of substance and one of the proprietors of the "North Purchase," afterward the town of Attleboro. He advanced thirteen pounds, five shillings and ten pence for the prosecution of King Phillips war, which amount was voted to his wife after his death just at the close of the war. Sampson Mason died in Rehoboth, and was buried September 15, 1676. He married Mary Butterworth, who died August 29, 1714.

To Sampson Mason and wife thirteen children were born of whom Peletiah was eleventh. He was born in 1669, married May 22, 1699, Hepzibah Brooks, daughter of Timothy and Mary (Russell) Brooks. The latter was a daughter of Elder John

Russell, Sr., a noted divine of the colony. Peletiah Mason died March 29, 1763, at the age of ninety-four years. He was the last of six brothers, all of whom attained seventy years or over. Three of the sons of Peletiah Mason were ministers. Job, Russell and John were successively ministers of the Second Baptist church of Swansea, Massachusetts. According to old records, Job was a minister for over forty-seven years and was thirty-seven years an elder. Rev. Russell, ninth in a family of ten children, was pastor of the Baptist church at Swansea over forty years. He was born April 21, 1714, and married Rhoda Kingsley, June 5, 1736, by whom he had thirteen children, of whom Phillip was fifth. The latter, born January 29, 1745, married Mary Scott, born in March, 1745. Of their twelve children, Russell was second. He was born in Providence, Rhode Island, February 25, 1769, and married Ruth Lapham, born in Smithfield, Rhode Island, April 4, 1769. He removed to Fairfield, Herkimer county, New York, in 1794, where he owned a large timber tract, which he cleared and converted into a fine farm, but later moved to Warren, New York. Hiram, seventh in the family of nine children born to Russell and Ruth Mason, was born in the town of Warren, Herkimer county, New York, September 17, 1805. Hiram Mason, an active, trading, business man, pushed his speculations in real estate into the state of Michigan, where on one of his numerous trips, he died September 14, 1835, and was followed five months later, February 29, 1836, by his wife, who was Miss Fannie Brown. She was born in German Flats, Herkimer county, New York, August 9, 1808, and was the daughter of Henry and Wealthy (Able) Brown, both of whom were natives of Colchester, Connecticut. The former died at the age of sixty-three years, while residing in his native county.

The Masons seem to have all been men of strong physical and mental attainments, men of energy and brains, resourceful, independent and self-reliant. Left an orphan at the age of seven years, Horatio Mason was reared by his maternal grandfather and an uncle. He was dependent upon his own resources for a living, however, from a very early age and before he had completed his first decade he was earning six and eight dollars per month for his services on the farm, while many other boys received only their board and clothes.

When seventeen years of age Mr. Mason went to Culpeper county, Virginia, and being recommended by an acquaintance to a merchant in Shenandoah valley he was told that if he would break a certain colt to ride that he would be sent on a collecting tour. Having all his life been familiar with horses the task was an easy one, and so successful was he in making collections that he was given a position as clerk in the store, and there remained for two years.

Upon his return to Herkimer county, New York, Mr. Mason was married in the village of Little Lakes, February 28, 1850, to Miss Mary E. Treadway, who was born in the town of Warren, New York, April 18, 1832, her parents being Belia and Philotheta (Marshall) Treadway. Her father was an attorney and the son of David Treadway, a farmer, who was one of the pioneers of Herkimer county. Her mother was a daughter of John Marshall, who died at the age of ninety-seven years, and who was so clear of mind and strong of body that he was able to transact business up to the date of his death.

About two years after his marriage Mr. Mason came to the west, traveling through parts of Michigan, Wisconsin and Illinois with a view of selecting a location. His choice fell upon Sycamore and in the spring of 1853 he was joined here by his family. He then purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land on which was a log cabin—one of the pioneer homes of the then embryo town. Long since this primitive dwelling has been replaced with a commodious residence but the Mason homestead still stands upon the farm, although long since the land has been divided and used for town lots. On coming to the county Mr. Mason at once began to cultivate and improve the farm, planting an orchard and ornamental trees and bringing the fields under cultivation. Today the farm is city property, docted here and there with comfortable residences. Mr. Mason began speculating in land soon after arriving in De Kalb county and for many years continued in that field. He was an excellent judge of properties, setting a correct valuation thereon, and he was thus enabled to make judicious purchases and profitable sales. At times he owned seven or eight thousand acres of land in Illinois and nearly half as much in Iowa. In 1871, in connection with James S. Waterman, he established the First National Bank

of Sycamore, which was the first enterprise of the kind in De Kalb county. As vice president he assumed the entire management of the bank, with which he was connected until 1875, when he sold his stock therein. He became a stockholder in the Sycamore & Cortland Railroad and assisted in its promotion and construction. For some time he was in the abstract business as a member of the firm of Bailey & Mason. The last years of his life were devoted merely to the supervision of his financial and real-estate interests.

In 1882 Mr. Mason was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died on the 25th of August of that year. Two of their four children died in infancy. Those still living are Florence and Mand M. The former is the wife of Walter Loomis, a real-estate dealer in De Kalb county, and they occupy the old Mason homestead. They are represented on another page of this volume. The second daughter married H. H. Halliday, of Cairo, Illinois.

Mr. Mason was a radical democrat until 1896, when he gave his political allegiance to the republican party. He was never an aspirant for office and continually refused to serve in public positions, save that for one term he was alderman. The death of Mr. Mason occurred January 27, 1905, after he had been a resident of the county for fifty-two years. His name was honored wherever he was known. He had a strong personality, a keen perception and excellent business judgment. De Kalb profited by his efforts in her behalf and in his business career he gained a measure of success that was indeed gratifying, but more than that, he won the respect and honor of his fellow-men by the honorable methods which he followed.

WALTER H. TOWNSEND.

Walter H. Townsend, following the occupation of farming on section 17, Cortland township, was born May 1, 1874, his father being Henry Townsend, a farmer of the same township. In the common schools the son pursued his education and early in his business career was engaged for two years in selling milk in Sycamore. He also worked by the month as a farm hand for some time and two years ago began operating the old home-

stead place on his own account. Here he has since resided and the farm is under an excellent state of cultivation, owing to the care and labor which he bestows on the fields. He has eighty acres of land and he manages the home property, carrying on agricultural pursuits and the dairy business. The place is well improved, has good buildings upon it, and everything about the farm is indicative of his careful supervision and progressive methods.

In March, 1899, occurred the marriage of Walter H. Townsend and Miss Lettie Townsend, of De Kalb, and a daughter of William Townsend, an early settler here. In his political views Mr. Townsend of this review is a republican and without aspiration for office, preferring to give his time and energies to his business affairs. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp at Sycamore and in this order and outside of it he is favorably known, having good qualities which have won for him many warm friendships.

REV. A. W. STARK.

Rev. A. W. Stark, a leading and able divine of the Swedish Lutheran church, now located at De Kalb, was born in Sweden on the 2d of November, 1854. His parents, John G. and Martha Christina Johnson, were also natives of that country. The father was born in 1824 and came to America in 1875, settling first in Pennsylvania, where he remained for twelve years, when in 1887 he came to Illinois. His remaining days were passed at Rockford, where his death occurred in 1897, his wife surviving him until 1905. They were the parents of seven children, of whom three are now ordained ministers.

Rev. A. W. Stark spent the first eighteen years of his life in the land of his nativity and then bade adieu to friends and country, coming to the new world in 1873. He established his home in Pennsylvania, where he remained three years, and then removed to Jamestown, New York, where he attended the public schools for a time and later was employed as salesman in a dry-goods store. In January, 1878, he came to Illinois and entered Augustana College, Rock Island. He was graduated from the college in 1883 and completed

the regular seminary course in 1885. Soon after his graduation he was ordained to the ministry at Rockford, Illinois, and his first charge was at Round Rock, Texas. In the fall of 1886 he accepted a call from the church at Des Moines, Iowa, where he remained for five years, or until 1891, when he came to De Kalb. Since that time he has been pastor of the Swedish Lutheran church in this city, covering a period of sixteen years.

On the 14th of January, 1886, in Chicago, Illinois, Rev. Stark was united in marriage to Miss Wilhelmina Peterson, who was born in that city on the 5th of November, 1862. Her parents were natives of Sweden but both are now deceased. At the time of her marriage Mrs. Stark was acting as nurse at Augustana Hospital of Chicago. She is a lady of culture and refinement, who has been of much assistance to her husband in his church work, possessing a kindly disposition and genial manner which makes her popular with the parishioners. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Stark has been blessed with eight children: Minnie E., born January 17, 1887; Carl F. E., May 1, 1889; Paul W., January 29, 1892; Luther N., September 23, 1893; William J. Melancthon, who was born December 30, 1896, and died in 1897; Esther Corona, born May 14, 1898; Ebba Marie Lillian, born March 31, 1901; and August William, March 26, 1903.

The church of which Mr. Stark has charge has a large membership, numbering about eleven hundred, and is a very strong and potent influence for good in De Kalb and throughout this part of the county. In his various relations of public and private life Rev. Stark has always been the same earnest, upright, capable and courteous gentleman, winning and retaining the confidence and esteem of all who know him and gaining the love of his people. He possesses good business ability, which is a valuable factor in church work, and added to this is his untiring zest and zeal in behalf of the cause which he preaches. At various times he spoke in both English and Swedish and is an earnest and effective speaker, possessing good oratorical ability and rare powers of exhortation, bringing home to the hearts and conscience of his hearers a knowledge of the truth and a recognition of their shortcomings. Under his guidance the church at De Kalb has made substantial growth, not only numerically but in spiritual de-

velopment as well, and the various societies and working forces of the church are now in well organized condition. Always deeply interested in philanthropic work, especially the care of orphans, he has been connected with the Swedish Lutheran Orphan's Home for many years and has been president of the board of that institution for the past seven years, serving in that capacity at the present time. There are nearly one hundred children in the home. Both Mr. and Mrs. Stark are greatly beloved and their influence for good can scarcely be over estimated.

GEORGE P. WILD.

George P. Wild, deceased, was for many years one of the successful and prominent business men of Sycamore. He was born in Valatie, Columbia county, New York, May 18, 1836, and was a son of Nathan and Sarah (Henry) Wild. His father was a native of Manchester, England, and on coming to America early in the nineteenth century located on the Hudson at Valatie, New York, where he engaged in business as a cotton print manufacturer. He brought from England all the machinery for his cotton mill and in after years made frequent trips to that country for repairs and material for his business, which was carried on for many years by the family. His wife was born in Providence, Rhode Island.

George P. Wild devoted most of his time to the acquirement of an education until he was seventeen years of age. He then entered business life as a salesman in the mercantile house of Freeland, Squiers & Company, of New York city, where he remained until the spring of 1857, when he came to Sycamore, Illinois. He is numbered among the pioneer merchants of the city. Soon after his arrival the firm of Rogers, Wild & Smith was established and afterward became Rogers & Wild. Another change induced the adoption of the firm style of G. P. Wild & Co. From an early age he was recognized as one of the prominent merchants of De Kalb county and conducted a business which grew proportionately with the development of this part of the state and its increase in population. In later life he became interested in the banking house of Daniel Pierce & Company and in the Pierce Trust and Savings Bank, of which he was

a director from the time of its organization until his death, though he took no active part in the business. His name was ever recognized as valuable in the growth, development and material prosperity of the county.

Mr. Wild's business career was of the truly pioneer character. His field for trade extended over De Kalb, Ogle, Boone, McHenry and Kane counties. The goods in his earlier business career were hauled from Cortland to Sycamore by wagons. It was not until 1859 that trains ran into Sycamore. The firm of Wild & Rogers was one of those pioneer establishments that laid the foundations of the fortunes of the individuals of the company. Success came to him because of his known integrity and of a cheerful cordiality that was a marked trait of character during his whole life, even after ill health had compelled retirement from business.

He was a man who made lasting friends, was loyal to his city, and a mover in many of her enterprises. He was an officer in the Universalist society for years and unless prevented by ill health was a constant attendant at its church service. Mr. Wild died in Sycamore, August 26, 1906. The day of the funeral all business was suspended as a mark of respect to the man who contributed his energy and business capacity to the upbuilding of his city.

At Sycamore, December 19, 1862, occurred the marriage of Mr. Wild and Miss Sarah Pierce, who was born in Sullivan county, New York, August 12, 1841, and was a daughter of Daniel and Phebe J. (Brundage) Pierce, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Wild became the parents of a son and two daughters: Daniel Pierce; Eleanor; and Elizabeth, now the wife of Joseph A. Crum and a resident of Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

Mrs. Wild was an exemplary woman in social life, an exceptionally good woman in business affairs, being a member of the firm of Daniel Pierce & Company, which for solidity and conservative business principles excels that of any other like institution in our county. She maintained active membership in the Universalist church during her life in this county, and while unassuming in character was no less forceful in exerting an effective influence. In her home she was an ideal wife and mother, and hospitality was



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especially a reigning virtue in their home. When this benevolent woman passed away June 11, 1896, not only those associated in the closer ties of life, but those who had felt the charitable impulses of this good woman mourned her loss most deeply.

LEWIS C. GRANART.

The work of the farm, with its manifold duties and diversity of labor, claims the time and attention of Lewis C. Granart, now living on section 23, Clinton township. He was born in Germany, November 10, 1852, his parents being natives of the same land. Attracted by the broader business opportunities of the new world, they sailed for the United States with their family in 1856, locating in Kendall county, Illinois. The father was a farmer by occupation and carried on that pursuit in order to provide for his family, until fifty-eight years of age, while his wife survived him and died at the age of sixty-two years. He had met with the success which he hoped to achieve in the new world and as time passed by added to his property until at his death he was the owner of valuable farming land to the extent of three hundred acres. Unto him and his wife were born six children, of whom Lewis C. is the eldest, the others being Louise; Ferdinand, who died in 1901; Ernest; and two who died in infancy.

Lewis C. Granart was only four years of age when brought to the United States by his parents and was therefore reared upon the old homestead farm in this county. He worked in the fields as his strength permitted when not occupied by the duties of the schoolroom and more and more largely became acquainted with the task of successfully carrying on general farming. As a companion and helpmate for life's journey, he chose Miss Carrie M. Leifheit, who was born in Kendall county, Illinois, January 6, 1854. Her parents were natives of Germany and came to the United States in 1850, settling in Kendall county, where they lived until their removal to Squaw Grove township, De Kalb county. They became the parents of eleven children: William L.; Ernest A.; Edward F.; Carrie M.; Adolph F.; Charles F.; Julia L., deceased; Harvey H.; Emma L.; Anna H., deceased; and Mary A. The marriage of Mr. and

Mrs. Granart was celebrated on the 14th of January, 1875. They have no children of their own but have reared an adopted daughter, Lydia May, who was born August 3, 1892.

Mr. and Mrs. Granart own a good farm of one hundred and forty acres of land on section 23, Clinton township. It is in keeping with ideas of modern agricultural progress and is a productive place, the fields annually returning good harvests for the care and labor bestowed upon them. Mr. Granart works persistently and energetically in his farming interests and has met with a measure of success which has been honorably won. Both he and his wife are consistent members of the German Lutheran church of Squaw Grove township and since age conferred upon him the right of franchise he has given his political allegiance to the democracy. For nine years he served as school director but otherwise has held no public office, preferring to give his time and attention to his business affairs.

JAMES A. FAHS.

James A. Fahs, editor and senior partner of the *Hinckley Review*, was born in Frederick county, Maryland, in 1835. His father, Tobias Fahs, was a native of the same state. The ancestors of the family in America came from Switzerland early in the seventeenth century and settled at Little York, Pennsylvania, becoming farmers of that portion of the country. The family was represented in the Revolutionary war and patriotism and loyalty have ever been numbered among the salient characteristics of those who bear the name. Tobias Fahs was a farmer and removed from Maryland to Pennsylvania in 1843, following the occupation of farming in Perry county until 1856, when he came to Will county, Illinois, and purchased land in Peotone township. Here he spent his remaining days, passing away in January, 1900, in his ninetieth year. He gained a goodly competency in his farm life and, moreover, won the esteem and confidence of neighbors and friends. He held membership in the Presbyterian church and for many years was one of its officers. His early political allegiance was given to the whig party and upon its dissolution he joined the ranks

of the new republican party. For two terms he served as supervisor of Peotone township and also filled other local offices. A review of his life shows much that is commendable, for he was progressive in citizenship, active and reliable in business and trustworthy in his friendships. He married Araminta Willard, a native of Pennsylvania and of German extraction. She died in November, 1900, in her eighty-eighth year. Mr. and Mrs. Fahs were married in Frederick county, Maryland, and they were devoted Christian people, holding membership in the Presbyterian church. Of their family of ten children eight reached years of maturity.

James A. Fahs, the second in order of birth, was reared upon the old homestead farm and attended the district schools, no event of special importance occurring to vary the routine of farm life for him in his youth. After he put aside his text-books his entire time and attention was given to the work of the fields and he was thus engaged until 1857, when he came to Illinois with his parents and worked upon a farm in this state. In 1867 he removed to De Kalb county and for six years was engaged in farming on his own account in Squaw Grove township. He then began merchandising at Amboy, Lee county, and for three years was with a partner in a general store. Later he returned to the farm in Squaw Grove township, where he remained until 1890, when he bought the *Hinckley Review* of James A. Easterbrooks, since which time the paper has occupied his entire attention. The *Review* was established by Marion and Lee Tomblin in 1878 and they were succeeded by H. W. Fay, who in turn sold out to James A. Easterbrooks. The paper was originally a six-column quarto with patent insides, but in 1900 Mr. Fahs made it all home print. The journal has a fine subscription list and a splendid advertising patronage, and under the able management of Mr. Fahs has long proven a profitable investment. In May, 1906, he admitted his son-in-law, Arthur Willis Hubbard, to a partnership under the firm style of Fahs & Hubbard. The paper is published in the interests of the republican party and is a champion of local progress and improvement—in fact has been the means of inaugurating many reforms and progressive measures through its advocacy of such in its columns.

Mr. Fahs was married in 1867 to Miss Ruth E. Winslow, who was born in Providence, Rhode Island, August 13, 1837, a daughter of David L. and Abigail C. (Hawks) Winslow, of Massachusetts, who came to Illinois in 1855. The father was a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church and his first Illinois charge was at Sycamore. He spent his days in active connection with the Rock River conference and died in 1875 upon his farm in Squaw Grove township in his sixty-second year. His wife survived until 1902 and was in her eighty-sixth year when called to her final rest. Mr. and Mrs. Fahs have but one daughter, Helen L., who became the wife of Arthur W. Hubbard in 1896, and they have two children: Ruth M., eight years of age; and Warren, five years of age. Mrs. Fahs is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Fahs belongs to the Elks lodge and has always been a republican. He has held some minor township offices but his ambition is not in the line of official service and yet no man is more loyal to the principles in which he believes. His position as editor has brought him a wide acquaintance and a social, genial nature has rendered him popular.

WILLIAM S. THORPE.

William S. Thorpe, who in his agricultural interests is making a specialty of the raising and feeding of hogs at his farm on section 24, Clinton township, was born in England, September 25, 1866. His parents, William and Rebecca Thorpe, were natives of that country and the mother died at the age of thirty-six years, while the father's death occurred when he had reached the age of sixty-seven years. They came to the United States in 1872 and located on a farm in Victor township. At the time of his death he was the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land which he had brought under a high state of cultivation, converting it into an excellent farm. Unto him and his wife were born four children, namely: William S., of this review; George F.; Frank R.; and Emma E.

William S. Thorpe spent the first six years of his life in the land of his nativity and was then brought by his parents to the new world. He was

reared upon the old homestead farm in Victor township and no event of special importance occurred to vary for him the routine of farm life. During the winter seasons he was a pupil at the public schools and in the summer months he worked at farm labor, following the plow from an early age. The occupation to which he was reared he has made his life work and he is now the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of rich and productive land on section 24 in Clinton township. This he operates and from the fields annually gathers good crops, while another important source of income to him is his hog raising interests, for he makes a specialty of the raising and feeding of hogs.

On the 25th of January, 1893, Mr. Thorpe was united in marriage to Miss Hattie Reid, a sister of William Reid, of Clinton township, who is mentioned elsewhere in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Thorpe have become the parents of one son, Harvey W., born March 2, 1894.

Politically Mr. Thorpe is a republican and was elected school director for one term. He has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking, however, yet keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day. He and his wife support the Methodist Episcopal church at Waterman and they have a wide and favorable acquaintance throughout the community.

EARLE R. MORRIS.

Earle R. Morris connected with the Fay Printing Office in De Kalb, was born in Sandwich, this county, January 21, 1888. His father William Henry Morris, a native of New York state, was born February 22, 1852. He became a resident of the middle west in 1859, and spent the greater part of his life in Sandwich, being for twenty years a teamster for the Sandwich Manufacturing Company. He married Amy F. Joles, who was born May 9, 1858, in Sandwich, and who has always lived in that city. Her father, Harvey Paul Joles, was born in Bethany, Genessee county, New York, August 17, 1815, and died at Sandwich, July 25, 1876. In 1837 he came to the west buying land from the government, for which he paid one dollar and a quarter per acre. This

was in a primitive condition being entirely uncultivated, and in its midst he built a log cabin—a typical pioneer home of the period. In 1847 he erected a frame dwelling upon his place and this is still standing, having been remodeled, upon what is known as the Joles farm one mile west of Sandwich. As the years passed he carried on his farming operations, bringing his fields under a high state of cultivation, and in 1868 he built a large carriage shop known as the Kehl shop, but continued to live upon the farm until 1870. In the early days he hauled grain to Fort Dearborn and experienced all the hardships and privations of pioneer life while aiding in the opening up of this region for the use of civilization. He was married to Lydia C. Dolph in Pennsylvania, on the 21st of February, 1839. She was born in Hector, Schuyler county, New York, April 25, 1822, and in 1839 came to Illinois with her husband. The old Indian chief Shabbona, slept often in their kitchen in those early days. With a grunt he would roll up in his blanket and go to sleep. He was always friendly with the white people and they therefore willingly accorded him shelter and food.

It was amidst such pioneer surroundings that Mrs. Morris spent her girlhood days. As stated, she gave her hand in marriage to William Henry Morris, July 6, 1875, and unto them three children have been born. Hugh P., who was born May 10, 1877, and was married in 1902; Wilbur M., who was born August 29, 1878, and died the 5th of April, 1886; and Earle R., of this review. The eldest son, Hugh P., has one child who was born in 1903. Mr. and Mrs. William Henry Morris also have an adopted daughter, Amie Josephine, who was born December 22, 1897.

Earle R. Morris was reared in his native city and was graduated from the common schools in the class of 1902. He afterward spent two years as a high-school student. He then began learning the printer's trade which he has since followed. He was employed on the *Sandwich Semi-Weekly Journal* for three years; also on the *Sandwich Argus* for two years; and later, on the *Review of De Kalb*. He has thoroughly mastered the printer's trade and is a capable workman, faithful and trustworthy. His political allegiance is given the republican party and he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. His entire life has

been passed in De Kalb county, and in the city of his nativity and residence he is well known and popular.

PHILANDER MURDOCK ALDEN.

Philander Murdock Alden, of whom it has been said "He has the confidence of every man with whom he has had business relations," is a retired banker. For a long period he was active in the banking interests of Sycamore, and is still a stockholder but has practically retired from business life, having through capable management, well directed effort and judicious investment in former years gained a financial position which makes rest from further labor possible to him.

Mr. Alden was born in Lyme, New Hampshire, January 27, 1835, and is a direct descendant from ancestors who came to the new world on the Mayflower, being able to point with pride through the long generations which have preceded him in this country, making the family one distinctively American in its lineal and collateral branches. His father, Philander Alden, was born in Middleborough, Massachusetts, as was his wife, who bore the maiden name of Polly Murdock. They became residents of the old Granite state in 1834, locating at Lyme, where the father followed the occupation of farming. His death, however, occurred March 8, 1835. His widow afterward married Latham Conant, and in 1859 they removed to Sycamore, Illinois, where they spent their remaining days, Mr. Conant passing away in 1860, while his widow survived until 1888, departing this life at a very advanced age.

Philander M. Alden was one of a family of six children and also had a half sister. He was educated in the public schools of his native city, passing through successive grades until he became a high-school student. When he had put aside his text-books he devoted his attention largely to farm work and in fact he was familiar with the duties which fell to the lot of the agriculturist from early youth. He was a young man of twenty years, when, in 1855, he left New England and made his way westward to De Kalb county, Illinois, settling in Sycamore. For two years after his arrival in this county he taught school through the winter

months. He was also employed as a clerk in the recorder's office for three years, and in 1859 he entered the bank of James S. Waterman, where he remained until 1861. He then offered his services to his country as a soldier of the Union army. He recruited and organized the Thirteenth Illinois Regiment Band and went to the front as its leader and was mustered out with the rank of lieutenant. He was with the army until honorably discharged from the service, after which he re-entered the banking business, being connected therewith continuously since, save for the brief period between 1866 and 1871, when impaired health caused him to retire temporarily from banking and he gave his attention to the insurance business. When five years had passed, however, he returned to Sycamore and entered upon what has been his real life work. He was cashier of the Sycamore National Bank from 1871 until 1891, when he was chosen vice president, acting in that capacity until 1901. He then retired from business life but still remains a stockholder and director of this bank. The success of the institution through thirty years was attributable in a large measure to his efforts, his thorough knowledge of the banking business and his laudable ambition, supplemented by strong purpose. He made the bank one of the leading and substantial moneyed institutions of the county and as the years passed by won a gratifying measure of success. About 1894 he was called upon to assist in organizing several banks in this part of Illinois, among them being the First National Bank of Malta; the Farmers State Bank of Genoa, of which he was cashier for a short time; the Addison State Bank; and the First State Bank of Maple Park, of which he is vice president. He has also been director, trustee, secretary and treasurer of the Elmwood Cemetery Association of Sycamore for twenty-five years.

On the 29th of February, 1860, Mr. Alden was married to Miss Laura J. Sawyer, who was born in Massachusetts, March 13, 1843, and is a daughter of Alfred and Margaret H. Sawyer, the former a native of the old Bay state and the latter of Scotland. In the Sawyer family were four children, of whom Mrs. Alden was the second in order of birth. By her marriage she has become the mother of two sons and two daughters: Henry, who died in infancy; Susie Dick, born in August,

1862; Abbie Wood, born March 17, 1864; and Fred H., born April 22, 1868.

Mr. Alden exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party and has always been conversant with the questions and issues of the day. He belongs to the Congregational church and has been a liberal contributor to its support. That he is a man of irreproachable standing and business honor is due to his own labors and the methods he has followed in his business career. Without assistance or the aid of influential friends he has made steady progress and is today one of the wealthy men of the county. The methods which he has followed are such as will bear the closest investigation and his probity stands as an unquestioned fact in his career. He is indeed a splendid type of the American citizen, who has been guided by a sense of high moral responsibility and individual obligation, and his genuine worth is recognized by all with whom he has come in contact. To know Philander M. Alden is to respect and honor him, and his record adds new luster to a family name which has figured prominently and honorably in the annals of American history since the first settlement was made on the shores of New England by our Pilgrim forefathers.

ELMER A. SOWERS.

Elmer A. Sowers, proprietor of the Redwood billiard parlor and a confectionery and cigar store in Genoa, is a native of this county, having been born on a farm two miles south of Genoa in Genoa township, April 20, 1878. He is a brother of George Sowers, whose sketch appears on another page of this volume.

His father, Andrew J. Sowers, was born in Perrysville, Vermilion county, Indiana, in 1831, and was twelve years of age when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Illinois in 1842, the family locating in De Kalb county, where Andrew J. Sowers grew to manhood upon a farm. Here he was married to Miss Judith Ann Brown, a native of Hope township, Montgomery county, New York, and a daughter of Jeremiah L. Brown, who came to Illinois from Maine, his native state, in 1837, and after living for one year in Peoria

county removed to De Kalb county in 1838, making his home here until his death, which occurred in 1882. She is a sister of D. S. Brown, who is represented elsewhere in this work.

After his marriage Andrew J. Sowers resided in Genoa township and in 1864 purchased two hundred and forty acres of land on the Sycamore road, where his father had settled on coming to the county in 1842. To the further improvement and cultivation of the farm he devoted his attention until 1893, when he removed to Genoa to live retired but died on the 7th of September of that year at the age of sixty-two. His widow still survives him at the age of seventy-two years and has a pleasant home in Genoa, where she is surrounded by a host of warm friends. In their family were eight children, of whom two died in infancy, the others being: Jeremiah William, who for the past four years has served as assessor of Genoa; George W.; Emma D., wife of A. D. Le Fevre, a resident of Zeoring, Story county, Iowa; Jennie L., wife of A. A. Stiles, of Genoa; Eva M., wife of Fred P. Renn, of Genoa; and Elmer A., of this review.

The last named is the youngest of the family and still makes his home with his mother. His early life was passed upon the farm, being fifteen years of age when they removed to Genoa. He had good school privileges and completed his education in the Genoa high school. For one year after laying aside his studies he engaged in clerking, and then, in January, 1898, he opened a confectionery and cigar store, which he conducted for several years. In 1903 he added pool and billiard tables and today has a first class establishment containing four tables of the Brunswick-Balke make. His place is above criticism as he caters to the best citizens of Genoa and vicinity. For a time he did a large ice cream and soda water business but has since discontinued that department. For two years, from August 20, 1904, to August 20, 1906, he also conducted a billiard parlor at Woodstock, Illinois, and on the 15th of March, 1905, started the Blue Front cigar store at Elgin, which he carried on for one year and then sold to O. W. Andresen, thus operating the three establishments at once, but owing to the inconvenience arising from their widely different locations he sold out both these places, retaining only the one at Genoa. Besides his property here

he owns a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Story county, Iowa, which he recently purchased from his mother.

Politically Mr. Sowers is identified with the republican party, but has never sought or desired public office, preferring to devote his time and attention to his business interests. He is a member of Genoa lodge, No. 288, A. F. & A. M., in which he has passed through all of the chairs except that of worshipful master. He also belongs to Sycamore chapter and commandery and has the distinction of being the youngest Shriner in Genoa, holding membership in Tebald Temple at Rockford. He is a wide-awake, energetic young business man and well merits the high esteem in which he is held.

MARTIN DODGE.

Martin Dodge was born in Mt. Holly, Vermont, June 6, 1824, and was the seventh and youngest child of Abram and Elsa (Cook) Dodge. His brothers and sisters were Thomas, Daniel, Hannah, Louisa and two sisters who died in infancy. The ancestry of these two families dates to colonial days, having emigrated from England. The Dodge family was of Scotch and English descent, the Cook purely English, the former settling in New York state, the latter in Rhode Island.

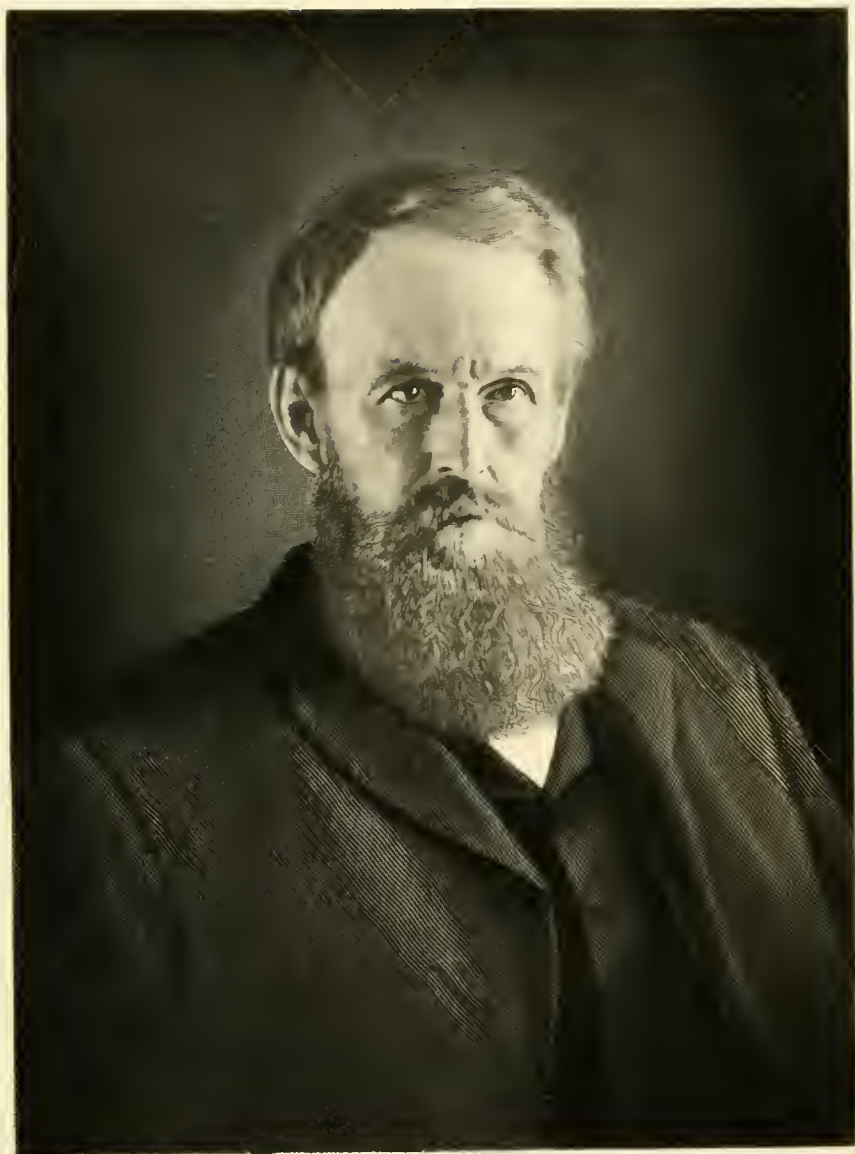
The fathers of Abram Dodge and Elsa Cook Dodge were Revolutionary soldiers. After the war was over Daniel Cook, the father of Mrs. Dodge, removed from Rhode Island and settled in Mt. Holly, Vermont. His three daughters were motherless and were with relatives. By a second marriage a son and daughter were born. The three daughters were later Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Wing, and Mrs. Lee. The last two settled at Andover, New York. Mrs. Lee's granddaughter, Miss Alice Bundy was one of the hundred musicians selected to make a tour of Europe and be entertained by the organists of the cathedrals of those countries. Miss Bundy was at the time principal of music at Beaver Dam Seminary and had visited at different times the Dodge families at De Kalb.

When the British sailed into New York a family of Van Waylands who had emigrated from Holland and established themselves in business on

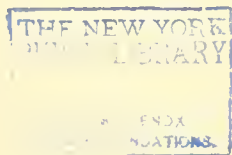
Long Island moved up the Hudson and settled. They had for neighbors a Dodge family who had also found themselves too near to the British. Van Wayland had married a wealthy Holland lady by the name of Rathburn. To them was born a daughter Hannah, who married Daniel Dodge, one of the sons of their neighbor. The early married life of this brave and truly noble woman was troublous. Mr. Dodge as a soldier was doing special service, requiring courage, discreetness and a knowledge of the country through which the enemy's army would pass. She reared her numerous family under difficulties during these years. The writer's knowledge is from Martin Dodge, telling the stories of these times, for he was but a baby boy when his grandmother Dodge, then a widow, became an inmate of his father's home and he easily became her favorite grandchild and until he was a man and her death occurred at ninety-seven years of age he was ever a willing listener to the incidents on which her memory dwelt.

One daughter married an Ellison from Massachusetts, removed to Canada, another became the wife of a Methodist minister of northern New York. Thomas settled in St. Lawrence county and Edmond remained near Utica. Two emigrated to Iowa, one to Wisconsin, one settled near Chicago, Illinois, when it was but a village, and Abram and his wife for five years of their early married life lived in Canada, where their son Thomas was born, but when it looked as though he might have to take up arms against his own country he fled hurriedly, going directly to Mrs. Dodge's father's home at Mt. Holly, Vermont. There were two log houses on the farm and they occupied one until a good commodious house was built some years later. Thus the Cook became the Dodge homestead, Mr. Dodge buying a tract of land adjoining. Daniel Cook had a brother, one of the Merchant Marine, with his port of entry at Salem, Massachusetts, being a merchant of Boston. He helped to found the Salem Museum and his portrait in oil has a place of honor upon its walls.

The Dodge home in Vermont was one of comfort and large hospitality and the family was one of the oldest in town. Thomas, Hannah and Louisa were teachers in the schools in Vermont. Louisa's death occurred when she was but twenty-seven years of age and brought a cloud that shad-



Martin Dodge



owed the home for years. Grandmother Dodge died two years later.

Martin Dodge was married December 13, 1854, to Miss Maria Priest, daughter of Ethan and Eunice (Dowley) Priest. Her father was one of the wealthy farmers of the town, a very intelligent man. Both the Priest and Dowley families were among the prominent ones of the town and have remained so to the present time.

Mrs. Dodge for several years previous to her marriage was a successful teacher. Her grandfather Priest was a Revolutionary soldier. Three of her brothers were soldiers of the Civil war, all of Company I, Second Vermont Volunteers, one a first lieutenant. Her youngest brother, Rev. Henry Priest, is now dean of the Universafist University at Canton, New York, is a very active temperance worker and for many years was president of the university. Mrs. Dodge died August 22, 1861, and Mrs. Abram Dodge had died two years previous. Hannah had ceased her teaching and now devoted herself to her father and brother. The father died in March, 1865, aged eighty-seven years, and the once thronged home seemed almost desolate. Martin then bought a home in the village of Mechanicsville and leased his farm, which was one-half mile away. Typhoid fever, which was nearly fatal, left Mr. Dodge in a condition which required a change of climate. He went to Canada, where his brother Daniel lived, staying with his nephew, Abram, Daniel's only son. While there he contracted for an extensive tract of wood land, but the parties failed to meet the appointment and he was obliged to leave for Vermont before closing the deal, expecting to do so later. Again a severe fever came to him and as soon as he was able to make the journey left in September, 1871, for De Kalb, Illinois, where his brother Thomas resided. He returned November 1 and spent the winter in Vermont, but in June of 1872 started again for De Kalb, hunting the summer and fall for a location to settle, then buying October 7, 1872, the L. Z. Parks property, now a part of the city of De Kalb. He spent the following winter in Connecticut and returned in April, 1873, to De Kalb, where he took possession of his recently purchased property.

In March, 1874, he again visited Vermont, where he was married April 8 to Miss Anna D. Chase, eighth child of Elijah and Tryphosa

(Blodgett) Chase. She was born in Mt. Holly, January 8, 1844, and had been a teacher in the public schools for fourteen years.

She was educated in the public and select schools of the state, with one term at the Mary Putnam select school at Orange, Massachusetts, where she went with her sister expecting to remain an indefinite time, but the death of this sister, Mrs. Parna Cheney, from typhoid fever caused the immediate return to her home. The children of this home were Parna, Joseph, Phillips, Ambrose, Susan, Anna, Edwin and Eugene, with two who died in infancy. Joseph was a manufacturer of chairs in East Templeton, Massachusetts; Phillips and Ambrose conducted a large flourishing business at Mechanicsville, Vermont; Susan married Henry Dickerman of the same place. She died in October, 1871, and three motherless ones lost a beautiful mother in form and character. Edwin died a soldier of the Civil war. Phillips and Ambrose were also soldiers, the former a captain of Company A, Second Vermont Volunteers, and the latter a sergeant in the Twenty-first Massachusetts Volunteers, under Burnside. Eugene was for years shipping clerk for his brother at Mechanicsville.

Joseph, Phillips and Eugene were not only active business men, but church workers, stewards of the Methodist Episcopal church, as was their father, Elijah Chase. The family were republicans, all the brothers being active politicians from principle.

Ambrose is the genius of the family, being an inventor and pleasing writer of verse, a talent which he takes from the Pecks. Eugene's best church work has been his cultivated talent as a singer. Phillips served in both branches of the legislature of his state for several terms. One son survives him, George P. Chase, of Parkersburg, West Virginia, a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, also of the Columbia Law School at Washington, D. C. He is an active republican and member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Ambrose lives at Somerville, Massachusetts, and Eugene at Hanover, Massachusetts.

Their father died in October, 1872. Mrs. Chase sold her home in Vermont and came in 1876 to reside with her daughter, Mrs. Martin Dodge at De Kalb, where she was much beloved by all. When she was eighty-seven years of age she returned to her birthplace at Deerfield, Massachu-

setts, found the old home as it was when she was there in 1897. Only a few months before her own cousin had died, leaving it in possession of his daughter. She returned to De Kalb, but was not strong again, and passed from earth in August of the next year. Mr. Dodge seemed fatally ill at the time, but recovered to be around, but was never able to do active work again, and those nearest him could see how that once powerful physique was losing constantly its vitality. More and more content did he become to sit and live over the past and there was much to live over, for though there had been sorrow there had been much that was true and beautiful gathered by the way.

His family were active members of the Methodist Episcopal church. He was truly Christian but had never connected himself with any church and had been a republican from his youth. While loyal to his adopted state, he was ever turning in thought and word to his Green Mountain home. He was a man true to his convictions and nothing deterred him from doing what he considered right. He was a student through life and so unpretentious that one who had been his companion for years was surprised to know that he knew his Shakespeare well, and any quotation from it he could at once place where it belonged. But it was in the world of nature that he loved most to live, excepting always his home, to which he was entirely devoted. Birds were his pets, he knew their names, songs and habits as he knew the habits of all animal life that he had studied or known. He would transplant new and to him strange botanical specimens that he found near his home, brought there by railway traffic, to study the habits of those plants and know their names.

He was best known to people as a business man, best known to his friends as a social man. Only those coming in close contact with him in business know of his kindness, consideration and forbearance. In his own town in Vermont he held for years in succession offices of trust given by the people. After removing to De Kalb he was twice chosen alderman, but refused to give longer service. He was a director of the First National Bank. He belonged to no secret or social organizations. The only society he was ever known to join was the Young Men's Christian Association at Mechanicsville.

At Christmas, 1901, he was ailing with a heavy cold. It developed into pneumonia—medical skill was untiring in efforts to relieve. Devotion could not save. He passed away in the early morning of January 3, 1902, and rests in a beautiful spot hallowed by the dust of many connected families, at Mechanicsville, Vermont.

C. E. Dickerman, a nephew of Mrs. Dodge, had been a member of the Dodge home, but had accepted a position at Racine, Wisconsin. He at once returned to De Kalb and has been an inmate of the home since the death of Mr. Dodge and is now of the firm of Pritchard & Dickerman. He has since married Miss Eula Thayer. Besides these Mrs. Dodge has two motherless children, Anna and Martin, children of her nephew Edwin Chase, who lived with Mr. and Mrs. Dodge for four years, taking the high-school course under John L. Chrts.

Mrs. Dodge has made a study through life of ancestry, a study that Mr. Dodge cared little for. She can trace the eight lines of her great-grandparents and takes pride in the fact that they have been factors in the peopling of this great west. All these lines reach back into colonial days.

Aquilla Chase settled with his brother Thomas in Hampton, New Hampshire, in 1639. Uniform tradition says they came from Cornwall, England. There is a direct line from him to the present generation. Rogers Chase and his wife, Sarah Walker, were the great-grandparents of Mrs. Dodge. He was a Revolutionary soldier during the entire war. The Walkers were of Irish descent. In 1641 Rev. Samuel Newman, with the larger portion of his congregation, settled at the head of Narragansett bay, having purchased a tract of land eight miles square from a tribe of Wampanoags.

Widow Walker and her son Phillip were among the number, she being the second largest landholder. At her death her son became her heir. His grave is marked and his home still standing. He was a soldier in King Phillip's war, making a personal gift of many pounds to aid in the carrying on of this war. He was a deacon in the church. A grand jury in 1655 took oath of fidelity in 1658. He left Rumford, Rhode Island, at an early age, for we find him prominent in what is now Attleboro, Massachusetts, in 1658. We have a direct line to this Phillip.

Ebenezer Chase, who married Clarissa Peck, was the oldest son of Rogers and Sarah (Walker)

Chase. Joseph Peck first came from England and settled in Massachusetts in 1638; lived in Hingham in 1645, removing to Seekonk; was a townsman in 1680 and representative to the general court of Massachusetts in 1700. His grandson, Jathnell Peck, lived in Rehobath—a man of large wealth and influence; representative to the general court in 1721-1731, and bought large properties and founded churches.

Henry, his son, lived at the homestead, but Solomon, son of Henry and the great-grandfather of Mrs. Dodge, married Anna Wheeler and settled in Royalston, Massachusetts, where he bought land and continually added to it. His daughter Clara married Ebenezer Chase. They were the parents to Elijah Chase, who was born in October, 1804, and the oldest of the family of six children, born to them at Royalston, Massachusetts. His father was the owner of several hundred acres of woodland and rested not day or night from destroying it to subdue the wilderness. This farm is today in the hands of a member of the Chase family, who is letting it again come into timber land.

Thomas Blodgett first removed from Woburn, Massachusetts, to Lexington in 1699; was assessor in 1710; and after the town was incorporated filled nearly every place of honor that could be given him. In 1714 he was selectman and constantly succeeded himself and represented his town in general court. His sons were all soldiers and patriots, Timothy being a minuteman at the battle of Lexington. He had married Millicent Perry and when her husband was awakened that memorable 19th of April and went out into the night to meet the British on the Lexington green, she arose, heated the brick oven and baked, so that if her husband and soldiers with him returned food in abundance would be awaiting them. Then when her work was done took her little children and started for the thick forest, where others had been hiding since before dawn. As she was crossing the street she heard the clatter of hoofs and two British officers were riding past. In her confusion she started to retrace her steps, when the one, who afterward proved to be General Gage, kindly said, "God bless you, we do not injure women and children." They had ridden out a distance to know how the battle was going. They moved to Wendol, afterward to Deerfield, where

they purchased a farm and reared a large family of children. The farm adjoining was owned by Waitstill Hawks and his wife, Anna Spofford Hawks, who were rearing a numerous family of boys and girls. Joseph, the son of Timothy Blodgett, married Thankful, the daughter of Waitstill and Anna Hawks, and lived for several years at the Blodgett home. There Tryphosa, the eighth child and the mother of Mrs. Dodge, was born and spent the first seven years of her life. There she visited in 1896.

The family history of the Hawks are closely interwoven with Colonial days, Colonel Hawks being the one chosen to redeem the captives taken to Canada after the Indian massacre at Deerfield. Several of the Hawks family were murdered in this massacre.

From the Hawks and Blodgett union went out sons and daughters to many states—North Carolina, Georgia, Arkansas, Iowa, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Vermont and New Hampshire. Colonel Blodgett of Georgia, one of the heroes of the Seminole war, was a brother of Mrs. Elijah Chase and Colonel Brantley, a Confederate, killed during the Civil war, was a son of Benjamin Brantley and Susan Blodgett Brantley, a nephew of Mrs. Chase. Mrs. Tiffany, residing with her daughter, Mrs. H. B. Gurler of De Kalb, is a niece of Mrs. Chase, who was a sister of the mother of Mrs. Tiffany.

John Spofford came from Yorkshire, England, in 1640, was the first settler of Georgetown, Massachusetts, and the progenitor of all the Spoffords in this country.

There has not been woven into this history names here and there of men high in church, school, state and nation, neither the many representing the best in all professions, but families who have striven to do something worthy of their ancestry while endeavoring to fulfill the obligations of citizens and kindred.

A. J. PLAPP.

A. J. Plapp, an enterprising farmer and stock-raiser, owns a well improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres, situated on section 4, Malta township, all of which has been acquired through his own industry and capable management of his business affairs. Mr. Plapp was born July 27,

1866, a son of J. F. and Elizabeth (Lipp) Plapp, both of whom were natives of Wurtemberg, Germany, the former born June 29, 1816, and the latter September 25, 1820. The father emigrated to the new world in 1838, the trip across the Atlantic requiring forty-two days. Landing in Baltimore, he there remained for five months, being employed at the meager sum of six dollars per month. From that city he made his way to Erie county, Pennsylvania, whence in 1844 he arrived in De Kalb county, Illinois. He was first employed here in assisting in the erection of Howard mill at Geneva and in various other ways until 1848, when he located on a farm, on section 24, Pierce township, which he developed and improved, eventually becoming one of the substantial residents of that section of the state. Mrs. Plapp had come to America in 1832, and it was in De Kalb county that she was married to J. F. Plapp in 1850. She is still living at the very advanced age of eighty-six years, but Mr. Plapp passed away January 25, 1885. Their family numbered twelve children, seven sons and five daughters, but four of the number have passed away.

A. J. Plapp acquired his education in the common schools during the winter months, while in the summer seasons he was trained to the duties of the fields, giving to his father valuable assistance during the period of his boyhood and youth. When starting out upon his own responsibility he chose as his work the occupation to which he had been reared and this has continued to be his work to the present time.

In 1891 Mr. Plapp established a home of his own by his marriage on the 5th of February of that year, to Miss Anna R. Hiner, who was born in Pierce township, De Kalb county, April 5, 1870. Her father was a native of Germany and when a young man came to America, locating on a farm in Pierce township, where he lived until his death, which occurred September 21, 1899. The mother, who was born in 1845, is still living on the old homestead farm. Their family numbered eleven children, of whom eight still survive.

Following his marriage Mr. Plapp located on a farm which he rented for four years, and during this time through his own industry and economy and the assistance of his estimable wife, who has proved to him a faithful companion and helpmate,

he acquired the sum that enabled him to purchase the farm upon which he has since made his home. This tract comprises one hundred and sixty acres of land, all of which has been placed under a high state of cultivation and has been improved with good outbuildings and a fine country residence, containing thirteen rooms. In addition to carrying on general agricultural pursuits Mr. Plapp also feeds stock for the market, and this branch of his business is proving a gratifying source of income to him.

Unto our subject and his wife have been born a daughter and two sons: Bertha Pearl, who was born December 20, 1891; Ralph Lewis, who was born February 3, 1894; and William Edwin, who was born August 25, 1896. Mr. Plapp has always supported the men and measures of the republican party, and his fraternal relations are with the Modern Woodmen of America, being a member of camp No. 217, and he and his wife also belongs to Royal Neighbor lodge, No. 1262, at Malta. Both hold membership in the Evangelical church. The family is one highly respected in the community in which they reside, and their success has come through honorable, untiring effort.

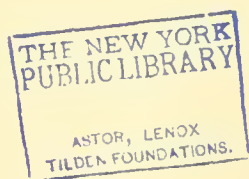
SANFORD A. TYLER.

Sanford A. Tyler was born in Newark, Tioga county, New York, January 11, 1836. His parents were Anthony and Harriett B. (Packer) Tyler, both natives of the state of New York. He lived with his parents on a farm until he was eighteen years of age. He then came to Illinois, where he attended college at Mount Morris. In 1854 he came to De Kalb county and bought a farm in Afton township, where he followed farming for six years. On March 20, 1864, he started on a journey across the plains, traveling by wagon, and arrived at Virginia City, Montana, the following June, where he followed gold mining for about six months.

Mr. Tyler then returned to De Kalb and engaged in the grocery business in partnership with R. H. Roberts. The firm also bought live stock throughout the surrounding country, which they shipped to the Chicago markets. In 1883 Mr. Tyler became superintendent of the Ellwood wire



ORFORD T. LER



works, remaining in this position until 1890, when he became a salesman for the same company. He continued with the Ellwood company in this capacity until he retired from active business life in 1897. From this date until his death, November 14, 1906, he devoted his time and attention to his varied interests in this city, carrying on therewith a general real-estate and insurance business.

During his life Mr. Tyler served the city and county in a number of capacities, having been deputy sheriff, town clerk, and alderman. He was clerk of the board of education for twelve years. He was a Knight Templar and a thirty-second degree Mason.

Mr. Tyler was married November 30, 1869, to Sarah Louise Taylor, a daughter of Squire Taylor, one of De Kalb's most prominent citizens. There were born to them four children, Clara Louise, Squire Allen, Harriett Daisy and Harold Packer. Mr. Tyler was one of the most widely known men in De Kalb county, a man of sterling character and most lovable nature and a conservative, honorable and successful business man.

JAMES O. BJORKMAN.

James O. Bjorkman, clothier and men's outfitter at De Kalb, is a native son of Illinois, having been born in Aledo on the 21st of December, 1876. As the family name indicates, he is of Swedish lineage, his parents being Charles and Hannah (Nelson) Bjorkman. The father was born in 1845 and the mother in 1848. They became residents of America in 1863 when young people, and Mr. Bjorkman located, in Aledo, Illinois, while the lady who was later to become his wife made her home in Swedona, this state. She afterward removed to Aledo, where she formed the acquaintance of Charles Bjorkman, who sought and won her hand in marriage. In his native country the father had learned the painter's trade and also the trade of harness-making, and after his emigration to the new world he followed both pursuits, engaging in painting during the busy season and throughout the remainder of the year at harness-making. In 1900 the firm of C. Bjorkman & Son was formed, since which time they have carried on a good business as painters and

dealers in wall paper, in connection with a general contracting business. In this regard they have been very successful and the father is also one of the well known operators in the real-estate field in Aledo. In fact he is recognized as one of the town's most influential and active business men, upright in all of his dealings and esteemed by all with whom he has come in contact. He holds membership in the Lutheran church, in which he takes a most helpful interest. For a quarter of a century he has served as superintendent of the Sunday school and in all departments of the church work he has displayed a spirit of energy and zeal which have contributed much to its success. Unto him and his wife have been born three sons and a daughter: Edward, a merchant of Aledo; Wolfred, a business man of Aledo; James O., of this review; and Nellie, the wife of Ernest Carlson, a photographer of Aledo.

James O. Bjorkman was reared in the city of his nativity and there attended the public schools. His father desired him to attend school for a longer period but early in life he became ambitious to earn his living and in his twelfth year accepted a position behind the counter in a cigar store, where he worked for a dollar per week. He was thus employed for four years, although with increased wages as his ability and usefulness increased, and he then accepted a position with the firm of E. Parkman, dealer in clothing, dry goods and carpets at Aledo. That he was a trusted, faithful and competent employe is indicated by the fact that he remained with that house for nine years and during the last four years of the time had complete charge of the business. Never for a moment, however, had he ceased to entertain ambition to engage in business on his own account and through these years his frugality and careful management enabled him to save a snug sum of money, which he then invested in De Kalb. He came to this city in 1900 and established his present business. Within the short period of seven years he has gained a prominent position in mercantile circles and commands the unqualified confidence of the general public. He is known for honorable, straightforward methods which neither seek nor require disguise, and as the years have gone by he has displayed an adaptability to modern business conditions and demands that has made him one of the successful merchants

of De Kalb. From 1904 until 1906 he owned and conducted a branch store in the east end of De Kalb, known as the East End Clothing House, but recently disposed of this to H. V. Harpman & Company.

On the 24th of January, 1899, Mr. Bjorkman was married to Miss Betty Younggren, of Galesburg, Illinois, and they have one child, Lester Lee, born July 29, 1902. Mr. Bjorkman is a valued member of several fraternal and social organizations. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias lodge, the Modern Woodmen camp, the Independent Order of Vikings, the North Star Benevolent Association and the Fraternal Order of Eagles, and of the last two he has been treasurer for some years. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and he keeps well informed on the question and issues of the day, as every true American citizen should do, but has little ambition in the line of office seeking. He knows that success in business means close application and untiring energy and he is putting forth earnest efforts to win success along commercial lines and has already made for himself an honorable name in that direction.

GEORGE H. HOLMES.

George H. Holmes, a baker and confectioner of De Kalb, was born in Paw Paw township, De Kalb county, Illinois, August 1, 1871. His father, George R. Holmes, was a native of New England, born in 1811, and in his boyhood days he accompanied his parents on their removal to the middle west, the family settling on a farm in Shabbona township, De Kalb county, where he was reared. On reaching manhood he bought a farm in Paw Paw township and for a long period thereafter was actively engaged in the work of tilling the soil and caring for the crops. He conducted his farming interests until 1884, when he sold his property and removed to De Kalb, where he engaged in the livery business, with which he has since been identified, having now a well conducted livery barn and receiving from the public a well merited and liberal patronage. In politics he is a democrat but has never been an aspirant for office. He married Frances M. Hinkley and

unto them were born seven children, all of whom are living with one exception. These are: Ella M., the wife of M. E. Lake, of Paw Paw township; Mary C., the wife of J. E. Matteson, an attorney of De Kalb; Seth W., of De Kalb; Bert D., who is a cutter in the De Kalb shoe factory; Clyde R., also of this city; and George H.

The last named was reared under the parental roof, began his education in the district schools and afterward attended the De Kalb high school. At the age of seventeen years he entered upon an apprenticeship to the printer's trade and spent six years in printing offices in the cities of De Kalb, Elgin, Sandwich, Geneva and Chicago. He then returned to De Kalb in 1894 in ill health, and soon afterward accepted a position in the shoe factory, where he was employed until 1897, when he entered the Metropolitan Business College of Chicago, pursuing a course in stenography. After finishing his studies there he again came to De Kalb and accepted the position of stenographer in the office of the shoe factory. Some twelve months later he was offered a better position in the office of the Abram Ellwood Manufacturing Company, with which he continued up to the time of their failure, when he returned to his former position in the shoe factory. There he remained until February 1, 1902, when he invested his earnings in a bakery and confectionery business, which he purchased of G. H. Wenderberg. Under his management a notable change was soon effected. The trade was small and the equipment poor at the time he made the purchase, but he rapidly improved the business and has secured a patronage that makes this one of the prosperous commercial enterprises of De Kalb. A year after he had purchased the bakery he bought the business block in which it is located and he has since met with rapidly acquired and merited prosperity. He manufactures an excellent class of bakery goods and also handles a large and well selected line of confectionery, both departments of his business proving profitable.

On the 29th of September, 1897, Mr. Holmes was united in marriage to Miss Alice Van Horn, of De Kalb, a daughter of Orlando Van Horn, now deceased. Mr. Holmes belongs to the First Baptist church and is a member of De Kalb lodge, No. 765, B. P. O. E., of which he is now serving as secretary. He is likewise connected with De

Kalb lodge, No. 215, K. P., and De Kalb lodge, No. 155, I. O. O. F. He does not consider himself bound by party ties but works for clean politics, being opposed to anything like misrule in municipal affairs. On the contrary he stands for good government, for a practical administration of municipal business and believes in bringing the same criterions of honor to politics that form the test in business life.

JOHN A. MERCER.

The farming interests of Clinton township have a worthy representative in John A. Mercer, who is residing on section 23. He was born January 24, 1860, upon this farm, which is known as the old Mercer homestead, having become the home of the family at an early period in the development and progress of this section of the state. John A. Mercer can trace his ancestry back to a Thomas Mercer, who came from England in 1666 and settled in Chester county, Pennsylvania. His parents were Smith and Margaret (Thornberg) Mercer. The father was born May 12, 1827, in Beaver county, Pennsylvania, and on the 14th of November, 1850, was joined in wedlock to Miss Margaret Thornberg, whose birth occurred in Beaver county on the 9th of February, 1831. They remained residents of the Keystone state until 1856, when they sought a home in the middle west, making their way to De Kalb county, Illinois. Here they took up their abode on section 23, Clinton township, and subsequently Mr. Mercer purchased eighty acres on section 23 and a tract of land of one hundred and sixty acres on section 24 of the same township. Farming was his life work and the business was carefully conducted by him, his labors transforming the wild land into a richly cultivated tract, the productiveness of which was greatly enhanced by the rotation of crops and the practical methods which he followed in tilling the fields. While they were still living upon the old homestead Mrs. Mercer passed away November 24, 1888. Mr. Mercer continued upon the farm until 1891, when he retired from active business life and removed to Sandwich, where he spent his remaining days in the enjoyment of a well earned rest, his death occurring

June 30, 1903. Unto this worthy couple were born eleven children but the first two died in infancy. The others are as follows: R. J., who was born March 20, 1854, and is now a street car conductor in Chicago; Joseph, who was born March 1, 1856, and is with the International Harvester Company at Huron, South Dakota; Thomas, who was born January 31, 1858, and is a retired farmer of Somonauk, Illinois; John A., of this review; A. L., who was born August 28, 1861, and is a stationary engineer at Aurora, Illinois; W. M., who was born March 8, 1863, and is an attorney at law at Aurora; S. W., who was born December 23, 1865, and died January 16, 1887; Ida Bell, who was born May 2, 1868, and is living in Los Angeles, California; and Jennie, who was born October 10, 1870, and is also in Los Angeles.

In retrospect one can see John A. Mercer as he daily made his way to the district school near his father's home during those months in which the school was conducted, while during the summer seasons he worked in the fields, early becoming familiar with the task of plowing, planting and harvesting. He remained with his father until twenty-one years of age, after which he was employed as a farm hand for one year in Victor township. He then returned and worked for five years for his father, after which he cultivated his father's land for five years. Subsequently he bought the eighty acres on which he now resides and since that time he has continued to cultivate his farm with good success. As a companion and helpmate for life's journey he chose Miss Alice Fisher, to whom he was married on the 17th of December, 1891. She is a daughter of John and Emeline (Corns) Fisher, both of whom were born near Marietta, Ohio. Her father was an agriculturist and died in the Buckeye state on the 22d of December, 1890. The mother is still living in Ohio, having never come to the west. Mrs. Mercer was born near Marietta, Ohio, November 10, 1863, pursued her education in the district schools near her girlhood home and in 1890 came to Illinois. The following year she gave her hand in marriage to Mr. Mercer and the union has since been blessed with two daughters and a son: Mildred Lucile, born January 20, 1893; Raymond Clifford, born February 5, 1895; and Mary Emeline, born November 3, 1897.

Mr. Mercer gives the republican party his stalwart and unfaltering support, yet has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking. He simply believes that the platform of the party contains the best elements of good government. He was reared in the faith of the Presbyterian church but he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Waterman and for four years he has served as one of its stewards, taking an active part in the church work and manifesting a deep interest in all that pertains to the growth of the church and the extension of its influence. As a representative of one of the old pioneer families of the county he is well known, while his own personal worth entitles him to representation in this volume. He has lived in the county for forty-seven years, so that his life history is familiar to his many friends and in all of its phases it displays sterling characteristics.

H. P. HALL.

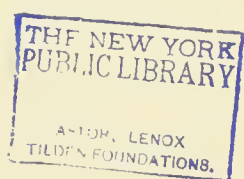
Under the direction of no county superintendent in De Kalb county have the schools made more substantial advancement than when H. P. Hall served as county superintendent. His record, too, in commercial circles is equally creditable and because of his wide and favorable acquaintance his life record will be received with interest by many of the readers of this volume. He was born in Croydon, Sullivan county, New Hampshire, August 5, 1827, a son of Daniel R. Hall, likewise a native of the same county. The paternal grandfather, Abijah Hall, was a soldier of the Revolutionary war and received a captain's commission from Josiah Bartlett, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. The great-grandfather, Edward Hall, held a commission under the crown from King George. Urias Powers, the maternal grandfather of Professor Hall, was also a soldier of the war of independence. The Hall family is indeed an old one in the New England states and comes of Scotch-Irish ancestry.

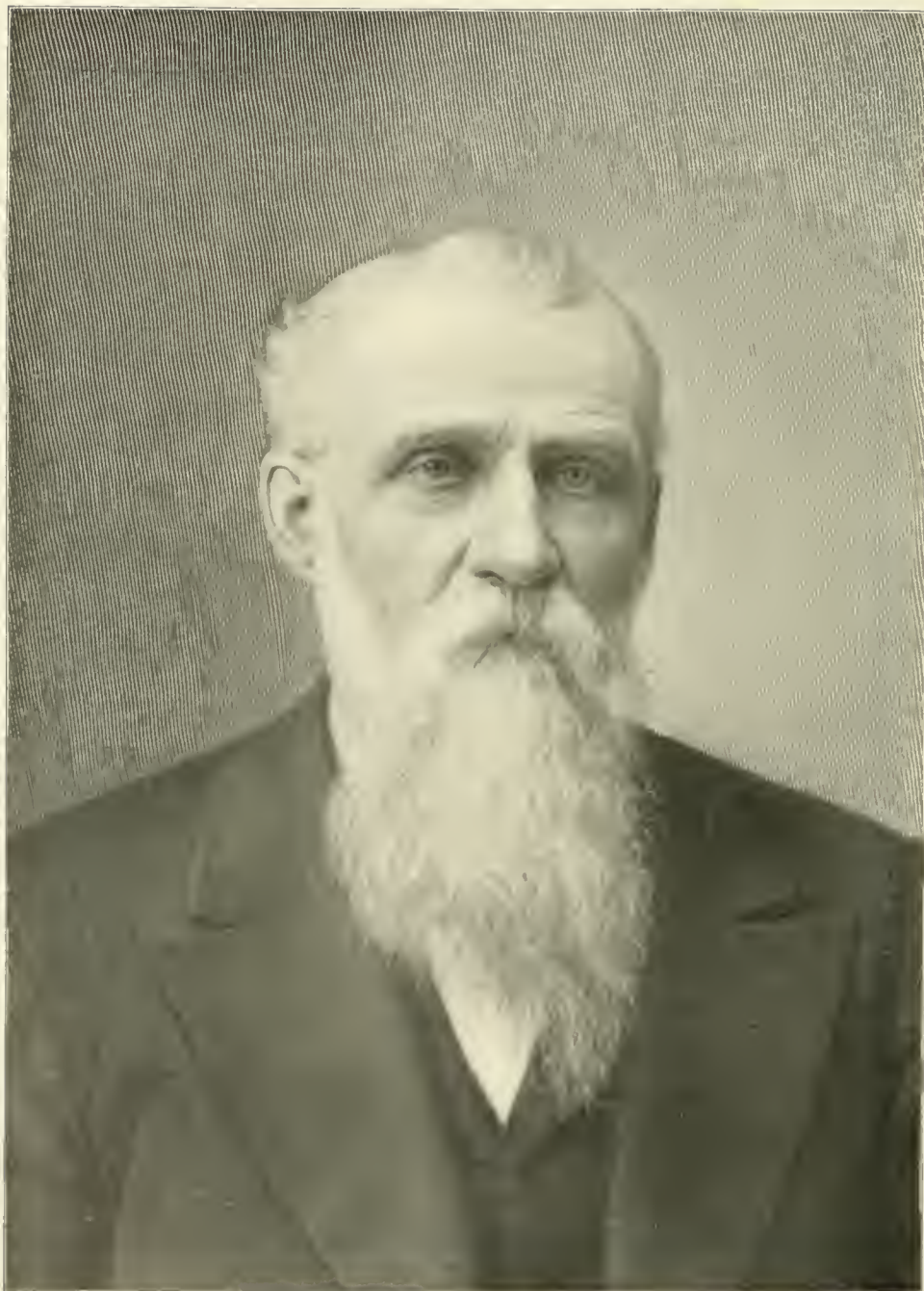
Daniel R. Hall, the father of our subject, was a carpenter by trade and later engaged in merchandising, which pursuit he followed for many years. He afterward devoted his time and energies to farming and in his last years he lived retired from

active life. He was very prominent and influential in political circles, supported the republican party and was representative of his district in the legislature. His many good qualities won him the high respect and confidence of those who knew him and he was spoken of by all as "a good man."

H. P. Hall pursued his early education in the common schools and spent two years in Wesleyan University in Connecticut. He also attended Amherst college in Massachusetts, belonging to the class that was graduated in 1856. His teaching career began in 1846, and he taught nine terms in the east at a salary the first term of nine dollars a month and boarded around; the last twenty-six and board. In 1855 he removed to the west and took up his abode at Marshall, Clark county, Illinois, being employed as principal in Marshall academy. Afterward taught school in Terre Haute, Indiana, and later went to Merom, taking charge of the Merom Bluff Academy. During the first year of his work there the Christian church wanted a college and raised thirty-five thousand dollars for that purpose, establishing the school in the old building with Professor Hall as one of the faculty. For some time he had charge of the college and was very successful in its conduct.

At the time of the Civil war Mr. Hall put aside all professional and personal considerations, enlisting in 1864 as a member of Company I, First Indiana Heavy Artillery, with which he served for seven months or until the close of hostilities, being located at Indianapolis most of the time as a reserve. He was discharged at Indianapolis and began teaching at Pendleton, Indiana, in the public schools at a salary of twelve hundred dollars per year. He removed from there to Sycamore as city superintendent of schools and the successor of Andrew J. Blanchard, who taught here for twenty-five years. Professor Hall largely built up the schools and brought them to such a high standard of proficiency that instead of receiving one hundred dollars in tuitions from the outside, an average of over five hundred dollars per year were taken in. Professor Hall remained in charge of the city schools for two years and was recognized as one of the best teachers the county ever had. In 1869 he was elected county superintendent of schools and filled the office for eight years, retiring in 1877 with a most creditable record. He labored for advancement in the work done in the schools and also

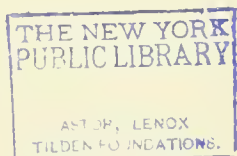




H. P. HALL.



MRS. H. P. HALL.



impressed upon the public mind that better school-houses were needed, together with shade trees both for utility and beauty. Under his guidance the schools made substantial progress, gaining a degree of excellence never before attained. On retiring from office Professor Hall embarked in the grocery business and later in the insurance business but is now living a retired life.

At Jacksonville, Illinois, Professor Hall was united in marriage to Miss Ellen M. Herrick, a teacher in the Jacksonville Female College and a direct descendent of Governor Endicott of Massachusetts. She was born in Marlboro, Cheshire county, New Hampshire, in 1827 and is a daughter of Jeremiah Herrick. She belonged to an old New England family, her ancestors having come from England in 1630. Mrs. Hall was graduated from Newbury Female Institute of Vermont and taught for many years. By her marriage she became the mother of five children, but only one is now living, a daughter, Eva Reed Hall, who is a graduate of the Northwestern University at Evanston and is now teaching in Wilmette near that city, being employed there for the ninth year. Professor and Mrs. Hall have an attractive and comfortable home at No. 327 West Sycamore avenue, where they are spending the evening of life.

In his political views he was originally a whig and afterward became a republican, supporting that party until 1888, since which time he has acted with the prohibition party. He has been a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and he and his wife hold membership in the Methodist church. In 1864 De Pauw University of Indiana conferred upon him the degree of Master of Arts. He has made teaching his principal life work and was particularly successful in that field of endeavor, imparting clearly, readily and concisely to others the knowledge he had attained. During one year of his work as superintendent of the De Kalb county schools he published an educational monthly relative to the schools of the county, and he is also the author of a most helpful little pamphlet called "Suggestions to Teachers." He indicated the scope of the work—and followed out the plan in future publication—in an editorial in the first issue which said: "The Educational Monthly is given to the public, not in the expectation that it will afford general reading matter, nor that it will be in any sense what is usually termed a parlor

magazine, but it is issued in the belief that it will give, if properly supported by the friends of education, a better understanding of the various educational enterprises, create a closer sympathy among pupils, parents and teachers, cause school property to be better cared for, and that it will tend to lessen the expense of schools, not in dollars necessarily, but through the increased efficiency of teachers, the more studious habits of pupils, a more faithful discharge of duty on the part of directors, and a more general feeling throughout the entire county that to have a good school something more is necessary than that books and children, with some one to keep order, should be brought in contact.

"It is not to be understood that any one holds the opinion unqualifiedly—doubtless no one does. It is hoped that the *Monthly* will stimulate teachers to think much of how and what to teach, and that it will cause school officers and all others to see their respective duties more plainly. To effect results like these, there must be earnest work, not of words merely, but of action, such as follows mature and candid reflection.

"It is proper to say in this connection that he, who may be held responsible for what appears in the columns of the *Monthly*, does not expect to write all its articles, nor that they will all be original. Assurances have been given by individuals in almost every town of the county that they approve the plan of publishing an educational journal, and that they will assist as circumstances will allow. Correspondence and an earnest co-operation is asked for, in the full belief that it will be given.

"With these few words with reference to its object, the *Monthly*—humble, unpretending, small in size, but strong in the faith that it will lay at least the foundation of a better educational fabric in its own county—goes to the public, asking to be heard in behalf of the children for whom schools are established."

In 1906 Professor Hall returned to Amherst College, attending the semi-centennial reunion of his class. Twenty-two of the thirty-two living members were present. Many pleasant memories were called forth in this reunion and while the absent—removed by time, space or death—were not forgotten, it was a great delight to meet again with the living and recall the incidents of school life

and to review the happenings of the passing years.

Among the most interesting events in the life of Professor Hall occurred on the 16th of July, 1906—the celebration of his fiftieth wedding anniversary. It will long be remembered by all who participated therein. No preparations had been made toward a formal celebration by Mr. and Mrs. Hall. They had simply invited their friends to call during the afternoon and evening in a social way, but the occasion will long be remembered and it is doubtful if the celebration of their first wedding was a happier event. Many friends in Sycamore were present and left substantial token of their regard and esteem for the worthy couple in various beautiful gifts, while a large number of letters and telegrams of congratulation were received from many living at a distance who were unable to be present.

HENRY NICHOLAS MAY.

Henry Nicholas May, a contractor in the cement business, building houses and sidewalks of cement at De Kalb, was born in Frankfort, Germany, June 23, 1846. His parents were Nicholas and Kathryn (King) May. The father was born in Bingen on the Rhine on the 12th of April, 1838, while the mother's birth occurred in Frankfort, Germany, October 19, 1847. Nicholas May was a baker by trade and followed that pursuit in his native country until 1883, when he brought his family to the new world, settling in De Kalb county at Genoa. The wife and mother died on the 30th of October, 1893, but the father is still living in De Kalb with his son. They were the parents of three children.

Henry Nicholas May, the eldest, was educated in the schools of Sterling, and after putting aside his text-books worked at the baker's trade for four years. In 1895 he began learning the cement business, in which he has since continued, being engaged in the construction of cement sidewalks and houses. He is a man of push and progress and is prompt in the execution of contracts awarded him.

Mr. May is well known in military, fraternal and political circles as well as in business life and his position upon any vital question has never been an equivocal one. For seven years he has

been first sergeant of Company A, of the Third Regiment of the Illinois National Guard. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias lodge, No. 217, and the Uniformed Rank. He is likewise a member of the Woodmen of the World and the Fraternal Order of Eagles. He exercises his right of franchise in support of the republican party. His religious views are indicated by his membership in the German Lutheran church. In all of these associations he is deeply interested and gives his aid and co-operation thereto as much as time and business interests will permit.

Mr. May was married in De Kalb, August, 1901, to Miss Sadie Anker, who was born in Clinton, Iowa, May 3, 1884, the youngest of the seven children of Hans and Maren Anker, both of whom were natives of Denmark. Mrs. May was educated in the public schools of De Kalb. Her parents located at Clinton, Iowa, at an early date and thence removed to De Kalb county about fifteen years ago. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. May has been blessed with two daughters: Evelyn K., born April 10, 1903; and Leona M., born March 7, 1906. The family are well known in De Kalb and are pleasantly located at No. 722 North Thirteenth street. Both Mr. and Mrs. May have many friends here who enjoy their hospitality. They will soon have better facilities for entertaining their many friends as they expect to erect a new block cement house in the spring of 1907. In his business Mr. May has had substantial advancement, having now a liberal patronage so that the work brings him a goodly measure of prosperity each year.

FRANK LANGLOIS, SR.

Frank Langlois, formerly connected with business interests as a dealer in clothing and a real-estate agent, is now living retired, his home being at the corner of State and California streets. He was born in New York state, March 13, 1838. When young he went to Canada, where he learned the blacksmith's trade, and in that country he was married to Miss Julia Cusson, a native of Canada, born June 5, 1814.

Mr. Langlois returned to the United States when nineteen years of age, settling in Massachu-

setts, where he followed his trade for a number of years. He became a resident of Sycamore in 1864, and for ten years was engaged in blacksmithing here, during which period he acquired the capital that enabled him to embark in merchandising at the end of a decade. He purchased a stock of clothing and opened a store, which he conducted for some time and also embarked in the real-estate business. After several years he sold out his clothing business and is now practically living retired, although to some extent he still handles property. The success he achieved is due entirely to his own labors and energy and the assistance of his estimable wife, for he started out empty-handed. Gradually he has worked his way upward and by economy and frugality in former years, by the careful transaction of business interests, and by sound judgment they have won the competence that now enables them to practically rest from labor.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Langlois were born three children, all yet living: Walter, who resides at Sycamore, where he is engaged in the real-estate business; May, the wife of David A. Middleton; and Frank, who is living in Chicago.

Mr. Langlois gives his political allegiance to the democracy. He has been a member of the Odd Fellows lodge in Sycamore for thirty-five years and is one of its exemplary representatives. His wife is a member of the Episcopal church and they are well known in this city, where for more than four decades they have resided, Mr. Langlois figuring prominently for a long period in business circles. Overcoming the trials and difficulties which always impede progress in the business world he now stands among the successful few, and comfortably situated in life he expects to spend the evening of his days in Sycamore.

JOHN W. WOODS.

John W. Woods is a prominent and influential farmer residing on section 35, Afton township, and his many friends will be glad to read this record of his life for he is a prominent and wealthy citizen and one who is greatly respected by all who know him. He was born September 25, 1866, in this county, his parents being Isaac

and Pluma (Ovitt) Woods. The father was born in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, May 17, 1835, while the mother's birth occurred in Kendall county, Illinois, November 26, 1844, her father being S. A. Ovitt, an early settler. Mr. and Mrs. Woods were married December 20, 1865, and became the parents of six children, namely: John W., Minnie E., Charles S., Daisy A., Ida B. and Emma C. Of this family John, Ida, Minnie and Daisy have all engaged in teaching and have been regarded as very successful and capable teachers.

In 1865 Isaac Woods came to De Kalb county and settled on section 34, Afton township, where he turned his attention to general agricultural pursuits, becoming one of the leading farmers of the locality. He also soon became quite prominent in township affairs and served as tax collector and assessor for several terms. In 1892 he was elected supervisor and filled that office until 1899, retiring from the position as he had entered it, with the confidence and good will of all concerned. In his political allegiance he was always an earnest and inflexible republican, giving his support to the party after attaining his majority. In his religious faith he was a Methodist and he and his family belonged to the church of that denomination at Waterman. He took an active part in its work, doing all in his power to promote its growth and extend its influence for the moral development of the community. His farm comprised one hundred and sixty acres of land and its general appearance denoted the thrift of its owner. No man in Afton township had a wider circle of friends or was more esteemed for the possession of those qualities of honorable manhood for in all relations of life he was upright and just. His death occurred October 6, 1903.

John W. Woods, whose name introduces this review, pursued his education in the schools of Sugar Grove township, Kane county, Illinois, and afterward engaged in teaching in the district schools for several years. He maintained good order and imparted clearly and readily to others the knowledge he had acquired. Following his marriage he turned his attention to farming and is now quite extensively engaged in feeding stock in addition to cultivating his fields.

It was on the 30th of January, 1895, that Mr. Woods was married to Miss Ella Broughton, daughter of Chauncey W. and Caroline C.

(Churchill) Broughton. Her father was a farmer residing on the northeast quarter of section 31, Afton township. He was born in Pepperell, Middlesex county, Massachusetts, July 22, 1817, and in 1861 married Miss Caroline C. Churchill, and unto this marriage were born five children: Ella, now Mrs. Woods; William A., who was born February 19, 1863, and died January 6, 1866; May, born May 7, 1867; Judson, who was born April 21, 1869, and died on the 26th of October of the same year; and Ben, who was born May 25, 1871. Mr. Broughton, who was a farmer and stock-raiser, came to Illinois in 1841 and located in Kaneville, Kane county, where he purchased two hundred acres of government land. He increased his possessions until he owned about seven hundred acres and remained there about nine years. He then sold his property and removed to Iowa, but a year later returned to Illinois and located in Afton township, De Kalb county. At the time of his death, which occurred May 8, 1893, he was the owner of between eight and nine hundred acres of land, though at one time he had a thousand acres. He was one of the most prominent and respected farmers of the community and his life was ever honorable and upright, bringing to him the warm regard and friendship of those who knew him. In politics he was a republican and served his township as supervisor for several terms.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Woods have been born seven children: Carrie M., born January 14, 1896; Addie M., born February 1, 1897; Ruth E., who was born September 15, 1898, and died January 10, 1899; Alta R., born November 8, 1899; Preston L., born April 30, 1901; John B., born September 17, 1903; and Ralph R., who was born October 10, 1904, and died on the 10th of November of the same year. The mother of these children was educated in the public schools of Afton township and in the De Kalb high school and is a cultured and estimable lady, who presides with gracious hospitality over her pleasant home.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Woods are consistent and faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Waterman. Mr. Woods gives his political support to the republican party, with which he has voted since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. For several years he filled the office of school director but has never sought or desired political preferment as a reward for party

fealty. He and his wife now own three hundred and fifty acres of land in Clinton and Afton townships. They are highly esteemed people, having a host of friends throughout the county and deserve prominent mention in this volume as representative citizens.

WILLIAM FINLEY WILTBERGER.

William Finley Wiltberger, of the firm of Talbot & Wiltberger, insurance and real-estate dealers of De Kalb, has made consecutive advancement in business life, working his way upward by ability, energy and enterprise until he is now one of the leading factors in business circles in his native town. He was born May 8, 1872, a son of Joseph S. and Harriet A. (Wilcox) Wiltberger, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume.

At the usual age Mr. Wiltberger entered the public schools and passed through successive grades and also attended the high school. For two years and a half he engaged in clerking and while thus employed received his first practical business training. Subsequently he entered the Metropolitan Business College of Chicago, where he was graduated in May, 1893. Following his return home, he accepted a position on the 25th of the same month in the office of the De Kalb Fence Company. After a short period, during which he acted as shipping clerk, he was given charge of the books and later was advanced to the position of cashier, in which capacity he remained for a number of years, when he was promoted to the responsible position of credit man. He continued to hold that position with the company until he resigned on the 1st of March, 1906. He had the entire confidence of the company and greatly promoted its business interests through the capable management of his department. Prior to his resignation the firm of Talbot & Wiltberger was organized for the conduct of the insurance, real-estate and investment business and during the year which has since elapsed the firm has had a large share of the public patronage in their line, enjoying merited prosperity from the beginning.

On the 1st of August, 1896, Mr. Wiltberger was married to Miss Helen B. Duffey, a daughter of Robert and Ellen Duffey, of De Kalb. They



H. J. Hiltbarger

have three sons: William Alden, born October 17, 1897; Kenneth Lyman, born January 4, 1902; and Herbert Fox, born April 7, 1905. Mrs. Wiltberger is an accomplished and cultured lady and she and her husband are well known in social circles. Mr. Wiltberger is a member of De Kalb lodge, No. 144, A. F. & A. M.; De Kalb chapter, No. 52, R. A. M.; and De Kalb lodge, No. 765, B. P. O. E. He likewise holds membership in the Congregational church and for many years was its treasurer. The church finds in him a liberal supporter and he is, moreover, an interested advocate of all those movements and plans which have direct bearing upon the material, intellectual and moral progress of the community.

STEPHEN DECATUR COLEMAN.

On the list of Sandwich's honored dead appears the name of Stephen Decatur Coleman, a man who stood four square to every wind that blows. His strength was the strength of high purpose, of stalwart convictions and honorable manhood and the seventy-seven years allotted to him were fraught with good deeds and kindly actions as well as with business successes and triumphs. He lived to realize much of the joys as well as the sorrow of life and in the wise use of the experiences which came to him developed a character worthy of emulation, regard and admiration.

Mr. Coleman was born in Middletown, Vermont, on the 1st of September, 1826. He lost his father when only five years of age and spent the remainder of his minority in the home of an uncle, during which time he acquired a common-school education and was trained to habits of industry. In compensation for the services which he rendered to his uncle through the period of his boyhood and youth he received, on attaining his majority, a suit of clothes and one hundred dollars in money. Thus equipped, he started out in life on his own account. He possessed, however, in addition a strong purpose, laudable desire for advancement and an unflinching resolution to make the most of his opportunities. He recognized that the present and not the future holds the moment for action, and he did nobly the task that lay at hand. He became a resident of Illinois in 1856.

On the 11th of September, 1855, Mr. Coleman was united in marriage to Margaret Louisa Fraser, a daughter of Lyman Fraser, a representative farmer of the county. In 1854 Mr. Fraser brought his family from Vermont to De Kalb county. He was connected with educational affairs in the east but after coming to Illinois devoted his time and energies to farming. He was born in 1809 and departed this life in 1892, after spending the last twelve years in Sandwich, where he took up his abode in 1880. His wife, who was born in 1809, died in 1864. Mr. Coleman and his young wife took up their abode upon a farm in Somonauk township near her father's place and for a long period Mr. Coleman followed the occupation of farming, bringing his fields under a high state of cultivation and adding many substantial and modern improvements. He stood for progress and was a leader in the agricultural life of his community, many being prompted to put forth more earnest and effective efforts for agricultural advancement through the stimulus of his example and encouragement. He also became one of the early members of the Somonauk Mutual Insurance Company and also did much to stimulate an interest in agricultural advancement through his efforts in connection with the Sandwich Fair Association, of which he was president for twenty years. He was a man actively interested in many other important matters, having direct bearing upon the farming interests of the county. Year after year he carefully superintended his own farm, controlling the work of development and improvement there until the fall of 1900, when, with his wife and daughter Grace he removed to Sandwich, where they made their home with his daughter, Mrs. A. E. Woodward. His last days were spent in her home and there he passed away on the 22d of February, 1904, at the age of seventy-seven years.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Coleman were born seven children, of whom Willie D., the eldest, died in his seventeenth year. The others are: Mabel L., the wife of A. E. Woodward, who is assistant treasurer of the Sandwich Manufacturing Company and president of the school board; Adelbert E., who is president of the Ornamental Iron Company of Chicago; Lyman H., for many years principal of schools and now a teacher in the public schools of Chicago; Mary E., the wife of William M. Goudy, postmaster of Fairfield, Illinois, and editor and

proprietor of the *Wayne County Press*; Don V., who was a farmer and died January 12, 1905, at the age of twenty-nine years; and Grace E., who is with her mother. Mrs. Coleman and her children are members of the Congregational church, and although Mr. Coleman did not hold membership relations therewith he attended its services and contributed generously to its support.

For a long period Mr. Coleman filled the office of school director and he also served as justice of the peace. He was a man of kind and loving disposition, and therefore made many friends. He always had a cheery smile and pleasant greeting for those with whom he came in contact and was one of that class—too rare in this world—who shed around them much of the sunshine of life. He never forgot a friend and had strong attachment for the communities in which he had lived and labored, including the place of his birth, where he also spent the first thirty years of his life. He made frequent visits back to the old home and took great delight in renewing the acquaintances of his earlier years. He was very fond of children, loved to participate with them in their games and sports, and in return was regarded by them as a companion and friend. He always remained young in heart and had a mind very receptive to the influences of nature in all its phases "listening to babes and sages, birds and stars with open heart, allowing good to grow up through the commonplace." He contributed generously to the support of the gospel, was much interested in the Sunday school and possessed a reverent character. He was, moreover, a strong advocate of temperance principles and reform and believed in the development of man's life in accordance with high ideals and recognized that the true joy and fullness of existence comes in this way.

Dr. G. H. Robertson, who knew Mr. Coleman long and well, said of him: "It was not merely for the financial interests of his family that he wrought with such persistent force and energy. He was always deeply and actively interested in schools in order that his own and other children might receive an education suited to the demands of the time, and that they might start out in life well equipped for the eager, strenuous service before them. So, too, was he anxious for the moral education and welfare of his family that they might take a high and honorable place in this

great world's great affairs. In all these directions his efforts were crowned with success, the success which may always with safety be predicted as the reward of steady, strong and well directed energy. The results of his life work he has left as monuments to his activity. There were also other strong elements in his character deserving of recognition and remembrance. On all public questions where the moral health and interest of the community were involved he could always be found on the right side. On all those matters which pertain to public order and public decency, which so vitally affect the health and morals of the people, he had but one position, fixed and unalterable. Unmoved by public clamor, unterrified by public threats, scorning all such base and unworthy considerations as financial loss or gain, in such a contest undismayed by popular opinion, he stood for right, for order, for sobriety, for the protection and conservation of the home and the moral health of the people. When others feared and faltered he was only the more resolute and aggressive. There was no suspecting nor mistaking his position." As long as there remains on the earth those who knew Stephen D. Coleman, so long will his memory be enshrined in their hearts.

BERT BERGER.

Bert Berger, who is engaged in farming in De Kalb county, was born in Blair county, Pennsylvania, June 18, 1857. His parents, John and Susan Berger, were likewise natives of Pennsylvania and the mother passed away at the age of forty-four years. The father, however, has attained the venerable age of eighty-one years, and is now living in Kansas. Bert Berger spent the days of his boyhood and youth under the parental roof. At an early age he was trained to habits of industry and economy and these have proven valuable traits in the days of his later life. He came to Illinois in 1876, and has followed the occupation of farming, being for some time connected with general agricultural pursuits and for the past four years has been foreman on the farm of W. L. Ellwood. In his work he is practical, progressive and energetic, accomplishing much by reason of his capable management and untiring diligence.

Mr. Berger was married to Miss Anna B. Wiltse, who was born in South Grove township, Illinois, February 23, 1860. Her parents were natives of Greene county, New York. Her father, Richard Wiltse, was born April 9, 1833, and in the year 1853 came to the Mississippi valley, settling in De Kalb county, Illinois. He took up his abode in South Grove township, where he followed farming. His wife was born June 26, 1836. His death occurred on the 21st of April, 1903, but Mrs. Wiltse is still living and now makes her home with her daughter Mrs. Berger. In the family were nine children: Freedom, Winslow, Mrs. Berger, Oliver Eugene, Addie May, William H., Mary E., Leroy, and James C., of which number two are deceased. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Berger was celebrated July 5, 1882, and unto them were born three children: Effa Ada and Iffe Anna, twins, who were born September 16, 1884. The former is now married and lives on a farm in Afton township, while the latter is at home with her parents. The youngest daughter Esther, was born January 1, 1886, and is the wife of E. D. Laub.

Mr. Berger is a prohibitionist in politics, believing firmly in the principles of temperance and standing loyally by his views upon this question, at the ballot box. He and his wife are members of the Congregationalist church, and are warmly esteemed throughout the community by all who know them, because of their many excellent qualities of heart and mind.

CHARLES HALSEY BUELL.

Charles Halsey Buell, engaged in the real-estate business in the city of Sycamore, is one of De Kalb county's native sons, his birth having occurred on section 31, Sycamore township, March 12, 1849. His father, Hiram Buell, was born in Berkshire county, Massachusetts, March 25, 1809, and, having arrived at years of maturity, wedded Sophia Ludby, who was born in Plymouth, England, January 29, 1815. Hiram Buell was a hatter by occupation and followed that pursuit until about twenty-five years of age. Later he carried on farming and brick-making. Charles H. Buell has a red brick which was taken from the old

courthouse of De Kalb county, which structure was built of brick furnished by the senior Buell, and the one in possession of his son Charles bears the father's name in full. It was in 1834 that Hiram Buell came westward to Illinois, settling in Cook county, three years before the incorporation of Chicago as a city. Indeed the future metropolis was at that time little more than a hamlet in the midst of a swamp and gave but little evidence or promise of its future wonderful growth and development. Shortly afterward the father continued his way to De Kalb county and took up his abode on section 31, Sycamore township, after which he carried on general farming in connection with the operation of his brickyard. Unto him and his wife were born two sons and a daughter: David W., born February 12, 1839; Mrs. Mary E. Smith, February 18, 1842; and Charles H., of this review.

Mrs. Rhoda Winslow Norcutt, the maternal grandmother of Charles H. Buell, was born October 2, 1789, and was one of the direct descendants of the Plymouth Rock colony. She came to Illinois in 1834 with her daughter, Mrs. William G. Allen, and resided here until her death, which occurred in November, 1888, lacking less than a year of being a centenarian.

Charles H. Buell began his education in the public schools, and after completing the high-school course in Sycamore further prepared for the duties of a business life by a course in Bryant & Stratton Commercial College in Chicago. He engaged in teaching for twelve years and then turned his attention to carpentering, being identified with building operations in the county until 1895, when he became interested in real-estate business and opened an office. He has since continued as a real-estate agent of Sycamore and has negotiated many important property transfers. He also owns in his own right eighty acres of good land in North Dakota.

At one time Mr. Buell was a member of the state militia for four years. Fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen camp, No. 47, of Sycamore. In politics he has always been independent, casting his ballot for the men whom he regards as best qualified for office rather than for party.

On the 6th of May, 1874, Mr. Buell was united in marriage, in Sycamore, to Miss Amanda M. Deily, who was born in this city, May 6, 1851.

Her father, Jacob Deily, was born in Easton, Pennsylvania, in 1828, and his life span, covering a period of seventy years, was terminated in 1898. His wife was born in Compton, Canada, in 1821, and bore the maiden name of Louisa A. Betts. They were married in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in 1849, and Mrs. Deily is still living, having now attained the age of eighty-three years. By her marriage she had two daughters: Mrs. Buell; and Eva E. Deily, who was born in 1854. Unfo Mr. and Mrs. Buell have been born five children: Arthur J., born March 2, 1875; Lynn H., September 21, 1877; Charles F., January 10, 1880; Eva May, March 15, 1882; and Minnie Louisa, June 11, 1884. The third son died March 18, 1898. The family home is pleasantly located at No. 128 South California street.

Mr. Buell has throughout his entire life been a resident of De Kalb county and is a representative of one of its oldest and most valued pioneer families, the name of Buell having figured prominently in connection with the history of this part of the state for more than six decades. He has watched with interest the progress that has been made in the last half century or more, has delighted in what has been accomplished and has stood for all that is progressive in citizenship.

MARTIN DUFFY, SR.

Martin Duffy, Sr., is one of the venerable citizens of De Kalb county and receives the respect which should always be accorded to one who has advanced far on life's journey. His business interests have been carefully managed, and he is today the owner of four hundred and fifty acres of valuable farming land in Clinton and Shabbona townships, from which he derives a good income that supplies him with all the comforts and some of the luxuries of life. He was born in Kings county, Ireland, October 10, 1826, and his parents were Patrick and Ellen Duffy, who were also natives of that country, where they spent their entire lives, the father passing away at the age of sixty-five years and the mother when fifty years of age.

Martin Duffy of this review acquired his education in his native country. In 1850, when in his twenty-fourth year, he bade adieu to friends and

family and sailed for the United States. He had heard favorable reports concerning the business opportunities offered in this land and hoped to improve his financial condition by this change of residence. He realized, too, that unfaltering labor is the basis of all success. He first went to work on a farm in Columbia county, New York, and for five years was the employe of one man.

In 1852 Mr. Duffy was united in marriage to Miss Bridget Dugan, who was born in the state of New York, March 16, 1832. Her parents were natives of Ireland and came to the new world in early life, settling in New York, where the father died at the age of fifty-four years. The mother afterward came west with her daughter, Mrs. Duffy, and reached the venerable age of eighty-four years ere she was called to the world beyond.

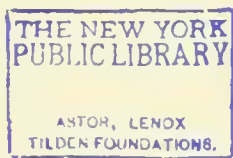
The year 1855 witnessed the arrival of Mr. Duffy in Illinois, at which time he located at Serena, La Salle county, where for seven years he rented a farm on shares. They lived carefully, economically and frugally, and in 1865 Mr. Duffy was enabled to purchase eighty acres of land in Shabbona township, De Kalb county. He removed to this farm and has since made it his home. As time has passed, however, he has extended the boundaries of his property, until he now owns four hundred and fifty acres of land, lying partly in Clinton and partly in Shabbona townships. He has also assisted his living children to obtain good farms.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Duffy were born fourteen children: William, born May 2, 1851; John, born May 29, 1855; Ellen, born October 6, 1856, now deceased; Catherine, born February 10, 1858; Patrick, born March 28, 1859; Hugh, born October 1, 1861; Lawrence, born April 1, 1861; Martin, born April 1, 1866; Ann, born February 15, 1868; Margaret, born June 21, 1869; James, born February 11, 1871; and three who died in infancy. They also have forty-five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

In politics Mr. Duffy is a stalwart democrat and has always voted that ticket. He was school director of this district for twelve years, but has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking though he has always kept well informed on questions of the day. When he crossed the Atlantic to the new world he was practically empty-handed. He and his wife are now living a re-



MARTIN DUFFY, SR.



tired life on the old family homestead, on section 13, Shabbona township, and their income through their property interests is sufficient to supply them with all the comforts of life. They certainly deserve much credit for what they have accomplished and their life record proves what may be obtained by diligence, economy and energy. They are now well advanced in years and are honored and respected by all who know them: are a credit to their name and have ever been worthy citizens of the community.

JOHN F. SHOOP.

John F. Shoop, a wide-awake and enterprising agriculturist, owns and operates a well improved farm of one hundred and seventy-eight acres and makes his home in a fine residence in the village of Malta. Mr. Shoop was born on a farm in Pierce township, De Kalb county, February 6, 1857, a son of Solomon and Catherine (Eberly) Shoop, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania, where their marriage occurred. They made their home in that state for some time and later came westward, to Illinois, settling on a farm in Pierce township, De Kalb county, where Mr. Shoop purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, the year of his location thereon being 1848. He improved and cultivated his farm until his death, which there occurred in 1890. He was survived by his wife for only about five years, her death occurring in 1895. Their union was blessed with eleven children, of whom seven still survive.

John F. Shoop acquired his education in the schools of Pierceville, and he was reared in much the usual manner of farm lads, assisting his father in the duties of the fields during the period of his boyhood and youth. He has carried on general agricultural pursuits throughout his entire business career and is now the owner of one hundred and seventy-eight acres of land lying near Malta, this being operated by himself, and he makes his home in a pleasant residence in the village.

Mr. Shoop established a home of his own by his marriage on the 20th of October, 1881, to Miss Margaret Wendeberg, who was born in Pierceville, December 10, 1860. Her parents, George and Elizabeth (Schule) Wendeberg, came to Illi-

nois from Germany, settling first in Du Page county, while later they continued their journey to De Kalb county, locating on a farm in Pierce township, where they lived for a time but later came to Malta township. The father is now deceased but the mother still survives and now makes her home in the village of Malta. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Shoop has been blessed with one son, Elmer J., who was born April 14, 1887, and is still under the parental roof.

Mr. Shoop supports the men and measures of the republican party and for three years served as pathmaster. He belongs to Modern Woodmen camp, No. 217, and to Knights of Pythias lodge, No. 541, at Malta. Both he and his wife are identified with the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he has served as trustee and steward for a number of years. They are loyal citizens and have a host of warm friends in Malta and De Kalb county.

JOHN E. ADEE.

John E. Adee, a native son of De Kalb county, has found in the rich agricultural resources of this section of the state ample opportunity for the scope of his activities and has thereby become the owner of a fine farm of two hundred and eighteen acres, situated on sections 22 and 23, South Grove township. He was born on a farm in this township, April 3, 1859, a son of William and Margaret (Becker) Adee, who were farming people of Delaware county, New York. The year 1843, however, witnessed their arrival in Illinois, and the father pre-empted a section of land on section 15, South Grove township, De Kalb county, on which he made his home until his death, which occurred in 1890. He was a very prosperous man in all his undertakings, and at the time of his death owned a valuable estate comprising five hundred acres. His widow still survives and now makes her home with her son, George Adee, in South Grove township.

Mr. Adee of this review acquired his early education in the district schools near his father's home, after which he spent two years in the high school at De Kalb, subsequent to which time he engaged in farming in South Grove township, where he has

made his home to the present time. He has improved his place by the erection of substantial buildings, which are kept in good repair and everything about his place denotes a spirit of enterprise and progressiveness.

In 1887 occurred the marriage of Mr. Adee and Miss Carrie Shaver, a native of South Grove township, and a daughter of J. S. Shaver, an agriculturist. Their marriage has been blessed with four children: Verna, who is now a student in the De Kalb Normal School; John, Alva and Wallace, all under the parental roof.

Mr. Adee gives his political support to the republican party. While not identified with any church organization he and his wife attend and support the church in their home locality, being deeply interested in the moral development of the community. Both Mr. and Mrs. Adee have always lived in De Kalb county and therefore are widely and favorably known, for their conduct has ever been such as to win the respect and admiration of all with whom they have been brought in contact, while their own home is noted for its gracious and warm-hearted hospitality.

WILLIAM T. BLAGG.

William T. Blagg, who is engaged in general farming and in breeding and raising thoroughbred Jersey cattle and Poland China hogs, owns and operates the Argyle Park farm, a well improved and valuable property on section 22, Sandwich township, within two and a half miles of the town of Sandwich. His life record began in Tishomingo county, Mississippi, on the 30th of December, 1847. His father, Henry Blagg, was a native of Kentucky and was reared near Louisville. He was twice married, his second union being with Miss Mary Nix, a native of Knoxville, Tennessee. This worthy couple settled in Mississippi upon plantation, where they lived for a number of years, and the death of Mr. Blagg occurred there in 1861, the interment being made on the 14th of April. His wife long survived him and coming to the north lived in Illinois for several years but her last days were spent in Nebraska.

William T. Blagg was the oldest of six children, two sons and four daughters, his brother being Thomas J. Blagg, now in Idaho. The sisters were: Nettie, wife of Julius Traublie of Cortland, Nebraska; Ellen, wife of Clark Deming, a farmer of Cortland, Nebraska; Parthenia, wife of Isaac Tiger, of Idaho; and Frances, wife of Stacy Kirkbride, of Kansas City, Missouri.

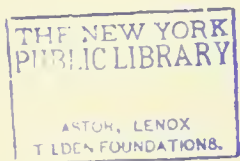
William T. Blagg was reared in Mississippi to the age of fifteen years. The spring before he was fifteen he enlisted for service in the Union army, joining Company K, Sixty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He served with the Western Sharpshooters for six months and eighteen days and acted on detached duty as a spy and guide and was then discharged for disability. He came north in the winter of 1862, making his way to Sandwich with his mother and the family. He went to work at anything he could find to do and for four years was employed as a farm hand by the month. He then rented land, which he continued to cultivate for four years, after which he engaged in teaming in Sandwich for fourteen years, being quite successful in the latter pursuit.

Mr. Blagg was married in Hinckley, Squaw Grove township, November 28, 1875, to Miss Hattie A. Hobbs, who was at that time nineteen years of age. She was born in Delhi, Delaware county, New York, a daughter of George E. Hobbs, who in 1851 made the trip to California by steamer and across the isthmus. He again went in 1857 over the same route and was absent from home for two years, spending his time largely in the mines. On one occasion the ship in which he sailed was wrecked but the crew and passengers were saved. In the year 1865 Mr. Hobbs removed to the west arriving in Sandwich, February 18. He settled in Squaw Grove township and there followed farming, while upon the old homestead he reared his family, numbering four children: David A., now a farmer of Squaw Grove township; Mary, who died in New York at the age of nine years; Nettie M., wife of George McWhirter, of Yorkville, Illinois; and Mrs. Blagg.

The last named was only nine years old when brought to De Kalb county. After her marriage she went with her husband to a home in Sandwich where they lived for nineteen years, Mr. Blagg having built a neat residence in the town before his marriage. He afterward located on a farm



MR. AND MRS. W. T. BLAGG.



south of Sandwich, where he rented land for two years and then bought the land where he now resides. He has since greatly improved the place, has repaired and remodeled the dwelling, has put up an ice house, has added to the barn, secured farm machinery, enclosed his fields with woven wire and barb wire fences and in fact has made it an excellent property. He is raising pure blooded registered Jersey cattle, to which he has given his attention for eighteen years. He has also engaged in the business for many years and raises and feeds about a carload of fat hogs each year. In his business his determination and enterprise have met with a creditable measure of success as the years have gone by.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Blagg have been born a daughter and a son: Louetta and LaVerne, the latter at home and the former now the wife of Professor George W. Davis, who is occupying a chair in the college at Albion, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Blagg are members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Sandwich and Mr. Blagg is independent in politics. He has seen Sandwich grow into a thriving city and all the best farms in the township made. His life has been one of energy for he has realized that there is no excellence without labor and that there is no royal road to wealth. Depending upon his own resources from early boyhood, he has labored persistently in his business affairs and has achieved a measure of success which is most gratifying, proving what may be accomplished when one has the will to dare and to do.

HELSON & WALROD.

The firm of Helson & Walrod are proprietors of the most up-to-date livery barn in Sycamore, as their business is located in the Henrie building opposite the county courthouse, at No. 124 West State street, and the owners, T. H. Helson and George Walrod, do all kinds of teaming as well as a general livery business. They have a very large barn and do hearse work for both the undertakers in Sycamore. They keep twenty-four horses all the time and have some of the finest vehicles to be found in the county. Their business has been successfully conducted here since De-

cember 6, 1905, and they have been accorded a liberal patronage, which is indeed well merited.

T. H. Helson, the senior partner, was born in Kane county, Illinois, and is a son of John Helson, whose birth occurred in Plymouth, Devonshire, England, on the 24th of November, 1819. The grandfather, John Helson, Sr., was born in the parish of Braidwood, Widger, Devonshire, about 1800, and died at the age of seventy-four years. In his early manhood he was a workman in the limestone quarries, and about 1823 was nearly killed by a premature blast, a piece being cut out of his face. Subsequent to that time he engaged in general work as a common laborer. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Mary Harris, was a daughter of Joseph Harris, and was born near Plymouth, Devonshire, England, while her death occurred when she was about forty-five years of age.

In his boyhood and youth John Helson, father of our subject, worked at farm labor in Devonshire but for a period of nine years, beginning at the time he attained his majority, he was employed in mines at Cornwall. On leaving that service he came to the United States, sailing from Plymouth as passenger on the vessel Cordelia, a three mast ship, which weighed anchor on the 4th of April, 1848, and reached Quebec, Canada, after a voyage of six weeks and three days. From there he went to Erie, Pennsylvania, by lake and on to Newcastle by the old Petersburg & Erie canal, remaining in the latter city from June, 1848, until the spring of 1851. He then sought a home in the Mississippi valley, coming to Illinois, where he purchased a farm of one hundred and fifty acres lying on each side of the boundary line between Kane and De Kalb counties. He afterward added to his farm until he owned two hundred and seventy-five acres, which he brought under a high state of cultivation and to which he added many modern improvements. He engaged in both mining and farming for some years but in 1871 retired from active business life and removed to Sycamore, where he spent his remaining days in the enjoyment of a rest which he richly deserved. He was married in St. Clear parish, in Devonshire, England, to Miss Elizabeth Jane, a daughter of William and Catherine (Johns) Jane. In their family were seven children: George John, of Sycamore township; Mary Jane, the wife of W. W.

London, of Sycamore; Elizabeth, the wife of William Shuey, of Sycamore township; Richard John, of Iowa; Louisa, the wife of William Seamans, of Sycamore; Catherine, the wife of Nicholas Johnson, of Sycamore; and Thomas H., of this review. The mother died June 22, 1896. She was a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal church, as was also the father.

T. H. Helson pursued his education in the schools of Kane and De Kalb counties and for thirty-five years has resided in the latter county. He married Miss Adella May Seacord, and they have two children, Hazel and Ray. Mr. Helson is a member of the Odd Fellows society and the Modern Woodmen camp. He resides at No. 109 Alma street, Sycamore.

George Walrod, the junior member of the firm of Helson & Walrod, is a native of Sycamore, his father being Walter D. Walrod, who was born March 13, 1813, in this city. The grandfather, Erasmus D. Walrod, was a pioneer settler of De Kalb county, whose birth occurred in Montgomery county, New York, June 16, 1816. He came to Illinois when nineteen years of age with his parents, the year of their arrival being 1835. He located near Sycamore on a farm and there spent the remainder of his days, developing a homestead property, which is now owned by Walter D. Walrod. In 1839 he married Melintha Powell, who was born in Monroe county, New York, November 9, 1817. They became the parents of five children but Walter D. Walrod is the only one now living. The father died June 29, 1892, while his wife passed away October 21, 1889.

Walter D. Walrod was reared and educated in Sycamore and for some time engaged in the livery business and also in the sale of buggies and agricultural implements but in later years has followed farming. He owns a beautiful home at No. 43 West State street, where he resides. He also owns one hundred and ten acres of finely improved land adjoining the city of Sycamore. He wedded Mary Watkins, of Kane county, Illinois, who died three years later, leaving a son, William E., who married Edith Petrie, and resides near his father's home. For his second wife Walter D. Walrod wedded Eva Denmark, of Pennsylvania, a daughter of D. J. Denmark, who died in December, 1906. By this marriage there are six children: Melintha, the wife of George Sell, of Sycamore,

by whom she has one child, Irene; George, of this review; Louis, who married Maud Starks and lives in Sycamore; Walter, in Chicago; Jennie, at home; and Charles, also in Chicago.

George Walrod has always lived in Sycamore, and at the usual age he entered the public schools, where, passing through successive grades, he acquired his education. He married Miss Nellie Speats, and they are located in a comfortable home in Sycamore. Mr. Walrod belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp, and both he and his wife are widely and favorably known here. He has prospered in his undertakings and the firm of Helson & Walrod is well known and has a liberal patronage by reason of the reliable manner in which they conduct their business.

Theron M. Stark.

Theron M. Stark, a stock-buyer and capitalist residing at No. 523 De Kalb avenue, Sycamore, has been engaged in the buying and shipping of stock here since 1881 and in this connection has become widely known. He is a native of De Kalb county, Illinois, born in 1851 where the Ward hotel now stands. His father, Marshall Stark, was born in Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, August 12, 1813, and was reared in the county of his nativity, where he acquired a good practical common-school education, while later he engaged in teaching. His parents, Oliver and Betsy (Dixon) Stark, were likewise natives of the Keystone state and were descended from New England ancestry connected with the same family of which General Stark of Bennington fame was a member. On attaining his majority Marshall Stark came to the middle west and in the summer of 1834 located a claim near Rockford, Winnebago county, Illinois, but made no permanent settlement at that time. Returning to Pennsylvania, he taught school through the succeeding winter and in the spring of 1836 he began the journey westward to this state, settling in De Kalb county. He located on what are now sections 20 and 21, Sycamore township, purchasing the land from the general government as soon as it came into market. On his arrival he built a log cabin near the timber and at once began the arduous task of clearing and culti-

vating the fields. He thus made a good start in his farm work in the west, continuing the improvement of his property until the fall of 1841, when he returned to his Pennsylvania home and on the 5th of October of the same year was married to Miss Louisa Tyler, a native of Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania, born December 16, 1820, in the town of Dimock, her parents being Royal and Mary (Southwick) Tyler.

A few weeks after the celebration of their nuptials Mr. and Mrs. Stark journeyed westward to the new home which he had prepared, driving across the country with a team of horses. For three years they occupied the log cabin which he had put up, at the end of which time Mr. Stark built a comfortable frame residence, which they occupied for many long years. Mr. Stark prospered in his business undertakings as time passed and was recognized as one of the most energetic and thrifty men of De Kalb county. His wife, too, proved an able and faithful companion and helpmate to him, encouraging him in every possible way. She readily adapted herself to the changed circumstances from a comfortable home in the east to a log cabin in the west in the midst of pioneer surroundings, but success came as the years went by and the primitive home was replaced by a more modern dwelling and they were enabled to secure the comforts and conveniences known to the older east. Mr. Stark also figured in public life and his fellow citizens, recognizing his worth and ability, called him to the office of sheriff of De Kalb county, in which capacity he served for three years.

During that period Marshall Stark opened a hotel in Sycamore, which he conducted for six years, and also carried on a store in the county seat, but in 1854 he disposed of his business interests in the town and returned to the farm, where he spent his remaining days. His place was pleasantly and conveniently located about a mile and a half from Sycamore and he owned altogether five hundred acres of rich and fertile land, which produced excellent crops and made him one of the prosperous agriculturists of the community. He also became interested in the stock and grain trades and in addition to cultivating his fields he was for years engaged in buying and selling stock and grain, carrying on a large and profitable business in that way. Later in life he turned his atten-

tion to the lumber trade, spending two winters in the pineries of Michigan. In partnership with his son, Theron M., he opened a large lumberyard in Sycamore and built up an extensive and profitable business here. He followed that enterprise from 1874 until 1882, when his life's labors were ended in death. He passed away December 26, 1882, at the age of sixty-nine years, while his wife survived until July 1, 1892. They were members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Sycamore, contributed liberally to the erection of its house of worship and also assisted in building two other churches in this locality. They were indeed faithful and earnest Christian people and enjoyed in large measure the esteem and confidence of those who knew them. Mr. Stark served as assessor, as school commissioner and as supervisor of his township and was a member of the county board at the time of his death. Local advancement and national progress were causes both dear to his heart and he stood as a high type of our American citizenship, imbued with patriotism and with zeal for his party, yet never placing partisanship before the general good.

Mr. and Mrs. Stark were the parents of ten children: Harmon M., a farmer residing in Kingston township; Martha S., the wife of Hosea W. Atwood, living in Jasper county, Iowa; Mary E., the wife of L. C. Harris, of Genoa township; Jefferson O., deceased; Henry J., of Sycamore; Theron M.; Ada L., the wife of James Maitland, living in Sycamore township; Ella A., the wife of A. W. Brower, of Sycamore; Emma J., who married Charles Wiggins and lives in Nebraska; and Hattie M., who wedded Burton W. Lee, of Sycamore township.

Theron M. Stark is indebted to the Sycamore schools for the educational privileges which qualified him for business life. Reared to the occupation of farming, he followed that pursuit until 1875 in the vicinity of Sycamore and then turned his attention to the lumber trade in connection with his father, continuing in that line for nine years. He then went into the stock business, buying and selling stock, and has since continued in this line. He has been very successful and is now the leading stockman in this part of the county, his business having reached extensive proportions. He is an excellent judge of stock, seldom at fault

in placing valuation upon cattle, and this has been one element of his prosperity.

Mr. Stark was married to Miss Sylvia Van Galder, who was born in Wisconsin but was reared in De Kalb county. They have four children: Maude, the wife of J. L. Walrod, a grocer of Sycamore, by whom she has two children: Frank, who is with his father in the stock business; Arthur, who is attending business college at Rockford, Illinois; and Dorothy, at home. The family residence is a beautiful home and its hospitality is one of its most pleasing and attractive features.

Mr. Stark gives his political allegiance to the republican party and has served as alderman of Sycamore. He belongs to the Methodist church, while his wife is a member of the Universalist church. He is interested in the moral development of his community as well as in its material and intellectual progress, and he stands as a high type of citizenship, justly valuing his own self-respect and the esteem of his fellowmen as far more to be desired than wealth, fame or position. He has lived in the county for more than a half century and with its interests is thoroughly identified, rejoicing in what has been accomplished here and doing his full share in the work of public improvement.

WILLIAM A. MILLER.

William A. Miller, deceased, was for many years an honored resident of De Kalb county and was prominently identified with its early development along agricultural lines. A native of New York, he was born in Schaghticoke, Rensselaer county, on the 4th of May, 1810, and in that state he was reared and educated. There he was married May 4, 1835, to Miss Patience Allen, and they became the parents of two children: Harriet A., now Mrs. Isaac L. Ellwood, and William Miller, both of De Kalb.

Soon after his marriage Mr. Miller came to Illinois and took up his residence on a farm in Kingston township, De Kalb county, where he followed agricultural pursuits for many years. He was one of the leaders of the pioneer band who by their toil, struggles and sacrifice transformed the virgin prairie and woodland into fruitful farms

and gardens and caused "the waste places to rejoice and bloom as the rose." For more than half a century he was identified with the material, social and political life of De Kalb county. Coming to this state a young man with a young wife, he built for himself a log cabin on the banks of the Kishwaukee when a few Indians still lingered in this locality and almost every day some wandering Indian, hunter or land-seeker was the recipient of his generous hospitality. As the years rolled away his practical energy and industry built up and developed one of the largest and most productive farms in the county.

About thirty-two years prior to his death Mr. Miller leased his farm and removed to De Kalb, where he lived the greater part of the time until called to his final rest on the 13th of November, 1888. During the last three years of his life he was a great sufferer and for many months expected almost every hour to be his last, but his great vitality and ironlike constitution prolonged his life beyond the allotted years of man on earth and when the messenger came he was glad to be free from the agony that marked each passing day and which was only lightened and brightened by the ever welcome visits of life-long friends and the undying devotion and tender ministry of his daughter and son.

Mr. Miller, like most men of positive character, had his faults, but no man ever asked his help in vain and the poor and unfortunate ever found in him a generous and helpful friend in their time of need. For many years he was an enthusiastic member of the Masonic fraternity and during his long illness frequently expressed his interest in the prosperity of the order and was delighted with the fraternal visits made by his brethren from time to time.

The following is a fitting tribute paid to his memory at the time of his death by one who knew him well: "Once again 'Time's tolling bell' knells forth the solemn requiem of a soul passing from our presence and I would have you remember that the epitaph on the tomb of Sir Christopher Wren, the great architect of St. Paul's Cathedral, London, is 'If you wish to see his monument look above you.' And so in the solemn presence of the dead we say if you wish to see his monument and the monument of the heroic band of men and women who laid the broad foundations of em-



Wm. H. Miller

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pire and prosperity in this great northwest look at the towns, cities and fruitful acres that lie about you. These are token of their courage, energy, enterprise and self-sacrificing toil more enduring than storied brass or monumental marble."

DANIEL W. TYRRELL.

Daniel W. Tyrrell was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, in 1840, a son of Manlius and Esther Tyrrell, natives of New York and Vermont, respectively. They were married in the Empire state, whence they removed to Michigan. The father was of Irish descent and was a blacksmith by trade, following that pursuit for many years. He died in West Union, Fayette county, Iowa, in 1860, while his wife, long surviving him, passed away in February, 1896. Her father, Amos Lewis, was a soldier of the war of 1812 and died at Mag-nolia, Wisconsin, at the age of ninety-two years.

Having acquired a common-school education Daniel W. Tyrrell in 1859 learned the printer's trade at West Union, Iowa, to which place his parents had removed. He was preparing for an academic course when the call to arms, resounding through the land, changed the current of his thoughts, and in September, 1861, he responded to the country's call for aid, enlisting in Company F, Ninth Iowa Infantry, of which he was made fifth sergeant. The company was organized at Du-buque and was sent to St. Louis for drill while awaiting equipments. During the regiment's first winter out the command was employed in guard-ing railroad bridges near Pacific Junction, Mis-souri. In the spring the command marched through Rolla to Springfield in pursuit of the re-treating Rebel columns that Price had gathered in Missouri, following them into northwestern Arkan-sas and camping at Cross Hollow.

After Price was reinforced the battle of Pea Ridge was fought and Company F lost a number of its men, while the captain and first lieutenant were wounded, the latter mortally. Following this battle the regiment was ordered back to Missouri and sent to Batesville and thence to Helena, meet-ing the Texas Rangers in a number of skirmishes before reaching the objective point. Three or four months of inactivity followed, and at the end of

that time the troops started down the river under General Sherman. The Ninth Iowa was in the engagement at Chickasaw Bayou and then pro-ceeded to Louisiana to take part in the expedition to capture Arkansas Post, where a number of Com-pany F were killed and wounded. The next move was to Greenville, Mississippi, then toward Vicks-burg, going to Raymond, Jackson, Champion Hills and other points where it marched across bloody fields and left proof of its prowess. The regiment took part in the first and second assaults on Vicks-burg and fought all through the long and desperate siege of forty-seven days. Subsequent to the fall of Vicksburg the Ninth was ordered to Alabama in pursuit of General J. E. Johnston, but not being able to bring him into an engagement returned to Black River and soon afterward went to Corinth, being sent thence to check the movements of the famous Rebel general Wheeler, whose cavalry was active and aggressive. This pursuit was carried into Alabama and at one place had a severe en-counter with his force, Mr. Tyrrell then acting as sergeant-major. Returning, they moved toward Chattanooga and Company F, under General Hooker, participated in the battle of Lookout Mountain. The Ninth was then sent to Alabama and camped for the winter. Mr. Tyrrell was de-tailed to go to Nashville to serve in the government printing office, where he remained until November, 1864, then proceeded to Atlanta, where he was mustered out. While at Batesville and Helena he and others were detailed to work in the printing office of General Curtis and at each place issued a little paper.

During the war the mother of Mr. Tyrrell, who had been widowed about two years before, did noble service for the soldiers, spending about two and a half years in the hospitals at St. Louis, Springfield and Pacific Junction, and while her son was on the march through Missouri to Bates-ville she went over the mountains in an ambulance to meet him. Her daughter, Mrs. Janet Allen, also spent several years in ministering to the needs of the soldiers in southern hospitals and after-ward married a soldier named Henderson whom she had nursed in a hospital at Memphis.

When the war was over Mr. Tyrrell worked in the office of the *Independent* at Brodhead, Wis-consin, for a short time and then purchased an interest in the paper, which he afterward assisted

in editing. Later he removed to Monroe, Wisconsin, where, associated with a Mr. Potter, he founded the *Green County Republican* and continued with it until his removal to St. Charles, Illinois. In 1870 he engaged with the *General Republican*. Later he published the *St. Charles Transcript*, of which he was afterward sole proprietor, continuing its publication until 1875. After coming to De Kalb he was engaged in the office of the *News* until 1882, when he purchased an interest in the *De Kalb Review*, with which he was connected until April, 1906, covering a period of about a quarter of a century. In 1890 he received the appointment of postmaster at De Kalb and proved a most competent official.

In 1870, in St. Charles, Mr. Tyrrell was married to Mrs. Sarah E. Akin, a daughter of Charles B. Gray, one of the pioneers of Kane county, Illinois. She was born in Missouri and was the mother of one son, Louis G. Tyrrell, born December 11, 1873. She died October 19, 1904, in De Kalb.

Mr. Tyrrell is a charter member of Merritt Simonds post, No. 283, G. A. R., in which he has filled many offices, including that of commander. He also holds membership in De Kalb lodge, No. 144, A. F. & A. M., is a member of the local lodge of Elks, and has been connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Good Templars. He is a gentleman of wide experience and good judgment and by persistent energy and business ability has made substantial progress in the field of journalism. He takes a deep interest in vital questions and is a recognized champion of many progressive public movements, the value of which time has proven. He is well known among his old army comrades and is equally popular and respected among those with whom business and social relations have brought him in contact.

SAMUEL SHARP.

Samuel Sharp, a farmer and live-stock dealer residing in De Kalb, was born in County Armagh, Ireland, on the 12th of July, 1858, his parents being Samuel and Rebecca (Proctor) Sharp, in whose family of nine children eight are yet living. The parents were also natives of County Armagh,

Ireland, and were of Scotch-Irish lineage. Their native county remained their home during life and both the father and mother are now deceased. Samuel Sharp, Sr., was reared to agricultural pursuits and followed farming throughout the entire period of his business career. The Sharp family were all strict Presbyterians in religious faith and were very active in church work. Of the eight living children of the family four are now in America: John and James, who are miners of Jefferson county, Ohio; Samuel, of this review; and Anna, who is residing in New York city. The other members of the family are William, Isaac, Jane and Rebecca, all residents of County Armagh, Ireland. The last named is the wife of James Andrews.

Samuel Sharp spent the days of his boyhood and youth in his parents' home and his educational facilities were limited because his parents were in straightened financial circumstances. He therefore had little chance to attend school and early began earning his own living. In the spring of 1881, when twenty-three years of age, he sailed for the new world, thinking to enjoy better business opportunities on this side the Atlantic. Arriving in New York city in May of that year, he made his way thence direct to Jefferson county, Ohio, where his brother John had preceded him. For a year Mr. Sharp worked in the potteries in Toronto, Ohio, but the following year again turned his face westward, settling in De Kalb county, Illinois. He was without capital at the time of his arrival and for three years he was employed as a farm hand. Thrifty, industrious and ambitious, at the end of that time he felt he had sufficient capital to enable him to engage in farming on his own account upon rented land. He bought the necessary machinery and equipments and continued to thus engage in the tilling of the soil for three years longer. He then found that his savings were adequate for the purchase of a farm and invested in ninety acres of land in De Kalb township. From this time his success was assured. He has since bought and sold several farms and at the present time owns a farm, together with several houses and lots in Mayfield, one of the suburbs of De Kalb. He likewise has a residence and six or seven other properties in De Kalb and his real-estate holdings are now quite extensive and valuable. He has displayed excellent business discern-

ment in the placing of his investments and much of his success may be attributed to his real-estate transactions.

On the 11th of September, 1889, Mr. Sharp was married to Miss Eleanor J. Smith, of Michigan City, Indiana, and they are pleasantly located in De Kalb, where they have many warm friends. Both are members of the Methodist church. Mr. Sharp is unfaltering in his allegiance to the republican party and has served for some years as a member of the school board but otherwise has held no public offices, for he has found that his time and energies have been fully occupied by his business interests. He may truly be called a self-made man, for the success he has achieved has come as the direct reward of unfaltering labor and perseverance. His life record is an exemplification of the fact that opportunity in America is open to all and that the only path to success is over the highroad of usefulness.

JOHN DEEGAN.

John Deegan, who carries on general farming in Shalbona township is one of Illinois' native sons. He was born June 24, 1859, near Joliet, Will county. His parents were Malachi and Dora (Cushing) Deegan, who were natives of Ireland. They came to America when young people and settled near Chicago.

The boyhood days of our subject were quietly passed. He had few privileges, for his youth was largely a period of earnest toil and his entire life was a busy and active one. In the year 1883 he was united in marriage to Miss Catharine Duffy, daughter of Martin and Bridget Duffy, who are mentioned on another page of this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Deegan have become the parents of nine children: Malachi, who was born October 12, 1883, and is now deceased; Elizabeth, who was born April 29, 1885; Martin, who was born May 2, 1887; John, born October 6, 1890; Ellen, born July 20, 1893; Willie, born August 22, 1895; Mary, born September 8, 1898; Robert, born October 29, 1900; and James, now deceased.

Mr. Deegan owns and cultivates a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Shalbona township. The land is rich and productive, responding readily

to the care and labor he bestows upon it, so that he harvests good crops. He is energetic in his farm work and is meeting with success as the years go by. His political support is given the democracy and his family are members of St. James Catholic church.

GEORGE M. SIVWRIGHT.

Few men have a wider acquaintance in Sycamore and De Kalb county and none are more uniformly esteemed than George M. Sivwright, in whose life record there has been no esoteric phase. On the contrary it has been an open book which all may read and in it are written lessons of value to all who wish to attain success along honorable lines. Mr. Sivwright was for many years a prosperous general merchant of Sycamore and now is enjoying a rest which he richly merits, having permanently put aside business cares.

He was born December 2, 1837, in Cornwallis, Kings county, Nova Scotia, and is a son of James Monroe and Prudence (Eaton) Sivwright. The father was born in Windsor, Nova Scotia, February 20, 1804, and began his business life as a tanner and boot and shoe manufacturer at Cornwallis, where he continued in active connection with industrial pursuits until he removed with his family to Sycamore in 1844. The journey from Chicago was made across the country with a team of horses and he reached his destination on the 21st of June, casting in his lot with the early residents who had founded here an embryo city in the midst of a district that was largely wild and unimproved. He entered a tract of government land in Mayfield township and followed farming throughout his remaining days, passing away on the old homestead December 24, 1878. His wife, who was born in 1807, in Cornwallis, Nova Scotia, belonged to an old family, her ancestors having come to this country on the Mayflower. She died at the home of her youngest son in Sycamore, November 25, 1881. The family numbered eight children: David L.; Susan H., deceased; Eunice, who died at the age of seventeen years; George M.; Alexander; Wentworth E.; James L.; and William Wells, deceased. The father was a large hearted man, of generous nature and jovial disposition,

and was a great Bible student, holding membership in the Christian church, of which he was a devoted representative.

George M. Sivwright was a little lad of seven years when the family home was established in De Kalb county. He was reared to farm life, his time being devoted to the labors of the field, to the duties of the schoolroom and the pleasures of the playground. Upon arriving at man's estate he became the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of land in Mayfield township and was actively engaged in general farming until 1875. In that year he accepted a position as conductor on the Sycamore & Cortland Railroad, officiating in that capacity for six years. On the expiration of that period he traveled for some months as collector for the R. Ellwood Manufacturing Company, and then, in March, 1881, became owner of a half interest in the general mercantile business with which he was long actively associated, buying out the interest of the senior member of the firm. The style of Ellwood & Sivwright was then assumed but in later years became Sivwright, Johnson & Company. They carried a complete line of groceries, drugs, paints, oils, crockery, glass and other commodities of a first class general mercantile store, and Mr. Sivwright was active in the management and conduct of the business until the 1st of January, 1907, when he retired. He spent the winter in Florida and his remaining days will be passed in comfort in the enjoyment of a rest which he has richly earned.

On the 26th of December, 1860, Mr. Sivwright was united in marriage to Miss Maria Louise Fairelo, the wedding being celebrated in Kingston, this county. Mrs. Sivwright is a daughter of Thomas and Temperance Fairelo and was born December 21, 1840, in Chester, New Jersey, whence she was brought by her parents to this county in 1844. Guy T. Sivwright, their only child, was born August 30, 1861, in Mayfield township, and being the idol of his parents was carefully educated, completing his studies in the Northern Indiana Normal College, at Valparaiso. He was graduated from that institution and was afterward his father's assistant in business for about a year. He possessed an admirable character and won the esteem of young and old. He was well fitted for a life of usefulness and the future seemed bright with hope and promise but fate interposed,

and the life of the young man was cut off. In the fall of 1883 he sustained an injury from a fall in a skating rink, which resulted in a spinal abscess and caused his death June 15, 1884. His many excellent traits, his kindly disposition, his courtesy and consideration for others had so endeared him to all with whom he came in contact that his death was the occasion of the deepest regret to many friends as well as to his parents, who have never ceased to feel the loss of their only child.

Mr. Sivwright exercises his right of franchise in the support of the men and measures of the republican party and has served as a member of the school board and also as alderman of Sycamore but has always preferred that his public service should be done as a private citizen. For nearly forty years he has been connected with the Odd Fellows society as a member of both lodge and encampment. He has passed through all of the chairs, has several times been representative to the grand lodge and has filled the office of past grand for twenty-five years. Both he and his wife are connected with the Rebekah lodge. In Sycamore their circle of friends is almost co-extensive with the circle of their acquaintance, for they are people of genuine personal worth, whose salient characteristics have been such as to win kindly regard. They have exemplified in their lives the Emersonian philosophy "The way to win a friend is to be one," and by reason of this neighbors and friends accord them a high place in their esteem.

MRS. ANNA JOHNSON.

Mrs. Anna Johnson, deceased, was a resident of De Kalb county for nearly a half century and was widely and favorably known. Great changes were made in this locality as the years went by and time also wrought many changes in Mrs. Johnson. She bore the maiden name of Anna Wellander and was born in Vesteland, Sweden, on the 7th of February, 1830. It was in 1854 that she crossed the Atlantic to the United States, and after spending four years in Boston, Massachusetts, she came to De Kalb.

On the 22d of May, 1858, shortly after her arrival here, she gave her hand in marriage to



MRS. ANNA JOHNSON

Nels M. Johnson, and they became the parents of seven children, namely: A. G., who was born January 29, 1859, and now lives in Rockford, Illinois; Emma C., who was born December 30, 1860, and is now Mrs. Nelsenius, of Brooklyn, New York; J. Henry, who was born October 6, 1862, and died February 23, 1863; J. Martin, who was born August 7, 1865, and is still a resident of this county; H. Mary, who died in infancy; Hannah E., who was born June 2, 1868, and is living at the family residence at No. 412 North Sixth street, De Kalb; and Hulda M., who was born October 6, 1870, and died March 4, 1874.

For seven years after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Johnson lived in De Kalb. Industrious, energetic people, they carefully saved the earnings of the husband and were then enabled to purchase forty acres of land, onto which they moved, living there for three years. Mr. Johnson next purchased eighty acres on section 7, De Kalb township, took up his abode there and as the years passed and his financial resources increased he kept adding to his property. He first bought sixty acres adjoining the original tract, then one hundred and sixty acres also adjoining the home place. This made a valuable farm of three hundred acres, which he brought under a high state of cultivation, tilling the fields until they brought forth rich and bounteous harvests. He made the best use of his opportunities and a few years later he invested in four hundred and forty acres of land in Nebraska.

When Mr. Johnson came to Illinois he worked at day's labor, scorning no employment that would yield him an honest living. He saved his money and was greatly assisted by the capable management of his wife, who carefully conducted the household affairs, being watchful of all expenses there, and thus through their united efforts they managed to get a start and by reason of unfaltering diligence accumulated a fortune, for at the time of Mr. Johnson's death they owned seven hundred and forty acres of land. It was on the 6th of January, 1886, that he passed away, being then fifty-eight years of age, for his birth occurred on the 6th of July, 1827. His life record demonstrated what it was possible to accomplish through determined, unfaltering energy, and his successful business career and many good quali-

ties gained for him the respect and confidence of his fellowmen.

After her husband's death Mrs. Johnson purchased a nice home at N. 412 North Sixth street, De Kalb, where she resided until she, too, was called to her final rest on the 18th of March, 1907. On the organization of the Swedish Lutheran church in 1858 she became one of its active members and her earnest Christian life gained her the respect and esteem of all with whom she came in contact, so that at her death she left many warm friends.

DAVID LIPP.

Although beginning life in a humble capacity, David Lipp has gradually worked his way upward until he is today the owner of a valuable property comprising one hundred and twelve acres situated within a mile of the village of Malta. Mr. Lipp was born in Unity township, Columbia county, Ohio, January 15, 1853, and comes of German parentage. His father, Philip A. Lipp, was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, August 31, 1815, and in 1832, when a young man of seventeen years, he emigrated to the new world, locating on a farm in Columbia county, Ohio. The mother was likewise born in Wurtemberg, but it was in Columbia county, Ohio, that she was married, in 1842, to Mr. Lipp. Their marriage was blessed with six sons and two daughters. The mother passed away in 1870, while the father survived until 1883. At the time of his death he was the owner of eighty-three acres of land in Columbia county, which has become a very valuable property.

Mr. Lipp pursued his studies in the common schools of his native county, and during the period of his boyhood and youth he assisted his father in the work of the home farm. When starting out on his own account he made his way westward to Illinois, where he engaged in general agricultural pursuits in De Kalb county. He first operated a rented farm for two years, after which he purchased his present property, comprising one hundred and twelve acres situated within a mile of the village of Malta, so that the family, while enjoying all the comforts of a rural existence, also enjoy the conveniences afforded by the village.

Mr. Lipp established a home of his own by his marriage to Miss Carrie L. Hueber, who was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, September 4, 1861, a daughter of William J. Hueber, who was likewise born in Wurtemberg, March 3, 1829, while the mother's birth occurred January 7, 1837. They emigrated to America in 1867 and located on a farm which he purchased in Malta township, this tract comprising two hundred acres of land. Of their family of eight children, consisting of one son and seven daughters, only two are now living. The parents are both now deceased, the father passing away in 1889, while the mother's death occurred November 6, 1905. Mrs. Lipp was a little maiden of six years when the family emigrated to the new world, and it was in the schools of De Kalb county that she acquired her education, while on the 22d of December, 1891, she gave her hand in marriage to David Lipp. By her marriage she has become the mother of four children, of whom three still survive, namely: Vida May, who was born December 20, 1891; Harvey P., born July 21, 1896; and Emma E., who was born December 6, 1899. A twin of Emma E. died at birth.

Mr. Lipp's study of the political issues and questions of the day has led him to give stalwart support to the democratic party. His fraternal relations are with Forester lodge, No. 470, at Malta, while he and his wife attend the services of the Methodist Episcopal church, to which they give liberal support. Though starting out in life without capital Mr. Lipp possessed a strong will and determination to succeed and that his labors have been rewarded by a goodly measure of prosperity is indicated by the fact that he is today in possession of a valuable farm, and in addition to his own strength of purpose much credit is due his estimable wife, who has proved to him a worthy helpmate on life's journey.

W. G. HIPPLE.

W. G. Hipple is a native of Clinton township and still resides within its borders, his home at present being on section 14. His birth occurred April 16, 1875, and he was reared to farm life, working in field and meadow at an early day. He

began his education in the common schools and afterward had the advantage of a course of instruction at Aurora, Illinois, being thus well qualified for the practical and responsible duties of life.

Having arrived at years of maturity, Mr. Hipple was married to Miss Minnie Heeg, who was born in Shabbona, Illinois, March 7, 1873. Her parents, Christian and Henrietta (Petric) Heeg, were natives of Germany, the father born in 1844 and the mother in 1849. They were married in Illinois. The father came to the United States in 1853 and first located in Ohio. Later he came to Illinois and is now living retired at Shabbona. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Hipple was celebrated on the 8th of February, 1898, and has been blessed with three children but the two younger died in infancy and Mabel G., the eldest, born February 3, 1899, died at the age of thirteen months and twenty days.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Hipple are consistent and devoted members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Waterman. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and he is loyal to the business interests and to the welfare of the community but never seeks or desires office. He now owns and operates one hundred and twenty acres of land on sections 14 and 23, Clinton township, and the farm is an excellent property, which he has brought under a good state of cultivation.

MARTIN E. ANDERSON.

During the greater part of his business life Martin E. Anderson has been closely associated with the industrial interests of De Kalb county, holding various important and responsible positions which have been indicative of his skill and trustworthiness. A native of Sweden, he was born December 19, 1863. He is a brother of the gentlemen who constitute the well known mercantile firm of Anderson Brothers of De Kalb and in connection with their history mention is made of the family.

Martin E. Anderson was educated in the common schools of his native country and when sixteen years of age came to the United States, arriving in May, 1880. He had been reared to farm labor but after reaching the new world he located in De Kalb and began working at the carpenter's

trade, which he followed as a journeyman for seven years. He then engaged in contracting and building in Chicago for two years, in partnership with John Anderson, after which he returned to De Kalb county, and for about four years was foreman in the planing mills of the Patten Manufacturing Company in De Kalb. He next accepted a position as foreman of the Shipman & Bradt Wagon Factory in De Kalb, remaining in that capacity for nine years, or until the plant was sold. In 1902 he became foreman in the Haish manure spreader factory, which position he has since filled, being in charge of the plant. His thorough understanding of mechanics and his long experience in constructive works well qualifies him for this position, in which he has supervision of the labors of many men.

Mr. Anderson was happily married on the 3d of May, 1890, to Miss Hannah Olson, a native of Sweden, who came to the United States in 1880. Six children have been born unto them, of whom five are living: Paul, Hazel, Al Martin, Vernie and Clarence, all yet at home. Mr. Anderson is a member of the Independent Order of Vikings and of the Swedish Benevolent Society, while his political allegiance is given the republican party. He is a man of exemplary habits and worthy principles, and his record does credit to the history of a family that is much respected in De Kalb, the brothers all being reliable and enterprising business men.

GEORGE W. DUNTON.

George W. Dunton, whose success at the bar in former years enables him now to live retired, has figured for a long period as one of the representative and prominent residents of Sycamore. He is a man of genuine personal worth, trusted by his friends and all with whom he comes in contact, and at all times he has been found loyal to those he meets professionally or socially. He is a product of the state and the schools of Illinois. His birth occurred in Belvidere, Boone county, on the 6th of August, 1854, his parents being William S. and Almira (Baldwin) Dunton. His father, a native of Dorset, Bennington county, Vermont,

was born on the 31st of August, 1813, and his parents were William B. and Hulda (Sykes) Dunton. William B. Dunton was a native of the Green Mountain state, while his father was a native of Connecticut, whence he removed to Bennington county, Vermont, where he followed his chosen occupation of surveying. The Duntons were of English ancestry and the family was founded in America by one of the name who came from England during Cromwell's time and settled in Boston. Since that time representatives of the family have been residents of New England.

William S. Dunton, father of George W. Dunton, was reared in the state of his nativity and acquired his education in the public schools. During the pioneer epoch in the history of central Illinois he became a resident of this state, taking up his abode in Belvidere, Boone county, in 1846. He was at first identified with its mercantile interests and later with manufacturing, conducting a plow factory. He also carried on general agricultural pursuits and extended his efforts to the field of banking at the time of the organization of the national banking system. He became a director of the First National Bank of Belvidere and in 1866 was elected to the presidency, occupying that position with ability and discretion for about twenty years, when he resigned on account of failing eyesight. He was at that time, however, elected vice president of the institution. He also served as a director of the Second National Bank of Belvidere from its organization about 1884, and thus his labors and influence were prominent elements in the business growth and development of Belvidere as well as a source of gratifying income to himself. His political allegiance was given to the republican party from its organization, for he warmly endorsed its principles and purposes. In early manhood Mr. Dunton wedded Miss Almira Baldwin, a native of Dorset, Vermont, and a daughter of David Baldwin. In religious faith she was a Universalist. Mr. Dunton, while a member of no church, led an upright life, possessed an even temperament and kindly disposition and in all life's relations commanded the respect of those with whom he was associated. In the family were two sons and two daughters: Wilbur, who died in childhood; Mary, the wife of Samuel Kerr, an attorney of Chicago; Nellie, of Belvidere; and George W.

The boyhood days of George W. Dunton were passed in Belvidere and his public-school education, there acquired, was supplemented by study in the State University of Iowa at Iowa City. He matriculated in 1871 and graduated in 1875 upon the completion of the classical course. He had determined to make the practice of law his life work and to that end, in the fall of 1875, became a student in the Union Law College of Chicago, from which he was graduated in June, 1877, having in the meantime come under the instruction of V. B. Denslow, Harvey B. Hurd, Judge Lyman Trumbull, Senator J. R. Doolittle, James L. High and Judge Booth, distinguished members of the legal fraternity. Following his graduation Mr. Dunton located for practice in Sycamore and entered into partnership with R. L. Divine, then one of the leading members of the bar of De Kalb. His first few years in practice were mostly spent in preparing cases and drawing up pleadings for the causes. Typewriters were not then in use and, as Mr. Divine was a very busy man with an extensive practice, this duty devolved upon the junior partner. It proved, however, a good drill and in his later years of practice has been very useful to him. His connection with Mr. Divine was terminated in 1880, after which Mr. Dunton practiced alone until the fall of 1889, when he joined Duane J. Carnes in the formation of the firm of Carnes & Dunton. In 1902 they were joined by John Faissler under the firm style of Carnes, Dunton & Faissler, and this connection was continued until Mr. Dunton's retirement from active practice on the 1st of January, 1907. He was regarded for many years as a leading lawyer of the Sycamore bar, being especially proficient in chancery cases and probate, in preparing cases for trial and drawing up pleadings. To him has been entrusted some of the most important litigation heard in the courts of DeKalb county. He was ever, while in active practice, an interested student of the law, reading broadly and assimilating what he read. He was also a safe, reliable counselor and that the consensus of public opinion regarding his ability was favorable found proof in the very extensive clientage which was given him. Aside from his law practice Mr. Dunton figured prominently in business circles and is a stockholder and vice president of the Sycamore National Bank. In community affairs he is

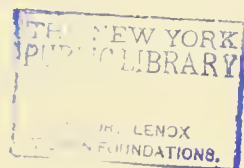
deeply interested and his co-operation may always be depended upon as an element in the furtherance of any movement for the general good. He has been president and member of the board of education, the cause of the public schools finding in him a stalwart champion, while the republican party receives his earnest and unfaltering endorsement.

On the 6th of August, 1885, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Dunton and Miss Lavinia S. Denton, a native of De Kalb county and a daughter of Solomon and Olive Denton, who were natives of Dutchess county, New York. Her father, who was a farmer by occupation, died in 1864. The family numbered seven children: Rebecca, Julia, Mary, Lavinia S., Gilbert H., Elizabeth and George, all of whom are living except the last named. Mr. and Mrs. Dunton have two daughters: Martha A., born July 2, 1888; and Mary O., born March 18, 1892. The family are prominent socially and the hospitality of their own home is greatly enjoyed by their many friends.

Mr. Dunton is a man of fine personal appearance, tall and of excellent physique, and, moreover, he is a man of splendid character, esteemed for those sterling traits which in every land and clime command confidence and regard. The legal profession lost one of its representative and valued members when he retired from active connection with the bar but his rest is well merited, for during almost thirty years he has been an active practitioner.

BLOMQUIST BROTHERS.

Blomquist Brothers is the name of a firm well known in business circles in DeKalb. The partners are John Adolph, G. Albert and Edward T. Blomquist, the leading shoe merchants of the city. They are native sons of DeKalb, born on the 29th of November, 1870, on the 15th of October, 1878, and on the 6th of February, 1882, respectively. Their parents were John and Mary (Johnson) Blomquist, both natives of Sweden. Coming to this country in early manhood and womanhood, they were married in DeKalb. The father, who emigrated to the new world in 1868, was employed for a period of two or three years as a farm hand in





J. A. BLOMQUIST.



ALBERT G. BLOMQUIST.

the vicinity of DeKalb and afterward went to Chicago, where he was engaged in teaming for a year or more. He then returned to this county and began farming on his own account, being thus engaged for twelve years as a renter. His life of frugality and enterprise, however, enabled him in the fall of 1884 to purchase a valuable tract of land of three hundred and twenty acres six miles south of DeKalb in Afton township. He removed to his new home in the fall of 1885 and there resided up to the time of the death of his wife on the 15th of December, 1898. In March, 1899, he rented his farm and removed to the city, where he is now living a retired life. Since he became a naturalized American citizen he has given his political support to the republican party. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church and during the long years of his residence in this county has so lived as to win the respect and esteem of all with whom he has come in contact. In his family are six children, his daughters being: Christine, at home; Sophia, the wife of Edward Westeberg, and Millie, the wife of Frank Anderson.

His sons, who now constitute the firm of Blomquist Brothers, were educated in the public schools and John A. and Edward T. also attended the Rockford (Illinois) Business College, while G. Albert pursued a business course at Valparaiso, Indiana. In their early manhood days they came to DeKalb and secured positions in different mercantile establishments. The two elder brothers served for a period in the shoe factory in this city and on the 20th of January, 1902, they embarked in the retail shoe business at their present location—249 East Main street—under the firm name of Blomquist Brothers. They purchased the stock of the Bain Shoe Company, to which they added until they now have the largest shoe store in the county, carrying a full line from the cheapest work shoe to the finest dress shoe. They buy all their shoes from the best eastern factories. They are all young men of good business ability, ambitious, energetic and resolute, possessing also geniality and unfailing courtesy, so that their friends are legion.

John A. Blomquist, the eldest, was married June 29, 1904, to Miss Marie Jacobson, of DeKalb, and Edward T. Blomquist was married October 12, 1904, to Miss Edna Peterson, of this city. The

brothers are all supporters of the republican party and are members of the Swedish Lutheran church. They withhold their support and co-operation from no movement or plan for the benefit of the community, while at the same time giving careful attention to their business interests, which are capably managed. They have a well appointed store, modern in all of its equipments, and their patronage has steadily increased from the beginning, while from the first the business has proved a profitable investment.

MRS. ANNA A. LUNEY.

In a record of the leading and well known residents of De Kalb mention should be made of Mrs. Anna A. Luney and her family who have long remained in this city. A native of Malta, Illinois, she was born April 14, 1856. Her grandparents in both the paternal and maternal lines were natives of Ireland and there spent their entire lives. Her father, Timothy Solon, was born in Ireland, May 15, 1822, and on the 7th of February, 1847, he was married to Miss Mary Welch, who was born on the Emerald isle in August, 1823. In the year of their marriage they crossed the Atlantic to the new world and as time passed there were added to the household nine children, of whom Mrs. Luney was the fourth. For several years after his arrival in the United States the father lived in New York and in 1850 brought his family to Illinois, settling in Belvidere, whence in 1856 he removed to Malta. In 1872 he turned his attention to farming, which he followed successfully until 1894, when he abandoned the work of the fields and removed to De Kalb, where he and his wife spent their remaining days.

Anna A. Solon pursued her education in the schools of Malta and of De Kalb and remained in her parents' home up to the time of her marriage, which was celebrated in De Kalb, September 3, 1878, when she became the wife of Thomas A. Luney, who was born in Rockford, Illinois, July 2, 1853, and died on the 16th of July, 1904, in De Kalb. His father was Edmond Luney, a native of Ireland, born about 1819, while the mother, Mrs. Catherine (Hogan) Luney, was born in Ireland about 1821. There were five children in this

family, of whom Thomas Luney was the second. He was educated in the public schools, completing his course in the De Kalb high school, and at the age of fifteen years he obtained employment in the bank of R. Hopkins & Company, of De Kalb. Throughout his entire life he was connected with the banking business in that institution, winning successive promotions as he demonstrated his ability and faithfulness. Finally the institution was organized as the De Kalb National Bank and in 1874 Mr. Luney was made cashier, in which capacity he served until his death, covering a period of thirty-six years—a fact which stands in unmistakable evidence of his trustworthiness and his popularity as a bank official. The success of the institution is attributable in no small degree to his efforts. He was thoroughly acquainted with banking in all its departments, was an accurate judge of men and while he did everything in his power to favor the patrons of the bank, to whom he ever extended unfailing courtesy, he never forgot that he owed a still higher allegiance to the stockholders and depositors. In business he was penetrative and practical and had the ability of seeing from the outside to the center of things and to clearly determine the value of any measure or proposition bearing upon the bank.

In politics Mr. Luney was a democrat, recognized as one of the leaders of the party in this locality. He served as township treasurer from 1877 up to the time of his death and his reliability in money matters was ever above question, so that his official integrity was assured. He was a charter member of the Knights of Columbus and was a communicant of the Roman Catholic church, of which his entire family are members.

Mr. Luney provided well for those dependent upon him. He became one of the stockholders of the bank and owned considerable valuable property, his widow now having a farm of one hundred and seventy acres and a house and lot at No. 234 North Fourth street besides some vacant property. All this was acquired by Mr. Luney as the result of untiring diligence and unabating energy. Difficulties vanished before him as mists before the morning sun, because he was persistent and resolute, as well as thoroughly reliable. He was well versed in the law and upon current topics, indeed was a well informed man of decidedly scholarly tastes. Wherever he was known he made friends

by a genial manner, kindly disposition and his deference for the opinions of others, and when he passed away his death was deeply deplored in business circles, in the ranks of citizenship and among his many friends, but most of all in his own home, for he reserved the best traits of his character for his own fireside and did everything in his power to promote the welfare and happiness of his wife and children.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Luney were born five children: Ella A., born July 16, 1879; Francis S., May 12, 1884; Ellzey H., February 5, 1889; and E. Ross and T. Ray, twins, born June 2, 1891. Ellzey will graduate from the De Kalb township high school in the summer of 1907. Mrs. Luney owns and occupies a beautiful home and has her children all with her except her son Francis, who is now attending the University of Illinois, from which he will graduate as a mechanical engineer in the summer of 1907. The daughter, Ella A., has been a student at the Chicago Musical College and is now a successful music teacher. The family are popular socially in De Kalb and the name Luney is an honored one in the city.

WILLIAM D. CASS.

William D. Cass, who is engaged in carpentering in Sycamore, having been identified with building operations here for many years, was born in Cattaraugus county, New York, August 18, 1831, and is a son of Josiah and Phoebe (Conger) Cass, both of whom were born in Cayuga county, New York. The father was engaged in the operation of a factory for the manufacture of woolen goods. In his family were nine children, of whom William was the seventh in order of birth. In 1850 Josiah Cass came with his family to Illinois, settling in De Kalb county, where he spent his remaining days, and his wife also departed this life here. Daniel Cass, a brother of our subject, served as a soldier of the Civil war for three years.

William D. Cass pursued his education in the schools of Gowanda, New York, and after putting aside his text-books he learned the wagon-maker's trade, following this pursuit for a number of years. He then took up carpentering, in which he has continued to the present time and has been identified



EDWARD T. BLOMQUIST.

with the erection of many fine structures of this city. He has always done a good business and is well known as a representative of the trade in Sycamore. He owns his own residence at No. 204 East High street, where he is living.

On the 6th of December, 1874, Mr. Cass chose as a companion and helpmate for life's journey Miss Maria Hubbard, who was born in Vermont in November, 1836. Her parents were Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Hubbard, natives of Vermont, who came to Illinois about 1850, settling in Sycamore. They were parents of four children, of whom Mrs. Cass is the eldest.

Mr. Cass is an exemplary member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to Sycamore lodge, No. 134. In politics he has always been a democrat and is a stalwart champion of the principles of the party. For five years he has served as alderman of the city exercising his official prerogatives in support of those measures which he deems will prove of public benefit and advance the promotion of good here. He has lived a life of industry, thrift and honesty and is a well preserved man of seventy-five years, yet capable of working every day at the bench. He and his wife are a most excellent couple, who have spent many years in Sycamore and have gained a host of warm friends here.

ERNEST F. ELMBERG.

Ernest F. Elmberg is proprietor of one of the largest and most complete stores of its kind in De Kalb. He entered business life here as the owner of a mercantile establishment somewhat unique in character, a five and ten cent store, which he conducts under the name of the Economy store. He carries no articles above the prices designated and yet he has an establishment in which are found many articles of utility in household affairs. Recently, however, he has decided to convert his business into a general department store and this will be one of the foremost establishments of the city.

Mr. Elmberg was born in Sweden, his natal day being April 5, 1879, and when only a year and a half old he was brought to the United States by

his mother, who located in Mayfield township, De Kalb county, Illinois. There he was reared to his fourteenth year, when his mother removed to Chicago. His early education was acquired in the public schools and later he pursued a business course in the Athenaeum Business College of Chicago. Not long after the removal of his mother to the metropolis he obtained a situation as a bundle boy with the retail house of Carson, Pirie, Scott & Company, and rose from that position until he became head of stock in the corset and underwear department. After eighteen months with that firm he accepted a position with Butler Brothers, wholesale jobbers, in the packing room, remaining with the firm for eleven years, his fidelity and ability winning him promotion from time to time until he became superintendent of the warehouse and original packing department. On the 1st of January, 1905, he was sent upon the road by that firm as a commercial salesman, in which capacity he acted until the following September, when he resigned his position to engage in business on his own account, establishing a five and ten cent store at No. 1757 North Clark street, Chicago.

On the 29th of June, 1906, he opened a branch store in De Kalb, which proved so profitable that he sold his Chicago store some months later that he might give his undivided attention to his rapidly growing business in this city. Mr. Elmberg is a gentleman of genial personality and is regarded as one of the alert business men of De Kalb. His patronage is steadily increasing even beyond his fondest expectations, and he now has a well equipped establishment, in which he is enjoying a gratifying trade. At the present time he is adding a new building to his store which will be two stories in height and basement and will be divided as follows: the first floor will be given to house furnishings and ladies' furnishings; the second floor will be divided into four rooms, in one of which will be the largest crockery department in town; the second will be a ladies' rest room, with telephones, writing desks, etc.; the third room will be devoted to pictures and art, including pyrography and hand-painted china; and the fourth room will be devoted to ladies' furs, suitcases and trunks. In the rear of the first floor is a balcony on which are located the offices, while the basement is used for additional stock.

On the 6th of December, 1905, Mr. Elmberg was married to Miss Selma E. Johnson, of Sycamore, Illinois. He and his wife are members of the Swedish Lutheran church and are people of genuine personal worth who, although residents of De Kalb for only a comparatively brief period, have yet made many warm friends here. Mr. Elmberg votes with the republican party and in matters of citizenship is progressive and public spirited.

WILLIAM REID.

William Reid, who now owns and operates the old Reid homestead of one hundred and twenty acres on section 24, Clinton township, was born in Washington county, New York, September 27, 1861. His parents were also natives of that place and are of Scottish lineage. They were Alexander H. and Mary L. (Bliven) Reid and were married in the state of New York. They came to the west in 1868, settling in Clinton township, De Kalb county, where the father secured a tract of land and carried on general agricultural pursuits in order to provide for his family. He became the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of land, which remained his property up to the time of his death on the 8th of March, 1888. His widow still survives and resides with her son William. She taught school in the state of New York for several years prior to her marriage and is a lady of good education and is much esteemed by her many friends. In the family were five children: Laura, born October 28, 1851, and now located in Sandwich, Illinois; William, of this review; George, who was born May 24, 1864; Hattie, who was born January 5, 1867, and is the wife of W. S. Thorp, a farmer of Clinton township; and Phoebe May, born August 14, 1872.

In his boyhood days William Reid was a public-school student. He received ample training at farm labor under the direction of his father and since the latter's death has purchased the old homestead, comprising one hundred and twenty acres of rich and productive land on section 24, Clinton township. The fields are richly cultivated and annually yield golden harvests for the care and labor bestowed upon them. He keeps everything

about the place in good condition and in connection with general farming he makes a specialty of raising full blooded polled Durham cattle. He leads a busy and active life, his labors being crowned with a gratifying measure of success, so that he is now numbered among the substantial farmers of the community.

Mr. Reid exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party and he now holds the office of road commissioner. He has also served as school director for several terms and is interested in everything pertaining to general progress and improvement. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp at Waterman and he and his mother support and attend the Presbyterian church. The family is one well known in this community and Mr. Reid is everywhere esteemed as one reliable in business, enterprising in citizenship and faithful to the ties of friendship.

LOUIS E. BARTON, M. D.

Dr. Louis E. Barton, engaged in the practice of medicine in Malta township, with residence and office in the city of Malta, was born in Rural, Rock Island county, Illinois, March 4, 1860, and is a son of John and Mary (Burns) Barton, both of whom were natives of Allegheny county, Pennsylvania. The father, who was born in 1828, was a farmer by occupation. He came to Illinois in 1856, accompanied by his family, and settled in Rock Island county, where both he and his wife spent their remaining days. Both had a brother who were soldiers of the war of the Rebellion and lived to return home, but the paternal uncle of our subject was wounded in the battle of the Wilderness.

Dr. Barton was the second in order of birth in a family of five children, of whom two are deceased. He acquired his education by attending successively the public schools of Coal Valley, Cornell College at Mount Vernon, Iowa, and the State Medical University of Iowa, from which he was graduated in the class of 1886. He had determined to make the practice of medicine his life work and after careful preliminary training he located for practice in Secor, Illinois, where he re-

mained for thirteen years. He then removed to Deer Creek, this state, where he practiced for four years and later he was engaged in the lumber business in Texas for one year. On the expiration of that period he came to Illinois and has since remained in Malta. He owns his residence in the village and also a well equipped office, and in the practice of his profession he is continually demonstrating his ability to cope with the intricate problems that confront the physician in his efforts to restore health and prolong life. By constant reading and study he has kept abreast with the times in the line of development in the medical science and his knowledge is broad and comprehensive.

In Eureka, Illinois, in 1889, Dr. Barton was united in marriage to Miss Metta Hart, who was born in Madison, Wisconsin, February 26, 1863, and died August 31, 1893. She was a graduate of Eureka College and a most highly educated lady, who became assistant principal of the high school of Eureka. By her marriage she had three children, of whom two sons are living: John F., born June 25, 1890; and Henry C., December 5, 1891. The daughter, Metta, born August 17, 1893, died three months later.

The favorable opinion which the world passed upon Dr. Barton at the outset of his professional career has in no degree been set aside or modified but on the contrary has been strengthened as the years have gone by and he has proven his worth and ability in practice.

WILLIAM H. MENK.

William H. Menk is proprietor of a hardware store in Hinckley which he has conducted since 1875, being one of the oldest and best known merchants of the village. His birth occurred in Germany, December 26, 1841, his parents being William and Christina (Steindorf) Menk, who were likewise natives of the fatherland, the former born March 6, 1806, and the latter in 1812. The mother's death occurred in 1859, while Mr. Menk passed away on the 8th of March, 1892. He was for many years a prominent educator in Germany, following that profession for fifty-five years. In celebrating his fiftieth year as a teacher, he re-

ceived a gold medal from the king of Prussia and the occasion was made one of general rejoicing, all the teachers and superintendents of the county being present. For five years thereafter he continued in the work of the schoolroom and then retired, after which he was granted a teacher's pension. Honored and respected by all, he was one of the most popular men in his part of the country and when death claimed him his funeral was the largest ever held there, his many friends gathering to pay their last tribute and respect.

William H. Menk spent the first two decades of his life in his native country and in 1867 came to De Kalb county, locating in Sandwich where he lived for a year. He afterward removed to Chicago where he also spent one year and thence went to Blair, Washington county, Nebraska, in 1869, where he lived for five years, working at the tinner's trade, afterward making his home in St. Louis, Missouri, for two years. He next took up his abode at Indianapolis, Indiana, where another year was passed, and in 1875 came to Hinckley where he has since been located. Here he established a hardware business and has since conducted the store. He carries a good line of shelf and heavy hardware and for many years has enjoyed a very profitable patronage.

William H. Menk was married on the 19th of November, 1876, to Miss Johanna Sehring, who was born November 18, 1853, her parents being John and Mary (Popp) Sehring. Her father was born in Hessen, Germany, September 22, 1826, and is now living in Marseilles, Illinois, at the advanced age of eighty-one years. His wife was also a native of Hessen, born November 18, 1826, and died on the 13th of March, 1895. The year 1848 witnessed their arrival in America at which time they took up their abode in Joliet, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Menk have become the parents of six children: Rudolph W., born September 12, 1877; Albert G., born January 28, 1879; William F., born September 11, 1880; Frank C., born June 23, 1883; Paul H., born August 7, 1886; and Ida E., born January 30, 1888. The family circle yet remains unbroken by the hand of death. Mr. Menk has been a stalwart republican since becoming a naturalized American citizen and is unfaltering in his advocacy of the principles of the party, while in Hinckley he had been recognized as a leader of its ranks. He has served as president

of the council for two years and was also a member of the council for over twelve years. He belongs to St. Paul's German Evangelical church at Hineckley and at one time belonged to the Odd Fellow's lodge at this place, but it is no longer in existence.

In addition to his stock of hardware Mr. Menk owns two business houses on Lincoln avenue in Hineckley and also a fine residence valued at fifteen thousand dollars. He has long been a very popular citizen in his town, having won regard by reason of his many excellent traits of heart and mind. He came to America empty-handed but realized that the opportunity for success was open to all men of ambition and determination so that he assiduously cultivated those qualities and by reason thereof has become one of the prosperous merchants and business men of the community.

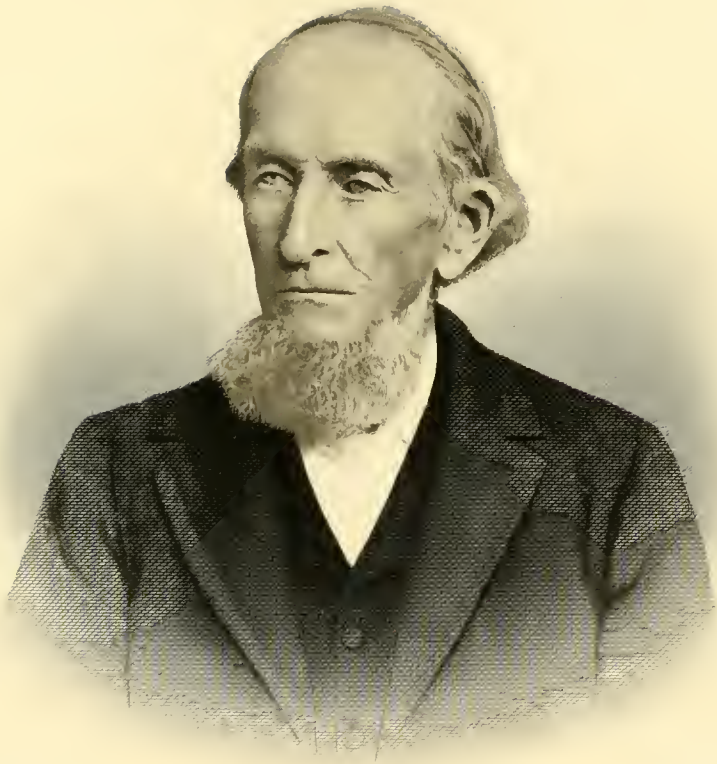
MORRIS WILLEY.

Morris Willey, who is now living retired in De Kalb, was for many years actively identified with the agricultural interests of the county and was recognized as one of the leading farmers of De Kalb township. He was born in Watertown, Jefferson county, New York, on the 5th of July, 1827, and is a son of Eleazer and Wealthy (Marsh) Willey, who were also natives of that state, where the father followed the occupation of farming as a life work. He was a respected and influential member of the community in which he lived and was an active worker in the Methodist Episcopal church, being a class-leader for many years. His death occurred in 1832, his wife surviving until 1837.

Of the seven children born to them Morris Willey is the next to the youngest. During his boyhood he attended the common schools of his native state and after the death of his parents made his home with S. Richardson and family, who lived near Watertown, New York, until Mr. Willey was sixteen years of age and then removed to Aurora, Illinois, he accompanying them. Under Mr. Richardson's instruction he was taught the rudiments of farming and the occupation being very congenial he decided to make it his life work.

On attaining his majority Mr. Willey started out to make his own way in the world, being employed as a farm hand near Aurora from 1848 until 1850. In the latter year, in company with three others, he went to California by the overland route and was there engaged in digging gold for about two years, at the end of which time he returned to Aurora by water with about fifteen hundred dollars as the result of his labors. Locating in De Kalb county, he turned his attention to farming on his own account and in 1855 purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in De Kalb township, which he still owns. Later he bought more land from time to time as his financial resources increased, until he had three hundred and thirty acres, but in 1901 he left the farm and removed to DeKalb, where his wife was taken ill soon afterward and died. Feeling the burden of the care of so much land he divided his property, with exception of the original purchase of one hundred and sixty acres, among his married children. He is now enjoying a well earned rest surrounded by all the comforts which make life worth the living.

On the 14th of July, 1855, Mr. Willey was united in marriage to Miss Mary Boyce, who was born in Boone county, Indiana, October 9, 1838, her parents being Richard and Orpha Z. (Parke) Boyce. Her mother, who was born in May, 1811, is still living, a hale and hearty old lady, who is very proud to own that three of her uncles were soldiers of the Revolutionary war and witnessed the hanging of Major Andre, of the British army. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Willey were born nine children: Warren B., born March 14, 1857; Harry, who was born January 17, 1859, and died March 20, 1884; Sarah L., who was born April 4, 1861, and died September 29, 1867; Caroline, who was born August 15, 1863, and died February 11, 1894; Eliza C., born October 30, 1865; Emily V., born September 21, 1869; Wealthy M., who was born April 3, 1872, and died June 15, 1900; Richard M., born February 13, 1875; and Lily L., born July 6, 1878. Warren was married October 1, 1878, to Miss Edith Holderness; Caroline was married January 19, 1888, to Charles N. Barr; Eliza C. was married November 8, 1888, to William Britten; Emily V. was married January 17, 1889, to Oscar S. Gibbons; and Richard M. was married December 6, 1900, to Miss Beatrice M. Jones. After an ex-



JOSEPH WILLEY

tended and painful illness Mrs. Willey passed to the great beyond on the 29th of August, 1901, to be with her loved ones there. She had lived a consecrated Christian life since she was a little girl, being a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

For almost half a century Mr. Willey has also been connected with that church, and his life has ever been in harmony with his professions. The republican party has always found in him a staunch supporter of its principles and being a great reader has kept thoroughly conversant with the questions of the day. His life has been one of usefulness and he has the respect and confidence of all with whom he has been brought in contact either in social or business relations.

WILLIAM J. FULTON.

One of the popular citizens of Sycamore is William J. Fulton, attorney at law, who is now filling the office of city attorney and is also official court reporter for the county and circuit courts. He was born in Lynedoch, Ontario, January 14, 1875. His father, James Fulton, of Hartford, Indiana, was the youngest son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Thompson) Fulton, natives of Scotland, who emigrated to Canada in 1842. James Fulton was born in Haldimand county, Ontario, May 12, 1846, spent his boyhood and youth in his father's home and after attending the common schools became a high-school student at Seneca, and later a normal-school student at Toronto. After attaining his majority he engaged in teaching for six years, meeting with excellent success, and subsequently he followed merchandising at Langton, Ontario, where he continued in business for three years. He then sold out and came to Sandwich, De Kalb county, where he accepted a clerkship, occupying the position for seven months. In the winter of 1881 he removed with his family to Waterman, Illinois, where he established a general mercantile store, conducting it for several years. The family continued to reside in Waterman until 1893, when they removed to Hartford, where the parents now reside. James Fulton was married, November 14, 1871, in Canada, to Miss Jane E. Gray, who was born in Portage, New York, May 19, 1846, a

daughter of George and Jane (Charlton) Gray. She became the mother of nine children: George T., William J., Annie E., Robert B., Walter S., James T., Frederick G., Ella C. and Mary B. The parents are members of the Presbyterian church and are people of the highest respectability, enjoying in large measure the good will of all who know them. In politics Mr. Fulton is a stalwart republican.

After acquiring his preliminary education in the public schools, William J. Fulton entered the University of Illinois, from which he was graduated with the class of 1898, after which he spent two years in the study of law in the same institution. In the fall of 1900 he came to Sycamore and after studying for a few months in the office of Carnes, Dunton & Faissler, he was admitted to the bar. He remained with that firm for a few months longer, during which time he mastered shorthand reporting, and after a year's work in the law office of J. B. Stephens, in 1904, he opened an office of his own in the Pierce block and has since been engaged in the practice of his chosen profession. He is now serving as city attorney for the city of Sycamore besides holding the position of official court reporter for both the county and circuit courts.

In November, 1902, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Fulton and Miss Laura Busey, of Urbana, Illinois, and they now reside in Sycamore. Two children have been born to them: Frederick Henry, who died at the age of fifteen months; and William John, Jr., born February 12, 1907. Mr. Fulton is a young man of good ability and of laudable ambition and his many friends predict for him a successful future.

REV. EZRA E. PLAPP.

Although one of the younger representatives in the work of the ministry, Rev. Ezra E. Plapp has already gained for himself an honored name. He is a native son of DeKalb county, his birth having occurred at Maple Park, May 1, 1877, he being a son of David and Mary Plapp, of Malta township.

Rev. Plapp acquired his early education in the schools of his native place, and upon reaching

mature years he decided to enter the ministry. Accordingly he prepared himself for this high and holy calling, and completing his education along theological lines two years ago, entered upon the ministry at Malta Mission of the Evangelical church at Malta. He is very enthusiastic and devoted to his work, having built up the church until its influence is being widely felt throughout the community. He is deeply interested in the moral development of this locality and through the various departments of the church organization he is doing beneficial service as well as through personal effort. He has won a host of warm friends not only among the members of his own congregation but among the members of the other denominations throughout the entire community.

Rev. Plapp chose as a companion and helpmate for life's journey, Miss Bertha Block, to whom he was married May 23, 1906. She was born in Germany, March 7, 1882, and was brought by her parents to America when only a year old, the family home being established at Green Lake, Wisconsin, where the father is still living, being engaged in carrying on general agricultural pursuits. Mrs. Plapp is proving a valuable assistant to her husband in his ministerial work, for she takes a very active part in the work of the church and her genial and pleasing manner has already won for her warm and lasting friendships.

HENRY CLAY GIDDINGS.

Henry Clay Giddings, who since 1889 has been a resident of De Kalb county, where his time has been given to breaking and training horses, was born in Erie county, Pennsylvania, March 20, 1846. His father, Moses C. Giddings, was born in the town of Lancaster, Coos county, New Hampshire, and after arriving at years of maturity he wedded Sophia Stafford, who was born in Pennsylvania. There were fourteen children of this marriage, of whom Henry C. was the twelfth in order of birth. Two of the sons of the family were soldiers of the war of the rebellion—John W. and Thomas W., who enlisted from Illinois in the spring of 1863 and valiantly served in defense of the Union until the close of hostilities.

Mr. Giddings of this review acquired a public-school education and after putting aside his textbooks began farming. He was closely associated with general agricultural interests until 1889, and in 1879 he purchased a farm in Warren county comprising two hundred acres of very rich, valuable and well improved land. In fact it was called the premium farm of the county, and there in addition to the cultivation of the soil he also engaged in the stock business. On his removal to De Kalb county in 1889 he sold his Warren county property and has since made his home in the city of De Kalb, his time and energies being given to the breaking and training of horses. In this work he is an expert. He is associated with W. L. Ellwood in his breeding of fine horses, and has always enjoyed the full confidence of Mr. Ellwood because of his ability and his trustworthiness. Seven years ago he was given charge of the road horses owned by W. L. Ellwood and has since remained in this position. He is indeed an excellent judge of the horse, seldom, if ever, at error in the slightest degree in placing valuation upon an animal and as a trainer he has done excellent work.

On the 15th of November, 1866, Mr. Giddings was united in marriage to Miss Ophelia E. Waggoner, who was born in Oneida county, New York, January 11, 1846. Her father was Henry Waggoner, a native of Germany, who was born near Baden in 1801. After coming to America he wedded Esther Sherman, who was born in Vermont. There were nine children in their family, of whom Mrs. Giddings was the sixth child. She had two brothers in the Civil war, Charles and James Waggoner. The latter died in the service and was buried at Paducah, Kentucky, while Charles lived to return home. Her grandparents in the paternal line were Jacob and Catherine (Reece) Waggoner, both of whom were natives of Germany. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Giddings was born a son, Cyrus Sherman, who was born August 23, 1868, and died in infancy. They have an adopted daughter, Mrs. Bessie Giddings Blount, who was born July 18, 1870, and has two children: Perry Claud, born November 15, 1897; and Elizabeth Gene, born July 18, 1902.

In his political views Mr. Giddings is a republican and while he keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day, as every true American citizen should do, he has never sought

or desired public office. He holds membership in the Baptist church. Although he started out in life without financial aid, he has by honesty and industry won a very comfortable competence which would enable him to retire did he so desire, but indolence and idleness are utterly foreign to his nature and he is so deeply interested in his work that he continues actively in business, being acknowledged to have no superior in his line in this part of the state. He and his wife are pleasantly located in their own beautiful home at No. 129 College avenue, De Kalb, and are among the best residents of the city.

HENRY J. STARK.

The name of Stark has figured with distinction in the annals of business development in Sycamore for many years and among the native sons of the city few have attained the prominence and prosperity which Henry J. Stark has gained. A capitalist, now giving his supervision to his invested interests, he was formerly extensively engaged in dealing in live stock and grain. He is one of the large shareholders in the Sycamore National Bank and throughout an active career he has displayed business ability of superior order, as exemplified in his capable management and judicious investment.

Born in Sycamore on the 8th of June, 1849, he is a son of Marshall Stark, whose birth occurred in Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, August 12, 1813. The paternal grandparents, Oliver and Betsey (Dixon) Stark, were both natives of the Keystone state and were descended from old New England stock, tracing the line back to the same ancestry from which General Stark of Revolutionary fame was descended.

Marshall Stark was reared in the county of his nativity and after acquiring a good education devoted his early life to teaching school during the winter months, while in the summer seasons he was engaged in the work of the farm. The tide of immigration was steadily flowing westward, bringing to the Mississippi valley hundreds of substantial settlers from the older east, who recognized the natural resources of the country and began its development. In the summer of 1834 Marshall

Stark made his way to Illinois and secured a claim near Rockford in Winnebago county, but made no permanent settlement at that time. On returning to Pennsylvania he taught school through the succeeding winter but in the spring of 1836 he again came to De Kalb county, locating a claim on what are now sections 20 and 21, Sycamore township. He purchased his land from the government when it was placed upon the market and in true pioneer style began life in the west, his home being a log cabin which he built near the timber. He turned the first furrows in his fields and continued the work of improving his farm until the fall of 1841, when he again went to Pennsylvania, being married there on the 5th of October of that year to Miss Louisa Tyler, a native of Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania, born December 16, 1820, and a daughter of Royal and Mary (Southwick) Tyler, both of whom were natives of Connecticut. They settled in Pennsylvania in the fall of 1820 and there the daughter, Louisa, was reared to womanhood.

Two weeks after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Stark started for their new home in the west, driving across the country with horse teams. The log cabin remained their place of abode for three years and was then replaced by a more comfortable and pretentious frame residence, in which they resided for a long period. Careful of expenditures, industrious and energetic in his work, Mr. Stark entered upon an era of prosperity that gained him the reputation of being one of the most energetic, thrifty and capable business men in De Kalb county. His fitness for official service was also recognized and in 1848 he was elected sheriff of the county, in which capacity he served for three years. At the beginning of his service he removed to Sycamore and during his term of office he opened a hotel in Sycamore, which he conducted for six years. At the end of that time, however, he sold out his business interests in the county seat in 1854 and returned to his farm, which comprised five hundred acres of fine land, well improved and conveniently and pleasantly located about a mile and a half from Sycamore. He was called to several public offices, serving as assessor, school director and supervisor of his township and was a member of the county board at the time of his death. He did not confine his attention to one line of business but extended his efforts to other

fields of activity and became extensively interested in the lumber business, spending two winters in the pineries of Michigan. In 1874, in partnership with his sons, J. O. and H. J., he established a large lumberyard in Sycamore, which he carried on with pronounced success until his death on the 26th of December, 1882, when he was sixty-nine years of age. He also engaged in buying and selling stock and grain for many years and that business proved equally profitable. In fact he carried forward to successful completion whatever he undertook and his energy, ready adaptability and foresighted sagacity constituted the salient factors in his financial advancement.

Both he and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Sycamore, to the support of which they contributed liberally, making generous donations also for the erection of the house of worship and taking a helpful part in many of the church activities. Mrs. Stark survived her husband for about ten years and died July 1, 1892. They were the parents of ten children: Harmon M., a farmer residing in Kingston township; Martha S., the wife of Hosea W. Atwood, living in Jasper county, Iowa; Mary E., the wife of L. C. Harris, of Genoa township; Jefferson O., deceased; Henry J., of this review; Theron M., who resides in Sycamore; Ada L., the wife of James Maitland, of Sycamore township; Ella A., the wife of A. W. Brower, of Sycamore; Emma J., the wife of Charles Wiggins, of Nebraska; and Hattie M., the wife of Burton W. Lee, of Sycamore township.

The boyhood days of Henry J. Stark were quietly and uneventfully passed upon the home farm a mile and a half from Sycamore and the public schools of the city afforded him his educational privileges. At the age of twenty-one years he engaged in the stock business, which he followed throughout his active life, or until 1904, when he retired. However, he still feeds a large amount of sheep and cattle and is naturally qualified for this line of business, being an excellent judge of stock. He has also dealt extensively in grain. Thus in a few words is given the history of his business career but it tells little of the energy he has displayed, his close application, his unfaltering perseverance and his strong determination. These qualities, however, are familiar to all with whom he has had business transactions and they know, moreover, of straightforward methods which have

neither sought nor required disguise. He also bought and shipped hay for nearly thirty years in Sycamore and this contributed not a little to his success.

Mr. Stark was married to Miss Carolyn Anderson, a native of Sycamore and a daughter of David P. Anderson, who came from Genesee county, New York, to De Kalb county at an early day. Her mother, whose maiden name was Laura Ann Brooks, was likewise a native of the Empire state. The father was a wagonmaker by trade and followed that pursuit for many years. One son, John G. Anderson, is now residing in Sycamore. Mr. and Mrs. Stark have an attractive home at No. 625 De Kalb street and he also owns the old homestead farm which his father secured from the government during the pioneer epoch in the history of this county.

In his political views Mr. Stark is a republican but has never been an aspirant for office. He belongs to both the lodge and encampment of Odd Fellows. For fifty-eight years he has been a resident of the county, thus witnessing the greater part of its growth and progress as it has emerged from frontier conditions and taken on all of the evidences of an advanced and modern civilization. While the members of the Stark family have never sought to figure prominently in public life as office holders they have always stood for good citizenship and have given aid and co-operation to many movements which have directly benefited the county, and the name of Henry J. Stark, like that of other members of his family, is one that is honored in business circles and in public and private life.

CHARLES W. BURCHIM.

The life history of Charles W. Burchim is inseparably interwoven with the records of De Kalb county for during almost three score years and ten he has lived within the borders of the county, an interested and active witness of the changes which have occurred. His memory goes back to the old pioneer times when there were no railroads, when trees were uncut, streams unbridged, and prairies uncultivated. In fact one could ride for miles across the country without coming to a



L W Burehm

house or fence to impede his progress. Only a few years before had the Indians been driven out of the state by the settlers who had been the first to open the prairies of Illinois. Here and there was a long cabin to show that the seeds of civilization had been planted. Occasionally at the crossroads or in a little hamlet, was a "general store," carrying a very limited line of goods but none of the more expensive dry-goods or furniture were to be purchased there and in fact many of those edibles which are now considered essential in every household could not be obtained in the little country stores. Cooking was largely done over the fire-places and the cabins were lighted by candles. The work of the field was largely done by hand while ox teams were hitched to the breaking plow and were used to convey the crops to the market or to take the family on their visits from one pioneer home to another.

Charles W. Burchim was reared to manhood amid the wild scenes of the frontier and performed the arduous tasks incident to the development of a new farm. Today he is owner of an excellent property of two hundred and twenty acres on section 8, Somonauk township, and the labor he has bestowed upon the fields and the buildings he has erected have made this a valuable farm. He was only about five years old when the family came to the middle west in 1838, his birth having occurred in Onondaga county, New York, July 28, 1833. His father, Joshua Burchim, was born in the Mohawk valley, New York, and in that state married Mary Tyrrel, also a native of New York. He was a cooper by trade and manufactured salt barrels at Liverpool, New York. In 1838 he removed westward to De Kalb county, Illinois, and bought a claim, while later he entered about one hundred and sixty acres of land. Not a furrow had been turned or an improvement made upon the property. He began its development and continued to make it his home until called to his final rest at the age of seventy-four years. His wife passed away only forty-three hours previous. In their family were six sons and three daughters, all of whom reached adult age but the only ones now living are: Charles W., of this review; William H., of Chicago; and Martha, who is the widow of Almond Hamlin, and is now living in Aurora, Illinois. Those deceased are: Malinda, who married William Wil-

son and died when about sixty-five years of age; Simon, who died in Texas; and Alexander, who went to California in 1850 and made his home in Kankakee, Illinois.

As soon as age and strength permitted Charles W. Burchim took his place behind the breaking plow, aiding in breaking the sod into furrows and later in harvesting the crops, continuing to assist his father until he had attained his majority. He later went to Iowa, where he spent two winter seasons, and in 1859, in company with Nat Wilson, made an overland trip with ox teams to California, where he spent three years engaged in freighting. He then returned to Illinois by way of the isthmus route, New York and Chicago, and after arriving at the old home carried on the farm for two years. He then bought an adjoining tract of land of eighty acres and operated it for one year continuing, however, to live with his parents. On the expiration of that period he sold that tract and bought the place where he now resides on section 8, Somonauk township. He at once began to place the fields under cultivation and has since carried on the farm work, annually gathering golden harvests as a reward for the care and labor he bestows upon his fields. He has repaired and remodeled the house, has built two good farms for the shelter of grain and stock and has divided the fields by well kept fences. He has also bought the latest improved machinery to facilitate his work and has set out an orchard. He has an engine for pumping water and operating a feed mill and corn sheller. He raises pure blooded Hereford cattle and formerly raised, fed and fattened cattle and hogs for the market. He now annually sells about a carload of fattened hogs and some steers. His business interests have been carefully and profitably conducted so that he has long been accounted one of the leading farmers and stock-breeders of the community.

Mr. Burchim was married in Sandwich in 1875 to Miss Lydia Jane Rose, who was born and reared on a farm in Somonauk township, her father being John G. Rose, an early settler who came from the state of New York. In 1904 Mr. Burchim was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who passed away in the month of January, leaving three children: Rose Mary, at home; Wesley Raymond, who aids in carrying on the home farm; and Eva Abigal.

Mr. Burchim is a Master Mason, belonging to Semonauk lodge. In politics he has been a stalwart republican since casting his first presidential ballot for John C. Fremont in 1856. His memory forms a connecting link between the primitive pioneer past and the progressive present. He has lived to witness the introduction of railroads, the telegraph and telephone, the upbuilding of cities and commercial and industrial promotion while all of the advantages of advanced civilization have been introduced. In memory he recalls many interesting incidents of the early days and it is a pleasure to talk with him of the times when De Kalb county was situated on the frontier and the method of living in those days when Illinois was cut off by long distances from the older settled cities of the east, so that the people were largely dependent upon what they could raise and make to secure the comforts of home.

GEORGE W. BUCK.

One of the most prominent and influential business men of Genoa is George W. Buck, the president and organizer of the Farmers State Bank, who dates his residence in De Kalb county from 1849, being less than a year old when brought to this locality by his parents. He was born near Williamsport, Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, on the 24th of December, 1848, and is a son of Daniel and Jerusha (Craft) Buck, who were also natives of that county and were there reared and married. For seven years after their marriage the father continued to follow farming in Lycoming county and then brought his family to Illinois, entering government land in De Kalb county and acquiring four hundred acres of prairie land, all of which lies in Genoa township. This property is still in possession of the family. Upon his farm Daniel Buck erected a house and then turned his attention to the improvement and cultivation of his land, continuing his farming operations until called from this life in 1873 at the age of fifty-eight years. His wife still survives him, at the age of eighty-four years, and lives with her sons, Alfred and George. Of the five children born to them one died in infancy; Charles, at the age of

twelve years; and Ellis, who died during his service in the Civil war as a member of the Eighth Illinois Cavalry.

George W. Buck of this review was the fourth in order of birth in this family and grew to manhood upon the home farm. He had good school advantages, was a student at the old Chicago University for a time and was graduated from the Bryant & Stratton Commercial College. After completing his education he went to California but not liking the climate he remained but three months and then returned home, devoting his time and attention to the raising and breeding of French draft horses. He made a specialty of Percherons and was a pioneer importer, making four trips to Europe to secure his own animals. He continued in this business with profit for ten years. In 1878 he formed a creamery stock company, of which he was secretary for a number of years and he continued to carry on his farm after his removal to Genoa in 1882, giving personal supervision to his varied business interests. Mr. Buck organized and chartered the Farmers State Bank, of Genoa, which was opened for business on the 9th of September, 1901, capitalized at forty thousand dollars and now paying eight per cent dividends. There are one hundred and fifty-four stockholders, mainly substantial farmers of this section. He has served continuously as its president and owing to capable management and sound business judgment the enterprise has prospered from the beginning and it is now considered one of the most reliable banks of the county.

On the 2d of August, 1894, Mr. Buck was united in marriage to Miss Mary Flick, also a native of Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, and they attend the Methodist Episcopal church, of which Mrs. Buck is a member. Fraternally Mr. Buck belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Genoa, and is also a Master Mason, holding membership in Genoa lodge, No. 288. He is a staunch supporter of the republican party and its principles and is always ready to serve the organization in any way within his power. He has held several township offices, was assessor for five consecutive years and was appointed postmaster of Genoa under President McKinley, serving in that position for twenty-six months, when he was retired from the office, owing to local politics. He has served acceptably in several minor offices and never with-

holds his support from any enterprise which he believes will advance the social, moral or educational welfare of his town or county. He is pre-eminently public spirited and progressive and is justly regarded as one of the leading citizens of Genoa.

J. A. CARBAUGH.

J. A. Carbaugh is engaged in the operation of a farm of three hundred and ten acres of rich and productive land on section 17, De Kalb township. He dates his residence in the county from 1894. His birth occurred in Pennsylvania, June 29, 1850. His father, John Carbaugh, was born in Maryland, January 1, 1812, and removed thence to Pennsylvania, where his remaining days were passed. On the 7th of November, 1841, in the Keystone state, he married Miss L. Ann Eberts, who was born in Perry county, Pennsylvania, November 13, 1816. Her death occurred in 1896. The great-grandfather of our subject had a family of twenty-four children, while in the maternal line there was one family that numbered eight sons and six daughters, all of whom were married and became property owners.

In the state of his nativity J. A. Carbaugh spent the days of his boyhood and youth, and his education was acquired in the public schools. Removing westward, he was married in Indiana, on the 20th of March, 1877, to Miss Mary A. Gregg, whose birth occurred in Marshall county, Indiana, December 24, 1854. Her father was a native of Virginia and in his boyhood days went to Ohio, where his wife was born in 1835. After ten years spent in Ohio, Mr. Gregg removed to Indiana and it was in that state that he was married. There he followed general agricultural pursuits until his death.

Following his marriage Mr. Carbaugh came to Illinois, settling in Ogle county. He worked at the carpenter's trade at Rochelle until the fall of the same year, 1877, when he removed to a farm and has since given his attention to general agricultural pursuits. In 1894 he came to De Kalb county and has since resided on section 17, De Kalb township, where he is cultivating a rich tract of land of three hundred and ten acres. He raises polled Angus cattle and Poland China hogs and

his stock-raising interests constitute an important branch of his business.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Carbaugh have been born five children: Charles F., born December 27, 1877; William E., October 12, 1879; Lewis D., February 24, 1881; Elmer L., March 12, 1883; and Ralph A., March 8, 1891. The first two and the last are now deceased. Mr. Carbaugh is a republican, who has voted the ticket since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He belongs to the Knights of the Globe lodge at De Kalb, and he and his wife are supporters of the Methodist Episcopal church, usually attending its services.

CHARLES AUGUST SWANSON.

Charles August Swanson, foreman of the machinery department for the American Steel & Wire Company, was born in Sweden on the 25th of January, 1860. His father, Swan Johnson, died when the son was only two and a half years of age. He was an only child and when nine years of age he came with his mother to the United States, a location being made in De Kalb. Here he was reared and the public schools afforded him his educational privileges. As a boy he worked on farms, herding cattle and doing other such labor as age and strength permitted. He remained upon the farm until his eighteenth year, when he secured employment in the Haish barb wire factory in De Kalb. After a brief period, however, he accepted a position with the Superior Barb Wire Company, the Ellwoods being then owners of the plant, which is now a part of the plant of the American Steel & Wire Company. For some time Mr. Swanson operated one of the barb wire machines. Later he was advanced, becoming a repairer of the machines, and when the upper mills were built he was placed in the machine department, where he gradually worked his way upward, being made foreman of the machinery department of the mill in 1900, since which time he has acceptably filled that important position. He is a skilled mechanic, well qualified for the work which claims his attention, his advancement in the business world having come in recognition of his individual merit and fidelity.

In politics Mr. Swanson is a stalwart republican and keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day. He is a member of the Lutheran church and his life has been actuated by high and honorable principles. He was married on the 6th of June, 1890, to Miss Sophia A. Anderson, a daughter of Anders Gustav Anderson and a sister of Anderson Brothers, well known and prominent merchants of the city. Mr. and Mrs. Swanson now have one child, Ruth Caroline, born January 3, 1896.

ALBERT SHURTLEFF.

Albert Shurtleff, one of the well known men of De Kalb county, who has resided within its borders from an early day and for many years has been a resident of Genoa, was born in Stanstead, Lower Canada, July 25, 1824. His father, David Shurtleff, was a native of the state of New Hampshire and a son of Ichabod Shurtleff, one of the pioneer residents of the Granite state, whence he removed at a later date to Canada. David Shurtleff was reared in that country, but was married in Vermont to Miss Ruth Snapp, a native of the Green Mountain state. In Canada he followed the occupation of farming for a number of years and later removed to Massachusetts, where he resided for four years, after which he came to Illinois in 1838, settling in De Kalb county. He had previously visited the state and selected a location. Here he opened up a farm and reared his younger children, remaining a resident of the county until called to the home beyond. He had served as a soldier in the war of 1812. His wife survived him for a few years.

Albert Shurtleff was one of five brothers and the second in order of birth. He has one brother, Ephraim Shurtleff, living in Sycamore, and these two are the only survivors of the family. Albert Shurtleff was a youth of fourteen years when he accompanied his parents to Illinois. His school privileges were limited, so that he is almost wholly a self-educated man. He worked on the farm through the period of his youth and as opportunity offered he attended the public schools. His two brothers, Ephraim Shurtleff and General Giles

Waldo Shurtleff, were both teachers. The latter studied for the ministry, was educated at Oberlin College in Ohio and became a member of the faculty of that institution, devoting his entire life to educational work. On the 22d of April, 1861, he enlisted in the Union army for three months' service and was elected a captain in the Seventh Regiment of Ohio Volunteers after he had re-enlisted for three years' service on the 19th of June, 1861. He was captured in battle, but was exchanged October 7, 1862. His valor and meritorious service won him promotion from time to time and at the close of the war he was brevetted brigadier general of United States volunteers March 16, 1865. After being honorably discharged he returned to Oberlin and continued in school work there until 1887. His death occurred May 19, 1904. He had been married at Armstrong, Ohio, December 24, 1864, to Miss Mary E. Burton, a resident of Oberlin.

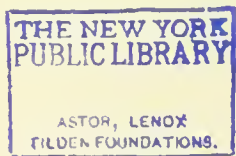
Albert Shurtleff remained upon the home farm until after he had attained his majority. His marriage was celebrated in Sycamore, Illinois, on the 16th of December, 1852, the lady of his choice being Miss Clarissa Rich, who was a native of Vermont, but reared in Kane county, Illinois. Her father, Elijah Rich, was likewise born in the Green Mountain state and was there married, but, removing to the west, became one of the early settlers of Kane county. Mrs. Shurtleff died in Genoa, August 7, 1906, deeply regretted by all who knew her, for she had many good traits of heart and mind. Her sister, Mrs. Venelia Arnold, is the wife of Elijah Arnold and now resides with Mr. Shurtleff.

For four years after his marriage Mr. Shurtleff engaged in farming in Kane county and then removed to Genoa township, where he purchased a tract of land, which he cultivated for several years. Later he sold that property and removed to South Dakota, where he bought a farm, owning about one thousand acres of land in that state. He has since sold a portion of this, but still retains a half section, which is a well improved and valuable farm property. He made his home thereon until 1899, when he returned to Genoa and built a good residence, in which he now resides.

Politically Mr. Shurtleff was originally an abolitionist, casting his first presidential vote for James A. Birney. He voted for John C. Fremont,



MR. AND MRS. ALBERT SHURTLEFF.



the first republican candidate, eagerly giving his support to the new party, which was formed to prevent the further extension of slavery. He has supported each presidential nominee of the party since that time with one exception, but he has neither sought nor held office. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church at Genoa, to which Mrs. Shurtleff also belonged. A useful and active life has brought Mr. Shurtleff to a venerated old age. One of the tragedies of the world is an old age which does not command respect by reason of the life that has been led. Mr. Shurtleff, however, has been honorable in his relations with his fellowmen and straightforward in business, and his many good qualities have gained for him the confidence, esteem and trust of those with whom he has been associated.

FRED EUGENE GRAVES, M. D.

Dr. Fred Eugene Graves, who since 1893 has engaged in the practice of medicine in Hinckley, was born in Franklin township, De Kalb county, on the 7th of July, 1856. His father, Abraham D. Graves, is a native of Maine, born in 1826, and is now living in Franklin township at the advanced age of eighty-one years. He came to Illinois in 1850 and settled on a farm in De Kalb county near where he now resides, having spent almost a half century in this locality. In agricultural pursuits he has met with a gratifying measure of success and is looked upon as a good business man of stalwart purpose and unfaltering energy. For some years he was engaged in breeding and raising of thoroughbred Ayrshire cattle. Some years ago, however, he retired from active business life, although he still lives on the farm. He holds membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he has served as steward and in other offices for many years. In politics he has ever been an earnest republican and for twenty years was township treasurer. He married Salina Lucretia Churchill, who was born in the state of New York in 1832 and is still living. She came to Illinois with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Churchill, who arrived in this state about 1833, the year following the Black Hawk war, and settled in Franklin township, De Kalb county.

She was therefore reared amid the wild scenes of the frontier and her memory forms a connecting link between the primitive past and the progressive present. She, too, is a devoted member of the Methodist church. By her marriage she became the mother of eight children: Eva S., who is the wife of Milton D. Patten, a mechanic of Chicago; Pantha L., who died in infancy; Fred E.; Charles S., a practicing lawyer of Chicago; Nathaniel A., a physician of Chicago; Amos C., who is engaged in the practice of medicine in Portland, Oregon; Bert E., a telegraph operator on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad, living at Ontarioville, Illinois; and John, who died in infancy.

Dr. Graves of this review was reared to farm life and was a district-school student in his early boyhood. He afterward attended a high school at Wheatland, Iowa, and also the high school in Sycamore, and subsequently he engaged in teaching for three years. During that period, when not occupied with the duties of the schoolroom, he devoted his time to reading medicine in the office and under the direction of Dr. R. B. Spiers of Kirkland, Illinois, and in 1879 he matriculated in Bennett Eclectic Medical College of Chicago, in which he completed a two years' course. In March, 1881, he began the practice of his profession at Chicago Heights, where he spent two years, and later practiced for four years at Rockford, Illinois. He then went to King's Station, where he continued for about six years, and in 1893 came to Hinckley, where he has been eminently successful in his chosen field of labor. He pursued a course in official surgery in the Chicago Homeopathic College and has ever been a close student of the science of medicine, keeping in touch with the onward march of the profession through his reading and investigation. He is also a member of the State and National Medical Association.

On the 21st of February, 1883, Dr. Graves was married to Miss Jeanne Maria Wallace, who was born at Arlington Heights, Chicago, in 1858 and is a daughter of S. W. Wallace, who was a wagon-maker and belonged to a pioneer family of Cook county. In 1884 Mr. Wallace moved to Rockford, Illinois, where he and Mrs. Wallace still make their home. Dr. and Mrs. Graves have three children: Jeanne Frances, who was graduated from the Northwestern University in the class of 1906 and is now principal of the high school at Genoa, Illi-

nois; Edwin C., who is a graduate of Lake Forest Academy of the class of 1906, and is now in the main office of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad at Chicago; and Ruth, at home. The Doctor and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and he belongs to various fraternal organizations, including the Masons, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Knights of Pythias and the Mystic Workers. His political support is given to the republican party. He has made steady and gratifying progress since he entered upon the practice of medicine and is now according a very extensive patronage, which indicates his high standing in his section of the county.

J. C. HOLDERNESS.

J. C. Holderness, who owns a fine residence in De Kalb and is pleasantly situated in life, was born in Canada, May 10, 1846. His father, Thomas Holderness, was born on the ocean while his parents were crossing the Atlantic to Canada. He was reared to manhood in that country, and was married there, after which he brought his family to Illinois in the early '50s. He settled in Malta township, De Kalb county, and there followed the occupation of farming until his death. He was twice married and by his first union had four children, of whom the subject of this review was the third in order of birth. By his second marriage there were six children, four sons and two daughters, of whom five still survive and all are residents of Colorado.

J. C. Holderness spent his youth in his father's home, being brought to De Kalb county when a little lad. He was therefore reared in this locality and at the time of the Civil war, when but seventeen years of age, he enlisted in 1863 as a member of Company C, Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry. His services were largely against the bushwhackers in the state of Missouri and he was wounded in a battle at Wilson Creek. The troops traveled overland from St. Joseph, Missouri, to St. Louis, Missouri, twice, and Mr. Holderness remained at the front doing his full duty as a soldier until the war was over when, with a creditable military record, he returned home. He followed farming in De Kalb county for two years and went to Colo-

rado in 1867, driving overland the entire way. At length he reached Denver where he remained one year, after which he returned to De Kalb and engaged in farming.

In 1875, Mr. Holderness was married to Miss Catherine Bray, who was born in Aurora, Illinois, March 4, 1848. Her parents were natives of Ireland and when young people became residents of Aurora, where they were married. They lived there until the father's death, which occurred in 1899. The mother still survives and is now living with Mrs. Holderness. By her marriage she had seven children, four sons and three daughters. Unto our subject and his wife have been born four children: Grace M., who was born January 22, 1877, attended the De Kalb high school and is now employed by the Central Union Telegraph Company; Aline Bray, who was born September 27, 1885, and is the wife of John Yelte and lives in Chicago; James T., born April 20, 1890, and Clayton Lay, born September 12, 1893, who are both at home.

Mr. Holderness supports the republican party and has held the office of school director for several terms. He is now desk sergeant on the police force of De Kalb. He and his family attend the Methodist Episcopal church and enjoy a pleasant home at No. 147 Evans avenue, which he owns. The family are much esteemed in the city where they live, and Mr. Holderness has always stood for public progress and improvement, giving his co-operation in many movements and measures which were intended for the public good.

JOHN JOHNSON.

John Johnson, a veteran of the Civil war, was born in Sweden, March 21, 1820, and is now a resident of Malta. For many years he carried on general agricultural pursuits in De Kalb county but for some time has lived retired, having justly earned the rest which he is now enjoying. His parents were John and Nellie Johnson, also natives of Sweden, in which country they lived and died.

In his native land Mr. Johnson of this review was reared to manhood. He acquired a common-school education and remained a resident of Sweden until 1854, when he felt that he could

better his financial condition in the new world and sailed for America, arriving in New York on the 11th of August of that year. There he remained for three months and in the fall of the same year came to De Kalb county, settling in De Kalb township. Here he worked for the Northwestern Railroad Company until after the outbreak of the Civil war. He noted the progress of events, realized that the war was to be no mere holiday affair, and in August, 1862, offered his services to the government, enrolling as a member of Company K, One Hundred and Fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He served under Captain Austin and Colonel Dustin and was with Sherman on the celebrated march to the sea and in all of the important engagements of that campaign, serving faithfully until the cessation of hostilities, when he was honorably discharged at Washington, D. C., after the grand review in which he took part. He had demonstrated his loyalty on many a southern battlefield, never faltering in the performance of any duty whether upon the lonely picket line or upon the firing line.

Returning to De Kalb county, Mr. Johnson again entered the service of the Northwestern Railway Company, with which he was connected for ten years. During that time he carefully saved his earnings and invested in eighty acres of land which he improved as opportunity offered. In 1875 he took up his abode upon the farm, began fencing and tilling the land, and for twenty years he toiled in that way, bringing the fields under a high state of cultivation and annually gathering therefrom rich harvests. As the years passed by he prospered in his undertakings and when he had secured a handsome competence he put aside the more active work of the farm in 1896 and removed to Malta, where he purchased four lots and built thereon a fine residence. At the age of eighty-seven years he is now living retired and his former activity and enterprise have enabled him in the evening of life to have around him many comforts and luxuries. His son, C. O. Johnson, is operating the home farm in Malta township.

In the year 1866 Mr. Johnson was married to Mrs. Mary Ann Johnson, the widow of Alexander Johnson. She is a native of Norway, born October 3, 1840, and when twelve years of age accompanied her parents on their removal to De Kalb county, Illinois, where her father died in March,

1855, her mother long surviving, passing away October 8, 1890. By her first marriage Mrs. Johnson had one child, who died soon after her second marriage. By this union there are four sons: C. O., Louis, Frank and Amos. Louis has purchased a farm of eighty acres in Milan township, where he now lives.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are members of the Lutheran church and they were married by a minister of that denomination in Chicago. Mr. Johnson is a member of the Grand Army post, No. 124, and has taken much delight in meeting with his old army comrades and in recalling, around the campfires, the scenes of an arduous military experience. Since 1865 he has drawn a pension in recognition of the aid which he rendered his adopted country. Wherever known he is respected. His worth is not a matter of pretense but is based upon an upright, honorable character, and whether as a soldier, a private citizen or a business man, he has so lived that in his old age he receives the veneration and respect which should ever be accorded those of advanced years.

ALFRED WESTERBERG.

Sweden has furnished to De Kalb many of its representative business men. A prominent lecturer has said, "Sweden is the home of the honest man," and of this statement the historian is reminded in compiling the life records of many of the Swedish-American residents of this city, who are well known for their energy and reliability, proving important factors in the business life of the city. To this class belongs Alfred Westerberg, who was born in Sweden, February 20, 1849, and is the survivor of the two children whose parents were John and Anna (Saxtrom) Westerberg. Fred, the deceased son, was a sea captain in the English navy.

Alfred Westerberg was fifteen years of age when he apprenticed himself to the machinist's trade. He finished his apprenticeship in his native country and in 1868 came to the United States, landing at Boston after a voyage of twelve days. He made his way directly to Illinois and after two days spent in Chicago proceeded to St. Louis, Missouri. For two years he lived somewhat of a

roving life, visiting various localities. He went from St. Louis to Rock Island, thence to Memphis, Tennessee, afterward returned to Rock Island and later went to Wyoming. He then again made his way to Rock Island and on to St. Paul, Minnesota, but once more returned to the city which he seemed to regard more as his home. In 1870 he located in Chicago and was employed as an engineer in the Union rolling mills. In 1876 he came to De Kalb, where he has since been located.

On his arrival here he sought and obtained employment in the barb wire mills of Jacob Haish. His removal to De Kalb was occasioned by his desire to get into a smaller town where he might have a place in which to properly rear his two children. He left a position which paid him from one hundred dollars to one hundred and thirty dollars per month and began work in De Kalb at a dollar and a half per day. His start here was a humble one but after the introduction of machines in the manufacture of barb wire opportunity opened up before him and from that time on his advancement has been rapid. The first machines were built by S. M. Stevens but these only proved an initial step. Mr. Westerberg's mechanical genius came into play and from that time on all of the improvements in the machinery in the Haish shop have been made by him. The machines have been built here in the shops and if there has been any special machinery needed for a special purpose he has been called upon to furnish the same and within a short space of time has done so. For more than twenty years he has had charge of the machine shop and is one of the expert mechanics of the western country.

Mr. Westerberg was married in 1873 to Miss Hulda Landstrom, a native of Sweden, who came to the United States in 1869. By this marriage there are nine children: Edward and William, who are machinists of De Kalb; Frank, a machinist and sculptor of Joliet, Illinois; Hulda, the wife of Wallace H. Hoskins, of New York city; Laura, the wife of G. W. Cheney, of De Kalb; Fred, a machinist of De Kalb; Laurence, who is employed in the signal department of the Northwestern Railway service in Wisconsin; and Anna and Ethel, who are attending the high school.

Mr. Westerberg is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church and a man of genuine personal worth who holds strictly to high ideals in his rela-

tions with his fellowmen. His political allegiance is given to the republican party. His success is well merited because honorably won and his name is known in industrial circles in De Kalb as that of a representative business man.

GEORGE W. SOWERS.

George W. Sowers, a well known business man and prominent citizen of Genoa, was born on the 9th of April, 1858, in Genoa township, this county, and is a worthy representative of an old and honored family. His father, Andrew J. Sowers, was a native of Indiana, born in Perrysville, Vermilion county, April 24, 1831, and was a son of William Sowers, who was born, reared and married in Pennsylvania. On coming west the latter first located in Indiana but in November, 1843, removed to De Kalb county, Illinois, becoming one of the first settlers of Genoa township. Here Andrew Sowers grew to manhood and married Miss Judith Ann Brown, whose father, Jeremiah L. Brown, who is mentioned elsewhere in this work, was also a pioneer of this county. Throughout his active business life Mr. Sowers followed farming, having purchased, in 1864, the land on which his father settled in 1843, but just prior to his death he removed to the village of Genoa, where he passed away on the 7th of September, 1893, at the age of sixty-two years. His widow still survives him at the age of seventy-two years and makes her home in Genoa. Six of their eight children are living, the other two having died in infancy.

George W. Sowers passed his boyhood and youth upon the home farm and received a good practical education, attending the Genoa high school for a time. On arriving at man's estate he engaged in the livery business in Sycamore, where he built a barn on the site of the first courthouse, which he tore down. Later he removed to Kimball, South Dakota, where he engaged in the live-stock business for a time, shipping stock to both Chicago and Milwaukee. He subsequently turned his attention to real estate, which business he continued after his removal to Sioux City, Iowa, where he remained until 1895 and then returned to Illinois.

For seven years he made his home in Elgin, where he continued to handle South Dakota land and town property, and he is still engaged in the real-estate business, having returned to Genoa in 1902. He has bought and sold a large amount of property in South Dakota and still owns about two thousand acres of land in that state. He often trades land for merchandise and is the owner of the Eureka Hotel, which is the only hotel in Genoa. He is a most enterprising business man and he has met with well deserved success in his undertakings.

On the 24th of August, 1904, Mr. Sowers was married in Genoa to May L. Renn, who was born, reared and educated here. By a former marriage he has four children, namely: Nina V.; Floyd A., who is now engaged in railroading; Josephine; and Andrew M. Mr. Sowers is a stalwart republican, but has never cared for the honors or emoluments of public office, though he is a very progressive and public-spirited citizen and takes a deep interest in public affairs.

HENRY GROVES.

Henry Groves is now living a retired life, deriving his income from the safest of all investments—real estate. He is the owner of four hundred and forty-four acres of valuable land in De Kalb and Mayfield townships, De Kalb county, and his possessions are proof of a life of well directed industry and judicious use of his means. He was born in Lincolnshire, England, May 27, 1863. His parents were also natives of that country. The father, James Groves, was born October 14, 1814, and on attaining his majority, wedded Miss Susan Nelson whose birth occurred March 26, 1824. They became the parents of ten children of whom the subject of this review was the youngest. The father died March 22, 1901, while the mother survived him until September 25, 1904, both passing away in England. An uncle of our subject, Thomas Nelson, came from England to De Kalb county in 1834, being one of its first settlers, for at that time, there were only two log cabins in the entire county, one of which stood on the present site of the city of De Kalb. He established his home in the northern part of the county and re-

mained a resident of this portion of the state throughout his remaining days, his death being occasioned by injuries sustained in a runaway on November 1 and November 8, 1888. As a pioneer settler he bore his share in the work of early development and improvement and well deserves mention in the history of the county.

Henry Groves came to the United States in 1884, when but twenty-one years of age, arriving in De Kalb on the 29th of June of that year. Since that time he has been more or less actively identified with farming pursuits in De Kalb county. He obtained his education in the common schools of his native land and by reading and observation has always kept a well informed man. As his financial resources increased, he added to his property until he is now the owner of four hundred and forty-four acres in De Kalb county, part of which is in Mayfield township and the remainder in De Kalb township. He is the founder of Electric park which is located a mile and a half from Sycamore and is also owner of a fine base-ball ground in the park, where are played the only Sunday games in the county. Mr. Groves has erected a very attractive residence at the park, where he is now living retired, renting all his land to tenants. He has nine times crossed the water, having visited England on four different occasions since he first came to the new world.

On February 17, 1891, Mr. Groves was united in marriage to Miss Eliza Gooch, who was born in England, April 14, 1870. Her parents were also natives of that country, having spent their entire lives there. The father lived to be seventy-four years of age and the mother is still living, at the age of seventy-five years.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Groves have been born seven children: John Henry, who was born July 14, 1894; Dallas Olive, born September 1, 1896; George L., born August 23, 1898; Clarence L., born October 23, 1900; Gertrude L., born September 23, 1902; Lester Elroy, born December 9, 1903; Gladys Irlene, born October 24, 1906. Of this family, Gertrude L. died in infancy, and the others are all living.

In his political views Mr. Groves is a republican having supported the party since he became a naturalized citizen of America. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to seek a home in the new world for here he found the busi-

ness opportunities which he sought and which he has improved to good advantage until he has risen from a humble financial position to one of affluence. He possesses good business ability and enterprise and as the years have passed he has so labored that he is now able to enjoy a well earned rest. He is a gentleman of genial and cordial disposition and has made many friends in the county where he has lived continuously since coming to the United States.

JOSEPH S. WILTBERGER.

Joseph S. Wiltberger, who occupies a prominent position in industrial circles in De Kalb, was born in Munfordville, Kentucky, on the 5th of January, 1841, and located in De Kalb in 1862. His parents were Joseph Warner and Amelia (Finley) Wiltberger. Their six children reached adult age but only two are now living. The brother of our subject, William H. Wiltberger, is a resident of Waterman, this county.

The father was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and for three years was an apprentice to a mercantile business, being employed in a large wholesale and importing house. He afterward enlisted for service in the war of 1812 and when hostilities had ceased returned to Philadelphia, where he engaged in business on his own account. Subsequently he engaged in business for himself at Munfordville, Kentucky, where he remained until 1848. For a year or two thereafter he was in business in Chicago and next bought a farm south of the city. He afterward settled on a farm eight miles south of De Kalb, where he lived until his death in 1881. In politics he was a whig and afterward a republican and in religious faith he was an old school Presbyterian.

Joseph Samuel Wiltberger began life empty-handed save for a small inheritance he received from his mother. He acquired his education in the public schools, being reared at the family home in Chicago from his fourth year. After leaving school he worked with his brothers on a farm for two years and then went south for a year. In early manhood he began work at the carpenter's trade and in 1869 he commenced the contracting and building business on his own account in De

Kalb, where many substantial structures stand as monuments to his skill and enterprise. He has also conducted a planing-mill for many years.

On the 4th of June, 1868, Mr. Wiltberger was married in De Kalb to Miss Harriet Wilcox, a native of the state of New York and a daughter of William Cordelia (Merritt) Wilcox. The children born of this marriage are Louis Warner, William Finley, Roy, Margaret C., Carl E., Grace L., Helen M., Laura L., Charles A., and James Howard. Of this number Roy died in childhood and Helen at the age of twelve years. Mr. Wiltberger is a member of the Modern Woodmen and also of the Independent Order of Mutual Aid. His wife and children are members of the Congregational church. In politics he is a stalwart republican and is recognized as one of the substantial citizens of De Kalb. He is noted for his integrity and his temperate habits and he and his wife have many fine traits of character, which have gained for them the warm regard of the people of De Kalb.

JOHN HELSON.

John Helson, deceased, for many years an honored resident of Sycamore, was born on the 24th of November, 1819, in Plymouth, Devonshire, England, and during his boyhood and youth worked upon a farm in his native country. At the age of twenty-one he began working in the mines of Cornwall and was thus employed for nine years or until his emigration to America.

Before leaving England, however, Mr. Helson was married in Devonshire to Miss Elizabeth Jane, a daughter of William and Catherine (Johns) Jane. By this union eight children were born and seven of the number are still living and with one exception reside in De Kalb county. They are as follows: George, who resides on a farm in Sycamore township; Mary, the wife of William W. London, of Sycamore; John, who lives in Iowa; Elizabeth, the widow of William Shuey and a resident of Sycamore; Louisa, the wife of William Seaman, of Sycamore; Catherine, the wife of Nicholas Johnson, of Sycamore; and Thomas, who is engaged in the livery business in that city.

Deciding to try his fortune in the United States, Mr. Helson sailed from Plymouth, England, on the 4th of April, 1848, and after a voyage of six weeks and three days landed in Quebec, Canada, whence he made his way to Erie, Pennsylvania, and from there to Newcastle, that state, by way of the old Pittsburg & Erie canal. He remained in Newcastle until the spring of 1851, when, believing that he would have better business opportunities in the growing west, he came to Illinois and bought a farm of one hundred and fifty acres, which was divided by the boundary line between De Kalb and Kane counties, his home being in Sycamore township. Leaving his family on the farm he made his way to the copper mines of the Lake Superior region, where he was employed for five years. On the expiration of that period he returned home and was afterward engaged in farming, adding to his property until he had three hundred acres of well improved land. In the fall of 1870 he retired from agricultural pursuits and removed to Sycamore, where he made his home until called to his final rest on the 1st of March, 1901. His wife had died June 22, 1896. Both were faithful members of the Methodist church and were honored and respected by all who knew them.

J. W. BUSBY.

J. W. Busby is a self-made man who, undaunted by difficulties and obstacles which confronted him at the outset of his career, has worked with persistency of purpose and unfaltering energy until he is now numbered among the substantial farmers of De Kalb county. He is living retired from active business life and now makes his home in Malta. He was born in Lyons, Wayne county, New York, July 7, 1865, a son of George and Frances Busby, who were natives of England and came to the United States in 1863. They first settled in Lyons, Wayne county, New York, where the father followed farming for twelve years and in 1875 he removed to De Kalb county, Illinois, working by the month for six years in De Kalb and Malta townships. He then rented a farm and, taking up his abode thereon, he began the further development and cultivation of the fields, carefully and

successfully conducting the business until his death, which occurred in 1888. His wife had passed away in the previous year. In their family were ten children, seven sons and three daughters.

J. W. Busby was reared to the occupation of farming. He has spent his life since 1875 in De Kalb county and when but a boy began assisting his father in the work of the farm, doing more and more of the labor of the fields as his age and strength increased. At an early age he was east upon his own resources, but his willing hands and active brain enabled him to overthrow all the difficulties and obstacles in his path. His future was bright with hope and on the very threshold of life he formed a firm resolution to win success by virtue of those inherent and intrinsic qualities which are in his nature and which are wholly incompatible with failure. Unfaltering diligence has been the foundation upon which he has builded his prosperity and he has gained the confidence of all who know him by reason of methods which neither seek nor require disguise.

On the 25th of January, 1888, Mr. Busby was married to Miss Mary Keast, who was born in De Kalb county and is a daughter of Amos Keast, a farmer of Malta township, who owned three hundred and three acres of valuable farm land. He was born in England, came to the United States when a young man and, locating upon a farm, continued to engage in agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred in 1885.

Following his marriage Mr. Busby first rented land for two years and, living economically and frugally, he saved a sum sufficient to enable him to purchase one hundred and sixty acres upon which he now resides. He has developed this into a splendid property which yields to him a good annual income. He also owns six hundred and forty acres of land in Canada which is tillable and well improved. On the 1st of March, 1907, he retired from active farming and removed to the village of Malta, having rented his land. His income from the rental will be sufficient to enable him to enjoy all of the comforts and some of the luxuries of life without recourse to further labor save the supervision which he gives to his business.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Busby have been born two children: Percy W., September 16, 1892; and Estella F., April 3, 1900. Mr. Busby is a member of the Modern Woodmen camp, No. 217, and

Mystic Workers, No. 42, both of the village of Malta. He and his wife support and attend the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Busby is a republican in politics and has held the office of assessor for five years, being still the incumbent. He is now a member of the township board of health, and was also collector for a year. Those who know him recognize his many good qualities and give him their friendship, and he has a wide acquaintance in Malta and throughout the surrounding district.

ISAAC ARNOLD

Isaac Arnold, living on a farm on section 20, Victor township, has prospered in his undertakings and now owns and conducts the Cedar Lawn stock farm, devoted to the raising of cereals and the breeding of pure blooded shorthorn cattle and Chester white hogs. The farm comprises one hundred and sixty acres of cultivated land about four miles north of Leland and everything about the place is indicative of the careful supervision of the practical owner.

Mr. Arnold was born in Victor township, June 11, 1862, his parents being John and Jane (Palmer) Arnold, both natives of Lincolnshire, England, the former born December 11, 1823, and the latter on the 29th of January, 1825. They emigrated to the new world in 1851, settling in the state of New York, and after about a year came to Illinois, taking up their abode in Kane county. Mr. Arnold worked at Batavia until 1858, when he removed to Victor township, purchasing land near the southern line of the county. He commenced with only eighty acres, which he cleared and improved, but subsequently sold that property and bought the farm where his son Isaac now resides. He owned several different tracts of land and became a prosperous farmer, owning land in Iowa as well as in Illinois. His last days were spent in the village of Leland, where he died March 12, 1903, his wife surviving him only until the 20th of April following.

Isaac Arnold was one in a family of ten sons and three daughters, of whom six sons are yet living. He was reared to manhood on the old home place which his father improved, erecting

the building thereon. He continued to assist his father until he attained his majority and in the common schools of the neighborhood acquired a fair English education. On the 17th of October, 1888, Mr. Arnold was married to Miss Ella M. Barnes, who was born and reared in Leland, a daughter of Thomas Barnes, a native of England, who came to the new world when a lad of eleven years. He was reared in La Salle county. For a considerable period he was a farmer and business man and served as postmaster of Leland. Following his marriage Mr. Arnold took his bride to the old home place and became the owner of the tract of land upon which he now lives. He has fenced the fields, remodeled the barn and poultry house, has built a hay shed and has otherwise improved the property. He has been raising good stock and for a number of years has raised pure blooded shorthorn cattle and registered stock. He is also now raising Chester white hogs and feeds, fattens and ships both cattle and hogs.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Arnold have been born three children: Hazel B., Ethel and Margaret Ella. The parents attend the different churches and are highly esteemed people of the community, enjoying the warm regard of many friends. Mr. Arnold is a member of the Masonic lodge and also of the Modern Woodman camp at Leland. In politics he is a staunch republican but has never sought or desired office. He is one of the trustees of the Victor Township Mutual Fire Insurance Company and is now serving as president of the district school board, in which connection he has done good service for the interest of the public schools. He and his wife have been residents of this part of the county nearly their entire lives so that they have a wide acquaintance here and the many sterling traits of character which they have displayed have gained for them an enviable place in public regard.

MATHIAS AULT.

Mathias Ault, a retired farmer now making his home in Kirkland, where he owns an interest in the bank of M. Ault & Son, is classed among the pioneer settlers of De Kalb county, owning a fine farm of two hundred acres in Mayfield township.

Mr. Ault was born in Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, April 26, 1827. His parental grandfather, who also bore the name of Mathias Ault, was a soldier of the Revolutionary war and reared his family in the Keystone state, where he was engaged in milling pursuits. The father, Samuel Ault, was reared in his native state, Pennsylvania, and was there engaged with his father in the milling business. Upon reaching man's estate he was married in the east to Miss Catherine Page, likewise a native of Pennsylvania. Abandoning his operations as a miller in 1847, the father then located upon a farm, where he made his home until 1850, when, attracted by the broader business opportunities of the new and rapidly developing west, he made his way by team to Illinois, settling on a farm near Elgin in Kane county. In 1854 he continued his journey to De Kalb county, where he carried on farming pursuits, having purchased a tract of land here. He died on his farm, November 16, 1868, while his wife had preceded him to the home beyond, her death having occurred in 1866.

Mathias Ault pursued his education in the common schools of his native county and there remained with his father until he was twenty-three years of age, when, in 1850, he accompanied his parents on their removal to the west. He continued to reside with his parents for a few years subsequent to their arrival in this state, and in 1856 purchased a farm in Mayfield township, first having a tract of forty acres. He added to his original holdings from time to time until he became the owner of two hundred acres of land, which he placed under a high state of cultivation, and he also improved the place with a good residence and substantial outbuildings. He carried on the work of the farm for many years, each year harvesting rich and abundant crops as a reward for the care and labor which he had bestowed upon the fields, and he thus became a prosperous and well-to-do man. In 1901 he left the farm and removed to Kirkland, where he has since made his home, and he is here conducting a bank in partnership with his son, the business being carried on under the firm style of M. Ault & Son, the latter acting as cashier and manager.

Mr. Ault was married in Wisconsin, in September, 1858, to Miss Sarah Gross, a native of

Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, and a daughter of George Gross, who was born in Northampton county, that state, and was there married to Mary Keithline, a native of Sussex county, New Jersey. Mr. and Mrs. Ault have four children who are living, while they lost one daughter, Amelia, who died at the age of two years. Those who survive are: William Irvin, a farmer of Mayfield township, who is married and has four children, Fred, Bessie, Nellie and Marion; Frank S., who is operating the old homestead farm; George W., who is interested with his father in the banking business, and whose sketch appears below; and Mary C., the wife of Elias Woodbury, a traveling salesman.

Although reared in the faith of the democratic party, Mr. Ault has for the past forty years been an adherent of republican principles, casting his ballot in 1856 for Fremont, while his first presidential ballot was cast for Zachary Taylor. He is a believer in good schools and the employment of competent teachers, and for several years he served as a member of the school board. Mrs. Ault is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, in the work of which she takes an active and helpful interest, while she is also identified with several auxiliary societies. Mr. Ault has been a resident of Illinois for fifty-six years and during the greater part of that period has been actively engaged in agricultural pursuits, having developed and improved two good farms, while for the past five years he has been identified with the business interests of Kirkland, where he is well known for his reliability and straightforward business methods, thereby gaining the confidence and good will of all with whom he has come in contact either in a business or social way.

GEORGE W. AULT.

George W. Ault is a native son of De Kalb county, his birth having occurred on his father's farm in Mayfield township. He was reared by his father, Mathias Ault, to the occupation of farming, assisting in the work of the fields during the summer seasons, while during the winter months he pursued his studies in the common and high schools. Upon starting out upon his

own account he came to Kirkland, accepting a position as assistant cashier with the banking firm of French & Lowery, which position he held until purchasing a half interest in the Bank of Kirkland. He now owns a half interest with his father in said bank, of which he is now acting as cashier and manager. They do a general banking business and adhere to strict and honorable methods in the conduct of their business affairs. In addition to owning a half interest in the bank, Mr. Ault is likewise the owner of fine farming land near this city, his possessions being divided into three farms, while he also owns an interest in a fourth, having altogether six hundred and eighty-four acres. He is a man of excellent business ability, carrying on his interests systematically and methodically and is numbered among the foremost financiers of De Kalb county.

Politically he is a republican and for several years acted as treasurer of his village. Having spent his entire life in this county he is well known in business and financial circles and his success has come to him through close application and unfaltering industry and perseverance.

CALEB W. MUZZEY.

Caleb W. Muzzey, who is engaged in teaming in De Kalb, was born July 22, 1833, in Erie county, New York, his parents being Benjamin F. and Susan (Richerson) Muzzey. His father was born in the state of Vermont in 1801 and came to Illinois in 1840, settling in Kane county upon a farm which he cultivated until his removal to Afton township, De Kalb county. There he carried on general agricultural pursuits until the outbreak of the Civil war, when he offered his service to the government, enlisting in the Sixty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He then went to the front aiding in the defense of the Union, and upon his return to De Kalb, at the expiration of his term of service, he took up general work. His death occurred in 1887.

Caleb W. Muzzey is indebted to the public schools for his education. With his parents he came to this state in his youth and through the period of his minority he was largely employed at work by the month. On the 13th of May,

1857, he was united in marriage to Miss Phebe N. Downing, a resident of Erie, New York, and as the years passed children were added to the family to the number of eight, as follows: Benjamin and Nancy, both now deceased; Alice, the wife of C. F. Hunt, of De Kalb; Charles, deceased; Frank, who is living in LaGrange, Illinois; Emma G., the wife of George C. Morris, of Dixon; Orlo, of De Kalb; and George, at home.

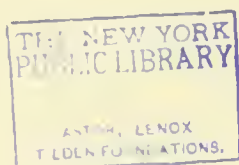
Following his marriage Mr. Muzzey engaged in farming in this county until 1869, when he went to Iowa, where he carried on general agricultural pursuits until 1882. He then returned to this state, settling in the city of De Kalb, where he has since lived. The only interruption to his active business life came through his service in the Civil war. He was a member of the Fifty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, enlisting at De Kalb in 1861. He took part in the battle of Island No. 10, Larkins Landing, Shiloh, Corinth and Vicksburg, and was honorably discharged on the 25th of August, 1865, having served for nearly four years and taken part in forty battles, skirmishes and different engagements. He was indeed a most brave and loyal soldier, never faltering in his allegiance to the old flag and the cause it represented, bearing with fortitude the hardships and privations of military life and standing as a most stalwart advocate of the cause which he espoused. Mr. Muzzey is a member of Merritt Simonds post, G. A. R., of De Kalb, in which he has filled all of the offices, and he takes great delight in recalling with his army comrades the scenes which occurred on the battle-fields. His political allegiance has always been given to the republican party and in matters of citizenship he is today as true and loyal as when he followed the old flag upon southern battle-fields.

EDGAR STEVENS.

Edgar Stevens, shipping clerk for the Bradt & Shipman Glove factory of De Kalb is a native of Cayuga county, New York, born August 4, 1862. His parents were Edgar and Charlotte A. (Plinney) Stevens. The father died in early manhood, his death occurring a week prior to the birth of his son Edgar. The other child of the family, a



C. W. MUZZEY.



daughter, Carrie, is now deceased. Edgar Stevens was reared at home under his mother's care, living with relatives for three months at Waterman and then purchasing property in De Kalb, after which she removed to her new home. It was here her son was reared and acquired his education in attendance at the public schools. As early as his fourteenth year he became a wage earner and for some ten years was variously employed. He then accepted a position with Bradt & Shipman in their glove manufactory, and for the past twenty years has served them in various capacities. His fidelity, honesty and close application were recognized and rewarded by promotion as opportunity offered and in 1898 he was promoted to the responsible position of shipping clerk, in which capacity he has since been retained, capably discharging the duties that devolve upon him in this connection. No higher testimonial of his capability and trustworthiness could be given than the statement of the fact that he has been with one house for twenty years and that he has been advanced from time to time to positions of greater responsibility and importance.

On the 25th of June, 1887, Mr. Stevens was united in marriage to Miss Hattie May Seaman, a daughter of Henry Seaman, of De Kalb, now deceased. Four children grace this marriage: Howard E., Helen L., Henry and John H. Mr. Stevens is a member of Columbus Tent, No. 57, Knights of the Maccabees. His political support is given the republican party, and, while he feels a deep interest in the vital questions and issues of the day, as every true American citizen should do, he is without aspiration for office. He has always concentrated his time and energies upon his business duties, and whatever success he has achieved and enjoyed is due entirely to his own efforts. He has spent his entire life, from the age of nine years, in De Kalb and is widely and favorably known here.

CHARLES FOWLER SMITH.

In commercial and manufacturing circles in De Kalb the name of Charles Fowler Smith is well known. A business man of enterprise and determination his ready recognition and improvement of opportunities has gained him a place among

those men who are the real founders and up-builders of a city by reason of their business activity and diligence, promoting the public good while advancing individual success. Mr. Smith is, moreover, well known as one of the native residents of De Kalb, born on the 9th of December, 1866. He is the youngest of a family of four children, whose parents were Franklin W. and Sarah Elizabeth (Fowler) Smith, both of whom were natives of the Empire state. The father was a retail lumber merchant. Two of the children are now deceased.

At the usual age Charles Fowler Smith began his education in the public schools of De Kalb, passing through successive grades until he had largely mastered the branches of learning therein taught. He had no special assistance at the outset of his business life but has worked his way upward through close application and determined purpose. He entered the field of business activity as a clerk, which position he held for a few years, and then purchased his present business, which he has carried on continuously since. He has constantly enlarged the scope of his labors and is today conducting one of the leading commercial concerns of the city, being proprietor of a hardware and furniture store. He carries a large stock of goods in both lines and has a liberal patronage, which he has won through honorable business methods and earnest desire to please his customers. He is also the owner of a number of houses and lots in De Kalb, having thus placed a part of his means in the safest of all investments—real estate—and he is likewise connected with manufacturing hardware specialties. He is also one of the directors of the Commercial Trust & Savings Bank of De Kalb. His wise counsel and keen discernment have been influential factors in the successful control of various business interests and his labors have been of material benefit to the city as well as a source of gratifying profit.

Mr. Smith was married in De Kalb, October 9, 1889, to Miss Eva Carter, who was born in this city, March 12, 1866, a daughter of Orlando and Huldah (White) Carter, whose family numbered seven children, Mrs. Smith being the fourth in order of birth. By her marriage she has become the mother of a daughter and son: Catherine Elizabeth, born April 4, 1895; and Franklin Orlando, born February 4, 1898.

Mr. Smith gives his political support to the republican party but has never sought or desired office, preferring to give his undivided time and attention to his business interests, in which he has met with signal success. He and his family belong to the Baptist church and are prominent socially in De Kalb, where they have an extensive circle of friends. Mr. Smith's life record is a splendid example of what may be accomplished by unfaltering perseverance and ready adaptation of conditions to the possibilities of trade interests and unabating energy, supplemented by sound judgment. The great majority of successful business men are they who have planned their own advancement and have accomplished it in spite of obstacles, difficulties and environments. Such has been the record of Mr. Smith, who is today one of the leading representatives of trade interests in De Kalb, his course exciting the admiration of his associates and winning him the respect of all who know him.

FRANK D. LOWMAN.

Frank D. Lowman, editor and proprietor of the Sandwich Free Press, Sandwich, Illinois, was born in Somonauk, De Kalb county, Illinois, March 22, 1866, and is the son of John and Melissa (Davis) Lowman, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of New York. John Lowman was a tinner by trade, having served his apprenticeship at Harrisburg and at Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. He was born in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, December 1, 1826. His father, the grandfather of our subject, died when he was but nine years of age, and he was then thrown on his own resources. In 1855 he came west, locating first in Ottawa, Illinois, where he remained some five years and then moved to Somonauk, where he resided until his death, October 10, 1897. He married Melissa Davis at Little Rock, Kendall county, April 26, 1865. His widow is yet living, an honored resident of Sandwich. She is a member of the Congregational church. Her parents, Joshua and Mahala Davis, both died at Somonauk, the former August 17, 1899, and the latter November 2, 1906, having each reached an advanced age. They came to Illinois in the '50s, and here

the father engaged in farming until retiring in 1896. To John and Melissa Lowman four children were born, of whom our subject is the eldest. The others are: Clara, wife of A. F. Kestermeier, of South Chicago, where he is engaged in running a department store; Katherine, the wife of W. M. Hay, circuit clerk and recorder of De Kalb county; and John Earl.

The subject of this sketch was educated in the Somonauk high school, after which he entered the office of the *Somonauk Revue* to learn the printing trade, and there continued for four years. He then worked in printing offices in Sandwich for a time and later was editor of the *Kendall County News* at Plano for three years. He bought the *Free Press* of Sandwich, February 14, 1898, and has since been its editor and proprietor. The *Free Press* is one of the best local papers in northern Illinois and has gained a large circulation and is a popular and model paper. It is published weekly and presents a neat and attractive appearance, and the office from which it is issued is well equipped for job printing of every kind.

Fraternally Mr. Lowman is a member of the Masonic order and Knights of Pythias, and politically he is a republican, being secretary of the De Kalb county central committee, taking great interest in political affairs. He is a man of good business qualifications and has a practical knowledge of every detail of his business. He is a man of fine physique, of a genial and general nature, patriotic and public-spirited.

JOHN WILLISTON COOK.

John Williston Cook, president of the Northern Illinois State Normal School at De Kalb, was born in Oneida county, New York, April 20, 1844. At the age of seven he came with his parents to Illinois. They settled on a farm in McLean county and when he was nine years old they moved to the village of Kappa. Here he spent the rest of his boyhood and youth, much as the other boys of the village. He attended school, clerked in a store and assisted his father, who was station agent of the railway company. For two years he farmed on his own account. At eighteen Mr.

Cook entered the Illinois State Normal University at Normal as a student. He graduated in 1865 and was employed as principal of schools at Brimfield, Peoria county, Illinois. The following year he was called to take charge of the new grammar school at Normal, which had just been established in connection with the Normal School. In 1868 he was appointed to supply a temporary vacancy in the Normal School faculty, and the following year he was permanently employed to take charge of the work in reading. In 1876 he was appointed to the chair of mathematics and physics, which position he held till 1890, when he was made president of the institution. Nine years later he accepted the presidency of the Northern Illinois State Normal School at De Kalb, which position he still holds.

From the above chronological outline it will be seen that Mr. Cook is fundamentally a normal school man. Coming to the institution in youth, he responded readily to its high standard of scholarship and in turn has materially helped to raise that standard as professor and president. Mr. Cook stands as a constant refutation to the unwarranted wholesale charge that normal schools dabble a little in pedagogy and in "Jim-crack" methods of subjects about which they know but little. Those who have had the good fortune to be members of his classes know how great demands he makes upon definite knowledge. As a teacher he is unsurpassed. Each recitation has its definite aim and he drives straight toward it. There is no side stepping. His thorough comprehension of the whole subject enables him to correlate the separate lessons into one organic whole. His work not only relates to life, it is life, for Mr. Cook is more than a clever manipulator of pedagogical devices to advance his students in knowledge of things. He is all the time searching and setting his students to search, for the fundamental meaning of things. In other words, he is a philosopher. He has a very wholesome optimistic "view of the world" and in this lies the secret of his power of inspiration.

But Mr. Cook's achievements are not confined within the walls of the normal school. Fully to understand his great capacity for hard work, his natural ability, and his general open-mindedness, what he has done over and beyond climbing to the top of the normal school ladder, must be taken

into account. He early trained himself in public speaking, and he was soon in demand as a lecturer. This demand has so increased that he is able to supply only a small part of it. He edited and published Illinois school journals for more than six years. Instead of taking a vacation in the summer he taught in teachers' institutes, and so helped to recruit students for the Normal School. He was generally sent to Springfield to set forth the needs of the Normal School before the legislative committee on appropriations. He always kept in close touch with business men and the business interests of the community in which he lived. He found time to go regularly to church and to sing in the choir. He did not neglect the social life of the community. And as a matter of course, he was always an attendant and an active participant at all important educational gatherings. While this does not cover all the ground of his interests, yet it serves to show how wide the range is.

But Mr. Cook is more than an intellectual dynamo. He knows how to be gracious, kind, lovable. Constantly dealing with young people has furnished him ample opportunity for the cultivation of these qualities. Many a student would have been unable to pursue his course of study but for his generous help.

Mr. Cook is very ambitious for the best. His motto might well be, "Only the best is good enough." When he had risen to the presidency of Normal School at Normal, one of the best schools in the United States, he might have settled down and left well enough alone. But he saw in the new Normal School at De Kalb a fine opportunity to build a normal school according to his own ideals, entirely untrammelled by tradition. He was given a free hand in all matters educational by the board of trustees and he is working out the normal school problem in a way that commands the attention of educators the world over.

GARDNER W. THOMPSON.

Gardner W. Thompson, a farmer residing on section 30, Paw Paw township, where he is successfully engaged in the work of tilling the soil and cultivating crops, was a son of Isaac and

Marie (Wilcox) Thompson. His father was born in the Wyoming valley of Pennsylvania in 1796, while the mother's birth occurred in Dutchess county, New York, in 1799. They were married in 1818 and unto this union were born fifteen children: Matilda, Jane, Alva, Grandle, David, Almon, Ezekiel, Isaac, Henry, John, Frank, George, Elizabeth, Rhoda and Gardner. The subject of this review is the youngest of the family. The parents spent their active lives in Pennsylvania and retiring from business in 1866, Isaac Thompson and his wife came to Illinois to live with their son Gardner, who was then located in Alto township, Lee county. Isaac Thompson cast his first presidential vote for John Quincy Adams and his last for Major William McKinley. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church for eighty-two years and lived a life in consistent harmony with his professions. He was Sunday school superintendent for twenty-five consecutive years and did much for the growth and development of the church. He died in 1900 at the age of one hundred and four years, while his wife passed away in 1885.

Gardner W. Thompson of this review was born July 11, 1811, in the Wyoming valley of Pennsylvania, and was educated in the select schools of Pittston, Pennsylvania. When twenty-four years of age he sought a home in the middle west and came to Alto township, Lee county, Illinois, where he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land. He later purchased eighty acres more adjoining and remained upon this farm for forty years. On the expiration of that period he moved across the line into Paw Paw township, De Kalb county, where he has since made his home, and he now owns and operates two hundred and sixty acres, which is a well developed tract brought under a high state of cultivation by his care, labor and supervision.

On the 26th of April, 1873, Mr. Thompson was united in marriage to Miss Mary E. Howell, a daughter of William and Sarah Howell, early pioneer settlers of Lee county. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson are most highly esteemed people and hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church at Steward, Illinois. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp at that place and in business, social, fraternal and political relations is much esteemed for his genuine worth. He cast

his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln and has since supported the republican party. While in Lee county he held the office of supervisor for fifteen years and he has also served as assessor, school trustee and justice of the peace, discharging the duties of all of these positions with fairness, promptness and capability.

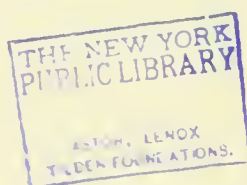
THOMAS STEPHEN MURRAY.

Thomas Stephen Murray, chief of the De Kalb fire department, was born in Chicago on the 14th of October, 1878, and is one of five children whose parents were Patrick and Eliza B. (Donovan) Murray. The father is a native of County Mayo, Ireland, born about 1811 or 1815. While still a small lad he came to the United States with his father, Patrick Murray, Sr., and one brother, Michael Murray, the mother following later. The family home was established in Columbus, Ohio, but after a brief period they removed to Batavia, Illinois, and thence came to De Kalb county, settling in Afton township, where Patrick Murray, Sr., purchased a prairie farm from the original settler. There he resided until within five or six years of his death, when he rented his land and removed to the city of De Kalb, where his remaining days were passed in the enjoyment of a well earned rest.

Patrick Murray, father of our subject, was reared under the parental roof and became one of the early settlers of this county. At the time of the Civil war he offered his services to the government, enlisting in an Illinois regiment, but on account of his youth his father caused him to return home. Later, however, he ran away and joined an Ohio regiment at Cincinnati. He was in the service for two years before his parents learned of his whereabouts, and at Vicksburg he was wounded from the explosion of artillery in the intrenchments there. Subsequently he was captured and incarcerated in the Santa Rose prison. After the close of the Civil war he enlisted in the regular army, serving for three years and then returned home to De Kalb. After a brief period he was married and removed to Chicago, where he secured employment in the city dock department. His strenuous and arduous service in the army, how-



THOMAS S. MURRAY.



ever, had undermined his health and from the effects of his military experience he died in 1884. His wife, Mrs. Eliza B. Murray, was born in the city of Cork, Ireland, in 1852, and during her infancy was brought to the United States by her mother, who located in Connecticut. Later the family removed to Virginia and eventually to Batavia, Illinois. The removal from Virginia was occasioned by the deep feeling aroused in Mrs. Donovan by witnessing a sale of slaves in Lisburg, where the children were torn from the mother's arms and sold to different masters. Mrs. Donovan could not stand the sight and the family immediately prepared for removal to a district where human beings were not held in bondage. The grandfather Donovan and two sons were blacksmiths. The two sons had preceded the parents to Batavia, Illinois, and later the father, mother and younger children followed. Soon afterward Mr. Donovan, grandfather of our subject, passed away, his death occurring in 1859. His daughter, Mrs. Murray, is still living and resides with her family in De Kalb. She had five children: Agnes, the wife of Thomas Clark, of De Kalb; William Richard, now deceased; Thomas S., of this review; John Francis and Anna Laura, both at home. The latter, however, is a student in the Normal School.

Thomas S. Murray was reared under the parental roof and was a student in the public schools of De Kalb until he reached the age of fifteen years, when he entered business life as an employe in the office of the De Kalb Review. A printing office has been aptly termed the poor man's college. At all events it was an excellent training school for Mr. Murray, who largely supplemented his education by wide and varied as well as practical knowledge during his three years' connection with the Review office. He afterward worked in the Chronicle office for a year and later spent some time in the cooperage shop of Reable Brothers in De Kalb.

The military spirit burned brightly within him, however, and when this country became involved with Spain over the Cuban question he enlisted on the 3d of June, 1898, as a member of Company M, Third Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He went with General Miles on the expedition to Porto Rico and was mustered out with his regiment on the 19th of January, 1899. Immediately afterward, however, the regiment was re-organized as

a state militia regiment and Mr. Murray was elected and commissioned first lieutenant of Company A, Third Illinois National Guard. On the expiration of his three years' term in that rank he was recommissioned first lieutenant and three months later, on the death of the captain, he was chosen to fill the vacant position. He served in that capacity for three years, being the youngest captain in the regiment and one of the youngest in the state. Prior to the war with Spain he had been commissioned first lieutenant of Company H of the Sons of Veterans Provisional Regiment, having been one of the organizers of the company. In 1905 he resigned his position in military circles, for his duties as commander of the company occupied too much of his time. Notwithstanding the fact that he loved a military life and was unusually well qualified for leadership he refused a position on the staff, the office of major being tendered him, and withdrew in favor of a friend.

In 1904, when the paid fire department was established at De Kalb, Mr. Murray was selected as its chief, which position he has since filled. His qualities of leadership are here again manifest and he has proven a most capable officer in the position which he is now filling. He belongs to De Kalb lodge, No. 215, K. P.; to De Kalb camp, No. 69, Sons of Veterans; to William H. O'Neil camp, No. 83, Spanish War Veterans; and to De Kalb camp of the Modern Woodmen. He is a democrat in his political allegiance and is regarded as one of De Kalb county's leading and representative young men, popular with a large circle of friends and warmly esteemed by all with whom he has been brought in contact.

GIRARD HAMMOND.

An excellent farm of one hundred and sixty acres, all under a high state of cultivation, is the property of Girard Hammond, of De Kalb township. He is a son of A. P. and Malena (Howe) Hammond, who were natives of Monroe county, New York, the former of English and the latter of Scotch descent. The father was born in 1830 and the mother in 1832. She died, however, when her son Girard was only four years of age. At the outbreak of the Civil war the father offered

his services to the government in defense of the old flag, enlisting in the Thirty-first Indiana Infantry, with which he served faithfully for three years. He then re-enlisted and was honorably discharged in 1865 after hostilities had been brought to a close. He was indeed a loyal soldier, faithful to every duty that devolved upon him, and he never faltered when on the firing line or on the lonely picket line.

Girard Hammond was born in Penfield, New York, in 1855, and there remained until seven years of age, when he went to Indiana, living with an aunt until ten years of age. From that time forward he has depended upon his own resources. He has indeed been the architect and builder of his own fortunes and he deserves much credit for what he has accomplished.

On the 24th of June, 1880, Mr Hammond was united in marriage to Miss Hattie A. McGee, a resident of Macon county, Illinois, and unto them have been born six children: Edna, James, Albert, Jennie B., Jessie, Jerome and Helen.

Following his marriage Mr. Hammond engaged in the manufacture of tile at La Harpe, Illinois,

where he remained for three years, when he bought a dray line in Macon and continued in that business for two years. He was afterward in the livery business at Blue Mound, Illinois, and subsequently came to De Kalb county, where he turned his attention to farming, purchasing one hundred and sixty acres of land in De Kalb township, which he still operates. He also rents and operates another farm of two hundred and twelve acres. It is all tillable land, well improved, and he annually harvests good crops. He is practical in all of his farm methods and uses the latest improved machinery in carrying on the work.

Mr. Hammond has always voted the republican ticket but has not been active in political circles. He has, however, served as school director for eight years. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church of De Kalb and for the past four years Mr. Hammond has been a trustee thereof. He has belonged to the Masonic fraternity for twenty years and his membership is now in De Kalb lodge, while he is also connected with the Court of Honor at Cortland.

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McColum, I. A.	178	Reid, William	556	Vanstone, Octavious	305
McCormick, Thomas	428	Reminsmider, George	433	Von Ohlen, William	118
McGirr, D. E.	93	Renwick, R. R.	52	Wagner, H. H.	449
McGirr, John	283	Ricker, T. R.	273	Watt, Frederick	127
McQueen, Hugh, Jr.	408	Riley, Dr. J. H.	264	Walrod, W. D.	302
MacQueen, John	36	Robinson, G. S.	172	Warber, P. S.	439
Marselus, David	424	Rogers, J. H.	84	Ward, H. A.	160
Marsh, C. W.	42	Rohrer, Louis	445	Ward, J. W.	218
Marsh, W. W.	330	Roland, H. F.	299	Warner, J. L.	293
Marshall, John	282	Rolfe, Raymond	18	Watson & Willits	306
Marshall, Thomas	354	Rote, Samuel	105	Wesson, S. D.	440
Marston, L. H.	178	Runner, R. K.	252	West, E. C.	175
Martin, James	99	Safford, E. P.	476	Westerberg, Alfred	575
Mason, H. H.	484	Sailor, L. L.	262	Westlake, B. H.	388
May, H. N.	516	Salisbury, C. H.	32	Whipple, W. D.	323
Maynard, Dr. C. H.	409	Schermerhorn, L. C.	484	White, A. G.	341
Menk, W. H.	557	Schultz, A. G.	379	White, George	320
Mercer, J. A.	509	Schuyler, Dr. Colfax	125	Whittemore, H. C.	25
Meyers, H. U.	205	Sedgwick, W. W.	117	Wilcox, E. H.	225
Miller, H. W.	125	Self, A. P.	483	Wild, G. P.	490
Minter, W. A.	534	Shaffer, L. C.	433	Willey, Morris	558
Milligan, S. A.	89	Sharp, Samuel	538	Wiltberger, J. S.	578
Morris, E. R.	195	Shellaberger, E. F.	242	Wiltberger, W. F.	518
Mosher, F. S.	17	Shellaberger, M. M.	64	Winders, T. J.	477
Mosher, Frank	300	Shetter, E. A.	206	Winne, Dr. Charles	180
Murphy, Dr. G. S.	35	Shoop, J. F.	527	Woodard, V. L.	95
Murray, T. S.	590	Shurtleff, Albert	570	Woods, J. W.	517
Muzzey, C. W.	584	Shurtleff, E. B.	204	Woolsey, J. D.	253
Myers, J. W.	263	Sivwright, G. M.	539	Wright, Frank E.	407
Nelson, Gus	444	Slade, H. H.	105	Wright, F. E.	156
Nelson, John	329	Smiley, B. B.	451	Wright, J. E.	460
Nesbitt, Dr. G. W.	284	Smith, C. F.	587	Zellar, E. R.	203
Newhall, Frank	249	Smith, R. T.	371	Zellar, M. R.	393
Nichols, Charles	159	Sowers, E. A.	497	Ziegler, Albert	333
Nichols, E. P.	351	Sowers, G. W.	576	Ziegler, August	216
		Stark, A. W.	459		
		Stark, F. W.	165		

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Request For Information

*To Supply Data In Regard To Soldiers And Sailors From De Kalb County,
Illinois, To Be Kept At The Court House, Sycamore, Ill., Author-
ized By The De Kalb County Board Of Supervisors.*

At the September meeting of the Board of Supervisors of De Kalb County, Illinois, a resolution was adopted authorizing the County Clerk to prepare forms and purchase records and necessary equipment to keep a complete record of each of the De Kalb County boys called to serve in the World War of 1914 to 1918.

Blanks have been prepared and can be secured of the County Clerk and any of the Supervisors or Town Clerks and at any of the banks of the county.

The parents and friends of the soldiers are requested to call and get a blank of any one of the above named parties and you will also be supplied with an envelope of sufficient size to receive the blank without further folding.

In using the blank forms answer the questions you know about at the present time, but do not scratch off any questions you cannot answer, as they may be needed later, or perhaps we can get them answered from some other source. If there are any soldiers who went from your township who have no parents or near relatives to look after them, will some one who knows the facts please fill out a blank for them even though you cannot give more than their name and place they lived at the time of enlistment.

In addition to filling out the blank, if you have a photograph that you would like to have preserved with the war records, please send it with the blank and also any newspaper clipping or letters from the boys. If your boy's name is not found on the list that will ~~be~~ published it will be because some one failed to fill out the blank and return it to the County Clerk.

Joh
Joh
Joh
Joh
Joh

King
King
Koo
Kun

Lan
Lan
Lan
Lath
Lath
Lath
Lath
Latt
Lew
Lew
Lind
Lipp
Lloy
Loor
Love
Low
Lun
Lync
Lyor

McC
McC
McG
McG
McQ
Mac

Mars
Mars
Mars
Mars
Mars
Mart
Mas
May
May
Men
Merc
Mey
Mille
Mue
Milli
Morr
Mosh
Mosh
Mur
Murr
Muzz
Myer

Nelso
Nelson,
Nesbitt, Dr.

Newhall, Frank	448	Sowers, G. W.	576	Zellar, M. R.	393
Nichols, Charles	159	Stark, A. W.	489	Ziegler, Albert	333
Nichols, E. P.	351	Stark, F. W.	165	Ziegler, August	216

WAR RECORD
Record of Soldiers and Sailors of DeKalb County, Ills.
in the World's War, 1914 to 1918

Name in full.....	Race or Color.....
Home Address.....	
Resident of the City or Village of.....	at the time of Enlistment.
Resident of Township of.....	at time of Enlistment.
Former Residence.....	Post Office, State of.....from.....to.....
Residence prior to above.....	Post Office, State of.....from.....to.....
Name of Schools in which Educated,	High School.....Normal
.....	College.....University
Occupation at time of Enlistment.....	
If an Employee give name of Employer.....	Address
In case of death or injury to whom should word be sent	
Relationship.....	Post Office..... State.....
Remarks	
.....	
.....	

FAMILY HISTORY.

Birthplace Date of Birth..... and Court or City

If Foreign born and Naturalized give date of Papers in which they were issued.....

If Foreign born was your father Naturalized?..... If so give date... .. If father died before you were of age and Court issuing same.....

and was not Naturalized did your mother take out Naturalization papers?.....

If so give date..... and Court issuing same.....

Father's name..... Address

Mother's Maiden name..... Address

Married or Single..... Date of marriage..... Place.....

Wife's Maiden name..... Address

Names of Children..... Date of Birth.....

..... Date of Birth.....

..... Date of Birth.....

..... Date of Birth.....

..... Date of Birth.....

..... Date of Birth.....

Other interesting items of Family History.....

.....

.....

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Nesbitt, Dr. G. W.....	284	Sowers, E. A.....	497	Zellar, E. R.....	393
Newhall, Frank	249	Sowers, G. W.....	576	Zellar, M. R.....	333
Nichols, Charles	159	Stark, A. W.....	489	Ziegler, Albert	216
Nichols, E. P.....	351	Stark, F. W.....	165	Ziegler, August	

DEPARTMENT OF SERVICE.

In what Department of Service? Army, Navy, Marines or Aviation.....

.....

Date Enlisted.....Where Enlisted.....

Date Selected (drafted).....Began Training at.....

Give name and Date of entrance to other Camps.....

Give Rank and Date of Promotions

.....

CompanyName of Captain.....

RegimentName of Colonel.....

CompanyName of Captain.....

RegimentName of Colonel.....

Date of leaving U. S.....From what Port.....

Name of Transport.....Date of Landing.....

Place of Landing.....Items of interest on Journey.....

.....

Latest Address.....Date

Latest Address.....Date

Latest Address.....Date

Latest Address.....Date

Took part in the following Engagements:

Date Date

Date Date

Date Date

Date Date

Date Date

Taken Prisoner at Date Taken

[Write incidents of Prison Life on separate sheet]

Released from Name of Prisoner Date of Release

Date Wounded At

Taken to Hospital. Date Returned to Service

Date Wounded At

Taken to Hospital. Date Returned to Service

Date of Discharge Where Discharged

Date of Return Condition

Date of Death Place of Burial

Information furnished by Date

Subsequent Information furnished should be checked as shown on margin.

a- Information furnished by Date

b- Information furnished by Address

c- Information furnished by Date

d- Information furnished by Address

d- Information furnished by Date

d- Information furnished by Address

d- Information furnished by Date

d- Information furnished by Address

Nesbitt, Dr. G. W.	254	Sowers, F. A.	497	Zehar, E. R.	393
Newhall, Frank	249	Sowers, G. W.	576	Zellar, M. R.	393
Nichols, Charles	159	Stark, A. W.	489	Ziegler, Albert	333
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<http://stores.ebay.com/Ancestry-Found>

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