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PAST AND PRESENT
OF
MONTGOMERY COUNTY
ILLINOIS

By JACOB L. TRAYLOR

ILLUSTRATED

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

CHICAGO :
THE S. J. CLARKE PUBLISHING COMPANY
1904

Dedicated to the Pioneers of
Montgomery County

PREFACE

Montgomery County has had history in which the people may take just pride. In securing the services of Hon. Jacob L. Traylor in the compilation of the history, the publishers feel that they have secured the one man well qualified to do justice to the work, and the citizens of the county may well be congratulated on the result.

The biographical sketches incorporated with the work are of special interest, our corps of writers having gone to the people, the men and women who have, by their enterprise and industry, brought this country to a rank second to none among those comprising this great and noble state, and from their lips have the story of their life struggles. No more interesting or instructive matter could be presented to an intelligent public. In this volume will be found a record of many whose lives are worthy the imitation of coming generations. It tells how some, commencing life in poverty, by industry and economy have accumulated wealth. It tells how others, with limited advantages for securing an education, have become learned men and women, with an influence extending throughout the length and breadth of the land. It tells of men who have risen from the lower walks of life to eminence as statesmen, and whose names have become famous. It tells of those in every walk in life who have striven to succeed, and records how that success has usually crowned their efforts. It tells also of many, very many, who, not seeking the applause of the world, have pursued the "even tenor of their way," content to have it said of them, as Christ said of the woman performing a deed of mercy—"They have done what they could." It tells how many, in the pride and strength of young manhood, left the plow and the anvil, the lawyer's office and the counting-room, left every trade and profession, and at their country's call went forth valiantly "to do or die," and how through their efforts the Union was restored and peace once more reigned in the land. In the life of every man and of every woman is a lesson that should not be lost upon those who follow after.

Coming generations will appreciate this volume and preserve it as a sacred treasure, from the fact that it contains so much that would never find its way into public records and which would otherwise be inaccessible. Great care has been taken in the compilation of the work and every opportunity possible given to those represented to insure correctness in what has been written; and the publishers flatter themselves that they give to their readers a work with few errors of consequence. In addition to biographical sketches, portraits of a number of representative citizens are given.

The faces of some, and biographical sketches of many, will be missed in this volume. For this the publishers are not to blame. Not having a proper conception of the work, some refused to give the information necessary to compile a sketch, while others were indifferent. Occasionally some member of the family would oppose the enterprise, and on account of such opposition the support of the interested one would be withheld. In a few instances men never could be found, though repeated calls were made at their residence or place of business.

THE S. J. CLARKE PUBLISHING CO.

December, 1904.



E. M. Grubbs

BIOGRAPHICAL

SAMUEL MOODY GRUBBS.

Samuel Moody Grubbs, for many years one of the forceful and honored factors in financial circles in Litchfield, and one whose influence has not been a minor element among the financiers of Montgomery county, attained to prominence through the inherent force of his character, the exercise of his native talent and the utilization of surrounding opportunity. He has become a capitalist whose business career excites the admiration and has won the respect of his contemporaries, yet it is not this alone that entitles him to rank as one of the foremost men of his day in his portion of Illinois. His connection with the public interests of his city has been far-reaching and beneficial, for he has aided in shaping the municipal policy, his patriotic citizenship and his interest in community affairs taking tangible form in his zealous labor for improvement while the incumbent in various city offices.

Mr. Grubbs was born in Hillsboro in 1835, a son of Moody and Cynthia Anna (Boone) Grubbs. His father, a native of Kentucky, came to Montgomery county in 1834, locating in Hillsboro, where he died about 1838. He was a brick-mason by trade, and was a member of the Baptist church. His wife, who was born in Kentucky in 1795, died in 1887 when nearly ninety-two years of age. Her father was Squire Boone, a nephew of Daniel Boone, the explorer and pioneer. Squire Boone was one of the valiant heroes of the Revolutionary war and was shot in the thigh by a musket ball. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Grubbs were born ten children, eight sons and two daughters, of whom Samuel

M. Grubbs is the youngest. The others still living are Thomas Boone, who is a brick-mason at Lemar, Missouri; and Mary L., the widow of Allison Corlew, of Denver, Colorado.

Mr. Grubbs of this review acquired his early education in the common schools of Hillsboro and afterward attended the academy there. He entered upon his business career as an employe in the store of W. H. Brewer, of Hillsboro, for whom he clerked for three years. He afterward accepted a similar position in the store at Litchfield which stood on the site now occupied by the First National Bank. Its proprietors were McWilliams & Paden, and there Mr. Grubbs remained until the fall of 1856, when he returned to Hillsboro and opened a drug store, which he conducted for two years. On the expiration of that period he purchased a general store of W. H. Brewer and carried on business in that line until the spring of 1865, when he again came to Litchfield and entered into partnership with R. H. Peal, as proprietor of a general store, in which he continued for three years. In 1868 he became interested in the banking business of Davis, Haskell & Company, predecessors of the firm of Brewer, Seymour & Company, Mr. Grubbs being the silent partner in the latter. Upon the retirement of Mr. Seymour the firm became Brewer & Grubbs, and this relation was maintained until 1883, when Judge Brewer died and the firm name was changed to S. M. Grubbs & Company. Under that style the banking business was continued until January, 1889, when it was merged into the First National Bank and the institution was capitalized for one hundred thousand

dollars. During the first year Mr. Grubbs was vice-president, and since that time has been president. Under his administration this has become one of the strong and reliable financial concerns of this part of the state, following a very conservative policy that awakens uniform confidence and yet adopting such progressive measures as result to the benefit of the institution and to the stockholders and depositors as well.

Mr. Grubbs is a man of resourceful business ability, alert and enterprising, and his ready recognition of opportunity has made him a valued factor in business circles, while his wise council and sound judgment have contributed in large measure to the successful conduct of various interests. He is connected financially with the Litchfield Marble & Granite Works, has been treasurer of the Oil City Building & Loan Association since 1883, is interested in the Litchfield Water Supply Company and is a member of the firm owning the Gillespie Bank, his partners being E. R. Miller and R. H. Isaacs. He is also a stockholder in the Hillsboro National Bank.

In 1857 Mr. Grubbs was united in marriage to Miss Mary Brewer, a daughter of Judge William and Delilah (Huff) Brewer. Mrs. Grubbs was born in Palestine, Illinois, and died in 1888 at the age of forty-nine years. They were the parents of seven children, but the sons all died in infancy. Those living are Mary G., the wife of Edward R. Davis, formerly of Litchfield, but now cashier of the First National Bank at Chicago Heights; and Delilah A., the wife of Edwin R. Elliott, a traveling salesman of Litchfield. The eldest daughter, Ella B., became the wife of George W. Atterbury and is now deceased. In 1890 Mr. Grubbs was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Betty A. White, the widow of Gustavus L. White and a daughter of Samuel Beach. She was born in Gowanda, New York, in 1838.

Mr. Grubbs is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and for almost fifty years has taken a very helpful part in various church industries. He is now president of the board of trustees and has long been a loyal worker in the Sunday-school. Socially he is connected with the Masonic fraternity. He votes with

the Republican party and has been honored with public office, serving both a treasurer and as mayor of the city. He is a man of action rather than theory. Through the whole course of his career the prime moving spirit that has prompted all his actions seems to have been improvement and advancement. He is a very busy man, yet he is ever ready to pause in the midst of his business duties to promote the welfare and progress of the city. He is held worthy of the respect which is accorded him, for his name is synonymous with honorable dealing and with all that is elevating to the city and to the individual.

C. W. BLISS.

C. W. Bliss, former president of the Illinois Press Association, and a leading journalist of the central section of the state, is the owner and publisher of the *Montgomery News*, the leading Democratic paper of the county. He was born in Fillmore township, where the village of Fillmore now stands, January 8, 1846. His father, the Rev. Alfred Bliss, was a pioneer Methodist preacher of central Illinois long connected with the southern Illinois Methodist Episcopal conference. His mother, who bore the maiden name of Direxia Haines Knowles, was married to Alfred Bliss in New Hampshire, March 4, 1834. In 1838 Alfred Bliss and his wife, accompanied by their two children, sisters of our subject, came to Illinois, settling in Fillmore township, Montgomery county, where he had purchased land. The trip was made by wagon, and they reached their destination on the 24th of September, 1838. Rev. Bliss afterward acquired a large body of land in Fillmore township, and was not only extensively engaged in farming, but was also prominent in public affairs and assisted in the substantial, intellectual and moral development of his community. He was for two terms one of the associate judges of the county court of Montgomery county, and in 1853 he began preaching, devoting the remainder of his life to the itinerary, being sent to a number of charges in central and southern Illinois. His wife died in 1894, but he passed away in 1899.



C. W. BLISS

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C. W. Bliss attended the public schools of Fillmore and in 1864 entered McKendree College at Lebanon, Illinois, where he was graduated on the completion of the classical course in 1869 with salutatorian honors of his class. The degree of Bachelor of Arts was conferred upon him, and in 1874 he received the honorary degree of Master of Arts from the same institution.

Mr. Bliss entered upon his business career as a school teacher and followed that profession for two years, during which time his leisure moments were devoted to the reading of law. He was admitted to the bar at Edwardsville, Illinois, in the fall of 1871 and located for practice in Hillsboro, where for two terms he held the office of city attorney, and in addition enjoyed a good private practice. He has been master in chancery in Montgomery county for three terms and has performed other official service, having in 1892 been appointed by Governor John P. Altgeld a trustee of the Southern Illinois Normal University at Carbondale, serving for four years as president of that board.

In February, 1892, Mr. Bliss purchased the *Montgomery News*, the leading Democratic paper of the county, and has devoted his time and energies to newspaper work since then, having secured the largest subscription list of any paper the county has ever had and larger than any other in this part of the state. The *News* is a sixteen-page journal, all home print, and the office is one of the best equipped newspaper plants in the central section of the state. The building, a large brick structure, was erected by Mr. Bliss in 1894 as a home for the *News*, and is furnished with a large power press, job presses, folders and other equipments all operated by electricity. His standing as a representative of the profession is indicated by the fact that he was chosen president of the Illinois Press Association for the year 1902-3. His business interests have not been confined entirely to the law or to his newspaper work. He is a director of the First National Bank of Litchfield, also of the Hillsboro National Bank and of the Hillsboro Building & Improvement Association, and he is the president of the Montgomery County Telephone Company. He

owns about five hundred acres of land in Fillmore township.

Mr. Bliss was married October 15, 1872, to Miss Elizabeth W. Phillips, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Burrell Phillips, of Hillsboro, and a niece of Judge Jesse James Phillips of the supreme court. To this union three children were born: Noi Celesta, born July 25, 1873, is the wife of Dr. H. A. Seymour, of Hillsboro; Clinton P., who was born July 30, 1875, is private secretary to Congressman Ben F. Caldwell, of the twenty-first Illinois district; and Marguerite was born May 23, 1890.

Mr. Bliss is a Mason, a member of Litchfield Commandery, K. T., and is also identified with the Knights of Pythias lodge and with the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. He holds membership relations with the Methodist Episcopal church of Hillsboro, and is a liberal contributor to every public enterprise.

JOHN M. SHOEMAKER.

John M. Shoemaker, prominent and influential in community interests and in business life, is well known in Montgomery county, and his efforts have been effective and far-reaching in behalf of public welfare. He stands as a high type of American citizenship, one devoted to the general good, and whose life history demonstrates possibilities that are open to ambitious, purposeful and determined young men in America, for he started out empty-handed and through capable management and untiring perseverance has worked his way up to success.

Mr. Shoemaker was born in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, on the 21st of August, 1860. His father, Jacob Shoemaker, also a native of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, was of German lineage, and throughout his active business career carried on the occupation of farming. He held membership in the Lutheran church and gave his political allegiance to the Democracy. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Rebecca McQueney, was of Scotch-Irish descent and was likewise a native of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. She, too, held membership in the Lutheran church and

lived a consistent Christian life. In the family were four children, but only two are now living: John L., of this review; and Elizabeth, who resides in Pennsylvania.

After acquiring his preliminary education in the common schools of his native city, John L. Shoemaker pursued the high school course in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and later attended the Millersville State Normal School of Pennsylvania. On putting aside his textbooks he turned his attention to the business of manufacturing cigars at Manheim, Pennsylvania, where he remained for about fifteen years, and in 1890 removed to Illinois, settling in Decatur, where he worked at the cigar trade. After a short period there passed, however, he took up his abode in Assumption, Illinois, where he engaged in the same business, and in the fall of 1891 he removed to Nokomis, Illinois, where he established a cigar factory of his own. The success he has achieved in business has resulted entirely from his close application, thorough knowledge of his trade and careful management.

Mr. Shoemaker has been prominent and influential in political circles in the various communities in which he has resided. While residing in Manheim, Pennsylvania, he served as a member of the Democratic central committee, and in Nokomis he filled the position of city clerk for two terms. In 1898 he was elected to the office of county clerk of Montgomery county, and during the four years' term discharged his duties with such faithfulness and capability that in 1902 he was re-elected, so that he is now serving for the second term. He is systematic and methodical in the discharge of his official duties, prompt and reliable, and over his public career there falls no shadow of wrong or suspicion of evil. He was chairman of the county Democratic committee of 1900 and he has done much to promote the success of his party in this portion of the state. After his election to office he removed to Hillsboro in the spring of 1899, and is well known in the county seat as a public official and as a representative business man.

In 1895 occurred the marriage of John L. Shoemaker and Miss Della A. Morgan, a

daughter of Daniel and Martha E. Morgan, in whose family were eleven children. Her father was a farmer by occupation. Mrs. Shoemaker was born in Wabash, Indiana, in 1870, and has become the mother of three children: Ophelia, Frances and Alice. Fraternally Mr. Shoemaker is connected with the Masonic lodge and is a charter member of Blue Cross lodge, K. P., of Assumption. He also belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp and the Court of Honor, and his wife is a member of the Presbyterian church. His genial manner, unfailing courtesy and kindly disposition have made him a popular citizen, and his influence in public affairs has been a beneficial factor, contributing to the substantial progress and upbuilding of the community.

EDWARD LANE.

A well-known jurist of Illinois has said: "In the American state the great and good lawyer must always be prominent, for he is one of the forces that move and control society. Public confidence has generally been reposed in the legal profession. It has ever been the defender of public rights, the champion of freedom, regulated by law, and the firm support of good government. No political preferment, no mere place can add to the power or increase the honor which belongs to the educated lawyer." Judge Lane is one who has been honored by and is an honor to the legal fraternity of Montgomery county. He stands to-day prominent among the leading members of the bar of this portion of the state, a position to which he has attained through marked ability.

A native of Cleveland, Ohio, he was born on the 25th of March, 1842. His father, John Lane, also a native of Ohio, was a merchant and in his political affiliations was a Democrat. He married Catherine Barry, who was of Scotch-Irish descent, and they became the parents of five children, but Judge Lane is the only one now living. The father died during the infancy of his son and the mother's death occurred during his boyhood.

Edward Lane was only sixteen years old when he came to Hillsboro, Illinois. Here he



Edward Lane

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worked at any occupation that would yield him an honest living. Desirous of obtaining an education he entered the academy, in which he spent five years as a student, meeting his expenses through his earnest, persistent labor. Hardships and difficulties confronted him, but it is only through the pressure of adversity and the stimulus of opposition that the best and strongest in man is brought out and developed and the latent powers of Judge Lane were called into use and the foundation of a self-reliant character was laid. He pursued a full academic course, including languages, and, leaving that institution, he engaged in teaching for one term, but he had become imbued with a desire to enter the legal profession and made arrangements whereby he entered the law office of Davis & Kingsbury as a student. In the fall of 1864 he was admitted to the bar and entered upon practice with his former preceptor, Mr. Davis, this association being maintained until the death of the senior member two years afterward. Judge Lane then began practice alone, in which he continued until 1882, when he formed a partnership with George R. Cooper, with whom he is still associated. The political positions which he has filled have all been in direct line with the law. In 1866 he was chosen as city attorney for a term of two years, and when but twenty-seven years of age he was elected county judge of Montgomery county, entering upon the duties of the office in 1869 for a four years' term. In 1886 he was elected to congress, where he served for eight years, during which period he was a member of the judiciary committee and was widely recognized as one of the most active working members of that body. He gave close and earnest attention to every question which came up for consideration and supported with unfaltering loyalty the measures in which he believed. On his return from the legislative halls of the nation he resumed the active practice of law in Hillsboro, where he has since remained. This has been his real life work, and at the bar and on the bench he has won distinction. His preparation of cases is most thorough and exhaustive and he seems almost intuitively to grasp the strong points of law and fact.

To other fields of activity Judge Lane has extended his efforts and with equal success. He is an agriculturist, giving personal supervision to his farming interests. He is also a director of the Hillsboro National Bank, of which he was one of the organizers, and is a stockholder in the Montgomery Loan & Trust Company. He likewise has a beautiful home in Hillsboro, which is numbered among his valuable realty possessions.

In 1870 Judge Lane was united in marriage to Miss Lucie Miller, a daughter of Samuel K. Miller, of Lawrenceville, Illinois. Mrs. Lane was born there in 1850, and is descended from a Kentucky ancestry. By her marriage she has become the mother of two children: Guy C., who is a graduate of Yale College and is now a practicing attorney connected with his father; and Bessie, the wife of Howard Boogher, an attorney of St. Louis. Judge and Mrs. Lane hold membership in the Lutheran church. He is a man of strong intellectual endowments and of high character, standing at the head of his profession in Montgomery county. In his habits he is temperate and disposition kindly, and as a judge and statesman he made a reputation which ranks him with the distinguished residents of central Illinois.

JOHN W. ANDERSON.

John W. Anderson was born April 28, 1812, upon the farm on which he now resides, near the town of Nokomis. His parents were Henry Clay and Ellen T. (Holmes) Anderson, and the former was born in Ellingham county, Illinois, while the latter was a native of Yorkshire, England. Mr. Anderson carried on farming in St. Clair county, Illinois, for a number of years and removed to Montgomery county about 1867, settling in Witt township. Later he took up his abode on section 29, Nokomis township, purchasing one hundred and twenty acres of land, to which he afterward added a tract of forty acres, making a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, upon which he lived until his death in 1878. His widow still survives him and is now living in Witt at the age of sixty-six years. In their family were

four children: Minnie, the wife of Mercer Hargitt, whose home is in Witt; James H., who is in the employ of a mining company in the Black Hills of South Dakota; John W., of this review; and Lewis Clay, who died in infancy.

John W. Anderson acquired his preliminary education in the district schools and supplemented it by a short period of study in Witt. He put aside his textbooks at the age of sixteen and began work as a farmer. In 1895 he began farming on his own account on the Mitchell farm, one mile southwest of Witt, and in 1896 he removed to his present location, where he has since resided, having here an excellent tract of land, which he has cultivated and improved until it is now a valuable property, his well tilled fields yielding to him golden harvests. He is also one of the directors of the Central Illinois Creamery Company of Nokomis.

On the 6th of March, 1895, occurred the marriage of John W. Anderson and Miss Sadie Bote, a daughter of Adam and Mary A. (Zeolzer) Bote. Her father was born in Prussia in 1826, and the mother's birth occurred in the same country in 1831. She came to the United States about 1843, at which time she settled in St. Louis, Missouri, and in 1846 Adam Bote crossed the Atlantic. They were married in St. Louis in 1851 and subsequently became residents of Montgomery county. The father has now passed away, but the mother is still living in Witt. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have been born three children: Chester C., eight years of age; Gladys L., who is seven years of age; and Foster Shelby, who died in infancy and was buried in Nokomis cemetery.

Mrs. Anderson is a member of the Presbyterian church in Witt and is a most estimable lady. Mr. Anderson gives his political support to the Republican party and is now serving as highway commissioner and as school director and secretary of the board. He has been very successful in his farming operations since he started out in life for himself, and, although he is yet a young man, he has nevertheless attained success which is enviable and creditable.

T. J. WHITTEN, M. D.

Dr. T. J. Whitten, who is engaged in the practice of medicine in Nokomis, is one of the older representatives of the fraternity in the county, and has long ranked with the more skillful and capable physicians. He was born in East Fork township, southeast of Hillsboro, in 1844, and is a son of Austin and Sophia Whitten. The father was a native of Kentucky and came to Illinois at an early day. He secured a tract of land in East Fork township, for many years carrying on farming there and eventually departed this life on the old family homestead. His wife was also a native of Kentucky, and by their marriage they became the parents of twelve children, of whom five are living.

Dr. Whitten was reared in the county of his nativity under the parental roof and his early education, which was acquired in the district schools, was supplemented by study in the Hillsboro Academy. He afterward engaged in teaching school in East Fork township, but it was his desire to become a member of the medical fraternity, and to this end he began reading medicine in 1860 in Bowling Green, Kentucky. During the period of the Civil war, however, he returned home and here enlisted in defense of the Union, becoming a member of Company B, One Hundred and Seventeenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was placed on the hospital corps at Memphis, Tennessee, as steward of the Third Heavy Artillery, and while acting in that capacity he received splendid schooling for his profession in the practical experience which came to him in the hospital wards. He rendered efficient aid to his country by the faithful performance of his duty and he was mustered out at Memphis, Tennessee, in 1865. When the war was over Dr. Whitten returned to his home and soon afterward entered upon a course of lectures in the Long Island College Hospital. He was graduated from the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia with the class of 1867, and has since practiced in Montgomery county, so that he is therefore one of the oldest physicians in continuous practice within its borders. He first opened his office in Hillsboro, where he remained for a year and then removed to Fill-



DR. T. J. WHITTEN

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more, where he spent two years. He resided in Irving from that time until 1880, when he removed to Nokomis, where he remained for ten years as a member of the medical fraternity of that town. In 1890 he went to Jacksonville to accept the superintendency of the David Prince Sanitarium, of which he had charge for eighteen months, and on the expiration of that period he returned to Nokomis, where he has since made his home. He has been very successful, especially in the line of surgical work, and he is called upon to perform the most important surgical operations throughout the entire county. He has very intimate and accurate knowledge of anatomy and the component parts of the human body, and in the performance of an operation displays the utmost precision and skill. He belongs to the Montgomery County Medical Society, to the Central Illinois Medical Society, the Southern District Medical Society, the State Medical Society, the American Medical Association, and the International Railway Surgeons, and he is local surgeon for the Big Four Railroad Company.

Dr. Whitten was married in 1868, the lady of his choice being Miss Sophia Harkey, a daughter of George Harkey of Hillsboro. They have four children: Harry Hood, who is a practicing physician in Peoria, Illinois; George C., who is engaged in the real estate business at Granite, Colorado; Lelia G., at home; and Lester C., who is employed in the International Harvester Works at Springfield, Ohio.

Dr. Whitten is a valued member of the Lutheran church, and he also belongs to the Masonic lodge and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Nokomis. In his political views he has long been a stalwart Republican, supporting the party since attaining his majority. He has never sought or desired office, however, preferring to devote his undivided attention to his professional duties. He has a splendidly equipped office in Nokomis and does more consultation work than any other physician in the county. In a calling where advancement depends upon individual merit he has steadily worked his way upward, and his reputation is not limited by the borders of his home town nor even by the county. He is known throughout central Illinois as a man of superior

skill in the practice of surgery, and the profession as well as the public accords him high rank.

WILLIAM GRAGG.

William Gragg, who is engaged in the real estate business and in his operations manifests the enterprising spirit which has been the dominant factor in the upbuilding of the middle west, was born in Macoupin county, Illinois, on the 10th of November, 1844. He was reared to manhood in that county and received the educational advantages afforded by the common schools. Upon the home farm he remained until early manhood, and when about eighteen or nineteen years of age came to Montgomery county, settling upon a farm near Raymond. He rented this land for two or three years and then removed to another farm near Nokomis, where he carried on agricultural pursuits for about eight years.

William Gragg was married in Woodburn in 1863, when nineteen years of age, to Miss Amanda Drennan, a native of Macoupin county, and the young couple began their domestic life upon his rented farm before mentioned. At a later date Mr. Gragg removed to Madison county, where he continued in the operation of rented land for about four years. He then returned to the vicinity of Nokomis and purchased one hundred and forty acres of land, constituting a part of the farm upon which he had previously resided. There he continued to engage in the tilling of the soil until 1888, when he sold the property and took up his abode in Raymond, where he began dealing in grain and operating an elevator, following that pursuit for nine years. He purchased the elevator, but at a later date disposed of that property and went to Oklahoma, where he was engaged in the grain business for a few months. Returning, however, to Raymond, he purchased a racket store, which he conducted for three years and then sold out. Turning his attention to the real estate business, he has conducted many important realty transfers during the fifteen years of his connection with this line of business activity. He has dealt in real

estate in Iowa, Oklahoma, Kansas, Texas, Arkansas and South Dakota, as well as in Raymond and the adjoining districts, and has secured a good clientage. He has made large purchases and sales, and his business has constantly increased in volume and importance, bringing to him richly merited success.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Gragg has been blessed with three children: Alfred, who is married and resides in Litchfield; Clara, the wife of Harvey Denhum, of St. Louis, Missouri; and Fred, who is married and makes his home in Raymond. They also lost one child, Eddie, who died in infancy. Politically Mr. Gragg has been a life-long Democrat, casting his first presidential vote for General McClellan and his last for W. J. Bryan. He served for one term on the town board and is now township clerk, but has never been an active politician in the sense of office-seeking. Fraternally he is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, has filled all of its chairs, and is now a past grand and was twice representative to the grand lodge of the state. He is also connected with the Modern Woodmen of America. Mr. Gragg is well known throughout Montgomery county as a man of integrity and worth, and from a humble financial position he has steadily worked his way upward to one of affluence, employing only such business methods as will bear the closest investigation and scrutiny.

THOMAS C. KIRKLAND.

Thomas C. Kirkland is one of the most enterprising citizens of Litchfield, having been engaged in active business here for many years, and he has taken an active and interested part in the maintenance of the intellectual and moral as well as the material development of the city. He has fostered numerous local industries and has contributed of his means and influence to various undertakings calculated to benefit the people of Montgomery county. He is now practically living retired, but his invested interests return to him a handsome income.

Mr. Kirkland was born in St. Louis county, Missouri, July 26, 1823. His father, Isaac

Kirkland, was a native of Kentucky, and was descended from Virginian ancestry, although the family was established in the Blue Grass state at an early epoch in its improvement. Isaac Kirkland removed to St. Louis, Missouri, about the time the state was admitted into the Union. He was a pioneer, and followed his trade in that city and at Clayton for a long period, but later engaged in agricultural pursuits. In 1835 he came to Illinois, settling on a farm near Jerseyville, all of which was then largely wild prairie, but several years prior to his death he put aside active business cares and located in Litchfield, where he spent his remaining days with his children. He died in 1881 in his eighty-fifth year and thus terminated an honorable and upright life, which had been in consistent harmony with his professions as a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. When in the prime of manhood he took a very active part in church work. His political support was given to the Whig party until its dissolution, and he subsequently joined the ranks of the new Republican party, but never sought or desired public office. He had an elder brother, Joseph Kirkland, who was a soldier of the war of 1812 and died of yellow fever contracted while serving under General Jackson at New Orleans.

The mother of Thomas C. Kirkland bore the maiden name of Mary Malinda Mann. She was born in Kentucky in 1779 and died in 1858. Her parents were Beverly and Mary Mann, the former a farmer by occupation. His death occurred in Kentucky. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Kirkland were born nine children, namely: James and Mary, now deceased; Thomas C.; Mrs. Cynthia Ann Irwin, who has passed away; Lucinda, the wife of Channcey Davis, of Litchfield; John B., a resident of Litchfield; and Eliza Jane, William A. and Fletcher, all three deceased.

Thomas C. Kirkland acquired his early education in an old log schoolhouse in Jersey county, Illinois. The path of learning was not a very flowery one for him. Indeed, his school privileges were quite limited, but he made good use of the few opportunities he had and through reading and observation greatly broadened his knowledge. In his youth he assisted in the



J. C. Kirkland

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operation of the home farm, and after attaining his majority began farming on his own account in Jersey county. The year 1849 witnessed his arrival in Montgomery county, where he located a land warrant, but as he had no means with which to carry on the work of improvement there he returned to Jersey county, and it was not until 1851 that he began the cultivation of his farm in Walshville township, though as a township Walshville was not then organized. He moved his family to this place, the first home being a mere "shell," the lumber of which was hauled from Alton in 1851. Mr. Kirkland hewed the house sills and other trimmings from the adjacent woods. They resided upon his first farm until 1865, when he purchased another tract of land nearby and for twenty years made it his place of residence. He then came to Litchfield township in 1885, but he still has extensive landed possessions, owning four hundred and forty-one acres in Walshville township and four hundred acres in Pitman and Zanesville townships.

On removing to this city Mr. Kirkland became a very active and influential factor in its public and business life. In connection with S. M. Grubbs and others he organized the First National Bank and has since been its vice president. He was one of the organizers of the Litchfield Water Supply Company, and its first president and is now one of its directors. He was also one of the organizers of the Litchfield Marble & Granite Company and from the beginning has been its president. He owns stock in both of the banks at Hillsboro, is one of the largest stockholders in the First National Bank of Litchfield and likewise has stock in the Mount Vernon Car Manufacturing Company. His realty possessions, including a comfortable home in Litchfield, have been won entirely through his own efforts. He has been administrator of as many estates as any man in the county and has been guardian for many children.

On the 18th of February, 1847, in Jersey county, Mr. Kirkland was married to Miss Edith Irwin, a daughter of Abijah Irwin. She was born in North Carolina and died in 1878 at the age of fifty-six years. By their

marriage there were eight children, three of whom died in infancy. The others are: Matilda Ellen, the deceased wife of William F. Davis; Sarah E., the wife of R. W. Ripley, of Waggoner; Ann E., the wife of G. W. Flint, of Raymond; John Hardin, a manufacturer of Decatur; and Mary, the widow of E. W. Dresser, of Greenville, Illinois. Mrs. Kirkland, the mother of these children, died in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which she was long a member. In August, 1885, Mr. Kirkland was again married, his second union being with Louisa J. Peal, the widow of Robert Peal, and the daughter of James Eddings, who was a farmer and came to Montgomery county in 1850, locating in North Litchfield township.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Kirkland are identified through membership relations with the Methodist Episcopal church and from his boyhood he has been active in church work, serving as steward and trustee for many years and doing all in his power to promote the various church activities. Fraternally he is associated with the Masons and politically with the Republican party. He has never sought public office yet served as supervisor from Walshville township and also from North Litchfield township. He is a man greatly beloved in the county because of his kindly spirit and many excellent traits of character and greatly esteemed for his probity. His life has been a busy and successful one, not, however, given up to self-aggrandizement, but ever dominated by the noble desire to aid and uplift his fellow men. A man sincere, upright and conscientious in word and deed he is truly one of the best citizens of Litchfield.

RILEY STEVENS.

Riley Stevens, a farmer of Pitman township, is a native of the Empire state, his birth having occurred in Madison county, New York, April 2, 1838. His father, Richard Stevens, was born in Vermont within the sight of the Green mountains, and from that state removed to Madison county, where he became acquainted with and married Abbie Reynolds,

a native of New York. It was in the county of his nativity that Riley Stevens was reared, mastering the common branches of English learning in the public schools. The west, with its developing business opportunities, attracted him when he was a young man, and in 1858 he came to Illinois, locating first in Sangamon county, where he earned his living by herding sheep. He was thus employed for five years, and he worked for one year as a regular farm hand. He afterward went to Christian county, Illinois, and there he first became a landowner, investing the money which he had saved from his earnings in one hundred and sixty acres, which was partially improved. Upon this tract he began general farming and continued the work of development and cultivation there for four years, at the end of which time he sold that property and purchased another farm of one hundred and sixty acres. This he also operated for a time, but later he rented the farm and removed to the town of Raymond, Montgomery county, where he purchased two residences. These he placed in good condition and he resided in the town for about two years, when he sold the property there and purchased his present farm on section 3, Pitman township. Locating in Farmersville, he improved a good residence property there and made it his home for a number of years, but in the spring of 1904 he took up his abode upon his farm, where he has built a good house within a mile of Farmersville. He owns two good farms, the land being rich and arable, so that it returns excellent harvests for the care and labor bestowed upon the fields. His home is commodious and attractive in appearance and everything about the place is in keeping therewith, an air of neatness and thrift pervading the entire farm.

In Springfield, Illinois, in 1862, Mr. Stevens was married to Miss Lottie Way, who was born in that city. She spent her girlhood days there and in Girard. Her father, John Way, was one of the early settlers of Illinois, who came to this state from Pennsylvania. He was a plasterer and brickmason by trade. Mr. and Mrs. Stevens are the parents of four children, of whom three are living. Annie, the wife of Gaston Buchanan, a resident of Pitman

township, died March 23, 1904, leaving four children, including twin daughters. The eldest living child is Harriet, the wife of Frank Flood, a farmer of Bois Darc township. Frank assists in the operation of the home farm. Eddy completes the family.

Mr. Stevens is a Republican who has voted for his party since casting his first presidential ballot for Abraham Lincoln. At local elections, however, he is independent, regarding only the capability of the candidate for township or county office. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Farmersville, in the work of which they take an active and helpful part, and he is now serving on the official board. His business career has been marked by untiring energy, crowned with creditable success, for he came to the west a poor man, anxious to improve his opportunities. Hard and unremitting labor gave him a start, and his economy made possible his first purchase of land, to which he has added as his financial resources have increased. He is known as a man of strict and unfaltering integrity, possessing many sterling characteristics which he inherited from his New England ancestry—a people who have ever been noted for their integrity and genuine worth.

JUDGE GEORGE R. COOPER.

Judge George R. Cooper, a member of the firm of Lane & Cooper, probably the oldest law firm of southern Illinois, has attained to a distinguished position in connection with his profession. He was born in Greencastle, Indiana, on the 25th of July, 1855. His father, Jacob R. Cooper, was a native of Maysville, Kentucky, and was of Scotch-Irish descent. He was a mechanic who learned and followed the carpenter's trade and throughout his business career commanded the respect and confidence of his fellow men. He removed from Kentucky to Indiana and became one of the influential and leading citizens of the neighborhood. A man well informed, he kept in touch with all ideas of modern progress and improvement and was the champion of every



JUDGE GEORGE R. COOPER

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measure that tended to promote the welfare of his community. Although reared in a southern state he was an ardent abolitionist and was a most consistent member of the Methodist church. He died in November, 1877, at the age of sixty-one years. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Eliza Robinson, was also a native of Kentucky and with her parents removed to Indiana, her father becoming one of the pioneer farmers of that state. Earlier generations of the family resided in Virginia. Her father was also a Methodist in religious faith and in his political views was a Republican. In 1858 Jacob R. Cooper removed with his family to Illinois, settling near Coffeen. Unto him and his wife were born six children: Sarah M. became the wife of James M. Moore, who served his country as a soldier in the Civil war and died in 1878; Mary A. became the wife of Dayton T. Miller and after his death married John Deitrick, of Greencastle, Indiana; Louisa J. became the wife of Harmon Young, a school teacher residing in Greenville, Bond county, Illinois, and her death occurred in August, 1874; William H. is a traveling salesman residing in St. Louis; George R. is the fifth of the family; and John R. is a coal miner at Coffeen, Illinois.

In the district schools George R. Cooper acquired his preliminary education, which was supplemented by study in Hillsboro Academy. He afterward engaged in teaching, following that profession for two terms in Bond county and for seven years in Fillmore township, but the profession of law attracted him and he entered the office of Rice, Miller & McDavid in 1880. He there read for about two years, teaching school in the winter months. He afterward spent a year in the office of Judge Edward Lane and was admitted to the bar in 1882. Through the succeeding winter he again engaged in teaching and then entered the office of Judge Lane, but thirty days later, entirely without his solicitation, was elected city attorney. After his first year in that office, in the spring of 1883, he formed a partnership with Judge Lane and the business connection has continued without interruption to the present time, this being probably the oldest law firm in southern Illinois. Mr. Cooper was elected

twice to the office of city attorney, was chosen to fill a vacancy in the position of county judge occasioned by the death of Judge Lewis Allen, in November, 1891, and in 1894 was chosen for the full term. He was nominated for supreme judge on the Republican ticket at Vandalia in 1901 to fill a vacancy occasioned by the death of Judge Jesse J. Phillips. He has won distinction at the bar and on the bench. A man of unimpeachable character, of strong intellectual endowments, with a thorough understanding of the law, patience, urbanity and industry, he took to the bench the very highest qualifications for this responsible position in the state government and his record as a judge has been in harmony with his record as a man and a lawyer, distinguished by unswerving integrity and a masterful grasp of every question which was presented for solution. In the private practice of law his clientage has been of a most important character and the firm of Lane & Cooper is always connected with every important litigated interest of the district. Mr. Cooper is also a director and stockholder in the Hillsboro National Bank.

On the 10th of June, 1886, occurred the marriage of George R. Cooper and Miss Nettie Ireland, a daughter of Dr. H. M. and Sarah Ireland, of Columbia City, Indiana, where Mrs. Cooper was born. Her death occurred February 24, 1887, when she was twenty-six years of age. On the 12th of December, 1894, Judge Cooper wedded Estelle S. Allen, a daughter of Professor A. P. and Josephine Allen, the latter a niece of William M. Springer. Her father is a graduate of Asbury University of Greencastle, Indiana, and had charge of the schools in Hillsboro as principal for some time. He and his family were residents of Erie, Kansas, at the time of the marriage of Judge and Mrs. Cooper. The latter was born at Sullivan, Indiana, in 1873, and was liberally educated. Judge Cooper has four children: Josephine, Lane, Mary and George R., Jr.

Both the Judge and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is identified with the Masonic fraternity, the Modern Woodmen Camp and the Business Men's Club.

In politics he is a Republican and he takes an active and helpful interest in community affairs. He was the first president of the board of education under the present law and served in that capacity for seven years, his labors being effective and greatly promoting the school interests of the city. He is also one of the trustees of his church, takes a very active part in church work and is now serving as a member of the official board. Faultless in honor, fearless in conduct and stainless in reputation, he is no less honored in public than loved in private life.

PIERSON B. UPDIKE.

Pierson B. Updike, now deceased, was identified with the business interests of Litchfield, where he made for himself an honorable name as a representative of commercial interests. He was born near Trenton, New Jersey, July 14, 1834, and in his early boyhood days was brought by his parents to Illinois, where he was reared to manhood and acquired his education. After arriving at years of maturity he was married in Woodburn, Macoupin county, Illinois, on the 23d of October, 1856, to Miss Estella Opdyke, who was of Holland lineage and there was a distant relationship between the Updike and Opdyke families. They became the parents of two children: Ella E., the wife of G. L. Settlementire, by whom she has two sons, David P. and Wilbur Lynn, aged respectively twenty-three and twenty years; and Mrs. Cora May Cratty.

Pierson B. Updike became a resident of Litchfield in 1864 and through more than thirty years was connected with its commercial interests as a dealer in machinery and hardware. His patronage steadily increased and he continued in the business until a couple of years prior to his death, which occurred on the 28th of November, 1896. During the last two years of his life succeeding the dissolution of his hardware business he was receiver for the Litchfield Car and Machine Company and this position he was ably filling at the time of his demise. He was always straightforward and honorable in his dealing and his reputation in commercial circles was unassailable. Mr. Up-

dike also took an active and helpful part in community interests and his public spirit was manifest in tangible way through his capable service as mayor of the city. He was three times called to that office and his administration of municipal affairs was at once business-like, practical and progressive. He introduced needed reforms and promoted various improvements and the city benefited by his efforts. He gave his political allegiance to the Democratic party for many years, but in 1897 voted for William McKinley and was thereafter prominent in political circles until his demise. He was a member of the state legislature from 1891 to 1893.

Mr. Updike was a prominent Mason and had received the honors of the thirty-second degree. A Presbyterian in his religious faith he held membership in the church of that denomination in Litchfield, took a very active and helpful part in its work and was superintendent of its Sunday-school for many years. His life record covered sixty-three years and was filled with good deeds, with successful accomplishment in business and with loyalty and honor in citizenship. Mrs. Updike is a lady of strong intellectual qualities, broad-minded and cultured and has a very large circle of friends in Litchfield, where she still makes her home.

SAMUEL L. CRATTY.

Samuel L. Cratty, who was classed with Litchfield's prominent citizens, was born April 17, 1858 near Walshville, Illinois, and his life was passed upon a farm in that locality and also near Sorento, Illinois. He remained in the latter neighborhood until his removal to Litchfield in the fall of 1880. He acquired his education in the public schools and following his removal to Litchfield he entered the employ of Pierson B. Updike in his hardware and machinery store. In 1896 after long and faithful service with Mr. Updike he became connected with the Mundy-Settlementire Company, grain merchants, and he also extended his efforts to another line of business activity by becoming a member of the firm of Rose & Cratty, insurance agents. Throughout his business

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R. B. Mydike



SAMUEL L. CRATTY

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career his industry and perseverance were numbered among his salient characteristics and led to a gratifying measure of success.

On the 17th of March, 1886, Mr. Cratty was united in marriage to Miss May Updike, and they became the parents of two children: Fay and Grace, aged respectively seventeen and fifteen years.

In his political views Mr. Cratty was a stalwart Republican, having firm faith in the principles of the party. He was popular with his fellow townsmen because of his genuine worth, social nature and unfailing courtesy, and when he died on the 16th of May, 1899, his death was deeply deplored by many friends as well as his immediate family. He died very suddenly and not long after the death of Mr. Updike and his loss thus came particularly hard upon his wife, who had so recently lost her father. Mrs. Cratty was educated in the Litchfield high school and occupies an enviable position in social circles where true worth and intelligence are received as passports into good society. She is a very earnest worker in the Sunday-school, a most capable teacher and also assists in various departments of the church activities. She now lives with her mother in a beautiful and commodious brick residence at No. 523 Union avenue.

D. W. NEISLER.

D. W. Neisler, conducting a well improved farm on section 27, Witt township, where he not only engages in the tilling of the soil but also in the raising of stock, was born in Irving township, October 21, 1846. He is a son of Henry Milton and Elizabeth E. (Lipe) Neisler, who were natives of Knox county, North Carolina. The father was a millwright by trade and, thinking that he might have better business opportunities in the new and growing west, he came to Irving township, Montgomery county, about 1832. Few improvements had been made here, the work of progress and civilization being scarcely begun, but with characteristic energy he began the development of a farm, securing his land from the government. Not a furrow had been turned

or an improvement made thereon, but with characteristic energy he undertook the task of breaking the fields and planting the crops. For many years he successfully carried on agricultural pursuits, and at length his life's labors were ended in death on the 23d of August, 1881. His widow later became the wife of Joseph Davis, now deceased, and she resides in Irving.

D. W. Neisler was educated in the common schools of Montgomery county. He early became familiar with all of the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist, working in field and meadow through the months of summer, while in the winter seasons he mastered the branches of learning taught in the public schools. At the age of twenty-one years he began farming on his own account, settling where he now lives. He had eighty acres of land, which was then raw prairie, and he has since made all of the improvements upon the place, building fences, planting trees, erecting buildings and tilling the soil. He now has a fine orchard of eight acres, and his fields are producing excellent crops. He also has good grades of stock upon his place.

On the 2d of December, 1875, Mr. Neisler was united in marriage to Miss Ora E. Knodle, a daughter of George and Margaret (Spielman) Knodle, both of whom were natives of Maryland, whence they removed to Ogle county, Illinois, in 1857. They came to Montgomery county in the spring of 1864, locating at Hillsboro, and Mr. Knodle purchased land in Witt township. He was identified with farming interests for a number of years, but is now living retired on his farm in the enjoyment of a well earned rest. He is one of the most venerable men of the community, having reached the age of ninety-two years on the 10th of April, 1904. His wife is now deceased.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Neisler has been blessed with eight children: Oscar L., born August 28, 1876, is a machinist with the Lake Shore Railroad and is located in Chicago; Henry D., born July 31, 1878, died on the 28th of July, 1896; Guy K., born January 2, 1882; Milton Earl, born December 17, 1883; George A., born September 16, 1885; Ira E.,

born March 1, 1888; Walter L., born December 8, 1889; and Edgar Lee, born December 20, 1893, are all at home. Mr. and Mrs. Neisler are identified with the Lutheran church through membership relations, and he is a member of the school board, on which he has served for a number of years, the cause of education finding in him a warm friend. His political affiliation is with the Democratic party, and, keeping well informed on the questions and issues of the day, he is enabled to support his position by intelligent argument.

WILLIAM RILEY BLACKWELDER.

William Riley Blackwelder, a retired farmer living in Litchfield, is numbered among Montgomery county's native sons, his birth having occurred July 28, 1810, upon his father's farm ten miles southwest of Hillsboro. He is a son of Alfred and Joanna (Scherer) Blackwelder, the latter a daughter of Frederick Scherer, a farmer of German descent. The father, Alfred Blackwelder, was born in Cabarrus county, North Carolina, July 17, 1811, and was also of German lineage, and his wife was a native of the same state. In April, 1838, he became a resident of Illinois and began working for Judge Rountree at ten dollars per month, being thus employed for three years. When he arrived in Illinois he owned a small sorrel horse and had ten dollars in money. Though poor, he possessed a courageous spirit and ever made the most of his opportunities. On the 19th of April, 1837, he was married to Miss Joanna Scherer, and later he rented land, on which he lived until 1840, when he purchased eighty acres, on which he built a house, making that place his home for sixteen years. He then sold out and bought two hundred and forty acres, a part of which is now within the corporation limits of Litchfield. He afterward added one hundred and eighty acres to his tract, so that his landed possessions comprised four hundred and eighty acres in all. This is now highly improved land, constituting one of the valuable farms of the county. Mr. Blackwelder continued in the active management

and cultivation of the farm until 1878, when he retired to private life.

Unto him and his wife were born twelve children, of whom four died in early childhood, while the others, who are yet living, are residents of Montgomery county and are identified with farming interests here. These are: Daniel M.; William R.; Minerva C., who is the wife of Robert Morrison; Jacob Francis; David Alexander; John M.; Harriet Louise, the wife of Gideon Davis; and Samuel R.

Alfred Blackwelder was a member of the Lutheran church and came of a family long identified with that denomination, the representatives of the name in different generations being of a deeply religious nature. He, too, took a very active and helpful part in church work and filled various offices in the church through more than a half century. His political allegiance was always given to the Democratic party. His wife died January 31, 1876, when more than sixty years of age, and after a happy married life of forty years. His death occurred in 1900, when he was about eighty-six years of age. He was one of the venerable citizens of the county and an honored pioneer resident who, casting in his lot with the early settlers, took an active part in laying broad and deep the foundation for the present development and progress of this part of the state.

William Riley Blackwelder obtained his education in the common schools and remained under the parental roof until after the inauguration of the Civil war, when, in August, 1862, he enlisted in Company A, Ninety-first Illinois Infantry, with which he served for about three years, being mustered out in July, 1865. He was promoted from the rank of third sergeant to orderly sergeant and commissioned brevet lieutenant in 1865. He served under Canby at the capture of Fort Hudson and Fort Blakeley. On the 28th of December, 1863, at Elizabethtown, Kentucky, he was captured by General Morgan's troops and was later paroled and sent to St. Louis, Missouri, where he was exchanged in June, 1864, after which he returned to active service. He was wounded at the battle of Morgauza and he participated in the battles of Mobile, Spanish Fort

and Fort Blakeley. He was a war Democrat, advocating the cause of the Democracy, yet at the same time being an unfaltering supporter of the Union cause.

On the 1st of December, 1865, not long after his return from the army, Mr. Blackwelder was married to Miss Mary Jane Fogleman, and they became the parents of seven children: Ira Ulysses, who was named in honor of General Grant, was born September 25, 1866, and is engaged in business as a dealer in agricultural implements in Raymond, where, having been married, he maintains his home. Eva J., born November 19, 1867, is the wife of J. W. McCowan, of Kansas City, Missouri, and they have two children. Julius A., born February 21, 1869, is married and resides upon his father's farm. He has five children. Amanda R., born December 3, 1872, is the wife of Frank Stuttle and resides near Raymond. John W., born March 19, 1874, is a coal miner of Raymond, and is married and has two children. Annie M., born December 3, 1872, died at the age of twenty-one. Nellie H., born December 23, 1876, died December 24, 1890. The children have been provided with excellent educational privileges, and Ira, Eva and Rosa were students in the Indiana Normal School at Valparaiso and were successful school teachers. For his second wife Mr. Blackwelder chose Amanda E. Fogleman, a sister of his first wife, their marriage being celebrated August 6, 1878. They had three children: Mary E., who was born March 23, 1882, and died June 22, 1883; Ella M., who was born January 10, 1884, and died February 16, 1893; and Bertha F., born October 5, 1886. The youngest daughter will graduate from the high school of Litchfield in the class of 1905.

Mr. Blackwelder is a member of the English Lutheran church, takes a most active part in its work and is now a teacher in the Sunday-school. The cause of education also finds in him a warm friend, and he does all in his power to advance its interests. Public spirited, he has ably supported many measures for the general good, and his efforts in behalf of public progress and improvement have been far-reaching and effective. His business career has been attended with success, and he still

owns a farm of one hundred and twenty acres, which is in excellent condition, the land being well tilled. He also raised good stock and his business affairs were capably conducted. He is now a stockholder in the First National Bank of Raymond. Throughout his entire life he has been known as a man of integrity and unfaltering honor, and in his business dealings is always straightforward and reliable; in fact, his religion is manifest in his everyday life and is a motive power in his kindly and just treatment of his fellow men.

JESSE S. GRIFFIN.

No history of Nokomis would be complete without mention of Jesse S. Griffin, who is one of its leading merchants. In his business career he has always displayed qualities which ever command respect and secure patronage. He was born March 6, 1865, in Morgan county, Illinois, a son of E. and Sarah Griffin, both of whom were natives of England, the father's birth occurring in Devonshire in 1828, while the mother was born in Huntingdonshire. They came to America in 1850 and finally settled in Illinois, the father being a merchant of Morgan county for many years. He passed away in 1878 and his widow now resides with our subject in Nokomis, occupying a beautiful home in the western part of the town. In the family were ten children, of whom five are still living, Jesse S. and Alf being residents of Montgomery county.

Jesse S. Griffin, however, spent his boyhood days in Morgan county, assisting his father in business. In the summer of 1879 he came to Nokomis and found employment with J. W. Russell. Later he accepted a position in the dry goods store of A. F. Weaver, with whom he remained until 1885, when the firm of Griffin Brothers was organized, succeeding to the ownership of the store formerly the property of the firm of Bliss & Griffin. The new firm consisted of Alf and Jesse S. Griffin, who carried on the business together until 1898, when the latter purchased his brother's interest and has since continued alone in trade. He is now sole proprietor of one of the largest

and most elaborate modern mercantile establishments in southern Illinois, carrying an extensive line of hardware, queensware, guns, furniture, buggies, etc. The building occupied by him is built of brick, is two stories in height and fifty by one hundred feet in dimensions. Besides this there is a warehouse two stories in height and twenty by seventy feet, so that the entire establishment covers a total of twelve thousand square feet. Every foot of space is occupied and the store is specially arranged with reference to the convenient handling of a large and complete stock. Mr. Griffin has been at his present location for nineteen years and his name is inseparably connected with the business interests of Nokomis, for he has contributed in a large measure to the commercial prosperity and development of the town.

Politically Mr. Griffin is a Democrat and is the Montgomery county member of the Democratic congressional committee of the twenty-first district of Illinois, of which committee he is now serving as secretary. He is also a member of the county central committee, of which he has been secretary and treasurer and is now serving for the second term as its chairman.

C. F. EDWARDS.

C. F. Edwards, who has been closely associated with the business development of Montgomery county through agricultural and financial interests, and who has also figured in public affairs as the promoter of many measures for the general good, is now engaged in banking in Coffeen. He was born November 4, 1856, in East Fork township, Montgomery county, his parents being James A. and Christina T. Edwards. His father was born in 1818 in North Carolina and was the son of Thomas Edwards. In the state of his nativity he was reared and educated, and when a young man he came to Montgomery county, Illinois, and purchased land here, Thomas Edwards being among the early settlers of this portion of the state. From that time forward members of the family have borne an active and helpful

part in the work of general improvement and upbuilding. Thomas Edwards continued as a farm resident of Montgomery county until his death, which occurred in 1857.

James Allen Edwards continued farming in this county from the time of his arrival until his demise. He was married in 1848 to Miss Christina T. Cannon, a daughter of William Cannon, and they became the parents of ten children, of whom nine are living: William T., of East Fork township; Margaret, who died in infancy; John W., also of East Fork township; Julia F., who is the widow of John W. Major; Mary T., who is the wife of Joseph A. Hanner; C. F.; Samuel H., of Coffeen; Amos R., of East Fork township; Ida, who married William A. Boyd, of East Fork; and James A., also of East Fork. The father died in 1867 and was buried at Edwards Chapel, which was named in honor of his grandfather, who gave the land upon which the church was built. James A. Edwards was deeply interested in all that pertained to the welfare of his community and was a co-operant factor in many measures for the general good. At the same time he conducted important and extensive business interests, becoming one of the leading landowners of the county, having at the time of his death bought nine hundred acres. In his political affiliation he was a Democrat, taking an active interest in politics and keeping well informed on the questions of the day. His barn was the voting place of his district. After the death of her husband Mrs. James A. Edwards remained upon the home farm until her children were married and then removed to Coffeen, where she is now living.

C. F. Edwards was reared to farm life and acquired his education in the public schools, while in the summer months he assisted in the labors of field and meadow. When twenty-one years of age he began farming for himself on land which he inherited from his father. After his marriage he settled upon a farm of one hundred and sixty acres and there carried on agricultural pursuits with good success for about eight years. In 1888 he removed to Coffeen, where he purchased a lumber yard, which he conducted with profit for ten years, having a very extensive patronage and thereby



C. F. EDWARDS

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realizing a good return from his investments and his labors. In 1898, however, he sold the lumber yard. He was secretary of the Building & Loan Association for nine years, and in 1900 he built a bank, and has since conducted a private bank, which has become the leading financial institution of the township. He still owns his farm, which is now rented. After removing to Coffeen he built a nice residence, which he occupies, and he is classed with the substantial citizens of his community.

When twenty-four years of age Mr. Edwards was united in marriage to Miss Catherine J. Nichols, a daughter of Gordon Nichols, of East Fork township. Her father was born in Kentucky, July 3, 1826, and with his parents removed to Indiana, where he was reared. He became a resident of East Fork township, Montgomery county, in 1857, and made for himself a place among the substantial farmers of the community, becoming the owner of four hundred acres of rich and valuable land. At length he retired from active farming pursuits and in 1893 removed to Coffeen, where he spent his remaining days, his death occurring on the 6th of March, 1901. He was married in 1848 to Miss Jemima E. Robinson, of Greencastle, Indiana, who is now living in Coffeen. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Edwards has been blessed with eight children, of whom six are now living: Clarence L., Harvey C., Lester Franklin, Floyd Springer, Russell Wayne and Chauncey J., all of whom are at home. Rosetta and Grove Allen, the second and third members of the family, died in infancy.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwards belong to the Methodist church, he having become identified with the Edwards Chapel prior to his marriage and served in church offices since his removal to Coffeen, and he is deeply interested in the various church activities, contributing generously to their support and doing all in his power for their upbuilding. In politics he is a Democrat with accurate information concerning political questions, conditions and issues, and the important service which he has rendered his party led to his selection for a delegate to the state convention held in Springfield in 1901. He was a member of the first

town board of Coffeen and is now filling that position, although his service has not been continuous. He has been particularly active in opposition to the saloons, doing all in his power to promote temperance sentiment here. There were only a few houses in Coffeen when he removed to the town, and he has been a very important factor in the upbuilding of the place. He is quick to recognize and take advantage of opportunities for the public welfare, as well as his individual business interests, and his career has been marked by steady progression and characterized by the development of a life history which commands uniform respect and esteem.

GEORGE WILLIAM PAISLEY.

George William Paisley, a representative business man of Montgomery county, who at the head of the Montgomery Coal Company is now controlling one of the important productive industries of this section of the state, was born and reared within the borders of the county and obtained his early education in the country schools. Later he attended for three short terms the Hillsboro Academy and then put aside his textbooks to take up the active work of the farm. At a later date, however, he put aside agricultural pursuits and entered upon a three years' service in the Civil war as a member of an Illinois regiment. He did his full duty as a soldier, and when hostilities had ceased returned to his home.

After the war Mr. Paisley took up the study of law and for a time served as county surveyor of Montgomery county, while later he engaged in the publication of a newspaper. He has always been a man of much activity in both business life and in connection with public affairs, and from 1881 until 1883 he was a member of the lower house of the Illinois legislature. In 1892 he was chosen to represent his district in the state senate, of which he continued a member for four years. During President Cleveland's first administration he was connected with the interior department of the government and had charge of the land offices and surveyor general's offices in the

states of Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida. He is at present engaged in the mining and production of coal at Paisley, where there is a very rich vein of bituminous coal. The Montgomery Coal Company, the corporation with which Mr. Paisley is connected, was chartered July, 1895, and the first shaft was commenced in the fall of the same year, while on the 4th of July, 1896, coal was struck. The output is now extensive and the business profitable.

J. A. HAMPTON.

J. A. Hampton, a retired minister, now residing on his farm on section 21, East Fork township, was formerly closely connected with agricultural interests in Montgomery county, and his unfaltering purpose and strong determination in the face of obstacles and opposition enabled him to gradually advance upon the high road to success. He was born in East Fork township, November 2, 1835, and is a son of William R. and Nancy A. (Williams) Hampton. In the maternal line he is a representative of one of the oldest families of the country, for the Williams home was established in this portion of the state in 1818. W. R. Hampton was born in Kentucky in 1814, and his wife in the same state in 1816. He was twenty-one years of age when he came to Illinois, and here he met and married Miss Williams. He was a farmer by occupation, devoting his entire life to the tilling of the soil, and through his perseverance and energy he was enabled to provide a comfortable living for his family, save them many of the hardships and trials of pioneer life had to be met. His death occurred about 1892, and thus passed away one who had long been associated with the agricultural development of Montgomery county.

J. A. Hampton commenced his education in the old log schoolhouse in East Fork township, which was one of the pioneer structures of the community. There were no glass windows, but a log had been removed from one side of the building and covered with greased paper, so

that light was admitted to the room in that way. There was a wooden chimney and all the furnishings were very primitive. The methods of instruction also were rather crude as compared with the advanced methods of the present day, but Mr. Hampton laid the foundation for a good practical knowledge, which he has supplemented by experience, reading and observation in later years. He started out for himself at the age of twenty years as a farmer, and made the tilling of the soil his life work, although he has given his time and energies to a considerable extent to the labors of the church. In early manhood he began studying for the ministry, and while working at farm labor he would frequently take his books into the field with him. He received his license to preach when twenty-one years of age and became a local minister, preaching on Sunday while continuing at farm labor through the week. He was a local preacher for ten years, and afterward spent thirty years in connection with the southern Illinois conference. On the expiration of that period he entered upon supernumerary relations with the ministry. He never ceased to conduct his farming interests, and although he started out for himself empty-handed he gradually worked his way upward, adding to his capital, and he now owns about four hundred acres of land. At the present time he is residing on his farm, which his son operates.

At the time of the Civil war J. A. Hampton put aside all business and personal considerations and with patriotic spirit enlisted in Company B, One Hundred and Seventeenth Illinois Infantry. He participated in the Red River campaign and in the battle of Nashville, was also in the fighting at Mobile at the close of the war and, though often exposed to the fire of the enemy, he was never wounded. He was, however, in the hospital because of illness during the last year of his service, and in 1865, following the close of the war, he was mustered out.

Mr. Hampton was married in October, 1855, to Miss Jane Desart, a daughter of George Desart. She was reared in Edgar county, and by her marriage became the mother of eight children, and only two are now living: George



MRS. J. A. HAMPTON



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W., a resident of Bond county; and John M., who is living upon the homestead farm. Both Mr. and Mrs. Hampton held membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and lived earnest, consistent, Christian lives. He cast his first presidential ballot for John C. Fremont, the first candidate of the Republican party, and continued one of its supporters for many years, but is now a Prohibitionist. He formerly belonged to the Masonic fraternity and is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

He has for many years—in fact, during the entire period of his life—been a resident of Montgomery county, and has therefore witnessed many of its changes as it has left behind it the conditions of pioneer life and has emerged into an advanced civilization. His mother's family particularly, was one of the oldest of the county, and his mother lived here when the Indians were still very numerous in the locality. The rise of ground upon which the farmhouse is now located was at one time the site of an Indian camp. Mr. Hampton made all of the improvements upon his farm. He secured a tract of land which was uncultivated and unimproved. There were no fences upon the place, and over the wild prairie roamed deer and wolves, but with characteristic energy Mr. Hampton began the development of his property and in the course of time reaped good harvests as the reward of his labors. His life has been, indeed, an active, busy, useful and honorable one, and over the record of his entire career there falls no shadow of wrong or suspicion of evil.

John M. Hampton, who is now operating the home farm, was born in East Fork township and supplemented his educational privileges by a course of study in the McKendree College at Lebanon, Illinois. He there pursued a law course and was graduated with the class of 1892. Subsequently he published a newspaper and practiced law in Gillespie, Illinois. His health then became poor, and he went south. After returning to Illinois he resumed the practice of law and published a paper at Cerro Gordo, Illinois, but once more his health failed and again he traveled south and through the west, visiting both Mexico and California.

About a year ago, however, he again came to Montgomery county and settled upon his father's farm, where he now lives. He is an enterprising, progressive man, making the most of his opportunities and in the control of his business interests is displaying excellent ability and enterprise.

In November, 1903, Mr. Hampton was united in marriage to Miss Eva Merriwether, a daughter of James Merriwether, of Macoupin county. His wife belongs to the Presbyterian church. Mr. Hampton is identified with the Knights of Pythias fraternity and with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and his political allegiance is given to the Republican party. He is a worthy representative of a family that has long stood for progress and improvement along material, social, intellectual and moral lines and like his honored father deserves mention in this volume.

WILLIAM VAN HOOSER.

William Van Hooser, whose upright life causes his memory to be cherished by all who knew him, was born in Madison county, Illinois, October 1, 1816, his parents being Abraham and Nancy (Howard) Van Hooser, who were pioneer settlers of Madison county. The father was a farmer by occupation and owned land near Collinsville, where he resided for many years, his death occurring on the homestead farm there. In the family were twelve children, seven sons and five daughters, of whom William Van Hooser was the fourth in order of birth and he was the last survivor of the family.

In the district schools, such as were common at that period, William Van Hooser acquired his education. The little temple of learning was a log structure and the methods of instruction were equally primitive. He, however, had the privilege of attending not more than three months in the year, but he made good use of his opportunities during that time. The remainder of the year was devoted to farm work, and he early became familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. His father gave him a

farm in Madison county of eighty acres, which he sold in December, 1859, and then removed to the vicinity of Staunton Station, where he resided for sixteen years. He also lived for two years near Troy, Illinois, and on taking up his abode near Nokomis he purchased eighty acres of land. He eventually moved to Nokomis, where occurred his death in 1894. He successfully conducted his agricultural interests, placing his land under a high state of cultivation, and when invention brought upon the market new and improved machinery he purchased the better farm implements and thus facilitated his work. He was a man of progressive spirit and everything about his place was neat and thrifty in appearance.

On the 2d of February, 1840, Mr. Van Hooser was married to Miss Jane Hawks, a daughter of Drury and Mary Hawks. Mrs. Van Hooser was born in Grayson county, Virginia, was taken in early childhood to eastern Tennessee, and when quite young came with her widowed mother to Illinois, arriving in 1838, at which time the family home was established near Troy, in Madison county. There her mother died in 1854. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Van Hooser were born two children: Martha Jane, who died at the age of three months; and Mary, who died at the age of twenty years. She was married when nineteen years of age to Isaac Wilson, who now resides near Nokomis. There was one daughter by this marriage, Martha J., now deceased.

In his political views Mr. Van Hooser was a staunch Republican from the time of the organization of the party until his death. He was a member of the Christian church and for more than sixty years was a representative of its ministry. He put forth every effort in his power to advance the cause of Christianity and upbuild his church in his locality, and his influence was widely felt. A kindly spirit and sympathetic nature had endeared him to all with whom he came in contact, and his memory is cherished by those who knew him. He died in the year 1894 and his remains were interred in Nokomis cemetery. Mrs. Van Hooser still survives her husband. He sold the farm before his death, and his widow is living in Nokomis, occupying a pleasant home,

and by reason of his industry she was left in comfortable financial circumstances. She has been a devoted member of the Christian church for sixty-four years and her Christian life furnishes an example that is indeed well worthy of emulation.

WILLIAM A. YOUNG.

William A. Young is a native son of Montgomery county, his birth having occurred in Grisham township, one mile west of Donnellson, on the 20th day of August, 1836. Within the borders of his native county he has lived and labored, being one of the representative farmers and leading horticulturists in this part of the state. His father, William Young, came to Montgomery county in 1830, having been born and reared in Maury county, Tennessee, near Columbia. The journey to Illinois was made on horseback, and after remaining a short time he purchased a claim on forty acres of land, which had a pioneer's log cabin built on it and a few acres under cultivation. On March 12, 1832, he was married to Jane C. Paisley, of Montgomery county, who was born and reared in Guilford county, North Carolina. Soon afterward William Young volunteered for service in the Black Hawk war in 1831 as a member of Captain Rountree's company, and when hostilities had ceased he returned and entered the forty acres on which he had previously purchased the little improvements with his savings while in the service. He bought a team of muley oxen and made for himself a wagon with wooden axle and wooden wheels, on which he did all of his hauling for a number of years. As the years passed he prospered, adding continually to his landed possessions as financial resources permitted until he was the owner of about fourteen hundred acres of farm land. He served twelve years as justice of the peace, and in 1854 he was elected as representative to the state legislature from the counties of Montgomery, Bond and Clinton. He strongly advocated the Democratic principles as set forth by Andrew Jackson, for whom he cast his first vote for president.

There were born to William and Jane C. Young nine children, namely: James J., who



WILLIAM A. YOUNG

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was a practicing physician in Fremont county, Iowa, for twenty years and is now deceased; John W., who died near Donnellson, Illinois, in 1899; Harriett E., who became the wife of William J. McCulach and died May 22, 1904; Sarah J., who married H. M. Powell, of Taylorville, Illinois, and died in 1870; Samuel, who was cashier of the Haskell, Harris & Company Bank and died in 1881; and three who died in infancy.

William A. Young, whose name introduces this record, is the only survivor of the nine children. In his boyhood days he worked on his father's farm in summer, and in the winter attended the subscription schools and afterward continued his education in the public schools, which had been organized in the meantime. When nineteen years of age he entered the Hillsboro Academy, in which he spent one year and afterward engaged in teaching for a year. In 1858 he entered McKendree College and remained for two years. In 1860 he read law one year in the office of the late James M. Davis, of Hillsboro. On the 14th of July, 1861, he enlisted for service in the Civil war, becoming quartermaster sergeant of Company E, First Regiment of Illinois Cavalry. He served in Fremont's campaign in Missouri until the surrender of Colonel Mulligan to General Price at Lexington, Missouri, September 20, 1861. In 1862 he resumed his studies at McKendree College and was graduated with the class of that year. In December, 1862, he was appointed deputy sheriff, which position he filled with entire satisfaction for two years, and in 1864 he received the nomination and was elected to the office of sheriff of Montgomery county by over six hundred majority.

After the expiration of his term of office as sheriff and ex-officio collector of Montgomery county, William A. Young was united in marriage, November 28, 1866, to Miss Mary E. Ware, daughter of Obadiah Ware. The following summer the young couple moved to the farm, where he at present resides. On January 1, 1870, the wife and mother was called from this life, leaving two sons: Anthony O., who was born December 25, 1868, and is now a leading physician in St. Louis; and William A., Jr., who was born November 9, 1869, and

is practicing medicine with marked success in Springfield, Illinois. In 1871 our subject took as his second wife Miss Sarah Muenscher, of Mount Vernon, Ohio, who died in 1898, leaving four children, who are named as follows: Frederica, Cornelia, Charles and Eunice.

At a meeting of the State Board of Agriculture, in 1892, Mr. Young was elected vice president of that society for the seventeenth congressional district and served ten years, being re-elected four times to succeed himself. While a member of the Board of Agriculture he was appointed as superintendent of the Illinois exhibit in the national agricultural building at the Columbian Exposition at Chicago, in 1893. Later he served three years as superintendent of the swine department and six years as superintendent of the horticultural department of the State Fair at Springfield. It was through his vote and influence that the State Fair was permanently located at Springfield, and he was appointed on the committee to lay out the grounds and locate the buildings. For more than twenty years Mr. Young was associated with the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair Association, and served continuously as superintendent and director and three years as president of the society. He was one of the organizers of the County Farmers' Institute and was elected and served for three years as president of that organization. At this time he is an active member of the Illinois State Horticultural Society and Alton Horticultural Society, and is often called upon to give a talk and read a paper on horticultural topics before different county institutes.

His farm is located one mile north and one mile east of Butler, in Butler Grove township, and upon this he is engaged in breeding and raising fine stock, always procuring the best blood obtainable to raise from. He is, perhaps, better known as a horticulturist and fruit-raiser. From his boyhood he has loved trees, fruits, birds and flowers, and the study of nature is ever a fascinating and interesting pastime to him. About a quarter of a century ago he attended a meeting of the Horticultural Society at Alton, Illinois, and the beautiful apples and other fruit on display were a revelation to him and aroused his ambition, and he

said to himself, Why can not I produce equally as fine fruit? Going home, he read and drank in everything he could obtain pertaining to the culture of fruit; bought textbooks; read papers; and secured official reports on the subject. This theory he put into practice, and by experimenting and using good judgment has succeeded in producing fruit that has not only carried off many prizes at the state fairs and horticultural meetings, but his fruit was also awarded eight gold and two silver medals at the great Paris Exposition in 1900. At the Pan-American Exposition, at Buffalo, in 1901, he was awarded a gold medal on apples and peaches. He prepared and shipped twelve barrels of apples to the Paris Exposition which were on exhibition from May until November, and because of the size, shape and color and fine flavor of the fruit it attracted wide attention and made Illinois apples famous over western Europe. It is largely due to the efforts of Mr. Young that the attention of fruit growers has been attracted to Montgomery county as an apple-producing region, and thousands of dollars have come to the county annually to pay for fruit through the advertising which he has given to them. In this work he has been eminently successful and has earned the respect and gratitude of all fruit growers in the county. Mr. Young is an enthusiast upon the subject of forestry and thinks that the growing of timber for fuel and lumber will be a profitable industry in this country in the future, and thinks it an excellent field for a young man to engage in. He has more than fifty varieties of native and foreign trees growing on his grounds.

On the 31st day of August, 1899, Mr. Young was married to Mrs. Emma J. Whitling, of Kansas City, Missouri, whose maiden name was Critchlow and who was born in McKeesport, Allegheny county, Pennsylvania. Her parents, Daniel G. and Emma J. Critchlow, emigrated to Illinois when she was two and a half years old and settled at Caseyville, Illinois. At the breaking out of the Civil war Mr. Critchlow enlisted in the service in Company E, Second Illinois Cavalry, and was at the siege of Vicksburg, where he died the day after the surrender, leaving a widow and four

children. In 1867 Mrs. Critchlow, with her daughter, Emma J., moved to Kansas City, Missouri, the other three sisters being married and living at Summerfield, Illinois, afterward moving to Kansas City. Mrs. Young, who had resided in Kansas City for thirty-four years, had witnessed the phenomenal growth of that place from a small steamboat landing on the Missouri river to the great metropolitan city it is to-day. Mr. and Mrs. Young have a very pleasant home and are always delighted to entertain their many friends and visitors. "The latch-string always hangs out."

Socially Mr. Young is a member of the order of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons and Royal Arch chapter of Hillsboro, and in politics is a strong adherent to the Democratic doctrines as taught by Thomas Jefferson. He is well known in Montgomery and adjoining counties as one of its most enterprising and progressive men, and he belongs to that class of typical American citizens who, while advancing their individual prosperity, also contribute to the general welfare of their fellow men.

ISAAC A. MILNER.

Isaac A. Milner, deceased, represented one of the old and honored pioneer families of Montgomery county. A native of Illinois, he was born in Edgar county, June 11, 1843, and was a son of Robert and Mary (Desart) Milner, both of whom were born in Kentucky, the former April 17, 1817, and the latter December 14, 1822. At an early day Robert Milner came to Illinois and first settled in Paris, but afterward removed to Montgomery county, where he owned some good farming property. His first wife died in 1864 and he subsequently married Mrs. Emily (Martin Brown) Desart, whose death occurred in 1887. He died in 1881. Religiously he was a member of the Baptist church and politically was identified with the Republican party. In his family were eight children, all of whom are now deceased.

During his boyhood Isaac A. Milner pursued his studies in a log school house at Walnut Grove and when not in school he worked on the



MR. AND MRS. I. A. MILNER



W. A. MILNER



MRS. W. A. MILNER



MR. AND MRS. AARON HAWKINS

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farm, early acquiring an excellent knowledge of agricultural pursuits. At the time of the Civil war he enlisted at Decatur, Macon county, in 1864, as a private in the First Illinois Cavalry, but was afterward promoted to corporal, and remained in the service until hostilities ceased. He then returned to Montgomery county and engaged in farming upon land which his father had given him. He purchased additional property in East Fork township and engaged in its operation up to the time of his death, which occurred November 6, 1879, his remains being interred in Elm Point cemetery, Bond county.

Mr. Milner was married December 28, 1865, near Hillsboro, to Miss Emma J. Frame, who was born near Coffeen, in East Fork township, September 4, 1847. Her father, Robert T. Frame, was born near Dayton, Ohio, in December, 1819, and at an early day came with his parents to Montgomery county. He accumulated considerable property. In politics he was a Republican, but never desired office, and in religious connection he was a member of of the Cumberland Presbyterian church. He died in February, 1879. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Cyrena McCaslin, was born in Kentucky, December 8, 1822, and is still living, her home being near McCune, Crawford county, Kansas. In their family were nine children, five sons and four daughters, of whom all are living with the exception of Maggie.

By his ballot Mr. Milner supported the Republican party and was called upon to fill several local offices. While advancing his individual interests he also aided in promoting the public welfare through hearty co-operation in many measures and movements for the general good.

W. A. MILNER.

W. A. Milner was born on the old homestead farm in East Fork township, September 4, 1873, a son of L. A. and Emily J. (Frame) Milner. In his early boyhood days he pursued his education under the instruction of J. L. Traylor, and when a youth of eighteen years

he started out in life on his own account. However, in the meantime, when a lad of only twelve years, he had been a most able assistant to his mother in the management and care of the old home farm and to her gave the benefit of his services until about twenty years of age. He had perhaps more advantages than some and less than others, but at all times he realized that labor is the basis of all true and desirable success and because of this he has worked steadily and persistently to acquire a competence and his efforts have been rewarded, for he is now one of the substantial citizens of his community.

On October 17, 1894, Mr. Milner was united in marriage to Miss Alma Hawkins, a daughter of Aaron and Julia (Miller) Hawkins, of East Fork township, and they now have three children: Mary Eva, Julia E. and Isaac A. Mr. Milner belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity at Coffeen and in politics he is a Republican, but has never sought or desired office, preferring to give his attention to his business affairs, which are now bringing to him a very gratifying financial return. He is raising stock of all kinds for the market and makes his own shipments. He has now two hundred and seventy-five acres of valuable land. He learned farming through experience and in his labors he has displayed not only practical knowledge but excellent business ability. He built all of the fences upon his place and made all of the improvements and now has a splendid residence, commodious barns and substantial outbuildings. He had no farm implements when he started out and in fact his capital was extremely limited. For sometime he rented land and was then enabled to purchase one hundred and forty acres, but as the years advanced his work resulted in bringing to him a very gratifying prosperity. In addition to general farming he began raising stock and has raised some excellent mules and has owned some high-bred horses. He at one time handled Illinois Boy, the highest price horse in the county, it being owned by his uncle. He also raises good draft horses and fat stock produced on his farm is a guarantee of its high grade. He is yet a young man, but has already won a prosperity that many an

older farmer might well envy, and undoubtedly greater success awaits him in the future.

WILLIAM S. CRESS.

William S. Cress was born on the farm where he now lives in Butler Grove township, his natal day being February 11, 1848. His father, Jacob Cress, was born in Indiana in 1818, and the grandfather, Jacob Cress, Sr., was a native of North Carolina, whence he started overland in 1817, but on reaching Indiana he settled there, remaining in that state for a year. His son Jacob was born there in the spring of 1818 and soon afterward the family came to Montgomery county, Illinois, settling in Butler Grove township. His grandfather entered land from the government on section 35 and upon the place built a log cabin. He then began the development of a farm, breaking the prairie preparatory to the tilling of the soil and in due course of time gathering rich harvests as the result of his labors. He was interested in the Lutheran church and contributed to its support. His death occurred when he had reached the advanced age of eighty-six years. In the family were eight children, two sons and six daughters.

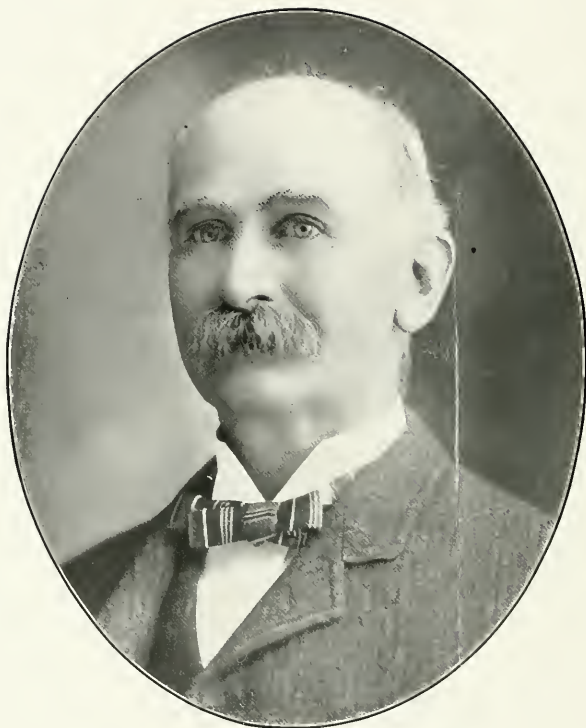
Jacob Cress, Jr., was reared upon the old family homestead in Butler Grove township and remained with his parents until the time of his marriage, which occurred on the 23d of January, 1840, Miss Helena Scherer becoming his wife. She was born in Virginia in 1818 and was the daughter of Rev. Daniel Scherer, one of the pioneer Lutheran ministers of this section of the country. After their marriage the young couple located upon the farm where William Cress now resides and the husband erected a log cabin where a beautiful and commodious residence now stands. The pioneer home, however, contained but one room and Jacob Cress built their first table. He brought his bride to his home on horseback and there lived in true pioneer style for some time, but as the years advanced they were enabled to add many of the comforts and conveniences of the time to their place. In this county

Jacob Cress died at the age of eighty-six years and his wife has also passed away.

William S. Cress was reared to farm life upon the old family homestead and attended the common schools, but later he had the advantage of a course in the Illinois State University under the auspices of the Lutheran church. He spent three years in that institution and at the age of twenty-four began teaching school, being employed in several district and high schools, while at one time he was principal of the schools of Butler. From 1873 until 1875, inclusive, he was the teacher in the school which was removed from Springfield to Carthage, Illinois, becoming Carthage College. He was assistant to the chair of mathematics in that institution for three years and in 1876-7 he taught in the Butler school. On the expiration of that period he went to Hillsboro, where he and his brothers were engaged in the agricultural implement business for four years. They then sold out and William S. Cress later spent a year in St. Louis and Kansas City. He afterward went to Wichita, Kansas, where he was connected with an agricultural implement house for four years. Later he went to Portland, Oregon, where he was engaged in the real-estate business for five years, returning thence to Wichita, where he again entered into business relations with the house with which he had formerly been connected. Owing to the death of his younger brother he returned to Montgomery county and took charge of the old home place, thus relieving his father of its care.

On the 4th of January, 1900, Mr. Cress was united in marriage to Miss Mattie Schopf, of Wichita, Kansas, and they have two children: John B., three years of age; and Marie L., about two years old. There are seven hundred and fifty-five acres of land in the home farm and the entire amount is under the personal supervision of Mr. Cress, whose practical training at farm labor in early years makes him an agriculturist whose ability is widely recognized. He is extensively engaged in the raising of horses, cattle, hogs and sheep and now has a flock of four hundred head of merino sheep. In community interests he takes an active and helpful part and in 1902 served as

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W. S. CRESS



MRS. W. S. CRESS

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trustee of Butler Grove township. He is a member of the Fraternal Aid Association and Insurance Society; he gives his political allegiance to the Democracy and is a member of the Lutheran church. He has had a varied business experience and has a wide acquaintance, and in the different localities in which he has resided for any length of time he has made warm friends because of his reliability, social, genial nature and his recognition of worth in others.

P. J. HERMAN, M. D.

The medical profession of Montgomery county finds a capable, conscientious and worthy representative in Dr. P. J. Herman, who has been practicing within its borders for nearly a half century. A native son of Illinois, he was born near Chatham, Sangamon county, on the 22d of December, 1833, and comes of German ancestry, the family having been established in North Carolina in early colonial days. David Herman, the grandfather, was there born, and David H. Herman, the father, was also a native of that state, born in 1805. About 1810 David Herman removed with his family to Kentucky, settling in Grant county, where his son, David H. Herman, grew to manhood. He was married there to Sarah Mitts, a native of that state and a daughter of Jacob Mitts, also one of the early residents of Kentucky of German ancestry. Mr. Herman removed to Illinois in 1830, establishing his home in Sangamon county when it was largely an unimproved district, the greater part of the land being still in possession of the government, while the work of progress and improvement was scarcely begun. He located near Chatham, where he entered a tract of land and opened up a farm, which he continued to make his home for more than sixty years. There he reared his family and lived an active, useful and honorable life, proving a valued citizen of the community from which he was called by death in 1891. His wife had departed this life about ten years before.

Dr. Herman is one of a family of six sons and three daughters that were reared to adult

age upon the old family homestead, and of these three sons and one daughter are yet living. Like the others of the family, he remained under the parental roof through the period of his boyhood and youth. His common school advantages were supplemented by a course of study in the high school at Springfield, and he entered upon preparation for his profession in Chatham as a student in the office of Dr. N. Wright, one of the old practitioners of Sangamon county. He began reading medicine in 1855 and pursued his first course of lectures in Rush Medical College in 1858-59. Before this time he had engaged in teaching in Sangamon county, but he regarded this merely as an initiatory step to other professional labor. After completing his first course of lectures he came to Montgomery county and entered upon the practice of medicine here. In 1862 he went to Chicago and completed a medical course in Rush Medical College, in which he was graduated with the class of 1863. Again locating in Raymond, he not only practiced medicine and surgery, but also conducted a drug store, in which he compounded his own medicines. His practice called him to many points over a wide area and he built up a large and successful business. He is now the oldest practitioner in this part of the county and has long maintained a foremost position in the ranks of the fraternity. He belongs to the Montgomery County Medical Society, and continued reading and investigation have kept him thoroughly informed concerning the advancement made by the profession. He now largely confines himself to office practice, and in as far as possible is putting aside professional labors.

Dr. Herman was married April 14, 1863, to Miss Eliza A. Neal, a native of Sangamon county, who was reared in Montgomery county. Her father, Elijah B. Neal, formerly of Kentucky, became a resident of Sangamon county, Illinois. Unto Dr. and Mrs. Herman have been born four children, who are yet living: Julia A., the wife of Frank H. Schafer, of Nokomis; Hattie L., who occupies a position in a mercantile establishment in Raymond; Flora Belle, the wife of William A. Ray, of Chicago; and Blanche May, the wife

of Stephen O. Seward, of Montgomery county. They also lost their first child, Frances Ellen, who died in early womanhood.

Politically Dr. Herman is a Democrat, who cast his first presidential vote for Franklin Pierce and his last ballot for William Jennings Bryan. He has never had time to seek or fill public office, although he served as president of the village board for three terms and also as village trustee. He has ever been a warm friend of the cause of education, and while serving on the school board has put forth effective effort for the upbuilding of the schools and the raising of the standard of education in Raymond. He is a Royal Arch Mason and was one of the organizers of the Masonic lodge at Raymond, of which he served as master for a number of terms, while at the present time he is again filling that position. He has likewise represented his lodge in the grand lodge of the state on three different occasions. He belonged to Hillshoro chapter, but was afterward dimitted. His wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Dr. Herman has resided in this section of Illinois throughout his entire life, and for nearly fifty years has been identified with the growth, development and prosperity of Raymond and Montgomery county. Few have so long resided in this district as has Dr. Herman, and none have a wider or more favorable acquaintance. He is always an honored attendant at the old settlers' picnics of Sangamon and of Montgomery counties, and he is well known in central Illinois as a man who is entitled to the highest regard and respect by reason of an upright life, as well as superior professional skill that has rendered his lifework of the utmost benefit and value to his fellow men.

GEORGE N. ALLEN.

George N. Allen, one of the most progressive residents of East Fork township, following farming on section 5, was born in that township, April 29, 1858, a son of Robert and Harriet (Ohmart) Allen. His father was born in North Carolina, spent the days of his

boyhood and youth there and came to Montgomery county when twenty-one years of age, settling in East Fork township. Pioneer conditions existed here at that early period. Much of the land was still in possession of the government, having not been reclaimed for the purpose of civilization. Mr. Allen, however, took an active part in developing this portion of the state and was recognized as one of the leading men of his community, doing much to promote social, religious and political interests, as well as the material development of Montgomery county. His life was actuated by high and honorable purpose and principles, and he commanded the respect and good will of all who knew him. He died August 1, 1891, leaving two sons, William A. and George N.

George N. Allen was reared upon the old family homestead, working in the fields through the summer months, while in the winter seasons he attended the public schools and acquired a fair practical English education. He started out in life for himself when eighteen years of age. His father was then in poor health and gave to him the management of the farm, which he conducted as his father's partner. He also purchased a tract of land about the same time, incurring an indebtedness in order to do this, but within a short period he discharged the obligation. Later he removed to the vicinity of Donnellson, where he resided for four years, but throughout that period he continued as overseer of his father's farm. After his father's death he settled upon the home place, where he now resides. He has added to this farm from time to time and is today the owner of a valuable property of four hundred and thirty-six acres in East Fork township. Much of his land is under a high state of cultivation, and he annually harvests good crops. For about ten years he has engaged in shipping stock, and this has added materially to his income, for he is an excellent judge of farm animals and thus is enabled to make purchases and sales which yield a good profit. He has become well known as a stock-raiser, and he also handles a good breed of cattle, which he feeds for the market. He has made a close study of how

to import stock in the best way and in the shortest time, and his knowledge is comprehensive and practical. At this writing, in 1904, he owns a herd of registered Ohio Improved Chester White hogs, and he now has about seventy hogs eligible to be registered. He has also handled many sheep. He and his brother had very little in boyhood and worked on a threshing machine for fifty cents per day, but as time passed, through industry and economy Mr. Allen gradually worked his way upward financially, and is today the possessor of a very valuable farm and is also one of the stockholders and directors of the First National Bank at Hillsboro. He and his brother also own nine hundred and sixty-five acres of land in Arkansas, a part of which is covered with timber, while the remainder is devoted to cotton raising.

In November, 1882, Mr. Allen was united in marriage to Miss Zilphia Wilson, a daughter of George Wilson, and unto them have been born seven children, all of whom are living: Orin K., who is now attending the State Normal School at Charleston, Illinois; Cullen F.; Robert W.; William F.; Charlotte; Mary; and Dorothy. All of the children are at home. Mrs. Allen belongs to the Methodist church and Mr. Allen holds membership relations with the Masonic fraternity, being made a Mason at Donnellson in 1890, and with the Knights of Pythias lodge and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He keeps well informed on the political questions and issues of the day, votes with the Democracy and has filled the office of assessor, but would never consent to occupy other official positions, preferring to give his time and energies to his business affairs. He, however, takes a deep and active interest in everything pertaining to the welfare of his township and is the champion of many measures that have resulted in the public good. He has been a delegate to the state and congressional conventions and a member of the federal court at Hillsboro. He is an advocate of gravel roads for the county and of graded township schools instead of the district schools, and he was instrumental in securing the establishment of the rural mail delivery along its present route. His ideas, while

always progressive, are at the same time practical, and his efforts have proved very beneficial to the county, and he has also conducted his business affairs so as to win most gratifying and honorable success.

L. V. HILL.

L. V. Hill, who is filling the position of prosecuting attorney at Hillsboro, is one of the younger representatives of the Montgomery county bar, but his years seem no obstacle in his success, which has been of a most desirable character. He seems to have been endowed by nature with the peculiar qualifications that combine to make a successful lawyer. He is patiently persevering, possesses an analytical mind and one that is readily receptive and retentive of the fundamental principles and intricacies of the law. He applies himself with great thoroughness to the mastery of his case, is fearless in its advocacy, is quick to comprehend subtle problems and logical in his conclusions and thus he has won for himself an enviable position as a representative of the legal fraternity.

Mr. Hill is a son of Isaac and Mary (Sears) Hill. His father, now residing in Joplin, Missouri, was born in Fayette county, Illinois, and in early manhood followed the occupation of farming. About 1888, however, he turned his attention to the lumber business and he is now extensively interested in zinc mines near Joplin, Missouri. Through marked enterprise and keen discrimination in business affairs he has become one of the substantial citizens of the community in which he makes his home. His political allegiance is given to the Democracy. He married Mary Sears, also a native of Illinois, and a daughter of Thomas and Joicey (Alexander) Sears, who removed to Missouri during the childhood of their daughter, remaining for several years in that state. Mr. Sears was a farmer by occupation. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hill were born five children, of whom four are yet living, the second, Louisa, having passed away. Those who still survive are L. V., of this review; Jesse, who is a stockman of Fillmore township, Montgomery county;

Lona, who married Fred Hendrix and resides near her parents; and Nora, who married Houston King and is also living near Joplin, Missouri.

L. V. Hill acquired his early education in the village of Fillmore and afterward attended the Alexander school of that locality. On putting aside his text books he engaged in the lumber business at Fillmore in connection with his father, remaining there until 1897, when he removed to Hillsboro. In the meantime he had devoted a year to the reading of law, and in May, 1897, he entered the law office of Howett & Jett, with whom he continued his reading until the fall of 1899, when he was admitted to the bar. He at once began to practice at Hillsboro, where he has met with very desirable success, securing a clientele of a distinctively representative character. In 1900 he was elected to the office of states attorney of Montgomery county and in the spring of 1904 he successfully prosecuted the work of a murder case in which the culprit was given the full extent of the law. His has been a remarkable career in the prosecution of important cases and during his term as attorney has prosecuted three murder cases in this county and his presentation of a case indicates thorough preparation, a comprehensive knowledge of the principles of jurisprudence and his logical deductions. He has gained high rank among his professional brethren by hard work and by evidencing his ability to fill the position with which the people have intrusted him. Aside from his law practice he is interested in the Hillsboro Electric Railway Company and with his father has large interests in zinc mines at Joplin, Missouri. In connection with four others he laid out the park subdivision to Hillsboro, recently incorporated within the limits of the city. He has been watchful of every sign pointing to progress and advancement in the community, has endorsed all measures for the general good and has given hearty co-operation to many movements which have tended toward material benefit to Hillsboro.

In 1895 Mr. Hill was united in marriage to Miss Josie Williams, a native of Fillmore township, and a daughter of Webster and Katherine Williams. Her father is a harnessmaker of

Fillmore. One child was born of this marriage, Harold, but his death occurred when he was but four months old. Mr. Hill is a member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity, the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, the Modern Woodmen camp and the Knights of the Maccabees and his political allegiance is given to the Democracy.

HENRY H. WARNSING.

Henry H. Warnsing, who devotes his time and energies to auctioneering and general farming, lives on section 28, Rountree township. He is a representative of the worthy class of citizens that Germany has furnished to Montgomery county, his birth having occurred in Hanover, Germany, on the 1st of December, 1844. He was left an orphan when only a year old and at the age of seven he accompanied his grandparents on their emigration to the United States, the family home being established in Madison county, Illinois.

Henry H. Warnsing was educated largely in Germany, having no instruction in the English tongue, save that he attended an evening school. At the age of sixteen years he began learning the marble-cutter's trade in Edwardsville, Illinois, where he was employed until 1864, when in the month of August he enlisted in Company F, One Hundred and Forty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He served for eleven months and on the expiration of that period was discharged at Camp Butler in July, 1865, for the war had ended and the country no longer needed his aid. He afterward resumed farm work, being employed by the month in Madison county. After two and a half years he resolved to engage in farming on his own account and, renting a tract of land in Montgomery county, he took up his abode thereon in 1870. He continued renting until 1873, and during that period prospered in his work so that in the latter year he was enabled to purchase forty acres of land, constituting the nucleus of his present extensive and valuable landed possessions. As opportunity has increased he has made judicious purchases of other land and now owns about seven hundred



H. H. WARNSING AND FAMILY

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acres in Montgomery county, the greater part in Rountree township. He has placed most of the improvements upon the farm where he now lives and he has here a very attractive place equipped with all modern conveniences and accessories. The buildings and fences are kept in good repair, the fields are well tilled and everything about the place indicates the careful supervision of an enterprising owner. He is also agent for the Home Mutual Insurance Company and he has been an auctioneer for the last thirty-one years, the firm of Warnsing & Son being the leading auctioneers of this section of the state.

On the 24th of February, 1811, Mr. Warnsing was united in marriage to Miss Londa M. Weller, a daughter of Jacob and C. Weller, both now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Warnsing have become the parents of eight children: John, who died at the age of two years; William, who died at the age of a year and a half; Fred, who died at the age of nine months; Robert B.; Daniel J., of Rountree township; Martin Luther, who is also living in this township; Fred H. and Lena L., both at home.

The parents are members of the English Lutheran church and Mr. Warnsing is connected with Cunningham Post, G. A. R. Recognized as one of the influential men of his township whose interest in the public affairs is of an unselfish and patriotic nature, he has been called upon to fill many of the township offices, perhaps serving to a greater extent in such a way than any other man of the township. He is now school treasurer and in this office as in all others that he has filled he has discharged his duties with notable promptness and fidelity. He is a man of genuine worth, true to every trust reposed in him, and the sterling traits of his character have gained him warm friendship in Montgomery county.

WILLIAM SIMS.

William Sims, for many years identified with agricultural interests in Montgomery county, but now living a retired life in Raymond, is of Scotch birth and parentage. He was born in Aberdeenshire, Scotland, May 12, 1845, a

son of William and Ann (Breedy) Sims, both of whom were natives of Scotland. The father's birth occurred in Aberdeenshire in 1821 and in 1850 he emigrated to the new world in company with his family, locating in Bucks county, Pennsylvania, where he purchased a tract of land and engaged in farming. In 1857 he sold that property and came to Illinois, settling in Clinton county, where he purchased raw land and opened up a farm, residing thereon for a number of years. Later he came to Montgomery county and purchased a farm near Hillsboro, where he spent the last years of his life, passing away there on the 9th of June, 1878. Throughout his entire business career he carried on agricultural pursuits and as the result of his activity and perseverance he was enabled to provide a comfortable living for his family. He possessed many excellent traits of character which endeared him to those with whom he came in contact and won for him the confidence and good will of all with whom he was associated. His wife survived him several years, dying March 26, 1885. In their family were six sons and two daughters, of whom one daughter died in infancy and another at the age of about five years, while five of the sons are yet living.

William Sims grew to manhood upon the old homestead farm and remained with his father until he had attained his majority, assisting in the labors of field and meadow as his age and strength permitted. His educational privileges were those afforded by the common schools. He was married in Clinton county, August 6, 1866, to Miss Julia Ashlock, who was born at Belleville, Illinois, and is a daughter of Robert Ashlock, a cabinet-maker and one of the early settlers of the state living in St. Clair county.

After his marriage Mr. Sims located in Clinton county, Illinois, where he carried on general farming for several years and about 1870 he came to Montgomery county, where he rented a tract of land for one year. He then purchased a farm in Raymond township, constituting one hundred and twenty acres and this he began to break and improve, adding many modern equipments and placing his fields under a high state of cultivation. Later he pur-

chased more land from time to time until he now owns two hundred and eighty acres, comprised within the borders of two well improved farms. He continued in the active operation of his land until 1891, when he rented the farms and removed to Raymond, where he purchased the residence that he now occupies. He has since given his supervision to his farming interests, but is not connected with the active work. In Raymond he purchased a lot and erected a business house and he also remodeled and added to his residence, which is a neat and attractive home. He also owns some valuable property in Pueblo, Colorado. His business affairs have claimed the greater part of his time and attention, yet he has never been remiss in the duties of citizenship and in a quiet way has assisted in many measures for the general good. Politically he is a staunch Republican, having given unfaltering support to the party since casting his first presidential vote for U. S. Grant in 1868.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Sims have been born three children, but they lost their oldest, Charles, who reached mature years, was married and was successfully engaged in business in Raymond at the time of his death. Their daughters are Libbie and Ethel, the former the wife of George H. Lynch, of Pueblo, Colorado; and Ethel, now living with her sister. Mr. and Mrs. Sims are members of the Baptist church and he is a Master Mason, belonging to the lodge at Raymond. During thirty-four years' residence in Montgomery county Mr. Sims is widely known to many of its citizens and there has been in his life record no element which awakens harsh criticism or condemnation. On the other hand his career has been characterized by laudable ambition to achieve success and honorable methods of winning prosperity, and he certainly deserves credit for what he has accomplished.

JOHN W. CHAMBERLIN.

John W. Chamberlin, one of the best known representatives of industrial interests in Litchfield, has been identified with building operations here for many years, and has contributed

in large measure toward improving and beautifying the city. He is also engaged in the manufacture of brick, and his business career has been characterized by unfaltering diligence and perseverance. Moreover, he is an active advocate of intellectual and moral progress, and as a citizen is foremost among those who champion all measures for the general good.

Mr. Chamberlin was born in Kanawha county, West Virginia, April 17, 1840, a son of Nathaniel and Joanna (Willis) Chamberlin. The father was a native of Pennsylvania, and was of English lineage, tracing his ancestry back to one of the band of Pilgrims who came to America in the Mayflower. Nathaniel Chamberlin was reared upon a farm, but became a contractor and builder. He removed to Virginia when twenty-three years of age and there operated a sawmill. On his removal to the west he settled in St. Louis, where he began contracting and building, and was one of the leading citizens and business men of the Missouri metropolis of that time. While in Virginia he married Miss Joanna Willis, who was born in Winchester, that state, a daughter of William Willis, who was of German birth. There was also an English strain in the maternal ancestry. Her father was a harnessmaker by trade and for many years followed that business in Virginia, where his death ultimately occurred. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Chamberlin were born eight children, but with the exception of John W., of this review, all have passed away. The father died in 1863 at the age of sixty-three years and the mother's death occurred in Litchfield in 1890 when she was seventy-six years of age. Mr. Chamberlin held membership in the Cumberland Presbyterian church, while his wife was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. In politics he was a radical Republican, espousing the cause of the party at a time when it required personal courage to uphold one's political convictions. He enjoyed the highest regard of all with whom he was associated and his upright career and fidelity to duty made him one of nature's noblemen.

In the public schools of St. Louis, Missouri, John W. Chamberlin acquired his education and on putting aside his text books entered a



JOHN W. CHAMBERLIN

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printing office, where he worked for a year. He afterward learned the trade of brick-laying and throughout the greater part of his business career has been engaged in contracting and building. His business interests, however, were put aside at the time of the Civil war, for in September, 1861, at St. Louis, he enlisted in Fremont's Engineering Corps and served in that organization until it was disbanded. He was then with William Hitchcock, known as "Wild Bill," on a transportation train through Missouri and Arkansas, transporting provisions for the army for eighteen months. In 1865 he came to Litchfield and has since been identified with its building operations. He has seen the town grow and expand and has taken a very active part in its improvement, building many schoolhouses, churches, business blocks and private residences here and also in other parts of Montgomery county and in adjoining counties. The buildings which he has constructed would constitute a considerable town in themselves. He is still actively engaged in work and now has the contract for the Carnegie library building. His success is attributable to his skill in the builder's art and is thoroughly reliable, for he lives fully up to the terms of an agreement. As soon as his sons were old enough to become factors in industrial circles he admitted them to the firm and the business is now carried on under the style of J. W. Chamberlin & Sons. In 1885 Mr. Chamberlin also established a brickyard and manufactures a machine-made brick, employing twelve men in the operation of the plant. Although this is being worked to its full capacity the supply is not equal to the demand.

In December, 1864, Mr. Chamberlin was married to Mrs. Victoria V. Keese, the widow of Albert C. Keese and a daughter of Wesley and Elizabeth Nelson Simmons. Her father removed from Ohio to Montgomery county, Illinois, in 1833, and settled three miles west of Hillsboro, where he remained for a short time. He afterward took up his abode in the city and from that point superintended his farming operations. His death occurred in Hillsboro in 1881. In 1855 he had established the Simmons Hotel, which he conducted until

1865. His life was an honorable and upright one, covering a long span of eighty-one years, and he lived in constant harmony with his professions as a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. His wife, also a life-long member of the church, died at the age of seventy-two years. Both took an active part in church work and Mr. Simmons served as trustee and steward. In their family were eight children, of whom three are now living, Mrs. Chamberlin and Pilcher and Julia Simmons. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Chamberlin were born four children: William S., a brick-layer of Litchfield; Annie, the wife of Marshall Titsworth, who is employed in the Latham store in Litchfield; Lucy, at home; and Nathaniel, who is associated with his father and brother in business. There are now ten grandchildren. By her first marriage Mrs. Chamberlin had one son, who is yet living, Pilcher G. Keese, who is a brick-layer.

Mr. and Mrs. Chamberlin hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and have co-operated in its various activities, doing all in their power to promote its growth and extend its influences. At the present writing Mr. Chamberlin is serving as one of its trustees. In politics he is a Republican and is assistant supervisor of North Litchfield township. He is a man of high standing in the community because of his genuine personal worth. His married life has been a happy one and his home largely embodies ideals of domestic felicity. Those traits of character which are esteemed as of most value in character building are his and he is to-day one of the most honored and respected men of his adopted city.

LEE M. PAUL.

The business circles of Farmersville find a worthy representative in Lee M. Paul, who is assistant cashier of the banking firm of John Bell & Company, in which capacity he has acceptably served for ten years and his unfaltering courtesy as well as business capacity have made him popular with the patrons of the institution and gained him a large circle of warm friends. A native of Illinois, he was born in Macoupin county, September 16, 1861.

His father, Jacob Paul, was born near Wheeling, West Virginia, on the 16th of September, 1815, and during his early boyhood days accompanied his parents on their removal westward, the family home being established in Indianapolis, where Jacob Paul grew to mature years and was married, the lady of his choice being Miss Ellen McClain, a native of Kentucky. In the year 1836 Jacob Paul removed to Alton, Illinois, where he resided for more than twenty years and on the expiration of that period he purchased land and located in Macoupin county, where he resided until 1874.

It was upon the old family homestead there that Lee M. Paul spent his boyhood days. He had good educational privileges, his course in the public schools being supplemented by a few terms of study in the Indianapolis high school. In 1874 he returned to the home farm and later removed the family to St. Louis, Missouri, where they remained for two years. Returning in 1876 to Illinois, the family home was established upon a farm in Montgomery county near the village of Farmersville and there the father and sons engaged in general agricultural pursuits and stock-raising, making a specialty of the raising of horses. Jacob Paul, the father, was an active and capable business man and continued a resident of this locality until his death, which occurred September 30, 1893. His wife passed away October 4, 1892. The remains of both were interred in the Morrisonville cemetery.

After leaving school Lee M. Paul continued to assist his father upon the home farm and after the latter's death engaged in the cultivation of the old home place until 1894, when he rented the land and removed to Farmersville, to accept a position in the banking house of John Bell & Company. He has now served as assistant cashier for ten years and is very efficient and faithful in the performance of all the duties which devolve upon him in connection with the conduct of this strong and reliable financial institution. He is also conducting some private business interests as a dealer in real estate and as an insurance agent, and he displays good business ability, having the power to readily recognize and utilize

an opportunity. Moreover he possesses tact and has a good fund of common sense, which is too often lacking in the business world, and has been the source of more failures than any other one element.

Mr. Paul was married in Montgomery county, May 25, 1898, to Miss Hattie Carroll, a native of this county and a daughter of James Carroll, one of its worthy pioneers. He was a prominent farmer here for some years and is now living retired in Farmersville. Mr. and Mrs. Paul have a pleasant home in the town and the hospitality of the best families in this part of the county is freely extended to them. Mr. Paul is unfaltering in his advocacy of Democratic principles and is an active supporter of the party, being recognized as a local leader here. He has served as village treasurer for a number of years, was also township collector for two terms and has filled other positions of honor and trust. He has long been a notary public and does all such work in connection with the bank. He belongs to the Masonic lodge at Girard and is also identified with the Royal Neighbors and the Modern Woodmen. His interest centers in his adopted county and his hearty co-operation is given to every movement which he believes will contribute to its upbuilding and improvement. In manner he is unostentatious, but his genuine worth is recognized by a large circle of friends.

JESSE J. CAREY.

Jesse J. Carey, who is one of the prominent business men of Harvel, where he has been successfully engaged in dealing in lumber for the past fifteen years, has spent almost his entire life in Illinois, dating his residence here from 1837. Montgomery county has numbered him among its valued citizens since 1875. He was born in the city of New York, December 1, 1831, and was brought to this state by his father, Jesse Carey, who located in Pike county in 1837. There the father purchased a tract of wild land and opened up a good farm. Pioneer conditions existed at that time and the nearest neighbor to the Carey home was three



MR. AND MRS. J. J. CAREY

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miles away. Hardships and difficulties were to be endured, but the family persevered in their efforts to build a new home on the frontier.

Jesse J. Carey, who was the oldest son, was reared on the farm in Pike county and enjoyed fair school advantages, but has largely supplemented his knowledge by lessons gained in the school of experience and through reading and observation. The word work would sum up most concisely his entire life, for his career has been characterized by unflagging diligence. Early in youth he learned lessons of industry, enterprise and integrity and these have been salient features in his career down to the present time. In early manhood he was married and then engaged in farming in Pike county for three or four years. In 1869 he removed to Logan county, where he purchased a tract of land and continued to engage in agricultural pursuits until 1875. He then sold his property there and went to Christian county, arriving on the 1st of March, 1875. He secured a tract of land near Harvel, which he operated for a number of years and then putting aside agricultural pursuits he removed to the village in 1889 and bought out a lumber and coal yard that he has since conducted. As the years have passed he has built up a profitable trade and he is now one of the active business men of his community, having for fifteen years dealt in coal and lumber with good success. This has been sufficient time to test his capability, his honorable methods and his earnest desire to please his customers—qualities which have been the strong elements in his prosperity.

In Pike county, Illinois, Mr. Carey was married, November 5, 1863, to Miss Helen M. Ross, a daughter of T. J. and Annie (Hovey) Ross, early settlers of Illinois. She was born in Ohio, but was reared in this state. Her death occurred in Harvel, February 19, 1892, and she left four children. Those still living are: Phoebe, the wife of A. N. Banes, who is deputy county clerk of Montgomery county; Harvilla, at home; and Helen J., the wife of D. A. Renning, of Girard, Kansas. One son, George A., died when a young man of twenty-two years.

Mr. Carey purchased an attractive home in

Harvel, which he now occupies. He is an earnest advocate of Democratic principles and has supported the party since casting his first presidential ballot for James Buchanan in 1856. He was elected and served as supervisor in Christian county for six years and for four years in Montgomery county, but he has always rather avoided office, preferring to do his public duty as a private citizen. He has given his time and attention to his business affairs, which have been crowned with success. Fraternally he is connected with the Odd Fellows lodge at Harvel and passed through all of the chairs, is a past grand and has been representative of the subordinate lodge to the grand lodge of the state on two or three different occasions. He belongs to the Christian church, of which he is one of the elders and his life has exemplified his Christian faith, being at all times honorable and straightforward. His is a kindly spirit and ready sympathy and he has put forth earnest effort to advance the welfare of the church and extend its influence. He is well known in the northern part of the county as a respected and honorable business man and Harvel classes him with its representative citizens.

CARL F. BARTLING.

Carl F. Bartling, well known in Litchfield and respected because of his many sterling qualities, is now conducting a mercantile enterprise in the interest of the heirs of the Hoffman estate. He is one of Illinois' native sons, his birth having occurred in Woodburn, Macoupin county, on the 13th of February, 1864. His father, Henry W. Bartling, was born in Switzerland and came to the United States in 1856, locating in Alton. In 1863 he removed to Macoupin county, where he carried on general farming. He married Annie Tuscher, who was born in Switzerland and was a daughter of Benjamin and Elizabeth Tuscher, who came to the United States in 1856, settling at Alton, but afterward removing to Macoupin county, where they located near Hornsby. Her father also carried on agricultural pursuits. Both Mr. and Mrs. Bartling were members of the

German Lutheran church. His death occurred in 1870, when he was thirty-five years of age, and his wife passed away in 1876, at the age of thirty-eight years. They were the parents of five children: Henry W., who is now living in Litchfield; Carl F.; Elizabeth, the wife of George Siegel, at Trenton, Illinois; Annie, the wife of John Freloush, of Alton; and Tencie, the wife of George Smith, who is engaged in the grocery business in Alton.

Carl F. Bartling is indebted to the district schools for the early educational privileges which he enjoyed and which were supplemented by two years' study in the schools of Litchfield. He then entered upon his business career in the store of V. Hoffman and remained in his employ until the death of Mr. Hoffman, in 1899. Mr. Bartling was then appointed executor of the Hoffman estate and has since been conducting the business for the heirs. He is well qualified for the trust reposed in him and in carrying on this enterprise has displayed excellent business ability as well as unremitting fidelity to the interests of those whom he represents. He is also a member of the firm of Bartling Brothers, wholesale dealers in and shippers of poultry and produce.

On the 18th of February, 1885, Mr. Bartling was united in marriage to Miss Ella Hoffman, a daughter of V. and Martha Hoffman and a native of Litchfield, born in 1861. They became the parents of five children, but Valentine, Carl, Gertrude and Mary are all now deceased. The only living child is Roscoe Blaine, the second in order of birth. Mr. and Mrs. Bartling hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and fraternally he is connected with the Odd Fellows, the Elks and the Mutual Protective League. He supports the Republican party by his ballot and has several times been elected collector. He has also been a member of the school board and the library board and was county treasurer from 1894 until 1898, thus being closely associated with the public interests of his community. Whatever tends to promote the general welfare receives his endorsement and he has been the champion of many measures which have proven of great benefit to Montgomery county. His social manner and kind-

ly disposition render him popular and the circle of his friends has been extended by reason of the fact that he is always considerate of others' opinions and shows to all the deference which condition and time warrant.

E. F. CANADAY.

E. F. Canaday, who as a stock dealer has built up a profitable business in Coffeen, was born in North Litchfield township, August 5, 1869. He is a son of C. W. and Martha L. Canaday, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of Illinois. When the father was only a year old he was brought by his parents to Montgomery county, the family home being established here in 1834 among the pioneer residents. The members of the Canaday household bore their full share in the work of early development and improvement, living in true pioneer style and meeting as best they could the hard conditions which are always to be faced by the frontier settler. After attaining to man's estate C. W. Canaday began farming on his own account and is a representative of agricultural interests of North Litchfield township. He aided in surveying the land in this county and could have purchased any amount of it at twelve and a half cents per acre. He has witnessed many changes as the years have gone by and the county has emerged from primitive conditions to take its place with the leading counties of this great commonwealth.

E. F. Canaday acquired his education in North Litchfield township and remained upon his father's farm until twenty-five years of age. He then conducted a butcher shop for six years, spending four years of that time in Hillsboro and the remaining two years at Coffeen. On selling his meat market he began shipping stock and now handles most of the stock sent from this point. He also raises and feeds cattle, hogs and mules, and he is gaining a very desirable success in handling stock, being an excellent judge of domestic animals, so that he makes judicious purchases and profitable sales.

On December 6, 1900, Mr. Canaday was married to Miss Mattie Perkins, a daughter of Willis and Samantha (Hoskett) Perkins, the

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MRS. E. F. CANADAY



E. F. CANADAY

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former a native of Alton, Illinois, and the latter of Edwardsville, this state. The Canaday home is a hospitable one and is a favorite resort with their many friends. Mr. Canaday votes with the Democracy, but has never sought or desired office, preferring to give his undivided attention to his business interests.

JACOB M. ELWELL.

Jacob M. Elwell, who built the first frame house on the prairie on which the town of Pana has been founded—a house which is still standing as one of the landmarks of pioneer times—has been closely associated in helpful manner with the upbuilding and progress of this portion of Montgomery county. He was born May 1, 1832, in Bridgeton, New Jersey, a son of William and Catherine (Miller) Elwell. The father was of English lineage, while the mother was descended from a family from northern Germany. Both, however, were born in New Jersey, and the father, who throughout his entire life carried on agricultural pursuits, was the owner of three farms in that state. His was a long, useful and active life, in which he commanded the respect and trust of his fellow men. He died in 1881, at the advanced age of eighty years, and his wife passed away in 1878, when seventy years of age. They were members of the Baptist church and in that faith they reared their family of eleven children, six sons and five daughters, of whom eight are now living. The record of the family is as follows: Jacob N.; Isaac, who is living at Bridgeton, New Jersey; Margaret, the wife of David Brooks, a resident of Millville, New Jersey; William, who is married and makes his home in Bridgeton, that state; George, who is married and is located in Pana, Illinois; Catherine, the wife of Joseph Hilliard, also of Bridgeton, New Jersey; Sally, who is living in Vincentown, New Jersey; Samuel S., of Bridgeton; Annie, the deceased wife of Frank DuBois, who has also passed away, having been killed in a wreck; Ann Maria, who died in infancy; and one that died unnamed.

Jacob M. Elwell attended school in his native town and in early youth assisted in the work of the home farm, continuing to give his father the benefit of his services until twenty-one years of age, when he started out in life on his own account, working by the month for ten dollars as a farm hand. He afterward went to Miami county, Ohio, and in the vicinity of Covington was employed at farm labor and in a sawmill. He afterward drove a team from that place to Audubon, Illinois, in 1855, and for four years he continued in the service of others in this state, when with the capital he had acquired through his own persistent labor he purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land, upon which he now resides in Audubon township, the purchase price being ten dollars per acre. In 1856 he was engaged in farming near Pontiac, where he met the lady who afterward became his wife and who bore the maiden name of Sarah Jane Ullery. They were married in 1860 and Mr. Elwell then turned his attention to farming upon his home place, beginning its improvement and continuing the further work of cultivation and development until he has produced the present high state of productiveness for which his farm is now noted. He broke the prairie with oxen and used various farm implements which now seem crude in comparison to the improved machinery seen upon his farm at the present day. He has utilized every facility for promoting his work along practical lines and has prospered in his undertakings.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Elwell were born five children, a son and four daughters, namely: Mary C., the wife of Charles C. Brown, a resident of Audubon township, by whom she has three children; Margaret, who was a teacher and died in 1891 at the age of twenty-eight years; Lottie, who also followed teaching prior to her marriage to Edward Howe, by whom she had one child that died in infancy; Bertie, who engaged in teaching in the public schools and also teaching music and is now the wife of Harry Cutler, who resides near Rosemond, Christian county, by whom she has three children; William J., who is employed as a line-man by the telephone company and resides at Pana. The mother passed away July 14, 1900,

at the age of fifty-seven years and her remains were interred in the Rosemond cemetery. She was a member of the Methodist church, was reared in the faith of the Christian church and her entire life was in harmony with her religious principles and convictions. She was devoted to her family and loyal to her friends, her many good traits of heart and mind endearing her to those with whom she was associated.

Mr. Elwell has joined no church, but has lived an honorable, straightforward life, attempting to follow the golden rule in his treatment of his fellow men. In politics he has been a stalwart Republican since casting his first presidential vote for John C. Fremont. Few men have a more intimate or accurate knowledge concerning the early history of his section of the county. He saw the first train that passed through Nokomis, running over the Terre Haute & Alton Railroad, now a part of the Big Four system, the town at that time being called Fillmore. He also remembers when the first load of stock was shipped over the road, although Nokomis was not founded at that time. Deer and other wild game were seen in large numbers upon the prairie and there were many wolves throughout this section of the country. Other indications of pioneer conditions were also in evidence, but gradually these have given way before the advancing civilization and the result has been the upbuilding of a county that is a credit to its citizens and to the commonwealth at large.

CHARLES ALEXANDER RAMSEY.

In the field of political life and commercial activity Charles Alexander Ramsey has won distinction and to-day is numbered among the leading, influential and honored citizens of Hillsboro, while as president of the Hillsboro National Bank he is occupying a prominent position in financial circles. For many years he has been engaged in helpful manner in the development of the natural resources of the state, in the upbuilding of his adopted city and in the promotion of the enterprises which

add not alone to his individual prosperity, but also advance the general welfare and prosperity of this city.

Mr. Ramsey was born in Mifflin county, Pennsylvania, on the 8th of January, 1845, his parents being William H. and Mary (Rarcr) Ramsey. The father was of Irish descent, but his parents were of the Presbyterian faith. The mother was of German lineage and both were natives of Pennsylvania, where they spent their entire lives. Mr. Ramsey was a very strong and energetic man and his death resulted from accident in 1894, when he was seventy-three years of age. He followed carpentering and building but was living retired at the time of his death. His wife had died in 1886, at the age of sixty-two years.

Charles A. Ramsey was educated in the common schools and at the Pine Grove Academy in Cent'r county, Pennsylvania, the institution being located in the town of Pine Grove Mills. He left the Keystone state in 1865 when twenty years of age and located in Shelby county, Illinois, where he resided for a brief period. He then removed to Irving in Montgomery county, where he established a drug store, conducting the same for eleven years. In 1877 he removed to Hillsboro, where he established a hardware and implement business, becoming a member of the firm of Challacombe & Ramsey. This relation was maintained for about fifteen years or until 1892, when Mr. Ramsey sold out to his partner. The entire period had been one of prosperity in which well directed business interests had resulted in the acquirement of a handsome competence. In 1882 he assisted in the organization of the Hillsboro National Bank, was elected its president and has since remained at the head of the institution, being annually re-elected. His practical and progressive spirit has made this one of the sound financial concerns of the county and the business has constantly grown in volume and importance.

On the 27th of October, 1870, Mr. Ramsey was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Corley, a daughter of B. W. F. Corley, a prominent citizen of Shelby county, Illinois, and an extensive farmer. This union was blessed with two children. The elder, a daughter,

Mae, born in Irving in 1872, died in Hillsboro in 1895. The other, a son, died in infancy.

Mr. Ramsey is a staunch Republican and has long been a recognized leader in the ranks of the party in this locality. He was elected mayor of Hillsboro in 1891 and as the chief executive officer he gave to the city a public-spirited, progressive administration that resulted in substantial benefit. In 1892 he was nominated and elected to the legislature, and as a member of the thirty-eighth general assembly again did good service for his constituents. In 1904 he was chosen a delegate to the state convention which will go down in history memorable because of the great deadlock that occurred over the nomination for governor, the leading contestants being Richard Yates, then governor of the state, Frank Lowden, and Charles Deneen, state's attorney of Chicago, the contest at length resulting in the selection of the last named. Mr. Ramsey has also been township supervisor and was president of the board for two terms. He is a trustee of the Soldiers & Sailors Widows Home at Wilmington, Illinois, and has always been deeply interested in military affairs and kindred subjects since the time of the Civil war, for then he espoused the cause of the Union, having enlisted in 1862, as a member of Company D, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Pennsylvania Infantry. He was mustered out at Harrisburg in 1865 after three years of service. He had been promoted to the rank of sergeant major in August, 1864, and to adjutant in January, 1865. He served in the Army of the Potomac and participated in the battle of Gettysburg and others of the most hotly contested engagements of that long and sanguinary struggle. Honored and respected in every class of society, he has for some time been a leader in thought and action in the public life of the state.

WILLIAM GAMLIN.

For nearly forty years William Gamlin was a representative of farming interests in Montgomery county and during that period he labored to such good purpose that he acquired

a handsome competence that now enables him to live a retired life in Raymond. He dates his residence in the state from 1856 and in Montgomery county from 1887. He was born in Somersetshire, England, November 5, 1822, and spent his boyhood and youth upon a farm, there working in the fields at an early age and thus becoming familiar with the practical methods of carrying on agricultural pursuits. He was married in his native country in 1852 to Miss Mary Ann Hart, also a native of Somersetshire.

The year 1856 witnessed the emigration of Mr. Gamlin to the new world. He took passage at Liverpool upon a sailing vessel and after five weeks spent upon the broad Atlantic, during which time they encountered some severe storms, anchor was dropped in the harbor of New York. He arrived in New York in the fall of that year, but did not tarry long in the eastern metropolis, coming direct to Illinois. He made his way to Alton and previously he had made arrangements to operate a farm in Macoupin county. He resided upon that place for one year and then engaged in cultivating a rented farm for eight years. He afterward removed to another farm property and continued to engage in agricultural pursuits in that county for ten years, or until 1887, when he came to Montgomery county and purchased a farm of one hundred and nine acres near Raymond. There he carried on agricultural pursuits for seven years, when he sold that property and bought his present home in Raymond, erecting a neat and attractive residence, his lot covering sixty acres. He also bought a farm near the village which he cultivated for several years and then sold. He had little capital when he came to America, but he improved the opportunities which are open to all ambitious young men, and through his persistency of purpose and energy he accumulated a handsome competence.

In the fall of 1903 Mr. Gamlin was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who passed away on the 7th of September. Soon afterward he started for England, sailing on the 28th of that month. There he visited his old home and spent three months in renewing the acquaintances of his youth and early manhood.

He had a very pleasant trip and it was a happy period which he passed amid the scenes of his early life, but when his visit was over he willingly returned to his adopted land. Since the death of his wife his nephew John Gamlin and his family have lived with Mr. Gamlin of this review.

Politically William Gamlin is an earnest Democrat and cast his first ballot for Grover Cleveland. He is a member of the Raymond Presbyterian church, to which his wife also belonged. He has now reached the advanced age of eighty-two years, but is yet quite hale and hearty and life holds for him many enjoyable moments. He has not been disappointed in the hopes that led him to America, for here he realized a handsome competence from his labors, gained a good home and won the friendship of many with whom he has been associated.

John Gamlin, now living in Raymond with his uncle William Gamlin, was born in Somersetshire, England, February 17, 1846, and there spent the first twenty-two years of his life, living upon a farm. Crossing the Atlantic in 1868 he made his way westward to Macoupin county, Illinois, where he joined his uncle and in that locality he was employed at farm labor. He was married in November, 1868, to Miss Elizabeth Baker, who was also born in Somersetshire, England, a daughter of Benjamin Baker, who died in that country. Mrs. Gamlin came to the new world with her brother's wife in 1868 and lived in Macoupin county, Illinois, where she gave her hand in marriage to Mr. Gamlin. They remained in Macoupin county for eight years and then removed to Missouri, settling in Pettis county near Sedalia, where Mr. Gamlin owned and operated a farm, having one hundred and sixty acres of land. In 1891 he sold that property and took up his abode in Henry county near Blairstown, but in the fall of 1893 he returned to Illinois and took charge of his uncle's place in Raymond, Montgomery county.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. John Gamlin have been born eight children: Catherine M., the wife of William Rector, of Henry county, Missouri; John B., who is married and is an agriculturist of Henry county, Missouri; William

H., of Johnson county, Missouri; Nathan A., of Henry county, Missouri; Mary Ann, the wife of Gust Burke, of Henry county, Missouri; Joseph E., a farmer of this county; Virginia M.; and Naomi E. The parents hold membership in the Presbyterian church and Mr. Gamlin is a man of strong temperance principles who gives his political support to the Prohibition party.

L. THOMAS DOYLE.

A valuable farm of five hundred and twenty acres is the property of L. Thomas Doyle, who, living on section 29, Raymond township, is devoting his time and energies to the cultivation of his fields and to the raising and feeding of stock. He has a wide acquaintance and his popularity among his friends is indicated by the fact that he is usually called Tom by those who know him. His manner is genial, his disposition kindly and cordial, and he has the warm regard and genuine friendship of many with whom he has been associated.

A native son of Montgomery county, Mr. Doyle was born in Raymond township, March 8, 1868. His father, James Doyle, was born in Greene county, Illinois, in 1835, was reared there in the usual manner of farm lads of the period, and when he started out in life for himself he wedded Miss Julia Overby, a native of Greene county, thus securing a companion and helpmate for life's journey. Removing to Montgomery county, he became one of the early settlers of Butler township and transformed a tract of raw, wild land into a good farm, the richly tilled fields yielding him fine harvests. There he carried on general agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred July 5, 1903. His wife had died several years before. They are survived by four of their seven children.

Thomas Doyle spent his youth upon the home farm, attending the common schools, where he mastered the branches of English learning usually taught in such institutions and thus became well prepared for the discharge of his business duties and obligations. He has always followed farming as a life work. He was married in Raymond township on the 14th of Feb-



JAMES DOYLE



L. T. DOYLE AND FAMILY

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ruary, 1891, to Miss Fanny Seward, who spent her girlhood days in this locality and attended the school in which her husband was pursuing his education. Her father, Oscar Seward, was one of the early settlers of Montgomery county. Mrs. Doyle inherited some of her father's farm and Mr. Doyle extended the boundaries of this place by making extensive additional purchases until he now has five hundred and fifty-five acres of land. He has continued the work of cultivation and improvement, has repaired and remodeled the house, has built two barns, has planted a young orchard and now has a very valuable property, situated within two miles of Raymond, so that the advantages and opportunities of the town are easily accessible. In addition to general farming he was one of the organizers of the Raymond National Bank, took stock therein and is still interested in the institution. He is progressive in both business life and citizenship, is regarded as one of the most industrious agriculturists of his locality and is continually putting forth effort to improve his farm and add to its convenience and to supplement its fertility and value.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Doyle has been blessed with two children: Oscar J. and Lemar S. Mr. Doyle votes with the Democratic party and served for one term as supervisor and also as a member of the honorable county board. He has been a delegate to the county and state conventions of his party and is deeply interested in its success, doing all in his power to promote its growth and to secure its victory. He is a man of integrity and honor and his character development has been along lines that ever command respect and good will. The fact that his staunchest friends are among those who have known him longest is an indication that his career has been worthy of respect and as one of the valued native sons of Montgomery county we present his record to our readers.

JAMES H. ATTERBURY.

James Hardin Atterbury, of Litchfield, Illinois, was born two miles northwest of that city, March 7, 1858. The Atterbury family is of English descent. The first of the name in this

country is believed to have been James Atterbury, who lived before the Revolution at Camden, South Carolina. He was the father of Charles Atterbury, and the latter was the father of Michael Atterbury, the father of Abram D. Atterbury, the father of J. H. Atterbury, of this sketch. Michael Atterbury was married to Elizabeth Kessinger, a daughter of Joseph Kessinger, a son of Solomon Kessinger. The latter was born near Wittenburg, Germany, and died near Millerstown, Hart county, Kentucky, in 1837, at the age of one hundred years.

Abram D. Atterbury was born in Grayson county, Kentucky, February 26, 1827; came to Illinois in 1850, and on October 19, 1853, at Hardinsburg, in Montgomery county, was married to Mrs. Julia A. Ogle, nee McFarland, the widow of Joseph T. Ogle and the mother of Joseph T. Ogle, now a retired farmer living in the suburbs of Litchfield. Mrs. Abram D. Atterbury was the daughter of David McFarland, of near O'Fallon, in St. Clair county, Illinois. The latter was the son of Donald McFarland, the son of Malcomb McFarland, the son of Duncan McFarland. Mrs. Abram D. Atterbury's mother was Ruth Sparks, daughter of David Sparks, the son of Joseph Sparks. Mr. and Mrs. Atterbury had three sons: George W., of Buffalo, New York; James H., the subject of this review; and Charles M., of Chicago. Abram D. Atterbury died at Litchfield, April 27, 1898. His widow still lives in this city.

James H. Atterbury acquired his early education in the country school, and then went to the high school of this city, where he lacked three months of graduating. He attended McKendree College at Lebanon, Illinois, from 1874 to 1879, graduating in the classical course in June of the latter year. He then went to the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, where he completed the law course in 1881. He was admitted to the Michigan bar at Detroit, but returned to Litchfield and was admitted to the bar of Illinois in May, 1881, after which for several years he was a member of the firm of Southworth & Atterbury. He was afterward admitted to the bar of the supreme court of the United States at Washington.

As a lawyer he has been connected with some important litigation, and has represented some large financial interests. In 1883 he was elected secretary of the Chicago, Springfield & St. Louis Railway Company, which began the construction of the line now the Illinois Central Railroad Company between Springfield and St. Louis. In 1890 he instituted a suit resulting in the appointment of a receiver of the St. Louis, Alton & Springfield Railroad Company. In 1894 he organized and was elected president of the Belleville Electric Railway Company, which converted the horse railway to an electric one. In 1895 he organized and was made a director and secretary of the Williamson County Coal Company. In the same year he was a director and secretary of the Chicago, Paducah & Memphis Railway Company (now a part of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad), and was its general solicitor, having charge of its legal department, and moved his family to Mt. Vernon, Illinois, where he lived for three years. In 1899 he was elected a director and secretary of the St. Louis, Oklahoma & Southern Railway Company (now a part of the Frisco system), and had charge of its legal department while it constructed its line from Sapulpa, Indian Territory, to Denison, Texas, a distance of two hundred miles. He has since practiced his profession at Litchfield, where he is also active in the promotion of anything which promises to be of public good to the city.

On January 31, 1894, he was married to Miss Fannie Kathan, a daughter of A. J. and Eliza (Perry) Kathan. His wife was born in St. Louis, August 24, 1872. Mr. and Mrs. James H. Atterbury have one son, James Hardin Atterbury, Jr., born December 23, 1895. Mr. Atterbury in politics has always been an active Republican, but has never held nor sought public office.

S. W. ELDRÉD.

S. W. Eldred, a substantial farmer and stock-raiser living on section 9, Bois Darc township, is the owner of extensive landed possessions, his farm comprising seven hundred acres. He is a native son of Illinois and

his life history is such of which the state can well be proud, for in his career he has displayed the enterprising spirit which has led to the substantial and rapid development of the great west.

He was born in Greene county, Illinois, November 12, 1848, and is a son of Jeduthan B. Eldred, whose birth occurred in Herkimer county, New York, July 23, 1820. The grandfather, William Eldred, was a native of Connecticut and in 1820 he removed westward with his family to Illinois, settling in Greene county in 1821. He was one of the pioneer residents of that part of the state, taking up his abode in a locality where there were few settlements, when the greater part of the land was unimproved and when the now thriving cities were small villages, or had not yet been founded. There amid the wild scenes of frontier life J. B. Eldred was reared and, seeking a companion and helpmate for life's journey, he was married in Greene county to Miss Jane E. Thomas, whose birth occurred in that county, June 6, 1823, and who was a daughter of Samuel Thomas, said to be the first white settler of that county. Mr. Eldred became an active farmer of Greene county and, making judicious investments in land, became the owner of nearly five hundred acres. The life of the farmer, especially at that day when there was little improved machinery, was particularly arduous, but he worked on year after year and in due course of time accumulated a handsome competence. He reared his family upon the old homestead there and made it his place of residence up to the time of his death, which occurred April 13, 1887. His wife still survives him and now makes her home with her children.

S. W. Eldred was reared under the parental roof in Greene county and at the usual age he entered the public schools, therein acquiring a good practical education. He received manual training at farm labor under the direction of his father, whom he continued to assist upon the old homestead up to the time of his marriage. In Jacksonville, Illinois, on the 21st of December, 1876, he was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary J. Robertson, a native of Morgan county, Illinois, and a daughter of John



MR. AND MRS. S. W. ELDRED

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and Mary Robertson, also natives of that county. She was reared in the county of her nativity, pursuing her education in the schools of Jacksonville.

Mr. Eldred came to his present home in 1814 and began the development of his farm, which at that time had few improvements. The place, however, was three hundred and twenty acres in extent and with characteristic energy he began to till the fields, construct buildings and continued the farm work along progressive lines that have led to substantial and gratifying results. As his financial resources increased he has bought more land from time to time and he now has seven hundred and fourteen acres. He has erected a large two-story residence, also three barns, corn cribs, sheds and other outbuildings, has planted fruit and shade trees and now has an excellent property equipped with all modern conveniences and accessories and displaying in its excellent appearance the careful supervision of the owner. The farm is enclosed with a hedge and wire fence, which also divide the place into fields of convenient size. In the pastures are found good grades of stock and annually he ships about four carloads of fat hogs, from four to six carloads of steers and two carloads of sheep. He is very successful as a stock-raiser and dealer and is accounted one of the leading agriculturists of this part of the county. He is also a stockholder and director in the Carrollton Bank. His father was one of the organizers of this institution and his brother has been in this bank for twenty-seven years as cashier.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Eldred have been born two sons and a daughter: John J., who is now occupying a position in the Carrollton Bank; William S., who assists in the operation of the home farm; and Jennie, also under the parental roof. The parents hold membership in the Baptist church of Bois Darc, to which their children also belong and they are deeply interested in the various church activities and contribute generously to the support of the church. Mr. Eldred cast his first presidential vote in 1872 for General Grant and has supported each presidential nominee of the Republican party since that time, having firm

faith in the Republican principles and earnestly desiring their adoption. He served as commissioner of highways, but otherwise has held no office, preferring to give his undivided attention to his business affairs. He has been blessed with remarkably good health, having never had to employ the services of a physician for over thirty years. His entire life has been passed in Illinois and he has assisted materially in making Montgomery county what it is to-day, never neglecting any duty of citizenship, while at the same time promoting his individual business interests with success. He is one of the honored residents of his community, having the good will and confidence of those with whom he has been associated for in all his trade transactions he has been strictly reliable, making the most of his opportunities, yet never taking advantage of the necessities of his fellow men in any business transaction.

JAMES VERRICKER.

James Verrickier, interested in farming as the owner of a rich and arable tract of land well improved with modern equipments and located on section 22, Witt township, was born in County Kilkenny, Ireland, on the 15th of September, 1846. His parents were Edward and Margaret (Powers) Verrierker, also natives of Ireland, whence they came to the United States in 1850, settling in Ohio. The father there engaged in farming for some time and afterward removed to Jersey county, Illinois, arriving in this state in 1855. He died in 1860 at the age of sixty-five years, and his wife passed away in Montgomery county in March, 1892, at the advanced age of eighty-two years.

James Verrickier is indebted to the public schools of Jersey county for the educational privileges which he enjoyed in his youth. He was but four years of age at the time of the emigration to America and was a lad of nine summers when he arrived in this state. On the 11th of April, 1864, when but seventeen years of age, he offered his services to the country in defense of the Union, enlisting in Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-fourth Illinois Infantry. He participated in the battles of

Jackson, Mississippi, and Mobile, together with several other engagements, and was honorably discharged on the 7th of August, 1865, at Vicksburg, Mississippi. He then returned to Jersey county, but the hardships and rigors of war had so undermined his health that he was ill for two years and unable to do anything. He afterward conducted a saloon at Fidelia, Jersey county, but when six months had passed he engaged in teaming in Macoupin county, following that pursuit for a year and a half. He afterward worked by the month for two years and in 1871 he came to Montgomery county, where he purchased forty acres of land, which became the nucleus of his present farm. He has since added to the place at different times as his financial resources have permitted until he now owns two hundred acres of valuable land, constituting a productive farm. He put all of the improvements on the place and transformed the tract, which was at first swamp land, into very arable fields, annually returning to him good crops.

On the 27th of July, 1874, Mr. Verrierker was married to Miss Mary Ann Gaughen, a daughter of Austin and Julia (Fleming) Gaughen, the former born in County Mayo and the latter in County Carlow, Ireland. They came to the United States in 1844, settling in Will county, Illinois, whence they removed to Jersey county in 1857. There Mrs. Verrierker was born on the 25th of December, of that year. After three years the parents removed to Montgomery county, where the father engaged in farming for six years. He afterward lived in Fayette, Illinois, and in 1875 returned to Montgomery county, locating near Nokomis. His wife died July 10, 1893, at the age of sixty-five years, but Mr. Gaughen is still living at the age of seventy-eight years and makes his home with Mr. and Mrs. Verrierker.

Unto our subject and his wife have been born thirteen children: Julia, who was born December 7, 1873, and died when nine months old; Margaret Mary, who was born August 14, 1876, and is the wife of John Lanahan, a farmer of this county; Edward James, born November 17, 1878, who is at home; Augustine Leo, who was born April 1, 1881, and is married and lives in Nokomis township; Thomas

Henry, who was born March 13, 1884; Bridget Catharine, who was born May 1, 1887, and is at home; Mary and Alice, twins, born January 10, 1886, who died in infancy; John Clement, who was born October 1, 1889, and is also at home; William, born February 5, 1892, Michael, born March 20, 1894, Elizabeth Ellen, born in July, 1896, and James, born May 15, 1900, are all at home. The parents are members of the Catholic church of Nokomis and in his political views Mr. Verrierker is independent, supporting the men whom he thinks best qualified for office.

MICHAEL J. McMURRAY.

Michael J. McMurray, who for six years has been a member of the bar of Montgomery county, is now known as one of the strong representatives of this calling in his adopted county and is serving as county judge. He was born in Sangamon county, Illinois, on the 8th of March, 1864, a son of Michael and Mary E. (Dugan) McMurray. His father, a native of Ireland, came to the United States in 1848 and located in Morgan county, Illinois, where he engaged in general farming and stock-raising. In 1861 he removed to Sangamon county, but his last days were spent at Farmersville, this county. In his political faith he was a Democrat and in religious belief was a Catholic. He wedded Mary E. Dugan, also a native of Ireland, and in 1850 came to the United States with her parents, the family home being established in Jersey county, Illinois. Her father, Michael Dugan, was a farmer by occupation and became a very extensive landowner. He, too, was identified with the Catholic church and in that faith Mrs. McMurray was reared. By her marriage she became the mother of fourteen children, eleven of whom are now living, seven sons and four daughters.

Michael J. McMurray acquired his early education in the public schools and afterward attended Illinois College at Jacksonville, subsequent to which time he engaged in teaching school for six years. He read law in the office of Conkling & Grout, of Springfield, and in 1892 was admitted to the bar after careful and



JUDGE M. J. McMURRAY

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thorough preparation. He entered upon the practice of his chosen profession at Litchfield, Illinois, where he remained for six years, and then removed to Hillsboro in 1898. He is a Democrat in his political allegiance and in 1896 upon that ticket he was chosen by popular ballot the first city attorney of Litchfield, his predecessors having been appointed by the council. In 1898 he was elected to the office of county judge and was re-elected in 1902 by an increased majority, so that he is now serving upon the bench. In the practice of his profession he has been very successful and his is one of the fine legal minds of this part of the state. He is a safe counselor, well versed in law, and during his two terms on the bench has been distinguished for high legal ability. To wear the ermine worthily it is not enough that one possess legal acumen, is learned in the principles of jurisprudence, familiar with precedents and thoroughly honest. Many men, even when acting uprightly, are wholly unable to divest themselves of prejudice and are unconsciously warped in their judgments by their own mental characteristics or educational peculiarities. This unconscious and variable disturbing force enters more or less into the judgments of all men, but in the ideal jurist this factor becomes so small as not to be discernible in results and loses its potency as a disturbing force. Judge McMurray is exceptionally free from all judicial bias. His varied legal learning and wide experience in the courts, the patient care with which he ascertains all the facts bearing upon every case which comes before him, give his decisions a solidity and an exhaustiveness from which no member of the bar can take exception.

Judge McMurray was married in 1903 to Miss Juliet K. Fink, a daughter of Dr. Isaac W. and Sarah C. (Sawyer) Fink. She was born in Hillsboro and is a lady of superior education and ability. She attended Monticello Seminary and afterward went abroad to finish her education, taking up painting and other arts under some of the best instructors of Europe. She has displayed much more than ordinary ability as an artist.

Judge McMurray is a man of high character, displaying public spirit and unfaltering loy-

alty to the obligations and duties imposed upon him by his professional and official career. His acquaintances and friends—and they are many—entertain for him that warm personal regard which arises from true nobility of character, kindness, geniality and deference for the opinion of others.

HENRY W. BARTLING.

Henry W. Bartling, who was a member of the firm of Bartling Brothers, is doing a wholesale business as a shipper of poultry and produce at Litchfield, was born in Alton, Illinois, in 1862, and is a son of Henry W. Bartling. Coming to this city in early boyhood he attended its public schools and afterward worked upon a farm until 1881, when he secured a situation in the hardware store of Caudry & Rhoades, of Litchfield, and here he remained for four years. He then went west, spending two years in that section of the country, after which he returned and entered the hardware store of Updike & Cratty, being employed therein from 1886 until 1891. In 1891 he formed a stock company with the members of that firm and the name was changed to the Updike, Cratty Hardware Company, with the following officers: Samuel Cratty, president; Henry W. Bartling, vice president; P. P. Updike, secretary and treasurer; and the business was capitalized for ten thousand dollars. In July, 1894, however, Mr. Bartling sold his interest and entered the employ of H. H. Henson, a dealer in produce and poultry, with whom he remained until January, 1897, when he and his brother Carl purchased their employer's business, forming the present well-known firm of Bartling Brothers, wholesale shippers of poultry and produce. They do a business amounting to sixty thousand dollars a year and their business is not only proving profitable to themselves but also furnishes an excellent market for the surrounding district as they make large purchases from the farmers and poultry raisers. Henry W. Bartling is also identified with other business interests of this city, being a member of the firm of H. W. Bartling & Company, dealers

in ice and coal and a director in the Oil City Building & Loan Association.

In 1892 occurred the marriage of Henry W. Bartling and Miss Lena Craft, who was born in Mount Olive, Illinois, in 1868. They have four children: Wilmont, Arthur, Paul and Henry. They also lost a daughter, Elizabeth.

Mr. Bartling gives his political support to the Democracy and keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day so that by intelligent argument he can uphold his political position. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity and of the Odd Fellows lodge of Litchfield and his wife is a member of the Lutheran church. His progress and advancement in the business world are due not to any fortunate combination of circumstances, but result from persistent, earnest labor, the utilization of opportunity and unfaltering determination combined with creditable ambition.

T. L. LANE.

T. L. Lane, possessing the business enterprise which is characteristic of the middle west and has been the strong element in the rapid growth and development of this portion of the county, is now successfully engaged in merchandising in Fillmore. He was born in Fillmore township, Montgomery county, March 24, 1850, and has passed his entire life here. His parents were Jonathan B. and Sarah (Harris) Lane, but the latter died at the birth of our subject. About one year later the father married Rachel Bost, a daughter of Jacob Bost, one of the pioneer settlers of Montgomery county. She is now living at the old home place. The father was born in New Hampshire, September 10, 1826, was reared in the old Granite state to the age of twelve years and in 1838 came to Illinois, the family home being established near Galesburg. He entered upon his business career as a farmer and followed that pursuit continuously until 1860, when he turned his attention to merchandising, conducting a business upon his farm west of Fillmore. He was also a very extensive farmer and at the

time of his death was the owner of five hundred and seventy-four acres of valuable land. His son, T. L. Lane, was made executor of his estate. His residence in Montgomery county dated from 1840, and thus he was one of its earliest settlers. He took an active and helpful part in community affairs, never withheld his co-operation from any enterprise which tended to prove of public benefit. In the month of April following the twenty-first anniversary of his birth he was elected justice of the peace and held that office continuously for about twenty years, his decisions being characterized by the utmost fairness and impartiality, a fact which is plainly indicated by his long continuance in office. He was postmaster at Fillmore for more than forty years, or until President Cleveland's administration. He died March 16, 1902, and the county thus lost one of its most honored and valued pioneer settlers. In the family were eight children, and with one exception all are yet living.

T. L. Lane, whose name introduces this record, was reared under the parental roof and was educated in the district schools of this county. He started upon his business career in 1872, settling upon a farm, and there resided until thirteen years ago, when he removed to Fillmore and began clerking for the old firm of J. B. Lane & Son, remaining in that employ for twelve years. After his father's death he purchased the store, which he is now conducting, it becoming his property on the 7th of June, 1902. He is the sole proprietor, and handles a good and well selected line of groceries, dry goods, notions, clothing, hats and caps, boots and shoes, glassware and tinware, in fact, his stock is such as is the demand of the village and country trade, and his honorable dealing and earnest desire to please his patrons has secured to him a large and growing business, which brings to him a good profit.

In October, 1872, Mr. Lane was united in marriage to Miss Minerva Barringer, a daughter of Alfred Barringer, of East Fork township, and unto them have been born four children, of whom three are living: Estella C., Lottie M. and Orville B. The family are all members of the Evangelical church and Mr. Lane is identified with the Knights of Pythias frater-

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MR. AND MRS. T. L. LANE



MR. AND MRS. JONATHAN B. LANE

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nity of Fillmore. In politics he is a Republican, and the father was one of the first to vote that ticket in this district. Mr. Lane belongs to that class of representative American men who, while devoted to individual interests, also advance the general welfare, and in Fillmore and throughout the surrounding district he is known as one who is thoroughly reliable, progressive and public-spirited.

JAMES D. KENDALL.

James D. Kendall, who is usually known as Judge Kendall, is actively engaged in farming in Zanesville township on section 11, and is a recognized leader in Democratic circles in Montgomery county. He was born in Jersey county, Illinois, December 20, 1839. His father, Samuel T. Kendall, was a native of the adjoining state of Indiana, born in 1808, and came to Illinois with his mother in 1821, the family home being established in Macoupin county, where the present town of Carlinville now stands. Mrs. Kendall and her sons, Thomas, Samuel S. and John H., built the first house in that locality. It was a rude pioneer cabin, but it served to shelter the family until a better home could be erected. Samuel Kendall was twice married, but his first wife died soon after the wedding and later he was married in St. Charles, Missouri, to Catherine J. Sumner, a native of Tennessee. Locating in Jersey county, Illinois, he there engaged in farming until his death, which occurred in 1849. He served as adjutant of an Illinois regiment during the Black Hawk war and was a member of the state legislature for two terms when the capital was at Vandalia. In his family were five sons and two daughters and four of the sons and the daughters reached mature years, while three sons and the daughters are yet living.

Judge Kendall spent his early youth in Jersey county, Illinois, upon the home farm, where he lived with an aunt until nineteen years of age. He then began working as a farm hand by the month and was employed in that way for several years. When the country needed the aid of its loyal sons he enlisted in Jersey

county in March, 1862, joining the boys in blue of the Second Illinois Cavalry. When the regiment arrived at Cairo he was detailed for service in the quartermaster's department and acted as wagonmaster under General John M. Palmer, filling that position continuously until discharged for physical disability, by order of the secretary of war late in 1863. He was home on a furlough ill with typhoid fever when discharged.

On recovering his health Mr. Kendall engaged in farming in Jersey county until 1866 and then came to Montgomery county, where he rented a tract of land which he cultivated for a number of years. The capital he acquired through his earnings and which he saved by his commendable economy was then invested in land and he began the improvement of his own farm, which he has transformed into a fine property. It is a good place of seventy acres, on which he has planted an excellent orchard. He has also fenced the place and made other substantial improvements and in connection with general farming he has engaged in the breeding of horses, keeping a good stallion and also a jack for breeding purposes. Upon his place is found only high grade stock.

On Christmas day of 1864, Judge Kendall was married to Miss Elizabeth Margaret Hackney, who was born and reared in Jersey county and is a daughter of William Hackney, formerly of New York. Four sons and two daughters have been born unto Mr. and Mrs. Kendall: Albert A., a farmer of Montgomery county; Harry S., of Springfield, Illinois; John E., of East St. Louis; Carrie J., the wife of Harry H. Birch, of Waggoner, Illinois; George M., of East St. Louis; and Laura H. White, at home.

Politically Judge Kendall is a stalwart Democrat and is recognized as one of the foremost representatives of his party in this portion of the county. He cast his first presidential ballot for the Little Giant of Illinois—Stephen A. Douglas—in 1860, and has voted for each presidential nominee since that time and also the Democratic nominees for governor and for congress. He has served as justice of the peace, was deputy sheriff of the county for six years and has assessed his township five

times. He is now serving for the eighth year as a member of the honorable county board of supervisors and was at one time chosen president of the board. He is now serving on the committees on fees and salaries and roads and bridges. He was appointed postmaster of Waggoner under President Cleveland's administration and occupied that position for three years. Judge Kendall has frequently been a delegate to the county and state conventions of his party and has served on the Democratic central committee of Montgomery county for twenty-six years. He and his wife are members of the Baptist church, in which he is serving as a deacon, and he belongs to the Masonic fraternity and the Modern Woodmen camp. He is well known in Hillsboro and throughout the county where he has so long resided, and is justly accounted one of its progressive, prominent and influential residents of Zanesville township. He is proud of his record as a staunch life-long Democrat and one of his sterling characteristics is his unbending fidelity to whatever he believes to be right.

JOHN ROBERT CHALLACOMBE.

John Robert Challacombe, well known in Montgomery county, is one whose extensive and varied business interests have resulted in the acquirement of a comfortable competence. Today he is engaged in contracting for the construction of steel bridges and water towers at Hillsboro, is also a director and stockholder in the Decatur Bridge Company of Decatur, Illinois, and a partner in the firm of Challacombe Brothers, dealers in farm implements at Nokomis.

A native son of Illinois, he was born in Macoupin county in 1845. His father, John Challacombe, was born in Devonshire, England, near Ifracombe. The grandfather, John Challacombe, Sr., was likewise a native of the county of Devonshire, born in 1785. He married Elizabeth Parminster in 1814. Her father, James Parminster, was appointed superintendent to oversee the removal of the sick and infirm women and children at the time of the threatened invasion of England by Na-

oleon. John Challacombe, Sr., died at the age of sixty years and was buried at Carlinville, Illinois. His wife had departed this life three years before. In their family were eight children, of whom John Challacombe, Jr., was the third in order of birth. He came to the United States in 1833, the voyage being successfully accomplished, although while in mid-sea a severe storm was encountered. It was the intention of the family to locate in Illinois, but they stopped first at Brockport, in western New York, on the Erie canal. Not long afterward Mr. Challacombe purchased a farm in Genesee county, New York, forty miles east of Buffalo. In 1840 he sold that property and removed to Macoupin county, Illinois, settling on the farm now known as the John M. Palmer place, three miles southwest of Carlinville. On the removal westward the trip was made from Buffalo to Cleveland by water, thence by way of the Ohio canal to Portsmouth, thence down the Ohio river and up the Mississippi and Illinois rivers to Columbiana, Illinois, and on to Carrollton.

John Challacombe, father of our subject, spent the early part of his life as a farmer and was engaged in the raising of stock for a number of years at Alton. Finally he turned his attention to the grain trade and to contracting, doing paving and building. Through his well directed efforts he won prosperity and at one time had a large property in Alton. He died in Litchfield, May 29, 1904, at the age of eighty-six years. His political allegiance was given to the Republican party and his religious belief was indicated by his membership in the Presbyterian church. He married Rachel Padgett, who was born in Virginia, March 22, 1822, and died February 18, 1850, at the age of twenty-eight years. Her father was Robert Padgett, a native of England, who, on crossing the Atlantic to America, settled in Virginia, whence he afterward removed to Palmyra, Macoupin county, Illinois, where he carried on agricultural pursuits. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Challacombe were born three children. William Brotherton is now living in Sedalia, Missouri. He was a member of the Twelfth Illinois Cavalry and served throughout the war. He was detailed at headquarters most of

the time, at Sheridan's headquarters, and was engaged in writing the history of the engagements and movements of the army. John Robert is the next of the family. James Parminter is engaged in the implement business at Nokomis. After the death of his first wife the father of our subject married Elizabeth Boulter, whose parents settled near Brighton, Illinois, at a very early day. The children of this marriage were Anna, George and Lizzie. The last named died in 1884.

In the public schools at Alton, Illinois, John Robert Challacombe acquired his early education, which was supplemented by study in McKendree College at Lebanon, Illinois, and in Bacon's Commercial College at Cincinnati, Ohio. After leaving school he engaged in bookkeeping in a wholesale grocery house at Alton, Illinois, and was afterward employed in the Alton postoffice. Subsequently he became cashier and bookkeeper for L. H. Church & Company, wholesale dealers in dry-goods at Leavenworth, Kansas, being located there during the last years of the war. In 1864 he went to Irving, Illinois, where he conducted a grain elevator that had been built by his father, this being the first one constructed along the line of the Big Four Railroad to handle grain in bulk. Mr. Challacombe continued in the business there for twelve years, on the expiration of which period he removed to Hillsboro and the firm of Challacombe & Ramsey was formed. This relation was maintained for eighteen years and in 1892 Mr. Challacombe purchased the interest of his partner. Not long afterward he sold the hardware department to the Hillsboro Hardware Company, but continued in the implement business until 1900, when he sold out to George W. Brown, Jr. Since then he has been contracting for steel bridges and water towers, with offices in connection with A. A. Cress & Son, in the News building.

In 1872 Mr. Challacombe was united in marriage to Miss Marcella E. Walter, who was born in Hillsboro in 1854. To this union one child was born, Esther Challacombe. Mrs. Challacombe's parents were Colonel Paul and Nancy E. Walter. Her father, a farmer by occupation, is now deceased, and her mother is still living in Hillsboro. Mr. Challacombe be-

longs to the United Commercial Travelers' Association of America and to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. In his political views he is a Republican, a recognized leader in the local ranks of his party. He has been supervisor of Irving township, has served as councilman of Hillsboro and was the representative from the thirty-eighth senatorial district of Illinois to the thirty-ninth general assembly. Few men are more prominent or more widely known in the enterprising city of Hillsboro than John Robert Challacombe. He has been an important factor in business circles and his popularity is well deserved, as in him are embraced the characteristics of an unbending integrity, unabating energy and industry that never flags. He is public-spirited and thoroughly interested in whatever tends to promote the moral, intellectual and material welfare of Hillsboro and Montgomery county.

W. H. COOK, M. D.

Dr. W. H. Cook, whose comprehensive knowledge of the principles of the medical science and skill in the administration of remedial agencies has made him one of the prominent physicians of Coffeen and of his part of the county, was born in Shelby county, Kentucky, in 1834, his parents being F. B. and M. (Roseberry) Cook. His paternal grandfather, William Cook, served as a sergeant in Wall's Company of the Fourth Virginia Regiment in the Revolutionary war. This fact indicates that the family was established in America in colonial days. The parents of Dr. Cook were born and reared in Shelby county, Kentucky, and the father followed the occupation of farming up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1847.

Dr. Cook acquired his early education in the subscription schools of his native county and later attended the public schools. When nineteen years of age he removed to Putnam county, Indiana, and was there engaged in teaching school and in clerking in a store. He spent several years in that locality and was a medical student in a physician's office there for two years. In 1861 he came to Mont-

gomery county, where he practiced medicine with a preceptor for a time. When the war was ended he entered Washington University at St. Louis, Missouri, then known as the St. Louis Medical College, and completed a course of study by graduation with the class of 1867. In 1879 he again entered that institution for post-graduate work. He possesses a splendid medical library and has even kept in touch with the advancement made by the profession, using the latest improved instruments in his surgical practice and administering those remedies which modern science have demonstrated to be most effective in checking the ravages of disease. He has, moreover, been prominent in medical organizations and is now president of the County Medical Society. He was one of the charter members of the District Medical Society, was its secretary for two years and did most of the correspondence which resulted in the formation of the society. He likewise belongs to the Illinois State Medical Society and to the American Medical Association, and is a member of the American Association of Life Examining Surgeons. He is examiner in Coffeen for nearly all of the leading insurance companies and is one of the oldest practitioners in Montgomery county, arriving here when there were but few towns within the borders of the county. He is a firm believer in higher education, advocating the best mental development that can be secured by each individual, and he has spent much money in educating his children.

In September, 1856, Dr. Cook was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth F. Robinson, of Indiana, and they have become the parents of four children, of whom three are now living: Charles Edwin is a lawyer residing in Greenville, Illinois. Ella J. is married and lives in Ramsey, Illinois. Melvin Thurston is professor of biology in De Pauw University. He was graduated from Stanford University in 1894, won the master's degree at De Pauw and expects to win the doctor's degree at the Ohio State University. While studying in the last named institution he wrote a series of articles upon "Galls and Insects Producing Them," which articles are to be used by him as a thesis for the degree of doctor of philoso-

phy. These papers were published and attracted world-wide attention. He is recognized as one of the best authorities on the subject in the United States, having made most extensive investigations along that line. Recently he has been appointed chief plant pathologist of Cuba.

Dr. Cook has prospered in his professional career and is now the owner of eighty acres of farming land in Montgomery county and also some timber land in addition to his town property in Coffeen. He has always been deeply interested in everything pertaining to the welfare and progress of the county, and his aid and support have been counted upon when an attempt has been made to promote general welfare in any way. In politics he has always been a Democrat, supporting the party from the time he attained his majority. For forty-nine years he has been an exemplary member of the Masonic fraternity, and he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Not only is he one of the older members of the medical fraternity of Montgomery county, but has always maintained a foremost place in the ranks of the profession, and in his life has also displayed the sterling traits of character which have made him a man honored among his friends.

JUDGE JESSE J. PHILLIPS.

Judge Jesse J. Phillips was born in Montgomery county, Illinois, May 22, 1837. His parents came from Kentucky at an early day and were among the pioneer settlers of Montgomery county. Jesse received a liberal education at the old Hillsboro Academy and in 1857 entered the law office of Davis & Kingsbury of Hillsboro as a law student. In 1860 he was admitted to the bar and immediately opened a law office in Hillsboro. He remained in the practice of his profession until the breaking out of the Civil war in the spring of 1861.

Upon the first call of President Lincoln for troops Phillips hung a flag from his office window and announced that he would raise a company to aid in preserving the Union. He



JUDGE J. J. PHILLIPS

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was elected captain. Upon the organization of the Ninth Regiment, Illinois Infantry, Captain Phillips was elected major of the regiment. At the expiration of the term of enlistment—three months—the Ninth was reorganized, Phillips retaining his position as major. The regiment was soon ordered to the front and was engaged in a number of notable battles, acquiring the name of the "Bloody Ninth."

On December 2, 1861, Major Phillips was commissioned lieutenant colonel. For his gallantry in the battle of Fort Donelson he was publicly complimented by General Grant. He participated in the memorable battle of Shiloh, April 6, 1862, and his command lost one hundred and three killed on the field, two hundred and eighty-seven were wounded, and ten were taken prisoners. Colonel Phillips was shot through the hand, permanently disabling that member, and twice through the thigh.

In August, 1863, Colonel Phillips, in command of sixteen hundred men, raided through Mississippi, carrying consternation and havoc wherever he went. At the battle of Resaca, in May, 1864, Colonel Phillips was shot through the ankle and on September 1, 1864, he resigned, having seen, perhaps, more hard fighting than any officer in the Union army. He was always a gallant and fearless leader and was idolized by his men. He was afterward brevetted brigadier general for gallant, meritorious and distinguished services.

After his resignation from the army he resumed the practice of the law with great success. He was soon recognized as the leading lawyer of the county, if not of this part of the state.

In 1866 and again in 1868 he was the Democratic nominee for state treasurer. In 1879 he was elected circuit judge of this circuit and served in that capacity thirteen years. In 1893 he was elected to the supreme bench, which position he held when he died.

He died on the 16th of February, 1901, and of the many tributes of respect paid to his memory we quote the following by Judge J. G. Irwin, of Edwardsville:

"My acquaintance with Judge Phillips dates from August 19, 1861. He was then twenty-four years old, and was a rare example of the

qualities which fit a man for war. His presence was so inspiring that he had few, if any, superiors in the impersonation of the gifts which make a man a leader of men while undergoing the deprivations and the disciplinary duties of camp life, or when engaged in deadly strife upon the field of battle. His individuality marked him as a man born to be a soldier, and destined to win the name and fame for himself and the men who fought under him, which the records of the Civil war now accord to him and them. He had a physique which never seemed to flag, much less succumb to fatigue, hardship, exposure or the strain of battle, siege, march, or raid, no matter how long continued nor how intense or trying the situation in which he or his men might be placed by the fortunes or misfortunes of war. His unconquerable spirit sustained the physical man in every struggle, and made him personally the victor over every difficulty or discomfiture, and enabled him to vanquish his enemies at the front. It may be doubted, physically speaking, whether flesh and blood was ever called upon to endure more than he and his men endured during the Civil war. On all occasions, under all circumstances, in every emergency and in every situation, in body and spirit he most nobly fulfilled his country's expectations, in fullest measure, at the front in the Civil war. The occasion forbids going into the details of this record, and necessarily limits comment upon it except to the extent called for by a sketch sufficiently full to show the character and qualities of a soldier. He did not know what fear was, and always courted instead of shunning danger. No field officer was ever known to expose himself to the dangers of the firing line with such perfect abandon and such unconcern for his own personal safety as Phillips. This was not occasional, but habitual with him. He seemed to glory in it, and was always willing to go where he asked his men to go. He led and never took advantage of his privilege of following. Herein, and in the magnetism of his voice, and of his heroic bearing in field and camp, was the secret of his power to inspire subordination and lead men to death or victory. He was not a rigid or severe disciplinarian, and yet there is no

instance of a spirit of insubordination, or disposition to disobey orders or rebel against the requirements of superiors in the record of his regiment. No matter who might be criticised in private, if complaints were ever uttered against Colonel Phillips, I can recall nothing of the kind, and do not believe they were ever entertained. He was idolized by his men, not one of whom would have refused to obey or follow where he led or commanded them to go. This was wholly due to the inspiration of his own heroic example, and was free from the taint of servility.

"When to the value of his services as a soldier we add that of his worth as a judge, so well set forth by his associates on the bench on this occasion, we can say that the state has lost a citizen of pre-eminent worth, in the death of Judge Phillips. He occupied a large place, and rendered services which it is the good fortune of few men to be able to render, at a period in the progress of his country, which entitled him to be held in grateful remembrance by his fellow citizens. Whatever his faults or frailties may have been, his services as a soldier and jurist should totally obscure them, and his name should be handed down with approbation of everything that pertains to his public life and services. In these respects he was certainly true to high ideals and standards of citizenship. He was conspicuously a man of honor in all the relationships of camp and forum. Let us fondly and frequently hope that the state of the soul at the last gave the spirit of our lamented friend and comrade entrance into the realm where war and strife are unknown, and where the peace that passeth understanding shall be his everlasting portion."

DAVID S. WARE.

David S. Ware was numbered among the early settlers of Montgomery county, having made his home within its borders from 1855. He was born in New Hampshire, October 25, 1828, a son of David and Mary (Smith) Ware, the former a native of New Hampshire and the latter of Vermont. The father followed the

occupation of farming and spent his last days in the state of his nativity. Unto him and his wife were born four children: Theoda, the wife of George Tolle; David S.; Mary, deceased; and Samuel B.

David S. Ware acquired his education in the public schools of New Hampshire and afterward engaged in teaching school. It was in 1855 that he emigrated westward, establishing his home in Montgomery county, Illinois, at what is known as Ware's Grove, in Butler Grove township. He was for many years thereafter actively engaged in agricultural pursuits and secured an extensive tract of land, which he transformed into richly developed fields. He placed many modern improvements and accessories upon his farm, equipping it with all the facilities that tended to make his labors of greater avail in securing a competence. At length, having acquired a good capital, he put aside business cares and removed to East Hillsboro to enjoy the fruits of his former toil in an honorable retirement from further labor. There he died in August, 1904.

Mr. Ware was twice married. He first wedded Lestina Brigham, who was born in New Hampshire and died in 1872 at the age of forty-one years. Her parents were Aaron and Susan (Proctor) Brigham, the former a farmer by occupation. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Ware were born nine children, including John, who resides near Coffeen, Illinois; Arthur, who is living at Ware's Grove; David, who makes his home in the same locality; Lyman, who resides on the old homestead; Beulah, the wife of Albert Chickering, of New Hampshire; and Emma, the wife of Jesse Osborn, who is living five miles north of Hillsboro. In 1872 Mr. Ware was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Catharine (Dryer) Wiley, the widow of Robert Wiley. She was born in Hillsboro in 1829 and was a daughter of John and Mary Dryer, who came to Montgomery county prior to 1824 and settled in Hillsboro, removing to the west from New York. He was a wheelwright by trade, and after coming to the west also engaged in farming. On removing from Hillsboro he took up his abode at St. John, Illinois, where he resided for three or four years, and finally his death occurred



MRS. ORA J. (WILEY) LIPE

W. H. WILEY

MRS. CATHARINE (DRYER) WARE

CORYDON CLYDE LIPE

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in Montgomery county, about six miles north of Hillsboro, March 21, 1844. His wife bore the maiden name of Mary Nusman and was a daughter of John Nusman, the first settler of Hillsboro and the builder of the first cabin in the town. He, too, was a wheelwright and farmer. Mrs. Ware's grandmother found the first spring in Hillsboro, the one which now furnishes water for the city.

By her first marriage Mrs. Ware had seven children, of whom three are now living: Sadie E., who is engaged in teaching school in Salida, Colorado; W. H. Wiley, who makes his home in Butler Grove township; and Hattie, the wife of Charles Mann, of Lincoln, Nebraska. Mrs. Ware is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and is well known in Montgomery county, being a representative of one of its honored pioneer families.

Mr. Ware gave his political allegiance to the Republican party and served as justice of the peace, as school director and was supervisor for one term. His career clearly illustrated the possibilities that are open in this country to earnest, persevering young men who have the courage of their convictions and are determined to be the architects of their own fortunes. When judged by what he accomplished his right to a first place among the representative citizens of Hillsboro cannot be questioned.

ROBERT W. KENNEDY.

Robert W. Kennedy has been a resident of Montgomery county since 1859 and few residents, therefore, have longer witnessed its development and progress as it has emerged from pioneer conditions to take its place among the leading counties of this great commonwealth. He resides on section 11, Raymond township, where he has a well improved farm of eighty acres, pleasantly situated about three miles from the village of Raymond. He came to this county when a young man of sixteen years from Brown county, Ohio, where he had resided for about six years. He was born in Ireland and was brought to Illinois by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Kennedy, who purchased a tract of land including the farm upon which

Robert W. Kennedy now resides. The father's original purchase comprised two hundred acres of swamp land and raw prairie and with characteristic energy he began to cultivate and improve this and in due course of time developed a valuable property supplied with many of the modern conveniences and accessories of farm life. His last days were spent upon the old homestead and his wife also died there. In their family were seven children, all of whom are now living and are heads of families.

Robert W. Kennedy remained upon the old homestead until the father's death and during that period assisted in the development and cultivation of the fields. Taking up his abode upon his present farm he has erected here a new residence, has built a barn and other substantial outbuildings for the shelter of grain and stock, has placed his fields under a high state of cultivation and has planted forest and ornamental trees. In addition to his home place he cultivates one hundred and sixty acres adjoining and he is raising good grades of horses, cattle and hogs. His business is well managed and his life is one of unfaltering industry. He has continuously engaged in farming save for the period of his service in the Civil war. On the 1st of May, 1864, he responded to his country's call for troops, enlisting in the One Hundred and Forty-third Illinois Infantry as a member of Company H. With his command he went south to Arkansas and also saw duty in Tennessee, being mostly engaged in guard duty. After the close of his three months term he was honorably mustered out at Mattoon, Illinois, in September, 1864.

Mr. Kennedy was married on the 4th of April, 1868, to Miss Mary E. Dickson, a native of Missouri, where her early girlhood days were spent and then came to Illinois. Her death occurred March 4, 1888, and she was laid to rest in Asbury cemetery near Raymond. She had seven children, of whom three are now living: Maggie E., the wife of Robert J. Bryce, of Indianapolis; William J., who is engaged in business in San Francisco; and Clara L., who is married and resides in Indianapolis. Three of the children of that marriage died in early childhood. On the 6th of February, 1901, Mr. Kennedy was united in mar-

riage to Mrs. Isabel Mey, the widow of Mil-lard F. Mey. By her former marriage she had two children who are now grown.

Politically Mr. Kennedy is an earnest Re-publican and cast his first presidential ballot for Abraham Lincoln in 1864, since which time he has supported each nominee of the party at the head of the ticket. He has been elected and served in various local offices, in-cluding that of township trustee and for twenty-four years he was a member of the school board, during which time he put forth effective and earnest effort in behalf of the schools, believing in the employment of good teachers. He has been elected and is now serving for his third term as assessor and he has been a dele-gate to various county conventions of his party. Fraternally he is connected with the Grand Army of the Republic and is a Master Mason, belonging to Raymond lodge. He was reared in the Presbyterian faith, but he and his wife are now members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Kennedy has been a resident of the county for nearly fifty years and is one of the oldest settlers of Raymond township, where he has a wide acquaintance, his friends being many.

WILLIAM ALLEN FRAME.

The rich prairie tracts of central Illinois furnish splendid opportunity to the agricultur-ist, and William Allen Frame is classed with those who, taking advantage of this opportunity, have won success through indomitable per-severance and untiring energy. A native of Ohio, he was born in Pickaway county, March 29, 1835, and is a son of George Frame, who by two marriages had twelve children, six sons and six daughters. In 1836 the family came to Illinois, going by way of the river route to St. Louis and thence across the country with ox-teams to Montgomery county. They located in East Fork township, where the father pur-chased a claim of one hundred and sixty acres of land, and upon that farm he spent his re-maining days, his death occurring at the age of sixty-four. In addition to general farming he was extensively engaged in the raising of

cattle. Connected with the pioneer develop-ment of the county, he bore his share in promoting public progress, especially along agricultural lines, and deserves mention among the early settlers whose labors proved of practical and far-reaching value here.

William A. Frame was only a year old when brought to Montgomery county, and his mem-ory pictures many of the pioneer conditions which then existed. His environment was such as is usually common on the frontier when the log cabin shelters the early settlers, who have few of the advantages of the older east. He pursued his education in a log schoolhouse, to which he walked a distance of two miles, and when fourteen years of age he started out in life for himself. His father dying, he went to Alton, Illinois, and for two years he worked on a farm through the summer seasons, while in the winter months he attended school. At the age of sixteen he returned to Montgomery county and worked on a farm for James Clot-felter during the greater part of the time for five years, receiving at first but ten dollars per month. He afterward spent about two years as an employe at the slaughter-house at Spring-field, Illinois, and after his marriage he rented land in Hillsboro township. When seven years had passed he purchased one hundred and sixty acres in East Fork township, where he made his home until 1901. All of the improvements upon the place were the work of his hands, and he transformed it into a valuable property. He also extended the boundaries of that farm until it comprised two hundred and fifty acres, which he gave to his sons. During the first two years the proceeds of his farm—largely devoted to wheat-raising—paid for the old place. In 1901 he removed to his present farm of two hundred acres in Hillsboro township. This farm is now mostly in blue grass pasture, and there are living springs upon the place sufficient for one thousand head of cattle. He is now largely engaged in stock-raising and is conducting a profitable business.

On the 17th of March, 1859, Mr. Frame was united in marriage to Zilpah Clotfelter, who was born September 18, 1832, and they had five children: Mary, the wife of Samuel Ed-wards; James, deceased; Amos, who is living



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on the old homestead; Milly, deceased; and George, who is also on the old farm.

Mr. Frame votes with the Republican party, but has never been an office-seeker, preferring to give his attention to his business affairs, in which he has met with excellent success. He started out in life at a very tender age—a poor boy, dependent entirely upon his own resources for a living. He worked early and late and most laboriously to gain a start, but he found scope for his expanding business powers in the agricultural possibilities of the county, and is now one of its substantial and respected farmers. Moreover, he is one of the pioneer settlers of the county, who for almost seventy years has resided here, and has witnessed the changes that have occurred as the county has put off pioneer conditions and become one of the more progressive counties of this great state.

H. S. SHORT, M. D.

Dr. H. S. Short, actively engaged in the practice of medicine and enjoying the success which is evidence of his skill and ability in his chosen profession, was born in Randolph county, North Carolina, May 4, 1840, his parents being Lemuel and Mary (Hasket) Short. The father, also a native of North Carolina, was born in Guilford county, February 24, 1814, and in the fall of 1853 he came to Illinois. He was a teacher by profession, and he established his home in Fayette county east of Ramsey, where he resided for about two years. On the expiration of that period he removed to Shelby county, Illinois, and in 1858 went to Missouri, but was not long permitted to enjoy his new home, for his death there occurred on the 6th of May, 1858. In his family were eleven children, ten of whom reached years of maturity, while five are now living.

H. S. Short spent the first thirteen years of his life in the state of his nativity and then accompanied his parents on their removal to Illinois. His education was acquired in the common schools of Fayette and Shelby counties, and he also attended a Quaker institute north of Indianapolis, Indiana. Having ac-

quired a good literary education to serve as the foundation upon which to build the superstructure of professional knowledge, he entered the Eclectic Medical Institute at Cincinnati, Ohio, where he pursued a complete course of study and was graduated with the class of 1873. He had also previously studied medicine at Ramsey with Dr. Jones, and he practiced for four years before his graduation. He opened an office in Fillmore, Illinois, in July, 1869, practicing there for four years; was also at Ramsey from September, 1875, until 1878, and in the latter year returned to Fillmore, where he has since remained, being now the oldest practitioner of the town. He has been very successful, his practice being attended with excellent results. He has always made a close study of the profession, has kept abreast with the best thinking men who are representatives of the medical science, and has gained a liberal patronage, which is accorded him in recognition of his ability.

Dr. Short was a young man of only about twenty-one years when, on the 3d of July, 1861, he responded to the country's call for aid to preserve the Union and enlisted in Company C, Thirty-fifth Illinois Infantry, from Shelby county. He served until September 27, 1864, and was with Sherman on his campaign as far as Atlanta. He participated in the battles of Stone River, Perryville, Chattanooga and Knoxville, and from the 7th of May until the 18th of August, 1864, was never beyond the range of the enemy's guns, being constantly under fire.

On the 31st of October, 1871, Dr. Short was married to Miss Sarah M. Stokes, a daughter of Bird and Mary Stokes, and they have six children, all of whom are living: Dr. W. T. Short, who is now practicing in Stonington, Illinois; Mary L., the wife of Dr. Hoyt, of Fillmore; Emma E., the wife of Walter Toberman; U. S., who is now practicing in East St. Louis, Illinois, and is a graduate of the Marion Sims Beaumont College, having completed the course with honors; Walter C., who is a graduate of the Illinois University and was appointed by President Roosevelt to the rank of second lieutenant in the United States Army, February 15, 1902, and is now serving

as battalion quartermaster at Fort Reno, in Oklahoma; and L. Bird, who was born November 22, 1883, and has attended medical college two years, being now a junior in the Marion Sims Beaumont College at St. Louis.

Dr. Short belongs to the Masonic fraternity, being made a Mason at Cowden, Illinois, in Cold Spring lodge, in 1866. He is an exemplary representative of that order and is also connected with the Modern Woodmen camp, while his wife belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church. In politics he is a Republican and has ever taken a deep and active interest in the welfare of the town, co-operating in many community affairs which have for their object the general good and the promotion of the county's progress and improvement. Great changes have occurred during the period of his residence here, for he can remember when a few settlements on the border of the county remained only in the edge of the timber, the prairie land then being considered unfit for farming purposes. There were many deer and many kinds of lesser game, most of the homes were but pioneer cabins, and the work of improvement and progress largely lay in the future. Dr. Short has for many years been the loved family physician in a large number of the households of Fillmore and the surrounding district, and his genuine personal worth, as well as his professional skill, has gained for him the warm regard of a large circle of friends. He stands to-day among the leading representatives of his profession in the county, and his life has been one of great usefulness to those among whom his lot has been cast.

WILLIAM DANIEL CARTER.

William Daniel Carter, living on section 20, Zanesville township, where he is carrying on general farming and stock-raising, breeding, feeding and shipping thoroughbred Angus cattle, has been a resident of Illinois since 1880 and has prospered in his business undertakings here, becoming the owner of five hundred and twenty acres of rich and arable land. A native of Ohio, he was born in Clinton county, on the 11th of December, 1857, and is a son

of William B. and Kate (O'Brien) Carter, who were natives of Ireland, the father born in 1822 and the mother in 1817. They spent their youth in that country and were married there. They afterward emigrated to the new world, settling first in New York, whence they later removed to Ohio and about 1863 came to Illinois, settling in Madison county, where the father developed a farm of three hundred and twenty acres, placing his land under a high state of cultivation and adding substantial improvements in the way of good buildings. It was upon the old homestead in Madison county that he reared his family and there he continued to reside until 1880, when he came to Montgomery county. Having sold his Madison county property he purchased five hundred and twenty acres of land in Zanesville township, this county, which he operated for ten years. In 1890 he retired from the farm and removed to St. Louis, where he died on the 2d of December, 1902. His wife still survives him and resides in St. Louis at the age of eighty-seven years, making her home with a daughter.

William D. Carter is the only son in a family of five children, three of whom are living. He was reared in Madison county and is indebted to its public-school system for the educational privileges he enjoyed. Early in youth he became familiar with farm labor in all of its departments and his boyhood experience has proved an excellent foundation upon which to build his manhood's success.

In St. Louis, Missouri, on the 4th of November, 1900, Mr. Carter was married to Miss Lillian Hennessy, who was born in that city, a daughter of Thomas and Anna (Hayes) Hennessy, and obtained her education there. They now have one daughter, Isabel, born July 10, 1903.

Mr. Carter located upon his present farm in Zanesville township in 1880, having inherited one hundred and twenty acres of this tract, while the remainder he purchased from the other heirs. He has made an addition to and remodeled the house and now has a comfortable residence. There are also three good barns upon the place and other necessary outbuildings for the shelter of grain and stock. He has set out a good orchard and his farm in its various

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W. D. CARTER AND FAMILY



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departments is neat and thrifty in appearance, indicating his careful supervision and practical progressive ideas. His fields are well tilled and he also raises fine stock, shipping from five to ten carloads of fat stock annually. For the past thirteen years he has been engaged in breeding and dealing in thoroughbred polled Angus cattle and now has a fine herd and is well known as a raiser of this breed of stock. He had formerly been identified with his father in a similar business enterprise. He now has a herd of one hundred and ten head with twenty head of full blooded Angus cattle and a splendid bull at the head of the herd. He also makes a business of buying and selling road horses of the better breeds, and raises Poland China hogs, having a fine thoroughbred male hog and shipping on an average of two hundred head annually.

Mr. Carter votes with the Democracy and while interested in its success and the growth of the party has never sought or desired office. He and his wife were reared in the Catholic faith and are members of the church at Litchfield. He has made for himself an excellent reputation as a good business man and is widely known throughout central Illinois as one of the successful agriculturists and leading stock-raisers of Montgomery county.

GEORGE T. SEWARD.

George T. Seward is a man of rare business capacity, who, in his day, has been among the foremost in developing the mercantile and municipal interests of Hillsboro. His native talent has led him out of humble surroundings to large worldly successes through the opportunity that is the pride of our American life, nor has his success been such as to be measured by material standards alone, for he has developed that type of character which makes for higher ethical ideals in business and in society, and in his business relations and dealings he has applied the principles which have made him a most honored and honorable man in private life.

George T. Seward was born near Butler, Montgomery county, on the 14th of September,

1856, and is a representative of one of the old pioneer families of this part of the state. His paternal grandfather, Israel Seward, came to Montgomery county at a very early epoch in the development of this portion of Illinois and established his home near Hillsboro. He afterward removed to the farm near Butler.

George C. Seward, the father of George T. Seward, was on that farm, a mile and a half north of Hillsboro, in 1820, and for forty-eight years lived upon the farm which was his birth-place. His entire life was devoted to agricultural pursuits and his consecutive labor and unflinching perseverance made him one of the substantial citizens of the community, and at his death enabled him to leave his family in comfortable circumstances. He was regarded as a true and faithful friend to the needy and was held in the highest regard by his fellow citizens. He died January 1, 1895, when in his seventy-seventh year. He gave his political allegiance to the Republican party and in all matters of citizenship was progressive and public-spirited. He watched with interest the progress of events in the county as it emerged from pioneer conditions and was the champion of all measures for the general good. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Unity J. Phillips, was a daughter of Captain Thomas Phillips, who served his country in the Black Hawk war. He was a farmer during the greater part of his life, but for a time resided in Hillsboro and during that period engaged in the raising of horses. Both he and his wife died when in their eighty-eighth year. Mrs. George C. Seward, who is still living, is a member of the Presbyterian church and a lady whose many good traits of heart and mind have won for her the friendship of a large majority of those with whom she has come in contact. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Seward were born seven children: Mattie, who married Lloyd C. Washburn, a commercial traveler, residing in South Dakota; Thomas L., who is living on the old family homestead near Butler; Benjamin H., who is employed as a clerk in St. Louis; George T.; Carrie, who is the wife of Dr. C. W. Hickman, of Springfield; Jesse J., who is engaged in carpentering in Butler; and one that died in infancy.

George T. Seward acquired his education in the schools of Butler and in the Hillsboro Academy. He left school, however, at a comparatively early age and worked upon the home farm until he attained his majority. He then came to Hillsboro and accepted a position in Woodruff's shoe store, but after a short time became a salesman in the general store of A. A. K. Sawyer, in whose employ he remained for eight years. In 1887 he embarked in the furniture business, forming a partnership with Jesse McHenry, under the firm style of Seward & McHenry. This relation was continued for about two years, at the end of which time Mr. Seward purchased his partner's business and has since been alone. He is now in a corner block, occupying two floors, one hundred and forty by one hundred and five feet, and one floor forty by seventy-five feet, and he carries the largest stock of general furniture in the county, and also deals in carpets and does an undertaking business. His trade has become extensive, his business profitable, and his success is attributable entirely to his own well directed efforts and intelligent and capable management. He has otherwise extended his efforts to other fields of activity, and is now the president of the Hillsboro Brick & Tile Company and a director in the Hillsboro Building & Improvement Association, of which he was formerly vice president for two years.

In 1881 occurred the marriage of Mr. Seward and Miss Katie Rohlfing, a daughter of Christian and Katherine Rohlfing, both of whom are natives of Germany, whence they emigrated to St. Louis, and thence came to Montgomery county, eventually settling in Hillsboro, where they spent their remaining days. Mrs. Seward was born in St. Louis in 1861 and has become the mother of two children: George LeMar and J. Frederick. The parents are members of the Presbyterian church and Mr. Seward is a Republican in his political views. He has served as a member of the city council for two years and has a public-spirited interest in everything pertaining to municipal affairs and to the improvement and progress of his community. His business career has been crowned with a high measure of

success. He has the dominating personality and the imagination, coupled with a sure grasp of affairs, that mark the progressive man who does not shrink from taking large risk in the hope of large reward. Besides, he has the patience, the wide vision and the power to recognize and to grasp an opportunity. Because of these salient traits in his character he has won for himself success and made an honorable name in business circles.

A. F. WEAVER.

Of a large number of Illinois' native sons now residing within the borders of the state none are more deserving of mention than A. F. Weaver, who in his community is well known and highly respected. He resides in Nokomis, where he is engaged in the insurance business and he has secured a good clientage, while at the same time he has won warm friendship which is accorded in recognition of his personal traits of character. He was born in Madison county, Illinois, in 1838, his parents being John and Ann Maria Weaver. The family is of Swiss lineage. In 1804 three brothers and a sister came from Switzerland to America and two of the number settled in Ohio and one in northern Indiana. To the latter branch of the family Mr. Weaver traces his ancestry. The father's birth occurred in Fairfield county, Ohio, in 1816, and the mother was born in Pennsylvania in 1811. He was reared in the Buckeye state and in 1834 removed to Illinois, settling near Edwardsville, where he lived until about a year ago, when he came to Nokomis. He is numbered among the early settlers of this state, having come to the Mississippi valley when this was largely a wild and unimproved district. For many years he carried on farming, but is now living a retired life. He lost his wife in 1891 and their only living child is A. F. Weaver.

In Madison county A. F. Weaver was reared, attending school there until seventeen years of age, after which he went to Edwardsville. Later he spent two years as a student in the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, Ohio,

and was there located at the time of the outbreak of the Civil war. Returning to Illinois he enlisted in August, 1862, as a member of Company D, One Hundred and Seventeenth Illinois Infantry. He participated in the battles of Fort De Russey, Pleasant Hills, Tupelo, Nashville, Fort Blakeley and a number of skirmishes and was never wounded or captured, although in the battle of Nashville a shot from the artillery passed directly under his foot. Through three years he remained a faithful defender of the old flag and the cause it represented and in August, 1865, he received an honorable discharge at Camp Butler near Springfield.

Mr. Weaver returned to his father's home and there continued until January, 1866, when he was married to Miss Martha A. Dunn, of Zanesville, Ohio. This union has been blessed with eight children, of whom six are living: Lorena, the wife of G. W. Churchill, a resident of Chicago; Winnie, at home; Dunn W., who is occupying a position in the auditing department in Marshall Field's mercantile establishment in Chicago; Hattie, at home; Earl, who is a graduate of Brown's College and is employed by the Paddock Lumber Company; and Harry, at home.

After his marriage Mr. Weaver located upon the home farm, where he resided for two years and in 1868 he removed to this county, where he carried on agricultural pursuits, purchasing four hundred acres of land west of the town of Nokomis. This he still owns and for fifteen years he was actively engaged in farming. He then came to Nokomis and for six years carried on general merchandising, but since 1891 he has devoted his energies to the insurance business and now represents seven of the old reliable fire insurance companies. He is regarded as one of the representative men of Nokomis and his labors have been an active factor in promoting its welfare and substantial improvement. He now owns the Opera House of the town and also sixty acres at the north side of the town, having thereon a splendid residence, which he occupies. He was also one of the organizers of the bank, and afterward served as one of its directors. Mrs. Weaver has been to her husband a faithful companion and helpmate on the journey of life

and is a most estimable lady, who enjoys the warm friendship of many with whom she has come in contact. Her life is permeated by her Christian faith, for she is a devoted member of the Methodist church. Mr. Weaver belongs to the Masonic fraternity and to the Grand Army of the Republic and has been commander of the post at Nokomis. In his political views he is a Democrat and has filled various public offices, serving as supervisor, as town clerk and as school director, occupying the last named position for a number of years. He has always taken an active interest in politics and has done much to promote the growth and insure the success of his party in this locality.

R. M. BARRINGER.

R. M. Barringer, engaging in the livery business, is active in community affairs as supervisor of Witt township, in which connection he has rendered signal service to his fellow citizens. A native son of Montgomery county, he was born eight miles south of Paisley, June 16, 1851. His parents were Caleb and Dorthula (Fleming) Barringer, the former a native of North Carolina and the latter of Tennessee. They became residents of Montgomery county in 1832, locating in Fillmore township, where Mr. Barringer secured land from the government for twenty-five cents per acre. He placed all the improvements upon his farm, developed the land into productive fields and made his home thereon until about 1892, when he took up his abode in the village of Fillmore and in 1904 he removed to Paisley, where he is now living retired at the advanced age of eighty years, while his wife has reached the age of seventy-six years. R. M. Barringer is the second son in their family of six living children, the others being: Mrs. Carrie Poland, of Ellensburg, Washington; Sidney Edward, who is superintendent of the county farm; Mrs. Anna Alderson, who is living in Pond Creek, Oklahoma; Isaac N., a farmer of Fillmore township; and Mattie, the wife of Richard Holmes, of Paisley.

R. M. Barringer, having attended the com-

mon schools, afterward entered the academy at Hillsboro and subsequent to putting aside his text books he remained upon the home farm until twenty-two years of age, after which he engaged in farming on his own account for two years. He next took up his abode in Nokomis, where he was engaged in conducting a restaurant and bakery. After seven years he returned to the farm where he again lived for two years and then removed to Sumner county, Kansas, where he spent eight years in farming and in the livery business. In 1893 he made the race for land in the Cherokee strip in the Indian Territory. For days people had gathered around that strip and at a given signal all started in a rush for the land. Mr. Barringer secured a claim two miles south of Blackwell. He afterward removed to Howell county, Missouri, where he carried on farming for two years and then returned to Illinois, settling in Hillsboro. In 1896 he was janitor of a schoolhouse, occupying that position for two years, after which he engaged in teaming for a year. In 1899 he removed to a farm south of Hillsboro and on the 23d of October, 1900, he took up his abode in Paisley, where he worked as top man in connection with the mines for a year. Later he bought the livery business, which he is now conducting and he has a well equipped stable and is enjoying a good patronage.

On the 2d of April, 1874, Mr. Barringer was married to Miss Meca L. Sanders, a daughter of Elza and Sarah Sanders, early settlers of this county, coming here in 1830. They had twelve children, of whom Mrs. Barringer is the third in order of birth. Those living are Frank, who is now living in Witt; Mrs. Lena Richards, of Litchfield; Ervin, who resides upon the old home place near Ohlman; Charles, who is living in Rosemond, Illinois; Edward, a resident of Chicago; Jefferson, who is located in Canada; and Mrs. Ella Graden, of Nemaha, Kansas. The others died in infancy. The father died in 1902 at the age of eighty-two years and the mother is now living in Ohlman, at the age of seventy-six years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Barringer have been born three children: Corwin E., who is married and resides in Paisley; Viola E., the wife of Homer

Sawyer, who follows farming near Paisley; and Lawrence M., who died in 1899 at the age of nineteen years.

Mr. and Mrs. Barringer are members of the Lutheran church and he is a member of the Mutual Protective League. His political allegiance is given to the Democracy and in the spring of 1904 he was elected supervisor of Witt township, which usually gives a strong Republican majority. His election therefore is indicative of the confidence reposed in him and the high position which he holds in the regard of his fellow townsmen. He has also been a member of the school board. Possessing a genial manner and social disposition he has won many friends during the years of his residence in Montgomery county.

J. J. GATES.

J. J. Gates has figured prominently in public affairs in Donnellson and Montgomery county, and through his ready recognition of business opportunity and his utilization of the advantages that have come to hand he has made himself a place among the substantial residents of his part of the state. He was born in Rockingham county, North Carolina, June 24, 1851. His father, Philip Gates, of Coffeen, was reared in North Carolina, and in that state followed the occupation of farming until after the Civil war, when, in November, 1866, he came to Montgomery county, Illinois, settling near Coffeen. For a number of years he was actively identified with agricultural interests, but is now living retired in the town. He first married Miss Barbara Thomas, and after her death wedded Miss Nancy Raglin, of News Ferry, Halifax county, Virginia. He had five children, four sons and a daughter, namely: Mrs. S. C. Qualls and James R., both residents of Coffeen, Illinois; Hardin, of Fillmore township; A. L., also of Coffeen; and J. J., of this sketch.

The mother died when her son, J. J. Gates, was but ten years of age. He continued to remain upon the old home farm, however, until 1872, when, at the age of twenty-one years, he



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started out in life for himself, beginning work as a farm hand, in which capacity he was employed for two or three years. On the expiration of that period he rented land and began farming for himself. When two years had passed he bought a place of seventy acres in Bond county, later added to it another tract of seventy acres, and upon that farm he remained for thirteen years, or until he purchased a farm of one hundred and forty acres in Montgomery county. He taught school for seven terms in Bond and Montgomery counties. For ten consecutive years he was engaged in the operation of a threshing machine, and at one time he owned a half interest in the creamery at Donnellson, but sold that a short time ago. He now feeds and ships stock for the market, and he is quite successful in this business, making judicious purchases and profitable sales.

In 1878 Mr. Gates was united in marriage to Miss Mary A. Ross, of East Fork township, where her early life was passed. Seven children have been born unto them, of whom four are living: Ethel, who is now a stenographer in St. Louis; Mary, Carrie and Nellie, all at home. The parents and three of their children hold membership in the Presbyterian church, and Mr. Gates is identified with the Modern Woodman camp, the Mutual Protective League and the Royal Neighbors. In politics he is a Democrat, but the honors and emoluments of office have no attraction for him, as he prefers to give his attention to his business affairs and the interests of his household. He is a self-made man, having gone in debt when he purchased land, but within the first year he had discharged all his obligation. He has worked on persistently and energetically, year after year, and is to-day the owner of a valuable and attractive property.

P. C. WOOD.

P. C. Wood is an honored veteran of the Civil War now living on section 9, East Fork township, where he carries on general farming. His birth occurred in the locality where he resides August 23, 1831, his parents being

Thomas and Anna Wood. His father was born in Darlington, South Carolina, on the spot where the city of Florence is located, in December, 1802, and was there reared. He came to Montgomery county in 1823, settling in East Fork township at a time when few settlements had been made within the borders of the county. Pioneer conditions everywhere existed, much of the land being still in its primitive condition, awaiting the touch of the frontiersman to transform it into productive fields. Mr. Wood began farming and while living in true pioneer style he at the same time made the most of his opportunities and as he found it possible secured the advantages and improvements which were common in the older east. Unto him and his wife were born eleven children, eight of whom reached years of maturity, but P. C. Wood is now the only living representative of this family. His father died on Christmas day of 1858 and the mother passed away in 1882.

P. C. Wood remembers clearly many experiences of early life in Montgomery county, for he has made his home here for seventy years. He acquired his education in the public schools and although his advantages in that direction were somewhat limited his training at farm work was not meager. He started out for himself when twenty years of age, locating upon the farm where he now makes his home and a part of which (eighty acres) he obtained from his father. He now has one hundred and seventy acres of land and he lost two hundred acres by going security for friends. He has raised both stock and grain, but at the present time is not very actively engaged in farming, for to some extent he has put aside the arduous laborers of the farm and is enjoying a well merited rest.

On the 19th of April, 1861, Mr. Wood put aside all business and personal considerations that he might aid in the preservation of the Union, and became a soldier of Company H, Ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He found the regiment was too full, however, and he was assigned to Company A of the Twelfth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he remained for three months. He was altogether in active service for three years and six months and he

participated in many of the most hotly contested engagements of the war, including the battles of New Madrid, Island No. 10, Iuka, Corinth, Raymond, Jackson, Champion Hills and the siege of Vicksburg. He was also in many skirmishes and was slightly wounded, but was never in the hospital. In the fall of 1864 he was mustered out at Vicksburg and with an honorable and creditable military record he returned to his home and resumed farming.

In April, 1856, Mr. Wood was married to Miss Elizabeth Barry, a daughter of John Barry, of Hillsboro township. Their only child died in infancy. Mr. Wood is a member of the Masonic fraternity and is a veteran Republican, having been one of the original forty-six members who organized the party in this county in 1856. He remembers when the county was very wild, few improvements having then been made. He has seen as many as fifty deer in a single herd and other wild game was to be had in abundance. He frequently made trips to St. Louis market and camped out along the way. His mind forms a connecting link between the primitive past and the progressive present, and no man takes a more genuine delight in what has been accomplished in this county than does Mr. Wood. He has always been spoken of in terms of respect and esteem and as one of the pioneer residents of the county he certainly deserves mention in this volume, while his record as a soldier alone would entitle him to rank with the valued citizens of Illinois.

J. P. PRICE.

Among the well known farmers of Montgomery county is numbered J. P. Price, who is living in East Fork township. He was born in Fayette county, Illinois, October 22, 1849, a son of Thomas and Celia (Duncan) Price. The father, a native of Virginia, remained in that state until about twenty years of age, when he removed to Tennessee, where he carried on general farming, becoming one of the early settlers of that locality. Prospering in his business undertaking he was eventually known as one of the extensive and successful

farmers and stockmen of his community. He died in the year 1861. In his family were eight children, three sons and five daughters, of whom four are now living.

J. P. Price remained a resident of Fayette county until sixteen years of age and no event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for him during that period. He then came to Montgomery county and started out in life for himself, earning his living by working as a farm hand in the summer months. In the winter seasons he attended school, for he realized the value of education as a preparation for life's practical duties. He first rented a farm in Fillmore township, upon which he lived for six years, after which he purchased land in the vicinity of his present home. The boundaries of his farm, however, did not continue the same year after year, but were extended by additional purchase as his financial resources increased until he now has six hundred acres of valuable land, being a holder of extensive realty possessions in East Fork township. He has given his entire attention to stock-raising and makes a specialty of registered Hereford cattle and also registered Poland China hogs. He raises cattle on an extensive scale for the markets, buying and shipping for many years. The volume of his business has constantly increased and he stands to-day as one of the leading representatives of these departments of industry in the county.

Mr. Price was married December 13, 1872, to Miss Helen Isabel McNitt, a daughter of Thomas and Sarah (Cress) McNitt. Her father was born and reared in Pennsylvania and when a young man came to Illinois, where he followed the occupation of farming. He settled in East Fork township among its early residents and there carried on general agricultural pursuits on an extensive scale for a number of years. His wife was born in Montgomery county, a daughter of Jacob Cress, one of its earliest settlers. Mr. McNitt died in August, 1860, but his widow still makes her home in Montgomery county, although at this writing, in the summer of 1904, she is visiting in California. This worthy couple were the parents of eleven children, of whom four



J. P. Price

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are living, namely: Saphronia C., Francis, Mrs. Price and Jennie Jackson, of Kansas. Mr. and Mrs. Price have three children: Frank F., who is now a teacher in Bay City, Michigan; Gertrude, the wife of Clem Laws; and Corwin.

Mr. Price is a member of the Masonic fraternity, being made a Mason at Fillmore in 1873, and also belongs to the Modern Woodmen Camp and the Mutual Protective League. He served as head council in the former for many years. In politics he is a Democrat and has always taken a deep interest in the questions concerning the county, state and nation, keeping well informed on the issues of the day. He has been school director and supervisor and he served for two years in the state legislature, being elected to the fortieth general assembly. He has never been defeated for a single office and in the discharge of his duties has been most prompt, faithful and reliable. At present he is a member of the county central committee. Every measure and movement which he deems will prove of public benefit receives his earnest endorsement and support and he is always fearless in the advocacy of his honest convictions. Whether in public or private life his record is alike commendable and his history will bear the closest investigation and scrutiny. Mrs. Price is a member of the English Lutheran church of Fillmore.

JOEL JONES.

Joel Jones, whose well improved farm of two hundred and thirty acres on section 10, Raymond township, is pleasantly located within three miles of the village of Raymond, was born in Macoupin county, Illinois, April 11, 1836. His parental grandfather, Rev. William Jones, was a native of Virginia and became one of the first settlers of Illinois, locating in Madison county about 1809, when this state was still under territorial government. He opened up a farm in Madison county and was identified with the substantial improvement and progress of the county. He was a minister of the Baptist church and one of the pioneer

preachers of the middle west. He served as a member of the territorial legislature and exerted strong influence in behalf of public improvement and upbuilding.

His son, Simeon Jones, was born in Madison county, Illinois, near Alton in 1811 and was reared and educated in Madison county, experiencing the hardships and difficulties of pioneer life. He was married in his native county to Miss Dorothy Starkey, whose birth occurred in that county in 1812 and who was a daughter of Jesse Starkey, also one of the pioneer settlers who came to Illinois ere the admission of the state into the Union. Simeon Jones removed to Macoupin county, where he opened up a farm, entering two hundred acres of land from the government. Not a furrow had been turned or an improvement made upon the property, but with characteristic energy he began the development of the land and in due course of time transformed it into rich fields. He reared his family upon that place and made the farm his home until his life's labors were ended in death. His wife survived him for some time and died at the age of seventy-seven years.

Joel Jones, who is one of a family of four sons and two daughters that reached adult age, spent his early youth in Macoupin county upon the home farm near Bunker Hill and in the winter seasons he attended the public schools, while in the summer months he assisted his father in the labor of the fields, gaining practical knowledge of farm methods. In 1866 he came to Montgomery county and purchased eighty acres of raw land and also some improved land. He took up his abode upon the place and kept bachelor's hall for four years, during which time he devoted his energies to general farming and the improvement of his place. He then sought a companion and helpmate for life's journey and in 1871 was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary C. Blackwelder, who was born in Cabarrus county, North Carolina, where her girlhood days were passed. Later Mr. Jones erected a large two-story residence upon his farm, also a good barn and planted shade and ornamental trees. He also set out a good orchard and inclosed his farm with a neat, well trimmed hedge fence. His

modern improvements constitute this one of the valuable farming properties of the community and its neat and thrifty appearance indicates his careful supervision.

In 1897 Mr. Jones was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died on the 23d of June of that year. There are but two of their seven children living: Alva, who is operating the home farm, was married in Kentucky to Miss Mary F. Hamilton, a native of Macoupin county, who was reared there and in Montgomery county. She is a daughter of Andrew Hamilton, a native of Scotland. Alva Jones and his wife and four children: Ruth, Jewell Ross, Elden and Gladys E. After his marriage Alva Jones engaged in farming near Hillshoro for several years and then returned to the home farm after the death of his mother in 1897. Emily A. Jones is the wife of Wesley Briggs, who is engaged in ranching in Idaho. Mr. and Mrs. Jones lost four children: Herman H., who died in childhood; Willis, who died at the age of five years; Charles, who departed this life at the age of eighteen; and Jesse, who died at the age of twenty-seven years.

Politically Mr. Jones is a staunch Democrat, who cast his first ballot for Stephen A. Douglas in 1860, and has supported nearly every presidential candidate of the party since that time. He has served as a member of the school board and has been highway commissioner three years. He belongs to the Baptist church and his entire life has been in consistent harmony with his professions. Well known in Montgomery county he is classed with those who owe their success to their own efforts and who deserve their prosperity because of the honorable business methods they have ever followed.

B. F. NELCH.

B. F. Nelch, living on section 33, Pitman township, is well known as a breeder of pure-blooded Aberdeen-Angus cattle, having a good herd in his pastures upon his fine farm. Born in Springfield, Illinois, on the 4th of November, 1876, he is a son of Henry Nelch, who was also a native of Illinois, his birth having

occurred in Menard county. The family, however, is of German lineage. Henry Nelch was reared to manhood in this state and after his marriage he established his home in Springfield, where he became a prominent contractor on public works, conducting a successful business there for a number of years.

B. F. Nelch was reared in the capital city, attended the public schools and completed his course there by graduation from the high school. He afterward entered the university at Madison, Wisconsin, taking up the course of study in the Agricultural College, but he had to abandon this on account of ill health. Returning to Illinois, he believed that outdoor life would prove beneficial to him, and he took charge of his father's farm near Springfield, continuing in its cultivation for two years. In 1889 he removed to Montgomery county and took charge of the farm upon which he now resides, his father having a good tract of land here of three hundred and twenty acres. In connection with the tilling of the soil and the production of crops best adapted to this climate he also began the work of breeding and dealing in Aberdeen-Angus cattle. He at first had only a few head, but he has increased his herd from year to year by breeding and purchase and now has forty-two fine animals upon his place, including many pure-blooded ones. These are mostly cows, for he sells the male animals from year to year. He is now well known as a breeder of pure-blooded Aberdeen-Angus cattle and he has also been successful as a breeder of splendid-bred horses. He farms two hundred acres of land, while his younger brother, Fred G. Nelch, operates one hundred and twenty acres of the farm.

B. F. Nelch was married in Springfield, September 7, 1898, to Miss Josephine Pickel, who was born, reared and educated in Sangamon county and is a daughter of Joseph Pickel, a well known business man of Springfield. They now have two children: Franklin C. and H. Earl Nelch. Fred G. Nelch, brother of our subject, is also married and resides upon this farm. Both are young men of good business ability, practical and progressive agriculturists, who are meeting with success in their undertakings here. Politically B. F. Nelch is a Re-



B. F. NELCH AND FAMILY

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publican, and proudly cast his first presidential ballot for William McKinley. He is a young man, possessing the enterprising spirit of the west, and is a typical son of Illinois, alert, energetic and progressive. With good education and business qualifications, he is so directing his efforts as to win good results, and is now one of the valued younger representatives of agricultural interests in Montgomery county.

GEORGE W. CALDWELL, M. D.

Dr. George W. Caldwell is one of the oldest medical practitioners of Montgomery county, where for forty-nine years he has followed his profession, thus devoting his energies to a life work that has proven of the utmost value to his fellow men. The successful physician is always a person of broad humanitarian principles and it has been because of his ready sympathy and deep interest in his fellow townsmen as well as his professional skill and knowledge that Dr. Caldwell has gained for himself high reputation and a liberal patronage.

He was born in Morgan county, Illinois, April 23, 1834. His father, John C. Caldwell, whose birth occurred in Butler county, Kentucky, in the year 1804, was a son of George Caldwell, a native of Virginia and one of the first settlers of Butler county, Kentucky. His life span covered the latter part of the colonial history of the United States and the early part of its existence as a republic and when the colonists attempted to throw off the yoke of British oppression he joined the American army and fought for American liberties. John C. Caldwell spent the days of his boyhood and youth in the county of his nativity and when he had arrived at man's estate he wedded Miss Louisa Rodgers, also a native of Kentucky. They removed to Illinois in 1827. Only nine years had passed since the admission of the state into the Union and they were pioneer residents of Morgan county. Mr. Caldwell was a tanner by trade and there established a tanyard near Waverly and was known as an active, enterprising business man of his locality. He reared his family in that neighbor-

hood and made his home there throughout his remaining days.

Dr. Caldwell was reared in Morgan county, pursued good educational privileges and, desiring to enter professional life, he became a student in McKendree College, in which he was graduated with the class of 1853. To the same class belonged Samuel H. Deneen, the father of Charles S. Deneen, the present Republican candidate for governor of the state. Although he prepared for the bar he did not practice to any great extent, but later took up the study of medicine, pursuing a course of lectures in Rush Medical college and finishing his course there about 1855.

After his graduation Dr. Caldwell came to Montgomery county, locating in Zanesville township, where he soon built up a very extensive practice that extended for miles over the surrounding country. In the early days a country practice involved much hardships owing to long rides over the prairies in the midst of winter storms or under the hot summer sun, but with conscientious regard for the duties of his calling he never considered his personal comfort if his aid was needed in behalf of the sick and suffering. In 1900 he opened an office in Waggoner and he is still one of the active and successful physicians of the county. He belongs to the Macoupin County Medical Society and he has always read along lines which have added to his skill and efficiency.

Dr. Caldwell was married in Morgan county, Illinois, September 18, 1855, to Miss Frances Cloud, a daughter of Newton Cloud, one of the first residents of the state, who came here from Kentucky. Mr. and Mrs. Caldwell have two living children: Bessie is the wife of Samuel Kessinger, of Litchfield, and they have become the parents of four children: Harold Caldwell, Ruth Caldwell, Charles W. and an infant daughter. Georgie Caldwell is the widow of Dr. Charles E. Allard and resides with Dr. Caldwell. She has one child, Elbert C. Allard. The Doctor lost two children: Jessie, who died at the age of four years; and Newton C.

Dr. Caldwell cast his first presidential ballot for James Buchanan in 1856 and has voted

for each presidential nominee of the Democratic party since that time. Political honors and emoluments have had no attraction for him, but he has served as a member of the school board for fifteen years. A half century covers the period of his residence in Montgomery county and he is one of the oldest practitioners within its border. He is familiar with its history from pioneer times, his memory forming a connecting link between the past and present—a period during which great changes have occurred and marvelous development has been wrought. He has been deeply interested in the county's progress and in as far as possible has aided in its upbuilding. Moreover in the line of his profession he has endeared himself to many families by the able assistance he has rendered in a kindly helpful spirit.

EDWARD GRIMES.

Edward Grimes, who is engaged in general agricultural pursuits on section 9, Raymond township, is a native son of the Prairie state, his birth having occurred in Jersey county, on the 24th of May, 1843. His father, Jarrett T. Grimes, was born in Madison county, Illinois, January 21, 1820, and was a son of Philip Grimes, a native of Tennessee, in which state he spent the days of his boyhood and youth. He was married there and then, removing northward, became one of the early pioneer residents of Madison county, Illinois. He served as a soldier in the war of 1812, and was acquainted with Andrew Jackson, the hero of the battle of New Orleans. Jarrett T. Grimes, the father, was reared in Illinois and wedded Miss Charity Brown, whose birth occurred in St. Charles, Missouri. In order to provide for his family he followed the occupation of farming and stock-raising and spent his life in Jersey county, although the district in which he lived was at different times within the boundaries of three different counties. He always lived, however, upon the same farm and it is still his place of residence. He owns one thousand acres of valuable land, having become a wealthy agriculturist of Illinois. He has reached the ad-

vanced age of eighty-four years and is one of the honored pioneers of the state.

Edward Grimes spent his boyhood days under the parental roof, working in field and meadow when not engaged with the duties of the schoolroom. His early educational privileges were supplemented by a course of study in Shurtleff College and after completing his studies he came to Montgomery county in 1866 and located on his present farm, having here one hundred and sixty acres of raw land. He at once, however, began to place the fields under cultivation and transform the unbroken prairie into a rich and productive tract. He built fences, also erected good buildings and added modern equipments, such as are seen upon a model farm. As his financial resources increased he also extended the boundaries of his place until it now comprises two hundred and eighty acres. His home is a commodious two-story frame residence and nearly are two large and substantial barns and other necessary outbuildings. Upon the place is a native grove and he has planted many ornamental trees. For some years he has made a specialty of the grazing and feeding of cattle and raises no grain. He ships his own stock and annually sells from six to eight carloads of fat cattle and hogs. In 1868 he left the farm and removed to Butler, where he engaged in the lumber business for three years, but subsequently returned to the farm where he is now living, occupying his pleasant and attractive home, which is situated within a mile and three-quarters of Raymond.

While in Butler Mr. Grimes was united in marriage on the 7th of October, 1868, to Miss Emma Sammons, a native of New York and a daughter of Clement Sammons, of Hillsboro, in which city Mrs. Grimes was reared. Seven children have been born of this marriage, of whom two sons are now living: Ernest Robert, at home; and Dr. Leroy Grimes, who is practicing medicine in St. Louis, Missouri. They lost five children: Eugene, who died at the age of nineteen years on the home farm; Charles E., who died at the age of twenty-two years while pursuing a medical course; Frankie, who died at the age of three months; and two daughters who died in infancy.

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EDWARD GRIMES



J. T. GRIMES

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The political views of Mr. Grimes are in accord with the principles of the Democracy and he has supported all of the presidential candidates of that party since casting his first vote for General George B. McClellan in 1864. He was elected and served as a member of the honorary county board of county supervisors on several different occasions and he acted on numerous important committees. He was also township trustee for a number of years and has been president of the board of school directors, in which capacity he has done able service for the cause of education. He and his family are members of the Presbyterian church and he is a charter member of the Masonic lodge at Raymond, of which he served as master for a number of years. He also belongs to Litchfield chapter and commandery, has represented the blue lodge in the grand lodge of the state and is an exemplary Mason, portraying in his life the beneficent spirit of his craft, which has as its basic element the principles of brotherly kindness and mutual helpfulness. Mr. Grimes takes quite an active and prominent part in the work of the Montgomery County Farmers Institute, of which he is now serving as treasurer, and he has exerted a wide influence in its behalf. He is also prominently identified with the Illinois Farmers Institute and at present is a member of the finance committee.

WILLIAM COUNTON.

William Counton is numbered among the self-made men of Montgomery county whose prosperity is entirely attributable to their own efforts and because of what he has accomplished he deserves much credit. He resides in section 1, Irving township, where he has an excellent farm well improved. His birth occurred in New York city, December 25, 1857, and he is a son of Thomas and Jane (Coudroy) Counton, both of whom were natives of Limerick, Ireland, whence they came to the United States, locating in New York. The father was a tanner by trade and continued in active business until 1861, when his patriotic spirit being aroused by the attempt of the south to over-

throw the Union he enlisted as a member of the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth New York Infantry, with which he served until the close of the war. In 1867 his wife departed this life in Pawtucket, Rhode Island. In their family were four children: William; Martin, who is now living in Dodgeville, Massachusetts; Mary Jane, who died at the age of seventeen years; and Thomas, who is living in this county.

William Counton acquired his education in the public schools and in an academy at Muncie, Indiana. Owing to his mother's death he was, when ten years of age, placed in the New York Juvenile Orphan's Asylum and at the age of eleven years he was sent to make his home with Nelson Lipe in Irving township, Montgomery county. He arrived in this county February 25, 1869, and lived with Mr. Lipe until the age of sixteen years, when he began earning his living by working as a farm hand. He was thus employed until 1882 and his industry and economy during that period enabled him in 1883 to become the purchaser of one hundred and twenty acres of land. This he conducted until June, 1903, when he sold his farm. He had, however, a good tract of land well improved and he annually harvested rich crops as the reward for the care and labor which he bestowed upon his place.

On the 3d of April, 1881, Mr. Counton was married to Miss Julia King, a daughter of John Wesley King and a granddaughter of Andrew and Hannah King. Her father was born near Chapel Hill, Orange county, North Carolina, September 29, 1814, and died near Irving, Illinois, January 7, 1881, at the age of sixty-six years, three months and eight days. John Wesley King was only a year old when his father removed to Lincoln county, Tennessee, where he lived for fifteen years. In November, 1830, when sixteen years of age he accompanied his father and Noah Kelley from Tennessee to Montgomery county, Illinois, the trip being made on horseback. They settled near Irving, the first home of Mr. King being a log cabin. He was one of the honored pioneer residents of the locality and took an active and helpful part in promoting the early progress and development of this portion of the state.

On the 3d of April, 1856, he married Mrs. Julia T. Ellis, and they became the parents of two children, one of whom, Frank King, is now living. The wife and mother died September 29, 1859, and Mr. King afterward married Miss Elizabeth Grantham, on the 12th of July, 1860. They became the parents of six children, of whom two are living: Julia and Lula. The second wife died December 4, 1872, and on the 8th of May, 1873, Mr. King married Nancy Jane Nussman, who departed this life on the second of June, 1879. Mr. King was a man of more than ordinary ability, enterprising and progressive and took an interested and helpful part in all that pertained to the advancement of his locality. He held various county offices, was county school commissioner and was also deputy under Hiram Gregory, county superintendent of schools. He discharged his various duties with promptness and fidelity and he also practiced law in this county. In 1840 the first schoolhouse of Rountree township was built and Mr. King was employed as the first teacher. He also taught for a number of years in other parts of the county and was regarded as a most able educator. When a young man he united with the Lutheran church, with which he ever continued a faithful member and he was thus actively associated with the material, intellectual and moral progress of his community.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Counton have been born two children, Elbert Wesley and Harold Roslyn. The former, born January 14, 1882, is married and resides in Irving, being a school teacher of Irving township. The younger son, born July 12, 1893, is at home. Mr. and Mrs. Counton are members of the Presbyterian church and he belongs to the Masonic lodge at Irving; Twin City lodge, No. 62, K. P.; and the Modern Woodmen camp, No. 1498, at Irving. A staunch Republican in his political views he was elected supervisor in 1889 and served continuously in that office until 1895. He was also a delegate to the last Republican convention held in Springfield. He is recognized as one of the leaders of his party in his township and his loyalty in citizenship is manifest by an active co-operation in many measures which have contributed to the general good. As

the architect of his own fortunes he has builded wisely and well and his life is exemplary in many respects, for he has molded his own character and shaped his own destiny and has won not only success, but also the high regard of his fellow men.

LOUIS WELGE.

Among those who have come from foreign lands to become active in business circles of Hillsboro is Louis Welge, who for many years has contributed in large measure to its commercial prosperity. His success in all his undertakings has been so marked that his methods are of interest to the commercial world. He has based his business principles and actions upon strict adherence to the rules which govern industry, economy and strict, unswerving integrity. His enterprise and progressive spirit has made him a typical American in every sense of the word and he well deserves mention in her history. What he is to-day he has made himself, for he begun in the world with nothing but his own energy and willing hands to aid him.

Mr. Welge is a native of the province of Hanover, Germany, where his birth occurred on the 23d of October, 1826. His father was the owner of a large sheep ranch there and it was upon this ranch that the son spent his early boyhood days, devoting his time largely to the care of the sheep and gaining the experience which proved of great profit to him when he conducted a similar industry in this county. At the age of twenty-seven years he resolved to try his fortune in America and accompanied by a sister he sailed for the new world, being nine weeks upon the voyage, which was made in one of the old time sailing vessels common in the middle of the nineteenth century. His love of freedom was also one of the elements that proved most strong in his removal and while he has never ceased to cherish an affection for the fatherland he feels the strongest love for the country over which flows the stars and stripes and has ever been most loyal to its interests.

It was on the 10th of November, 1853, when accompanied by his sister, now Mrs. Henry

Haake, of Fillmore township, he landed at New Orleans, but he did not tarry in that city. He made his way at once to Cincinnati, Ohio, and there accepted any employment which he could secure that would yield him an honest living. When a number of months had passed he went to Springfield, Illinois, and secured employment on the sheep ranch of a man named McCordle. In the succeeding year he was joined in Springfield by his brother, Fred Welge, and they determined to engage in the raising of sheep. Removing then to Montgomery county they purchased land east of Hillsboro and established a ranch which they conducted with excellent success for fourteen years. They were proprietors of the farms now owned by Louis, Walter and William Welge and there is no more productive soil to be found in East Fork township. The brothers prospered in their undertaking and their annual sales of sheep brought to them a very desirable financial return. When they disposed of this business they took up their abode in the city of Hillsboro and purchased the old furniture factory. Mr. Welge was then engaged in the manufacture of furniture for several years, employing as many as twenty-five men. The product of the factory was shipped to all of the large cities and for a time found ready market but Mr. Welge was eventually compelled to quit business on account of the competition of the larger manufacturers. He erected the building that was afterward occupied as a mill and which stood on the site of the Hillsboro Produce Company and in this he conducted a retail furniture business until he bought the business block of the Bryce estate and therein opened a furniture store, which he carried on with excellent success until about 1902, when his son Fred became his successor in this enterprise and he retired to private life.

Mr. Welge has been married twice. He first wedded Miss Augusta Carsten and unto them were born two children, namely: Mrs. Lena Dammann, who resides in Hillsboro; and Mrs. Bieler, who makes her home in Raymond, Illinois. The wife and mother passed away in December, 1872, and in 1873 Mr. Welge was again married, his second union being with Miss Mena Shorlimer. Their children are five

in number and all reside with their father in Hillsboro, namely: Bertha, who is the librarian of the city; Fred, who is conducting the furniture store; Dora, a teacher in the public schools; and Lula and Lynn, at home.

When Mr. Welge came to Hillsboro he found here a small village with little business enterprise and has lived to see a great transformation both in the appearance of the county seat and in commercial methods which are now in vogue here. He contributed in substantial measure to the mercantile activity of Hillsboro and as a citizen has been the champion of many measures for the general good. His life has been one of exceptional activity and usefulness and has been characterized by the most unswerving integrity and honor. He began life in America with little capital and his financial valuation at present represents a large figure. His competence has been won through judicious investment and capable management and throughout his entire career there has been no action on his part to call forth adverse criticism. In the midst of pleasant conditions with many friends around him he is spending the evening of life in comfort, enjoying the fruits of his former toil.

HENRY Q. WAGGONER.

Henry Q. Waggoner is one of the extensive landowners of Pitman township and for years has been classed with the thrifty farmers of Montgomery county. His life record is creditable to this county which is the place of his nativity, his birth having occurred upon the old family homestead near the village of Waggoner on the 24th of November, 1861. His father was George Waggoner, a prominent early settler and extensive and prosperous farmer of this county. He was respected by all because of his activity and success in business affairs and his hearty co-operation in all measures for the general good.

No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for Henry Q. Waggoner in his youth. He had perhaps more advantages than some and less than others. He received good home training and his education

was acquired in the public schools nearby. In 1883 he was married, being then a young man of twenty-one years of age. The lady of his choice was Miss Virginia Street, a native of Montgomery county and a daughter of Squire Street, one of the prominent farmers of Zanesville township.

The young couple began their domestic life upon a farm which he continued to operate with good success for a number of years. In 1894, however, he was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who passed away in that year, leaving three children: Florence I., who is now the wife of Park C. Pettit, a resident of Waggoner; Estella B., at home; and Henry Wing, who is also with his father. In September, 1902, Mr. Waggoner was again married in Montgomery county, his second union being with Miss Frecla D. Shires, whose birth occurred in Rock Island county, Illinois, who is a daughter of D. F. Shires. Her childhood was passed in Montgomery county and to its public school system she is indebted to the educational privileges which she enjoyed.

Some years ago Mr. Waggoner located in the village which bears his name and there erected a large, attractive and substantial residence, which is one of the best homes of the town. He now occupies it and is living retired from the more active duties of a business career. He yet gives personal supervision to his farm and other business affairs, owning a valuable tract of land of five hundred acres near the town. This is kept in excellent condition, is well improved with modern equipments and returns to him a good annual income. In the establishment of the bank at Waggoner he became interested as one of the original stockholders, being associated in this enterprise with his brother, Horace G. Waggoner. Although never an office seeker he has always kept well informed on the political questions of the day as every true American citizen should do and his political belief is manifest in the stalwart support which he gives to the Republican party. His wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and though he does not belong to any religious organization he is a liberal contributor to different churches. His entire life has been passed in Montgomery

county and he has witnessed much of its progress and development. He has been particularly helpful in improving Waggoner and making it the enterprising village that it is to-day and his support of any measure insures for it a good following, because he is known as a public-spirited man with clear sound judgment and of unquestioned loyalty in matters of citizenship.

WILLIAM A. LEWEY.

William A. Lewey, whose farm on section 17, Hillsboro township, acquired through his own industry, is well developed and highly improved, devotes his attention to general agricultural pursuits, and in his business career displays traits of character which everywhere command respect and confidence. Interested in community affairs, he does all he can to promote the welfare of his township, and is especially active along the line of its moral development.

Mr. Lewey was born in Guilford county, North Carolina, September 25, 1835, and was one of a family of fourteen children, two of whom died in infancy and twelve came to Illinois and settled in Montgomery county. William A. Lewey arrived in 1855 and began working as a farm hand by the month, being employed principally by his brothers. He early learned the value of industry and energy as a foundation upon which to build success, and his life has ever been characterized by diligence and perseverance. He was employed at farm labor until after the breaking out of the Civil war, when, responding to his country's call for troops to preserve the Union, he enlisted on the 18th of August, 1862, as a private of Company D, One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he served for three years. After reaching Tennessee he was taken ill and was sent to the hospital at La Grange, Tennessee, and afterward to Jacksonville, almost a year having passed before he was able to resume active duty. He was promoted corporal at Jacksonville in 1863. He served on guard duty at the supply post for some time, was also



MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM A. LEWEY

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engaged in guarding railroads, and in August, 1865, he was honorably discharged and mustered out of the service.

Mr. Lewey has been thrice married. In 1867 he wedded Miss Rachel Griffith, who died in March, 1878, and he later married Rebecca Chamberlin, who died in 1888. On the 23d of October, 1891, he was united in marriage to Miss Leuvenna Thacker, a daughter of T. A. Thacker and a native of this county.

In the fall of 1866 Mr. Lewey purchased his present farm, upon which he took up his abode the following year, and has since made it his home. He has here eighty acres of arable land on section 17, Hillsboro township, and he has made all of the improvements upon the place. It is now well equipped with modern facilities and its neat and attractive appearance is due to his untiring energy, strong determination and laudable ambition. Mr. Lewey maintains pleasant relations with his old army comrades through his membership in Hubbell post, G. A. R. His views on the temperance question are indicated by his support of the Prohibition party and he is found as the advocate of all movements which he believes will elevate mankind and prove of real benefit to his community. He is an active and influential member of the Methodist Episcopal church of Woodshoro, has served as church trustee and has been a class leader for many years. His life, honorable and upright, is in many respects worthy of emulation and his friends and neighbors have naught to say against his good name. He has lived in this county for almost a half century, and has, therefore, witnessed much of its growth and development, while in the work of improvement he has felt a deep interest.

EDWARD C. RICHARDS.

Edward C. Richards, residing in Hillsboro township, is a man of good business ability and executive force, carrying on agricultural pursuits along progressive lines on his farm of one hundred and seventy-nine acres, which is well equipped with modern improvements and

accessories. He was born in Boston, Massachusetts, on the 14th of May, 1852, and is a son of George H. Richards, whose birth occurred in the same city, May 5, 1816. He was a representative of Puritan ancestors, who located in Massachusetts during the early development of the colony. In his youth George H. Richards learned the carpenter's trade, serving a seven years' apprenticeship in Boston, but believing that the west furnished better business opportunities he came to Illinois in 1839 and established his home in Hillsboro, where he soon became actively identified with industrial interests as a partner of the late Amos Clotfelter in the conduct of a sawmill. He had carried on business here for about three years, when he returned to the east and was married on the 22d of December, 1842, to Miss Irene H. Lincoln, a daughter of Bradford Lincoln, of Jamaica Plains, Massachusetts. He then brought his bride to Hillsboro and they began their domestic life in the home which he had built for her and which is now owned by B. F. Boyd. Unto this marriage were born six children: Henry, who was born April 25, 1843, and died in infancy; Susan, who resides in Hillsboro township; Lucy E., who was born March 15, 1848, and died in infancy; Alice, the wife of Amos Barry, of Hillsboro township; Edward C., of this review; and Frederick W., who was born March 5, 1856, and also died in infancy. Mrs. Irene Richards passed away in 1857 and the following year Mr. Richards again sought a home in the west, coming to Montgomery county with his family. He settled upon the farm which he had purchased during his previous residence here. While in the east he had become an importer and wholesale dealer in structural iron and hardware, but after bringing his family to Illinois he turned his attention to general farming and continued to reside upon the old family homestead up to the time of his demise. He first purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land, to which he afterward added sixty acres and upon his farm he placed many excellent improvements, erecting substantial buildings, cultivating his fields along modern progressive lines and carrying on stock-raising with equal success. In all of his business dealings he was

strictly fair and honorable and his name came to be a synonym for enterprise and integrity in trade transactions. He never cared for political honors or office, and would never allow his name to be used in connection with the candidacy for any political position. He served, however, as school director, took an active interest in educational matters and was a stalwart champion of the public-school system. In early days he was a member of and leader in the home guards. A man of fine physique, he was about six feet in height and weighed about one hundred and ninety pounds when in his prime. Mr. Richards possessed much natural ability as a mathematician and improved his talents in this direction as opportunity afforded. He took great delight in discussing with Edmund Fish and A. H. Bell the great mathematical principles and in this connection the trio became known throughout the country. Mr. Richards reached the advanced age of eighty-six years, five months and nineteen days, passing away at his home in Montgomery county on the 31st of January, 1903. To the county he left the record of loyal citizenship, to his acquaintances the memory of faithful and considerate friendship and to his family he left not only a good property, but also an untarnished name. He commanded the respect of all with whom he was associated, manifesting throughout his entire life sterling traits of character.

Edward C. Richards was reared upon the old home farm in this county, to which he was brought by his father when about five years of age. His early educational privileges, acquired in the common schools, were supplemented by study in the Hillsboro Academy. His training at farm labor was of a practical character and acquainted him with the best methods of caring for the fields and raising stock. As he advanced in age, experience and capability, he became more and more closely associated with his father in business and in his father's later years he took entire charge of the home place, which he has since conducted in a most capable manner. He now owns one hundred and seventy-nine acres of rich land devoted to diversified farming and a glance at his place with its highly cultivated fields and

splendid improvements indicates to the passer-by the careful supervision of a progressive owner.

On the 6th of November, 1879, Mr. Richards was united in marriage to Miss Atelia M. Wharton, who was born in Guilford county, North Carolina, a daughter of Jesse Wharton, who came to Montgomery county in 1858. Both Mr. and Mrs. Richards are devoted and consistent members of the Presbyterian church, being deeply interested in the various church activities and for ten years he has served as one of its elders. In 1895 he assisted in organizing the Farmers' Institute, with which he has since been connected, serving as secretary six years and president two years. Almost his entire life has been passed in this county and with the work of substantial improvement he has been closely associated. He stands today as a typical representative of the business men of the west, who recognizes and improves his opportunities, conducting his interests along lines that gain him a desirable competence and an honored name simultaneously.

COLUMBUS ELLIOT.

One of the more progressive agriculturists of Audubon township is Columbus Elliot who is numbered among the native sons of this locality his birth having occurred in North Litchfield, December 20, 1855. His parents were Robert M. and Elizabeth (Meyers) Elliot, who removed from Kentucky to Illinois. The father purchased the home farm from the original settler and owned one hundred and twenty acres of cultivable land and twenty acres of timber land. He always carried on agricultural pursuits, following that calling until his death in 1864, when he was fifty-four years of age. His wife, surviving him for several years, departed this life in 1871 and was laid to rest by his side in the Lutheran cemetery of North Litchfield. The family, however, were identified with the Methodist church at the time of the father's death. He and another man were associated in the ownership of the Methodist church property at Litchfield. His political allegiance was given to the Democracy and he



COLUMBUS ELLIOT AND FAMILY

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voted for Stephen A. Douglas for president. In the family were six children, three sons and three daughters: Pamela married M. L. Blackwelder, who resides in Oklahoma City. Both she and her husband were school teachers and taught in Butler Grove township, Montgomery county. They afterward removed to Haddam, Washington county, Kansas, where Mr. Blackwelder continued teaching, and subsequently they took up their abode in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, where he is now engaged in the real estate business. They had two sons and two daughters, but lost their eldest child at the age of eighteen years. Matilda Helen, the second member of the Elliot family, became the wife of Thomas Hefley and died in 1879, leaving a son, who died at the age of fifteen years. Mr. Hefley has also departed this life. Kate married John M. Blackwelder and is living near Witt, in Witt township, where he follows farming. They have three living children and lost two, their eldest, a son, dying in infancy, while the second died at the age of twenty-one years. Guy is a carpenter residing in Los Angeles, California. Columbus is the fifth of the family. James Milton died in childhood. James Wesley was a farmer, who died at the age of twenty-four years.

Columbus Elliot is indebted to the old Beacon school in North Litchfield township for the educational privileges which were afforded him. When not engaged with the duties of the school-room he worked upon the home farm and in 1874 he came to Nokomis township, where he was employed at farm labor. On February 24, 1876, he wedded Matilda H. Slocum, a daughter of Aaron Slocum, a native of England, who in his later life made his home with Mrs. Elliot, his death occurring June 16, 1892. His wife had died in Madison county, Illinois, where the family home had been established prior to the marriage of their daughter. They had three children, but one died in infancy and the sister of Mrs. Elliot was Sarah J. Slocum, who became the wife of Theodore L. Covert, a resident of Webb City, Jasper county, Missouri, by whom she had six children, five of whom are now living. Mrs. Elliot was educated in the schools of Edwardsville, Illinois, from which she was

graduated. By her marriage she has become the mother of five children: Arthur Leroy, now twenty-six years of age, married Bertha Fox and is living in Rountree township, where he follows farming. Fred, twenty-two years of age, was educated in the Fair Prairie school and is at home. Edna Estella, twenty-one years of age, was also educated in the Fair Prairie school and is now the wife of Bennett Leach, a resident farmer of Ada, Minnesota. James Milton, eleven years of age, is attending the Audubon school. Lucy is a student in the same school.

After his marriage Mr. Elliot resided in Rountree township, where he made his home for fourteen years and then removed to Nokomis township, where he rented for eight years. On the expiration of that period he settled in Audubon township, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres, upon which he now resides. His property possessions have come to him as the result of his persistent effort and untiring diligence. He has met with fair success in farming and stock-raising and he now has a valuable tract of land, one hundred and sixty acres in Audubon township, which is well improved, and also eighty acres in Rountree township. In his political views he is a Democrat, having supported the party continuously since attaining his majority. Both he and his wife belong to the Zion Chapel Methodist church in Audubon township and are members of the Mutual Protective League, while he is also connected with the Modern Woodmen of America.

W. L. CURRY.

W. L. Curry, who for six years has been superintendent of schools in Fillmore and is accounted one of the capable educators of central Illinois, was born in Walshville township, Montgomery county, December 10, 1863, his parents being R. J. and S. D. Curry. His great-grandfather in the maternal line was Daniel Boone, the famous explorer and hunter of Kentucky. His father, R. J. Curry, was born in Pike county, Missouri, and was a schoolmate of Brigham Young, the noted Mormon leader. He was also one of the mob that drove Joseph Smith out of Nauvoo, Illinois,

and prevented the planting of the Mormon colony in this state. Mr. Curry was reared in Pike county and after attaining man's estate he followed general farming and veterinary surgery. He became an early settler of Illinois and won a reputation as a stock dealer, being widely known, especially for the fine horses which he raised.

W. L. Curry, whose name introduces this record, spent his boyhood days under the parental roof and acquired his early education in the schools of Montgomery county. He afterward continued his studies in Danville, Indiana, where he spent three years as a student. He has since devoted his time and energies to educational work and has taught for nineteen years in Montgomery county, the entire time being devoted between four schools. No higher testimonial of his capability could be given than the fact that he has been so long retained as teacher in a single community. Six years ago he was appointed superintendent of the schools of Fillmore and has since remained in charge here. He is constantly studying to improve the methods of instruction so as to make school work more effective and valuable as a preparation for life's practical duties. He has introduced many new and improved methods and under his guidance the schools have made satisfactory and rapid progress. Professor Curry is now engaged in merchandising, having opened a store in the new Knights of Pythias building, which was erected in Fillmore in 1904.

About fifteen years ago Professor Curry was united in marriage to Miss Alice Green, and they have become the parents of five children, but only two are now living: Ralph Wayne and Rolla Glenn. The parents belong to the Methodist Episcopal church and are interested in its work, taking a helpful part in various church activities. Professor Curry is also identified with the Knights of Pythias fraternity and with the Modern Woodmen camp and his political allegiance is given to the Republican party, for he believed that its principles contain the best elements of good government. He has a wide and favorable acquaintance in Montgomery county, where his entire life has been passed and where he has ever labored to

advance the interests which tend to the development of the high standard of citizenship and of material, social, intellectual and moral improvement. He is a man of strong purpose, unfaltering in his support of his honest convictions and his entire career has been actuated by high and honorable motives.

REV. THOMAS MASTERSON.

Rev. Thomas Masterson, pastor of St. Agnes' Roman Catholic church, of Hillsboro, was born in County Longford, Ireland, February 2, 1850. His father, Peter Masterson, was a farmer by occupation and died in 1903 at the very venerable age of one hundred and three years. His wife, Margaret Sheridan, died at the age of eighty years. They were the parents of seven children, all sons, and three of the number are now deceased. The living brothers of Father Masterson are Bernard, who is serving as district judge of San Francisco, California; Michael, who is a bookbinder of Peabody, Massachusetts; and James, who carries on agricultural pursuits in Ireland.

Father Masterson began his education in the public schools at Moyne, Ireland, and at the age of fourteen years entered upon a classical course there, which he completed by graduation at the age of nineteen years. He next matriculated in All Hallows College in Dublin, Ireland, from which institution he was graduated at the end of five years' course of study in theology. He was at that time twenty-four years of age and was ordained to the priesthood of the Roman Catholic church by Bishop Whelan.

In 1874 Father Masterson came to the United States, making his way to Alton, Illinois, and was first in charge of St. Mary's church at Monm City, Illinois, where he remained for five years. He then went to Cairo, Illinois, where he acted as pastor of St. Patrick's Catholic church for three years and for a similar period he was pastor at Paris, Illinois, three years at Winchester, this state, four years at Carlinville, and then came to Hillsboro in 1899 to accept the pastorate of St. Agnes' Catholic church, which was established in 1869. There is now a membership of three



REV. THOMAS MASTERSON

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hundred, which number has increased fifty per cent during the incumbency of Father Masterson. The parish and its various branches of church activity are in a flourishing condition and Father Masterson, in addition to his work among his people in Hillsboro, is secretary of the Litchfield deanery, which embraces Montgomery, Christian, Fayette and Bond counties. His political allegiance is given to the Democracy and fraternally he is connected with the Knights of Columbus.

HAROLD HOOD.

Harold Hood, promoter of many of the business enterprises and interests of Litchfield which are now contributing to its prosperity and upbuilding and conducting all affairs in harmony with modern, progressive ideas, has by intense and well directed activity won for himself a foremost position among the leading young men of the city and has also gained success that enables him to control important investments. Litchfield is his native city and the 21th of May, 1872, the date of his birth. He represents one of the old and prominent families of Montgomery county. In his grandfather's family there were ten children, six of whom reached adult age. Of these Joseph Hood died in Litchfield, Illinois. John, an officer of the Confederate Army, died at Johnson's Island, Ohio, in 1865. Griffith was drowned near Grafton, Illinois, in 1850. Perhaps the best known of the brothers was Benjamin Smith Hood, who died February 15, 1904, at the home of his son in Wellington, Kansas. He settled in Montgomery county near the present site of Litchfield, where he embarked in the drug business with his brother, Joseph, continuing therein for several years. He enlisted in the Seventh Illinois Infantry, the first regiment that went to the front from Illinois. In 1863 he became one of the promoters of the Union Monitor, published at Hillsboro, and did much to build up Union sentiment in what was then a pro-slavery section of the state. He was editor of the paper, afterward purchased the interests of his partners, and removed the paper to Litchfield, where he conducted his

journal until 1872. At his death his remains were brought back and interred in the Litchfield cemetery. "Benjamin S. Hood was a newspaper man who had few superiors," said the Wellington (Kansas) Monitor-Press. "He was a ready writer, the master of a graceful and pleasing style and the possessor of a wide fund of information. His tastes were scholarly and his ideals high." An original Abolitionist, he became a staunch Republican. His first wife was Miss Mary T. Jackson, who died in 1866, leaving two children: Charles, one of the editors and proprietors of the Monitor-Press; and Miss Mary Hood, superintendent of primary work in the public schools of Oak Park, Illinois. In 1885 he was married to Mrs. Mary Jackson, widow of a brother of his first wife, and she now lives in Jerseyville, Illinois.

Harold Hood is a son of Dr. H. H. Hood, who is represented elsewhere in this volume. He was educated in the schools of Litchfield and he entered upon his business career in 1888 in the employ of the Jacksonville & St. Louis Railroad as a messenger boy. Subsequently he was promoted successively to bill clerk, yard clerk and cashier, and remained with the road until March, 1892, when he entered the service of the Litchfield Car & Machine Company, as paymaster, thus serving until 1894. In that year he went to St. Louis, where he entered the auditor's office of the St. Louis, Peoria & Northern Railroad, now the Illinois Central. In 1898 he went upon the road as traveling passenger agent for the Illinois Central and thus continued until 1900, when he became agent for the road at Litchfield, serving in that capacity until April, 1903. Mr. Hood succeeded his father, Dr. H. H. Hood, as secretary of the Oil City Building & Loan Association, upon the latter's death, in February, 1903, and has since been active in the management of its interests. In May, 1904, he organized a brokerage business, entering into partnership with David Davis; Jacob J. Frey, of Hillsboro, and James E. Calvin, also of Hillsboro, under the firm name of H. Hood & Company. They have interests in two hundred acres of land southeast of the town, near the plant of the American Radiator Company, and they build houses for sale on the install-

ment plan, and have thus contributed in large measure to the substantial upbuilding and improvement of that section of the city. Mr. Hood is also one of the promoters, in connection with David Davis, of the American Radiator Company, manufacturers of radiators. The various business interests with which he is connected are proving important enterprises of Litchfield and in their control he is displaying excellent business capacity and foresight.

In his political views Mr. Hood is a Republican and is now serving as alderman from the fourth ward, but does not take an active part in political work. Fraternally he is a Mason, belonging to Charter Oak lodge, No. 236, A. F. & A. M., and also to the Elks lodge of Litchfield. In his business career his adaptability and energy found recognition in ready promotion, and from humble surroundings he has advanced to a position of prominence in business circles.

GEORGE FOOKS.

The enterprising village of Waggoner numbers George Fooks among its leading business men. He has here resided during the past seven years and during the last two years has been engaged in dealing in lumber and coal. Realizing that success is not a matter of caprice or of fortunate circumstances but is the direct result of labor guided by sound judgment, Mr. Fooks is carrying on his business affairs in a most energetic way and has therefore secured a good patronage.

Born in Macoupin county, Illinois, on the 9th of June, 1861, he is a son of William Fooks, a native of England. The father remained in that country during the period of his childhood and early manhood and was married in his native land. Hearing favorable reports of America's business opportunities, he resolved to enjoy the advantages afforded in the new world and in 1848 emigrated to the United States. He made his way direct to Illinois, settling at Bunker Hill, but misfortune overtook him during his early residence there, for he lost his wife and family of two children with cholera in 1849. He was there engaged in teaming

and fruit-growing. On the 26th of August, 1860, he was married again, his second union being with Jane Taggart, a native of Ireland. There were three children by this marriage whom she carefully reared after the death of her husband, which occurred December 20, 1875. She died on the 9th of April, 1886. From Bunker Hill William Fooks removed to Montgomery county, settling in Zanesville township upon a tract of land which he developed into a good farm. He worked in the fields from the time of early spring planting until after the crops were harvested in the late autumn and by his labor and energy succeeded in transforming the place into a valuable farm property of two hundred and ten acres, his home being on the southwest quarter of section 3, Zanesville township, where he continued to reside up to the time of his death.

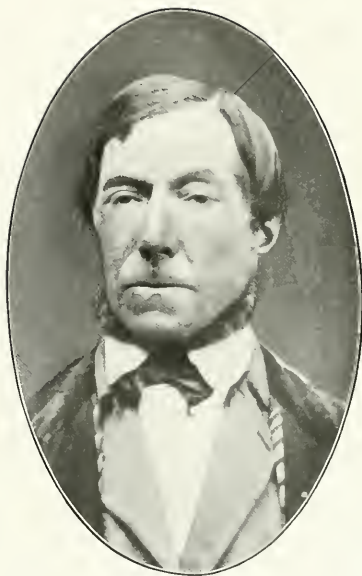
George Fooks, the only son of the family, was reared upon the homestead farm in Zanesville township and attended the district school nearby. The pleasures of the playground also occupied a full share of his attention, but he did not neglect the farm tasks that were assigned him, and after arriving at maturity he engaged in the operation of the old homestead farm, continuing the work of development and improvement there. In 1886 he was united in marriage to Miss Etta E. Sullivan, a native of New York and a daughter of Patrick and Rose (Kelly) Sullivan. They lived happily together for eight years and then Mrs. Fooks was called to her final rest January 14, 1895.

Not long after this Mr. Fooks rented his farm and spent two years in Raymond. In 1897 he purchased a grain business in Waggoner, bought an elevator, and from 1897 until 1899 he owned the north elevator. He then purchased the south elevator. He made extensive purchases and sales of grain, becoming one of the active dealers in this line in his locality, and in 1902 he extended his efforts to other fields of business activity by purchasing a lumber and coal yard. He then conducted this in connection with the grain trade until 1903, when he disposed of his grain business and of the elevators. He, however, continues to deal in lumber and coal and has a good patronage, his honorable business methods and

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GEORGE FOOKS AND FAMILY



MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM FOOKS

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earnest desire to please his patrons having secured him a growing trade. He is likewise a stockholder in the bank of Waggoner and has purchased good residence property in town. He still retains possession of the old home place on the southwest quarter of section 3, Zanesville township, and has eighty acres in Pitman township, two hundred and eighty acres in Fayette county, Illinois, and forty acres in Montgomery county, Missouri, his landed possessions now aggregating five hundred and sixty acres of rich land. All is improved with exception of the eighty acres in Pitman township.

Mr. Fooks was again married on the 19th of April, 1899, his second union being with Miss Ruth McReynolds, a daughter of Dee and Mary J. (Isabel) McReynolds, the former a native of Macoupin county, Illinois, and the latter an early settler of that county. There Mrs. Fooks was also born, but she was reared in Montgomery county. There is one son by this marriage, George Leland Fooks. Mr. Fooks advocates Republican principles and fraternally is connected with the Knights of Pythias lodge. A man of good business capacity, his honorable methods have won the confidence of all and he is justly classed with the substantial and prominent business men of Waggoner.

ISAIAH TOBERMAN.

Isaiah Toberman, one of the respected and worthy pioneer settlers of Montgomery county, well deserves representation in this volume and, in fact, no history of this locality would be complete without record of his life. He was born September 24, 1831, near Franklin, Pendleton county, West Virginia, and was the eldest son in a family of seven children, three sons and four daughters. His birthplace was a farm upon which his father had also been born, the family having resided in that locality for many years.

Isaiah Toberman had little opportunity to attend school for his services were needed on the old homestead and he worked from early morning until late at night. He was but nine years of age when he cultivated and raised nine

acres of corn and when he was still in his teens he was familiar with every department of farm labor and in the best methods of producing crops and raising stock. That the soil was not very productive is indicated by the fact that his father sold the entire farm of one hundred and sixty acres for twenty-five dollars when he departed from West Virginia to Illinois. For a number of years he had a desire to seek a home in this then far western state and he endeavored in every possible means to gain a capital that would enable him to make the journey with some degree of comfort and also enable him to gain a start in life here.

But crops were poor and he was unable to save money, so he resolved to start with only the meager sum that he realized from his farm. He hitched a team to an old wagon, which was in a very dilapidated condition, and then started for the Mississippi valley. Isaiah Toberman, who was then ten years of age, describes the parting with neighbors and friends at the old Virginia home as more like a funeral than anything else. Everybody for miles around stopped work and came to bid them goodbye. Their trip was begun on the 4th of September, 1841, and Isaiah and his father took turns in riding one of the horses, while the other drove. They passed successively through Wheeling, West Virginia, and Columbus and Dayton, Ohio, reaching Indianapolis, Indiana, on the 25th of September. The money had by that time become exhausted and they resolved to remain in the vicinity of Indianapolis until enough could be earned to enable them to continue the journey. They leased a fifteen acre farm between Indianapolis and Noblesville, of which ten acres had been cleared and they were to have all they could make from the farm in return for clearing the other five acres. Not long after this the father's health failed and because of his invalid condition his two sons, Isaiah and Peter, supported the family. Three years were passed in Indiana and on the 1st of September, 1853, they again started for Illinois, this time with two wagons, crossing the Wabash river near Danville. While en route they heard favorable reports concerning the new state of Iowa and decided to proceed further and in-

investigate, but after crossing the Mississippi river at Burlington they were not favorably impressed with the Iowa country and returned to this state, traveling through Beardstown and Jacksonville to Hillsboro.

Isaiah Toberman says that the county seat was then a very unpretentious village, having only two buildings worthy of note—the old courthouse and the academy. At length arrangements were made whereby they were to purchase one hundred and forty acres of land of Elza Sanders for one thousand dollars, the farm being located about a quarter of a mile south of Bost Hill church. When Isaiah Toberman had assisted the family in getting settled upon that place he returned to Indianapolis, where he obtained a position at running an engine for a pioneer sawmill and thus gained some ready money for the family. In March, 1855, he returned to Montgomery county and rented a tract of land in Fillmore township, upon which Henry Hanabarger now resides. He has since been actively and successfully connected with agricultural interests in Montgomery county and is to-day one of the most respected farmers within its borders.

After several years Mr. Toberman married, being joined in wedlock on the 29th of January, 1859, to Mrs. Mary (Harris) Scribner, a sister of Wooten Harris, of Hillsboro, now deceased. He made the journey to his bride's home on horseback and after the ceremony was performed they traveled in the same manner to a meeting at Bost Hill.

In the meantime Mr. Toberman had saved enough money to purchase sixty acres of land and thus investing his capital he and his wife took up their abode in a log cabin with a stick and dirt chimney. Later he bought a larger house of his brother-in-law, Joel Harris, for twelve dollars and paid for this in coin. In this house ten children were born unto Mr. and Mrs. Toberman. In 1861 Mr. Toberman extended his labors into another department of agricultural activity, purchasing a horse power threshing machine and for many years he was one of the best known threshers of Montgomery county, making regular trips through this county and also Fayette and Bond counties until the year 1900. The work proved profit-

able and thus year by year he was enabled to add to his capital. In 1881 he embarked in the grain and hay business at Chapman and as there was no bank nearer than Hillsboro had to keep enough cash on hand to pay for grain which he bought. He conducted the grain trade and the threshing business and then added other business interests, including the cultivation of a large farm and the operation of two sawmills through the winter months. He possessed great energy and business capacity and the word fail never found a place in his vocabulary. In 1893, associated with his son Marion, he purchased the elevator at Fillmore and afterward bought the hay barn there. At present they own and operate elevators and hay barns at Fillmore, Chapman and Bingham, and that at Chapman is considered one of the best in the county. Mr. Toberman continued to reside upon his farm until August, 1898, when he removed to the village of Fillmore in order to superintend his varied business industries with greater facility and dispatch.

Of the children born unto Mr. and Mrs. Toberman five are now deceased, namely: Roxy, Wellington, William H., Thomas A., and one that died in infancy. Thomas A., who passed away at Coffeen, June 30, 1903, was a very popular young man who had already attained prominence in business circles. Those still living are: Marion F., who is interested with his father in the grain trade at Fillmore and Chapman; Joel H., who is living on the old homestead near Bost Hill; Benjamin E., who is engaged in the grain trade in Coffeen; Florence, the wife of H. F. Williamson, of Fillmore; and Walter H., who is connected with the grain business at Coffeen.

In his political views Mr. Toberman is a stalwart Democrat, having continuously supported the party since casting his first presidential ballot for Franklin Pierce. He is also a staunch advocate of the cause of temperance and has labored earnestly for the adoption of temperance principles and the suppression of the liquor traffic. In 1868 he became a member of the Lutheran church at Bost Hill, but afterward joined the Baptist church and is now an active worker therein in Fillmore. His wife, an earnest Christian woman, has been his

sympathetic assistant in all church work as in other walks of life and Mr. Toberman attributes his success in no small degree to her encouragement and hearty co-operation. They have now reached the ages of seventy-two and seventy years, respectively, but they are well preserved people, Mrs. Toberman doing her own housework, while Mr. Toberman daily superintends his varied business interests. They have residence property in Fillmore and in addition he owns four hundred acres of land, which he has acquired through his earnest toil. Throughout his business career he has carried forward to successful completion whatever he has undertaken and his example should serve as a source of inspiration and encouragement to others. The Toberman household has always been noted for its hospitality and many there are who have found in Mr. and Mrs. Toberman warm friends and on many occasions there have been those who have received from them substantial assistance.

WASHINGTON ALEXANDER WHITE.

Washington Alexander White, whose intense and well directed activity has made him one of the foremost factors in community affairs in Hillsboro, entered upon the active duties of life unaided by influential friends or advantageous circumstances. He has been the sole architect of his own fortune, molding his own character and shaping his own destiny. He has come to be a merchant and a man of affairs in his adopted state, yet his labors have not been restricted to the advancement of his personal interests, for he has extended his effort to various fields, in which he has championed the highest interests of the municipality and of the people at large.

Mr. White was born in North Carolina, as were his parents, Robert R. and Rebecca (Barkley) White. The father was a farmer by occupation and at the time of the Civil war espoused the cause of the south and died in the hospital at Richmond, Virginia, in 1864, when thirty-five years of age. His political allegiance was given to the Democracy and he was a member of the Reformed Presbyterian church.

His wife, who was also born in North Carolina, was a daughter of Robert R. and Rebecca D. (Cathey) Barkley. Mrs. White died in 1875 at the age of forty-two years. She was also a member of the Reformed Presbyterian church and was a most estimable lady who had the warm regard of many friends. In the family were five children: Mary Roberta, now deceased; Nancy E., who became the wife of Frank Eagle, a resident of North Carolina; Anna Delilah, the widow of Wesley Bailey, of North Carolina; Washington A.; and Bobbie, deceased.

Washington A. White began his education in the common schools of his native state and continued his studies in East Fork township, Montgomery county. He came to this county in 1876 with his uncle, Pink White, who located at Hillsboro. Mr. White was then fifteen years of age and he worked by the month on a farm in summer, while in the winter seasons he attended school for two years. He afterward drove a delivery wagon for John C. Barkley for two years and at the expiration of that period he entered the store of A. A. K. Sawyer as a clerk in the grocery department. Afterward he was employed in the dry-goods department, where he remained for five years. Subsequently he engaged in selling dry goods as a traveling salesman, beginning in that line in 1886 as a representative of a St. Louis house. He was thus engaged until 1897 and during the two last years he was in charge of the traveling men of that house upon the road. The firm, however, retired from business in August, 1897, and Mr. White again came to Hillsboro and began business on his own account as a dealer in dry goods, clothing, hats and caps at Hillsboro. He still carries on business in this line and has secured a liberal patronage which has made the enterprise a profitable one. He is likewise interested in the new Kortkamp Mining Company and is a member of the Hillsboro Building & Improvement Company.

Mr. White was married in 1892 to Miss Winnie P. Brown, a daughter of George W. and Henrietta Brown, who was born in Butler in 1869. They had two children: Ruth H. and Marjorie R.

In his political affiliation Mr. White is a Republican, keeping well informed on the ques-

tions and issues of the day and giving earnest support to every movement that he believes will contribute to the success of the party. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp and in Masonry has attained the Knight Templar degree. He thoroughly enjoys home life and takes great pleasure in the society of his family and friends. He is always courteous, kindly and affable, and those who know him personally have for him warm regard. A man of great natural ability, his success in business from the beginning of his residence in Hillsboro has been uniform and rapid. As has been truly remarked, after all that may be done for a man in the way of giving him early opportunities for obtaining the requirements which are sought in the schools and in books, he must essentially formulate, determine and give shape to his own character; and this is what Mr. White has done. He has persevered in the pursuit of a persistent purpose and gained the most satisfactory reward.

DELOS VAN DEUSEN.

Delos Van Deusen has figured prominently in financial circles and has aided in fostering various enterprises which have for their object the city's benefit and it is, therefore, imperative that definite consideration be granted to Mr. Van Deusen in connection with the history of Montgomery county, where he has been connected with various business affairs and has so ordered his life as to gain and retain the confidence and esteem of his fellow men. He has now passed the eightieth milestone on life's journey and is living in the enjoyment of a well earned rest.

A native of Allegany county, New York, Mr. Van Deusen was born on the 9th of December, 1823, a son of Joshua B. and Lucia (Grosvenor) Van Deusen, who were of Dutch and English descent, respectively. When their son was three years of age they removed to Jamestown, New York, and in that city he was reared and educated. In 1846 he went to Dayton, Ohio, where he began business as a dealer in boots, shoes and leather. This proved a remunerative enterprise with which he was con-

nected until 1857. In that year he made a trip through the state of Illinois and decided to become a resident of Montgomery county. Litchfield was then a very small place, but he recognized its possibilities and opportunities and resolved to cast in his lot with its early settlers. From that time forward he has been loyal to its interests and his labors have proved a resultant factor in securing its upbuilding and improvement.

At the time of the Civil war Mr. Van Deusen, aroused by a spirit of patriotism, felt that his first duty was toward his country and became a member of the Sixth Missouri Volunteer Infantry. He raised a company, of which he became captain, the enlistment taking place at the arsenal in St. Louis in June, 1861. The regiment was then sent south and was kept at Pilot Knob until the fall of that year, when it was ordered to Tipton, Missouri, where Fremont was in command. It was then sent to Springfield in November, 1861, and afterward returned to guard the Pacific Railroad until the succeeding spring. Later the regiment was ordered to proceed to Pittsburg Landing in May, 1862, at which time it was assigned to General Sherman's division and from that time on until the close of the war was in active duty under the intrepid Ohio leader. Mr. Van Deusen was mustered out of service in St. Louis in September, 1865. He had been promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel in 1864 and with that rank served in all of the campaigns, commanding the regiment in active service during the entire succeeding year. After the close of the war he was made colonel by Governor Fletcher. His services covered more than four years and during that entire time he was never wounded, although his clothing was several times pierced by bullets.

After his return to the pursuits of civil life Mr. Van Deusen was made city magistrate of Litchfield, occupying that position for four years. In 1871 he entered the bank of Beach, Davis & Company, who were later succeeded by M. M. Martin & Company. Mr. Van Deusen was cashier of this institution and held the position until 1898, when the bank again changed its name. For some time he was the oldest bank cashier of Litchfield and was a



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member of the firm. He was also a director of the Oil City Building & Savings Association, which was capitalized for one million dollars, and as its president he capably managed the affairs of the company to the entire satisfaction of its stockholders. He was likewise one of the organizers of the Litchfield Homestead & Loan Association and was its president. He is now practically living a retired life, although he has financial interests in several leading business concerns of the city.

While residing in Dayton, Ohio, Mr. Van Deusen was united in marriage to Miss Henrietta M. Snyder, a daughter of Charles and Elizabeth Snyder, the wedding being celebrated on the 19th of February, 1852. Mr. Van Deusen is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic at Litchfield and in his political views is a Republican. It is said of an eminent man of old that he has done things worthy to be written; that he has written things worthy to be read; and by his life has contributed to the welfare of the republic and the happiness of mankind. He on whom this transcendent eulogy can be pronounced with even partial truth is entitled to the gratitude of his race. Nowhere within the broad limits of the commonwealth of Illinois has there lived a man about whom this might more truthfully be said than Delos Van Deusen.

DANIEL POPE.

Daniel Pope, who follows farming on section 4, Raymond township, where he owns and cultivates one hundred and sixty acres of land and also operates an adjoining farm of one hundred and seventy acres, has been a resident of Montgomery county since August, 1868, and has lived in Illinois since 1866, at which time he settled in Jersey county. He was born in Devonshire, England, April 2, 1848, and remained in that country until eighteen years of age. He also spent seven years in Wales and he had fair school advantages in his youth. He came to America in 1866, when a young man of nineteen years, and made his way at once to Illinois, settling in Jersey county, where he joined an older brother, Richard Pope. He

resided in that county for more than a year, working as a farm hand by the month, and in August, 1868, he came to Montgomery county, where he improved a farm, breaking wild land and developing a good property. He continued to engage in general agricultural pursuits upon the first place for several years and the farm is still occupied by his brother Richard.

In March, 1873, Daniel Pope was united in marriage to Miss Josephine Corn, a native of Illinois, and here they began their domestic life upon a tract of rented land, which he continued to cultivate for four years. This was located near his brother's farm. He afterward rented another farm for twelve years and on the expiration of that period he purchased the property upon which he now resides, buying forty acres in 1888. Later he bought eighty acres and subsequently an additional tract of eighty acres, but afterward sold forty acres of this. He has also purchased ninety-nine acres of land in Jersey county. His attention has been given to the development and further improvement of the home place and to the cultivation of other tracts and as before said he not only operates his home farm of a quarter section, but also cultivates the adjoining one hundred and seventy acres. He is a successful farmer, ever practical in his methods, following progressive ideas and laboring earnestly and persistently in his efforts to accumulate a competency. He now owns two valuable farms, one in Jersey and one in Montgomery counties, and his properties are the visible evidence of his life of thrift and industry.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Pope have been born nine children: Olivia L., the wife of John Hitchings, a farmer of Montgomery county; William G., who is married and follows farming with his father-in-law, Henry Hitchings; Etta, the wife of Ori Thompson, a resident farmer of Jersey county, living upon her father's land; Nellie, Bertha, Joseph, Ralla, Geneva and Maude, all at home. The parents hold membership in the Baptist church and in his fraternal relations Mr. Pope is an Odd Fellow, connected with Harvel lodge, in which he has filled all of the chairs and is now past grand. He was also deputy for sixteen or seventeen years and represented his local lodge in the

grand lodge of the state for six terms, serving for five consecutive terms. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity, of Raymond, of the Court of Honor and the Modern Woodmen camp and in the last named has filled all of the offices. He strongly endorses Republican principles and has filled the offices of highway commissioner and township treasurer, acting in the latter capacity for six years. He was a member of the school board for fifteen years, during which time he served for several years as its president. He has likewise been a delegate to the county conventions and takes a deep and active interest in the success of his party and the extension of its influence. There is no more loyal citizen in Montgomery county than this adopted son of America, for during his long residence in Illinois he has always been faithful and true to its interests and at the same time he has so controlled his business affairs as to win the success which is the reward of honesty and concentrated labor when guided by sound judgment.

MARTIN LUTHER MOYER, M. D.

Dr. Martin Luther Moyer, successfully engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery in Hillsboro, was born in Iredell county, North Carolina, March 19, 1850. His father, John M. Moyer, was also a native of North Carolina and was descended from German ancestry, the family having been founded in Pennsylvania at an early day, while later generations of the family became residents of the Old North state. John M. Moyer was a farmer by occupation and during the Civil war he made saltpeter for the Confederacy. In 1866 he removed with his family to Montgomery county, Illinois, locating on a farm near Coffeen. He married Martha A. Kimball, who has born in Cabarrus county, North Carolina, in 1825, and was of Irish parentage, tracing her ancestry back to Major Buckner Kimball, who came from the north of Ireland about 1750, and served in the Revolutionary war with the rank that his title indicates. His children were Nancy, Patsy, Eddie and Harris, all natives of Randolph county, North Carolina.

Harris, the youngest, married Dorcas Wood, of North Carolina, and they had ten children: Joel, Calya, Harris, William, Lihugh, Sarah, Patsy, Nancy, Betty and Polly. Of this family Joel, son of Harris Kimball, was the grandfather of Dr. Moyer of this review. He was born in North Carolina, August 11, 1799, and died May 28, 1883. He was married first to Nancy Kearns, who was born July 12, 1801, and was married in 1818 at the age of seventeen. They had six children: Thomas H., who was born November 19, 1819, and died January 15, 1890; Wiley J., who was born April 7, 1821, and died in 1900; John A., who was born May 15, 1823, and died July 11, 1824; Martha A., who was born April 7, 1825, and died November 11, 1891; Mary L., who was born March 1, 1828, and lives in Moorsville, North Carolina; Eliza C., who was born August 4, 1830, and now lives in Mt. Gilead, North Carolina. Soon after the last named was born the mother died.

On March 1, 1831, Joel Kimball was married a second time to Miss Sarah Lentz, by whom he had ten children: Henry L., born December 5, 1831, now deceased; Nancy L., born April 4, 1835; David Hoyl, born January 29, 1837, and died in August, 1840; John Calvin, born September 5, 1839; Chrissie A., born August 29, 1842; Sarah S., born October 8, 1844, and died April 24, 1874; Laura W., born March 1, 1847; William H., born September 28, 1850; Joel L., born October 5, 1854. Sarah Kimball, the mother of the last ten children, died March 16, 1902, aged ninety-four years, eight months and eight days.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Moyer were members of the Lutheran church and Mr. Moyer was a Democrat in his political faith. They had four children, of whom two died in infancy. The surviving daughter, Mary E., a resident of Butler, Illinois, is the widow of Robert Hogsett, who died in Kansas in 1895, leaving four children, Mattie B., Maude C., Bertha G. and Ada E. John M. Moyer died December 27, 1891, and his wife passed away November 11, 1892.

Dr. Moyer pursued his literary education in the public schools and engaged in teaching for one winter. He read medicine in the office of Dr. T. J. Whitten, then of Irving and now of

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MR. AND MRS. JOHN M. MOYER

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Nokomis. Later he attended lectures at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Iowa, and was graduated on the completion of the regular course, March 2, 1880. He located for practice in Butler, where he remained for seventeen years, and in the fall of 1896 came to Hillsboro, where he has remained since. He has a large patronage and although a general practitioner, also makes a specialty of the diseases of women and children, having studied largely along these lines, so that his proficiency in that direction is above the average.

In 1882 Dr. Moyer was married to Miss Emma A. Gray, a daughter of Alexander and Amanda Gray, of Butler Grove township. She died December 31, 1885, at the age of twenty-three years, and in 1887 Dr. Moyer married Miss Susie L. Gray, a sister of his first wife. They had two children, Leland Gray and Harold A., but the former is now deceased.

Dr. and Mrs. Moyer are members of the Lutheran church, and he belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity and to a number of insurance orders. In politics he is a Democrat and has served as county coroner and in township offices, his public-spirited citizenship being manifest by faithful service. He belongs to the American, State, Central, District and County Medical Societies and in professional ranks he occupies a position that indicates a studious, careful preparation and a conscientious devotion to the demands of a large practice.

ALBERT M. HOWELL.

Albert M. Howell, promoter of many business interests which have important bearing upon the substantial development and progress of Hillsboro and Montgomery county, was born at Bunker Hill, Macoupin county, Illinois, June 23, 1854. The family is of Welsh lineage and Mr. Howell, the grandfather, was a farmer of New Jersey. The ancestors of our subject had located in the new world at an early period in its colonization and Richard Howell, who was an uncle of Ebenezer Howell, was governor of New Jersey during the Revolutionary war, while another representative of the family was a general in the Colonial army.

Dr. Ebenezer Howell, father of Albert M. Howell, was born in New Jersey, and in the year 1835 emigrated westward, settling at Bunker Hill, Macoupin county, Illinois, where he engaged in the practice of medicine for fifty years, becoming one of the best known and successful physicians of that part of the state. He removed to Hillsboro in 1893 and died here the following year when in the eighty-fifth year of his age. He obtained a competency by reason of his professional skill and the careful husbanding of his resources. He had a very large practice and was a loved family physician in many a household. His benevolent and kindly spirit led him to give his professional services where he knew that there was no hope of remuneration and it is said that he had not an enemy on earth. In his political views he was an earnest Republican. Honored and respected by all his memory is yet enshrined in the hearts of many who knew him. In early manhood he married Almira Cake, who was born in Deerfield, New Jersey, and died at the age of seventy-six years. Her parents were David and Margaret Cake and the former was a farmer by occupation. Mr. and Mrs. Howell became the parents of four children: George, deceased, who was the first white child born at Bunker Hill, Illinois; Frank and Alfred, both deceased; and Albert M.

Reared under the parental roof Albert M. Howell spent the days of his boyhood at Bunker Hill and after completing the course in the public schools there he attended Blackburn University at Carlinville, Illinois. Subsequently he continued his studies at Notre Dame and after leaving school accepted the position of bookkeeper in a wholesale house in St. Louis, Missouri, where he remained for a year and a half. On the expiration of that period he returned to his home and engaged in clerking in a dry goods store. A year later he went south and was lumber inspector in a sawmill for six months. He next went to Jersey City, New Jersey, where he opened a wholesale lumberyard as a dealer in yellow pine, continuing in that business for four years. He then again came to the west and entered the employ of D. P. Woodman, a lumber merchant of Litchfield, as bookkeeper. He acted in that capacity for four

years and from Litchfield went to New Douglas, Illinois, where he established a retail lumber yard in 1883. He had conducted the business for about two years, when in 1885 he sold out and removed to Florence, Kansas, where he was proprietor of a lumberyard for two years, conducting this under the firm name of Dean & Howell. He then sold out and returned to McLean, Illinois. There he purchased a lumberyard, which he conducted for six years and once more he sold his business and bought an interest in the lumberyard owned by Ed Rice, of Litchfield. The Rice-Howell Lumber Company was thus organized and the business was carried on successfully until 1893, when Mr. Howell sold out and purchased the lumber business of E. Y. McKnown at Hillsboro. Here he has since carried on business and in February, 1904, he sold a half interest in his yard to Howell M. Dorsey of Gillespie, Illinois. The firm name is now Howell & Dorsey. They carry a stock of lumber valued at fifteen thousand dollars. This is both dressed and undressed lumber and their sales have reached a large figure, the business now being very profitable.

While Mr. Howell has won success as a lumber merchant he has also been the promoter of various enterprises, contributing in direct measure to the commercial and industrial activity of the county and to its prosperity. In 1895 he was one of the four organizers of the Montgomery County Telephone Company and has been its secretary and manager since 1898. He is also the largest stockholder. In 1901 he was instrumental in forming the Commercial Club, an organization that has been pre-eminent in the upbuilding of Hillsboro, and from the beginning he has been its president. He is one of the largest stockholders in the Hillsboro Hotel and is one of the promoters of the Kortkamp Coal Company.

In 1886 Mr. Howell was united in marriage to Miss Carrie S. Macknett, a daughter of Daniel S. and Rhoda (Clark) Macknett, the former a lumber dealer of Girard and Carlinville, Illinois. Mrs. Howell was born in Girard in 1865 and has become the mother of three children: Almira R., Alberta M. and Amell C. Mr. Howell belongs to the Masonic fraternity and to the Modern Woodmen camp at Hills-

boro and in his political views he is a Republican. He is a man of excellent business ability, executive force and keen discernment and carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes, and while he has promoted his individual prosperity he also belongs to that class of representative American citizens who while controlling business affairs also add to the general prosperity.

WALTER M. GRIMES.

Walter M. Grimes, proprietor of the Pine Tree place on section 33, Nokomis township, was born October 7, 1878, in Rosemond township, Christian county, his parents being Steven N. and Lucy E. (Cavender) Grimes, who were natives of Macoupin county, Illinois. The father was of English descent, while the mother's people were Canadians. The maternal grandfather lived to be eighty-two years of age, and his wife seventy-nine years of age, their last days being spent in Macoupin county, and they celebrated their golden wedding.

Steven N. Grimes was reared in Macoupin county, followed the occupation of farming in his boyhood under his father's instruction and in 1872 removed to Christian county, Illinois, where he took possession of a farm belonging to his father. He afterward acquired landed possessions to the extent of ten or eleven hundred acres, lying in Rosemond and Greenwood townships, Christian county, and a part in Nokomis township, Montgomery county. He had two sisters who were long residents of central Illinois, Mrs. E. K. Adams, now living on a farm at Gillespie, and Mrs. Mary E. Beggan, who died in Gillespie in 1901. Mrs. Grimes has two sisters who are yet living, Mrs. Robert Huddleston, of Gillespie, and Mrs. Mary Halpin, who is living on a farm in that locality. Steven N. Grimes departed this life in 1896, but his wife is still living, making her home with her brother, John Cavender, upon a farm near Gillespie. She is now fifty-one years of age. By her marriage she became the mother of five sons and two daughters, of whom Walter M. was the third in order of birth. The members of this family are William N., who resides upon the old home farm and is a success-

ful breeder of Hereford cattle; Nannie J., who died at the age of fifteen years; Walter M.; Jessie and Stephen, who died in infancy; Ira, who died at the age of one year, and Ruth May, who is living with her mother in Gillespie.

Walter M. Grimes acquired his early education in the district schools and afterward attended the graded schools of Rosemond, Illinois, and later Blackburn University at Carlinville, Illinois, but while a student there in 1894 he was taken ill and did not get to complete the course. He has since taken some correspondence work and thus supplemented his school training. Since putting aside his text books he has devoted his entire time and energies to agricultural pursuits. For six years he has resided upon his present farm, which he calls the Pine Tree place. He owns altogether eight hundred acres, some of which he inherited, while the remainder he purchased. Of this he has three quarter sections rented and the rental therefrom brings him a good income. His own home place is splendidly improved and equipped with modern facilities for carrying on the farm work and with splendid buildings. His life has been characterized by unfaltering energy and perseverance and in the control of his property interests he displays excellent business management.

In 1901 Mr. Grimes was married to Marcia D. Clark, who was born in Cahokia township, Macoupin county, March 2, 1878, and is a daughter of M. W. and Carrie T. (Boosinger) Clark, of Gillespie, Illinois, both natives of Macoupin county, this state. Mrs. Grimes attended the country schools in her early girlhood and later became a student in the public schools of Carlinville. She had three brothers, but the eldest died in infancy and Harvey M. is also deceased. Frank R. Clark, who was born in Gillespie township, is living with his parents at the age of twenty-one years. John Clark, the paternal grandfather of Mrs. Grimes, died at the age of eighty years. Her maternal grandparents, George F. and Marie A. Boosinger, however, are still living in Macoupin county and they have celebrated their golden wedding.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Grimes has been blessed with two children, Harry M., born

March 7, 1903, and M. Melvina, born October 10, 1904. The young couple are widely and favorably known in Montgomery county, where they have many warm friends and the hospitality of many of the best homes is freely accorded them. In politics he has always been a Democrat and fraternally is connected with the Knights of Pythias lodge and the Modern Woodmen camp.

ANTON W. GOBY.

Anton W. Goby, living on section 2, Zanesville township, where he owns and operates a farm of two hundred and ten acres, was born in East Friesland, Germany, on the 22d of November, 1850. His youth was there passed and in early life he worked at farm labor in his native country. He came to the new world in 1871, being then a young man of twenty-one years, and he located in Greene county, Illinois, where he had a cousin living. He was employed there by the month as a farm hand for a year or two and it was during his residence in that county that he was married on the 14th of February, 1873, to Miss Sarah Jones, a native of Illinois and of English lineage.

After his marriage Mr. Goby rented a tract of land on which he carried on general farming for several years and on the expiration of that period he purchased a part of his present farm, becoming the owner of eighty acres. This he at once began to cultivate and improve, and when his capital had sufficiently increased to enable him to make further purchase he extended the boundaries of his farm and has added to it from time to time until he is now the owner of two hundred and ten acres of valuable land. He has also another tract so that his landed possessions now aggregate two hundred and ninety acres. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Goby were born nine children, six of whom are yet with their parents, while three have started out in life for themselves. Mr. Goby is a staunch Republican and has never yet faltered in his allegiance to the party, although political preferment and public office have no attraction for him. He was reared in the Lutheran faith

and his life has been characterized by honesty in business and straightforward dealing with his fellow men at all times. A resident of Illinois for a third of a century he is now numbered among the prosperous farmers of Zanesville township, but when he came to this state he had no capital, possessing only a courageous spirit, stout heart and willing hands. He was then a young man of twenty-one years and now in the prime of life he is possessed of very desirable farming interests as the reward of his capable management and diligence.

SAMUEL E. O'BANNON.

Samuel E. O'Bannon is a representative of one of the old and honored families of Montgomery county. He was born at Locust Grove, ten miles east of Alton, Madison county, Illinois, April 7, 1843, his parents being Richard W. and Matilda (Dorsey) O'Bannon. His father was born near Fairfax Courthouse, in Farnquier county, Virginia, November 1, 1808, and on the 29th of July, 1830, was married to Matilda Dorsey, whose birth occurred in Jefferson county, Kentucky, on the 23d of November, 1811. He erected the first building in the city of Litchfield, in March, 1854, it being used as a dry-goods store, and later built his dwelling, and in November, following, was joined by his family, the home being thus established in a pioneer district, with the substantial improvement and permanent development of which he became closely connected, so that his name is inscribed high on the roll of the real builders and promoters of the county. He carried on merchandising for many years and had a wide acquaintance in the county, while his business integrity and personal worth gained him the favorable regard of all with whom he was associated. He died November 14, 1883, and his wife passed away January 23, 1893, and the county thus lost two of its representative pioneer people.

Samuel E. O'Bannon pursued his education in the schools of Litchfield and at Eureka, Woodford county, Illinois. When he was a lad of fourteen years his father placed him behind the counter in his store to sell goods

and thus he entered upon his business career. Eventually he became proprietor of a dry-goods store and he continued as a merchant in that line for twenty-five years, when, desiring to retire from commercial pursuits, he turned his attention to farming in Zanesville township. In 1874, however, he re-entered mercantile life and was again a factor in the trade circles of Litchfield for ten years, conducting a prosperous business. On the expiration of that period he resumed farming and in 1896 he purchased his present farm of A. B. Browning. He owns one hundred and six and a half acres of land, constituting a well developed property, and his energies and capable management have transformed this into a productive tract which annually yields good harvests.

On the 15th of February, 1866, in the city of Litchfield, Mr. O'Bannon was married to Miss Helen Quisenberry, who was reared in Columbus, Missouri, and educated at Christian College. They have four children living: Dr. Richard W. O'Bannon, of Hollister, California, who is married and now practices his profession there; Edward H., a resident of St. Louis; Mary Bessie, now the wife of Dr. C. M. Ament, of St. Louis; and Nellie Q., now at home.

Mr. O'Bannon belongs to the Woodmen camp at Litchfield and in his political views is a Democrat. He has held the office of township collector twice, but otherwise has held no political office, his interest centering more largely in his business affairs, which, capably managed, have been resultant factors in bringing him the success which is to-day his.

J. H. ROBERTS.

J. H. Roberts, a representative of the real estate interests of Montgomery county, was born in 1882 in Grisham township, a son of N. J. and Margaret Roberts. The father was born in Rockingham county, North Carolina, November 10, 1848, his parents being Richard and Mary Roberts. The grandfather, also a native of North Carolina, made farming his life work and died in his native state. N. J. Roberts came to Montgomery county, Illinois,



S. E. O'BANNON

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in 1869 and attended school for two winters here. He was employed as a farm laborer for one year and then began farming on his own account, an occupation which he followed with good success until 1903, when he removed to Coffeen. He worked earnestly and persistently in former years and justly earned the rest which is now accorded him. In 1871 he was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Beck, a native of Grisham township, and they became the parents of seven children: Jessie, who married P. D. Smith, of Coffeen; Walter E., who is the publisher of the Mount Vernon Times; Lola, who is the wife of O. M. Hampton, of Hillsboro; and J. H., Charles R., Chloe and Owen, all at home. The parents hold membership in the Cumberland Presbyterian church and are well known and highly respected people of the community, interested in many measures for the general good. In his political affiliation Mr. Roberts is a Democrat and fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen and with the Mutual Protective League.

J. H. Roberts was reared under the parental roof and acquired his early education in the schools of Grisham township. He afterward continued his studies in Coffeen and was graduated here. Later he was a student in the law department of Cumberland University at Lebanon, Tennessee, but has never engaged in practice. Removing to Coffeen, he began operating in real estate and later he purchased the Montgomery Democrat from his brother W. E. Roberts. This was the only newspaper published in the township and it had a good circulation among the people of the community. It was established in 1892 and conducted along modern newspaper lines, being an enterprising journal devoted to the interests of the locality as well as to the dissemination of general news. Mr. Roberts sold his interest in the paper June 1, 1904, and has opened a real estate office in Coffeen. Having been for about one year in that business before he bought the newspaper his success in this enterprise is assured.

Mr. Roberts is a member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity and of the Modern American. His political support is given to the Democracy. In the county where his entire life has been passed he is known as a popular

young man, having many sterling characteristics which have gained him many friends.

PHILIP STAUDER.

Philip Stauder, who is engaged in general farming on section 13, Irving township, and who has served as game warden of Montgomery county, was born in St. Clair county, Illinois, January 13, 1867. He is a son of Joseph and Catherine (Heibman) Stauder, both of whom were natives of Illinois. The mother died during the infancy of her son Philip, and the father passed away November 4, 1896, at the age of fifty-six years.

Philip Stauder received good educational privileges. He attended the public schools and afterward became a student in McKendree College at Lebanon, Illinois, and when he put aside his text books he entered upon his business career, accepting a clerkship in the employ of the Simmons Hardware Company, of St. Louis, Missouri. He also worked for different newspaper houses of that city and later learned the blacksmith's trade. After two years, however, he came to Montgomery county in August, 1881, and began farming. In 1893 he removed to his present home where he now owns one hundred and fourteen acres of good land, all of which he has improved. His farm is attractive in appearance because of the good buildings upon it and the highly cultivated condition of the fields. He is thoroughly conversant with the most improved and modern methods of farming and that his efforts are practical is indicated by the good financial return which comes to him. He was appointed the first game warden in Montgomery county and filled that position for four years. His political allegiance was given to the Democratic party, which he has supported since attaining his majority.

On the 12th of February, 1888, Mr. Stauder was united in marriage to Miss Mary A. Meyer, a daughter of John and Mary Meyer, of Coffeen. They are the parents of four children: Arthur Harry, Eugene Louis, Isabella Genevieve and Lawrence Leo. Mr. and Mrs. Stauder are members of the Catholic church of Hillsboro and he also has membership relations

with the Modern Woodmen camp at Irving. He has worked earnestly and persistently to gain a comfortable competence and as the years have passed his labors have been crowned with a fair measure of success.

J. S. MOODY.

J. S. Moody, now deceased, was a citizen of Montgomery county, whose value was recognized by all who knew him and whose loss was therefore deeply regretted throughout the entire community in which he lived. He was born in Franklin county, Indiana, April 19, 1836, his parents being John D. and Jane Moody. His father was a shoemaker by trade and followed that pursuit in early life, but later purchased a farm at Salem, Illinois, and there carried on agricultural pursuits, assisted by his son J. S. The latter was reared in this state, spending his early youth at Monticello. When ten years of age he accompanied his parents on their removal to Salem, Marion county, and there he assisted in the improvement of the home farm. He never followed any other occupation than that to which he was reared and lived a quiet but useful, active and honorable career.

In 1858 J. S. Moody was united in marriage to Miss Eliza A. Bliss, a daughter of Alfred and Direxia (Knowles) Bliss. They became the parents of nine children: Katie, deceased wife of Dr. William H. Harris, of Kiola, Kansas; Ida, a resident of Effingham, Illinois; Jennie, the wife of Edward Killian, of St. Louis; Alice, the wife of C. B. Hicks; Charles, who married Florence Card and is engaged in farming for his mother, though he also owns three hundred and forty acres; Margaret, at home; Blanche, who is engaged in teaching in Nokomis; Dora, the wife of Berton Holloway, of Fillmore; and Leila, formerly a teacher in county schools, now at home.

J. S. Moody endorsed the principles of the Republican party and supported its men and measures by his ballot. He belonged to the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association and was deeply interested in all that pertained to the agricultural development of the county. In

his business relations he was trustworthy and he owed his success to his indefatigable energy and strong purpose. His death occurred April 5, 1894, and was the occasion of sincere and deep regret to many of his friends, because he had always displayed in his life record the qualities of upright manhood. His widow belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church.

Charles Moody, since his father's death, has been operating the home farm, comprising two hundred and forty acres of land. Upon the place is a good residence and modern equipments and the home was erected by Mrs. Moody, who was born in Bradford, Vermont, and was brought to Illinois by her parents when only four years of age, the family home being established in Fillmore township. They lived in a log cabin until a more modern residence could be built. Mrs. Moody was reared in Fillmore township amid the conditions and environments of pioneer life and attended school in the home neighborhood. Her first teacher was Lowell Fairbanks and the school building was an old fashioned structure built of logs with a punch-con floor and seated with slab benches having no backs. She afterward became a student in the college at Salem, Illinois, and was graduated with the class of 1858. Few of the residents of Montgomery county have so long been witnesses of its development as has Mrs. Moody, whose mind pictures forth many events and conditions of those early days. She relates many interesting incidents concerning early life here and she certainly deserves mention among the worthy pioneer women. She still resides upon the old home farm, which is now being operated by her son, both grain and stock being raised thereon.

SINGLETON D. CAVE.

Singleton D. Cave, whose genial manner, cordial disposition and unfailing courtesy have made him popular in Litchfield and Montgomery county, was born on his father's farm in this county, on the 26th of February, 1835, his parents being Thomas and Lucinda (Darnielle) Cave. The father was of English lineage and claimed Sir Edward Cave as a remote an-

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MR. AND MRS. J. S. MOODY



MR. AND MRS. ALFRED BLISS

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cestor. He was born in 1804, became an attorney and engaged in the practice of law at Mount Sterling, Montgomery county, Kentucky. On leaving that state in 1841, he removed to Madison county, Illinois, settling near Edwardsville upon a farm. Later he engaged in law practice in Memphis, Scotland county, Missouri, until 1848, when he took up his abode in Jersey county, Illinois, living with his children until his death, which occurred July 16, 1849. His wife was born in Washington county, Kentucky, January 14, 1808, and was a daughter of Archibald Darnelle, a farmer and landowner. She died in Litchfield, August 5, 1900, at the age of ninety-two years and six months.

Singleton D. Cave received his education in Illinois and Missouri, being given special advantages by his father, who took great interest in educating his son. He did not, however, attend an academy or college, and through travel, through experience, reading and observation he has greatly broadened his knowledge. When he was seventeen years of age he ran away from home, being attracted by the discovery of gold in California. He walked across the plains as the driver of a six-bull team, and it required one hundred and fifty days to cover the distance between Memphis, Missouri, and Sacramento. He became a prospector and dug out nine hundred dollars in gold dust. Becoming homesick he concluded to return and went to San Francisco, but circumstances caused him to change his plans and he remained for thirteen years or until 1866, mining and farming, sometimes successfully and again meeting with financial reverses. In one business deal he made eighty thousand dollars, but this was lost in other transactions.

In 1866 Mr. Cave returned to visit his mother, who lived in Litchfield. In 1873 he became a dry-goods merchant of Litchfield as a partner of a Mr. Little. They opened stores in several towns and would then sell and remove to another town, but in 1874 they failed in business. Mr. Cave also engaged in the wholesale and retail liquor business, but that also proved unprofitable. In 1890 he went to Indianapolis, Indiana, where he opened a café, entrusting the management to his partner,

J. W. Little, and again he lost all he had, in 1892. He then retired from business enterprises and has since confined his attention to speculation, in which he is much more successful than in the conduct of mercantile interests. He has made profitable investments in this way and has secured a good financial return.

Mr. Cave was married October 10, 1867, to Miss Hattie Ellen Porter, a daughter of Isaac Newton Porter, who was born in Ohio and spent the later years of his life in Macoupin county, Illinois, his death occurring in Gillespie, in 1857, when he was thirty-six years of age. He was a blacksmith and wagonmaker. He married a Miss Alexander, a daughter of Andrew and Esther (McGill) Alexander, all of Scotch descent. Mr. Alexander was a merchant of Alton, at the time of the assassination of Owen Lovejoy. The family were Presbyterians in religious faith. Mrs. Porter died in Jerseyville, Illinois, February 2, 1900. Mrs. Cave was born in Woodburn, Macoupin county, Illinois, January 20, 1850, and by her marriage has become the mother of two children: Chauncey Lee, who was born February 6, 1869, and is a stenographer; and Blanche, the wife of J. Frank Jacobs, of Chicago, Illinois.

Mr. Cave has traveled over much of this country and can relate many interesting incidents concerning his experiences in the far west. He is of genial manner and social disposition—qualities which have rendered him popular in many communities.

CHARLES MAST.

Charles Mast, who is engaged in general farming on section 23, Witt township, was born in Baden, Germany, May 12, 1847, his parents being John T. and Magdalene (Zeigler) Mast, who in the year 1852 came to the United States, locating in St. Clair county, Illinois. Both parents, however, are now deceased. The son, Charles Mast, was a little lad of only five summers at the time of the emigration to the new world and was reared in St. Clair county, where he acquired his education. He remained at home until twenty-seven years of age and in 1867 came to Montgomery county, Illinois,

where he has since made his home, covering a period of thirty-seven years. In 1833 he purchased his present farm and took up his abode thereon. He has made all of the improvements upon the place, including the erection of a fine residence and a commodious barn. He has two hundred acres of good land, rich and arable, and in his work has followed the most progressive farming methods and utilized the modern implements and improved machinery. He is well known for his industry and also for his reliability in business affairs, and he deserves and receives the respect and confidence of his fellow men.

On the 10th of February, 1874, Mr. Mast was united in marriage with Miss Katie Cabrick, a daughter of Jacob Cabrick, of Coffeen, Illinois. They now have five children: Mary, the wife of Frank A. Spinner, of this county; Paulina, the wife of Louis Spinner, also of this county; Francis, at home; Matilda, also at home; and Katie, who died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Mast are communicants of the Catholic church in Nokomis. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party and he keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day, as every true American citizen should do, being thus able to give an intelligent reason for the political faith which he entertains. His farm, now extensive and well improved, is the visible evidence of a well spent life and an active and honorable business career.

M. F. TOBERMAN.

M. F. Toberman, who is dealing extensively in hay and grain, was born July 15, 1861, in the township which is still his home. His parents were Isaiah and Mary Toberman, who in 1898 removed to Fillmore, where they are now living. Mr. Toberman was for many years identified with agricultural pursuits and is now interested with his son in the hay and grain business.

M. F. Toberman was reared upon the old family homestead in Fillmore township, five miles northwest of the village of Fillmore. He attended school there and in his youth also assisted in the labors of field and meadow.

About twenty-one years ago he began the grain business in connection with his father at Chapman, Illinois, and has continued to engage in the purchase and sale of grain at that point up to the present. In November, 1891, however, he removed to Fillmore, where he began dealing in grain, while B. E. Toberman acts as manager of the business at Chapman. Few grain dealers along the line of the Illinois Central Railroad handle more hay than do Mr. Toberman and his father. In 1903 they shipped one hundred and forty-five carloads in five weeks. Their business is continually growing in volume and importance and the extent of their trade has secured to them a good patronage. The company owns an elevator and hay barn at Chapman. In 1901 they had the misfortune to have the hay barn at Fillmore destroyed by fire, causing a total loss of fifty-three hundred dollars, but they now have the best hay barn in this part of the country and one of the best in the state.

M. F. Toberman was married on the 5th of December, 1889, to Miss Laura Cress, a daughter of Eli and Sallie (Holzhouser) Cress. Her father was a native of Cabarrus county, North Carolina, born in 1826, and his death occurred in 1896, when he was seventy years of age. His wife, who was born in Rowan county, North Carolina, died in June, 1892, at the age of seventy-four years. They came to Illinois in 1855, settling in Fillmore township, Montgomery county, where Mr. Cress became extensively engaged in farming, conducting a business that brought to him a gratifying income. He was very progressive and energetic and his careful management proved one of the strong elements in his success. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Cress were born twelve children, of whom nine are living, namely: A. J., who is a resident of Oklahoma; G. H.; Mrs. L. S. Sanders, of Fillmore; F. L., of Oklahoma; C. H., of New York; T. W., a resident of Fillmore township; Mrs. S. M. Harp, who is living in Farmersville, Illinois; P. W., who is located in Fillmore township; and Mrs. Toberman. Mrs. Toberman was born and reared in Montgomery county and by her marriage has become the mother of five children, of whom three are living: Macon, Maurice, and Marvin. The se-

and child, Muriel, died at the age of nine years and the youngest, Murry, died at the age of three years. The parents hold membership in the United Baptist church and in his fraternal affiliation Mr. Toberman is a Woodman and is also connected with the Knights of Pythias lodge at Fillmore, while his wife belongs to the Court of Honor. He exercises his right of franchise in support of the Democracy and keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day, but has never sought or desired office, although he was highway commissioner for two terms. He has preferred to give his undivided attention to his business affairs, in which he is now meeting with very creditable and desirable success.

JACOB HALLER.

Jacob Haller, who carries on general farming on section 27, Nokomis township, was born in Ross county, Ohio, in 1834, and is a son of Henry and Sarah Haller. The father was a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1805, and the mother's birth occurred in New Jersey. Henry Haller was reared in the Keystone state and became a farmer there. Subsequently he removed to Ohio, where he carried on agricultural pursuits until 1845, when he came to Illinois, settling in East Fork township among its early residents. There he secured a tract of land and in due course of time became an extensive farmer and stock-raiser on a large scale. He was a man of energy and was recognized as one of the leading representatives of agricultural interests in his district. In community affairs he was also deeply interested and in pioneer days assisted materially in the early development of the county. Unto him and his wife were born six children who are yet living and one child died in infancy. The father died in 1875 and the mother passed away in 1843.

Jacob Haller was reared in Ohio until ten years of age, when he accompanied his father on his removal to Illinois. He attended school in East Fork township, becoming a student in one of the old-fashioned schoolhouses built of logs and seated with slab benches, while the removal of a log from one side of the room served

to let in light for the building. Jacob Haller remained in Illinois for eight years and then with his brother went to California, traveling with an ox team in 1852. There he engaged in mining for gold for four years and made good wages. He also farmed there for eleven years. He returned to Illinois in 1867 and settled in Audubon township. He then purchased the home place where he now lives after selling his property in Audubon township. The purchase which he made when he returned to Illinois covered more than four hundred acres. He built a house and barn, made some of the improvements upon his land and now has a well developed property. He raises both grain and stock, having high grades of horses, cattle and hogs upon his place, and his wife raises a great many chickens. Great changes have occurred in farming methods during the time of his residence here. When he arrived in the county there were many deer and great flocks of prairie chickens were to be seen. This portion of the state was largely unsettled and there were no near markets so that the family had to drive hogs to St. Louis, it requiring six days to make the trip. The neighbors often went together on such trips so that it did not cost them much to go to St. Louis, and there the price of a dollar and a half or one dollar and seventy-five cents per hundred was paid for the hogs after they were butchered.

Mr. Haller started in life with little capital and he has always been a man of industry and enterprise, so that his success is the legitimate reward of his own labor. He has worked hard, every day finding him in the fields or attending to other labor of the farm, and he also attributes his success in part to the able and willing assistance of his estimable wife. He is one of the largest corn raisers of this part of the state and his farm presents a splendid appearance, neatness and thrift characterizing every portion of it. He has also become identified with financial interests in the county, having assisted in organizing the National Bank of Nokomis, of which he has been a director from the beginning. Only two of the original stockholders are still connected with the institution.

In 1859 Mr. Haller was united in marriage to Miss Ann Abrahamson, who was reared in

Norway. They are the parents of nine children, six of whom are living: Catharine, the wife of Dr. G. S. Easterday, of California; Caroline, the wife of David Best, who resides near Nokomis; Nancy Ann, at home; Eugene, who is living near Nokomis; Milton, at home; and Camilla, the wife of L. M. McIntyre, a resident of Kansas.

Mr. and Mrs. Haller hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church of Nokomis and he belongs to the Masonic lodge in that town. For many years he voted the Democratic ticket, but in recent years has given his support to the Prohibition party, being a strong advocate of the temperance cause. He has served as collector of Audubon township, but has never been active in search for public office, preferring to discharge his public duties as a private citizen. He has intimate knowledge of pioneer experiences in this county and also of the frontier life during the early mining days in California and has taken commendable interest in advancement which has been made here and in other sections of the country. He feels a local pride in what Montgomery county has accomplished and his memory forms a connecting link between the primitive past and the present with its modern progressiveness.

FRANCIS MARION ENTREKIN, M. D.

Dr. Francis Marion Entrekina, whose capability as a medical practitioner is demonstrated by the liberal patronage accorded him, was born March 5, 1844, in Clinton county, Illinois, and is a son of Asa and Eliza Entrekina. The father, who was born in Kentucky, on removing to Illinois cast in his lot with the early settlers of Clinton county. Accompanied by his wife, he traveled in a wagon drawn by oxen in the primitive manner of the times. There were only a few cabins in Clinton county and in one of these Mr. Entrekina and his family took up their abode. They had to go eighteen miles in order to purchase something to eat. Finally Mr. Entrekina secured a farm and in connection with the cultivation of his land he also conducted a carpenter and blacksmith shop. He made all of the implements that

were used in that locality and conducted a successful business, which made him one of the leading men of his community. Prospering in his undertakings he made judicious investments in real estate and at the time of his death, which occurred in 1860, was the owner of one thousand acres of land. He had borne a very helpful and important part in the early development and substantial improvement of his adopted county and his loss in the community was the occasion of deep regret.

Francis M. Entrekina acquired his early education in the schools of Clinton county and afterward attended Shurtleff College of Alton, Illinois, thus acquiring a good education. Subsequently he engaged in teaching school for nine winters and through experience and investigation he constantly broadened his knowledge. Later he entered upon a course of study in the College of Physicians & Surgeons of Keokuk, Iowa, and was graduated with the class of 1878. Locating for practice in Bond county, Illinois, he there remained for eight years and on the expiration of that period came to Coffeen, where he has since been classed with the successful practitioners of Montgomery county. Fully realizing the importance of the profession and the responsibility which devolves upon him, he is very careful and accurate in the diagnosis of a case and his efforts have proved a potent factor in the restoration of health in this locality. He is a member of the Montgomery County Medical Society, the Fayette County Medical Society and the Illinois State Medical Society and by reading and study he is constantly adding to his knowledge concerning the best methods of medical and surgical practice.

In 1865 occurred the marriage of Francis Marion Entrekina and Miss Lucretia A. Cole, and unto them were born four children: Ida, Jessie, Ruby and Eunice. The wife and mother died in 1897, her death being deeply regretted by many friends. Dr. Entrekina was again married in 1899, his second union being with Rosa A. Wilson, and they have a pleasant home in Coffeen, the hospitality of which is greatly enjoyed by their neighbors and social acquaintances.

Dr. Entrekina belongs to the Modern Wood-



DR. F. M. ENTREKIN

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men camp and is a charter member of the Knights of Pythias lodge of Coffeen. He votes with the Democracy and in his religious faith is a Baptist, holding membership relations with the church of that denomination in the village in which he makes his home. In a profession where success depends upon individual merit and where advancement comes as the result of broad and comprehensive information and its correct application to the needs of suffering humanity he has won an enviable reputation and is enjoying a practice of considerable extent and importance.

SAMUEL T. ROBINSON, B. S.

Professor Samuel T. Robinson, who for a number of years has occupied a prominent position in connection with public education in Illinois, and is now superintendent of the schools of Hillsboro, was born at Hartford, Saline county, Illinois, in 1866. He is descended from English ancestry, representatives of the name having emigrated from the merrie isle to Virginia about the close of the seventeenth century and at a later date one branch of the family removed to Mississippi, where early in the nineteenth century the grandfather opened an extensive plantation near the state capital, Jackson, which was operated by the family till the invasion of the south by the Union army, when their slaves were freed, and plantation buildings destroyed. Soon thereafter most of the family moved to Illinois, one aunt still living in Jackson. His father, Michael D. Robinson, was born in Mississippi and at the close of his college course went to Kookuk, Iowa, to attend medical lectures, where he completed his course in 1858, locating at Harrisburg, Illinois, Saline county. In that county he spent his life, devoting his time to his chosen profession and the management of his farm. During the period of the Civil war he erected a temporary hospital at Stone Fort, Saline county, Illinois, and there administered to the soldiers as they came home from the front. He was very loyal to the Union cause and he possessed, moreover, a broad humanitarian spirit that prompted him to give generous aid to those who needed his

professional assistance. He belonged to the Baptist church, took an active and helpful part in its work and was an exemplary member of the Masonic fraternity. In politics he was a Democrat. He married Amanda Spencer, a daughter of Dr. Thomas H. and Martha (Barksdale) Spencer. Her father came to Illinois at an early day from Virginia and her mother from Tennessee. The Spencer family is of English lineage. Mrs. Robinson was born in Illinois in 1842 and is a member of the Baptist church. Dr. Robinson passed away in 1889 in the fifty-third year of his age. This worthy couple were the parents of seven children: Iva, the wife of Dr. M. D. Empson, of Hartford, Illinois; William, who is engaged in railroad work in De Soto, Missouri; Samuel T., of this review; Gertrude, the wife of Judge Albert G. Abney, of Harrisburg, Illinois; Lorene May, Thomas D., and Charles A., all deceased.

In the public schools Samuel T. Robinson acquired his early education, which was supplemented by study in the Southern Illinois State Normal University at Carbondale, Illinois. He entered that institution in 1889 and was graduated on the completion of the scientific course with the class of 1896. During this period he engaged in teaching through the winter months. In the fall succeeding his graduation he accepted the position of superintendent of the public schools of Benton, Franklin county, Illinois, where he remained for three years and in the fall of 1899 he came to Hillsboro as superintendent of the public schools here, since which time he has acted in that capacity. In the spring of 1900 he returned to Ewing College and was graduated, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Science. He has three schools under his charge, including twelve rooms in addition to the high school, in which four teachers are employed. A pupil graduating from the public schools of Hillsboro may enter the State University and all normal schools without further examination. Under the guidance of Professor Robinson excellent advancement has been made, for he keeps in touch with the modern spirit of the times and has introduced many improved and practical methods, which have been of great value in advancing the high standard of the schools here. He is a member of

the National Educational Association, has been a member of the Southern Illinois Teachers' Association for the past ten years and of the State Teachers' Association for six years. He is likewise a stockholder in the Galatia Coal Company in Saline county and is one of the members of the Pan-American Exploration Company with mines in Old Mexico. Professor Robinson is identified with the Masonic and Knights of Pythias fraternities and he belongs to the Baptist church. His reputation in educational circles places him with the leading representatives of this great department of professional activity in southern and central Illinois and his zeal and interest in the work have resulted in much benefit to his community.

HENRY FRIEDMEYER.

Henry Friedmeyer, who has extensive landed possessions in Montgomery county and is now living a retired life in Hillsboro, was born in Germany in 1829, a son of Bernhard Friedmeyer, who was likewise a native of that country. The father was a farmer by occupation and came to the United States in 1844, but afterward returned to his native land, where he and his wife now lie buried. They had ten children, of whom four are still living.

In the public schools of Germany Henry Friedmeyer acquired his education, and in the fall of 1844, when fifteen years of age, came to the United States with his father, the family home being established in St. Louis. He had assisted his father in farm work in Germany, but in the United States became identified with mercantile interests and for fifteen years was connected with commercial affairs in St. Louis. In the spring of 1863 he removed to Montgomery county and began farming in Rountree township, where he lived for twenty-three years. Here he secured a small tract of land and with characteristic energy began its development. Raising good crops, which found a ready sale on the market, he was afterward enabled to add to his original purchase and accumulated three hundred and sixty-five acres of land in Rountree township and one hundred and forty-six acres in Irving township,

making five hundred and eleven acres in all. He devoted his energies to the cultivation of the fields until 1885, when he retired from the farm and has since made his home in Hillsboro, enjoying the fruits of his former toil, while the income from his property is sufficient to supply him with all of the necessities and many of the comforts and luxuries of life.

On the 7th of March, 1856, Mr. Friedmeyer was united in marriage to Miss Sophia Welge, a daughter of Christian Welge, who, leaving his native country, established his home in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1845. Five years later he located in Montgomery county, Illinois, settling in Butler Grove township. He there owned one hundred and sixty acres of land, and upon the farm which he occupied and improved he and his wife, Mrs. Sophia (Myer) Welge, spent their remaining days. They were the parents of ten children, but only two are living, Mrs. Friedmeyer and Henry. The former was born in Brunswick, Germany, June 4, 1830, and when a maiden of fifteen summers was brought to America by her parents. Here she married Mr. Friedmeyer. They had four children: Louise Emily, the wife of Albert Frickey; Henry C., deceased; Wilhelmina Etta, deceased; and John G., an attorney at law of Springfield.

Mr. and Mrs. Friedmeyer hold membership with the Lutheran church, and he votes with the Republican party. He has served as justice of the peace and was supervisor from Rountree township for six terms. His public duties were capably performed and in earlier years he figured quite prominently in local politics. The success of his life is due to no inherited fortune or to advantageous circumstances, but is entirely due to his steady application, studious habits, tireless industry and sterling integrity.

LUKE C. WEBER.

Luke C. Weber, whose farming interests connect him with the leading agriculturists of Rountree township, makes his home on section 25. He is also serving as supervisor of his township. He was born in Germany, October 23, 1857, his parents being Cornelius and Anke (Kramer) Weber, both of whom are natives



MR. AND MRS. HENRY FRIEDMEYER

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of the fatherland, the former born on the 24th of September, 1830, and the latter on the 31st of October, 1834. They came to the United States in 1846 and located in Rountree township, where the father is still engaged in farming, his home being on section 24.

In the public schools of Germany Luke C. Weber began his early education, which he continued in the schools of Montgomery county after the emigration of the family to the new world. He arrived in the United States in 1845 and, establishing his home in Rountree township, worked by the month as a farm hand for two years. He afterward worked with his father for one year and on the expiration of that period he rented a farm. He continued to cultivate rented land in Montgomery and Christian counties for five years and in 1884, with the capital which he had saved from his earnings he purchased one hundred and fifteen acres of land in Rountree township. In 1901 he bought sixty acres in Nokomis township and now has a valuable property. He placed all of the improvements upon his farm, including the house and barns, the fences and trees. He feeds good grades of shorthorn cattle and also good horses and his stock-raising and dealing interests as well as the grain raising department of his business return to him a good income.

On the 26th of November, 1880, Mr. Weber was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Johnson, a daughter of Henry and Anna (Theen) Johnson, of Germany, who on coming to the United States settled in Madison county, Illinois, where they are still living. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Weber have been born five children: Anna G., now twenty years of age; Henry C., a youth of eighteen years; Lena A., aged eleven years; Emma M., eight years of age; and Herman C., a little lad of five summers.

Mr. and Mrs. Weber are members of St. Paul's Lutheran church and in politics he is a stalwart Republican, who keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day and gives to his party an intelligent and loyal support. He was elected supervisor of Rountree township in 1902 and discharged the duties so capably that in 1904 he was re-elected and is now filling the office. He has also been road commissioner and served on the school board

for nine years. His residence in this part of the state covers almost thirty years and he is uniformly known as a representative and enterprising farmer and as a progressive citizen.

ROBERT T. HUSBAND.

Robert T. Husband, a representative of the industrial interests of Litchfield, was born in St. Louis, Missouri, on the 15th of December, 1867, and is a son of Ezekiel A. and Margaret (Ingalls) Husband, the former a native of Philadelphia and the latter of New York. The father removed to St. Louis, Missouri, in 1843. He was a ship-builder by trade and in St. Louis he engaged in the lumber business, becoming at one time the owner of considerable property. He saw active military service during the Civil war, being connected with the Union army for three years. His political support was given to the Republican party, which he joined upon its organization, never faltering in his support of its principles. He died May 30, 1903, at the age of sixty-five years. His wife accompanied her parents on their removal from the Empire state to Little Rock, Arkansas, prior to the Civil war and it was in that city that Mr. Husband formed her acquaintance and they were married. They became the parents of three children: Minnie D.; Alice M., the wife of James H. Brown, who is engaged in the carriage business in St. Louis; and Robert T.

In the public schools of St. Louis Robert T. Husband acquired his early education and afterward continued his studies in Litchfield. On leaving school he entered the shops of the Litchfield Foundry & Machine Company in 1884 and there learned the machinist's trade. Subsequently he worked in different places, but afterward returned to Litchfield and has been again connected with the shops here for ten years. He is a practical workman with thorough understanding of the business and those whom he represents find his services valuable.

On the 12th of October, 1891, occurred the marriage of Mr. Husband and Miss Emma Dapper, a daughter of William and Catherine Dapper, the former a merchant tailor who conducted business for many years in Litchfield.

Mrs. Husband was born in 1874. There are two children of this marriage: Robert M. and Catherine Ferne. Mr. Husband belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity and the Modern Woodmen camp and his wife is a member of the Lutheran church. His study of the political issues and questions of the day has led him to give his support to the Republican party and he is now serving as a member of the city council from the fifth ward. Questions which affect the welfare of this city elicit his attention and consideration and he has withheld his support from no movement or measure which has for its object public progress and substantial upbuilding.

HORACE G. WAGGONER.

In the death of Horace G. Waggoner Montgomery county lost one of its enterprising and highly respected young business men, one whose worth was widely acknowledged by his many friends and whose activity in agricultural and financial circles made him a valued factor in public life. He was born in Pitman township, September 5, 1856, and was a brother of John M., Henry and George B. Waggoner, who are represented elsewhere in this volume. He was reared upon the old homestead farm by his mother, who survives her husband and now resides in the village of Waggoner. The son was provided with good educational privileges, attending the common and higher schools of his locality, and for two or three years he was a student in the college at Carlinville, Illinois. In the home he was trained to habits of industry and integrity and thus laid the foundation for his successful and honorable career.

On arriving at years of maturity Horace Waggoner was married in Jacksonville, Illinois, on the 2d of January, 1884, to Miss Sarah E. Street, whose birth occurred in Montgomery county, Illinois, the family home being in Pitman township, where her girlhood days were passed. Her father, Wesley Street, was a native of Kentucky and when a young man came to Maconpin county, where he was married to Miss Margaret Williamson, a native of that

county. Mr. and Mrs. Waggoner began their domestic life upon the farm, where she and her sons now reside. Mr. Waggoner owned a valuable tract of land of more than five hundred acres, which he developed into a splendidly improved place. He was very successful as a general farmer, stock-raiser and feeder. He thoroughly understood the needs of the soil, the effects of the climate and the value of the rotation of crops and in all of his farming methods he was progressive, keeping in touch with the advancement that is continually being made by the agricultural class. He also raised and fed good grades of stock and made large annual shipments to the city markets. He possessed excellent qualifications as a financier, was a man of keen discernment and marked enterprise. He organized and founded the Bank of Waggoner in 1896 and served as president of that institution until his death, making it one of the strong and reliable financial concerns of the county.

Unto Horace G. and Sarah Waggoner were born five sons. By a former marriage he had one daughter, Bertha, who is now the wife of W. C. Barnett. There are but two of the sons of the latter marriage now living, Willis and Wallace, twins, having died in infancy, while Ray Street died in his third year. Those still living are Horace Gailen and Loren Stanley, both at home.

Mr. Waggoner was an active member and faithful worker in the Methodist Episcopal church, largely promoting the various church activities and also the work of the Sunday-school. He likewise exemplified in his life the beneficent spirit of the Masonic fraternity, being a Master Mason with membership in the blue lodge at Raymond. He belonged to the Modern Woodmen camp of Waggoner and was one of the organizers of the Mutual Protective League, in which he served as supreme treasurer until his death. In his business affairs he was thoroughly reliable and trustworthy, conducting all business transactions in a manner to win the confidence and esteem of the public. He was a faithful friend and, in his home a devoted husband and father, finding his greatest happiness in promoting the welfare of his wife and children. He passed



HORACE G. WAGGONER



MRS. SARAH E. WAGGONER



H. G. WAGGONER



MRS. BERTILA W. BARNETT



LOREN S. WAGGONER

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away September 19, 1901, and his loss was deeply deplored, for he endeared himself to all with whom he was associated, whether in business or social relations.

Since the death of her husband Mrs. Waggoner has taken charge of and carried on the home farm and she also retains her interest in the Bank of Waggoner, being one of its large stockholders. She is a successful business woman, her ability being manifest and developed through the necessity which devolved upon her in caring for the estate after her husband's demise. She gives careful supervision to her farming interests and the home place presents a much neater and better condition than the great majority of the farms in the county. She is greatly attached to the home, where her married life has been passed and where she has enjoyed the companionship and love of husband and children. She is a member of the Christian church of Waggoner and is a lady of many excellent traits of character, of kindly spirit and cheerful disposition and her many good qualities of heart and mind have won her the highest regard and friendship of all.

JOHN McCALLUM.

John McCallum has been a resident of Illinois since the spring of 1858 and has been identified with the interests of Montgomery county since March, 1862. He is now classed with the thrifty and energetic farmers and stock-raisers of Raymond township, owning a valuable tract of land of two hundred and forty acres on sections 1 and 12. He is numbered among the worthy citizens that Scotland has furnished to the new world, his birth having occurred in Ayreshire on the 15th of January, 1853. His father, Archibald McCallum, was also a native of that country and was descended from a long line of worthy Scotch ancestors. He married Cecelia Prentiss, also a native of the land of the hills and heather. Mr. McCallum was an engineer, being employed in the operation of a stationary engine for a number of years. Three children were born

unto him and his wife in their native country and in 1858 they bade adieu to friends and native land and sailed for America, making their way direct to Illinois. They located in Madison county, where Mr. McCallum joined his uncle and a brother. He began working upon his uncle's farm, being employed there for four years and in March, 1862, he came to Montgomery county, locating in Rountree township, where his uncle owned a farm which Mr. McCallum cultivated for several years. His last days, however, were spent in the village of Raymond, where he died on the 6th of March, 1904, after a brief residence in the town. His wife died in this county July 7, 1862. In their family were four children, of whom John McCallum is the eldest. The others are Jeanette, the wife of Joe Kessinger, a butcher of Raymond; Mary, the wife of Charles Peebles, a prominent and influential citizen of Decatur, Illinois; and Archibald, a successful agriculturist and well-known citizen of Rountree township.

John McCallum spent the first five years of his life in his native land and was then brought by his parents to America, becoming a resident of Montgomery county when a youth of nine years. Here he was reared and after attending the common schools later spent one term in the Alton high school. He began earning his own living by working as a farm hand by the month, being thus employed for two years and on the expiration of that period he began farming on his own account by renting a tract of land in Rountree township. After his marriage he continued to operate rented land in that township for about eleven years and then with the capital which he had acquired through his industry, economy and good management, he purchased two hundred acres of land, upon which he now resides. Taking up his abode upon that place he began to farm his property and add to its improvements. He has since built a good house and barn, has planted an orchard which is now in good bearing condition, and has also set out maple, ash, walnut and other trees, which add to the value and attractive appearance of the place. He has greatly improved his property, making it one of the best farms of the community and in addi-

tion he also owns eighty acres of land in Rountree township.

On the 23d of March, 1882, Mr. McCallum was married to Miss Emma Walters, of Rountree township, a daughter of Joseph Walters. They now have three children: Hugh, Bessie and Mandie. Mrs. McCallum is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. McCallum attends services there and contributes to the support of the church, although he was reared in the Presbyterian faith. Politically he is a Republican where national issues are involved, and since casting his first ballot for James A. Garfield he has supported each presidential nominee of the party, but at local elections he votes independently, regarding only the capability of the candidate. In Rountree township he served as collector for two terms and as road commissioner for seven years, but he has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking, preferring to give his time and attention to his farm and the enjoyment of the home. He is a member of the Woodmen, a fraternal insurance order. During a residence of more than a third of a century he has aided materially in building up and improving the county and has been thoroughly and closely identified with its development, its prosperity and its upbuilding. He is a loyal son of his adopted land, a courteous, genial gentleman, an honest yeoman and a credit to the community in which he makes his home.

ROBERT BRYCE.

Robert Bryce, whose position in public confidence and regard is indicated by the fact that for forty-three years he has served as treasurer of Butler Grove township, is to-day the owner of one of the finest farms of Montgomery county, splendidly equipped with all modern improvements. The tract covers two hundred and sixty acres, part of which is lying within the corporation limits of Butler. Mr. Bryce was born in Doune, Perthshire, Scotland, on the 22d of September, 1821, and is one of a family of ten children, seven sons and three daughters. When sixteen years of age he began working at the blacksmith's trade, serving

a three years' apprenticeship in his father's blacksmith shop. He remained at home until 1849, when, at the age of twenty-eight years, he crossed the Atlantic to the new world, for he had heard favorable reports concerning business opportunities in this country and believed that he might find better conditions and advantages here. He settled first in Cincinnati, Ohio, in the spring of 1850, and there conducted a blacksmith shop for six years. In 1856 he arrived in Montgomery county, where he again opened a shop, which he conducted for a year. Later he built the blacksmith shop in which he has since continuously carried on business, working at his trade in addition to farming. In 1863 he went upon his farm near Butler and there resided continuously until 1895, when he took up his abode in the village. He owns one of the best farms in the county, and its improvements are of a splendid character and were all made by him. The place covers two hundred and sixty acres of very rich land, and upon this property he was engaged in the raising of Holstein cattle, which branch of his business proved very successful.

In 1852 Mr. Bryce was united in marriage to Miss Sophia Heath, and unto them were born three children: Eliza, who died in 1884; Robert, who is now living in California, being a conductor on the Southern Pacific Railroad; and George M., deceased. In 1861 Mr. Bryce was again married, his second union being with Sarah McMurtry. They had three children: Maggie, the wife of J. A. Wallis; Mamie, the wife of George V. Ware; and Thomas L., a machinist of Springfield, Illinois, who is superintendent and director of the Aetna Machine Works of that city.

When eighteen years of age Mr. Bryce became a member of the Presbyterian church, with which he was connected until 1850, when he united with the Associated Reformed church. In 1856, when the Presbyterian church of Butler was organized, he became one of its original fourteen members and was ordained a ruling elder, in which position he has since served. The church has found him a liberal supporter and active worker, and he has put forth every effort in his power to advance its interests and promote its activities. In politics he is a very



ROBERT BRYCE

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staunch Republican, unflinching in his support of the party, and in 1861 he was elected township treasurer of Butler Grove township, which office he has since filled, covering a period of forty-three consecutive years. Certainly no higher testimonial of his faithfulness could be given than the fact that he has been so long retained in office. He is now well advanced in years, having reached the eighty-third milestone on life's journey, and his has been an honorable career, actuated by high principles and worthy motives. There are in his life record many elements that are worthy of emulation and should serve as a source of encouragement and inspiration to those who desire success and at the same time have a just regard for the value of character.

HON. EDWARD A. RICE.

Hon. Edward A. Rice, whose intelligence and well directed energy have led to substantial successes in business, is also equally prominent in political circles, his recognized ability and personal popularity winning him high honors so that he is now serving for the second term as a member of the Illinois legislature. To trace the history of a successful life, be it in the electrical world of business where competition is rife; in the intellectual field where devotees open up the wider realms of knowledge; or in a public sphere, where is directed the course of government and where are formed the policies that sway state and nation, must ever prove profitable and satisfying indulgence, for the history of the individual is the history of the community and the history of the community is the history of the state. Under the initial element of this category may we direct attention to the life of him whose name initiates this review. He has achieved desirable success in commercial circles, has gained high reputation in his political career and at the same time his private life has been exemplary and worthy of emulation.

Mr. Rice was born in Gillespie, Macoupin county, Illinois, in 1863. His father, Hugh Rice, was a native of Ireland and came to the United States in 1833, locating first in Alton,

where he remained until 1849. Then at the time of the gold excitement in California he made his way to the mines upon the Pacific coast, but on the expiration of two or three years he returned to Illinois and invested the money which he had obtained in his "diggings" in a farm near Gillespie and, turning his attention to agricultural pursuits, he continued to cultivate the property until his death. He possessed excellent business ability, keen foresight and energy, and while he was always straightforward in his business transactions he yet conducted his affairs so as to win large successes, and at his death was the owner of about fifteen hundred acres of valuable land. He was a Catholic in his religious faith and a Mason in his fraternal relations. He served as a soldier in the Mexican war and was one of its pensioners. His political allegiance was given the Democracy. He married Christiana Boosinger, who was born in Pennsylvania and whose father was a farmer and one of the early settlers of Macoupin county, Illinois. Mrs. Rice was an Episcopalian in religious faith, and her death occurred in 1879, when she was fifty-two years of age, while Mr. Rice, surviving her about twenty years, died in 1899, at the ripe old age of eighty-two years. They were the parents of eleven children: Emmet, a farmer of Gillespie, who is now serving as treasurer of Macoupin county; Mary, the wife of William Steidley, an insurance man of Denver, Colorado; Henry H., a resident farmer of Gillespie; James, a miner of Joplin, Missouri; Kate, the wife of Louis D. Zenor, an accountant of Los Angeles, California; Edward A.; Laura, the wife of M. J. Gains, a merchant of Gillespie; May, deceased; William H., a farmer of Gillespie; one that died in infancy; and Maude, the wife of Edward Ibbetson, a real-estate dealer of Los Angeles, California.

In his native town Edward A. Rice pursued his education and afterward went upon a farm, being engaged in agricultural pursuits at Nokomis, Illinois, for ten years. In 1892 he came to Litchfield and was engaged in the lumber business for eleven years, conducting the enterprise with good success. He then sold out and had no active business connection for two years. In 1903, however, he embarked in the

grain trade, which now claims his attention. His business furnishes a good market for the grain producers of this locality and his annual purchases and sales are extensive and are so judiciously conducted that his business has proved a gratifying source of profit.

In 1885 Mr. Rice was united in marriage to Miss Stella Durdy, who was born in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1866, and is a daughter of Alexander C. and Josephine (Burbach) Durdy. Her father was a grain dealer at Ohlman in Montgomery county. Mr. and Mrs. Rice have six children: Rual, Cleo, Emmet, Addis, Ralph and Josephine. Mrs. Rice is a member of the Catholic church and Mr. Rice holds membership relations with the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. He is recognized as one of the leaders of the Democracy in Montgomery county and has been a member of the board of education of Litchfield. In 1900 he was elected to represent his district in the state legislature and in 1902 was re-elected, being the third representative from the county that has ever been chosen for a second term. In all of the positions of honor and trust either of business or political nature to which he has been called he has distinguished himself. His honesty and integrity have been unquestioned, while time has proven the soundness and wisdom of most of the measures which he has advocated. In the general assembly he has been an earnest, zealous and untiring worker, and the public good and not self-aggrandizement has dominated his course.

BAXTER HAYNES, M. D.

In the practice of medicine Dr. Baxter Haynes has become widely known and his professional skill and personal worth have won for him an enviable position in the public regard. He is now living in Fillmore township, and is a native of Barren county, Kentucky, born December 20, 1827. His parents were William and Annie (Henley) Haynes. His paternal grandfather, John Haynes, was born in England, and when sixteen years of age came to America, settling in this country when it was still numbered among the colonial pos-

sessions of Great Britain. He served for three years during the latter part of the Revolutionary war. He was married in North Carolina to Miss Mary Stice, who was born in Germany and was brought to the new world when thirteen years of age. They removed from the Old North state to Kentucky at an early period in its development. He followed farming throughout his entire life and lived to be one hundred and two years of age, while his wife passed away in Kentucky when in the nineties.

It was in North Carolina that William Haynes was reared. He was born there, and when a youth of thirteen accompanied his parents on their removal to the Blue Grass state. He was a farmer by occupation, and also became a minister of the Baptist church. In 1829 he left Kentucky and removed to Illinois, settling in Morgan county among its early residents. Like his neighbors he had to face the hardships and trials incident to pioneer life, but he made the most of his opportunities and succeeded in laying the foundation for a good home for his family. He there died in 1831. He had married Miss Annie Henley, a daughter of Timothy and Mary (Mosler) Henley. They were of Irish birth and were married in North Carolina. Timothy Henley was killed two years after his marriage, and was supposed to have been murdered in the Blue Ridge mountains. His widow afterward became the wife of William Totty and removed to Kentucky, the family home being established upon a farm there. Mrs. Totty spent her remaining days in that locality, passing away when more than ninety years of age. Rev. and Mrs. Haynes were the parents of twelve children, but only three are now living.

Dr. Haynes was only about two years old when taken by his parents to Illinois, and was reared upon a farm in Morgan county. He afterward began life on his own account on a tract of land which he secured from the government and there he carried on general farming until twenty-eight years of age. He then studied under Dr. P. L. Baustick, of Scottville, Illinois, and having prepared for the practice of medicine he opened an office in Dallas county, Texas, where he remained for one year, or until the fall of 1856. He then returned



DR. AND MRS. BAXTER HAYNES

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to this state and settled in Montgomery county in 1863, since which time he has practiced within its borders. He attended lectures at Rush Medical College in 1864-5 and was graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons at St. Louis thirty years ago. He has read broadly concerning his profession, has kept in touch with the improvements and progress that have been made in connection with the medical science and in his practice has been very successful, carrying comfort into many a household as he ably ministered to the needs of the sick and suffering.

On the 4th of January, 1849, Dr. Haynes was united in marriage to Miss Susan Bull, who died in March, 1863, and on the 20th of February, 1864, he was again married, his second union being with Margaret J. Brown, of Hillsboro. He had five children by the first marriage and four children by the second marriage, and seven of the number are now living, namely: Moses, Mrs. Jane Nichols, Mrs. Annie Lynn, Mrs. Elizabeth Smith, William, Mrs. Carolyn Estella Smithfield and Mrs. Edie May Jett.

Dr. Haynes proved his loyalty to the government in two wars, serving his country in the war with Mexico, as a member of Company G, First Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and in the Rebellion he was captain of Company E, One Hundred and Twenty-second Illinois Infantry, with which he served for two years. He organized this company in 1862, and with his command he participated in the battles of Parkers Crossroads, Tupelo, Fort Blakely and many skirmishes. He was never wounded, nor was he in the hospital, and after three years of honorable and active service he was mustered out in 1864. He has always been as true and loyal to his country and her best interests as he was when he followed the old flag upon the battle-fields of the south.

Both Dr. and Mrs. Haynes are members of the Baptist church and he is a member of the Masonic fraternity, being made a Mason in 1866 at Donnellson, Illinois. His political allegiance is given to the Democracy. When he arrived in Montgomery county he purchased forty acres of land and is now the possessor of three hundred and thirty-seven and a half

acres, constituting one of the valuable farms of the county. His wife also owns forty acres in her own name. Dr. Haynes has made most of the improvements upon his property and has capably conducted his agricultural interests as well as his profession. He has long been accounted one of the successful physicians of this portion of the state and he has kept informed concerning advanced ideas relative to the medical practice through his membership in the county, district and state medical societies. He is now the second oldest practitioner of the county, and although he has now passed the Psalmist's span of three score years and ten he is yet to some extent engaged in practice, responding to the calls of many who have for years been numbered among his patients.

W. H. H. BLACKBURN.

W. H. H. Blackburn, who carries on general farming in East Fork township, is one of Ohio's native sons, his birth having occurred in Clark county, August 5, 1836. His parents were George W. and Ann (Fuller) Blackburn, the former a native of Virginia, where he spent his boyhood days and was reared to the occupation of farming. In early manhood he removed to Ohio, where he was married, and subsequently he went with his family to Indiana, whence he afterward came to Illinois, settling in Montgomery county. This was in 1840 and he was one of the early pioneer residents of this portion of the state. For more than a half century he remained in Illinois and his mind bore the impress of many pictures of pioneer experiences and conditions.

W. H. H. Blackburn was reared upon the old family homestead in East Fork township, working in the fields and meadows through the summer months, while in the winter seasons he mastered the branches of learning taught in the public schools. When twenty-one years of age he entered upon his business career, being first engaged in the manufacture of lumber in a sawmill. He devoted six years to that industry and then began farming upon the place where he now resides. He broke the sod and

after turning the furrows planted his crops, which in course of time brought forth good harvests. Year after year he continued his labors, working from early morning until late at night. He has one hundred and eighty acres in the home place, and one hundred and eighty acres in Fillmore township, and also forty acres in East Fork township, so that his landed possessions now comprise four hundred acres, which is the visible evidence of his life of thrift and industry. He has been the builder of four houses, two in Coffeen and two in Fillmore township. In the early days he hauled rails over the wild prairie when there were few roads and when fences had not been built to indicate the individual owner of property. Mr. Blackburn received five hundred dollars from his father to aid him in starting out in life, but with this exception all that he now possesses, both realty and personal property, has been acquired through his own labors.

In 1859 Mr. Blackburn was united in marriage to Miss Miranda Wood, who died in 1874, leaving three children: Frank, who is living in Missouri; Annie, who married Hardy Gates and resides in Montgomery county; and Flora, the wife of Martin Mason, a merchant of Fillmore. Mr. Blackburn was again married, his second union being with Tabitha Gates, of North Carolina. They have four children, who were reared in Montgomery county: John Emmett; Addie, who in 1904 married Willet Nichols and resides at Coffeen; Harry; and Fay. Mrs. Blackburn is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church. Mr. Blackburn votes with the Democracy and keeps in touch with the questions and issues of the day, but has never sought or desired office as the reward for party fealty. His attention is chiefly given, however, to his business affairs and he is raising both grain and stock with good success.

CHARLES H. POLAND.

Charles H. Poland, who follows farming and stock-raising, is one of the active sons of Montgomery county, whose present place of residence was also his birthplace. He was born April 13, 1861, and is a son of Jacob and Sal-

lie M. N. (Stokes) Poland. His parents were natives of Tennessee and came thence to Illinois, settling in Fayette county. The father removed to this state with his parents when thirteen years of age, and he afterward became the owner of a farm, upon which the town of Ramsey, Illinois, has been built. He came to Montgomery county in 1856, locating on the farm which is now the home of his son, Charles H. Here he began the development of his land, comprising two hundred and forty acres, and he continued its cultivation until he had made it a very productive and valuable property. He died August 29, 1898, at the age of eighty-two years, and his widow, who still survives him, is living in Fillmore, Illinois, at the age of eighty years.

Charles H. Poland, having acquired his preliminary education in the common schools of Montgomery county, afterward spent two terms as a student in the Northern Indiana Normal College at Valparaiso. He then returned home and engaged in farming until 1900, when he went to Metcalf, Illinois, where he conducted a general mercantile store for about two years. In 1902, however, he sold his property there and returned to his farm. He has two hundred and forty acres of well improved land, and this is very rich and arable, the well tilled fields yielding to him splendid harvests in return for the care and labor he bestows upon them. He has good improvements upon his property and is widely known as an enterprising agriculturist.

On the 10th of January, 1886, Mr. Poland was united in marriage to Miss Amanda E. Craig, a daughter of John and Nancy Craig, of Fayette county, Illinois. They became the parents of two children, Carroll and Roxie, and Mrs. Poland died on the 16th of August, 1898. On the 27th of March, 1902, Mr. Poland was again married, his second union being with Maude Knowles, a daughter of William and Mahala Knowles, who were early settlers of Montgomery county, and the father is now living in Fillmore.

Mr. Poland and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and he also belongs to the Court of Honor. He votes with the Republican party, has served on the village

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C. H. POLAND



MR. AND MRS. JACOB POLAND

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board of Fillmore, has been township collector and was on the school board for six years. The public duties thus placed upon him have ever been faithfully discharged, and he is ever loyal to a trust, whether of a public or a private nature. In his business relations he is thoroughly reliable, and he deserves to be classed among the representative farmers of Witt township.

HENRY NEUHAUS.

Henry Neuhaus, who for eight years has been engaged in general merchandising in Farmersville, was born in Madison county, Illinois, August 18, 1869. His father, Henry Neuhaus, Sr., was a native of Germany and spent the days of his youth in that country and was married there ere his emigration to the new world. The year 1864 witnessed his arrival in America. Crossing the Atlantic, he made his way direct to Madison county, Illinois, where he located upon a farm and still makes his home, being one of the prosperous and highly respected agriculturists of that community.

Henry Neuhaus, whose name forms the caption of this review, was born and reared in Madison county and remained upon the farm with his father until he had attained his majority. He had fair common-school advantages, pursuing his education through the winter months, while during the summer season he assisted in the labors of plowing, planting and harvesting. He made the most of his opportunities in the schoolroom, being an apt scholar, and broad reading and experience in later years have also largely added to his knowledge.

While residing in Madison county Mr. Neuhaus was married in 1892 to Miss Sophia Lucker, who was born in that county and was of German parentage. Her girlhood days were spent in the same neighborhood in which Mr. Neuhaus resided and as boy and girl they attended school together. Following their marriage they began their domestic life upon a farm in Madison county and there resided for five years, his attention being devoted to the tilling of the soil. In 1897, however, believing that he would prefer a mercantile career, he

bought out an established business in Farmersville and has since been identified with the commercial interests of the town. He now carries a well selected stock of general goods, including dry goods and groceries, and his patronage has constantly increased until he has become one of the prosperous business men of his locality. He owns his own store building, which is a neat, well arranged and well lighted business house and his unfaltering courtesy to his patrons and his earnest desire to render satisfaction in all trade relations have secured to him a business that is represented by a large figure annually. In addition to his store he also owns a neat residence which he has rebuilt and remodeled, making a delightfully comfortable home.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Neuhaus have been born four children: Paul, Albert, Bertha and Marie. The parents were reared in the Lutheran faith and are members of the church of that denomination in Farmersville. Politically Mr. Neuhaus is a Republican and is now serving as a member of the village board, having been elected on that ticket. He exercises his official prerogatives in support of measures which he deems will prove of benefit to the town and whether in or out of office gives loyal allegiance to everything pertaining to the general welfare. In his trade relations he has made an honorable name, for he has never been known to take advantage of the necessities of his fellow men, lives faithfully up to the terms of every contract and fulfills every obligation.

JOSHUA OSBORN.

Joshua Osborn, interested in general farming in Audubon township, was born on the 9th of April, 1836, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, his parents being William and Sarah (Manwaring) Osborn. The father came from England. He was a shoemaker by trade and followed that calling in Philadelphia prior to the Mexican war. When there was need of military service he responded to the call of his adopted country and joined the army, but his health became impaired from wounds and disease contracted while at the front and he died when his son

Joshua was but ten years of age. He had married Sarah Manwaring, whose father was of English birth, while her mother, whose maiden name was Platt, was of French descent. He died when ninety-six years of age and his wife reached the age of seventy-six years. It will thus be seen that Mrs. Sarah Osborn came of a family noted for longevity and she reached the venerable age of eighty-six years and at her death, which occurred at the home of her son Joshua, she was laid to rest in the cemetery near Mountainburg, Arkansas. In the family were two sons, the elder being John L. Osborn, who conducts a general store in Oscoda, Michigan. He is married and has two children.

Joshua Osborn was educated in Michigan. In early childhood his family had removed from Philadelphia to Mount Holly, New Jersey, and when he was a lad of six summers the family home was established at Rochester, Michigan, twenty-five miles north of Detroit. There Mr. Osborn attended the public schools until sixteen years of age, when he entered upon life's practical duties by learning the shoemaker's trade, which he followed for four years. He arrived in Audubon township, Montgomery county, Illinois, in 1856, and purchased eighty acres of land in Hurricane township, Fayette county, Illinois, but never resided upon that place. For six years after his arrival here he was employed by Otis Little, three years before entering the army and three years after his return from the front.

Prompted by a spirit of patriotism Mr. Osborn responded to the president's call for troops and on the 3d of July, 1861, enlisted in defense of the Union as a private of the Thirty-fifth Illinois Infantry, being mustered in at Jefferson Barracks. He served as commissary sergeant and was honorably discharged September 27, 1864, after more than three years' connection with the army. He took part in the battles of Pea Ridge, Perryville, Stone River, Chickamanga, Missionary Ridge and all of the battles of the Atlanta campaign until the capitulation of that city. He was very fortunate in that he was never captured nor wounded, yet he never faltered in the performance of any duty, although it called him into the thickest of the fight.

Mr. Osborn was married on the 20th of February, 1868, to Miss Emma F. Bishop, a daughter of Robert K. Bishop, of Audubon township. Mrs. Osborn was the elder of their two children and Frank Bishop was the younger. By her marriage she has become the mother of three children: Frank J., who married Eva West, a representative of one of the old families of Audubon township, is living in Ohlman and has one child, Otis Ray. Howard L. is a resident of Jacksonville, Illinois. Eva M. has completed the course in the district schools and expects to continue her education in a high school.

After coming to Montgomery county Mr. Osborn purchased eighty acres of land. Later he removed to Ford county, Kansas, where he secured a homestead claim of one hundred and sixty acres, going to that state in 1884. In 1886 he removed his family to the claim and proved it up by living upon it for five years. He afterward traded that land for a farm of one hundred and four acres in Arkansas, where he also spent five years, coming, however, to Montgomery county upon the expiration of that period. He has been quite successful here in his farming operations and now has a good property of eighty acres, which is well improved and is kept in excellent condition. He has been connected to greater or less extent with the county since 1856 and is therefore known to many of its older settlers as well as its later citizens. While his life has been quietly passed it has exemplified a spirit of industry and enterprise that is most commendable and has been the basic element of his present comfortable competence.

MARSHALL DRISKELL.

The name of Driskell is one well known in Montgomery county, for the subject of this review and others of the family have been actively and successfully engaged in farming here for many years. Marshall Driskell, now residing on section 21, Zanesville township, is living a retired life, enjoying a rest which he has truly earned and richly deserves, for through many years he was an active factor in



MR. AND MRS. MARSHALL DRISKELL

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farming interests and he became the owner of a well improved tract of land of one hundred and sixty acres.

Mr. Driskell has intimate knowledge of the history of Illinois through a long period, for he became a resident of the state about 1835 and has lived in Montgomery county since 1851. He was born in Gallatin county, Kentucky, December 27, 1825, and was a son of William Driskell, who was born and reared in that state and was there married to Sarah Owens, also a native of Kentucky. The father carried on agricultural pursuits in Kentucky, and both he and his wife died there. They were the parents of three children and they departed this life during the early boyhood of their son Marshall.

Thus left an orphan at a tender age, Marshall Driskell was reared by his uncle, John Owens, and with him came to Illinois in 1833, settling in Macoupin county, where he attained his majority. Desiring a companion and helpmate for the journey of life, he was married in that county in 1850 to Miss Louisa Davis, who was born and spent her girlhood in Kentucky, whence she came to Illinois. In 1851 Mr. Driskell brought his young wife to Montgomery county and purchased eighty acres of land, comprising both timber and raw prairie land. This he at once began to clear and improve, and he opened up an excellent farm. He afterward bought another eighty acre tract adjoining, and with characteristic energy he began the development of his property. In the early days he underwent many of the hardships and adversities incident to pioneer life when one has but limited capital, but as the years passed by he was enabled to enjoy many of the comforts and conveniences known to the older east. He built a neat and substantial residence, a good barn and other necessary buildings upon his place. He also planted an orchard, made fences, cultivated his fields and raised good stock. As he found opportunity he extended the boundaries of his farm by additional purchase until he owned two hundred and forty acres, but he has since given his son an eighty acre tract and now retains possession of one hundred and sixty acres on section 21, Zanesville township. In raising

both grain and stock he was successful, and at length he had saved from his earnings and the sale of his products a capital sufficient to enable him to put aside further active farm labor and live in the enjoyment of a well earned rest.

In 1894 Mr. Driskell lost his wife, who had for many years been a faithful companion and helpmate to him on life's journey. They were the parents of six children, but they lost their youngest, a daughter, in early childhood. The others are John, who is conducting the home farm and is represented elsewhere in this volume; Alice E., the wife of George Martin; James M., who owns and operates a well improved farm adjoining his father's land in Zanesville township; Sarah Catherine, who is acting as her father's housekeeper; and Nettie L., the wife of Robert Allen, a resident farmer of Zanesville township.

Politically Mr. Driskell is a staunch Democrat, believing firmly in the principles of the party and never desiring office as a reward for his political allegiance. He belongs to the Christian church, in which he is serving as an elder, and in its work he takes an active interest. As one of the pioneer settlers of the state, he certainly deserves mention in this volume, for his residence here covers almost seventy years. This has been a period of the marvelous growth and development in Illinois, and no one feels greater pride in what has been accomplished along substantial lines than does Mr. Driskell, while in the community where he has long made his home he has ever borne his part in the work of improvement and upbuilding.

THEODORE BUMANN.

Theodore Bumann, an inventor and manufacturer, operating an extensive productive industry of Litchfield, was born in Bunker Hill, Macoupin county, in 1857, and is of German lineage. His parents, Frederick and Catherine (Kuhl) Bumann, were both natives of Germany and the father emigrated to the United States in 1848. He finally located at Bunker Hill, where he became a grain merchant and

also made extensive investments in farm property until he is now a large landowner. By trade he is a plasterer, but was a grain merchant from the time of the Civil war until he retired from active business life. He is now living in the enjoyment of a comfortable competence that has been acquired entirely through his enterprising efforts. As a business man he has figured prominently in commercial circles and in political life has also been recognized as a local leader. He has served as a member of the council and as mayor of Bunker Hill and his devotion to the general good has been manifest by active co-operation in the measures which have had for their object the substantial improvement of his city. He has been called to office as a Republican candidate, having long supported the party. Fraternally he is identified with the Odd Fellows lodge. His wife is also living and is now seventy-seven years of age. In the family were nine children, four of whom yet survive.

Theodore Bumann having obtained his education in the public schools of Bunker Hill was later engaged in the hardware business there, conducting his store for about fifteen years. He early displayed considerable mechanical ability and inventive ingenuity and he continued his experiments until he had perfected a siphon oil can, upon which he received a patent in 1892. The following year he came to Litchfield and built a factory for the manufacture of this can. His establishment comprises a large plant, the building being twenty-six by one hundred and fifty feet and with the others he occupies four thousand six hundred feet of floor space and employs twenty-five people, including traveling salesmen. The product of the factory is shipped to almost every state in the Union. Everything about the place is in a flourishing condition and although the factory is being operated to its full capacity the supply is not equal to the demand. Mr. Bumann also invented an improved mouse trap which he manufactures, and other products of the factory are various kinds of sheet metal ware. Altogether he makes over twenty-five different articles, but the principal output are oil cans, pails and traps. Unlike many men of inventive genius Mr. Bumann also possesses good

business and executive ability and has made his enterprise a profitable one. His brother, A. M. Bumann, who is a teacher of manual training in the normal school in Pittsburg, Kansas, is financially interested in the business.

In 1885 Mr. Bumann was united in marriage to Miss Caroline Hintz, who was born in Germany, a daughter of E. C. F. Hintz, who was a cabinet-maker by trade and settled in Bunker Hill in the '70s. Mr. and Mrs. Bumann have three children: Harry, Doris E. and Albert. Mr. Bumann is connected with the Modern Woodmen camp at Bunker Hill, and he exercises his right of franchise in support of men and measures of the Republican party. He belongs to that class of representative American citizens who, while promoting their individual interests, also advance the general welfare, and he is now a leading factor in manufacturing circles in this city.

JOHN W. RITCHIE.

John W. Ritchie has been a resident of Montgomery county for almost a half century, having located here in 1855. He was born August 14, 1834, his parents being John and Seeley (Blackwelder) Ritchie, who were natives of North Carolina, born in Cabarrus county. The grandparents had been residents of Pennsylvania, whence they removed to the Old North state, founding the family there. They were farming people, living in a manner common in colonial days, and their religious faith was that of the Lutheran church.

John Ritchie was born in 1798 and died in the year 1854. His wife passed away in the same year and they were laid to rest near their home in North Carolina. Mr. Ritchie had been a farmer and miller and he was also the owner of slaves, having twelve negroes at the time of his death who were worth one thousand dollars each. These were sold together with the land and the proceeds of the estate was then divided among the children. In the family were six children, of whom John W. was the fifth in order of birth. Mary Ann became the wife of Wilson Ridenhour and after his death married Milas Bond, who is also



JOHN W. RITCHIE

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deceased, but his widow is yet living in North Carolina. Elizabeth married Jacob A. Cruse and both died in North Carolina. Martin A. is living in North Litchfield township, Montgomery county. Daniel M. was killed by a horse in childhood. Sallie, who married Jacob A. Cruse, died in North Carolina in 1884 at the age of forty-eight years.

John W. Ritchie was educated in the state of his nativity, attending both subscription and free schools and later continuing his studies in the schools of Illinois. He came to this state in 1855 with his brother and his family, settling on section 15, North Litchfield township. Later he purchased a tract of land of more than two hundred acres and as a companion and helpmate on life's journey he chose Miss Rachel S. Cress, a daughter of George Henry Cress, of North Carolina, while her grandparents were from Pennsylvania. Her parents resided in Cabarrus county, North Carolina, near Concord, and her father was a farmer and slaveholder. He died in the Old North state and his land was afterward sold and his widow came to Illinois, arriving here in 1855. She then made her home with her children until her death, which occurred September 7, 1901, when her remains were interred in the Lutheran cemetery in Litchfield. She bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Fogleman and belonged to one of the old and prominent families of North Carolina. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Cress were born five children, of whom the eldest was Mrs. Ritchie, who was educated in North Carolina and was married the year following her arrival in Illinois. Eliza, the second daughter, became the wife of M. A. Ritchie and died in North Carolina in 1854. Martha afterward married M. A. Ritchie and is still living. Helena is the wife of D. M. Blackwelder, of Litchfield. Rufus C. died in 1845 at the age of three years and was buried in North Carolina.

John W. Ritchie and his brother purchased about three hundred and eighty acres of land after they completed the payment on the property it was divided between them. Our subject has since made additional purchases until his landed possessions now aggregate four hundred and fifty acres. He has greatly improved the

home farm, upon which he resides, making it a very productive and valuable tract of land, equipped with substantial buildings and supplied with modern facilities and the latest improved machinery to promote the farm work.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Ritchie were born eleven children: George A., who died in infancy; James M., at home; Lora J., who died in infancy; Mary E. and Sarah E., at home; Joel E., who died in infancy; C. A., a grocer of Litchfield, who married Margaret Taulbee; Flora R., who is the wife of William E. Bowles, of North Litchfield township, by whom she has two children, Ruth R. and J. Stanley; Alice Ann, at home; Louise E., who died in infancy; and Albert L., of North Litchfield township, who married Anna Waldrop and has two children, Morris G. and John M.

Mr. Ritchie has always been an earnest Democrat, his first presidential ballot being cast for Stephen A. Douglas, since which time he has never faltered in the allegiance to his party. He and his wife are members of the Evangelical church, of Litchfield. They have long traveled life's journey together, sharing with each other its joys and sorrows, its adversity and prosperity. They reared a family of children of whom they have every reason to be proud and to them they have given good educational privileges and in addition to attending the common schools James and Charles have been students in Litchfield and Albert in Valparaiso, Indiana. Mr. Ritchie has also been interested in the upbuilding and development of the county, furthering all measures for the practical good and at the same time conducting his private business affairs so as to win success.

HENRY CRESS.

Henry Cress, who has attained deserved financial success by reason of an active business career, was born in Fillmore township, Montgomery county, in 1865. His father, Daniel Cress, was a native of North Carolina, born in 1835 and in 1856 he came to Illinois, settling in Fillmore township, this county, where he carried on agricultural pursuits, residing on

one farm for forty-three years. In 1900, however, he removed to his present farm in the same township. He has been very successful in conducting agricultural interests and is now the owner of five hundred acres of valuable land. His political allegiance is given to the Democracy and his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Lutheran church. He wedded Mary J. Sanders, a daughter of Alva and Chloe Sanders. Her father was a farmer by occupation and was a great traveler, visiting many parts of the new world and gaining thereby broad knowledge and experience. He, too, supported the Democracy. Mrs. Cress was born in Audubon township, Montgomery county, and died at the age of thirty-six years. By her marriage she became the mother of ten children, nine of whom reached years of maturity: Bettie, who is the wife of T. C. Dougherty, of Auburn, Nebraska; Katie, who married Claypole Whitten and is living on the old homestead; Martin, a farmer who makes his home in Hillsboro; Henry; Lillie, the wife of Robert Wright, a farmer who resides near Irving; Mattie, the wife of J. W. Harvey, an agriculturist of Nebraska; Peter, at home; William, who is living with his brother; and Luvena, who is the widow of T. F. Haven and is living in Fillmore township.

Henry Cress acquired his education in the district schools near his home, being reared to manhood upon the old farmstead. He assisted his father in its operation until twenty-five years of age, when he came to Hillsboro and began clerking, but in 1903 he began business for himself. He has prospered in his undertakings and is interested in the Hillsboro Electric Railway Company.

In 1898 Mr. Cress was united in marriage with Miss Julia Lohr, a daughter of William Lohr, who was a farmer by occupation. He was born in Germany and at an early day came to Montgomery county, Illinois, casting in his lot with its pioneer settlers. He soon became recognized as one of the leading and influential residents of this locality. Mrs. Cress was born in Witt township, Montgomery county, in 1873, and by her marriage has become the mother of one child, Foster, who was born in Hillsboro in 1899. Mrs. Cress holds membership in the

Presbyterian church. Mr. Cress gives his political allegiance to the Democracy and while deeply interested in the success of his party has never sought or desired office. He and his family have a beautiful home in Hillsboro and enjoy the warm regard of a large circle of friends.

A. K. VANDEVER.

A. K. Vandever, the editor of the Irving Times and also proprietor of the Irving furniture store, was born in Moweaqua, Illinois, September 14, 1855. His parents were Aaron S. and Isabella Vandever, the former a practicing physician at Oconee, Illinois. He was following his profession there when in response to his country's need he enlisted in Company I, Thirteenth Missouri Infantry, and was wounded at the battle of Fort Donelson. In 1863 he came to Irving, Illinois, but he never recovered from his wound and ultimately it caused his death in 1868. He was then but forty-four years of age. His widow, long surviving him, departed this life in 1895, at the age of sixty-four years.

A. K. Vandever acquired his early education in the public schools and afterward attended the Central Normal College of Danville, Indiana. When twenty-seven years of age he began teaching school in Montgomery county and in 1900 he turned his attention to journalistic work in connection with S. J. Cottrell. A year later he purchased his partner's interest in the Irving Times, which is an excellent local newspaper that keeps apace with the progressive spirit of journalism and which is devoted to the best interests of the home locality. Mr. Vandever, however, has not confined his attention alone to this line, but is an active factor in the commercial interests of the town, conducting a good furniture store.

In 1884 Mr. Vandever was married to Miss Mamie Haller, a daughter of E. L. Haller, of Illinois, and to them were born three children: A. E., who is eighteen years of age; Lester K., a youth of fourteen; and Frankie, who died at the age of three months. The parents are members of the Presbyterian church and Mr.



LESTER K. VANDEVER



A. K. VANDEVER



MRS. A. K. VANDEVER



A. EDWARD VANDEVER

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Vandever is now serving as a member of the building committee for the erection of the new church. He belongs to Irving lodge, No. 455, A. F. & A. M., and to the Mutual Protective League, No. 8, of which he is now secretary. He has been active in public life and has filled various offices, serving as police judge, as supervisor for two terms, as assessor, as a member of the school board and for two terms as justice of the peace, being elected to these positions on the Republican ticket. He advocates the principles of the party by active service in political campaigns and he is found as the champion of every measure which is dominated by a spirit of progress and improvement in behalf of the community.

JOHN C. CRABTREE.

For almost sixty years—the entire period of his life—John C. Crabtree has been a resident of Montgomery county. He was born November 1, 1847, in South Litchfield township, upon the farm where John Simpson now resides. His father, John Crabtree, came from Kentucky to Illinois when a young man and was one of the honored pioneer settlers. He lived here when the greater part of the land was still unimproved and when the work of progress and development lay largely in the future. There were many hardships and trials to be borne in establishing homes in this locality, but with resolute spirit he met all difficulties and triumphed over many obstacles. He married Miss Nancy Griffith, and he carried his household goods across a footlog which spanned the Long branch. They lived in a little rail shack until a cabin could be erected, and Mr. Crabtree carried water from a spring a mile and three-quarters from his home, but both he and his wife bravely met the pioneer conditions and in course of time were enabled to enjoy many more of the comforts and conveniences of life. As the years passed they became the parents of twelve children, seven sons and five daughters, all of whom reached adult age and were married with the exception of the youngest two. The three eldest are now deceased, but eight of

the number are now living. Both parents, however, are deceased.

Upon the old homestead farm John C. Crabtree spent the days of his boyhood and youth and assisted in the arduous task of developing new fields. He attended the common schools in the winter months and in the summer seasons gave his father the benefit of his labors. In 1868 he was united in marriage to Miss Esther Witmer, and they became the parents of five children: Fanny, the wife of Charles Wethers; Hettie, the wife of Rufus Gamble, a resident of Seattle, Washington; Chris, who is located at Great Falls, Montana; John Q., who is engaged in the operation of a sawmill in California; and David, who is in the Treadwell mines in Alaska.

At the time of his marriage Mr. Crabtree received from his father a gift of forty acres of land near Litchfield and resided thereon for a year. He then purchased a farm on section 28, Hillsboro township, and has since made it his home. It comprises one hundred and nineteen acres of land, about five and a half miles southwest of Hillsboro, and the fields are under a high state of cultivation, while in the pastures are found good grades of stock. He raises cattle and hogs and his sales bring to him a good profit on his investment. His is a well equipped farm, and with the exception of the assistance which he received from his father at time of his marriage Mr. Crabtree has made his way unaided in the business world and deserves considerable credit for what he has accomplished. In politics he is a Democrat, and while he keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day, as every true American citizen should do. He has no ambition for public office, preferring to devote his undivided attention to his business interests, in which he is meeting with well merited success.

ROY A. RHINE.

Roy A. Rhine, who was born June 28, 1880, upon the farm where he now resides, is a representative of one of the old families of Illinois. His paternal grandfather was born in this

state and was a farmer by occupation. His children were Charles, William, Gardner, Riley, Jesse, Arthur, George T., Mrs. Lillie Hupp and Mrs. Alice Hupp. The sisters are yet living. His father, George T. Rhine, is also a native of Illinois, born in Macoupin county, September 16, 1847, and of German lineage. He wedded Mary Spear, a native of New Jersey and of English lineage, her birth occurring October 26, 1850. The father developed his farm from the raw prairie and made all of the improvements thereon, transforming it from a tract of wild land into a place of rich fertility, the fields yielding good harvests. He died April 16, 1899, and his wife on the 24th of March, of the same year. They had four children, but Frank died in infancy. Charles died in April, 1899, at the age of twenty-four years; Luther died March 31, 1899, and thus the parents and the two sons passed away within a month, the physicians being unable to determine the disease which caused their deaths.

Roy A. Rhine spent his boyhood days under the parental roof and acquired his education in the Walker school in Nokomis. He has always carried on agricultural pursuits from the time when he was trained to farm labor by working in his father's fields. He began farming on his own account upon the place where he now resides, having here eighty acres of land. He is the only survivor of his father's family. In his farming operations he has been energetic and purposeful and by means of his untiring industry he has won a fair measure of success.

On the 17th of July, 1901, Mr. Rhine was married to Miss Flora Eddington, a daughter of Wesley and Ella Eddington, of Macoupin county, Illinois. She is of English descent and her parents were early settlers of Macoupin county. Mr. and Mrs. Rhine now have two sons: George Wesley, who was born in January, 1902; and Benjamin, born February 1, 1904. Mrs. Rhine acquired her literary education in the town schools of Macoupin county, has been liberally educated in music and is an excellent performer on the piano. Mr. Rhine votes with the Democracy, but while he keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day so as to cast an intelligent ballot he has never sought or desired office, preferring to

give his undivided attention to his business affairs.

WILLIAM T. QUARTLEY.

William T. Quartley, one of the early settlers of Montgomery county, whose residence here dates from 1877, is living on section 32, Raymond township, where he has a well improved and valuable farming property of two hundred acres. He was born in Somersetshire, England, July 4, 1853. His father, Thomas Quartley, was descended from a long line of English ancestors, and in his native land was married to Miss Harriet Hooper, also born on the "merrie isle." Mr. Quartley reared his family in England and continued a resident of that country until called to his final rest.

William T. Quartley was there reared, attending public schools, and in early manhood became imbued with the desire to seek a home and fortune in the new world, having heard favorable reports concerning the opportunities here afforded. He was twenty-three years of age when, in 1877, he crossed the Atlantic and located in Montgomery county, Illinois. Having no capital with which to purchase land, he began work as a farm hand and was thus employed for two years, after which he rented a farm for several years. Subsequently he purchased a part of his present farm, becoming the owner of an improved place of one hundred and sixty acres, and with characteristic energy he began its further cultivation and development. At a later date he extended its boundaries by the purchase of an additional tract of forty acres. He has been raising good graded shorthorn cattle, hogs and horses, and as a stock-raiser and dealer he has met with gratifying and well merited success. He continued his labors uninterruptedly until 1889, when he returned to his native country and visited his parents and friends, remaining for one year in the Old World. He also went to Scotland and Ireland, visiting the important cities of those countries and other points of historic and modern interest, and also spent two weeks in the city of London. In 1890



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he again came to America, and in 1892 he made a second visit to England, where he renewed the friendships of his youth.

Mr. Quartley married while abroad, having for fourteen years been in correspondence with the lady whom he made his wife. It was on the 4th of February, 1893, that he was joined in wedlock to Miss Marian Fish, who was born in England, but was of Scotch lineage. Her father was a farmer of England, and they were married in the old church in her native town. She was born in Elworthy and had remained under the parental roof until she gave her hand in marriage to Mr. Quartley. They sailed from Liverpool on the 8th of February, and on the steamship *Majestic* they arrived in the New York harbor on the 16th of that month. They then went south on a wedding trip and afterward came to Illinois, where a reception was held for them on the 26th of February by a half-brother at his home in Macoupin county.

Politically Mr. Quartley is a staunch Republican where national questions and issues are involved, but at local elections he votes independently. He has never sought or desired office for himself, but has given his undivided attention to his business affairs, in which he has prospered. He was reared in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal church. His wife was reared in the Episcopal faith, but since coming to America has joined the Methodist church with her husband. Mr. Quartley is an industrious and successful farmer and has made for himself an honored name in the land of his adoption. He has many sterling traits of character, being of kindly spirit, of generous disposition and of strong manhood and honorable purpose. He and his estimable wife are much esteemed in the community, and with pleasure we present the record of their careers to the readers of this volume.

THOMAS H. WOOD.

Thomas H. Wood, the efficient police magistrate of Litchfield, who is also extensively operating in real estate, carrying on business as a member of the firm of Wood Brothers, was

born June 28, 1857, in Montgomery county, his parents being John and Elizabeth (Williams) Wood. He remained upon the home farm until twenty-six years of age and in 1885 he became a resident of Raymond, where he began business as a contractor and builder, erecting many buildings there and elsewhere. In 1893 he became actively and extensively engaged in real estate operations by building an addition to Raymond and purchasing the land, which he divided and sold as town lots or in small tracts of about a quarter of a block each. He also traded for the Park View addition to the town and closed out that subdivision. He has owned various kinds of property including unimproved swamp land, coal mines, farm lands and business property and he has probably bought and sold more property than any other one man in the county. Realizing the disadvantages attending the conduct of his business in a small town, Raymond having only a population of about fifteen hundred, he removed to Litchfield in order that he might have better railroad and other facilities, taking up his abode here March 12, 1901.

In connection with his real estate interests Mr. Wood has conducted an insurance business as agent for different fire, life and accident insurance companies, representing the John Hancock, the Mutual Life, the Aetna Accident and also large fire insurance companies.

Mr. Wood was elected police magistrate on the 19th of April, 1904, and in this capacity he has charge of all criminal business in the city and manages the civil business. He has made a most enviable record in office, having had jurisdiction over one hundred and thirty cases in a month. He was elected for a term of four years and his course has been entirely satisfactory to the public. In his political affiliation he is a stalwart Democrat and was very active in politics until about five years ago, since which time his attention has been given more largely to his business affairs. In Raymond he served as deputy sheriff and was also constable and assessor of the township. He made a new set of books for Raymond under the new law, which was taken as the basis of equalization for the entire county. Three mem-

bers of the board of review appointed by the county judge never made a change in the books of assessment which were gotten up by Mr. Wood while assessor of Raymond in 1896, and he was the only one of eighteen assessors who performed a work of this character so that his book was taken as a basis by the board of equalization for the entire county. He was a candidate for the office on the Democratic ticket and was the only one of his party on the entire city ticket that was elected. In both his business and political career he has displayed marked ability and rare capacity for successful effort and has made for himself an enviable record.

JOHN HENRY BREMER.

John Henry Bremer, of Hillsboro, is well known in industrial and agricultural circles of Montgomery county. He possesses untiring energy, is quick of perception, forms his plans readily and is determined in their execution; and his close application to business and his excellent management have brought to him the high degree of prosperity which is to-day his. It is true that he became interested in a business already established, but in controlling and enlarging such an enterprise many a man of even considerable resolute purpose, courage and industry would have failed; and he has demonstrated the truth of the saying that success is not the result of genius, but the outcome of a clear judgment and experience.

Mr. Bremer was born in Hanover, Germany, on the 9th of November, 1850, and came to the United States in June, 1857, with his parents, William H. and Mary (Bartoff) Bremer. His father was born in Hanover and in 1857 made arrangements whereby he left his native country and brought his family to the new world, locating upon a farm a half mile north of Hillsboro. There he carried on agricultural pursuits for many years and was a resident of the same locality until his death, which occurred in 1899, when he was seventy-four years of age. He held membership in the Lutheran church and belonged to the church council for a quarter of a century. He took

a very active and helpful part in religious work and did everything in his power to promote the cause of Christianity and extend its influence in Montgomery county. His study of the political issues and questions of the day led him to give earnest allegiance to the Republican party. His wife, also a native of Hanover, and a consistent member of the Lutheran church, died in 1861 at the age of thirty-two years. They were the parents of five children: Johanna, the wife of Herman Wiegand, a shoemaker residing in Morrisonville; John Henry, of this review; Minnie and Ida, both deceased; and Sophia.

John Henry Bremer was a student in the district schools and entered the public schools of Hillsboro in his boyhood days, but his educational privileges were somewhat limited, as his services were needed upon the home farm. In 1895 he came into possession of the Hillsboro roller mills and has since been engaged in the manufacture of flour in connection with the operation of his farm. The mill has been recently remodeled and supplied with the latest improved machinery for the manufacture of high grade flour, of breakfast foods and of meal. This is one of the large mills of the county, having a capacity of one hundred and fifty barrels per day, and the business is successfully conducted under the able supervision of Mr. Bremer. In the spring of 1904 he extended his activities into other fields of labor and formed a partnership with Daniel Tee and engaged in the lumbering business, establishing a yard on the east side of the mill on South Main street. There the firm handles all kinds of dressed and undressed lumber and its patronage is now extensive. The farm which Mr. Bremer owns comprises three hundred acres of very highly improved land. Upon the place are modern buildings, including a handsome residence equipped with all modern conveniences. The land is splendidly drained, the fields are under a high state of cultivation and the place is stocked with high grades of cattle.

In 1878 occurred the marriage of Mr. Bremer and Miss Minnie Brinker, who was born in Germany in 1856 and came to the United States when but seven years of age with her parents, Louis and Minnie Brinker, who located in St. Louis, Missouri. Mr. Bremer was a carpenter

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J. H. BREMER



WILLIAM H. BREMER

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by trade, but subsequently purchased a farm in Butler Grove township, Montgomery county, where he carried on agricultural pursuits until 1899. He then retired from business and has since made his home with his daughter. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Bremer were born nine children: Mamie, George, Ida, Henriette, Minnie, Otto, Henry, Louis and Frederick. The last named is now deceased and the mother passed away in July, 1897. In 1901 Mr. Bremer was again married, his second union being with Miss Alice Currier, a daughter of August Currier, an architect. Both of her parents are now deceased. Mrs. Bremer was born in Hillsboro in 1864 and has two children, Jesse and Lawrence.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Bremer are members of the Lutheran church and in politics he is a Republican. He has served as highway commissioner for nine years and has also been a church official, acting as trustee and a member of the church council. He takes a very active and helpful interest in church affairs, contributing generously to the support of the organization and doing all in his power to promote its growth and extend its influence. Almost his entire life has been passed in Montgomery county, where he has so directed his labors as to win good results, while his integrity as well as his industry stands as an unquestioned fact in his business career.

CHARLES A. BOST.

Charles A. Bost, representing agricultural and horticultural interests of Montgomery county, is living on section 28, Rountree township. His birth occurred within the corporation limits of this township, on the old family homestead, October 7, 1866, his parents being Daniel and Amanda S. (Ridenhour) Bost, both of whom were natives of North Carolina, whence they came to Montgomery county in 1833, locating in Rountree township among its earliest settlers. As there were no good roads at that time the journey was made on horseback and for a number of years they lived in true pioneer style, performing the arduous task of establishing a new home upon the frontier. Subsequently they resided in Butler for a short

period and about eight years ago they took up their abode in Nokomis, where Mr. Bost is now living retired at the advanced age of eighty-eight years. His wife is now sixty-five years of age.

Charles A. Bost pursued his education in the schools of Butler Grove township and afterward accompanied his parents on their removal to Butler. He remained at home until eighteen years of age, when he began earning his own livelihood by working by the month as a farm hand, being thus employed until 1888. He then went to Missouri and in the following year he removed to Kansas and afterward to Oklahoma. He secured a lot at Crescent City and assisted in laying out the town. He was also assistant postmaster there and took an active and helpful part in the early development of that place, but in March, 1890, he sold his interests there and returned to Montgomery county. Here he followed farming for a year, after which he worked at the carpenter's trade for about five years. On the expiration of that period he took up his abode at his present place of residence on section 28, Rountree township. At first he rented a tract of land here, but he now owns one hundred and twenty acres. When he took up his abode at this place he at once began the improvement and development of the property and he now has a good house, a commodious and substantial barn and many modern equipments. Shade trees add to the value and attractive appearance of the place and the land is divided into fields of convenient size by well kept fences. He was entirely without capital when he took up his abode upon this farm and he had no stock, but upon the place are now seen good grades of cattle, horses and hogs and his fields annually return to him good harvests, while among his other possessions is a fine young orchard of one thousand trees.

While Mr. Bost has led a very busy and useful life in his efforts to accumulate a comfortable competence for his family he has also found time and opportunity to serve his fellow townsmen in positions of public trust. He was elected town clerk in 1900 and is now filling that position and also the office of school director. He is likewise a member of the central committee of his township and has given

unflinching support to the principles of the Republican party since attaining his majority.

On the 23d of October, 1890, Mr. Bost was married to Miss Elizabeth C. Nussman, a daughter of Eli and Sarah E. (Liticker) Nussman, who are residents of Rountree township. Mr. and Mrs. Bost are the parents of five children: Florence Elmira, born June 25, 1887; Edna P., November 18, 1891; Warner G., November 14, 1892; Hazel L., January 18, 1895; and Archibald, who was born February 11, 1896, and died on the 20th of July of the same year. The parents attend the Lutheran church and Mr. Bost belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp at Nokomis and Rountree Council No. 131, M. P. L., which was organized in Rountree township. In politics he is a stalwart Republican and he was the father of the mail route of this locality. He also wrote the first hunting license of his township. Having spent his entire life here he has been deeply interested in what has been accomplished, in the progress that has been made and in the development which has marked the transition of the county from pioneer conditions to a state of advanced modern civilization. In his business he has prospered as the result of his untiring diligence and enterprise and well merits the success that has come to him.

It will be interesting in this connection to note something of the early history of Eli Nussman, the father of Mrs. Bost. He was the first white child born where the city of Hillsboro now stands, there opening his eyes to the light of day in a little cabin located not far from the Rountree spring, which furnishes the water for the present water works system of Hillsboro. His natal day was April 9, 1824. Two years after Illinois had been admitted to the Union as a state his father, John Nussman, left his home in Cabarrus county, North Carolina, and came with his family to Illinois, being the first white man to settle among the hills and primeval forests of Hillsboro. His rude cabin was the first building erected at the future county seat. When his son Eli was six years of age the father determined to better his fortunes by taking up some of the wild land that lay north of Hillsboro. There were few settlers in the entire county and the rich prairies of the

northern portion, which now sell for from seventy to one hundred dollars per acre, were then considered worthless lands. In his native state John Nussman had followed farming, but after his arrival in this county he conducted a wagon shop. He determined, however, to return to his former vocation and this led to his change in location. In 1830 he removed to what is now Rountree township and upon the farm which he there developed he reared his family of eleven children, of whom Eli Nussman was the youngest. The wife and mother, who bore the maiden name of Kathryn Fogleman, died August 13, 1846, while John Nussman survived until May 27, 1852, passing away when about seventy-five years of age. When he removed to his farm in 1830 he was the only white man in the county north of Irving township. There was much wild game and venison was a common dish upon the family table, while wild turkey, prairie chickens and honey were also easily secured. Near the family home was a camping place for the Kickapoo Indians, who were friendly to their white neighbors, frequently making them presents of small trinkets and trading them deer skins and venison for ammunition and bacon. Mrs. Nussman made all the wearing apparel for the family, manufacturing the cloth as well as the garments. This consisted of thick, heavy jeans, linsey and a coarse cloth made from cotton grown on the place, for in those days cotton was raised to considerable extent by the pioneers of this county. Eli Nussman received but limited educational advantages, for there were no schools worth mentioning in his locality and the knowledge he gained was received through contact with his fellow men and by observation and experience. In this way, however, he has gained much valuable learning and has become a well informed man. In his youth he delighted in hunting and found great pleasure in the sport long after attaining man's estate. He has long been regarded as one of the best practical farmers of the county and at one time he owned four hundred acres of land, upon which he raised all kinds of stock to be found on a well regulated stock farm. When nearly four score years of age he planted and cultivated thirty-five acres of corn. In

his younger years he was remarkably strong and vigorous and boasts that he killed his two deer before breakfast and often as many as four a day. He also tells of making rails for twenty-five cents a hundred and regarded it as a good price.

Mr. Nussman married Miss Sarah Liticker, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arba Liticker, who were early settlers of Fillmore township. They were married May 6, 1858, when Mrs. Nussman was eighteen years of age, her birth having occurred April 6, 1840. They became the parents of six children, three of whom are living: Harriet Catharine, the wife of George Caulk; Mary Emeline, wife of Tom Bost; and Elizabeth Nora, the wife of Charles Bost. Mr. Nussman has never taken a very active interest in politics, but has always been identified with the Democracy. He has ever been known as a man of strong integrity, honest and honorable in all of his transactions and popular among those who knew him. He has always had the warm affection of his family and is numbered among the honored pioneers of Montgomery county.

G. A. RICHMOND.

G. A. Richmond, a well known cattle-raiser and one of the substantial citizens of Fillmore township, was born upon the place where he now resides, his natal day being October 8, 1851. His parents were Gideon and Harriet (Knowles) Richmond. His father, now deceased, was born in Licking county, Ohio, in 1820, and was a son of Henry and Eliza F. Richmond, the former born in Massachusetts and the latter in New Jersey. Gideon Richmond was reared in the state of his nativity and afterward followed the occupation of farming there until 1845, when he came to Montgomery county and settled upon the hill in Fillmore township. He was one of the early residents of that locality. He purchased the old homestead at the time of his arrival, began transforming the wild land into richly cultivated fields, and in due course of time, owing to the success which he achieved through his own efforts, he became known as

an extensive farmer. He gave particular attention to the raising of wheat and to some extent produced corn. He also engaged in stock-raising, and whatever he undertook he carried forward to successful completion. He possessed, moreover, good business ability and sound judgment, and he carefully considered every advance move. At the time of his death he owned over five hundred acres of land. He was respected by all for his many good qualities, and his example is well worthy of emulation, proving what can be accomplished by strong and determined purpose when supplemented by honorable business methods. He was married in 1848 to Miss Harriet Knowles, who was born in New Hampshire and came to Montgomery county, Illinois, when eight years of age with her parents, Joseph and Hannah Knowles. There were only a few houses within the borders of the county at the time of her arrival, and the town of Fillmore had not been established. There were only three dwellings within a mile of this place, and almost the entire country was a section of wild prairie, upon which not a furrow had been turned or an improvement made. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Richmond were born four children, but only two are living: G. A., of this review; and Dora, the widow of Ora E. Lane, of Fillmore. Mr. Richmond was always a Democrat in his political views, and he never faltered in support of the party in which he believed. He died as the result of a stroke of paralysis in 1895, and since that time his widow has made her home with her son, G. A. Richmond. Her youngest son, Ernest, died in 1903.

G. A. Richmond pursued his education in the district school near his father's home, and in his boyhood and youth worked upon the home farm, assisting in the various labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. When twenty-five years of age he began operating his father's land on his own account, and that he has prospered in his business undertakings as the years have gone by is shown by the fact that he is now the owner of three hundred acres of valuable land, well improved and equipped with all modern conveniences. Upon his place is a good house and substantial barn.

He is devoting the greater part of his time and attention to the raising of cattle and owns a thoroughbred shorthorn bull. All the cattle which he sells are raised upon his farm, and his business interests have become extensive, so that he is now one of the prosperous men of his community. He has placed his dependence, not upon any fortunate combination of circumstances, but with a realization that labor is the basis of all prosperity he has worked earnestly and indomitably, and is now one of the well known and substantial stock-dealers of his community.

G. A. Richmond was married about twenty-five years ago to Miss Ada Bost, a daughter of John J. Bost. She spent her girlhood days in Montgomery county and has become the mother of three children: Nellie, now the wife of R. Sanders, of Fillmore; Zella, who married Frank Wolcott; and Kent, who resides at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Richmond have a wide and favorable acquaintance in Montgomery county. Both hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, take an active interest in its work and delight in its growth and the extension of its influence. Mr. Richmond also belongs to the Masonic fraternity, being made a Mason in 1886 at Fillmore lodge, No. 670, and he is also connected with the Woodmen camp and the Court of Honor, and his political views are in accord with the principles of the Democracy. Those who have known him from boyhood and have been daily witnesses of his life are numbered among his staunchest friends, a fact which indicates that his career has ever been guided by upright principles, and while he has won prosperity he has also gained an untarnished name.

CHARLES B. McKINNEY.

Charles B. McKinney, a representative of the business interests of Irving as a dealer in general merchandise, was born in Center county, Pennsylvania, January 2, 1856, his parents being Edward C. and Eliza A. (Brown) McKinney, both of whom were natives of the Keystone state, the father born in Mifflin

county and the mother in Dauphin county. They became residents of Montgomery county, Illinois, in November, 1883, and subsequently removed to Decatur, this state, where the father's death occurred in July, 1885. His widow removed to Chicago, where she now makes her home.

Charles B. McKinney was educated in the common schools of Pennsylvania and in Penn Hall Academy. He later engaged in teaching through the winter months, while in the summer seasons he continued his studies. In May, 1878, he went to Kansas, where he taught school for two years and on the 31st of May, 1880, he arrived in Montgomery county, locating at Irving. Here he resumed teaching and he also worked at carpentering and farming. In November, 1887, however, he became a factor in the commercial life of the town by entering into partnership with James L. McDavid under the firm name of McDavid & McKinney, proprietors of a general mercantile store. This relationship was maintained until July, 1892, when Mr. McDavid sold his interest to James S. Kelly, and they were partners until the 1st of March, 1895, when Mr. McKinney bought out Mr. Kelly's interest. He now has the largest stock of goods in the town and is doing a very profitable business, his trade still increasing. His methods recommend him to the patronage of the public and the support of a customer, when once secured, is always retained, because of his honorable treatment of his customers and his earnest desire to please.

On the 10th of April, 1881, Mr. McKinney was united in marriage to Idella W. Kelley, a daughter of Harvey M. Kelley. They had two children: Darwin Ray, who is a clerk in his father's store; and Owen LaMar, also in the store. Mrs. McKinney died September 12, 1889, and on the 21st of January, 1891, Mr. McKinney married Mrs. Jennie Townsend, of Staunton, Illinois. Their children are Harold Verne, who was born August 1, 1893; and Claude Leland, born December 24, 1895.

Mr. McKinney is an adherent of Democratic principles and served as a member of the school board of his town for six years, while at the present time he is serving as a member of the council. He belongs to the Mutual Pro-



MR. AND MRS. C. B. MCKINNEY

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tective League; the Court of Honor, No. 333; the Modern Woodmen Camp, No. 1498; the Irving lodge, No. 455, A. F. & A. M., of which he has been master for a number of years; and to the Presbyterian church. He is well known in fraternal circles, where his close adherence to the helpful and benevolent spirit of the different orders has made him widely known as a representative member.

SAMUEL A. MERIWETHER.

Samuel A. Meriwether, who follows farming and stock-raising on section 30, Harvel township, has a good tract of land of one hundred and sixty acres, constituting a valuable farm, which is pleasantly located within four miles of Raymond, Harvel and Waggoner, so that the advantages of town life are easily obtained, while he is at the same time enjoying the liberty of a country home. Born in Illinois, Mr. Meriwether is a native of Greene county, the date of his birth being February 5, 1843. He represents an old family of the south, his father, Henry W. Meriwether, having been born in Jefferson county, Kentucky, in 1791, soon after the admission of that state into the Union and not long after the close of the Revolutionary war. He was reared amid frontier scenes in Kentucky, and because of the responsibilities that devolved upon him and the labor that he performed he developed a self-reliant character. Having arrived at years of maturity, he married Jane Meriwether, March 17, 1811. She died August 18, 1828, and on October 22, 1829, he was again married, his second union being with Miss Dorothea Lewis Hill, who was the mother of our subject. She was born in Virginia, but was largely reared in Kentucky. Mr. Meriwether became a prominent and successful business man of Jefferson county and took an active interest in public affairs, serving at one time as sheriff of his county. He removed to Illinois in 1835, settling in Greene county, where he purchased land and ultimately became the owner of two farms, which he developed and improved. In 1844 he removed

to Macoupin county, where he also became the owner of a farm, making it his home until his life's labors were ended in death, April 2, 1856, when he was sixty-six years of age. His wife, surviving him some time, passed away September 2, 1860.

In retrospect one can see Samuel A. Meriwether as a farm boy of Macoupin county working in the fields through the summer months, while in the winter seasons he attended the public schools. After completing the course of instruction in the district schools he entered the high school at Carrollton, Greene county. In 1864 he went to the west, spending a year in mining in Montana and Idaho, after which he returned to this state.

It was in Kentucky, however, that Mr. Meriwether was married, the wedding ceremony being performed in Cumberland county on the 20th of January, 1870, on which occasion Miss Sarah Baker became his wife. She was born and reared in Kentucky and was a daughter of Daniel and Lucy (Chetham) Baker.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Meriwether located in Auburn, Kentucky, where he worked at the carpenter's trade for one year and on the expiration of that period he returned to Illinois, settling in Macoupin county, where he carried on farming with good success for four years. His unfaltering industry and capable management during that period brought to him the capital that enabled him to purchase the farm upon which he now resides on section 30, Harvel township. Upon that place at that time was an old house, but he has since replaced it by a large, substantial and modern residence. He located here in 1878 and began to farm and improve this place, the rich, productive soil yielding to him good harvests. He has also other outbuildings and he has five acres in an orchard. He has also tilled some of his land and fenced a part of it, and now has a good place, the rich fields promising golden harvests in the late autumn. In connection with general farming he raises good stock, making a specialty of pure-blooded Cotswold sheep. He is well known as a breeder and dealer in sheep in Montgomery county, and has some very fine animals, while his annual sales return to him

good income. He is also a director of the Vinden Mutual Fire Insurance Company.

Mr. and Mrs. Meriwether have five children: Arthur, who is married and is a farmer of Pitman township; Dorothea, who is successfully engaged in teaching in this county and resides at home; Lucy, who is with her parents; Elizabeth, who is engaged in teaching music and is at home; and Owen W., who assists in the operation of the farm.

Mr. Meriwether cast his first presidential vote for Peter Cooper and is a stalwart Democrat, being now in sympathy with the principles and policy of that party. He has never sought or desired office, preferring to give his time and energies to his business affairs. He is, however, a believer in good schools and in the employment of competent teachers, and for nine years he has served on the school board, during which time he has put forth effective effort in behalf of the cause of education. He and his wife and all of their family are members of the Presbyterian church, in the work of which they take a very active and helpful part. Mr. Meriwether is serving as an elder in the church and is also a very active and helpful Sunday school worker, having served as superintendent for twenty years, while for two years he has been president of the County Sunday School Association. His influence is ever on the side of right, of truth and justice, and he does everything in his power to promote the moral development of the county.

C. W. JOHNSON, M. D.

Dr. C. W. Johnson, of Litchfield, now engaged in the practice of medicine, has made his work of great value to his fellow men. He was born in Hong Kong, China, in 1848, his parents being Rev. John W. and Anna (Stephens) Johnson. The father was a Baptist minister, born in New Hampshire in 1820. He completed his education in Dartmouth College and afterward went as missionary of the Baptist church to China, where he lived and labored for many years, his efforts proving a potent influence in the Christianizing of the

heathen races of that country. His wife, who was born in Eastport, Maine, died when her son Dr. Johnson was but three weeks old, but the father survived until 1872. He was a second time married in 1859 and afterward returned to China, where he lived until 1863, when he again came to America. His death, however, occurred at Swatow, China, where he was engaged in missionary work, and flags in that place were lowered at half-mast because he was beloved by all. His son afterward formed the acquaintance of Captain Lowell, who was commander of a ship and who attended the funeral of Rev. Johnson. The home of Rev. Johnson was the headquarters of all Americans visiting or residing in Hong Kong for any length of time.

Dr. Johnson came from China to the United States in order to pursue his education in the schools of this country. The ship on which he sailed was attacked by the Confederate pirate ship *Florida* on the 12th of February, 1863. The passengers and crew were put to every inconvenience and after everything of value was taken a torch was applied and the vessel burned to the water's edge. Dr. Johnson pursued his preliminary education in Philips College at Exeter, New Hampshire. He afterward went to Providence, Rhode Island, where he completed a course in the University grammar school, and he afterward attended Seafield Business College, from which he won a diploma on the 11th of November, 1867. Determining to engage in the practice of medicine as his life work, he entered Jefferson Medical College at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and was graduated with the class of 1872. He was afterward appointed a trustee of the insane hospital at Augusta, Maine, where he remained from 1880 to 1883, after which he was offered a position as assistant superintendent, but declined. Entering upon the active practice of medicine, he there engaged in the prosecution of his profession for a number of years. He was appointed a justice of the peace in Maine by Governor Davis on the 5th of January, 1881, and on the 13th of April, 1882, he was appointed examining surgeon as a member of the pension board. He located in Litchfield April 22, 1886, and



DR. C. W. JOHNSON

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has since been a member of the profession here, active in practice and laboring with success in the alleviation of human suffering. The public and the medical fraternity accord him high rank and his acknowledged skill has won him a very liberal patronage.

On the 7th of June, 1874, in Lubec, Maine, Dr. Johnson was united in marriage to Miss Allie Ryerson, and unto them were born two children. Simeon Ryerson, the elder, is a practicing physician at Divernon, Illinois, and was named in honor of his maternal grandfather. He is a graduate of DePauw University of Indiana, where he completed his course in 1895, and also of the University of Illinois, completing a course in the medical department with the class of 1898. The younger child, a daughter, died when seventeen months old.

In his political views Dr. Johnson is a stalwart Republican and keeps well informed on the issues of the day. He has in his possession his father's library, which contains three volumes concerning the United States expedition of Commodore M. C. Perry, published in 1856. Dr. Johnson has made his home in Litchfield for eighteen years and is well known here as a representative member of the profession.

JAMES W. KIRKPATRICK.

James W. Kirkpatrick, superintendent of the plant of the Illinois Brick & Tile Company at Litchfield, was born in Alton, this state, in 1858, and his ancestry, both lineal and collateral, for many generations has been distinctively American. He is a great-grandson of James Kirkpatrick, who served as a captain in the Revolutionary war and was killed while the troops were engaged in skirmishing with the British. He was shot while at his dinner table with nine of his children around him. His son, Thomas Kirkpatrick, was the first settler of Madison county, Illinois, and assisted in the erection of the first fort in the county which was built to protect the pioneer residents against the Indians. He had removed from Tennessee to Madison county in 1802 and was very prominent and influential

in molding its policy and shaping its pioneer history. He served as the first judge of the county and was one of the thirty-six delegates that went to Kaskaskia, Illinois—then the capital of the territory—to formulate plans for the admission of the state into the Union. He accumulated a large property for those days, and the town of Edwardsville has been built upon the land which he at one time owned.

Samuel D. Kirkpatrick, father of James W. Kirkpatrick, was born near Edwardsville, Illinois, and is now living in Portland, Oregon, at the advanced age of eighty-three years. He was a lumber merchant and soon after the close of the Civil war came to Litchfield, where he remained until 1879, when he removed to Oregon, where he has since made his home. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church and for many years has been one of its active and helpful workers. Fraternally he is connected with the Masonic lodge and with the A. K. T. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Mary Jane Elsworthy, was born near London, England, and is now sixty-nine years of age. She came to the United States with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Elsworthy, when a little maiden of five summers, the family home being established in Alton, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Kirkpatrick became the parents of six children: Carrie, deceased; Annie, the wife of Rev. M. G. Coleman, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church at Paris, Illinois; James W.; Edward, deceased; and Myrtle, the wife of Edward Hazzard, who is cashier of the bank at Lake Charles, Louisiana.

To the public-school system of Litchfield James W. Kirkpatrick is indebted for the educational privileges which he enjoyed. He afterward began learning the trade of brick-making and has since followed that pursuit as a life occupation. For five years he was associated with George Matthews, in the manufacture of brick and on the expiration of that period they sold out to J. W. Chamberlain & Son, while Mr. Kirkpatrick accepted the position as superintendent with the Litchfield Brick & Tile Company, with which he remained for four years. On the expiration of that period he was made superintendent of the brick and

tile works of Monticello, Piatt County, where he continued for four years and in 1896 he returned to Litchfield to accept the superintendency of the brick works owned by David Davis, Sr. He is still identified in the same capacity with that productive industry. In 1902, however, the concern was incorporated under the name of the Illinois Brick & Tile Company, with David Davis, Jr., as president, Mrs. Blanche K. Davis as treasurer, Regina Davis as secretary and James W. Kirkpatrick as superintendent. The company was capitalized for twenty thousand dollars and employment is furnished to from twenty to twenty-five men. The product of the factory is both building and paving brick and drain tile and the capacity is twenty thousand brick per day. The plant is well equipped with modern appliances and machinery and the output is now extensive and of such excellent quality that it finds a ready sale on the market.

In 1881 Mr. Kirkpatrick was united in marriage to Miss Hattie Ringwald, who was born in Germany in 1862 and in 1870 was brought to America by her parents, who located in Alton, her father following the occupation of farming in that locality. Three children have been born of this union: Harry, who is a fireman on the Big Four Railroad, now living at Mattoon, Illinois; Edward, deceased; and one that died in infancy. Mr. Kirkpatrick belongs to the Odd Fellows lodge, his wife to the Methodist Episcopal church, and he is a Republican in his political affiliation. His life has been characterized by untiring diligence and one element of the success which he has achieved is the fact that he has persevered in the calling which as a young tradesman he embarked, concentrating his energies along this one line with good result.

SOLOMON HAAKE.

Solomon Haake was born June 5, 1867, in Fillmore township, upon the farm where he now makes his home, and throughout his active business career he has carried on agricultural pursuits. The family, as the name indicates, is of German lineage. His parents

were Henry and Hannah (Welge) Haake. The father was born in the province of Hanover, Germany, in 1821, and there remained until about thirty years of age. He, too, was a farmer by occupation and on crossing the Atlantic to the new world he made his way westward to Illinois, settling in Macoupin county, whence he afterward removed to Montgomery county. Here he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land in Fillmore township, constituting a part of the farm upon which Solomon Haake now resides. He worked earnestly in order to gain a comfortable competence and established a good home for his family, and as the years advanced he was enabled to extend the boundaries of his farm by additional purchases until he was the owner of a valuable tract of five hundred and five acres of rich land, the productive condition of which enabled him to garner good harvests each fall. He was married to Miss Hannah Welge, a sister of Louis Welge, of Hillsboro, and they became the parents of four children, of whom one child died at the age of three years. Those living are Mrs. Ida Wolters, Otto and Solomon. The father died in 1899 at the age of seventy-eight years, but the mother is still living, residing with a brother upon the old homestead. Mr. Haake was a Democrat in his political views, but he had neither time nor inclination for public office, as his business affairs claimed all of his attention. When he arrived in Montgomery county he worked for ten dollars per month and all that he possessed was acquired through his untiring effort. He possessed good business ability and keen foresight and judiciously invested his earnings until he stood as one of the substantial residents of his adopted county.

Solomon Haake was reared on the old family homestead and at the usual age entered the public schools, wherein he gained a fair knowledge of the common branches of English learning. His training at farm labor was not meager, for his father instructed him in the various duties of the farm and he gained practical knowledge of this work in all of its departments. He continued to assist his father until the latter's death and then entered upon an independent business career. He raises

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MR. AND MRS. SOLOMON HAAKE



MR. AND MRS. HENRY HAAKE

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both grain and stock, having taken up the latter branch of business since his father's death. He has made all of the improvements upon his home place, including the erection of a substantial residence and good barns. There was not even a fence upon the land when he took possession of it, and he has since divided the place into fields of convenient size by well kept fences, has secured modern machinery to facilitate the farm work and has carried on his labors along progressive lines. He owns two hundred and fifty acres of land, which he received as his share of his father's estate, while his brother also received an equal amount. The boys had assisted their father in paying off his indebtedness and in developing the farm, and the property came to them as the legitimate reward of their labor.

On the 10th of February, 1897, occurred the marriage of Mr. Haake and Miss Effie Fesser, and they have become the parents of three children: Graydon Paul, born January 4, 1898; Maude Elberta, born December 26, 1902; and Solomon Ray, born June 23, 1904. Mrs. Haake's father, August Fesser, is a native of Hanover, Germany, and on coming to America in 1865 located in Christian county, Illinois, but a year later came to Montgomery county and purchased eighty acres of land in Fillmore township. As time passed he prospered in his farming operations and is to-day the owner of four hundred and eighteen acres of fine farming land. He married Adaline Livingston, a native of this county, and to them were born six children, five of whom are still living. In politics Mr. Fesser is a Republican, while Mr. Haake votes with the Democracy, but is not an active politician, for his interests are concentrated upon his business affairs, which, being managed capably, have brought to him a very desirable financial return.

GEORGE W. HUFFER.

George W. Huffer, who is engaged in real estate dealing in Coffeen, was born on the 29th of February, 1864, in Shelbyville, Shelby county, Illinois, his parents being Noah and

Catharine Huffer. The father was born in Reading, Berks county, Pennsylvania, on the 3d of April, 1828, and when ten years of age became a resident of Ohio. He remained in that state until twenty-one years of age, and during that time learned the blacksmith's trade. On attaining his majority he removed to Shelbyville, Illinois, where he engaged in the manufacture of plows and carriages. He also made the first scrapers and graders for the Big Four Railroad Company, for at that time there were no iron fenders in operation. He invented what was known as Huffer's corn-planter, which was patented on the 8th of February, 1861. It was the first planter ever made that covered two rows. Mr. Huffer of this review now has the patent which was issued to his father. After perfecting his invention Mr. Huffer began contract work and remained in this until his death, which occurred April 29, 1899. He never reaped the just reward of his invention, for the papers were not drawn up properly by his lawyer, and other men used his ideas by making slight changes in the machine. On the 2d of August, 1853, Noah Huffer married Miss Catharine Dush, who was born in Wooster county, Ohio, February 7, 1834, and died June 15, 1901. They became the parents of four children: Catharine Elizabeth, who married Joseph Wade and died in 1885; Simon, who lives in Decatur; George W.; and Mary L., who is married and lives at Cowden.

George W. Huffer acquired his early education in the district schools in Shelby county. He afterward learned telegraphy, and in April, 1884, as a telegraph operator he entered the employ of the Toledo, Cincinnati & St. Louis Railroad at Cowden, Illinois. His wife also learned telegraphy and they worked in the same office for seven years. Mr. Huffer continued in the railroad employ for almost twenty years, giving excellent satisfaction to the corporations which he represented. In connection with A. Studebaker he opened the American Exchange Bank in Coffeen in 1900, but afterward sold out to his partner. He then turned his attention to the real estate and insurance business in Coffeen, in which he has since been engaged. He has secured a

good clientage in this line and has negotiated many important real estate transfers and written considerable insurance.

On the 23d of November, 1887, Mr. Huffer was united in marriage to Miss Inez L. Studebaker, a daughter of A. Studebaker, of Coffeen, and to them one child has been born, R. Hortense. Mrs. Huffer belongs to the Cumberland Presbyterian church. Mr. Huffer gives his political allegiance to the Republican party and both he and his wife are favorably known in the social circles of Coffeen, having gained many warm friends during their residence here.

A. T. STRANGE.

A. T. Strange, living on a farm in Grisham township, is one of the prominent and influential citizens of Montgomery county, controlling important business interests and at the same time taking an active part in community affairs, his efforts proving beneficial and far-reaching. His public spirit is manifest by co-operation in many helpful public movements, and his integrity in both citizenship and in business life is above question.

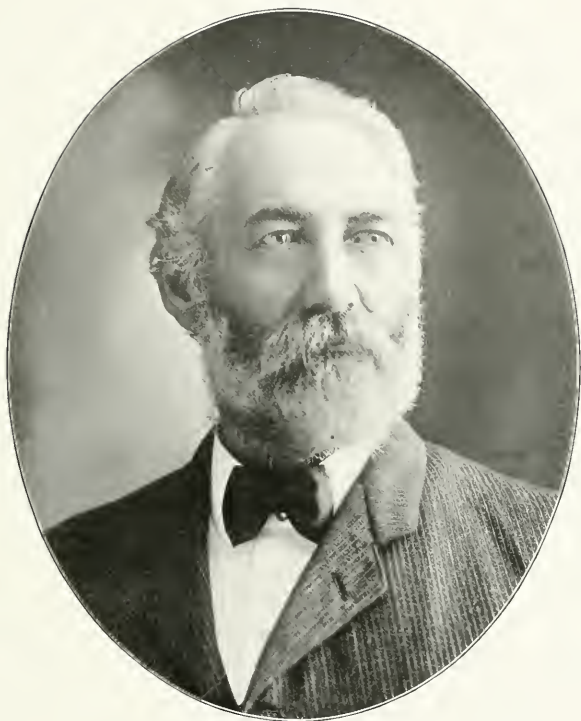
Mr. Strange was born in Floyd county, Georgia, on the 6th of July, 1850, a son of John A. and Fidello A. (Grisham) Strange, who in his boyhood days removed to Blount county, Tennessee, so that the period of his youth was passed in the two states. At the age of twenty-one years he began teaching school and at the same time continued his own studies. In the fall of 1867 he came to Illinois, going to Reno, Bond county, where lived his maternal grandfather, Archibald Grisham. He secured a position as a teacher in Bond county, and in 1872 he came to Montgomery county, where he followed the same profession for several years and subsequently engaged in teaching only through the winter months, while the summer seasons were devoted to other labor, chiefly farming.

On the 22d of August, 1872, Mr. Strange was married to Miss Elizabeth M. Copeland, a daughter of Samuel Copeland, and they removed to the farm in Grisham township upon

which they now reside. To the development of his land and the improvement of his farm he devoted his energies from early spring until after crops were harvested in the autumn, while in the months of winter he labored in the schoolroom, but in 1884 he gave up teaching altogether and his entire attention was devoted to agricultural pursuits until 1891. In 1890 he became one of the organizers of the Hillsboro Mutual Farmers' Insurance Company, was chosen its first secretary and has since held that office. Under his able management the business has increased from one hundred and sixty thousand dollars' worth of property insured in 1900 to over one and a quarter millions. In 1894 he aided in organizing the Pana Cyclone Mutual Insurance Company and was made its secretary, so that he now represents both companies in that capacity. The latter company also has grown rapidly from a small beginning to its present amount of nearly one and a half millions in force. In 1895 he began merchandising at Walshville and has since conducted his store with good success, but makes his home upon his farm, which is pleasantly and conveniently situated about two miles east of Walshville, and which comprises one hundred and forty-four acres of rich and valuable land, now under a high state of cultivation.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Strange were born four children, of whom two are deceased. The living sons are twins—Algy F. and Eury B. Strange. The former is now a practicing dentist of Litchfield, while the latter is now a student in the Marion Sims Dental College at St. Louis, Missouri.

In his political views Mr. Strange is a Republican, stalwart in support of the party. He served as township clerk for three years and later was supervisor of his township for three terms. He is a prominent member of Walshville lodge, A. F. & A. M., was made a Mason therein in 1871, and for twenty-nine years was worshipful master. He then resigned and was succeeded by his son. His devotion to the craft is above question, and in his life he exemplifies its beneficent spirit and its principles of brotherly kindness and helpfulness. He is a trustee of the William Jordan educational trust fund



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—a fund of twelve thousand dollars, the income from which goes for educational purposes in the township. He has also been trustee and administrator of many estates, which shows how high is the position which he has attained in the public regard and confidence. Never has any trust reposed in him been betrayed in the slightest degree, for he is a man of unflinching honor and business reliability, and in his adopted county his name is a synonym for straightforward dealing.

AUGUST T. DOERR.

August T. Doerr, living on section 1, Raymond township, is one of the progressive and thrifty agriculturists of his community and his land, covering one hundred and forty acres, is highly cultivated and well improved. His life record began on the 22d day of May, 1856, in Madison county, Illinois, on which date he first opened his eyes to the light of day. His parents were Peter and Joanna (Volbrecht) Doerr. The father was a native of Germany and when a young man came to the new world, going to Missouri in 1844, at the time of high water in that state. He was married in St. Charles, Missouri, in 1846, to Joanna Volbrecht, who was also a native of Germany, and they resided for two years in St. Charles, after which they spent seven years in St. Louis. Subsequently they removed to Edwardsville, Illinois, and Mr. Doerr was there engaged in business as a brick-mason, contractor and builder, which pursuit he had also followed in Missouri. He afterward bought land in 1854, becoming the owner of a tract upon which his son August T. now resides. In the spring of 1857 he took up his abode thereon, broke the fields, planted crops and in course of time garnered rich harvests. He also built a house and moved his family to the farm from Edwardsville in the spring of 1858. Through many a succeeding year he was numbered among the enterprising agriculturists of his community and spent his last days upon the old homestead there, dying in 1893 at the ripe old age of seventy-two years. His wife departed this life in 1897. In their family were

seven children, three sons and four daughters, of whom six are yet living.

August T. Doerr was reared under the parental roof, largely spending his youth upon the home farm, and when not engaged with the labors of the field he attended the common schools near his home and the graded schools of Butler. When he started out upon an independent business career he desired to have a companion and helpmate for the journey of life and on the 15th of October, 1879, he was united in marriage to Miss Alice R. Williamson, a native of Montgomery county, where her girlhood days were passed. She acquired a fair education and engaged in teaching school prior to her marriage. She is a daughter of William Williamson, formerly of Hamilton county, Ohio, and one of the early settlers of Montgomery county. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Doerr has been blessed with five living children: Elmer, who is married and is a draughtsman in the steel works at Granite City; Walter, who is foreman of the water works at Lomar, Iowa; Mabel, William and Nellie, at home. They lost one daughter, their youngest child, Anna, who died at the age of two years.

Mr. Doerr succeeded to a part of the old homestead and after coming into possession of this property he built a good home thereon and continued the work of further cultivation and improvement, making the farm one of the desirable properties of the neighborhood. In connection with the raising of grain he is also engaged in the raising and feeding of stock, and both branches of his business have proved a good source of income. He finds time for the discharge of public duties and as a citizen he is public-spirited and progressive, unfaltering in his allegiance to the Republican party. He cast his first presidential ballot for General James A. Garfield and for each of its nominees since that time. He was elected and served as drainage commissioner for two years, has been a member of the school board and has been a delegate to various county conventions, and as every true American citizen should do, he takes a deep interest in politics, earnestly desiring the success of the principles which he believes to contain the best elements of good government. He has frequently attended the agri-

cultural institutes and is a most progressive farmer, laboring earnestly for the betterment of the agricultural class. He recognized the value of the interchange of thought and experience that comes in agricultural institutes and has done much to make the organization in Montgomery county a success. For the past six years he has made a study of the raising of different kinds of corn and has developed some well known varieties and also propagated some new varieties. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in the work of which they take an active and helpful interest. He has served as Sunday-school superintendent for more than twenty years, has been a teacher in the Sunday-school and is active in behalf of the Christian education of the young. For six years he has been a member of the Woodmen camp. Progress and advancement are terms synonymous with the business record of Mr. Doerr, who since starting out in life for himself has put forth every effort to make his labors effective and resultant. He has worked earnestly and along modern lines and has not only followed advanced methods instituted by others, but has been the promoter of agricultural interests, especially along the line of producing new varieties of corn and demonstrating the possibilities of the state for production of this cereal.

CHARLES GILLMAN.

Charles Gillman, a practical, progressive and intelligent farmer and stock-raiser of Montgomery county, living on section 8, Pitman township, is the owner of valuable landed possessions, his farm comprising seven hundred acres. He is also classed with the pioneer residents of Illinois, having established his home in Sangamon county in 1854, while since 1862 he has lived in Montgomery county. He is one of the worthy citizens that Germany has furnished to this country, and he possesses many of the strict and sterling characteristics of its people.

He was born in Brunswick, July 17, 1835, and had good school advantages in his youth. His knowledge of English, however, has been

acquired since he arrived in this state. When a young man he was employed as a sheep herder in Brunswick, Germany, but he did not regard the business outlook as very encouraging and believed that he might enjoy better opportunities in the new world. At the age of nineteen, therefore, he crossed the Atlantic and in 1854 became a resident of Sangamon county, Illinois, where he joined some German friends who had previously come to the United States. There Mr. Gillman entered the employ of C. T. Hoppin, his duty being to herd and care for a large flock of sheep numbering fifteen hundred head. He continued in this employ for more than four years, during which time he made good wages, which he carefully saved, and then with the capital he had acquired through his own efforts he embarked in the sheep-raising business on his own account. He resided in Sangamon county for three years, making his home near Auburn, and in 1862 he purchased land where he now resides, becoming the owner of a tract of three hundred and six acres, of which one hundred and sixty acres is partially improved. He at once began its further development and cultivation and in connection with the tilling of the soil he was engaged in the raising, feeding and fattening of cattle, hogs and sheep for the market. As he prospered in his undertakings he purchased more land from time to time, and is now the owner of seven hundred acres. At one time his realty holdings comprised one thousand acres, but he has since sold about three hundred acres. He is one of the largest feeders and shippers of fat stock in the northern part of Montgomery county, shipping from one hundred to two hundred head of fat cattle annually, besides several carloads of hogs and sheep. Mr. Gillman has his place well improved. He has erected a large, substantial and attractive residence, built in modern style of architecture and surrounded by a well-kept lawn inclosed within an iron fence. There are many beautiful forest, shade and ornamental trees on the place, and in the rear of the home are good barns and outbuildings. The latest improved machinery is used in cultivating the fields and harvesting the crops, and all modern equipments are found upon this well conducted farm.



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In Sangamon county, Illinois, in 1862, Mr. Gillman married Miss Anna Handley, also a native of Germany, and they became the parents of five sons and five daughters: Frank, a substantial farmer of Montgomery county; Henry, a traveling salesman; John, a prosperous merchant of Farmersville; Emma, the wife of George Cardenback; Ella, the wife of Lafe Bristo, a resident of Missouri; Carrie, the wife of Grant Rodgers, a farmer of Pitman township; Flora and Anna, at home; and two sons, deceased. Of these William died at the age of twenty-seven years and George at the age of twenty-four years.

Mr. Gillman, interested in the progress of his county along many lines, gives liberally to the support of different churches as well as to the Lutheran church at Farmersville, of which he and his wife are consistent and active members. He votes with the Republican party, but has never desired political preferment. Forty-two years have come and gone since he arrived in Montgomery county. He landed in America a poor young man, empty-handed and amid strangers, he worked his way upward, his labor and enterprise making for him success, while his straightforward dealing has secured him an untarnished name. His business record is indeed creditable and his life history proves conclusively what can be accomplished if one has determination and is not afraid to work. In his private relations he is kindly and courteous, an agreeable companion and true friend.

R. FOREST LINGLE.

R. Forest Lingle, a representative farmer of Montgomery county whose enterprise and industry are typical of the progressive spirit of the west, resides on section 15, Irving township. He is a native son of the county, his birth having occurred in Rountree township, March 11, 1865. His parents are N. H. M. and Harriet C. Lingle, natives of North Carolina and Illinois, respectively. The father was one of the early settlers of Montgomery county and in 1853 he went to California attracted by the discovery of gold upon the Pacific slope. He drove to the far off state with an ox team

and spent one year in that section of the country. He is now living in Rountree township, where he owns four hundred acres of land and eighty in Irving township. He is seventy-three years of age and his wife has reached the age of sixty-three years. In their family were eight children, all of whom are yet living with the exception of the eldest, Albert A., who died at the age of two years. The others in order of birth are R. Forest; Linnie May and Lula Belle, twins, the former the wife of Jacob C. Snider, and the latter the wife of William Bryce; Joseph O., who is living upon the home place; Elva G., the wife of Frank Berry, of Irving township; Anna L., the wife of Asa Black, of Auburn, Illinois; and Hubert G., who married Viola Masters, and is living in Rountree township.

R. Forest Lingle was a public school student in Rountree township in his early boyhood days and he received mental training in farm labor upon the old homestead, where he remained until twenty-five years of age. He then determined to follow as a life pursuit the occupation to which he had been reared and began farming for himself in Rountree township. After five years had passed he purchased eighty acres of land, where he now lives. He has a well developed property, upon which he has made excellent improvements, so that his farm is now productive and his labor profitable. For fourteen years he has been operating a threshing machine and a clover huller, being his own engineer, and his labors in this direction have added materially to his income.

On the 24th of September, 1889, Mr. Lingle was united in marriage to Miss Ettie A. Chambers, a daughter of Francis and Elizabeth A. Chambers, both of whom were natives of Ohio and became early settlers of Fayette county, Illinois. In 1885 they removed to Nokomis, Montgomery county, where Mr. Chambers is still living, but in 1901 he was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died at the age of sixty-two years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Lingle have been born two children: Ivan M., who is eleven years of age, and Francis E., one year old. The parents are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Lingle is a Republican in his political views. He is in-

terested in all that pertains to the county's progress and upbuilding and has given his aid and co-operation to many measures for the general good, so that for his value in citizenship as well as his estimable traits of character in private life he is held in high esteem by his many friends.

JOHN RUSSELL.

John Russell, the owner of a farm of three hundred and eighty acres in Audubon township, is one of the honored pioneer settlers, whose memory goes back to the time of the log cabins and uncleared fields in Montgomery county. He was born on the 25th of April, 1822, on the east fork of the creek northeast of Coffeen. His parents were John and Charlotte (Britt) Russell. The father was born in Johnson county, North Carolina, in 1797, and removed thence to Kentucky, where he resided for two or three years. He afterward spent one year on the Missouri river about two hundred miles above St. Louis, after which he decided to return to Kentucky. He proceeded down the Missouri river, thence crossed the country of Montgomery county. Being pleased with this locality he decided to remain and in 1821 settled upon a tract of land near Coffeen, where he raised a crop. He did not purchase land for the settlers then believed that they would never need to, but speculators came in and made the purchases and Mr. Russell thus obtained no property from the government. These were early pioneer times when existing conditions were in marked contrast to those of the present day. There were many wolves in the county and the bark houses of the Indian were still standing during the boyhood days of John Russell, Jr. Large herds of deer were frequently seen in forests or upon the prairie and there were many wild turkeys and other feathered game. When the prairie was burned over it was found to be thickly strewn with buffalo bones. There were no schoolhouses and no churches and, in fact, the privileges of the pioneer settlers were very few. The clothing was made out of flax, wool and cotton, and thread spun and cloth woven by the women of the

household. John Russell, Sr., died upon the farm on which the subject of this review now resides.

His son, John Russell, assisted in cutting the logs and building the old house, which still stands upon the place. There was much timber in this district and Mr. Russell acquired a part of his present farm. At one time he owned two hundred acres of timber land and one hundred and sixty acres of prairie land. He still owns the latter tract and he has altogether three hundred and eighty acres at this writing. He was reared as were the other members of the family, numbering five brothers and four sisters. Those still living are Mrs. Martha Davis, eighty-four years of age, a resident of Decatur; and Joseph, also living in Decatur.

Mr. Russell has been twice married, his first wife being Miss Elizabeth Beck, by whom he had two children, Susan and William P. After her death he was married on the 18th of July, 1858, to her sister, Miss Nancy Beck, who was born December 8, 1832, and pursued her education in a log schoolhouse such as was common at that day. Her parents were John and Nancy (Blair) Beck, both natives of Illinois, the former of German descent and the latter of English lineage. The children born of our subject's second marriage are: Belle, the wife of John Moyer, of Pana, Illinois; Florence, the wife of Ed Betzel, of Pana; John; Luzena, the wife of John Paeck, a resident of Audubon township; Ollie, the wife of Charles Sarles; Alice, at home; Edward; and Mabel, the wife of James Monaghan, of Audubon township.

Mr. Russell has always been a Democrat in his political affiliation and he cast his first vote for James K. Polk. His wife is a member of the Christian church. His entire life has been passed in Montgomery county and his memory forms a connecting link between the pioneer past and the progressive present. He has witnessed wonderful changes and the difference is no more marked in any line of life than in farming, for the old crude hand implements have been replaced by modern machinery, whereby a man's daily work is greatly increased in amount and lessened in actual manual labor. No longer are the log cabins seen, for they have been replaced by commodious and substantial



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modern dwellings and no more are the evidences of pioneer life seen. While Mr. Russell has many pleasant memories of the olden days he has rejoiced in the progress that has been made.

CHARLES E. MORGAN.

Charles E. Morgan, well known in financial circles in Montgomery county, is the capable cashier of the Litchfield Bank & Trust Company. He was born in Springfield, Illinois, on the 2d of April, 1862, and is a son of Walter P. and Mary (Brockman) Morgan. His father was connected with the Wabash Railroad Company for thirty-three years, occupying his position up to the time of his death and two uncles of our subject were also identified with the operating department of railroad service.

The mother of Charles E. Morgan died when he was but three years of age and he was reared by his paternal grandfather, Horace Morgan. In 1881 he entered the First National Bank of Springfield, Illinois, as errand boy and collector, remaining in that institution for three and a half years, during which time he gained a practical knowledge of the banking business. He afterward went to work on the railroad as a brakeman on the passenger train and following the death of his father he was made conductor on a dining car, running between Forty Wayne, Indiana, and Decatur, over the Wabash line. On the 1st of June, 1892, he removed from Fort Wayne to Litchfield, Illinois, and here he entered what was originally the Bank of Litchfield, then the property of Beach, Davis & Company. Later this firm was succeeded by Beach, Martin & Company, and from 1892 until 1902 the business was conducted under the firm style of M. M. Martin & Company. On the 4th of September, of the latter year, the present Litchfield Bank & Trust Company was organized as an incorporated state bank and Charles E. Morgan has since served as cashier of the institution, a position which he ably fills. He had become connected with this institution as assistant cashier and was promoted to cashier in 1897, succeeding Colonel Van Duzen, who had served in that capacity for a number of years. Mr. Morgan is popular

with the patrons of the bank because of his promptness and dispatch in discharging his business duties and also because of his obliging manner and unflinching courtesy.

On the 2d of September, 1890, occurred the marriage of Mr. Morgan and Miss Mattie A. Martin, a daughter of M. M. Martin, general superintendent of the car department of the Wabash Railroad Company at Decatur. Her father also held numerous valuable properties in Litchfield, was the owner of the bank and was also the leading partner in the Litchfield Foundry & Machine Company. Mrs. Morgan is the oldest daughter and was educated in the Litchfield public schools, and by her marriage has become the mother of two children, Harold and Mabel, aged respectively thirteen and nine years.

In his political views Mr. Morgan is a stalwart Republican and has served as president of the school board, as member of the city council and as city treasurer. He is also treasurer of the Homestead Loan & Building Association. Fraternally he is connected with the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks and is serving as treasurer of the lodge in Litchfield. He and his wife have many warm friends in this city and the hospitality of the best homes is extended to them, for they are people of genuine worth, enjoying in large measure the esteem of those with whom they have been associated.

JOHN T. SHINDLER.

John T. Shindler, yard and bill clerk with the Wabash Railroad Company at Litchfield, was born on the 3d of October, 1868 in Macoupin county, Illinois, and is a son of George C. and Elizabeth Shindler. His early youth was spent upon a farm and his education was acquired in the district schools of the home neighborhood. He continued to assist in the cultivation and improvement of his father's land until twenty-one years, after which he removed to Litchfield and entered the employ of the American Express Company, with which he continued for a year. He next entered the dry-goods business, with which he was identified for nine years as a clerk for Mr. Towey in

the New York store. On the expiration of that period he entered the employ of the Big Four Railroad Company, with which he continued for a year and a half and on the 1st of January, 1903, he became connected with the Wabash Railroad Company as yard clerk and bill clerk. He yet occupies these positions and the responsibility which devolves upon him is ably met, owing to his business activity, capacity and energy.

On the 1st of March, 1896, Mr. Shindler was united in marriage to Miss Jennie Allen, a native of Litchfield, who was born and reared in this city, where she has always made her home. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Shindler have been born two children: Harold A., who was born February 13, 1897, and is now seven years of age; and George Melvin, born June 4, 1902.

In his political views Mr. Shindler is a Democrat. Earnest in his advocacy of his party he believes firmly in its principles. He was township clerk of North Litchfield township in 1901 and 1902 while with the Big Four Railroad Company. Fraternally he is connected with the Tribe of Ben Hur, a beneficent insurance order. He belongs to the First Baptist church of Litchfield and while connected with mercantile interests served as a teacher in the Sunday-school, but the important and responsible duties which now devolve upon him leave him little opportunity for such work.

JAMES W. CLOTFELTER.

James Washington Clotfelter, one of the respected and reliable citizens of Hillsboro, is still interested in the stock business, although he has passed the seventy-ninth milestone on life's journey. His has been an eventful career, full of many interesting incidents. He is familiar with the pioneer experiences of Missouri, Illinois and of California, has known what it is to meet the hardships and trials incident to frontier life, to undergo hunger and to face danger. He is now spending the evening of his life amid the comforts which have been won through capable business management and unfaltering energy and in Hillsboro and Mont-

gomery county the circle of his friends is almost co-extensive with the circle of his acquaintance.

Mr. Clotfelter was born in Iredell county, North Carolina, May 25, 1825, and on the 1st of March, 1833, started with his parents from that state to Missouri, but during the first week of the journey the father died. The widowed mother, with her nine children, continued on their way and at length settled at Cape Girardeau, Missouri, but in the autumn of the same year they removed to Hillsboro, making an overland trip to this city. While enroute they camped one night on Silver creek and the members of the family with the exception of Mr. Clotfelter of this review, who was sleeping, witnessed one of the most remarkable phenomena that nature has displayed—the shower of falling meteors, in which it seemed that the heavens were falling. Mr. Clotfelter and others of the family spent their first night in Montgomery county in the house now owned by Charles Baxter on the street in Hillsboro leading to Cress Hill.

Soon after their arrival the mother moved into a cabin on the Charles Miller farm. There were then two cabins there connected by a shed and Mrs. Clotfelter and her nine children occupied one of these, while a family almost as numerous lived in the other. When two years had passed the Clotfelter family removed to the old Andrew Burk farm south of the city, and purchased the cabin and improvements for one hundred and fifteen dollars. As the years passed the children married and moved to homes of their own until there were left only the mother, one sister, who is now Mrs. William Frame, and James W., of this review. In 1846 the mother died and the household being thus broken up James W. Clotfelter started out in life on his own account. He was then twenty-one years of age. In the autumn of that year he went with his brother to Missouri, but soon returned to Montgomery county and entered the employ of a Mr. Haller. In company with others, he then started for Wisconsin, driving five hundred head of cattle to that state. Two months were consumed in making the trip and for his services Mr. Clotfelter was paid nine dollars per month. He accomplished the return journey on horseback in fifteen days and

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MRS. JAMES W. CLOTFELTER



JAMES W. CLOTFELTER

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on the way he stopped at Sycamore, where he worked for two weeks in a brickyard, receiving his board in compensation for his services. The following year he purchased nine horses, which he took to Chicago, Milwaukee and other cities, endeavoring to effect a sale, but in those days horses were not in demand and prices were low, most farmers preferring to use oxen in the tilling of the soil. Had the price of feed been anything like it is today he would have lost money in this venture, but he states that he spent one night in Chicago and that the bill for sheltering his horses and himself was one dollar and a half. After visiting two or three cities he at length succeeded in selling seven of his horses and the remaining two he traded for two yoke of oxen, which he sold for eighty dollars, and the price that he asked was so low that the purchaser thought he had stolen them, Mr. Clotfelter having a hard time in convincing him that he had traded for them. At length he arrived in Hillsboro with an old buggy and a part of the money which he had received in payment for the horses.

Three times Mr. Clotfelter has journeyed to California, making the first trip in 1850 in company with William and Ben Wilton. The tales of fiction can hardly rival the story of the hardships and trials which he endured. The three men started with others, but had gone only a short distance when William Wilton was taken ill and they were compelled to wait for two weeks until he had recovered sufficiently to resume the journey. The food supply also became low and Mr. Clotfelter and Mr. Hankerson determined that they would travel on alone, hoping that fate would be kind enough to assist them in getting through. Leaving their companions they started on foot for California. The first half of their trip was made in good time with few hardships for game was plentiful and furnished them a good supply of food, but the farther they went the scarcer the game became. After traveling some time they were joined by another man, from Springfield, Illinois. When they arrived at the desert they were nearly without food and had it not been for the berries that they occasionally found along the way they would have starved to death. When they had succeeded in crossing the desert

Mr. Clotfelter's companions were almost exhausted and it was decided that he should go on alone and wait for them at a place where they could secure something to eat. After a lonely trip he arrived one night at a wayside inn and, applying for something to eat, he was informed that he could get something if he was able to pay for it. He possessed only a five dollar bill, which he gave in exchange for two biscuits and a place to spend the night. The next morning he asked for work and was given a job at carrying hay. There he awaited his companions, who on their arrival were also given employment and the three stayed there about a day until they had rested. When they were ready to leave the proprietor told them that they could easily make plenty of money in California and as they had no money to pay their board he agreed to take their notes. While Mr. Hankerson was making out a note for forty dollars Mr. Clotfelter succeeded in getting possession of sixteen bisenits through the kindness of the cook and they once more resumed their journey, but as his companions were too weak to keep it up, it was decided that each should shift for himself and they parted company to meet again in California. On leaving the inn they had a wagon and three yoke of oxen but when afterward seen the oxen had disappeared, being consumed as food, and the wagon left behind. Mr. Clotfelter traveled night and day without a gun to protect himself from the wild animals or the Indians, and it was a desolate, lonely trip. One night, while traveling along the Carson river, he stopped near the seventeen mile desert and laid down to sleep. In the morning he found that he had used as a couch the hollow between two newly made graves.

After arriving at Weaverville, California, he began prospecting for gold and succeeded in making enough with which to return to Illinois. In 1853 he again made a trip to California and once more visited the Golden state in 1859. During the years of his residence in Montgomery county he has been engaged in the stock business and few dealers of this part of the state are better known. He is still engaged with his son Ralph in buying and selling stock and has conducted an extensive and pro-

tifiable business. In all trade transactions he is alert and enterprising, yet has never been known to take advantage of the necessities of his fellow men in any business dealing.

In 1854 occurred the marriage of Mr. Clotfelter and Miss Dorcas Bost, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Bost. They became the parents of ten children, eight of whom are now living, namely: Mrs. Thomas Williams; Mrs. Abner Cress, Mrs. Thomas M. Jett, Mrs. James P. Brown, Lizzie, Minnie, Ralph and Mrs. Dr. William A. Allen. The mother died in 1892 and Mr. Clotfelter has since resided with one of his daughters in Hillsboro. He is one of its oldest citizens and has watched its development from a little village situated in a wild and desolate district to one of the best residence towns of the state. He has been deeply interested in all that has been accomplished here and has borne his full share in the work of progress. His has, indeed, been an eventful career and his life history, if written in detail, would constitute a thrilling story. He can relate many interesting incidents of early pioneer experience in Illinois as well as of his mining life in California. His business career has been characterized by unflagging perseverance and indefatigable energy and today he stands as one of the substantial residents of Montgomery county because of his capable management and unfaltering effort.

J. R. CHAPMAN.

J. R. Chapman, who is a representative farmer of Raymond township living on section 9, is also classed with the public-spirited and prominent men of his community, where he is now serving for the second term as justice of the peace. His life record began in Greene county, Illinois, where he first opened his eyes to the light of day on the 1st of August, 1843. Descended from English ancestry, he is a grandson of Luke Chapman, who was born in England and emigrated to the United States in 1824, settling in West Virginia near Wheeling, although the state had not at that time been divided from the Old Dominion. He reared his family there and died about 1832.

His son, Judge William Chapman, who was born in Yorkshire, England, in 1817, was only about seven years of age at the time the family crossed the Atlantic to the new world. He remained in West Virginia until 1833, when in early manhood he sought a home in the west, believing that this less thickly settled district would afford better business opportunities. He made his way to Greene county, Illinois, where he was employed as a civil engineer in connection with the construction of the Great Western Railroad, now a part of the Wabash Railroad system. He was also a teacher and in this connection was actively identified with the educational development of his community. In Greene county he was married to Miss Ann M. Alverson, who was born and reared in Kentucky, and in 1852 they removed to Montgomery county, locating near Raymond, where the father entered land from the government, securing a claim of three hundred and sixty acres. Although not a furrow had been turned or an improvement made upon that place he at once began its development and continued its cultivation until it had become a productive tract. He also extended the boundaries of his farm until it comprised more than six hundred acres. He reared his family and spent his life there, being called to the home beyond in January, 1896. He was one of the prominent men of the county, serving as township treasurer for twenty years, also as supervisor and for four years as associate judge. His public duties were discharged with the utmost fidelity and capability and he took an active and helpful part in shaping the early policy of the county and in promoting its substantial upbuilding. He had a wide acquaintance and, moreover, received the respect and confidence of the entire community by reason of his upright life and general usefulness.

J. R. Chapman spent the days of his youth in Montgomery county upon the old family homestead and shared in the hardships and privations of pioneer life, assisted in the arduous task of developing a new farm and also enjoyed to the fullest extent the pleasures that were common among the pioneer people at a time when hospitality reigned supreme in every frontier home. His educational advantages

were somewhat limited, but reading, experience and observation have added greatly to his knowledge in later years and have made him a well informed man. He remained with his father until he had attained his majority and then offered his services to the government, enlisting in May, 1864, when twenty years of age as a member of Company H, One Hundred and Forty-third Illinois Infantry for one hundred days. He went south and participated in several skirmishes in Arkansas and Tennessee, but was largely engaged in guard and garrison duty. He continued with the regiment until honorably discharged in January, 1864, and then returned to his home. Farming has been his life work and in his business career he has displayed unflinching perseverance as well as keen business sagacity and energy. He broke the land upon which he lives and developed his present fine farm, comprising two hundred acres of very rich and productive land, situated within two miles of Raymond.

In 1867 Mr. Chapman was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Hendrickson, a native of Ohio, who was reared in that state. She died July 22, 1878, leaving three sons, Robert H. Chapman, who is now a resident of Denver, Colorado; Professor Gideon P. Chapman, who is principal of the high school at Divernon, Illinois; and Byron Chapman, who is engaged in the machinist business in Omaha, Nebraska. Prior to his marriage Mr. Chapman had purchased the farm and had also rented land there for a few years. At the time of his marriage he took his bride to the home which he had prepared and they lived happily together there for about fourteen years. In July, 1880, Mr. Chapman was again married, his second union being with Isabella Rogers, who was born in Macoupin county, Illinois, but was reared in Montgomery county. She passed away on the 15th of March, 1903. By this marriage there were the following children: Grace, at home; Ethel, the wife of Archibald Rhodes, a farmer of Raymond township; George, who assists in the operation of the home farm; Mary, Benjamin, Joseph R., John, Emma, Ann and Jessie, all with their father.

In matters of citizenship Mr. Chapman is public-spirited and progressive and in 1864 as

a supporter of the Republican party he proudly cast his first presidential ballot for Abraham Lincoln. He has since been unflinching in his devotion to the party and upon that ticket he was elected a member of the school board, serving for eighteen consecutive years. He is now serving his third term as justice of the peace, having been first elected in 1900 and in the discharge of his duties he displays unbiased judgment, strict equity and unflinching devotion to the trust reposed in him. Fraternally he is connected with the Knights of Pythias lodge in which he has filled all of the offices and is now a past chancellor, while in the grand lodge he has represented the subordinate organization. He is also a member of the Modern Woodmen camp and the Grand Army post, and in the latter has filled many positions, is also a past commander and has been a representative to the national encampment. His acquaintance throughout the county is extensive, for almost his entire life has been passed within its borders and his activity in business and public affairs has been such as to extend his acquaintance and win for him the highest regard and esteem.

GEORGE SIMS.

George Sims, who is engaged in general farming on section 30, Rountree township, was born in Banffshire, Scotland, November 27, 1848, his parents being William and Ann (Broadly) Sims, who in the year 1851 bade adieu to the land of the heather and crossed the Atlantic to the new world. They located in Pennsylvania, whence they afterward removed to Clinton county, Illinois, and in 1867 they arrived in Montgomery county, where they spent their remaining days, both passing away in Rountree township. Mrs. Sims died in 1885, at the age of sixty-three years, and Mr. Sims passed away in 1878, at the age of fifty-six years.

George Sims, whose name introduces this record, was a young lad when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Illinois, having been but two years of age when brought by his parents to the United States. He pursued his education in the public schools of Clinton

county and was reared to farm life, early becoming familiar with the various duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. At the age of twenty-one years he began farming on his own account and he now owns two hundred and twenty acres of fine land, all of which is well improved. This farm is the visible evidence of his life of industry and thrift, for it has come to him as the result of his energy, careful management and good business and executive ability. He has labored earnestly as the years have gone by and is now one of the substantial residents of his community.

On the 12th of October, 1893, Mr. Sims was united in marriage to Miss Florence Colvin, a daughter of James and Rachel (Davis) Colvin, the former a native of Ireland and the latter of Indiana. Mr. Colvin came to the United States when fifteen years of age and established his home in Indiana, where he followed the cabinet maker's trade. In 1872 he came to Montgomery county, locating near Butler, where he spent his remaining days, passing away in 1901, at the age of eighty years. His wife departed this life in 1875. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Sims have been born five children: Lillie, Nellie, Dewey, Cora and Lora. Mr. and Mrs. Sims hold membership with the Presbyterian church and he gives his political support to the Republican party, but has never sought or desired office, preferring to give his undivided attention to his business affairs.

HIRAM C. CUNDIFF.

Hiram C. Cundiff, who is conducting a livery stable in Coffeen, is one of the native sons of Montgomery county, his birth having occurred in Fillmore township on the 11th of April, 1841. His father, William Cundiff, was born in Kentucky, while the mother of our subject was a native of South Carolina. William Cundiff arrived in Montgomery county during the period of its early settlement and development and assisted in opening up this region to civilization. He particularly aided in reclaiming the wild land for cultivation and became an extensive farmer, owning six hundred and sixty acres, which he made very productive,

owing to the care and labor which he bestowed upon his fields. He was also extensively engaged in raising stock and always had high-grade animals upon his farm. His worth as a citizen and business man were widely acknowledged and made him one of the valued residents of this portion of the state. His death occurred in 1862, and he is now survived by only two of his thirteen children.

Hiram C. Cundiff was reared in Montgomery county and is indebted to its public school system for the early educational privileges which he enjoyed. He started out in life on his own account when twenty-three years of age, having by this time gained practical experience in the work of the farm in its various departments. He began farming and stock-raising on his own account, cultivating the cereals best adapted to soil and climate and having good grades of cattle, horses and hogs. He purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Fillmore township and then removed to Hillsboro, where he lived for a short time. Soon afterward, however, he bought a farm lying in Fillmore and East Fork townships. For twenty-one years, however, he has made his home in Coffeen. He built the first house in the town and conducted a hotel for a number of years. When the first passenger train ran through the town it stopped here and the passengers took dinner at Mr. Cundiff's home. He now owns two houses in the town and is proprietor of a livery stable which he is conducting. He also built the first livery stable in Witt. He made all of the improvements upon his farms, assisting materially in developing the county, and in his business life has so managed his affairs as to receive a good financial return.

In 1863 Mr. Cundiff was united in marriage to Miss Mildred Knight, a daughter of Joseph Knight, and they became the parents of four children, but Alma B. died at the age of twenty-three years, being accidentally killed by the train in Hillsboro in June, 1894. Those still living are: Mary Ellen, the wife of Milton Salliday, of Litchfield; Dora, the wife of Rainey Mathewson, of Coffeen; and Charles, who is married and lives in Coffeen.

Mrs. Cundiff belongs to the Free Methodist church, while Mr. Cundiff is identified with the



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Modern Woodmen camp. He votes with the Democracy and is interested in the success of his party, but has never sought or desired office, preferring to give his time and energies to his business affairs. Having always lived in Montgomery county, he has a wide acquaintance within its borders, and that many who have known him from early boyhood are numbered among his staunchest friends is an indication that his has been an honorable and upright career.

JAMES P. BANDY.

James P. Bandy, who is successfully engaged in farming in North Litchfield township, was born December 30, 1845, in Macon county, Tennessee, his parents being Wesley and Priscilla (Ozbun) Bandy, also natives of Tennessee. The father was of French descent and both the paternal and the maternal great-grandfathers were Revolutionary soldiers, serving under General Washington. The paternal great-grandfather served with Washington for seven years and fourteen days and the maternal great-grandfather was a member of the army for almost as long a period. The maternal grandfather of Mr. Bandy served in the Crete war in Florida and in the south. His daughter, Mrs. Bandy, often saw Andrew Jackson pass by her father's home, which was situated on the regularly traveled road.

Wesley Bandy remained a resident of Tennessee until 1851, when he removed to Greene county, Illinois, where he resided for three years, and in 1854 he came to Montgomery county, settling a half mile northeast of where his son, James P. Bandy, the subject of this sketch, now resides. He was accompanied on his trip to this state by four of his children. He purchased sixty-three acres of land at five dollars per acre and at the time of his death he was the owner of one hundred and thirty acres. He arrived just after the Big Four Railroad had been laid from Alton to Litchfield and there were six houses in what is now the largest city of the county. He took an active interest in what was accomplished as the county merged from pioneer conditions to take its

place among the leading counties of the commonwealth and he always bore his full share in the work of public progress. He died April 28, 1901, at the age of eighty-three years, and his wife passed away May 5, 1901, at the age of eighty-five, their remains being interred in Honey Bend cemetery of Montgomery county. Mr. Bandy was always an advocate of Democratic principles. His wife was a Methodist in religious faith and both enjoyed the esteem of many friends. They had nine children: Elizabeth, who is the widow of J. S. Bowles, and resides at Honey Bend; John F., who died in 1872; James P.; B. W., who married Kennie Blackwelder and is living in North Litchfield township; Margaret, the widow of James T. Gordon, and a resident of Litchfield; Lucy J., who married Bird Briggs, but both are now deceased, her death having occurred in 1882, since which time her son Fred P. Briggs has lived with James P. Bandy; and three children who died in infancy.

In taking up the personal history of James P. Bandy, we present to our readers the life record of one who is widely and favorably known in Montgomery county. In early life he was brought to this state and has since been deeply interested in what has been accomplished here along all lines of progress and substantial development. He was married in December, 1894, to Lucy R. Shawn, a daughter of John K. and Catherine (Adkinson) Shawn, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Tennessee. The father died when Mrs. Bandy was quite young, passing away in 1877. His widow still survives and is now the wife of Robert Briggs, of North Litchfield. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Shawn were born ten children: William, who died in infancy; Thomas, who died and was buried in California when twenty-one years of age; Fannie, who is the widow of Thomas Nevins and resides in Litchfield; James M., who married Anna Clanton and since her death makes his home with his mother; George M., who wedded Mary Vineyard and died in April, 1901, being survived by his wife and six children, his widow now living at Fort Smith, Arkansas; Joseph C., who married Flora Sawyer and is a farmer at Sitka, Oklahoma; Eugene, who died at the age

of thirteen years; Riley, who died at the age of five years; John W., who died in childhood; and Lucy R.

James P. Bandy began farming for his father in 1870 and they continued in agricultural pursuits together until the father's death. The son is now the owner of one hundred and sixty-three and a third acres of well improved land and carries on general farming with good success. In his political views he is a Democrat and religiously his wife is connected with the Baptist church at New Hope. Their home has been blessed with three children: Lester W., born June 28, 1896; Joseph P., born June 4, 1902; and Jesse F., born October 30, 1903. Mr. and Mrs. Bandy have many friends in this locality who will receive with pleasure this record of their lives.

RICHARD F. BENNETT, M. D.

Dr. Richard F. Bennett, engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery in Litchfield, having much more than local reputation as an able member of the profession, is a native of Shelby county, Illinois, his birth having occurred upon a farm there October 2, 1839. His parents were William B. and Lavina Bennett, who afforded their son such advantages and privileges as they could, especially in the line of education. He attended the common schools and afterward the Moultrie County Seminary and when but seventeen years of age he began teaching in his native county, following this pursuit in order that he might obtain the means to continue his own education and prepare for a successful business career. For three years he followed teaching and then entered upon a previously conceived plan to study medicine. He read diligently and persistently, completing his course by graduation from the medical school of Cincinnati with the class of 1861. His professional career has been one of continuous progression, reading and investigation keeping him in touch with the progress that is continually being made by the members of the medical fraternity. He has ever been conscientious in the performance of his professional duties, diagnosing his cases with great care and mani-

festing in his chosen work a knowledge that has classed him with the leading representatives of the calling in southern Illinois. He has practiced almost continuously in Litchfield since 1862, save when various professional duties have called him into other parts of the state.

Dr. Bennett is well known in political circles as a stalwart Republican, being long recognized as a leader of his party in his community. He has given the same earnest thought toward understanding the political questions, issues and conditions of the day that has characterized his professional career and largely has a statesman's grasp of affairs. In the spring of 1871 he received the party nomination for alderman in Litchfield and although living in a Democratic ward received a majority that was at once large and complimentary, indicating his personal popularity and the confidence reposed in him by those who knew him best. Elected for a second term, he proved during his incumbency in the office his deep interest in community affairs by the loyal support which he gave to further progressive measures that had for their object the substantial upbuilding and improvement of the city. So popular and efficient did he prove as a member of the council that he was then nominated for mayor and again he received the public endorsement, being chosen for the office by successive elections until he had served as chief executive of Litchfield for five consecutive terms. His administration was ever business-like, he managing the affairs of his office with due regard to the interests of the citizens at large. For almost a quarter of a century he has been a member of the school board of Litchfield and the cause of education has found in him a warm friend who has put forth effective effort in employing competent teachers and raising the standard of the public schools. In 1888 he received the Republican nomination for state senator in the thirteenth Illinois district and although the Democratic victory was a foregone conclusion he, nevertheless, made a strong canvass and reduced the usual Democratic majority more than one-half. Subsequently he was elected a state committeeman from the eighteenth congressional district and served in that capacity for four years. He has always been urged to be-



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come a congressional candidate, but has refused, preferring to remain in the active practice of his profession. Further political honors came to him in connection with his profession.

In January, 1897, he was appointed a trustee of the Incurable Insane Hospital at Peoria and in January, 1898, he resigned to accept a position on the state board of health, of which he was the treasurer for two years. In October, 1900, he was appointed superintendent of the Illinois Southern Hospital for the Insane at Anna, Illinois, the appointment coming to him from Governor Tanner without his solicitation. He tried to decline this, but was strongly urged to accept by the Governor, who was a warm personal friend, and he ultimately decided to enter upon his duties there, which position he filled until the latter part of 1903. This is one of the best institutions of the kind in the state and under the capable control of Dr. Bennett and his four assistants excellent improvements were made in the institution and in the methods of caring for the unfortunate ones there. Since his retirement from the office he has largely devoted his time to rest and recreation, spending considerable time in visiting his son, Dr. H. F. Bennett, in Chicago. He has financial interests in Litchfield, having for more than a decade been president of the Oil City Building & Loan Association and the promoter of other important commercial and industrial concerns here.

In the year of his graduation from medical college Dr. Bennett was married to Miss Elizabeth J. Storm, of Shelby county, Illinois, and unto them have been born a son and daughter. The former, Dr. H. F. Bennett, of Chicago, was graduated from a medical college of that city in 1894 and immediately afterward began practice there. At the completion of his college course he successfully passed a competitive examination whereby he was appointed to the position of interne in the Cook County Hospital and after serving for a year and a half in that capacity he was made a member of the visiting staff of the institution and has been connected therewith for the past six years. He is also professor of orthopaedic surgery in Bennett Medical College, but in October of the present year (1904) he expects to come to Litchfield

to enter upon the active practice of medicine with his father. His nine years' experience in connection with the Cook County Hospital as well as the duties of a good private practice in Chicago have well qualified him for his chosen life work and his services will prove invaluable in this community. The daughter, Marie Bennett, is a graduate of the Northwestern University at Evanston, Illinois, with the class of June, 1899.

Dr. Bennett has various fraternal relations in Litchfield, being a member of the Masonic, Odd Fellows, and Knights of Pythias lodges and the Modern Woodmen camp. After some months of rest and recreation he has recently resumed the practice of his profession in Litchfield, commanding a patronage which indicates the consensus of public opinion in regard to his superior professional skill. He has a wide acquaintance among prominent physicians and the noted political leaders of the state and has gained the friendship and warm regard of many of the leading men of Illinois.

W. H. CASSELBERRY.

W. H. Casselberry, who is one of the owners of the electric light plant at Nokomis and an active energetic business man, was born near Bellevue, Illinois, in 1860, and is a son of Charles and Louisa Casselberry. His father was born in Indiana in 1815, spent his youth there and afterward removed to Illinois, settling near Belleville, where he carried on general farming. In 1866 he came to Montgomery county, taking up his abode near Hillsboro, where he purchased a tract of land, becoming one of the extensive farmers of that locality. His attention was largely given to the raising of grain. In politics he was a Democrat, but he never sought office. Being a man of quiet demeanor and reserved disposition he never sought to figure in any light before the public. He died in 1883, while his wife passed away in 1872. They were the parents of nine children, of whom eight are now living.

W. H. Casselberry was reared in Montgomery county and is indebted to its public-school sys-

tem for the educational privileges he enjoyed. He began farming with his father and continued to engage in agricultural pursuits until about December, 1901, when he removed to Nokomis. He had cultivated three hundred acres of land and was largely engaged in the raising of cattle for the market. Most of the grain which he produced was fed to his stock. Although he entered upon his business career with no capital he is now the owner of two hundred and eighty acres of valuable farming land—a fact which indicates his business ability, careful management and indefatigable industry. Upon his removal to Nokomis he engaged in the electric lighting business in connection with J. H. Crickenberger and they are still partners in this enterprise. The plant was incorporated in 1894 by George Bliss and R. E. Cornelius and they do a business in commercial, street and residence lighting, having a well equipped plant. In fact theirs is one of the best of the kind to be found in Montgomery county and has been continuously operated with a break of only fifteen minutes in five years. They give excellent service to their patrons and their business is continually increasing. Mr. Casselberry purchased a half interest in the plant with Mr. Crickenberger and they have since been associated in its operation. He also derives a good income from his farm, which he now rents. It is one of the best improved farming properties in Montgomery county, he having spent much time and money in its development, and upon the place is a fine residence which was erected at a cost of four thousand dollars.

In August, 1886, Mr. Casselberry was married to Miss Rosella Gray, a daughter of I. N. Gray, of Nokomis, who was reared in this county. They became the parents of five children, of whom four are living, namely: Rosella, Ruth Ann, Agnes Kittie and Josephine, all at home. Mr. and Mrs. Casselberry hold membership in the Baptist church and he is identified with the Odd Fellows, the Masons and the Woodmen of Nokomis, while his political allegiance is given to the Democracy. He purchased a residence in Nokomis on his removal to the town and the home is noted for its generous hospitality, which is freely extended

to the many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Casselberry.

OLIVER LEWEY.

Prominent among the honored early settlers of Montgomery county was numbered Oliver Lewey, who was born in Guilford county, North Carolina, June 16, 1813, and was reared upon a farm in that state. Although he never served an apprenticeship to either trade he became proficient as a shoemaker and carpenter. When a young man he left North Carolina for Illinois and on reaching Montgomery county he entered from the government the tract of land on which his son Christopher was born. It comprised ninety acres, wild and unimproved, and with characteristic energy he began to develop the fields.

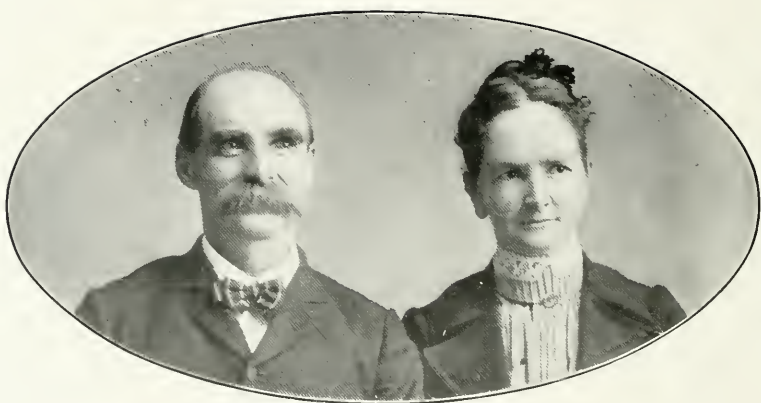
Mr. Lewey married Miss Jane Stephenson, a native of Tennessee and a daughter of William Stephenson, one of the early settlers of Montgomery county. They became the parents of seven children, namely: William, now deceased; Albert, who lives on the home farm; Mary, wife of John Grassell, of Butler Grove township; Christopher C., a farmer of Hillsboro township; Mattie, wife of Rufus Paden, of Hillsboro township; and two who died in infancy.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewey began their domestic life upon the original claim which he had secured in Hillsboro township, but about 1860 removed to another farm, upon which he spent his remaining days. He was successful in business affairs, developing a valuable property and deriving a good income from his crops. His political support was given the Republican party and he was a man of many good qualities which won the respect of those with whom he was associated. His death occurred in 1886, while his wife passed away in 1872.

CHRISTOPHER C. LEWEY.

Christopher C. Lewey has spent his entire life in Montgomery county, identified with agricultural pursuits throughout the years of his

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manhood, and his industry has formed the basis of very desirable and gratifying success. His birth occurred December 10, 1853, on section 28, Hillsboro township. His father was Oliver Lewey, whose sketch appears on another page of this volume.

The boyhood days of Christopher C. Lewey passed in the usual manner of farmer lads, in attendance on the district schools and in farm work, for he early became familiar with the labor of field and meadow. He has never sought to change his occupation but has always engaged in the tilling of the soil, and has found it a profitable source of income, because he has labored diligently and persistently. The farm which he now occupies has been his home since he was five years of age, with the exception of eleven months spent in Hillsboro, and he has one hundred and seventy acres in his home place and eighty acres on section 25, of the same township. He carries on general farming and stock-raising, and his farm is located on the Greenville and Jacksonville road, three miles south and one mile west of Hillsboro.

Mr. Lewey was married April 4, 1883, to Miss Mary Blackburn, of Litchfield township, a daughter of Jabez and Mary (Smith) Blackburn. Her father was born in England, November 7, 1823, and was brought to America by his parents in 1831. After two years spent in New York they removed to St. Louis, where they also remained for two years. In 1853 they came to Montgomery county, settling in Litchfield, and in 1866 took up their abode in Hillsboro township, where Mr. Blackburn followed farming for a number of years. His last years, however, were spent in retirement from labor in Hillsboro, where he died January 5, 1895. His wife, who was born in St. Clair county, Illinois, May 1, 1830, is living with our subject.

In his political views Mr. Lewey is a Republican but has never been an aspirant for office, preferring to devote his attention to his business affairs, in which he has met with well merited success. He belongs to the Mutual Protective League and he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church in Hillsboro. In that city and in their home locality they have many friends, won by those

sterling traits of character which everywhere command respect and confidence.

RICHARD LEE WILTON.

Richard Lee Wilton is a representative of one of the distinguished families of Montgomery county and is well known in business circles in Hillsboro. He was born in Bond county, Illinois, about four miles north of Greenville, on the 19th of December, 1858. His father, Benjamin Franklin Wilton, was born in Carlisle, Clinton county, Illinois, in 1830, while the grandfather, Harry Wilton, was a native of England and was brought to America by his parents in his infancy, at which time the family home was established in Kaskaskia. Benjamin F. Wilton acquired his education in one of the early academies of Illinois and in his boyhood days he accompanied his parents on their removal to Hillsboro, where the father owned what is now known as the Tillson place. The son became proprietor of the first livery stable in Montgomery county in Hillsboro and continued with good success until 1880. In 1885 he went to Mexico, where he conducted a livery business for a year, but remained in that country for nine years, being interested in mining affairs during the greater part of the time. He had been identified with the mining development of California during the era following the discovery of gold on the Pacific coast, having journeyed to that far off state in 1850. He prospered in his search for the precious metal and brought back with him a nugget valued at six hundred and seventy-four dollars. He had spent two years in the mines and with a comfortable competence he returned to Illinois and became a factor in the business life of Hillsboro, where he remained until 1881, when he retired to enjoy the fruits of his former toil.

In 1853 Benjamin F. Wilton was married to Sarah C. Harkey, a daughter of Solomon Harkey, who was born in North Carolina in 1806. He entered upon his business career as a tanner and in 1833 he removed to Hillsboro, Illinois, where he conducted a tanning enterprise for ten years. He then turned his at-

tention to farming and became the owner of six hundred and fifty-three acres of land in Hillsboro township, Montgomery county, and two hundred acres in Wisconsin. He was also a noted horseman and owned some of the fastest horses raised in this portion of the state. He married Sophia Cress, a sister of Jacob Cress, who had married Mrs. Eleanor T. (McHenry) Evans. Mr. and Mrs. Harkey became the parents of nine children, of whom Mrs. Wilton was the third in order of birth. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Wilton were seven in number, five of whom reached mature years, namely: William, who conducts a goat and horse ranch in Arizona; Richard L.; Benjamin, who is a railroad conductor in Mexico; Harry, a commercial traveler residing in Hillsboro; and Katherine, the wife of Lewis Whitmore, of El Paso, Texas. The parents are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Wilton is a Democrat in his political affiliations. He served for a number of years as constable and has ever been active in support of public measures that have for their object the welfare and progress of the community in which almost his entire life has been passed.

Richard L. Wilton acquired his education in the schools of Hillsboro, and at the early age of twelve years began working in his father's livery barn, being there employed until 1882. Having then attained his majority he engaged in the livery business on his own account in connection with John Edwards and they built the Harkey barn on Depot street. In the fall of 1882 Mr. Wilton traded his interest in the building to Jacob Harkey, his uncle, for the stock. Mr. Harkey having previously purchased Mr. Edwards' interest. Mr. Wilton then conducted business alone in the Harkey barn until 1894, when he purchased the large brick barn, then incomplete, on the northwest corner of the courthouse square, where he is to-day engaged in business. He has a fine stable, a large line of modern vehicles of all descriptions and a number of good horses so that he is well prepared to meet the demands of the public in this line. He has secured a liberal patronage and he has also extended his efforts to other business enterprises, being one of the stock-

holders in the Hillsboro Hotel and also in the Hillsboro Electric Railway Company.

In 1884 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Wilton and Miss Ida Isabel Varner, a daughter of Zachariah Varner, who became a resident of Hillsboro in 1882. Her father was a farmer by occupation. Mrs. Wilton was born in Moultrie county, Illinois, in 1868, and by her marriage has become the mother of two children: Foster Lynn and Clara Marie. Mr. Wilton is connected with the Modern Woodmen camp, while his wife is a member of the ladies' auxiliary. He votes with the Democracy and while keeping well informed on the questions and issues of the day has never sought public office, preferring to give his attention to his business affairs, which, capably conducted, have brought to him a very desirable measure of success.

FRANK SPINNER.

Frank Spinner, possessing many of the sterling characteristics of his German ancestry, has prospered in his business career until he is now the owner of a valuable farm of two hundred acres, situated in East Fork township, Montgomery county. He was born in Baden, Germany, June 11, 1842, and his parents, Valentine and Teresa (Walley) Spinner, were natives of the fatherland. The former was a farmer by occupation and died in Germany.

Frank Spinner spent twenty-five years in his native country, during which time he attended the public schools and was early taught the force of industry and economy in the active affairs of life. Hearing favorable reports concerning the opportunities of the new world he resolved to seek his fortune in America and in 1867 he crossed the Atlantic. He arrived in Montgomery county in 1869 and purchased the farm upon which Amos Frame now resides. He planted every tree and made all of the improvements upon the place. In 1890, however, he purchased the home place of two hundred acres, which he now occupies. The buildings were in very bad condition and tearing down the structures which were used in the pioneer days he replaced them with modern buildings and now has a good residence, a substantial

barn and good sheds. He raises both grain and stock and in his fields are seen good crops, while in the pastures are found high grade cattle and horses. He had to pay three hundred and fifty dollars for a team in the early days of his residence here, while corn was purchased at one dollar per bushel and oats at seventy-five cents per bushel. He thus started out in life at a time when prices were very high, but he persevered in his undertakings, displayed capable management in his affairs and as the result of his energy and perseverance made steady progress and is now one of the substantial farmers of his county.

In 1867 Mr. Spinner was united in marriage to Miss Mary Welle, a native of Baden, Germany, who came to America at the same time Mr. Spinner crossed the Atlantic. They have become the parents of twelve children, of whom seven are now living, namely: Frank R., who is married and resides in this county; Henry; Eva, who is also married; Lizzie, Joseph, Anton and Louis, all at home. The parents and children are communicants of the Catholic church. Mr. Spinner's study of the questions and issues of the day has led him to give his political support in America to the Democracy, but he has never sought or desired office, preferring to give his attention to his business affairs. The hope that led him to America has been more than realized for here he found the business opportunities he sought, which, by the way, are always open to any ambitious young man and through the force of his character, his unflinching determination and his capable management he has gained prosperity, being now the possessor of one of the fine farms of the county.

JOHN W. DRISKELL.

Among the intelligent, enterprising and progressive farmers of Zanesville township is numbered John W. Driskell, who resides on section 21 and is there engaged in the raising of grain and stock, having a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which indicates his careful supervision in its neat and thrifty appearance. He was born in Macoupin county, Illinois, March

26, 1851, and is the son of Marshall Driskell, who is mentioned on another page of this volume. His boyhood days were spent on his father's farm and he mastered the branches of English learning taught in the public schools when not occupied with the duties of the home farm. His labors are largely given to his father and he assisted in the cultivation of the old homestead until twenty-eight years of age.

Mr. Driskell was married in Montgomery county in 1878 to Miss Ella K. Rogers, who was born and reared in Indiana and is a daughter of John Rogers, one of the early settlers of the Hoosier state, where he spent his last days. Mr. Driskell purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land, which he at once began to cultivate and upon this place made some substantial improvements before he was married. He took his bride to this farm and as his financial resources increased, owing to his earnest labor and careful management, he bought more land. He also built a good house and barn and planted fruit trees. He placed his fields under a high state of cultivation and raised high grades of stock, making a specialty of feeding cattle and hogs for the market.

In 1895 Mr. Driskell was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died on the home farm on the 6th of January of that year, leaving one son, Cecil, who is now a student in St. Louis. They also lost two children. After the death of his wife Mr. Driskell returned to his father's farm and rented a large part of his own land. He now farms his father's place, but also gives his supervision to his own property and is widely acknowledged in this community as an enterprising agriculturist, whose business methods are practical and at the same time have ever been in keeping with the modern ideas of progress.

Politically he is a staunch Democrat, supporting the men and measures of his party, yet never seeking or desiring office. He served however, for four years as township school trustee. He is a member of the Christian church and his life has ever been honorable and upright. In his business career he has never been known to take advantage of the neces-

sities of his fellow men, but has been straightforward in his dealings and his integrity in business transactions has been one of the salient features in his success.

ALBERT FISHER.

Albert Fisher, who is one of the prominent farmers and stock-raisers and feeders of Zanesville township, owning and cultivating a farm of one hundred and fifty-eight acres on section 16, is classed with the successful agriculturists of central Illinois and is one of the native sons of the state. He was born in Greene county, February 9, 1850, and is a son of Reuben and Mary A. (Dabbs) Fisher. The father was likewise born in Greene county, while the grandfather, John Fisher, was a native of Kentucky. He came from the south to Illinois when pioneer conditions existed in Greene county and there he cast in his lot with the early residents. Reuben Fisher was reared to manhood upon the old homestead farm there and assisted in the arduous task of its primitive development, working at farm labor when the machinery used necessitated much hand work, there being few of the highly improved machines that now render the labor of the agriculturist comparatively easy. He was married to Miss Mary A. Dabbs and they began their domestic life in Greene county, where he carried on agricultural pursuits for a number of years and where our subject was born. Hoping that his financial condition might be benefited by a removal to Montgomery county, he took up his abode in North Litchfield township in 1852, but was not long permitted to enjoy his new home, his death there occurring about 1854 or 1855. His widow, surviving him, reared her children and later married again and she lived for some time after the death of her second husband.

Albert Fisher, whose name introduces this record, spent his boyhood days in Montgomery county, early becoming familiar with farm work. He had fair common-school advantages and his training in the labors of the fields was by no means meager, but brought to him an experience that has proven of much value to

him, as he has carried on agricultural pursuits in later life. He commenced for himself in a small way, first purchasing forty acres of land in North Litchfield township, where he located after his marriage. The purchase was made on the installment plan, but in due course of time he discharged the indebtedness and he continued to cultivate his own and also rent land, carrying on farming there with a fair measure of success for a number of years. At length, however, he sold that property and bought one hundred and sixty acres in Zanesville township, where he resided for four years. Then again selling he bought his present farm, which is situated on section 16, Zanesville township. Here he has carried on general farming until his fields are highly cultivated and return golden harvests for the care and labor bestowed upon them. He has also engaged in raising good grades of stock and he feeds and fattens stock for the market. The secret of his success is found in the one word "work," for he has labored earnestly and persistently year after year. When the sale of his crops brought to him a financial return greater than was necessary for the immediate needs of his family he would make investment in land and in addition to the home farm he now owns four hundred acres of land in Marshall county, Minnesota, which is also improved.

In 1871 in Hillsboro occurred the marriage of Mr. Fisher and Miss Martha Hughes, who was born in Jersey county, Illinois. They traveled life's journey together for about twenty-two years and in 1893 Mr. Fisher was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died, leaving two sons and two daughters. Elmer G., the eldest of the family, was born August 25, 1872, and died January 15, 1879. Those still living are: Hattie R., born December 17, 1874; Reuben H., born June 4, 1878; Fred L., born December 19, 1880; and Flora E., born July 28, 1887. All are married and have gone to homes of their own with exception of Flora, who is still with her father.

In November, 1895, Mr. Fisher was again married, his second union being with Miss Emma Osborn, a daughter of James and Mary E. (Moore) Osborn. Her birth occurred in Kansas, but she was reared in this state. There



ALBERT FISHER

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are two children by this marriage: Ferris, born October 13, 1896; and Fern, born September 13, 1900.

Politically Mr. Fisher is a Republican and his reading and study of political issues has enabled him to give intelligent support to the party and to uphold his position by strong argument. His first presidential vote was probably cast for General Grant in 1872, and although he has never wavered in allegiance to the party he has never sought or desired office. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Raymond. Living in the county which has been his home from his youth down to the present time, he has borne himself as an active and progressive citizen, co-operating in many measures for the public good, while at the same time he has carried on his business affairs in a capable manner that has resulted in the acquirement of a handsome competence.

HENRY H. HITCHINGS.

Henry H. Hitchings is one of the substantial and successful farmers and stock-raisers and stock-dealers of Raymond township, making his home on section 14, where he has a valuable tract of land of three hundred and sixty-five acres. He also owns five hundred acres more in different tracts, all in Montgomery county, and his property is well improved, the land being rich and productive. His has been an active and useful business career and he dates his residence in the county from 1857, so that he is numbered among the honored pioneer residents of this portion of the state.

Mr. Hitchings was born in Syracuse, New York, December 27, 1837, and was a son of Hon. J. P. Hitchings, who during the boyhood days of his son, Henry H., removed with his family from New York to Michigan, settling in Jackson county, where he secured a tract of raw land and opened up a farm. There he reared his family, successfully conducted agricultural interests and at the same time found opportunity to assist materially in the early development and progress of this portion of the state.

His son, Henry H. Hitchings, was the second in order of birth in a family of ten children, seven sons and three daughters, all of whom reached mature years, while one sister and five brothers are yet living. The father with his family removed to Illinois in 1857, settling in Montgomery county, where he secured a tract of wild land, which he transformed into rich fields. He was the first supervisor of his township and was influential in shaping the public policy and promoting the early pioneer development of this portion of the state. He served for two years as a member of the Michigan legislature. He was a well educated man and served as a teacher in both Michigan and Illinois, his labors proving a marked benefit in promoting the intellectual progress of the state at an early day.

Henry H. Hitchings was reared to manhood in Michigan and when a young man came to Illinois, making his way to Montgomery county in 1857. He began working on a farm by the month and was thus employed for three years, during which time he saved his earnings and thus accumulated the capital which enabled him to purchase a small place of thirty acres. Afterward he bought forty acres additional of swamp land and at once began to improve his property. After cultivating the tract for some years he sold that property and bought raw land where he now resides, covering a tract of two hundred acres. This land was entirely unimproved, but with characteristic energy he began to break the fields and plant crops and in course of time he gathered good harvests. As his financial resources increased he bought more land from time to time and has become one of the most extensive property owners of the county, now owning nearly one thousand acres in three different tracts, all of which are well improved. He has been engaged in the raising and feeding of stock for many years and annually feeds and ships about five carloads of fat cattle. In 1895 he established a store at Harvel, which is now conducted by his daughter, Clara E. Hitchings, who is a partner in this enterprise. Mr. Hitchings displays excellent business ability, is quick to recognize opportunities and through his business foresight

and energy he has won very gratifying and enviable success.

In 1861 Mr. Hitchings was married in Montgomery county to Miss Martha E. Welker, who was born in Illinois and spent her girlhood days in Montgomery county and her death occurred about 1865. There were two children by this union: George H., who is now a farmer in Nebraska; and Clara, who is her father's partner in the store previously mentioned. Mr. Hitchings was again married, his second union occurring in the fall of 1871, when Margaret J. King became his wife. She was born and reared in Indiana and by her marriage has become the mother of seven children: John M., who is married; Eliza J., the wife of William C. Redham, a farmer of Raymond township; John Marshall, who is married and is an agriculturist of this county; Ella Jane, the wife of Willis Pope, who follows farming near Harvel; William, who conducts a barber shop in Harvel; and Catherine and Carleton, at home.

Mr. Hitchings was one of the organizers of the Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company in 1892, formed as an insurance protection for residents of Montgomery and Bond counties. He was elected and has served as one of its directors from the organization and is also treasurer. Politically he is a stanch Democrat, supporting the party since casting his first presidential vote for Stephen A. Douglas in 1860. He was elected and served as supervisor for one term, but has never been active in political circles as an office-seeker, preferring to give his time and attention to his business interests. He has proved himself a successful farmer and capable business man and is well known in Hillsboro, Litchfield and Montgomery county as a gentleman of integrity, whose word is considered as good as any bond that was ever solemnized by signature or seal. He stands as a man among men, having led an active, useful and honorable life and through unremitting diligence and careful management he has become one of the wealthy agriculturists of his community. A Master Mason, he belongs to the lodge at Raymond and he is a member of the Baptist church, which receives his earnest endorsement and lib-

eral support. Mrs. Hitchings is a member of the Methodist church.

G. E. GAINS.

G. E. Gains, well known in Montgomery county, is engaged in the manufacture of lumber and also in general farming in East Fork township. He is a native son of Illinois, his birth having occurred in Bond county, May 18, 1873, his parents being George and Louisa Almira (Hamilton) Gains. His father was born in Andersonville, Kentucky, but was reared in Montgomery county, Illinois, becoming one of the early residents of this part of the state, being brought here by his parents. He followed farming for many years and gradually added to his income through his strong purpose, indomitable energy and business ability. In politics he was a Republican, but always refused office. He died in 1884, but his widow still survives him and is now residing in Donnellson. They were the parents of three children, two of whom are now living, G. E., of this review; and Lillie, wife of John Wright, of East Fork township.

Although born in Bond county, G. E. Gains was reared in East Fork township and he pursued his education in its district schools. When not engaged with the duties of the schoolroom and the pleasures of the playground his time was largely occupied with the work of the fields, for he received practical training in farm labor and had close and intimate knowledge of agriculture and its various departments when he started out in life for himself at the age of twenty years. He now manages his mother's farm of one hundred and thirty acres in East Fork township. He has recently completed a new barn. He raises grain and stock and he also has a portable sawmill, the operation of which he gives considerable time and attention. His life record has been characterized by indefatigable energy and he has never jumped to hasty conclusions, but has given due consideration to all business matters that have come up for settlement and has made therefore few mistakes in his career as an agriculturist and lumberman.



MR. AND MRS. GEORGE GAINS



G. E. GAINS



MRS. G. E. GAINS



MR. AND MRS. JAMES SNOW

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On the 20th of September, 1893, Mr. Gains was married to Miss Anna Snow, who was born in this county, December 23, 1876, her parents being James and Catherine (Kimbro) Snow, both natives of Bond county, Illinois. They came to Montgomery county in 1902 and now reside in Coffeen. In their family were ten children, six of whom are still living. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Gains have been born five children: Beatrice C., born March 14, 1895; Ruby A., born October 29, 1896; Harry E., who was born August 30, 1898, and died July 18, 1900; May, born March 12, 1901; and Ruth, born September 7, 1903.

Mr. and Mrs. Gains belong to the Methodist Episcopal church at Donnellson and are interested in its work and progress, bearing a helpful part in many of the church activities. As every true American citizen should do, Mr. Gains keeps well informed on the political questions and issues of the day and as his ideas are in harmony with principles of the Republican party he gives to that organization a stalwart support. Although yet a young man, he has gained a success that many an older one might well envy and he has made in this county, which has so long been his home, an enviable reputation for straightforward dealing.

MARVIN THUMB.

Marvin Thumb now occupies a fine brick residence situated on a farm on section 19, Witt township, and the home with its surroundings is indicative of the enterprising and progressive spirit of the owner, who is a native of the Empire state. His birth occurred in what was then Montgomery county, New York, but is now Fulton county, New York, March 14, 1830. His parents, Levi and Mary (Flander) Thumb, were also natives of New York, but were of German descent. The father was a farmer by occupation and in the spring of 1855 he removed from New York to Montgomery county, Illinois, devoting his energies to agricultural pursuits in Witt township. About ten years prior to his death he retired from business life and removed to Irving, where he passed away in 1889 at the age of eighty-

one years. His wife passed away about 1855 at the age of forty-five years.

Marvin Thumb after attending the common schools became a student in Watertown College of New York, and later engaged in farming with his father. He came to Montgomery county, Illinois, a few weeks after his father's arrival and engaged in the cultivation of the latter's land for a number of years. In 1869 he erected the house which he now occupies, a large and commodious brick residence, which is tastefully furnished and makes a very comfortable and attractive home for his family. He now owns one hundred and fifty-four acres of land, which is well improved, being naturally arable and productive and responding quickly to the care and cultivation bestowed upon it by the owner.

On the 10th of March, 1853, Mr. Thumb was joined in wedlock to Miss Sarah Cross, a daughter of James and Deborah (Slocum) Cross, also natives of New York. Her father died in 1860, at the age of sixty years, and her mother passed away in 1865, at the age of fifty-nine years. Mr. and Mrs. Thumb became the parents of five children: James, who was born November 29, 1853, and died in 1873; Mary, who was born May 14, 1855, and is the wife of Thomas Johnson, who resides west of Irving; Helen, who was born December 30, 1859, and is the wife of Irving Gregory of Oklahoma; Libby, who was born June 16, 1862, and is the wife of William Ransdell, of Witt township; and Ralph, who was born December 23, 1871, and is living upon the home farm, which he is operating. He was married January 4, 1898, to Emma Lipe, and they have two children, Mabel and Mary.

Mr. and Mrs. Thumb attend the Lutheran church and he became a member of the Masonic fraternity at Chaumont, New York, in 1851, but has in recent years taken a dimit. Before the organization of the township he was appointed supervisor by the county judge. He has always given his political allegiance to the Democracy and has had firm faith in the principles of that party. At the time of the Civil war he responded to the country's call for troops in September, 1864, enlisting in Company D, Forty-seventh Illinois Infantry.

He participated in the capture of Mobile and several other engagements and was discharged at Mobile, December 5, 1865. He is now a member of Knight Post, No. 266, G. A. R. Having long made his home in this county he has a wide acquaintance and the sterling traits of his character are so many and so commendable that his circle of friends has continually increased.

WILLIAM L. SEYMOUR.

William L. Seymour is one of the prominent business men of Montgomery county, actively and successfully engaged in business in Raymond, where he has been located for sixteen years. He was born near Hillsboro, November 16, 1865, and is a son of William D. Seymour, whose birth occurred in Lawrence county, South Carolina, in 1823. His paternal grandfather, Wesley Seymour, was born in 1798 and is of English ancestry, the family having been established in Alabama when the first representatives of the name crossed the Atlantic to the new world. Wesley Seymour removed from the south to Illinois, becoming one of the earliest settlers of Montgomery county, casting in his lot with the pioneer residents about 1825. He opened up a farm in the vicinity of Hillsboro and there resided for about fifty years, during which time he took an active and helpful part in promoting the substantial improvement and upbuilding of the county. In 1875 he removed to Kansas and spent his last years at Columbus, where he died in 1891 at the advanced age of ninety-two years.

William D. Seymour was reared to manhood in Montgomery county upon the old family homestead and aided in the arduous task of developing the fields. His education was acquired in the Hillsboro Academy and with broad knowledge to aid him in the active affairs of life he entered upon his business career, wherein he won success by unrelenting diligence and unflinching perseverance. He was married in this county to Elizabeth Christian, a native of Kentucky, who came to Illinois in early womanhood. Her father, Thomas Christian, was one of the pioneer residents in this

community. Mr. Seymour carried on farming in Montgomery county and here reared his family. He was respected among the prominent and substantial citizens, for he ever manifested a deep interest in general progress, co-operating in many measures for public benefit, and in his business life was always straightforward and honorable. He served as school commissioner of the county and the cause of education found in him a warm friend. He died November 12, 1886, at the age of sixty-three years. In his family were eight children who reached adult age, while three sons and four daughters are yet living.

William L. Seymour was reared upon the old home farm in the usual manner of lads of the period, having perhaps better advantages than some and less than others. After attending the country schools he became a student in the Hillsboro high school. He remained with his father until the latter's death and when nineteen years of age he began teaching, which profession he followed for three years. In 1888 he came to Raymond with his brother Dr. J. R. Seymour and purchased a drug store, which they conducted together until February, 1893, when W. L. Seymour purchased his brother's interest and continued the business until 1894, when he sold out. Later, however, he again purchased a drug store and has since continued in this line of trade, building up a good establishment and enjoying a liberal share of the public patronage.

In community affairs Mr. Seymour has exerted considerable influence and is recognized as an important factor in public progress here. He cast his first presidential ballot for Benjamin Harrison and has always been deeply interested in the success and growth of the Republican party. He served on the Republican central committee for a number of years and during two years of that time was its chairman. He was elected tax collector for 1891 and 1892 and in 1894 was chosen by popular suffrage for the position of county clerk, which position he capably filled for four years. During that period he resided in Hillsboro. He then returned to Raymond and, purchasing a drug store, resumed business as one of the enterprising merchants of the town. He has

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W. L. SEYMOUR



MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM D. SEYMOUR

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since served as a member of the school board here and was its president for two years. He is now a member of the village board and in 1902 he was appointed postmaster, which position he still holds. No public trust reposed in him has ever been betrayed in the slightest degree, his loyalty in citizenship being one of the salient features in his career.

On the 29th of January, 1890, Mr. Seymour was married in Raymond to Miss Cora A. Parrott, a daughter of D. J. Parrott, one of the early settlers of Montgomery county, removing from Kentucky. Mrs. Seymour was born, reared and educated in Raymond and by her marriage has become the mother of four living sons: Robert H., W. Burrell, Kenneth L. and Harold R. They also lost two children in infancy, Bernice and Hubert.

Mr. Seymour is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, has filled all of the chairs in Raymond lodge and is a past grand. He is also connected with the Knights of Pythias fraternity, is a charter member and is now master of the exchequer. His entire life has been passed in Montgomery county and he deserves mention not only as a representative of one of the oldest and most honored pioneer families, but also because of the active and helpful part which he has taken in community affairs along business and financial lines. He is thoroughly identified with the interests of the people and the material, social and intellectual progress have been promoted through his co-operation.

HARRY WILTON.

As the progress or prosperity of a nation is the result of the aggregate endeavor of its individual citizens, so the history of a nation is the record of the aggregate achievements of its people. Biography thus becomes the very foundation upon which must rest all general history of mankind. The importance of making permanent record of the life work of men who are worthy such distinction can not be overestimated. No record of Montgomery county would be complete without mention of Harry Wilton, who was for many years identi-

fied with agricultural interests but was more widely known as a Democratic leader, his labors and counsel largely shaping the policy of the party in Illinois. He was the friend and associate of many of the most distinguished political leaders of the state and he left the impress of his individuality upon public progress. A native of Cambridgeshire, England, he was born on the 4th of July, 1794, at Stapleford, about five miles from the famous Cambridge University. His father, Henry Wilton, was a farmer owning a tract of land there which he sold when his son Harry was but three years of age. He then emigrated with his family to the new world, settling in Delaware county, New York, where he purchased a farm, successfully continuing its cultivation for some time. Later he sold there and started for Illinois with the intention of settling in Kaskaskia, but journeyed no further than Shawneetown. It was in May, 1811, that the family started from New York, but an accident delayed their arrival until fall of that year, when the mother died.

Harry Wilton received but limited educational privileges. He attended school, however, for three months in Kaskaskia, where he was the guest of Samuel Pope, then secretary to the territory of Illinois. In his youth he was engaged in cutting wood for thirty-seven cents per cord, and when nineteen years of age he carried the mail on horseback between St. Genevieve, Missouri, and Morganfield, Kentucky, being thus engaged for two and a half years. He then conducted the store owned by Hon. Leonard White, who was then agent for the United States Salt Works at Equality, Galatin county. In 1817 he removed to Carlisle, purchased an old French right and subsequently entered two sections of land, upon which he settled, carrying on farming operations for eight years. His deep interest in public affairs and his fitness for leadership caused him to be called from the retirement of the farm to public life and in 1818 he was elected first sheriff of Washington county. In 1825 he was appointed deputy circuit clerk and in 1827 was appointed circuit clerk, which position he filled for several years. At the same time he was postmaster of Carlisle, was justice of the peace

and postmaster of the Clinton county militia. He filled the office of recorder of deeds, was United States deputy marshal and judge of the county court, serving upon the bench in all for four years. He then resigned for two reasons, one that the salary was not sufficient to support his family, the fees amounting only to about two hundred dollars a year, while secondly he did not consider himself competent to discharge the duties of the office in setting judgment upon his fellow men. He was entirely without self-conceit and while always willing to do his duty he never wished to hold an office if he felt that others were better qualified to discharge the duties thereof. In 1833, entirely without his solicitation, his friends secured for him from President Andrew Jackson the appointment to the position of United States marshal of the state of Illinois and his splendid record in that office won him re-appointment under the same administration and also from Martin Van Buren and Franklin Pierce. He resigned about the middle of the administration of President Pierce after an incumbency that covered fourteen years. He was prompted to this step by his repugnance to the fugitive slave law, which at times he was called upon to enforce. One act of his service while filling the position of United States marshal won him national fame. He was instructed by the secretary of war, Jefferson Davis, to call out the United States troops to remove the squatters and trespassers from Rock Island, which was a government reservation. The trespassers were employes of the state of Illinois engaged in constructing a bridge across the Mississippi river at that point. Mr. Wilton refused to obey orders *vi et armis*, believing it to be not only unconstitutional, but a harsh and irritating measure. Caleb Cushing, who was then attorney general, gave the opinion that he had the legal right to use force. Instead of acting upon this opinion Mr. Wilton persuaded the secretary of war to bring suit on ejectment and received instructions for this course. The case was finally taken to Washington, Reverdy Johnson representing the Rock Island Railroad Company, who were virtually the defendants, while Caleb Cushing conducted the suit for the government. The case went for the defendants and was then looked

upon as a triumph of state rights. In the meantime the squatters had left Rock Island. Mr. Wilton's common sense and moderation in this instance saved the government thousands of dollars and many lives, and his fame and wisdom spread through the land.

It was during this period in his life that Mr. Wilton became a very prominent and influential factor in Illinois politics. Simultaneously with the visit of President Van Buren to Springfield in 1842 occurred the death of the Democratic nominee for governor—Adam W. Snyder—and a meeting to choose his successor was held. Mr. Wilton was the unanimous choice for chairman of the meeting and on motion of Murray McConnell he was empowered to secure a committee to nominate a new candidate. Having appointed the committee his own name was by unanimous vote added to it and finally the choice of the candidate was left entirely to him. He named Thomas Ford, who was elected. Mr. Wilton also virtually nominated Governor French and it was through his influence that Stephen A. Douglas was appointed to the first public office which he held—that of district attorney for the judicial district which included Morgan, Sangamon and other counties. Mr. Wilton was also the first to suggest the name of the Little Giant of Illinois for United States senator and was mainly instrumental in securing his election. He afterward received letters from the distinguished statesman thankfully acknowledging his aid and expressing the deepest obligation for his active friendship. Mr. Wilton was on terms of intimacy with the leading statesmen of his time, covering the period from the administration of Andrew Jackson to that of James Buchanan. In the latter he served as United States pension examiner for the state of Illinois, but while he held many positions his effort was probably most strongly felt through his influence in molding public policy and shaping public opinion.

Mr. Wilton was married on the 24th of August, 1818, to Miss Elizabeth Allen, a daughter of Benjamin Allen, who was a noted wood ranger during the war of 1812. They became the parents of twelve children, of whom Benjamin and Thomas are residents of Hillsboro and

the former is the father of R. L. Wilton, a well known and leading business man of Hillsboro, who is represented elsewhere in this volume.

Harry Wilton deserved and received the respect and confidence of the men of all political parties. His honesty was proverbial and he was generous to a fault. Notwithstanding the many responsible offices which he held he did not save a dollar and he retired to private life a poor man. Finally he returned to the farm and in his agricultural pursuits was more successful, at one time being worth about fifty thousand dollars. He endorsed papers for his friends, however, and thirty thousand dollars of his fortune went in payments of security debts and in return he never received a cent. In religious belief he was a Methodist and his Christian faith was exemplified in his daily life. He never gambled nor used intoxicants nor tobacco. He lived a blameless life, characterized by lofty patriotism and by devotion to high ideals, and he regarded his self-respect and the confidence of his friends as infinitely more to be desired than wealth or national reputation.

DANIEL BOST.

One of the honored pioneers and venerable citizens of Montgomery county is Daniel Bost, who is now living retired in Nokomis. He was born in Rowan county, North Carolina, December 31, 1815. His parents, John and Rachel Bost, also natives of the Old North state, have passed away. His education was acquired in the schools of North Carolina and he came to Montgomery county by team in 1837, when about twenty-one years of age. Here he engaged in working by the month. There were no farmers at that time on the prairie land which was considered unfit for cultivation, but a few farms had been established in the midst of the forest tracts. About 1847 Mr. Bost purchased his first land from the government—a tract of forty acres—and later he added an additional tract of one hundred and sixty acres from the government. His third purchase made him the owner of forty acres more and again he bought eighty acres. For many years he successfully car-

ried on agricultural pursuits, keeping apace with the progress made in the methods of farming and in the improved machinery. As time passed he prospered in his undertakings, accumulating a comfortable competence. Eventually, however, he sold his farm land and bought two lots and a house, where he now lives, in Nokomis. He removed to this place in December, 1899, and has since lived a retired life, enjoying a well merited rest.

On the 5th of March, 1840, Mr. Bost was married to Miss Ellen Lipp, and unto them were born six children, of whom two died in infancy. The living are Peter Francis, who is engaged in farming in Texas; Rachel, the wife of Thomas Lipp, of Texas; and Joshua, a carpenter of Alton, Illinois. One daughter, Eliza, died at the age of forty-two years. The mother passed away February 25, 1865, when forty-nine years of age. On the 26th of May, 1865, Mr. Bost was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Amanda Cooper. The children of this marriage are Charles A., who is represented elsewhere in this work; Artellisa, the wife of Noah Lefle, of Rountree township; Ella, the wife of Joseph Cruze, of Rountree township; Thomas, of the same township; George, who is a mail carrier of Nokomis; Gertrude, the wife of Claude Davidson, of Hillsboro; and Fred, who is a mail carrier in the rural free delivery from Nokomis.

Mr. Bost is a member of the Lutheran church, with which he has been identified for sixty-five years, living an upright life in consistent harmony with his professions. In politics he is a Republican and has voted sixteen times for president.

THOMAS K. WESTCOTT.

Thomas K. Westcott, whose farming and stockraising interests in Butler Grove township are valuable and profitable, was born in North Scituate, Rhode Island, on the 20th of September, 1862, his parents being Charles M. and Elizabeth (Ware) Westcott, the latter a daughter of Obediah Ware. Charles M. Westcott came to Montgomery county when a young man, and, having previously learned the car-

penter's trade, was well fitted to enter upon a business career here. He was married in this county, but afterward returned to the east, where occurred the birth of Thomas K. Westcott. Later, however, the father returned to Montgomery county and became a contractor and builder of Butler. In 1869 he removed to a farm in Butler Grove township and in 1870 took up his abode upon the farm on which his son Thomas now resides. There he spent his remaining days and his work, long continued, practically transformed his land into productive fields, constituting one of the best farming properties of this portion of the state. He died there in 1889 at the age of sixty-six years. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, to which his wife also belonged. In their family were four children: Thomas K.; Eliza, who died in 1883; Lillie, the deceased wife of R. J. Stout; and Grace, the wife of Robert Grantham, of Butler Grove township.

Thomas K. Westcott was reared upon the old farm, being eight years of age when his father removed to the property which he now owns and occupies. His early education was supplemented by study in the Friends boarding school of Providence, Rhode Island, where he spent four years, and after his education was completed he returned to the old homestead, assisting his father until the latter's death and then taking charge of the farm. He has worked earnestly and persistently, concentrating his efforts to agricultural pursuits and thus pointing his energies in one direction he has won success through careful management and diligence. His home farm comprises one hundred and sixty acres on section 14, Butler Grove township, and he also has another farm of one hundred and twenty acres on sections 2 and 3 of the same township. He carries on general farming, stock-raising and feeding and has met with very creditable and desirable success.

In 1891 occurred the marriage of Mr. Westcott and Miss Amelia Dale, of Hillsboro, and they have five children: Nathan H., Faith, Charlie M., Mary J., and Lucy. Mr. Westcott is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and is serving as its treasurer. He is

not a party man in politics, voting independently as he thinks best. He is, however, a man true to his honest convictions, loyal in defense of what he believes to be right and reliable in his business transactions.

LOUIS SEDENTOP.

Louis Sedentop, who is now living a retired life in Farmersville, where he owns a well improved tract of land of three hundred and twenty acres adjoining the corporation limits of the village, is the oldest settler in Bois Darc township, having resided within its borders since 1853. Great have been the changes that have occurred since that time, for primitive conditions existed here then. He laid out the town in the spring of 1887 and has watched with interest the growth of the village, the development of the farming and commercial interests, and in as far as possible he has borne his share in the work of development and public progress.

A native of Germany, he was born in Brunswick on the 4th of May, 1835, and remained in the fatherland until seventeen years of age, during which time he received good educational privileges in the public schools there. He is, however, almost entirely self-educated in English since coming to the United States, the year 1852 witnessing the emigration of Mr. Sedentop to the new world. He located first in St. Louis, but soon afterward made his way to Montgomery county and began work on a farm by the month in Zanesville township, being thus employed for seven years.

In 1859 Mr. Sedentop was married in Springfield, Illinois, to Miss Honora Leonard, who was born in Ireland, but came to the new world when a child and was reared in Illinois from the age of sixteen years. After his marriage Mr. Sedentop rented land near Zanesville, which he cultivated for three years and then with the capital he had acquired through his earnest labor and economy he purchased eighty acres of land, which he also farmed for three years. On the expiration of that period he sold his property and bought near where he now resides, investing in a tract of eighty acres.



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In the fall of 1869, however, he again sold out and then bought his present farm, comprising three hundred and twenty acres, on which he located the following spring. This had many years before been placed under the plow, but had become much run down. Mr. Sedentop began its further cultivation and improvement, erecting the buildings and continuing the task of tilling the fields until he now has one of the neatest, best arranged and well improved farms in this part of the county. He has added to and remodeled the house until it is now a comfortable and attractive residence and he has also built a large barn and other good outbuildings. He has likewise planted an orchard and shade trees, has fenced the place and has made many other substantial improvements until his farm is splendidly equipped. In addition to this he owns an adjoining farm of one hundred and sixty acres and another tract of a quarter section elsewhere in the county. All are valuable and his property holdings make him one of the substantial residents of the community. He laid out a town site of sixty acres about 1886, erected business houses and residences, gave a little park to the town and through his energy, enterprise and liberality has made the village of Farmersville and it to-day stands as a monument to his enterprise and progressive spirit. He is indeed the father of the town and is justly accounted one of its most active and public-spirited citizens, co-operating in all measures for its public good. His home is just inside the corporation limits and his interests center in the village as well as in the county at large. An accident which he sustained in the winter of 1903-4 has prevented his active participation in public affairs to the extent to which he was formerly engaged.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Sedentop have been born eight children, who are yet living, two sons and six daughters, and with the exception of a young lady daughter now at home all are married. The parents were reared in the Catholic faith and are members of the church of that denomination at Farmersville. He has contributed most generously to the support of all churches and donated the land on which all the churches of Farmersville stand. He has never

sought or desired office, but consented to serve on the village board because of the urgent solicitation of his friends. He is a staunch advocate of the principles of Democracy and since casting his first presidential ballot for Stephen A. Douglas in 1860 he has supported each presidential nominee of the party. Coming to America empty-handed, he has labored earnestly and persistently and to-day he stands among those who are the architects of their own fortunes and have builded wisely and well. For fifty-one years he has lived in Montgomery county and when judged by what he has accomplished his right to a first place among the representative citizens of Farmersville and Montgomery county can not be questioned.

CAPTAIN JOHN F. GLENN.

Captain John F. Glenn, a veteran of the Civil war, figured prominently in business circles in Montgomery county as the owner of an extensive and valuable ranch and as vice-president of the Montgomery County Loan & Trust Bank. He is living in Hillsboro and is a native of Ireland, his birth having occurred in County Tyrone on the 20th of September, 1836. The following year his parents, James R. and Catherine J. (Robinson) Glenn, came to America, settling in Louisville, Kentucky, where they lived for four years. In 1840 they established their home in Alton, where the father engaged in merchandising for one year, but, not long afterward coming to Illinois, he settled upon a farm near Brighton. His last days, however, were spent in Hillsboro, where he died in 1882, at the advanced age of eighty-two years, and his wife passed away in 1887, when eighty-two years of age. In their family were six children: Catherine J., the wife of Robert Stewart; James R.; John F.; William J., deceased; Emma, the wife of Dr. Canine; and Thomas S., who died in 1864.

John F. Glenn attended the public schools until 1853, when he began earning his own living by working as a farm hand by the month. Through the winter he attended school until the winter of 1856, when he began working in the woods near Duluth, Minnesota. He was

employed in the lumber regions of that district for three years and then returned to Montgomery county. Desirous of attaining a better education he entered Shurtliff College, where he continued his studies until the outbreak of the Civil war. Studying the situation of the country and feeling that his duty was to the Union, he responded to the call of the government on the 9th of August, 1861, and became a private of Company F, Twenty-seventh Illinois Infantry. He went to the front as second sergeant and participated in many important engagements, including the battles of Island No. 10, Farmington, Stone River, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge, Dalton, Resaca, Mud Creek, Stonington, Kenesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek and the siege of Atlanta. His valor and meritorious conduct on the field of battle had won him promotion to the rank of captain and at the close of his three years' term of service he was honorably discharged on the 20th of September, 1864.

After the war Captain Glenn came to Hillsboro and was engaged in general merchandising for a year. He afterward joined his two brothers in the building and operation of the Hillsboro flouring mill, and later he erected a mill at Morrisonville and also one at Carrollton, Missouri. He built a mill at East St. Louis and conducted each of these for a few years, after which he sold all with the exception of the Hillsboro mill, which he conducted for thirty years, it being one of the leading productive industries of the city. In this business he was associated with his brothers William and James Glenn. Owing to the excellent quality of the flour, the product of the mill found a ready sale on the market and the business continually grew until having reached profitable proportions it returned to the owners a very desirable annual income. As his financial resources increased Mr. Glenn also made judicious investment in real estate and is now the owner of fourteen hundred acres of land in one body, constituting a fine orchard about two miles north of Hillsboro. When the Montgomery County Loan & Trust Company was organized he and his brothers took about one-third of the stock of the institution and for three years Captain Glenn has been the vice president.

On the 6th of June, 1865, Captain Glenn was married to Miss Elizabeth Allen and they have five children: Allen R., who is a traveling salesman; Addie C., the wife of Charles E. McGowan, of Monmouth, Illinois; Fannie E., at home; Bessie, the wife of Frank O. Johnson, of Monmouth, Illinois; and William L., who is associated with his father in the business of breeding Aberdeen and polled Angus cattle.

The business interests of Captain Glenn have been such as have contributed to the general prosperity of the country as well as to his individual success and he is, therefore, one of the valued representative men of this portion of the state. He has also taken an active and helpful interest in community affairs, serving as an alderman of Hillsboro and also as mayor of the city for two years. He was likewise supervisor for eight years and was prominent in local political circles as a leader of the Republican party. He was a delegate to the state convention in 1904 and chairman of the Yates delegation. He belongs to F. D. Huddle Post, G. A. R., of Hillsboro, of which he was formerly commander. His unswerving purpose, his unquestioned fidelity, his unflinching interest and his unchanging will have commanded the highest respect of all. He has been a leader in the cause of labor, of freedom and of progress and his hearty co-operation has ever been given to that which tends to advance the best interests of his adopted county.

FRED A. RACHOW.

Fred A. Rachow, proprietor of a livery barn and feed and sale stable in Litchfield, was born in Bond county, Illinois, near the county seat, in March, 1870, his parents being Frederick and Mary (Stafford) Rachow. The father died February 2, 1876, at the age of twenty-eight years, leaving six children, of whom Fred A. is the youngest. The mother still survives and now makes her home near Greenville, Bond county.

Fred A. Rachow was reared to agricultural pursuits and has followed farming during the greater part of his life, continuing in that occupation until the beginning of 1903, when he



FRED A. RACHOW

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came to Litchfield, arriving here on the 20th of January. He established his present tivery barn and has since conducted the business. He keeps a good line of carriages, buggies and horses, having about fourteen head of horses, which he rents out. He also feeds and sells horses and this branch of his business has proved to him a fair source of income, though his great specialty is in his fine line of driving and saddle horses. Horseback riding has come to be quite a fad in Litchfield and to this particular trade he successfully caters.

In 1898 Mr. Rachow was united in marriage to Miss Bertha M. Bickel and unto them were born two children: Ursula and Opal, aged respectively six and four years. In his political views Mr. Rachow is a Republican, and though interested in the success and growth of his party has had neither time nor inclination to seek public office. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, although he was reared in the Lutheran faith, his parents being identified with that denomination. Fraternally he is connected with the Court of Honor and the Order of Eagles. He has also recently joined the North American Accident Insurance Company.

CHARLES W. JENKINS.

Charles W. Jenkins, deceased, formerly followed farming in Montgomery county. He was born in Darlington, South Carolina, May 29, 1827, and was left an orphan when five years of age, after which he lived with relatives. In 1837 his aunt, Mrs. Thomas Woods, sent her son to South Carolina to bring Mr. Jenkins, his brother and two sisters to Illinois. He was the youngest of the four children and the journey was made in a wagon. Mr. Jenkins was then reared by his aunt and uncle and remained upon the Woods farm until 1844, during which time he acquired his education by attending the country schools. In 1846 he went to Springfield and for six years was employed in the postoffice there, after which he accepted the position of mail clerk on the Chicago & Alton Railroad, entering upon the duties of that office about 1853. Later he returned to the post-

office at Springfield, where he remained until 1857. In that year he came to Butler township and turned his attention to agricultural pursuits by renting a farm which belonged to his father-in-law.

On the 27th of April, 1854, Mr. Jenkins was united in marriage to Miss Camilla Burnap, who was born on this farm in 1832, a daughter of George and Martha (Seward) Burnap, the former a native of New York and the latter of New Jersey. They were married in Ohio and in 1836 came to Illinois, purchasing the farm upon which Mrs. Jenkins now lives, of her mother's brother, who had entered the land from the government. Upon this farm was the first bearing orchard in the county. Mr. Burnap died upon the old homestead here in 1874 at the advanced age of eighty-four years and his wife, who was born in 1800, passed away in 1865. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Jenkins were born seven children: Mary, the deceased wife of W. H. Hamilton; Camilla, at home; Frances, the wife of J. D. Chisholm; Roland B., who is superintending the home place; Emma, the deceased wife of E. George Franklin, a teacher of Minnesota; Frederick A., who is a teacher in the military schools of Minnesota; and Maria, the wife of J. J. Ludeman, of Nebraska.

For many years Mr. Jenkins actively and successfully carried on agricultural pursuits and became the owner of a valuable tract of land of four hundred acres. He carried on general farming and stock-raising and the sale of his crops and of his stock brought him a good financial return each year. Indolence and idleness were utterly foreign to his nature and whatever he undertook he carried forward to completion. His interest in the public welfare was deep and sincere and took tangible form in his efforts in behalf of public progress. He was elected circuit clerk in 1868 for a term of four years, served as township supervisor of Butler Grove township and held other positions, to which he was elected upon the Democratic ticket. He was a member of the Masonic order for many years and his life exemplified its teachings. He died August 22, 1882, respected by all who knew him, for throughout the long years of his residence in Montgomery county he had so lived as to merit the warm regard, good

will and trust of those with whom he has been associated.

HENRY NOBBE.

Henry Nobbe, who has been engaged in the grain and flour business at Farmersville for a number of years in connection with his brother Charles H. Nobbe, has developed a commercial enterprise of considerable extent and importance, the volume of their trade having reached a large figure. He is also deeply interested in community affairs to the extent that he gives his hearty support and co-operation to all measures which he deems of practical value in promoting the welfare and progress of the town and county. Mr. Nobbe was born in South Litchfield township, April 9, 1865, and is of German lineage, his father, Charles Nobbe, having been a native of Germany, whence he came to the new world and cast his lot among the early settlers of Montgomery county. He took up the occupation of farming as a life work and for a number of years successfully carried on agricultural pursuits. In 1881, however, he retired from farm life and removed to Litchfield, where in connection with his son Henry he owned an elevator and engaged in the grain business. He came to Farmersville in 1887 and here erected the elevator which is now operated by his sons. He also built the first residence in Farmersville and has helped to make the town what it is to-day. He owns several business houses and residences here and possesses excellent financial ability, keen foresight and unflinching enterprise. He also owns farm land to the amount of two hundred and eighty acres and is one of the substantial residents of this part of the state. His life is indicative of the fact that success is not a matter of genius, but is rather the outcome of experience and sound judgment and has as its basic element untiring effort.

Henry Nobbe in his boyhood days lived upon the home farm and early became familiar with the work involved in caring for the fields and raising the stock. He was educated in the common schools and in Bryant & Stratton Business College at St. Louis, Missouri, and early in his

business career he became identified with the hardware and lumber trades, conducting a store and yard in Farmersville for two years. He sold out at the end of that time and took charge of the elevator on the north side of the road, which he controlled one year. He had previously been engaged in the grain business with his father at Litchfield as mentioned above. In partnership with his father and brother he subsequently bought the south elevator at Farmersville and together they carried on the business for two years. The sons then had control of the elevators, which the father decided to them later. They now handle large quantities of grain, including corn, oats and wheat, and are also doing a retail business in flour, which they handle on an extensive scale. They have ever been watchful of opportunities and indications pointing to success, have carefully made their purchases, and because of their large sales they acquired a comfortable competence, resulting from careful business management. In February, 1903, Henry Nobbe extended the field of his business activity by entering into a partnership in the ownership and conduct of a general store. Later his father, Charles Nobbe, Sr., purchased his partner's interest and became a member of the firm with his son Henry. This was continued for a time and then Henry Nobbe bought his father's interest and now controls the business alone. He carries a large and carefully selected stock of general merchandise and has built up a good trade because of his reasonable prices and earnest desire to please his patrons.

On the 5th of July, 1891, Mr. Nobbe was married to Miss Anna Stelter, a native of Montgomery county, and they now have one child, Dora Nobbe. Politically Mr. Nobbe is a Republican and his first presidential ballot was cast for Benjamin Harrison, while each candidate at the head of the national ticket has since received his support, save that he voted once for Grover Cleveland. He has never voted for a president but the one who has been elected. He takes an active part in local politics, but has never been an aspirant for office, preferring to give his undivided attention to his business interests. He has, however, never neglected any duty of citizenship and has given



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loyal support to many progressive public measures. The success of his life is due to no inherited fortune or to any happy succession of advantageous circumstances, but to his own sturdy will, steady application, tireless industry and sterling integrity.

CHARLES H. NOBBE.

Charles H. Nobbe, well known in trade circles as a member of the firm of Nobbe Brothers, dealers in grain and flour, was born in Litchfield, July 27, 1851. He attended the public schools, acquiring a fair knowledge of the English branches that fit one to meet the duties of a business career. When a young man he assisted his father in the store and under his direction received good business training, gaining practical knowledge of the methods in vogue in commercial circles. He has been identified with various commercial and industrial concerns that have contributed to the business development of his town. He was a partner in the Farmersville Brick & Tile Factory, an important industry here, and his sound judgment and enterprise were valued factors in the successful control of the plant for a number of years. At length, however, he sold out and he is now associated with his brother, Henry Nobbe, in the flour and grain trade. They own a good elevator, make extensive shipments of corn, oats and wheat and also handle a large amount of flour annually. He likewise owns several business houses and residences in Farmersville and is thoroughly identified with the development and upbuilding of the place.

On the 11th of December, 1898, was celebrated the marriage of Charles H. Nobbe and Miss Minnie Brockmeyer, a daughter of August Brockmeyer, a farmer of Pitman township. She was born and reared in Illinois. There is one daughter by this union, Vera Nobbe. Like his brother, Charles H. Nobbe is a true blue Republican, taking an active part in local politics and deeply interested in the national success of the party. He served for two years on the village board and has been city treasurer for three or four years. The brothers were

reared in the Lutheran faith and are now members of the church of that denomination in Farmersville. An earnest, persevering young man who has the courage of his convictions at all times he is carving out an honorable name for himself and also an enviable position in the business world of this community.

MICHAEL L. ROBERTSON.

Michael L. Robertson, residing in Hillsboro, is identified with stock-raising interests in Montgomery county, where he formerly owned and occupied an extensive farm. He was born in Carroll county, Tennessee, near Memphis, on the 14th of September, 1851, and in the fall of 1863, when a youth of but twelve years, accompanied his father's family on their removal to Montgomery county. For three years the father, Stanford Robertson, rented land in East Fork township and then removed to Butler Grove township, settling on section 13, where his son, George O., now lives. Stanford Robertson served as colonel of the state militia in the early days and while living in the south served as county judge. He was likewise prominent in community affairs in Montgomery county and gave hearty co-operation to many movements which have for their object the welfare of this portion of the state. He died in 1893 at the age of eighty-three years and his wife also passed away on the old homestead in 1882 at the age of sixty-eight years. They were the parents of nine children, three sons and six daughters.

Michael L. Robertson acquired a common-school education and remained upon the home farm until twenty-one years of age, being trained there to habits of industry and economy. Farm work in every department became familiar to him and the practical experience which he there gained proved of much value to him when he started out for himself at a later date. On the 31st of October, 1872, he married Julia A. Harris and they took up their abode upon her father's farm, she being the only daughter of Thomas E. Harris, a prominent and influential citizen, who was at one time county superintendent of the schools of Mont-

gomery county. Mr. Robertson lived upon that farm until December, 1889, when he removed to Hillsboro, and he was engaged in stock-raising. He became the owner of three hundred and sixty acres of land, which, like most of the other Montgomery county farms, was very valuable and productive. When he removed to Hillsboro a year later he engaged in the implement business, which he conducted for two years and then sold his store to H. C. Latham. On the 20th of June, 1904, he purchased a grain and feed establishment in Hillsboro, which he now carries in connection with his son William E., in addition to his stock-raising interests.

In 1902 Mr. Robertson was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died on the 29th of June of that year. They had become the parents of seven children: William E., who is in business with his father; Mary E., the wife of W. S. Perkins, of the same township; George O., who is living in Butler Grove township; Hattie L.; Zelia E.; Cora E.; and Fred W.

Mr. Robertson, whose ability and loyalty in citizenship have been recognized by his fellow townsmen, has been called to several public positions. In 1903 he was elected alderman of Hillsboro and while living in Butler Grove township he served as school director for eighteen years. He was also highway commissioner for nine years, was supervisor for four years and was filling that position at the time of his removal from his farm to the city. He has given his political allegiance to the Republican party since attaining his majority. Externally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen. In former years Mr. Robertson so conducted his business affairs that he won a gratifying competence that now enables him largely to live a retired life.

ROBERT A. McPHERON.

Robert A. McPheron, who is engaged in the business of raising flowers and vegetable plants at Litchfield, was born in Carrollton, Illinois, in 1863. His father, James A. McPheron, a native of Tennessee, is now living in Carrollton at the advanced age of seventy-seven years.

At an early day he accompanied his father on his removal from Tennessee to Greene county, Illinois, and he, too, became a florist and gardener and has always followed that business as a life work, being still connected with the trade in Carrollton. He married Amanda C. Cato, a daughter of William and Euphemia Cato. The former was a farmer and settled near Carrollton, entering land from the government there in pioneer times, his place being located about eight miles east of Carrollton. His sons were soldiers of the southern army and one died a prisoner of war at Alton, Illinois. Mrs. McPheron was born near Nashville, Tennessee, and has now reached the age of seventy-five years. Both Mr. and Mrs. McPheron hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and he gives his political support to the Democracy. In their family were six children: Edwin N., who is a jeweler of Greenfield, Illinois; Ella, the wife of John Scruby, a harness-maker at Roodhouse, Illinois; Anna, the deceased wife of L. W. Loomis, a jeweler, who has also passed away; Laura, the wife of John Clough, a farmer and stockman of Carrollton; Robert A.; and James C., a florist of Carrollton.

Robert A. McPheron acquired his education in the public schools of Carrollton and afterward learned the florist business with his father. He put aside his text books when seventeen years of age and later built a greenhouse on his father's place. There he conducted business on his own account for about five years, on the expiration of which period he went to St. Louis and was associated with L. Armstrong, a leading florist of that city. Subsequently he came to Litchfield and purchased the place that he now owns in 1889. He has since been engaged in a business here as a florist and is the only representative of this line of trade in or near the city. He has a large plant and does an extensive business, shipping flowers and vegetable plants to many different cities throughout the country. His place of business is at 1101 Union avenue and a constantly growing trade has made him one of the successful business men of the city.

In 1885 Mr. McPheron was married to Miss Maggie E. Camp. She was born in Greene



HENRY NOBBE AND FAMILY



CHARLES H. NOBBE AND FAMILY

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county, Illinois, and died in 1890 at the age of twenty-three years. For his second wife Mr. McPheron chose Miss Julia B. Wilton, a daughter of James Wilton, a farmer. Mrs. McPheron was born west of Litchfield and the marriage was celebrated in 1892. There are two children by this union: J. Wilton, born in 1893; and Ruth, born in 1903. Mr. and Mrs. McPheron hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and he belongs to the Mutual Protective League. He is a Democrat in his political views, but has never had time or inclination to seek public office, preferring to devote his attention and energy to his business affairs.

JAMES H. RIPLEY.

Numbered among the substantial farmers of Raymond township, James H. Ripley owns and cultivates two hundred and forty acres of land on section 27. He has now passed the seventy-ninth milestone on life's journey, but is yet actively interested in business affairs, supervising his farm, which has become a valuable property owing to the excellent improvements which he has placed upon it.

Few men of his years can claim Illinois as the state of their nativity, but Mr. Ripley was born in St. Clair county on the 10th of September, 1825, his parents being William and Elizabeth (Murray) Ripley. His paternal grandfather, James Ripley, was a native of Ireland and became the founder of the family in America, settling in Virginia. His son, William Ripley, was born in Boutetourt county, that state, and was married in the Old Dominion to Miss Elizabeth Murray, also a native of Virginia. They began their domestic life upon a farm which they occupied for a number of years and then removed to Illinois, settling in Jackson county about 1820. Later they took up their abode in St. Clair county, where Mr. Ripley secured a tract of wild land, which he transformed into a good farm located just south of Belleville. There he reared his family and continued to make his home until his life's labors were ended in death. He had six daughters and three sons, all of whom reached ma-

ture years, while a son and daughter in addition to J. H. Ripley are now living, the former being our subject's twin brother.

The old family homestead in St. Clair county was the birthplace of James H. Ripley, who also spent his boyhood days there, aiding in the cultivation of the fields throughout the greater part of the year. His educational privileges were quite limited as far as attendance at school was concerned, but through experience he mastered many valuable lessons and became a well informed man. He was married on the 27th of May, 1858, in the county of his nativity to Miss Susan Merrill, whose birth occurred in St. Clair county, Illinois. She is also a twin and her twin sister is still living. After his marriage Mr. Ripley engaged in farming in St. Clair county for seven years and he owned a good farm of eighty acres, to which he afterward added as his financial resources increased until the boundaries of his farm included one hundred acres. He sold that property in 1881 and took up his abode in Montgomery county, purchasing four hundred acres of land, constituting one of the largest improved places in Raymond township. Here he resumed agricultural pursuits and continued the further improvement and development of the place. He has since erected a large two story residence, a substantial barn and other outbuildings and has added all modern accessories. There is a good orchard upon the place, a grove of forest trees and many ornamental trees which add to the attractive appearance and value of the home. There have been great changes in farming methods since he entered upon his active business career. In his early manhood all the labor was done by hand, there being none of the improved machinery to relieve the farmer of his arduous toil. He worked with the scythe and the hand plow, but as the years advanced and the ingenuity of man brought forth many labor-saving devices Mr. Ripley utilized these improved conditions in his farming operations and as the result of his progressive methods and unfaltering diligence he accumulated a handsome competence.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Ripley were born two children: Charles H., a lawyer of Chicago; and Susan, the wife of Samuel Sorrells, who

is farming the Ripley place and by whom she has one child. Mr. and Mrs. Ripley are earnest and consistent members of the Baptist church and he is a Republican in his political belief, giving strong support to the party and its candidates. His has been an exemplary and honorable career and through a quarter of a century he has lived in Montgomery county. His life record proves the value and force of economy and industry in the active affairs of business and without pecuniary or family assistance to aid him at the outset of his career he gradually worked his way upward to the plane of affluence, gaining a handsome competence by his own labor. He is now largely leaving the hard labor and care of the farm to younger hands, while he is enjoying a rest which he has richly merited and truly deserves.

J. J. LIPE.

One of the rich agricultural districts of Illinois is the territory embraced within the boundaries of Montgomery county and on one of the well improved farms of that district J. J. Lipe was born. The old home place on section 34, Rountree township, is still the place of his residence. His natal day was September 19, 1870, and he is a representative of an old southern family. His father, John G. Lipe, was born on the 13th of October, 1827, in Cabarrus county, North Carolina, and with his father came to Illinois in 1831, the family home being established in Hillsboro. The grandfather turned his attention to farming and the father began in the same pursuit when he had attained years of maturity. He continued farming in this county until 1850, when he took his departure for California and for nine months he worked in the mines upon the Pacific coast. In the spring of 1851, however, he returned to Montgomery county and in 1852 he was married to Miss Annie Louisa Lingle, also a native of North Carolina. Her birth occurred June 16, 1829, and on the 3d of June, 1885, she passed away at the age of fifty-six years. Mr. Lipe survived his wife for about four years, dying on the 16th of July, 1889, at the age of sixty-two years.

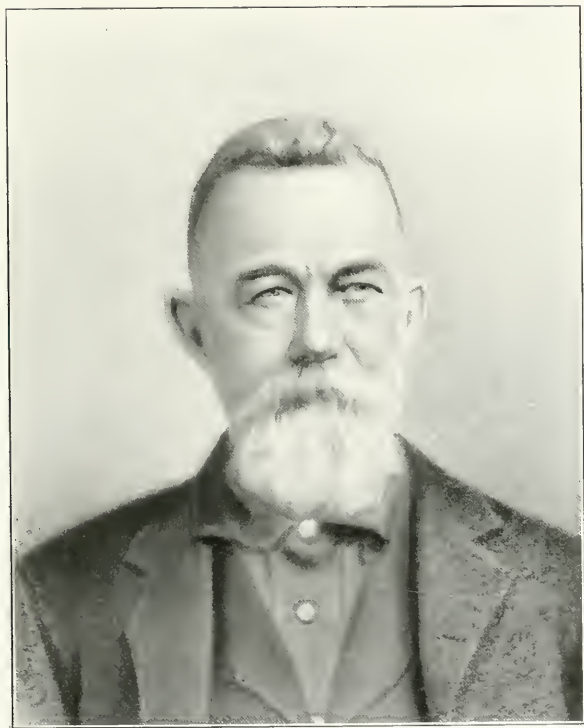
J. J. Lipe pursued his education in the public schools of Montgomery county and at the age of nineteen years he began farming upon the old home place. After his father's death he assumed the management of the homestead, which he now owns, having here two hundred and fifty acres of valuable land, which is well improved and is highly cultivated.

On the 12th of February, 1890, Mr. Lipe was united in marriage to Miss Minnie A. Yeske, a daughter of C. H. and M. L. (Clabonda) Yeske. Her father, who was born December 27, 1833, died December 16, 1896, and the mother, who was born January 11, 1830, is now living near Irving at the age of seventy-four years. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Lipe has been blessed with four children: Edna Frances, who was born July 24, 1892; Esther May, born May 15, 1897; Elizabeth Laura, February 10, 1901; and Godfrey Martin, born February 20, 1903.

Mr. Lipe votes with the Republican party and has served as trustee of his township, while at the present writing he is filling the position of school director. While always interested in everything pertaining to general progress and improvement and never remiss in performing the duties of citizenship he yet gives his attention chiefly to his business affairs and the practical training which he received in early boyhood has enabled him to carry forward his farming interests with excellent success, so that he is now a prosperous agriculturist of his native township.

W. W. ADAMS.

W. W. Adams is the owner of a good farming property covering one hundred acres on section 32, Harvel township, and is accounted one of the enterprising business men, having successfully conducted various business enterprises during the past sixteen years, having the force of character that enables him to carry forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes. One of Illinois' native sons, his birth occurred in Macoupin county on the 28th of September, 1836. His father, Giles M. Adams, was born in Kentucky, where he spent his early



W. W. ADAMS

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youth, acquired his education and was afterward married. He arrived in Illinois in 1829, only eleven years after the admission of the state into the Union. The central and northern portions were then largely wild and unimproved. He settled in Madison county, where he remained but one year. He then went to Macoupin county, where he has spent many years, but during the evening of his life he crossed the border line into Montgomery county and resided with his sons during his later years. His wife survived him for a few years, but has also passed away. He was familiar with the pioneer history of this section of the state, having arrived when much of the prairie was still in its primitive condition and when the forests were uncut. He performed the arduous task of developing a new farm and continued his labors, which resulted not only in benefit to himself, but also proved of value in the reclamation of a wild district for the purposes of civilization.

W. W. Adams was one of four children who reached mature years, and one brother and sister are yet living. His early youth was passed in Macoupin county upon the old home farm, and he had common school advantages, attending school through the winter months, although he is largely self-educated. He came to Montgomery county in 1860 and purchased land in Harvel township, which was wild and uncultivated, but he at once broke this and opened up a farm of four hundred acres. Carrying on the work of cultivation and improvement year after year, he became the owner of a well developed property and harvested good crops, which annually brought to him a desirable income when placed upon the market. At length he sold out and purchased his present residence, having eighty acres in the home place and twenty acres in another tract. He farmed for a number of years, and about 1888 he turned his attention to the grain business in Harvel. He has since rebuilt the elevator and still carries on his operations in that line. He has now been a grain merchant of the town for sixteen years and is well known as a progressive business man whose commercial interests prove of value to the locality by furnishing a good market to the farmers for their products.

Politically Mr. Adams is a staunch Democrat, and his first ballot was cast for James Buchanan, while since that time he has supported each presidential nominee of the party. He has served for four consecutive terms as supervisor and was a member of many of the important committees of the board. More than four decades have passed since he arrived in Montgomery county. He has killed deer and wolves in this county, living here at a time when its unsettled condition made it possible for the hunter to enjoy his sport with the gun. He broke the virgin soil and helped to make the county what it is to-day—one of the richest agricultural districts of this great state.

C. A. LEWEY.

C. A. Lewey, interested in business affairs in Coffee as proprietor of a meat market, was born in Hillsboro in 1876. His father, Albert Lewey, is also a native of that city, born in 1851. He now follows farming in Hillsboro township, where he owns ninety acres of land. Unto him and his wife, Sarah Lewey, have been born seven children, six of whom were born in Montgomery county. Albert Lewey is numbered among the early settlers of this part of the state and has been an interested witness of the progress that has been made in promoting agricultural and commercial development of his locality. His political support is given to the Democracy.

At the usual age C. A. Lewey entered school and for a time was a student in Hillsboro township. He afterward devoted his attention to farm work upon his father's land and later turned his attention to engineering, operating a sawmill until he was twenty-five years of age. He then went to Hillsboro, where he remained for three months and in 1901 he came to Coffee. Here he worked for a year in a butcher shop owned by Frank Canaday and on the expiration of that period he purchased the business which he has since been conducting. It is the only meat market in the town and he has a good patronage, which he deserves by reason of his honorable business methods and by his earnest desire to please his patrons.

On the 12th of June, 1901, Mr. Lewey was married to Miss May Hamilton, a daughter of Thomas Hamilton, of Hillsboro township. He votes with the Democracy and socially is connected with the Knights of Pythias lodge, No. 367, of Coffeen. He is a representative of one of the old families of Montgomery county and as one of the enterprising young business men of Coffeen he is well known and certainly deserves representation in this volume.

JABEZ BLACKBURN.

For over fifty years this gentleman made his home in Montgomery county and was numbered among its honored and highly respected citizens. He was a native of England, where he spent the first eight years of his life, and then accompanied his parents on their emigration to America. The greater part of his youth was passed in the vicinity of Alton, Illinois, and, after arriving at years of maturity, he was there married to Mrs. Mary A. Hook, whose maiden name was Smith.

In 1851 Mr. Blackburn came to Montgomery county, settling in South Litchfield township. This was more than a half century ago, when the work of improvement and progress that have marked the rapid advance and upbuilding of the county had scarcely been begun and for many years he witnessed the changes which occurred here and bore his share in the work of upbuilding. He continued to engage in farming in South Litchfield township until 1866, when he came to Hillsboro township and settled upon a farm which is now the property of his son James R. There he lived for seventeen years or until 1883, when he took up his abode in Litchfield, but a year and a half later he removed to Hillsboro, where he spent his remaining days, his death there occurring on the 5th of January, 1895, when he was seventy-one years of age. His widow still survives him and now makes her home with her children. As pioneer people they were well known and Mr. Blackburn was regarded as a reliable business man, energetic, enterprising and trustworthy.

JAMES R. BLACKBURN.

James R. Blackburn, who carries on general farming with good success in Hillsboro township, was born in South Litchfield township, Montgomery county, on the 15th of October, 1856, and is a son of Jabez Blackburn. He was a lad of ten years when he took up his abode upon the farm which is now his home. He was educated in the district schools, which he attended when not engaged with the duties of the farm. In 1883 he took active charge of the farm, his father moving away at that time, and in this he was associated with his brother J. Frank Blackburn for about a year, when James R. Blackburn became sole manager of the place. He is to-day the owner of one hundred and seventy-nine acres of valuable land of which one hundred and nineteen acres is located on his homestead about three miles west and a half mile south of Hillsboro. There he carries on general farming and he has placed his fields under a high state of cultivation, while in his pastures are seen good grades of stock. He raises the cereals best adapted to soil and climate, and as he follows modern farming methods he secures good crops, which annually return to him a desirable income.

On the 9th of March, 1887, Mr. Blackburn was united in marriage to Miss Mary Hartgroves and they have two sons, Frederick and Earl, both of whom are at home. The parents are consistent and faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which Mr. Blackburn is serving as trustee and steward. He contributes generously to the support of the church and does all in his power to promote the growth and extend the influence of his denomination. His study of the political issues and questions of the day has led him to give earnest allegiance to the Republican party, for he believes that its principles contain the best elements of good government. Having spent his entire life in Montgomery county he is well known here and he possesses many excellent traits of character, which have won him a large circle of friends. He is kindly in manner, social in disposition, charitable in thought and shows ready and courteous deference for the opinions of others.

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MR. AND MRS. JABEZ BLACKBURN



MR. AND MRS. JAMES R. BLACKBURN

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J. H. CRICKENBERGER.

J. H. Crickenberger, one of Montgomery county's self-made men, is part owner of the electric light plant of Nokomis and in connection therewith has developed a business that has now reached profitable and gratifying proportions. He was born in Augusta county, Virginia, in 1852, and is a son of Daniel and Sarah Crickenberger. The father was born in Rockingham county, Virginia, was there reared to the occupation of farming and followed that pursuit throughout his entire life in the county of his nativity. His wife, who was also born in Virginia, passed away in 1862. There were six children in the family, of whom five are now living, but J. H. Crickenberger is the only one in Illinois.

Under the parental roof Mr. Crickenberger of this review spent the days of his childhood and in the schools of the neighborhood he acquired his education. In early manhood he was connected with the operation of a threshing machine and was afterward engaged in the sawmill business for about six years. He then went to Texas, where he spent six weeks and in October, 1877, he came to Illinois, settling in Nokomis township, Montgomery county, upon a farm which he rented for five or six years. On the expiration of that period he purchased eighty acres of land and he also continued to rent land for sixteen years. As a farmer he was progressive, following advanced ideas of agriculture and his labors resulted in the acquirement of fair success. In February, 1894, he came to Nokomis and has since been connected with the operation of the electric light plant. He was engineer for about six months, at the end of which time in connection with B. F. McGrue he purchased the business which they conducted together for about two years. At the end of that time Mr. Crickenberger became sole proprietor and continued the business alone for four years, at the end of which time he sold a half interest to W. H. Casselberry. This business association has since been maintained and the business is growing steadily, they now having the best plant in this part of the country for excellent service. The machinery has been in continuous operation for five years with the exception of a brief inter-

val of fifteen minutes, and few companies can show as creditable a record. In addition to his business here Mr. Crickenberger now owns three hundred and twenty acres of wild land in Minnesota and he is general agent for the Pioneer Land & Loan Company of that state.

In 1882 occurred the marriage of Mr. Crickenberger and Miss Laura Wells, a daughter of John Wells of this county. He and his wife hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and he also belongs to the Masonic fraternity and the Odd Fellows lodge at Nokomis, while in his political affiliation he is a Prohibitionist. He has taken quite an active interest in the affairs of his party in this county and all matters pertaining to the general welfare are of concern to him, for he is a public-spirited citizen, desiring the best and most substantial development of the county. His own history is in many respects worthy of emulation. He inherited from his father five hundred and forty dollars and with this exception all that he possesses has been won through his own labor, so that he is a self-made man. His life proves the business possibilities that Montgomery county affords to its residents and while he has profited by its advantages he has also contributed in no small degree to the upbuilding and progress of his community by his generous support of and co-operation in every movement calculated to benefit the town and county.

WILLIAM VAWTER.

William Vawter, who has won an enviable position in business circles in Hillsboro, was born in Monroe county, Kentucky, November 27, 1842, a son of Thomas S. and Nancy (Chapman) Vawter, both of whom were natives of Virginia, the latter having been born near Halifax, that state. The father, whose birth occurred in 1815, removed with his family from Kentucky to Montgomery county, Illinois, in 1851, making the journey by ox team and bringing with him his household goods. He located four miles southwest of Hillsboro upon a farm and there carried on agricultural pursuits. This portion of the state was still wild and unimproved and deer and other wild game was plentiful. In fact, he had to gather corn early in

order to keep the deer from devouring it. In his political views he was an old line Whig and was bitterly opposed to slavery. He ranked high in the estimation of friends and neighbors and his death, which occurred in 1854, when he was thirty-six years of age, was deeply regretted by those who knew him. His wife passed away in 1874, when about fifty years of age. She was a daughter of William and Polly (Mathis) Chapman, who came here about 1830. Her father was one of the heroes of the Revolutionary war and received two land warrants in compensation for his services. With one of those he made claim to eighty acres of land in South Litchfield township, Montgomery county, and the other he sold to his son-in-law. Throughout his business career he devoted his energies to agricultural pursuits. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Vawter were born two children, the daughter being Martha, who became the wife of Matthew Alman and died in 1861.

William Vawter spent the first eight years of his life in the state of his nativity and then accompanied his parents on their removal to Montgomery county, Illinois, where he acquired a common-school education. His privileges in that direction were somewhat limited, however, owing to his father's early death. His mother removed with her children to Hillsboro in 1857 and Mr. Vawter, then a youth of fifteen, secured employment in the Watson mill in 1862, where he remained for seven years. On the expiration of that period he purchased a team and worked for the agent of the American Express Company, delivering goods. He was thus employed for thirteen years. After hauling express for two years he purchased in 1872 the omnibus business of T. S. Whitesides and has been running the business for the past thirty-two years with practically no opposition. He has carried the United States mail all that time and has been asked but once by the government for a statement. No fault has ever been found with him because of his services and he is probably the oldest mail carrier of Illinois to-day when viewed from point of continuous service. Through careful management and the husbanding of his resources Mr. Vawter has gained considerable property and now owns a valuable business building and other realty in Hillsboro.

He was also a charter member of the Oil City Building & Loan Association of Litchfield and served as one of its directors for twelve years. He is a member of the Hillsboro Building & Loan Association and has been both its president and vice-president, while for the past nine years he has been one of its directors. He is likewise a stockholder in the Hillsboro Hotel Company and is now president of its board of directors. Thus he is identified with many business enterprises of the city and county and his wise counsel is an important element in the successful conduct of various institutions.

On the 10th of January, 1864, Mr. Vawter was united in marriage to Miss Nancy Jane Burke, a daughter of Riley and Margaret (McPhail) Burke. The father, a farmer by occupation, was numbered among the pioneer settlers of Montgomery county, removing to this portion of Illinois from Tennessee at a very early day. Mrs. Vawter was born near Walshville, Illinois, in 1846. There were six children born of this marriage, three of whom are now living: Ida, the wife of Eugene Smith, who is a mail carrier upon a rural route from Hillsboro; Emma, the wife of Charles Baxter, a coal dealer and farmer of Hillsboro; and John W., who has charge of the bus line. As each one of the children have married Mr. Vawter has deeded to them a house and lot and all are now living in homes adjoining his own.

In political and public affairs Mr. Vawter has been somewhat prominent, having been three times elected to the board of aldermen from the first ward of Hillsboro, so that he has served for six years. He was also supervisor of Hillsboro township for one term and to these positions was elected upon the Republican ticket. He has long been a supporter of the party and its principles, believing that its platform contains the best elements of good government. Fraternally he is a member of the Masonic lodge and both he and his wife are connected with the Order of the Eastern Star. They hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and receive friendly recognition and regard in many of the best homes in Hillsboro. On the list of the prominent business men of this city appears the name of Mr. Vawter because he has been closely identified with its interests, has

assisted in its growth and while helping to up-build the city he has also made for himself an enviable reputation by his activity and steady perseverance. His life history illustrates in a marked degree what may be accomplished by well directed effort and strict business principles.

JOHN FATH.

John Fath, living in East Fork township, is identified with agricultural pursuits and has also been a representative of educational interests in Montgomery county. He was born in Perry county, Missouri, in 1841, a son of Leonard and Margaret Fath. As the name indicates the family is of German origin and the father was born on the river Rhine, spending his boyhood days in the vicinity of that far-famed water course. Attracted by the business opportunities of the new world, however, he came to America on attaining his majority, making his way to St. Louis, Missouri. He soon afterward located in Perry county, Missouri, where he resided until 1864, when he came to Montgomery county. Prior to this time he had engaged in blacksmithing, but upon his removal to East Fork township, Montgomery county, Illinois, he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, purchasing a section of land, upon a part of which his son John now resides. He labored earnestly and energetically as a farmer and for some years had the capable assistance of his son.

John Fath arrived in Montgomery county in March, 1865, at which time he began farming with his father. He had taught school in Missouri when nineteen years of age and he followed that profession through twenty-two consecutive winter terms and also taught to some extent in the summer months. He has thus been closely and helpfully connected with the educational interests of East Fork township, Montgomery county, and he made an excellent reputation as a teacher, for he has the ability to impart readily, clearly and concisely to others the knowledge that he has acquired. He always studied to introduce advanced educational methods and at the same time made his

school of a practical character. Through much of the summer his attention was given to farm labor in connection with his father and the unfaltering energy and enterprise of the younger proved a valued supplement to the experience of the father. After the father's death the home farm was divided and Mr. Fath of this review is now the owner of one hundred and sixty acres, of which eighty acres is a part of that place. He raises both stock and grain and he has fine farm animals, while on his place are seen good crops of the various cereals best adapted to the soil and climate.

In 1860 occurred the marriage of Mr. Fath and Miss Martha Mary Nugent, a daughter of John H. and Ruth Nugent. They had ten children, of whom eight are living: Medora, who is married and resides in Hillsboro; Luke A., who is married and resides on the old homestead; Charles E., who is married and makes his home in Hillsboro; Laura A., who is married and resides in the county seat; Florence Mande; Ethel Irene; Guy L.; and Eugene L. The parents are members of the Presbyterian church and their influence is ever found on the side of progress, improvement and right. Mr. Fath gives his political allegiance to the Democracy, of which his father was also a supporter, and he has been called to public office, serving his fellow citizens as circuit clerk. The public trust reposed in him has never been betrayed in the slightest degree and in all life's relations he has been found as an honorable, upright gentleman worthy of the regard and good will of his fellow men.

N. B. ALLEN.

N. B. Allen is a wide-awake and progressive business man dealing in hardware, implements, furniture and undertaking goods in Fillmore and while there have been no exciting chapters in his life history it yet contains elements of interest because he is a representative American citizen, energetic and enterprising in business and interested in the public welfare to the extent of giving hearty co-operation to many measures for the general good. He was born in Minnesota, January 10,

1866, his parents being L. C. and Alice D. (Bliss) Allen. He was but two years of age at the time of his parents' removal to Montgomery county, the home being established in Fillmore. He attended school in Fillmore township and for a year was a student in the academy at Hillsboro. He also spent two and a half years in the college at Carthage, Illinois, conducted under the auspices of the Lutheran church, and was thus well qualified by educational training to meet the responsible duties of a business career.

On putting aside his text books he came to Fillmore and entered the general store which had been opened by his father in 1883. He has since been identified with the business and now carries a large and well selected stock of hardware, farm implements and furniture, making his purchases with a view of meeting the varied tastes represented by the town and country trade. He also conducts an undertaking business. In his career as a merchant he has met with a gratifying measure of success which is accorded him in recognition of his straightforward, honorable methods and his earnest purpose to ably conduct a good store. This is the second largest business house in Fillmore. In addition to owning and conducting a store Mr. Allen is identified with agricultural interests, having three hundred acres of land in Montgomery and Fayette counties. He employs a man by the year to conduct his farm and he keeps upon his place good grades of cattle and hogs and feeds considerable stock to sell, which adds materially to his annual income. He is also one of the owners of the Fillmore Bank.

In 1889 Mr. Allen was united in marriage to Miss Anna Downs, a daughter of B. F. Downs. She is an estimable lady, holding membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and in social circles occupies an enviable position. Mr. Allen votes with the Democracy and has served as justice of the peace and as town clerk, filling these positions in a creditable manner, his official service being characterized by promptness and fidelity. Anything calculated to benefit the town elicits his attention and support and he has borne a helpful part in community interests. His life record will bear the closest investigation and scrutiny

and during his long residence in Montgomery county he has gained the warm friendship of many with whom social and business relations has brought him in contact.

W. A. BLACK.

Not many men who are active and successful in the business world have assistance at the beginning of their careers. The greater majority of those who depend upon their own resources improve their opportunities and advance to success by reason of their energy and inherent force of character. Such a one is Mr. Black, who follows farming in East Fork township. He was born about three miles east of his present residence in 1834, his parents being J. B. and Mary G. (McCaslin) Black. His father was born in Humphrey county, Tennessee, was there reared and in that locality followed the occupation of farming for some time. In 1830, however, he arrived in Illinois, settling in Bond county, where he remained until 1833, when he took up his abode in East Fork township, Montgomery county. Here he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, which was entirely unimproved, but with characteristic energy he began the development of a farm and made his home thereon until the spring of 1856. Then he removed to Donnellson, where he remained until 1865, when he took up his abode in Litchfield, where he spent his remaining days, passing away in 1876. The county thus lost one of its pioneer residents, for he located in this section of the state when the work of progress and improvement had been scarcely begun. Much of the land was still unclaimed and uncultivated, and where are now seen flourishing towns and villages then grew the wild prairie grasses. In the family were four children, of whom three are living.

W. A. Black spent his boyhood days in the usual manner of farmer lads, working in the fields and meadows through the summer months, while in the remainder of the year he attended school in Bond county and later for a short time in East Fork township, this county. Since attaining his majority he has been dependent upon his own resources for an



J. B. BLACK



MRS. SARAH J. (BLACK) HUTCHINSON
W. A. BLACK T. G. BLACK

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that he has possessed and enjoyed, and his life has been characterized by diligence and perseverance. After his marriage he started for himself by purchasing the old family homestead in 1856. He lived thereon for one year and then, selling that place, removed to Hillsboro and afterward to Irving, Illinois. In the latter place he was engaged in merchandising, but subsequently he returned to Hillsboro, where he conducted a livery stable. At a later date he purchased his present home, first becoming the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of land, the greater part of which lies within the borders of Montgomery county, and upon this he is engaged in general farming and stock-raising. He has seen the entire prairie settled. There were few houses when he arrived in Illinois, the country being wild and unimproved. He has also seen all the railroads built and the modern improvements introduced, including the telegraph and telephone. Equally remarkable changes have been noted in farm methods and especially in the kinds of machinery used in the development of the fields. Mr. Black has kept pace with modern progress and is today one of the leading agriculturists of his community.

In September, 1855, occurred the marriage of Mr. Black and Miss S. E. Whittle, and unto them were born six children, of whom three are living: Florence Etta, the wife of Benton Bendure, who resides in Oklahoma; and Margaret and J. A., at home. In 1868 Mr. Black was again married, his second union being with Eveline Foster, who was born in Greenville, Illinois, and was reared in Bond county. She is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Foster, both of whom came from Vermont to Illinois as early settlers of Bond county, establishing their home there in 1838. The ancestry of her mother's people can be traced back through eight hundred years. Mrs. Foster bore the maiden name of Elizabeth C. Norton, and is a representative of the Norton family of which Mme. Nordica, the famous singer, was related. Mr. and Mrs. Black had six children, of whom three are living: D. H. R., Lura A. and Albert F. The parents are worthy Christian people, belonging to the Cumberland Presbyterian church at Donnellson,

and Mr. Black is a Democrat in his political views. He has ever been fearlessly advocating his own opinions, yet never bitterly aggressive and his influence has ever been given on the side of right, progress, reform and improvement.

OTIS CLINTON COLBY, D. M. D.

Dr. Otis Clinton Colby, who is successfully engaged in the practice of dentistry in Hillsboro, his large patronage being indicative of his high standing in public regard, was born upon a farm near Zanesville, Illinois, on the 8th of November, 1814, his parents being Joel and Emma Colby. The mother was a daughter of Jefferson Davis and a native of Walshville, Illinois. The father spent his early life as a teacher and afterward engaged in agricultural pursuits, thus providing for his family for many years. He followed educational work in Greene county and in Zanesville, being thus associated with the intellectual development of the state for ten years. He also lived in Montgomery county for about twenty-nine years, teaching about five years of that time, and then gave his entire attention to agricultural pursuits. For about twelve years prior to his death, however, he lived a retired life in Litchfield and he passed away in Sullivan, Florida, on the 17th of December, 1893. His widow still resides in Litchfield at the age of forty-seven years. In the family are four sons and two daughters, who are yet living, and the family home is at No. 802 Union avenue. Those who still survive are William Walter, Oliver Roy, Edgar Elmer, Bertha Alma, Letha Lea and Otis C.

Dr. Colby acquired his education in the schools of Zanesville, Illinois, and in the high school of Litchfield. After the completion of his literary course he took up the study of telegraphy, in which he was graduated in Janesville, Wisconsin, on the 22nd of November, 1892. He then occupied the position of telegraph operator on the Wabash Railroad for about two years, but, determining to devote his attention to professional labors he entered the office of Dr. Barrefoot, of Litchfield, who di-

rected his studies and instructed him in the practical work of the office for one year. Later he entered the Wesleyan Dental College at Kansas City, Missouri, where he remained for a year and subsequently matriculated in the Missouri Dental College of Washington University at St. Louis, where he was graduated on the 28th of April, 1898. On the 4th of May following, he opened his office in Hillsboro, where he has since resided, and although one of the younger members of the profession, he has gained a large patronage which is indicative of his skill and ability, showing that his work has been satisfactory to his many patrons. He keeps in touch with the advanced ideas of the profession with its latest improvements and has put his knowledge to the practical test in his practice in a way that has made his labor profitable.

LOUIS WOLTERS.

Louis Wolters is a retired farmer now living in Hillsboro. He still has extensive landed possessions in Montgomery county, and his property is the visible evidence of his life of enterprise and thrift, for he came to America empty-handed and through the utilization of opportunity and by unfaltering perseverance he won the competence that now enables him to rest from further labors. He was born in Germany in 1827, a son of Frederick and Eliza (Van Rogge) Wolters, both of whom were natives of the fatherland. Mr. Wolters was a farmer by occupation and was prominent in his community, holding office under the German government. He served as mayor of his home town, also as collector of taxes, and was a soldier, serving under Napoleon at the battle of Waterloo. Unto him and his wife were born seven children, of whom three reached years of maturity, but Henry is now deceased. The others are Frederick, who is now living a retired life in Havana, Illinois; and Louis, of this review.

In the public schools of his native town Louis Wolters mastered the common branches of learning, but his educational privileges were somewhat limited and his knowledge has been

largely self-acquired through reading, experience and observation. He remained in his native country until twenty-six years of age, and in 1852 was married in Hamburg to Miss Elizabeth Heitman. The following year they sailed for the new world. They located in Cincinnati, Ohio, where Mr. Wolters worked at his trade of cabinet-making in a factory, spending five years in that city. On the expiration of that period he removed to Carlinville, Illinois, where he remained for seven years, conducting a general mercantile establishment. He next took up his abode upon a farm in East Fork township, Montgomery county, where he carried on agricultural pursuits until 1887 and then came to Hillsboro. Retiring from active business life he is now occupying a pleasant home and is enjoying a well-earned rest from active business pursuits. As his financial resources increased he made judicious investments in real estate, becoming the owner of valuable farming property. He now owns five hundred and eighty acres of land in East Fork and Rountree townships, and from his farms he derives a good income.

In 1895 Mr. Wolters was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died in Hillsboro on the 29th of March of that year, at the age of seventy-four. She was born at Enteiu, Oldenburg, Germany, and by her marriage she became the mother of four children: Hugo, who is living upon his father's farm in East Fork township; Robert, who occupies and operates his father's farm in Rountree township; Thomas, a wagon-maker and dealer in agricultural implements at Nokomis, Illinois; and Edward, who is also in business in Nokomis.

Mr. Wolters is a member of the Lutheran church and socially is connected with the Masonic fraternity. He votes with the Republican party and during his residence in Hillsboro has taken an active and helpful part in community interests. He served for six years as a member of the city council and exercised his official prerogatives in support of every measure which he believed would contribute to the general good. His business career was characterized by unflagging diligence and perseverance, resulting in a creditable measure of

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prosperity. Educational, church and social interests owe their promotion in a degree to his aid. Seventeen years has Hillsboro been his home—years largely devoted to the public good.

ZACHARIAH ENSOR.

Zachariah Ensor, who is now practically living retired in Coffeen, but in former years was identified with agricultural interests in Montgomery county, was born in Maryland, March 4, 1843, his parents being Charles and Catherine Ensor. His father, also a native of Maryland, followed the occupation of farming and in 1859 removed from the Atlantic coast to the interior of the country, spending several years in Montgomery county, but later he went to Fayette county, where his remaining days were passed.

Zachariah Ensor came to Illinois with his parents in 1859 when a youth of sixteen. He had in the meantime acquired his education in the public schools of Wayne county, Indiana, and when he entered upon his business career it was as a farm hand in the employ of Joshua Wilson, with whom he remained for seven years, working by the month. His long continuance in the one service certainly indicates his fidelity and capability. He entered Mr. Wilson's employ in June, 1861, and there remained until 1869 with the exception of the period of his services in the Civil war. He responded to his country's call as a defender of the Union, enlisting in the Seventh Missouri Cavalry, which was later consolidated to the First Missouri Cavalry. He participated in some of the engagements of the Red River expedition and was afterward with the Army of the Cumberland under General Fred Steele in the Seventh Army Corps. He was mustered out in September, 1865, and returned home with a creditable military record. For eight weeks he was in the hospital on account of an injury in his ankle, but on his recovery he again joined his regiment.

Upon his return from the war Mr. Ensor again entered the employ of Mr. Wilson, with whom he remained until 1869. He was then

married to Miss R. L. Shaffer and they became the parents of four children: Laura Crites, Hattie Campbell, Ollie Welgo and Lyma. In 1900 Mr. Ensor was again married, his second union being with Miss Luella W. Griffin.

After his marriage Mr. Ensor continued farming for others until he was able to secure a farm of his own. He engaged in raising grain and stock, making a specialty of horses and he placed all of the improvements upon his land, converting it into a valuable and productive tract. In September, 1888, he came to Coffeen, being one of the early citizens of the town and purchased the home which he now occupies. He is practically living retired except he engages to some extent in gardening. Whatever success he has achieved is the direct result and reward of his labors, for he started out in life empty-handed. Gradually he worked his way upward, overcoming all difficulties and obstacles in his path and he is now the possessor of a comfortable competence, which enables him to live in practical retirement from further business life. He has always taken an active interest in the welfare of the town and his co-operation in its public affairs has been an element in its upbuilding. He has served on the board of health for four years, has also been president of the board and as a private citizen has contributed to the general improvement. He votes with the Republican party and fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen, while his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Cumberland Presbyterian church.

J. J. BOST.

J. J. Bost is the owner of a fine farm of three hundred and sixty acres located in Fillmore township, but is now practically living retired, having for ten years made his home in Fillmore, where he is enjoying a well merited rest. He was born in Cabarrus county, North Carolina, in 1836, his parents being Jacob and Margaret (Cress) Bost. The father, also a native of the Old North state, was a farmer by occupation and on removing westward to Illinois settled a mile and a half south of where Fillmore is now

located. He purchased his land of John J. Alexander, one of the early settlers of the county and upon his farm spent his remaining days, being one of the well known and valued agriculturists of his community.

J. J. Bost was only nine months of age at the time of his parents' removal to Illinois and here he was reared and educated, attending the public schools. The little temple of learning was a log structure, crudely furnished and the methods of instruction were also somewhat primitive. When twenty-two years of age Mr. Bost started out in life on his own account. His farm is splendidly improved, being equipped with many modern accessories. The house was built by his father, while J. J. Bost built the barn. In addition to general farming Mr. Bost engaged in the raising of cattle on an extensive scale and he now has a herd of fine Angus cattle. He has owned many head of registered stock and in all of his dealings he has met with success which should ever crown persistent and honorable effort. He continued farming on the old homestead there for many years, his business having been interrupted by a period of only four years, which years were passed in Ramsey. About ten years ago he left the farm and took up his abode in Fillmore, where he now resides, but he still retains the ownership of his valuable tract of land of three hundred and sixty acres.

In October, 1857, Mr. Bost was united in marriage to Miss Rebecca Sanders, a daughter of John Sanders, of this county. Her father was an early settler of the county. He was born in North Carolina and when three years of age was taken by his parents to Kentucky, where he was reared and educated. He came to Illinois about seventy-five years ago, settling in Fillmore township. His death occurred in February, 1852, and thus passed away one of the honored pioneer settlers, whose efforts were of value in the development of the county along progressive lines. In his family were seven children, of whom two are now living, including Mrs. Bost. Mr. and Mrs. Bost became the parents of six children, of whom four are now living: Mrs. Ada Richmond, Mrs. Kate Miller, J. Q. and Coda Williams.

Mrs. Bost is a member of the Lutheran church and is a most estimable lady, having proved a faithful companion and helpmate to her husband in the journey of life. Mr. Bost exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the Democracy and he has served as school director for twelve years. Long years have passed since he became a resident of this county and great changes have occurred owing to the efforts of the settlers who have been a class of worthy pioneers. He has taken a deep interest in everything that has been accomplished for the welfare of the community and his mind bears the impress of the early historic annals of the county. He can relate many interesting incidents concerning pioneer times here and remembers with pleasure many events which occurred within that period, yet no man has taken a greater part in what has been accomplished as the years have passed and as progress has wrought its effect in obliterating pioneer conditions and bringing about the more modern civilization of the present day.

WILLIAM M. RHODES.

William M. Rhodes, the owner of two valuable farms in Montgomery county, is an enterprising agriculturist, living on section 17, Raymond township, where he has sixty-nine acres of land that are situated about a mile from the village of Raymond. He also has two hundred and forty acres of the old Rhodes homestead, which is likewise a well improved property. His business career has been characterized by admirable qualities, for in his dealings with his fellow men he is ever straightforward and honorable, and in the control of his business interests he is most energetic and enterprising.

Mr. Rhodes was born in Kentucky, April 1, 1844, and is of Irish lineage. His paternal grandfather, George Rhodes, was also born in Kentucky, where the family was established at a very early day. He was there reared and married, and among his children was Hillery Rhodes, also a native of Kentucky. The last named spent his youth in the usual manner of



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farmer lads of that period and when he had attained to man's estate he was married to Miss Louisa Mattingly, a native of Kentucky. They became the parents of ten children, all of whom were born in that state. Mrs. Rhodes died there about 1864 and Mr. Rhodes afterward came to Illinois, joining his son, William M. Rhodes, who had located here in 1862. The father spent his remaining days in this state and was again married here, after which he became a resident of Macoupin county, where he remained until called to his final rest.

William M. Rhodes was a resident of Kentucky until twenty years of age. His advantages and opportunities in youth were very meager. He attended school to only a limited extent and his time was largely devoted to farm work, which gave him little chance for self-culture at home. However, experience has taught him many valuable lessons and reading and observation have also added to his knowledge, so that he is now a well developed man and he has kept well informed on many of the questions and issues of the day. Leaving Kentucky in 1862, he located in Macoupin county, Illinois, when a young man of twenty years, and there began working as a farm hand by the month. Having been employed in that capacity for several years, he afterward rented land, which he cultivated for some time. He worked earnestly, saved his earnings, and when his financial resources had sufficiently accumulated he purchased a tract of timber land. Clearing ten acres of this, he built a house thereon and later he cleared and cultivated sixty acres more, continuing the work of improvement there until he had a very desirable property. Afterward, however, he sold that farm and bought another tract of eighty acres, on which he lived for eight years. He has bought and sold several farms, making substantial improvements on all, and in 1885 he came to Montgomery county, where he invested in eighty acres of land in Raymond township. About a year later he bought an adjoining tract of eighty acres and began to farm his land. He afterward added another eighty-acre tract and now has two hundred and forty acres, on which he has erected a good residence and substantial outbuildings for the

shelter of grain and stock. He has also planted an orchard, has secured the latest improved machinery to facilitate farm work, and has carried on his labors along progressive lines, which have resulted in making him one of the prosperous agriculturists of his community. Around his farm are nearly three miles of good hedge fence, and fences also divide the place into fields of convenient size. Two sets of farm buildings, the two orchards, the well tilled fields and the high grades of stock raised thereon all constitute this one of the best farms of the community. In addition to the cultivation of cereals best adapted to soil and climate, Mr. Rhodes engaged in the raising and feeding of stock and found that a profitable source of income. He continued his labors there until 1903, when he left his two sons upon that place and purchased a tract of land of sixty-nine acres nearer the town. He then took up his abode thereon and has made this a well improved property.

On the 3d of December, 1868, Mr. Rhodes was united in marriage to Miss Ambrosia Smith, a native of Scott county, Illinois, where she was reared and educated. She died upon the old homestead, March 23, 1903, deeply regretted by many friends who had learned to love her for her many excellent traits of character. There were nine children born of this marriage, six sons and three daughters, namely: Fletcher, a resident farmer of Montgomery county; William, who is married and lives upon the old homestead; Archie, who is married and resides upon the old home farm; Frank, who is married and is a resident farmer of Raymond township; Henry, who is living with his father upon the old home place; Shelly, who is married and is farming his father's land; Flora, the wife of Charles Vincent, of Rountree township, by whom she has four children, Laura, Edward, Arthur and Floyd; Mary, the wife of Robert Moore, of Raymond township; and Sadie, who is acting as her father's housekeeper.

Mr. Rhodes is a member of the Baptist church and his life has been an exemplification of his Christian faith and belief. Fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen and

politically he is a Democrat, giving continuous support to the party since casting his first presidential ballot for General George B. McClellan. His life has been characterized by truth and steady progression. When he entered upon his business career he had no capital, but he placed his dependence upon the substantial qualities of energy, strong determination and capable management. To-day he is the possessor of two valuable farms, and certainly as the architect of his own fortunes he has builded wisely and well.

WILLIAM M. ATTEBERY.

William M. Attebery, deceased, was for many years a well known resident of Montgomery county and helped to drive the first stake in laying out the city of Litchfield. A native of Illinois, he was born in Macoupin county, August 22, 1835, was reared upon a farm and when a young man removed to the vicinity of Litchfield. He started out in life a poor boy, with no financial resources, but a strong and determined spirit stood him instead of capital, and as the years advanced he prospered in his undertakings.

Seeking a companion and helpmate on the journey of life, Mr. Attebery was married, January 1, 1857, to Miss Mary J. Beeler, a daughter of Jacob Beeler, who was one of the early settlers of Montgomery county and assisted in its pioneer development. The daughter was born in Hamilton county, Ohio, and came to this county when eighteen years of age. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Attebery were born ten children, namely: Luella E., who is residing in Hillsboro; William J., a farmer of Hillsboro township; David P., a resident of Grisham township; Sarah M., the wife of George Rainey, of Hillsboro township; Lavina, wife of John Loucks, of the same township; Charles B., who is living near Dexter, Missouri; Eva B., wife of Edwin Thompson, a school teacher of Illinois; Mamie, who died in 1868 at the age of twenty-one years; and two that died in infancy.

Soon after his marriage Mr. Attebery took his young wife to Hillsboro township and purchased one hundred acres of land now owned

by the Ault estate. After a few years there passed he sold that property and removed to the farm which is now the property of his son, William J., taking up his abode thereon in 1865. When three years had passed he settled on the Zimmermann farm, where George Rainey is now living, and improved that property, making it his place of residence for twenty-eight years, during which time he placed the land under a very high state of cultivation and also added good buildings to the farm. At length he retired from active agricultural pursuits and removed to Litchfield, where his death occurred November 13, 1895. His wife, surviving him a few years, died January 19, 1901.

Mr. Attebery was a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal church, with which he united in 1869. In matters of citizenship he was public spirited and loyal, and at the time of the Civil war he espoused the Union cause, enlisting, in 1862, as a private. He served for one year and was then honorably discharged on account of disability. Viewed from a business standpoint also, his life is worthy of emulation, for through honorable methods and persistency of purpose he gained prosperity and at the time of his death was the owner of about one thousand acres of land.

WILLIAM J. ATTEBERY.

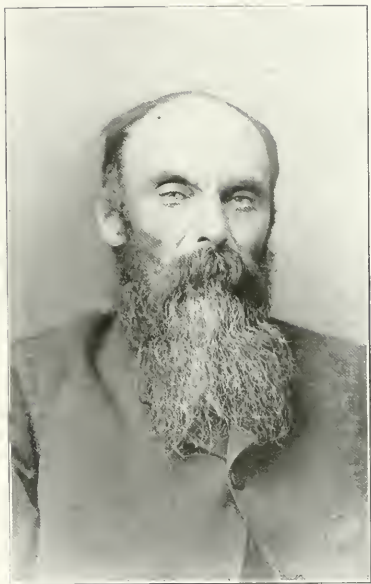
Among the representative and progressive farmers of Hillsboro township is numbered William J. Attebery, a representative of one of the old pioneer families of the state. He was born in the township which is still his home, his natal day being March 18, 1861. His father was William M. Attebery, represented elsewhere in this work.

Well known in Montgomery county, where he has spent his entire life, William J. Attebery deserves mention in this volume as one of the leading agriculturists and a reliable business man. He was reared to farm life, and the occupation which claimed his time and energies in youth has also demanded his attention since he attained man's estate. The public schools afforded him his educational

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privileges, and in the period of vacation he continued to assist his father in the operation of the old home place, remaining under the parental roof until his marriage.

On the 17th of March, 1887, Mr. Attebery was married to Miss Lula Bailey, and they have five children: Clara, Charles, Homer, Hazel and Edgar. Mr. Attebery removed with his bride to a farm which he purchased of his father, comprising one hundred and eight acres of land, and upon that he lived until 1901, when he took up his abode on the place he now occupies, comprising three hundred and fifty-four acres of rich and arable land. He also owns another farm of one hundred and twenty acres, so that his landed possessions aggregate four hundred and seventy-four acres, constituting a very desirable and valuable property. He engaged in general farming and utilizes modern methods. His place is equipped with the latest improved machinery, and everything about the place indicates the careful supervision of a progressive owner.

In his political views Mr. Attebery is a Democrat, and while he keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day has never sought office, preferring to give undivided attention to his business interests. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp at Hillsboro, and his place is pleasantly located about four miles south and one mile west of the city.

OTTO HAAKE.

Otto Haake, numbered among the substantial and intelligent farmers of Fillmore township, is the owner of a rich and productive tract of land on which is a fine residence and modern equipments. He was born in Macoupin county, Illinois, in 1860, his parents being Henry and Hannah (Welge) Haake, who are mentioned elsewhere in this volume in connection with the history of Solomon Haake. He was only four years old when brought by his parents to Montgomery county and here he pursued his education in a log schoolhouse, gaining a knowledge of the branches of English learning usually taught in the public

schools. His training at farm labor was not meager, for at an early age he assisted in the development of the fields and the care of the stock. After attaining his majority he resided for five years upon the farm which is now occupied by his brother, Solomon Haake, and on the expiration of that period he removed to the place which he now occupies and operates on section 15, Fillmore township. His father resided with him until his death. Otto Haake now has a splendid farm upon which is a fine residence which was built by the father just prior to his demise. The farm comprises two hundred and fifty acres of land and much of it is under a high state of cultivation, returning to the owner golden harvests as a reward for the care and labor he bestows upon his place. He also gives some attention to the raising of cattle and hogs and this adds to his income. He has made an excellent reputation as an enterprising agriculturist and his farming methods are in many respects most commendable.

In 1897 Mr. Haake was united in marriage to Miss Ulreke Yoske, who was born in Germany and crossed the Atlantic ocean with her parents when four years of age, the family home being established near Hillsboro, Illinois. Two children have been born of this union, of whom Merrill is now living. Mr. Haake votes with the Democracy, having supported the party since attaining his majority and like every true American citizen should do he keeps well informed on the questions of the day and is thus able to uphold his political position by intelligent argument. The years pass quickly and happily for him and his life is a busy and honorable one. Through consecutive labor, supplemented by sound business judgment he has gained prosperity in his undertakings and is well known as one of the leading farmers of Fillmore township.

SAMUEL SHOEMAKER.

In taking up the personal history of Samuel Shoemaker we present to our readers the life record of one who is widely known in Nokomis township, where he owns and operates a val-

uable farm on section 26. His birth occurred in Jefferson county, Ohio, in 1843, his parents being Adam and Elizabeth Shoemaker. The father was born in Bedford county, Pennsylvania, where he was reared until ten or twelve years of age, when he went with his parents to Ohio, the family becoming early settlers in that locality. Adam Shoemaker followed the occupation of farming and was numbered among the prominent men of his community, esteemed not only for his success but for his absolute honesty, his name becoming a synonym for integrity in both word and deed. Almost his entire life was passed in Ohio, save for the brief period of ten years in his early boyhood.

Samuel Shoemaker was reared in the Buckeye state and attended school there. He began earning his living as a school teacher of Ohio. Later he came to Illinois, settling upon the prairie in Montgomery county, east of Nokomis, in the spring of 1867. That summer he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land and at once began its improvement. As a farmer he has been very successful and he continued to cultivate his fields until 1879, when he removed to Nokomis, although he still retained the ownership of his farm. He had twenty-six acres of land in the town and he resided there for ten years, at the end of which time he traded his town property for forty acres of land, upon which he now lives, this coming into his possession in 1889. He has made splendid improvements upon the home place, has planted orchards and now has a valuable fruit farm. He is also conducting a dairy and finds this a profitable source of income. He likewise owns a quarter section of land in Ford county, Kansas, and he is actively interested in mining.

In January, 1869, Mr. Shoemaker was married to Miss Mary Elizabeth Swaney, a native of Virginia and a daughter of Rev. D. D. Swaney. They had ten children, of whom eight are living: Minnie E., wife of Dr. George Wilson, of Nokomis; Jennie L., wife of Will McAfee; Alice M., the wife of Andrew Van Buren, of Cooperstown, New York; Olin, who died at the age of twenty-seven years; Bruce O. and Mary, at home; Samuel, who

is attending the Indiana Dental College; Edgar A., Elmer P. and Homer, triplets, who were born August 20, 1880, but the last named died at the age of nine months.

In his political affiliations Mr. Shoemaker is a Democrat and has served as collector of Audubon township. He is the secretary of the Home Insurance Company doing business in this township. This furnishes protection against fires and lightning and is a reliable, trustworthy organization. During the Civil war he enlisted May 2, 1864, in Company D, One Hundred and Fifty-seventh Ohio National Guards, and was on duty at Columbus, Ohio, for four months. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Nokomis and their children are also identified with that denomination. He is numbered among the early settlers of that town, which was a mere village when he took up his abode there and the surrounding district was nearly all wild prairie. He has aided in the agricultural development of the county and through his labors has won a comfortable competence.

ALBERT M. PADEN.

Albert Milton Paden, who owns and operates a farm of eighty acres of section 16, Hillsboro township, was born in this township, April 27, 1864, and is a son of James M. and Mary (McLean) Paden. The father, a native of Kentucky, came to Montgomery county at an early day and settled upon a farm in Hillsboro township, carrying on agricultural pursuits and at the same time aiding in the advancement and upbuilding of the county by performing faithfully the duties of citizenship until his death in 1868.

Until about seventeen years of age Albert M. Paden pursued his education in the district schools near his father's home and later he spent one year in the high school at Hillsboro and for one term was a student in Brown's Business College, at Jacksonville, Illinois. He then resumed farm work, in which he had received ample training in the cultivation and improvement of the old homestead. He remained at home until twenty years of age and

was then married, on the 14th of May, 1884, to Miss Dora Emery, a daughter of Robert and Ruth (Wilson) Emery. Her father was born near Fillmore, Illinois, and was a carpenter by occupation, following that pursuit as a life work. He died about the year 1868 but his widow is still living, making her home in Hillsboro township. In their family were two children, the son being Selron Emery, who is now living in Hillsboro.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Paden have been born three children: James Carl, born January 31, 1885; Albert Roy, born October 7, 1886; and Bertha, born December 11, 1891. The parents attend the Presbyterian church and in his political views Mr. Paden is an earnest Republican. He held the office of assessor for one term, but has never been an aspirant for political honors, preferring to give his undivided attention to his farming interests. He is now the owner of eighty acres of land, which he has placed under a high state of cultivation, and his farm, on section 16, Hillsboro township, is a well improved property, supplied with all modern farm equipments.

WILLIAM FRICKE.

In a record of the agricultural development of Raymond township, William Fricke should find mention for he is one of the most progressive, enterprising and intelligent young farmers of his locality. He lives on section 25 and is the owner of a well improved farm of two hundred acres equipped with all modern conveniences. He was born in Madison county, Illinois, September 18, 1865, and is of German lineage. His father, Christian Fricke, a native of Germany, came to the United States when a young man, attracted by the business opportunities and advantages of the new world. He made his way to St. Louis, Missouri, and while there residing was married to Dorothea Eppers, also a native of Germany. Mr. Fricke engaged in steamboating on the Mississippi for a number of years and also worked at railroad construction. He afterward established his home in Madison county, Illinois, where he carried on farming for a few years and during the residence of the family there four chil-

dren were added to the household. In 1867 he came to Montgomery county, purchasing eighty acres of land, and began the development of a farm. That he prospered in his undertaking is indicated by the fact that he gradually extended the boundaries of his place and eventually he had eight hundred and fifty acres included within five tracts. He was a very prominent, successful and capable agriculturist and his life demonstrated the possibilities of accomplishment when one has strong determination and is willing to work earnestly and persistently in order to win prosperity. He spent his last years in Montgomery county, departing this life on the 19th of April, 1893. His wife survives him and now resides in Nokomis. Unto this worthy couple were born four sons and two daughters, all of whom are now living and are heads of families.

William Fricke was reared in Montgomery county and is indebted to the public-school system for the educational privileges which he enjoyed. He attended the Union Brick school and when he had mastered the elementary branches of learning therein he entered the school of experience, in which he has also learned many valuable lessons. He continued to assist his father in the operation of the old home place until the latter's death and then succeeded to the ownership of one hundred and twenty acres of the home farm. He also bought eighty acres additional and he now has a well improved and valuable property. He raises good stock and also feeds some stock for the market. He is known throughout this section of the county as a successful farmer and he has won his reputation by hard, persistent labor. His entire life has been characterized by unflinching diligence and industry, for he realizes that this is the basis of all substantial success and advancement in the business world.

Mr. Fricke was married in Raymond township on the 19th of January, 1898, to Miss Mollie Weller, the youngest daughter of Daniel Weller, one of the early settlers of this county and township, owning and operating a farm adjoining the Fricke place. Three children grace this marriage: Lydia, Louise and Helen.

Mr. Fricke was reared in the Lutheran faith, his wife in the Methodist church, and both now attend the services of the Methodist denomination. Although he has never sought or desired public office he takes a public-spirited interest in political questions and has served as a delegate to the county conventions of the Republican party. His life history is well known to many of his friends for he has long resided in Montgomery county. There have been no exciting chapters in his life record that he wishes to cover up, but all has been open and above board, and his straightforward dealings have made him a respected and valued resident of Raymond township.

HARRY C. STUTTLE.

Among the younger lawyers practicing at the Montgomery county bar is Harry C. Stuttle, of Litchfield, who has followed his profession in his native city and with good success. He was born February 25, 1879. His father, Joseph Stuttle, was born in Edwardsville, Illinois, and is a representative of one of the pioneer families of the state, his parents having come from Austria at an early day and established their home upon a farm in Madison county. When their son Joseph was but ten years of age they removed to Montgomery county, settling in Fillmore township, where Joseph Stuttle continued to reside until about thirty years of age. He then took up his abode in Litchfield, where he is now living at the age of fifty-two years. He was a poor boy, enjoying but few advantages, and at the outset of his career he had no pecuniary assistance, but through perseverance and energy he has accumulated a competence and is now the owner of four hundred and fifty acres of land adjoining Litchfield, together with city property. He is likewise a stockholder in the Litchfield Bank & Trust Company and is one of the esteemed citizens of Montgomery county, where he has so directed his labors as to win honorable prosperity. He votes with the Democracy. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Hannah Beeler, died in 1884, in the faith of the Lutheran church, in which she

held membership. Her father, Jacob Beeler, was a large property holder and capitalist who became one of the early residents of Litchfield and was one of its promoters and upbuilders. Mr. and Mrs. Stuttle became the parents of three children: Harry C.; Joseph S., who is residing upon the old home farm; and Charles P., a practicing dentist of St. Louis, Missouri.

Mr. Stuttle of this review pursued his early education in the old Beacon schoolhouse near Litchfield and is a graduate of the high school of this city of the class of 1898. He afterward engaged in teaching for a year and then entered the University of Illinois at Urbana in the fall of 1899. He spent one year there and subsequently entered the law office of Zink & Kinder at Litchfield, but completed his law studies in the office of M. M. Creighton. In the fall of 1903 he was admitted to the bar and has since been practicing in Litchfield with good success, having already obtained a clientele that many an older practitioner might well envy. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity, the Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks, the Mutual Protective League, and in his political views is a Democrat. He is well known in the city of his nativity and is popular with a large circle of friends.

URBAN E. KINTZ.

Urban E. Kintz, who is a representative of industrial interests in Litchfield, was born in Terre Haute, Indiana, in 1870. His father, Charles Kintz, was a native of Ohio, born on the 10th of February, 1848, and his death occurred on the 26th of February, 1874. He was a carpenter by trade and in an early day he removed with two brothers to Terre Haute, Indiana, where he spent the remainder of his life. He held membership with the Catholic church and in his political views he was a Democrat. He married Catherine Martha Milliken, who was born January 30, 1853, and is also deceased. Their marriage was celebrated March 13, 1869, and they became the parents of three children: Urban E.; Blanche, who was born in 1872 and has passed away;



HARRY C. STUTTLE

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Evoy Josephina, who was born in 1874 and is deceased.

Urban E. Kintz acquired his education in the parochial schools near Terre Haute, Indiana, but his opportunities in that direction were somewhat limited. He learned the carpenter's trade in his native place, beginning work at twenty-five cents per day and boarding himself. He was employed as a journeyman for five years and afterward worked at his trade in Van Buren, Missouri, for a similar period. On the expiration of that time he returned to Terre Haute, Indiana, and was employed at farm labor for two years, but afterward resumed carpentering. He came to Litchfield in 1891 and worked in the coach shop of the Big Four Railroad Company until the plant was removed from this city. He afterward followed his trade in St. Louis, Missouri, but later again came to Litchfield and entered into partnership with George C. Fellner in 1902. This relation has since been maintained and as contractors and builders they are doing a good business, having a liberal share of the public patronage.

On the 20th of July, 1902, Mr. Kintz was married to Miss Fannie Grace Weatherford, who was born October 28, 1868, in Litchfield, and is a daughter of Hardin and Martha (Reams) Weatherford. In his younger days his father was a farmer and at the time of the Civil war he offered his services to the government, enlisting at Carlinville, Illinois, in 1861, as a member of Company K, One Hundred and Twenty-second Illinois Infantry, with which he served until the close of the war. He was second lieutenant and he participated in a number of important engagements. In one battle he was shot in the temple. He is now a charter member of Sidney Philip Post, G. A. R., and has filled all of the positions in the post. In his family were eleven children, of whom Mrs. Kintz is the eighth in order of birth.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Kintz have been born four children: Roy Eugene, who was born in Litchfield, October 6, 1893; Pauline May, born in St. Louis, Missouri, February 18, 1896; Charles Hardin, born in Litchfield, March 6, 1900; and Martha, born July 2, 1903. Mrs. Kintz is a member of the Lutheran church

and Mr. Kintz is connected fraternally with the Knights of Pythias lodge and the Order of the Eagles. Politically he is a Republican. During the greater part of his life he has continued in the business in which he embarked as a young tradesman and his skill and efficiency have increased with the passing years, so that he is worthy the patronage which is extended him. His business has been constantly growing since he entered into his present partnership in Litchfield and many substantial structures here stand as evidences of his handiwork.

WILLIAM B. POTTS.

William B. Potts, one of the intelligent, enterprising and successful farmers of Montgomery county, is living on section 34, Zanesville township, and is the owner of valuable landed possessions comprising three hundred acres, of which two hundred and fifty acres is in the home place. A native son of this county, he was born in Zanesville township, October 30, 1858, a son of E. J. Potts, whose birth occurred in Macoupin county, Illinois, where the days of his boyhood and youth were passed. He was married here to Miss Agnes Ann Allen, who was born in Zanesville township, Montgomery county, and he opened up a farm in Zanesville township, breaking his land, planting his crops and in due course of time gathering rich harvests. He used four yoke of oxen to the breaking plow and he broke hundreds of acres in this county, thus assisting in large measure in the substantial improvement and agricultural development of this portion of the state. Upon the old homestead farm he reared his family but subsequently he sold his property in Montgomery county and went to Evansville, Indiana, where he is now living retired.

William B. Potts was reared upon the old family homestead in the usual manner of farmer lads of that period and remained with his father until twenty-three years of age, assisting in the labors of field and meadow. During the winter months he attended the public schools, thus acquiring a fair education. He was married in Litchfield on the

5th of February, 1882, to Miss Olive Belle Rushton, a native of Bond county, Illinois, born at Mulberry Grove, her parents being Gaines and Martha Rushton.

After his marriage Mr. Potts located upon a farm in Raymond township, where he rented a tract of land and carried on agricultural pursuits for four years. He then purchased a small place of twenty-five acres covered with stumps and brush, but with characteristic energy he began to clear the land and develop his farm. He worked on day after day, earnestly and persistently, and as time passed his efforts were rewarded with good success. Later he purchased more land from time to time in ten and fifteen acre tracts until he was the owner of one hundred and thirty acres, which he had cleared, fenced and developed into productive fields. He then sold that property and purchased his present home on section 34, Zanesville township, where he has two hundred and fifty acres. The place was somewhat dilapidated, however, when it came into his possession in 1900, but he has continued the work of improvement here and now has a good property well equipped with modern buildings and all the accessories needed to carry on the farm work. In addition to the raising of grain he also raises and feeds stock for the market. Mr. Potts began his business life without a dollar and he has made what he possesses through his labor, frugality and enterprise.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Potts were born eight children: Agnes A.; Henry J., who became a member of the United States navy; Carrie Mae; Albert Leroy; Alice G.; Joseph E.; and Florence O. They also lost a son, William W., who died at the age of four years.

Politically Mr. Potts is a Democrat when voting upon national issues and he cast his first presidential ballot for Grover Cleveland and his last for William Jennings Bryan. At local elections, however, he votes independently, supporting the candidate whom he thinks best qualified for the office. He has been elected and served as commissioner of highways, has been a member of the school board and is now serving as its president. He was also for two terms county commissioner and he has served as a delegate to the county conventions of his

party. He is one of the organizers and directors of the Farmers Mutual Telephone line. Mrs. Potts and their two eldest daughters are members of the Christian church. Mr. Potts has been identified with the growth and development of the county throughout his entire life and he has been a hard working, industrious man, attending strictly to his business affairs and through his persistent purpose winning the success which is the just reward of untiring labor.

A. SUMNER BARRY.

The name of Barry figures conspicuously in connection with the history of Montgomery county, for at an early period in the development of this portion of the state the grandparents of A. Sumner Barry located here, and since that time their descendants have been factors in the agricultural progress, and in matters of citizenship have been loyal to high ideals resulting to the good of the community.

Mr. Barry of this review was born upon his father's farm in Hillsboro township, December 25, 1857, a son of John W. Barry, a native of Barren county, Kentucky, born October 3, 1830. The grandfather, Richard Barry, was born in Wythe county, Virginia, in January, 1785, and there resided until eighteen years of age, when he removed to Kentucky. In that state he married Nancy Smith, whose birth occurred in North Carolina in 1789. They were the parents of nine children, five sons and four daughters: Nellie, Joseph, Polly, Alford, Michael S., Nancy, Emily, James T. and John W. The last named, the father of A. Sumner Barry, was brought by his parents to Montgomery county in 1831, the journey being made by team and wagon in accordance with the primitive methods of travel of that day. The grandfather entered from the government one hundred and sixty acres of land, by purchasing a squatter's right to a claim on which a small rude cabin had been built. To the development and improvement of this property Richard Barry devoted his energies until his death, which occurred June 30, 1848. His wife died

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MR. AND MRS. A. SUMNER BARRY



JOHN W. BARRY



ADDISON McLAIN



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at the home of Smith Barry, February 11, 1867.

Amid the wild scenes of frontier life John W. Barry was reared, early becoming familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. He married Sarah C. Newcomb, who was born in Wythe county, Virginia, December 18, 1834, and came to Montgomery county with her parents, William A. and Mary A. (Aimber) Newcomb, both of whom were natives of the Old Dominion. The father, who was born in Prince George county, came to Montgomery county, Illinois, in 1837, and thus it is that A. Sumner Barry is descended from pioneer families of Illinois in both the paternal and maternal lines. Unto his parents were born nine children, but the eldest died in infancy. The others are: Mary, the wife of Joseph B. Nail, of Litchfield; Jane, who died April 2, 1904; William, who died at the age of a year and a half; A. Sumner; Lou, who married John F. White and died October 18, 1890; Henry W.; Amanda A., the wife of Edward Bailey, of Grisham township; and George, who died at the age of ten months. Upon the old family homestead John W. Barry reared his family. He lived there during the period of his own youth, in fact, the farm was his place of residence from 1831 until his death, which occurred on the 11th of June, 1899. He gave his political allegiance to the Republican party and held some local offices, the duties of which he ably discharged, but his attention was chiefly directed to his business interests, in which he met with good success. He had long survived his wife, who died March 15, 1866.

Reared on the old farm on section 35, Hillsboro township, Sumner Barry received his practical training in farm work by assisting his father in the labors of the fields, and he early came to understand the value of industry, perseverance and honesty in active business life. His literary education was received in the public schools, and when his time was not occupied with his textbooks he aided in the work of the fields.

On the 6th of September, 1882, Mr. Barry was married to Miss Dora McLain, a daughter of Addison and Catherine McLain. Her

father was born in North Carolina, October 5, 1811, and was married September 17, 1834. About two years later he came to this county and settled in Hillsboro township. He followed farming throughout life, and died here August 25, 1873. His wife passed away July 13, 1903. In their family were eleven children, namely: Mary A., Isabel, Sarah J., Nancy, William A., Catherine A., John H., James C., David M., Dora F., and one that died in infancy. Three of the children are now deceased. Mr. McLain was a supporter of the Republican party, and both he and his wife were members of the Presbyterian church. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Barry: Nellie, the wife of Chester Holmes, of East Fork township; Earl, Roscoe and Florence.

After his marriage our subject rented the Smith Barry farm for three years and then took up his abode on the place where he now resides. He owns one hundred and ten acres here, and also a half interest in his father's old farm of one hundred and seventy-nine acres. He carries on general farming, follows modern business methods, and his agricultural labors are returning to him a good annual income.

Mr. Barry has taken an active and helpful part in community interests. He served as highway commissioner for three terms and was school director for twelve years. His political support is given to the Republican party, and fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America. He possesses many sterling traits of character which command for him uniform regard.

GEORGE A. PARTLOW.

Among the residents of Montgomery county who have come to Illinois from the south is George A. Partlow, who resides in Audubon township. He was born in Rappahannock county, Virginia, June 19, 1858, a son of William W. and Sarah J. (Rudacill) Partlow. The ancestral home of the family was in the Old Dominion, where were born the father, grandfather, and great-grandfather of George A. Partlow. The family, however, is of Scotch-

Irish lineage. The grandfather and father always resided in the Old Dominion, where they carried on agricultural pursuits and were known there as extensive planters and slave owners, the father having large landed possessions in his native state.

In early youth George A. Partlow became familiar with agricultural labors. His education was acquired in the subscription schools and he remained at home until 1879, when at the age of twenty-one years he went to Clark county, Virginia, where he began working for ten dollars per month as a farm hand. He was thus employed for three years and during the last year was paid one hundred and twenty-five dollars. At the end of that time he was married, June 1, 1882, to Miss Jennie McDonald, who was of Scotch-Irish lineage, her parental grandfather having come from Scotland to America. Her father was James McDonald and her mother bore the name of Mrs. Priscilla Spade Moreland prior to her marriage with Mr. McDonald. They, too, were native residents of Virginia and her father was a Confederate soldier, who served in Lee's army, participating in the battle of the Wilderness and many other important engagements, which occurred in Virginia. He died in 1886 and was buried upon his farm in Culpeper county, that state, where the mother's remains were also interred when she was called to her final rest. In their family were fifteen children, eight sons and seven daughters: James W., who is living upon the home farm in Culpeper county, Virginia; John R., of Williamson county, Texas; Mrs. Nellie M. Carpenter, of Brandy Station, Culpeper county, Virginia; Mrs. Jennie R. Calvert, who lives in Palmer, Christian county, Illinois; Mrs. Partlow; William H., who resides in Prince William county, Virginia; Lucy M., deceased, who was buried at Woodville, Virginia; Wallace E., who is married and follows blacksmithing at Culpeper Courthouse, Virginia; Mrs. Carrie Livergood, of Taylorville, Illinois; Edward J., who resides with his brother, James, upon the old family homestead; Mrs. Lizzie K. Best, who is residing in Nokomis, Illinois; Mrs. Belle Kibler, who died and was buried at Woodville, Virginia; Annie M., who died in infancy and

was buried in Rappahannock county, Virginia; Charles H., who is married and is located in Williamson county, Texas; and Horace L., who is also married and makes his home in Williamson county.

Mr. and Mrs. Partlow are parents of two children: Nellie M., born May 11, 1883, attended the common schools, was educated in music in Pana, and is now teaching large music classes in Ohlman, Rosemond and other parts of Montgomery county. Bertha C. was born March 4, 1885, on the day on which President Cleveland was first inaugurated. She attended the district school, also spent one term as a student in the high school at Nokomis and is now a teacher in the home school at Prairie Chapel. The parents and daughters are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Partlow is identified with the Court of Honor and with the Republican party. He has been school director for nine years and was assessor for one year. He has always been a church trustee, has been Sunday school superintendent and has thus taken a very active and helpful part in the moral as well as the educational and material development of his community. He owns a farm of eighty acres, upon which he has made most of the improvements, bringing it up to its present state of development. His influence has ever been exerted on the side of right, truth, justice, reform and progress and therefore he is a man whom to know is to respect and honor and whose friendship is prized by those who have gained his favor and confidence.

WILLIAM SHOEMAKER.

Among the retired farmers of Raymond is William Shoemaker, who for a period of thirty years was actively and successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits in Montgomery county, owning three hundred and twenty acres of land in Nokomis township. His residence in this county dates from 1866, so that he is numbered among its early settlers. His birth occurred in Jefferson county, Ohio, March 20, 1838, and his father, Adam Shoemaker, was born in Bedford



MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM SHOEMAKER

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county, Pennsylvania, in 1810. The parental grandfather was John Shoemaker and the family is of German lineage. John Shoemaker removed from Pennsylvania to Ohio in 1816, becoming one of the early residents of Jefferson county. Adam Shoemaker was there reared and in that county he married Elizabeth Albaugh, a native of Ohio. He followed farming in Jefferson county, where he opened up and developed two tracts of land, becoming one of the successful, enterprising and indefatigable agriculturists of his community. There he reared his family and his last days were spent in that county, his death there occurring in 1886. His wife, surviving him for a few years, passed away in 1892.

William Shoemaker was reared to manhood in Jefferson county and his educational privileges were very limited, because of the primitive condition of the schools and also because his services were needed upon the home farm. His training in the labors of the field was not meager and he early gained the practical experience which proved the foundation for his success in later life. He was married in Gallia county, Ohio, January 9, 1862, to Miss Margaret Graden, who was born in Harrison county, Ohio. After his marriage he engaged in the operation of a flouring and grist mill for one year, after which he carried on general agricultural pursuits for two years. In 1866 he removed to Illinois, locating in Montgomery county near Nokomis. There he purchased raw land and opened up a farm which he continued to improve for several years. He had at first a tract of one hundred and sixty acres, to which he afterward added by purchase sixty acres. He improved the entire amount and cultivated it for some time, but later sold that property and bought a farm of three hundred and twenty acres near Nokomis. This he placed under a high state of cultivation, adding all modern equipments which are found upon a model farm. He worked persistently and energetically in placing his farm in the best possible condition and he continued its active operation until 1903, when he removed to Raymond and purchased residence property which he now occupies. The history of his business career is the account of steady pro-

gression from humble financial surroundings to affluence. He followed methods such as any man might employ, his business life being characterized by industry and integrity.

In 1884 Mr. Shoemaker was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who passed away on the 24th of December of that year. There were seven children of that marriage: Ella M., the wife of Cornelius Porock, a well-to-do farmer of Montgomery county; Amos A., who owns a good farm and is engaged in the creamery business at Nokomis; Luther F., a business man of Raymond; Leora M., the wife of J. F. Kellogg, of Jacksonville; Adam R., who died in childhood; John W., who is living in Greenfield, Illinois; and Jerome, who died in infancy. In September, 1886, Mr. Shoemaker was married in this county to Matilda V. Gibson, who was born in Montgomery county and is a daughter of R. E. Gibson, one of the early settlers of this portion of the state, arriving from Maryland in 1862.

Politically, because of his strong sympathy with the temperance cause, Mr. Shoemaker gives an ardent support to the Prohibition party, but political honors and emoluments have had no attraction for him. He served, however, as school treasurer of Audubon township for six years, but otherwise has filled no public positions. He was reared in the Lutheran faith, while his wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He was formerly a member of the Masonic fraternity but is now dimitted. For thirty-eight years he has been a resident of the county and has seen many changes, bringing about a modern development and advanced civilization. He occupies a pleasant home in Raymond and still owns the house and two lots in Nokomis. He is now enabled to enjoy a well merited rest.

JOSIAH BIXLER.

Josiah Bixler, editor and proprietor of the Hillsboro Journal, was born in Tuscarawas county, Ohio, in 1859. The family, of German origin, has been largely represented in Pennsylvania and Ohio through many generations. The first of the name in America set-

tled in Maryland, and later others of the family went to the Keystone state. Daniel Bixler, the father of Josiah Bixler, was born in Ohio, followed the occupation of farming throughout his business career and died in 1894 at the age of sixty-nine years. He was a member of the United Brethren church and in his political views was a Republican. He was influential and prominent in his community and held a number of minor positions. He married Sarah Kanaga, who was born in Tuscarawas county, Ohio, and is now living on the old homestead near Bolivar, that state, at the age of seventy-five years. She, too, was of German lineage and her father was a minister. Unto Daniel Bixler and his wife were born three children: Amos, who is living in Bolivar; Josiah; and Abraham Lincoln, deceased.

Josiah Bixler acquired his preliminary education in the country schools of Ohio and afterward entered the normal school at Ada, that state, remaining as a student there from 1883 until 1887, when he was graduated. For nineteen years he was actively identified with educational interests as a teacher, spending seven years of that time in Ohio and twelve years in Illinois. The fall following his graduation he came to this state and located in Sangamon county, becoming principal of the schools of Mechanicsburg. Subsequently he returned to Jefferson, Ohio, and was principal of the high school there for one year, when he resigned to accept the superintendency of the Hillsboro schools, remaining at the head of the public school system of this city for six years. He then resigned and purchased the Hillsboro Journal in 1898 from B. F. Boyd & Company. He has prospered in his new venture and in the six years of his journalistic experience he has more than doubled the subscription of his paper and has made it the official paper of the Republican party in Montgomery county.

In November, 1898, Mr. Bixler was married to Miss Anna Witherspoon, a daughter of William and Sarah E. (Blackwelder) Witherspoon. She was born in Hillsboro in 1869 and they now have one child, Sarah Louise. Mr. and Mrs. Bixler are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and he is an active worker in the church and Sunday school, serving as one

of the officers in the former and doing all in his power to promote the growth and extend the influence of the church. He is also prominent in Masonic circles in Hillsboro, has been Master of his lodge four years, and is the present high priest of the chapter.

JAMES R. OSBORN.

During a life span of more than seventy-two years James R. Osborn has been a resident of Montgomery county, his birth having occurred in Butler Grove township, on the 2d of March, 1832. He is a son of Levi and Mary (Combest) Osborn, both of whom were natives of Kentucky, the father having been born February 26, 1808, and the mother on the 10th of January, 1810. In the fall of 1830 they started overland, making the journey on horseback and bringing with them their only child. Mr. Osborn settled in Butler Grove township, securing a claim of eighty acres from the government. The land had never been cultivated and a breaking plow prepared the fields for the planting. He built a log cabin of one room and in this pioneer home began life in Illinois, continuing the work of the fields until he had made his land a productive tract that yielded him good profit. He died August 6, 1851, after about twenty-one years of active and helpful connection in the pioneer development of the county. His wife, surviving him for a quarter of a century, passed away May 22, 1876. They were the parents of eleven children, of whom three died in infancy, while eight reached years of maturity.

James R. Osborn, living upon the home farm in his early boyhood days, started out in life for himself in the fall of 1851, when nineteen years of age. He began to earn his living by teaching in a school which was conducted on the subscription plan, each scholar paying two and a half dollars per term. He continued his educational work at intervals until 1861. In the fall of 1862, his spirit of patriotism being aroused by the continued attempt of the south to overthrow the Union, he enlisted and became a corporal of Company F, One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry.

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The regiment did duty in Tennessee, being largely engaged in garrison duty and in guarding railroads. With this command Mr. Osborn served until the close of the war, after which he returned to Montgomery county and again engaged in teaching during the winter months until 1875. In the following year he located upon the farm which has since been his home, and in its conduct he has displayed good ability as an agriculturist. He owns one hundred and sixty acres of cultivable land in the home place and thirty-seven acres of timber in Irving township. He has good equipments upon his farm, including the latest improved machinery, and annually harvests fair crops as the reward for his labors.

On the 4th of April, 1878, Mr. Osborn was united in marriage to Miss Margaret L. Eppes, a native of North Carolina, who died April 24, 1881. Unto them were born two sons: John M. and James, both at home. The latter is now serving as township assessor. Mr. Osborn of this review was the first township assessor of Butler Grove township, and in matters pertaining to public progress and improvement he has always been deeply interested and has borne a helpful part. He has been school director, and the cause of education has found in him a warm friend. His political support is given to the Republican party, and he is a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church whose life has been honorable and upright and whose sterling worth is recognized by his many acquaintances, who give him their warm friendship and hold him in high esteem.

DANIEL WELLER.

Daniel Weller, a representative farmer of Raymond township, living on section 36, was at one time very actively engaged in agricultural pursuits, but is now largely leaving to others the work of the farm, while he is enjoying a well earned rest. He has one hundred and ninety acres of land and the income from the property is sufficient to supply him with all of the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. One of the old settlers of Illinois, his residence in the county dates from 1840 and

few of its citizens have longer been witnesses of its growth and upbuilding, while at all times he has borne his full share in the work of public progress.

Mr. Weller was born in Canton, Ohio, on the 28th of October, 1832. His father, John Weller, was a native of Maryland, born in 1788, and when his country became involved in the second war with England he joined the American army and served as a soldier in the war of 1812. He was married in Ohio to Miss Mary Linkefelter, a native of Maryland, and for several years thereafter he carried on farming in Ohio. Nine children were born unto him and his wife in that state and in 1840 he came with his family to Illinois, settling in Montgomery county in what is now Irving township. The work of improvement had scarcely been begun in this section of the state at that time. The homes of the early residents were largely log cabins situated in the edge of the forest, for it was not thought that the prairie-land was of much value. Mr. Weller purchased a farm of five hundred acres and began its cultivation, planting the seed that in due course of time brought forth rich crops. He carried on his farm work in a modern way until his life's labors were ended in death in the spring of 1843. His widow survived him for a long period and reared her family upon the old homestead, doing a mother's full part by her children. She died in 1886 at the age of eighty-four years, but her memory is yet enshrined in the hearts of her sons and daughters and many friends who esteem her for her many excellent traits of character.

Daniel Weller is one of the two sons and two daughters of the family, who are yet living. He was a lad of only about eight years when brought by his parents to Illinois and on the home farm his youth was passed. He had few advantages and privileges during that period. To some extent he attended the public schools, but his labors were largely needed in carrying on the farm work and he early became familiar with all the duties that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. After attaining his majority he desired to establish a home of his own and was married in Montgomery county, March 29, 1860, to Miss Lydia Hedley, who was born and

reared in this county and is a daughter of Tillman Healey. The young couple began their domestic life upon the farm which he yet owns, but which at that time comprised only eight acres of land, which was raw and unimproved. This he began to break and when the plowing was done he planted his seed and in due course of time garnered rich crops. These early years and fraught with unremitting toil, but he possessed the determination to persevere in his work and as the years passed by his financial resources increased, enabling him to buy land from time to time until he became the owner of four hundred acres. Upon his farm he erected a large two-story residence of pleasing appearance and he also built two substantial barns. He likewise put out orchards, one of which is now in excellent bearing condition and he planted maple and evergreen trees, which are a pleasing feature of the home. As his children have grown he has divided his land and possessions with them, but still retains possession of one hundred and ninety acres of the old home place, constituting a very valuable farm, which would bring a high market price.

In 1902 Mr. Weller lost his wife, who departed this life on the 2nd of January of that year. Eleven of their children are living, namely: Emma, the wife of Rolla Rolf, of Logan county; Mrs. Ellen Wilson, a widow residing in Irving; Lewis, of Irving township; John and George, who are living in St. Louis; Noah, a resident farmer of Raymond township; Mrs. Maggie Frame, who is living near Hillsboro; Mrs. Mollie Fricke, wife of William Fricke, who is represented elsewhere in this work; Herbert, Otto and Ross, all at home.

In his political affiliation Mr. Weller is a Republican. He cast his first presidential vote for Fremont in 1856, and in 1860 supported Lincoln. He has voted the national ticket at each presidential election since that time, while at local elections he supports the candidate whom he thinks best qualified for office, regardless of party affiliation. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church, but was reared in the Lutheran faith. Long years have come and gone since he became a resident of

Montgomery county in his early boyhood days and he has watched with interest its growth and development as the county has merged from the swamp and the wilderness to take its place with the most productive agricultural district of this great grain-growing state. His mind bears many pictures of early pioneer conditions and of the progress that has been wrought as the years have gone by and no one takes more pride in what has been accomplished than Daniel Weller, who has at all times favored substantial and practical development.

WILLIAM H. McLEAN.

A rich and productive farm of four hundred and ten acres adjoining the village of Farmersville is the property of William H. McLean. It is located on section 33, Bois Darc township, and the cultivation and improvement which he bestowed upon it has made it a valuable property, notable even in a district famous for its fine farms. Mr. McLean has been a resident of Illinois since 1864, coming to this state when a youth of about fourteen years. His birth occurred in Middlesex county, New Jersey, July 10, 1850.

His father, Martin McLean, was born in Ireland and came to America, the family home being established in New Jersey, where he resided until 1864. Having in the meantime married and become the father of three children he removed with his family in that year to Montgomery county, Illinois, where he purchased the land upon which his son William H. now resides. There he carried on general farming and stock-raising, meeting with excellent success in his undertakings so that he was enabled to add to his landed possessions and eventually became the owner of eight hundred acres. He spent his last years upon this farm, passing away about 1898. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Mary Carey, died some years prior to his demise. In their family were three children: J. J., who is now a resident of St. Louis, was at one time county treasurer of Montgomery county, served for two terms as circuit clerk and was a prominent and influential citizen of Hillsboro and this portion

of the state; William H. is the second of the family; and Margaret is the wife of Charles McNamry, of Farmersville.

William H. McLean came to Illinois when in his fourteenth year and was reared upon the old homestead farm, continuing in the public schools of the neighborhood his education which had been begun in New Jersey. He remained with his father until about twenty-nine years of age and received manual training at farm labor, beginning work in the fields in early youth. He was taught how to plant the seed, cultivate the crops and gather the harvests and also drilled in the best methods of caring for the stock, so that when he began business on his own account he had ample experience to aid him. After his marriage he located upon a part of the old home farm and subsequent to his father's death he became the owner of a larger portion of this by purchasing the interests of the other heirs. He has since continued the work of further development and improvement here and he now has broad fields giving promise of excellent crops. He has intimate knowledge of the best methods of tilling the soil so as to produce good harvests and in connection with the raising of grain he is successfully engaged in the raising of good grades of stock. He fattens several carloads of western sheep annually and also fattens some cattle and hogs, which he ships to the city markets.

Pleasantly situated as regards his home life, Mr. McLean was married on the 4th of July, 1880, to Miss Mary Gaul, who was born in Jersey county, Illinois, but spent her girlhood days in Montgomery county. Six children have graced this union: Martin F., at home; Katie, the wife of John Gillman, a merchant of Farmersville; J. J., William L., Allen and Ella, who are yet with their parents. Mr. and Mrs. McLean were reared in the Catholic faith and are members of the church of that denomination in Farmersville. For forty years he has lived upon the same farm in Montgomery county, during which time he has witnessed much of the growth and development of this part of the state. He has seen its wild lands reclaimed and transformed into productive fields, has seen the growth of towns and villages and the introduction of all improvements known to the older

east. He takes quite an active interest in local political affairs, as an advocate of the Democracy, and was elected and served for three terms as supervisor and was chairman of the finance and poor claims committees. He has also served on the village school board for a number of years, has been a member of the town board, of which he was president, and has been selected as a delegate to the county and congressional conventions. In all of these positions he has discharged his duties faithfully, promptly and capably and his public record, like his private life, is above reproach.

WILLIAM J. YESKE.

William J. Yeske, who is engaged in general farming on section 2, Irving township, was born in Germany, August 1, 1860, and is a son of Christlieb and Minnie (Clabonda) Yeske, both of whom were natives of Germany, whence they came to the United States in 1872, locating in Hillsboro, Illinois. The father engaged in farming and remained a resident of Montgomery county until his death in 1898, when he was sixty-four years of age. His widow still resides upon the old homestead at the age of seventy-four years.

William J. Yeske was a youth of twelve years when he accompanied his parents on their emigration to the United States. He continued his education begun in Germany as a student in the common schools of Irving township and lived at home until twenty-five years of age, during which time he received practical training in farm work by assisting in the labors of fields and meadow. On leaving home he began farming on his own account by renting a tract of land of George W. Paisley. He lived upon this for six years and then removed to southwestern Minnesota, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land. He there resided for six years, after which he sold that property in 1892 and bought one hundred and forty acres in section 2, Irving township. This has since been his place of abode and he has extended the boundaries of his farm by the purchase of an additional tract of forty acres, making now altogether one hundred and eighty

acres. His farm is well equipped with modern machinery and accessories and his land is richly cultivated so that the fields annually return to him a good harvest, making him one of the substantial citizens of his community.

On the 16th of May, 1894, Mr. Yeske was united in marriage to Miss Minnie Hedley, a daughter of D. T. and Myra Hedley, early settlers of this county. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Yeske have been born three children: Verna, eight years old; Shurley, born August 14, 1898; and Vera, born July 29, 1900. The wife and mother died March 23, 1903, at the age of twenty-nine years and two days. Mr. Yeske is a member of St. John's Lutheran church and of the Modern Woodmen camp at Irving. In politics he is a Republican and will have served as a member of the school board for six years when his present term expires. He takes a deep interest in the cause of education, believing it to be the bulwark of the nation and he does everything in his power to secure good schools and competent teachers in his district. He has a patriotic interest in all that pertains to public progress and improvement and while capably managing his private business affairs he has yet found time to aid in the advancement of measures which have for their object the general good.

EMERY WRIGHT.

Success depends upon the individual and not upon environment, fortunate circumstances or inheritance. In this land where opportunity is open to all, the great majority of our successful men are those who have been dependent upon their own resources and capabilities from early age and it is to this class that Emery Wright, now a successful general merchant, belongs. He was born in Fillmore township, May 8, 1853, and is a son of Jarrett and Mary (Whitten) Wright. His father, also a native of Fillmore township, was born March 10, 1819, and represented one of the oldest pioneer families of Montgomery county. The grandfather, Joseph Wright, settled in this county when there were few residents within its borders and when the work of improvement

and progress lay largely in the future. Reared to manhood amid the wild scenes of the frontier, Jarrett Wright began farming on attaining his majority and through a long period successfully carried on agricultural pursuits, becoming one of the extensive farmers of this community. As his financial resources increased he invested in land, becoming the owner of over eight hundred acres, of which more than six hundred acres was in Montgomery county. He was also prominent in public affairs and exerted strong influence in behalf of upbuilding and substantial improvement. He served in the war with Mexico and his political support was given to the Democracy. He was married in 1849 to Miss Mary Whitten, a daughter of Easton Whitten, one of the oldest pioneer families of the county. Her father served in the Black Hawk war. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Jarrett Wright were born six children, five of whom are now living in Fillmore township. Mr. Wright passed away on the 2d of March, 1890, and his wife survived him until 1897. He was a self-made man, whose unfaltering industry and strong purpose proved the basis of his success, and throughout an active and useful career he was always found to be honorable and straightforward, never taking advantage of the necessities of his fellow men in any trade transaction.

Emery Wright began his education in the public schools of Fillmore township and afterward continued his studies in Hillsboro, thus acquiring a good practical education. He taught school for one term and then turned his attention to the cultivation of his father's farm, which he continued to operate and improve until 1884, devoting his attention mostly to the cultivation of grain. In that year he went to Sorento and spent a year and a half in general merchandising, after which he returned home and again began farming. In the fall of 1886 he was appointed to the position of deputy county clerk and served in that capacity until June, 1891. He then remained upon the home farm until 1892, when he was elected to the position of circuit clerk and resided in Hillsboro through the succeeding four years or until 1896, when his term of office expired, and he returned to the old homestead.



EMERY WRIGHT



MR. AND MRS. JARRETT WRIGHT

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In 1900 he opened a general store, which he conducted with fair success for about twenty months. He then sold out, but afterward again engaged in merchandising and he now conducts a well equipped general mercantile establishment, carrying a well selected line of goods such as are demanded by the country trade.

Mr. Wright is a charter member of the Knights of Pythias lodge at Hillsboro. He endorses the principles of the Democracy and always takes an active interest in politics, doing everything in his power to promote the growth and insure the success of his party. In the positions which he has filled he has ever been found true to the trust reposed in him and in all relations of life he has faithfully met every obligation and duty.

CALVIN H. MACK.

One of the younger representative farmers and progressive stock-raisers of Raymond township is Calvin H. Mack, whose property of two hundred and eighty acres is located on section 35. It forms one of the pleasing features in the landscape because of the well filled fields, the substantial buildings and the air of neatness and thrift which pervades the place. Mr. Mack is a native son of the county and was born upon the farm where he now resides January 12, 1861. He is a son of Oscar C. Mack, whose birth occurred at Gilson, New Hampshire, in 1829.

The grandfather, Calvin Mack, who for many years resided in the Old Granite state, came to Illinois in 1838, settling in Montgomery county. He established his home in Butler Grove township near Ware's Grove, where he transformed a tract of wild land into richly cultivated fields, opening up a farm on which his son Oscar C. Mack grew to mature years. When manhood had been attained the latter was married in Montgomery county to Miss Elizabeth Hugg, a native of New Jersey, whose girlhood days, however, were passed in Illinois, the family arriving here about 1844. Her father was Squire Hugg, one of the honored pioneer residents of the state. Oscar C. Mack purchased land and located upon the farm which is now

the home of his son Calvin. This became his residence property in 1860 and his labors wrought a great transformation in the appearance of the farm, which was in a primitive condition when it came into his possession. The work of plowing, planting and harvesting was carried on year after year and in due course of time the fields became very productive, so that the sales of his crops brought to him a good income and enabled him to add to his place until he had four hundred acres. Upon his farm he reared his family, but in later years he removed to Raymond, where in 1892 he purchased a home, in which he spent his remaining days, passing away there in 1902. His wife survives him and still resides in Raymond, one of the worthy business women of Montgomery county whose mind is a connecting link between the primitive conditions of the past and the progressive present with its advanced modern civilization. In the family of this worthy couple were five children, of whom Calvin H. is the eldest and the only son. The others are: Alice Jane, the wife of Lewis A. Wiley, of Raymond township; Fannie, the wife of Chester Berry, of Raymond township; Charlotte, the wife of David Ware of Butler Grove township; and Mary Roselina, who died when but six years of age.

Calvin H. Mack spent his boyhood days in the usual manner of farmer lads of the period, enjoying some advantages and pleasures, and at the same time sharing with the family in the hard work of the farm. He attended the common schools and in the summer months worked in field and meadow. He has never desired to engage in other occupation than that to which he was reared and he succeeded to the ownership of the old homestead partly by inheritance and partly by purchase of the interests of the other heirs. He now carries on general farming and stock-raising and also feeds some stock for the market. His place covers two hundred and eighty acres of the rich and arable land of Raymond township. The soil is very productive and responds readily to the cultivation which he bestows upon it and therefore he annually harvests good crops.

In Butler township in 1887 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Mack and Miss Laura M. Wiley, who was born near Hillsboro and spent

her girlhood days in Butler Grove and Raymond townships, her parents being John and Sophia Wiley, who were residents of this state. The mother is still living and makes her home with her daughter Mrs. Mack. Three children grace this marriage, of whom two are living, Beulah and Roscoe, while Mary died in infancy.

Interested in the political sentiment of the country and desiring all that is best for the nation Mr. Mack gives his political support to the Democracy, believing that its principles contain the best elements of good government. His first presidential ballot was cast for Grover Cleveland. He was elected and served as commissioner of highways for seven consecutive years and as a member of the school board for ten years he had opportunity to set forth his progressive ideas concerning education and the advantages which should be afforded to children for advancement in this direction. He is now president of the district school board. He has served as a delegate to the county and district conventions of his party and is recognized as a local leader of the Democracy. He and his wife are faithful members of the Lutheran church and he belongs to the Odd Fellows society, which he joined in Butler. He has filled many of its positions and is now a past grand. Born on the farm where he now resides, his entire life has here been spent and he is deeply attached to the place, because of its pioneer associations as well as because of its later-day interests. It has been the scene of his manhood activity and has yielded to him a good income as the result of his carefully managed and progressive farming methods and straightforward business dealings. He stands high as a business man, is equally prominent in the regard of his fellow citizens socially, and in all life's relations he has been found true to the trust reposed in him.

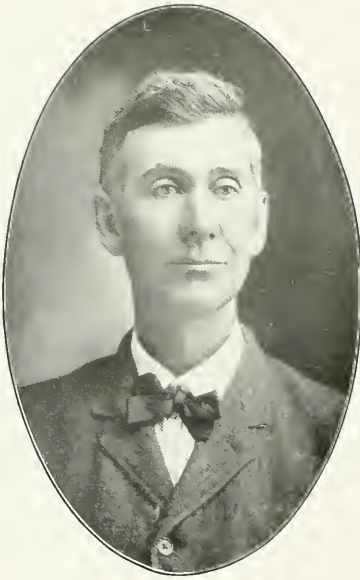
CHARLES L. LAWS.

Charles L. Laws, living on section 20, East Fork township, is identified with general farming and stock-raising interests, making a specialty, however, of the breeding of fine farm animals. He was born in Montgomery county

upon the farm which is now his home, September 6, 1862, his parents being William and Mary (McCaslin) Laws. His father was born in Kentucky, in November, 1826, and when three years of age he came to Illinois with his parents, the family home being established in what is now called Jett Prairie in Bond county. When a young man William Laws began working upon a farm and throughout his entire life he has carried on agricultural pursuits. He had nothing to aid him as he started out upon an independent business career, and all that he possesses has been acquired through his own efforts. In his farming operations, however, he has been quite successful, has added to his place from time to time, and is now extensively engaged in general agricultural pursuits and stock-raising, being now the owner of a good property of this character, about three hundred acres, but the management of the place and the active work is largely left to others, while he is enjoying a well merited rest. He has long been regarded as one of the leading men in his township, interested in its welfare and active in support of all enterprises for the general good. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party. In 1854 he was united in marriage to Miss Mary McCaslin, and unto them were born nine children, of whom five are now living. The mother died May 30, 1903.

Upon the old family homestead Charles L. Laws was reared, early becoming familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. He acquired his education in the public schools near his home and started out in life for himself when twenty-four years of age, by operating the old homestead farm, upon which he resides. In former years he was quite extensively engaged in the raising of grain, but now devotes his attention more largely to the raising of stock. He always handles high grades, raises good sheep and horses and also buys and ships stock. He has the reputation of being a very successful, energetic and able farmer, and has prospered in his undertakings, and although he had no pecuniary assistance at the outset of his career he is now the owner of two hundred and thirty acres of land, constituting a valuable farm and one which returns him an excellent income.

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MR. AND MRS. CHARLES L. LAWS



MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM LAWS

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On the 18th of March, 1886, in East Fork township, Mr. Laws was united in marriage to Miss Mary F. Traylor, who was born in that township, February 18, 1867, a daughter of Joel C. Traylor, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. The children born of this union are: Effie May, born August 3, 1889; Lena Myrtle, February 23, 1892; William Joel, February 23, 1894; Sarah Camilla, June 9, 1897; and Mary, July 19, 1901.

Mr. and Mrs. Laws hold membership in the Presbyterian church of Donnellson, and in his political views Mr. Laws is a Republican who has given stalwart support to the party since he attained his majority. For ten years he has filled the office of school treasurer, and he takes a deep interest in everything relating to community interests and to the substantial up-building of his locality. He has a wide acquaintance in this part of the state, where his entire life has been passed, and the fact that many of his warmest friends are those who have known him from boyhood is an indication that his has been an upright career worthy of the confidence that is uniformly extended him:

JAMES E. CRAWFORD.

James E. Crawford, whose home farm on section 34, Zanesville township, covers one hundred and fifteen acres of land which is rich and arable, was born January 10, 1865, in the neighborhood which is still his home and because his entire life has been passed in this locality he has a wide acquaintance here. His father, James M. Crawford, was a native of Tennessee and a son of James Crawford, one of the early settlers of Montgomery county, coming to Illinois from Tennessee about 1830. The father of our subject was here reared and after arriving at man's estate he wedded Susan Thomson, who was born in Ohio, but was reared here. In order to provide for his family Mr. Crawford carried on agricultural pursuits, securing a tract of wild land, which he cultivated until he made it one of the good farms of Zanesville township. Prospering in his undertakings he added to his landed possessions from time to time until he was the owner of nearly four hundred acres,

making him one of the substantial citizens of his community. His death occurred here about 1882 or 1883 and the county thus lost one of its pioneer settlers, who had long witnessed its growth and improvements and had taken a helpful part in its substantial development along agricultural lines. Mrs. Crawford survived her husband for a number of years and passed away in April, 1904.

James E. Crawford, one of a family of five children, of whom four are yet living, spent the days of his boyhood and youth upon the old home farm and was educated in the Honey Bend school at Litchfield. In early boyhood he was trained to habits of industry and economy and became his father's assistant upon the farm, continuing to render him valuable aid until his death, after which he was manager of the farm for a number of years. Following his marriage he located upon his present farm on section 34, Zanesville township. He succeeded to a part of the old homestead, purchased more land and now has one hundred and fifteen acres. He built a good house, substantial out-buildings and has now a well improved property. In connection with general farming he is engaged in the dairy business, milking fifteen cows and making daily shipments of cream to St. Louis. He has followed this business for four years and finds this a profitable source of income. In addition to his farming interests he was one of the organizers and is a stockholder in the Farmers' Mutual Telephone Company, fully recognizing the value of telephonic communication in rural districts as a help to business interests as well as social intercourse.

Mr. Crawford was married in Hillsboro on the 23d of December, 1884, to Miss Etta A. Grisham, who was born near Greenville, Illinois, and was reared in Bond county. They began their domestic life upon the farm which has since been their home and they have become the parents of the following children: Edith J.; James A., who died at the age of eleven years; Susan M.; John H.; Mabel E.; Nellie Leora; Hattie Julia, who died at the age of six months; Martha E.; Ruth; Gussie Viola; and James Q.

Mr. Crawford exercises his right of franchise in support of the Democracy, of which he is a staunch advocate, never failing to vote for the

party candidate since casting his first presidential ballot for Grover Cleveland. He has never aspired to office, but has given his attention to business. He is a member of the Presbyterian church. Mrs. Crawford belongs to the Free Methodist church. Their lives, in consistent harmony with their professions, have won them the confidence and esteem of their many friends.

FERDINAND MORSE.

Ferdinand Morse has a wide acquaintance throughout Illinois because of his active connection with the Modern American Fraternal Order. He is serving as its state deputy and his labors in this connection have made him widely known, while the inherent worth of his character has gained for him the high regard of his fellow men. He makes his home in Coffeen and is numbered among the native sons of Illinois, his birth having occurred in Highland, Madison county, in 1855. His parents were Simon and Anna Morse. The father, who was born in Ohio, was a farmer by occupation and came to Illinois about fifty-five years ago, casting in his lot with the early settlers of this portion of the state, his residence here covering a quarter of a century, and his wife, surviving him for some time, died about fifteen years ago. She was reared in Pennsylvania and to the family she proved a devoted wife and mother. They had two children: Ferdinand and Charles, who is an extensive land owner in Butler county, Kansas, where he now owns a nice ranch.

Ferdinand Morse entered the public schools of Madison county when but six years of age and mastered the elementary branches of learning there. Subsequently he entered McKendree College at Lebanon, Illinois, and on the completion of a scientific course was graduated with the class of 1887. Having enjoyed excellent educational privileges he then engaged in teaching school for several years in Bond and Plymouth counties and because of his ability to maintain discipline and impart readily and precisely to others the knowledge that he had acquired, he was accounted one of the

successful educators of his locality. On leaving the schoolroom he turned his attention to merchandising in Macoupin county, conducting a store in Smithsboro and Atwater for five years. On the expiration of that period he began farming, which he followed in Bond county near Greenville, Illinois, for ten years. He next came to Coffeen, where he embarked in the lumber business, but after four years he sold his lumberyard to Mr. Morgan and in 1902 he opened a general store which is now managed by his son, Arthur B., while Mr. Morse gives his attention to the organization of lodges in connection with the Modern American Fraternal Order of Effingham, Illinois. He was made state deputy and his labors in founding lodges have been very successful. This keeps him upon the road much of the time and is continually broadening his acquaintance. He has a deep interest in the fraternal and helpful spirit which underlies the organization and is an able exponent of its principles.

In 1877 occurred the marriage of Mr. Morse and Miss Jane Etta Burnham, of Quincy, Illinois. They became the parents of six children, of whom four are living: Mabel M., the wife of Justin Edwards; Arthur B., who is now twenty-one years of age and manages his father's store; Lela Gertrude, who is thirteen years of age; and Bernice F., aged eleven.

All of the family belong to the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Morse is also a member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Modern American Fraternal Order, the Royal Neighbors and the Mutual Protective League. He takes a deep interest in secret societies and is a strong advocate of fraternal insurance, recognizing its value in providing for the families of its deceased members. In his political views he was a Populist and in 1898 he was honored by his party with the nomination for congress on its ticket, on which occasion he received the full party vote. When the Populist party does not have a ticket in the field he gives his political support to the Democracy. He is a man of very progressive ideas and has never been connected with anything that has proved a failure. He carries forward to successful com-

pletion whatever he undertakes and his business methods are always such as will bear the closest investigation and scrutiny.

J. M. HOYT, M. D.

Among the successful representatives of the medical fraternity in Montgomery county is Dr. J. M. Hoyt, of Fillmore. In a profession where advancement depends upon individual merit he has steadily worked his way upward by reason of his close application, his comprehensive knowledge of the principles of medicine and surgery and his correct application of them in his professional labors. Dr. Hoyt was born in Rossville, Kansas, in 1872, and is a son of T. M. and C. D. Hoyt, both natives of New York. T. M. Hoyt became a railroad contractor and in that line of business went to Kansas. He built the Kansas City, Ft. Scott & Memphis Railroad and was putting in a new road from Memphis, a branch of the Iron Mountain Railroad, when he became ill, suffering an attack of smallpox, which terminated his life near Gilmore, Arkansas. In his family were four children, of whom three are living.

Dr. J. M. Hoyt spent the days of his youth in Wisconsin and then accompanied his mother on her removal to Ramsey, Illinois, where he remained for five years. Fourteen years ago he became a resident of Fillmore. He attended the schools of this place, also graduated at Hayward's Business College at St. Louis and then, determining to make the practice of medicine his life work, he entered upon a course of study and for one year was a student in the College of Physicians & Surgeons of Keokuk, Iowa. He then matriculated in the Marion Sims College at St. Louis and was graduated on the 10th of April, 1899. Returning to Fillmore, he entered upon the practice of medicine in this place and has built up an excellent business, a liberal practice having been accorded him in recognition of his accurate and comprehensive knowledge of the principles of medicine and his skill in diagnosing and treating his cases. He reads broadly concerning the science of medicine, keeps in constant touch with the progress made by the profession and

has a good medical library at his home. He also adds to his knowledge through the interchange of thought and experience in the county, district and state medical societies.

On the 17th of August, 1898, Dr. Hoyt was married to Miss Lutie Short, a daughter of Dr. Short, and unto them were born two children, but Marion is the only one now living. Dr. Hoyt is a member of the Christian church and fraternally is connected with the Knights of Pythias lodge at Fillmore. In politics he is a Republican, interested in the success and growth of his party and in 1901 he was appointed postmaster of Fillmore, which position he is now filling, giving general satisfaction in his administration of the affairs of the office. He is a young man of laudable ambition and indefatigable energy and already he has won a reputation in his chosen life work that many an older physician might well envy.

J. S. KILLPATRICK.

J. S. Killpatrick, who for more than twenty-two years has resided upon his present farm on section 4, Hillsboro township, which was the old homestead of his grandfather, was born on that section, April 2, 1858. His father, William Killpatrick, was a native of Macoupin county, Illinois, and in his boyhood days came to Montgomery county, where he was reared and educated and eventually began farming for himself. He married Miss Margaret Hurd, and they became the parents of three children: Ella, who married August Yeske and is now deceased; J. S., of this review; and Alice, who has also passed away. The mother died in 1868, and the father, surviving her for about twelve years, died on the 10th of March, 1880, when in the fiftieth year of his age.

Quietly, in the usual manner of farmer lads, J. S. Killpatrick spent the days of his boyhood and youth, but he gained practical experience concerning farm work during that period and was thereby well qualified to engage in general farming on his own account when he attained man's estate. He continued with his father until twenty-two years of age and was then in the west for a year. On the

5th of March, 1882, he was united in marriage to Miss Carrie L. Seymour, and they began their domestic life upon the farm which they now occupy and which was once the home of his parental grandfather, John Killpatrick, one of the honored pioneer settlers of the county. Our subject here owns one hundred and eighty-six acres of land on what is the old Hillsboro and Litchfield road, about two and a half miles west of Hillsboro, and the place is a valuable property, with its rich pasture lands and well cultivated fields. There is no finer farming land anywhere than is to be found in central Illinois and Mr. Killpatrick owns one of the good farms. He feeds cattle and hogs, and because of the excellent condition of his stock never finds it difficult to make a sale when he places his stock on the market. He also produces good crops, and his farm is well improved and valuable.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Killpatrick has been blessed with two children: Essie and William Earl, the latter one of the youngest boy graduates to complete the high school course in Hillsboro. Mr. and Mrs. Killpatrick are well known in this county, where they have a large circle of friends, and many of the best homes of the locality extend to them hearty hospitality. Mr. Killpatrick belongs to the Mutual Protection League. In his political views he is a staunch Democrat and has served as highway commissioner for two terms, discharging his duties in a prompt and capable manner.

JOHN H. MILLER.

John H. Miller, to whom has been vouchsafed honorable retirement from labor, and who is now making his home in Raymond, was born in Greene county, Illinois, on the 14th of January, 1846. His father, Lemuel G. Miller, was also a native of that county, born August 14, 1820, and was a son of James Miller, one of the honored pioneer residents of that section of the state. Lemuel Miller grew to manhood amid the wild scenes of frontier life and assisted in the arduous task of developing a new farm. He was married in

his native county to Miss Lucinda M. Lee, who was also born in Greene county. They began their domestic life upon a farm and he continued to engage actively in agricultural pursuits until his death, which was occasioned by an accident in 1879. His wife still survives him and is now enjoying excellent health at the age of eighty years. They became residents of Montgomery county in 1854 and opened up a farm near the old town of Zanesville, but later removed to a farm in the vicinity of Raymond, whereon Mr. Miller spent his last days.

John H. Miller was reared to the occupation of farming and pursued a common school education. No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for him in his youth. After attaining his majority he sought a companion and helpmate for life's journey and on the 15th of September, 1869, he was married to Miss Lizzie J. Mitts, a native of Montgomery county and a daughter of Jesse Mitts. Mr. Miller has owned and operated several farms and in his agricultural pursuits he won prosperity. His last farm comprised two hundred and ten acres of land lying near Raymond, and upon that place he made excellent improvements and built substantial buildings that furnished ample shelter for grain and stock. His fields were well tilled and in his pastures were seen good grades of cattle, horses and hogs. He continued to reside upon the farm until 1902, when he sold the property and removed to Raymond, where he purchased a new residence. He also bought a hardware store, in which he installed his son as manager, and while he is still financially interested in the enterprise he is not actively engaged in the conduct of the store. He has been very successful as a farmer and stock-raiser and breeder, and with a comfortable competence to supply him with all the necessities and many of the luxuries of life, he is now living retired.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Miller have been born five children: Jesse L., a resident of St. Louis, Missouri; George J., who is conducting a hardware store in Raymond; Clifford E., living in Raymond, Illinois; Leonora, the wife of Oscar Edwards, a merchant of Coffeen; and Lemuel G., who is a resident of Raymond.



MRS. J. H. MILLER



J. H. MILLER



MRS. ZERELDA MITTS



L. G. MILLER



MRS. L. G. MILLER

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Politically Mr. Miller is a staunch Democrat, and was elected and served for one term on the county board of supervisors. He has also been highway commissioner and was township school trustee for a number of terms. Public interests relating to the welfare and upbuilding of the entire community always receive his attention and he gives to many measures for the public good his hearty co-operation. Since a lad of eight years he has been a resident of Montgomery county, has witnessed much of its growth and development and has taken great pride in what has been accomplished. His sterling character and worth have made him widely and favorably known and he well deserves representation in this volume.

LEWIS A. WILEY.

Lewis A. Wiley, who owns a farm of one hundred and twenty acres on section 35, Raymond township, is a very intelligent and enterprising agriculturist and is numbered among Montgomery county's native sons, his life record being a credit to his locality. He was born in Butler Grove township, January 30, 1863, and is descended from one of the old families of North Carolina. His grandfather, Zachariah Wiley, was born in that state and, coming to Illinois at an early day, established his home upon a farm in Montgomery county, where he reared his family. At the same time he improved his land and although he had only the crude farming implements at that time he transformed the wild prairie into productive fields. His son, John P. Wiley, was born and reared upon that farm, spending his youth amid the wild scenes of frontier life and aiding in the arduous task of developing his father's land. He married Miss Rachel Scherer, a daughter of Squire Scherer, and they began their domestic life upon a farm in Butler Grove township, while subsequently they removed to Raymond township and there reared their family, consisting of three sons and four daughters. Mr. Wiley continued to engage in agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred May 23, 1883. His widow still survives him and now resides with her daughter, Mrs. C. H.

Mack, who is mentioned on another page of this volume. The children of the family are Mary J., the deceased wife of I. Van Wright; Laura, the wife of Calvin Mack, who is mentioned elsewhere in this volume; Lewis A., of this review; Charles R., a prominent farmer of Barber county, Kansas; Frank, an electrician of Chicago; Ella, the wife of Jesse I. Miller, of St. Louis, Missouri; and Nellie, a twin sister of Ella and the wife of James Osborn, of Butler Grove township.

The boyhood and youth of Lewis A. Wiley were quietly passed. He was reared to manhood in Butler Grove and Raymond townships, performing such duties as were allotted to him on the home farm until he had become familiar with agricultural pursuits in every department. He continued upon the old home place until twenty-five years of age and worked the farm both before and after his father's demise. After his marriage he rented a tract of land, which he cultivated for ten years and in 1889 he bought the place where he now resides and built thereon a comfortable residence, taking up his abode here in March, 1900. He has also built a good barn and other substantial outbuildings and has made modern improvements which constitute this one of the best farms of the locality. He has planted fruit trees until he now has a fine orchard and has set out forest and ornamental trees, which make his farm attractive in appearance and which also add to its worth.

On the 4th of April, 1888, Mr. Wiley was married to Miss Alice J. Mack, a sister of C. H. Mack. They now have four children: Rosella, Warren, Hazel and Esther.

Mr. Wiley votes with the Democracy and though he has never been an office seeker he was elected as township clerk, serving for three consecutive years. He has also been a member of the school board for twelve years and has been district clerk. His wife is a member of the Ware Grove Lutheran church and he is an advocate of all that tends to benefit his community along material, social, intellectual and moral lines. His life has been a busy and useful one and this is indicated by the fact that within four years' time he has put all of the buildings upon his farm and made the many

substantial improvements that are there seen to-day. He now has a neat home as the result of his frugality and industry and the years are bringing to him creditable success which will undoubtedly increase as time goes by, because he possesses the elements so essential to prosperity—willingness to work and careful management in the control of his investments and business interests.

JOHN B. TURNER.

John B. Turner is the owner of extensive landed interests covering eleven hundred and eight acres and upon his farm he is engaged in the breeding and raising of Hereford cattle. He was born in Jacksonville, Illinois, January 6, 1838, a son of Jonathan Turner, who was born in Pendleton, Massachusetts, and there spent his early years. In the '30s he came west, settling at Jacksonville, and was prominently identified with the early educational development of the state. A Yale graduate, he accepted a professorship in Jacksonville College, and he was afterward one of the organizers of the Champaign Agricultural College. His time and energies during the greater part of his life were devoted to educational work along agricultural lines and his labors proved of the utmost value in the development of Illinois. He married Miss Adolpha S. Kibby, and they became the parents of seven children. Professor Turner, who was born in 1805, reached the very advanced age of ninety-three years, and his wife, who was born in 1808, passed away on the 6th of January, 1880.

John B. Turner, born and reared in Jacksonville, is a graduate of the Jacksonville College of the class of 1860. The following year he engaged in teaching school, and in 1861 he and his brother William came to the farm upon which John B. Turner now resides and which had been purchased by their father in the '50s. The brothers continued in the partnership until the death of William Turner in 1883. He was also a graduate of Jacksonville College and was a gentleman of good business ability and enterprise. Together they began

the raising of Hereford cattle, and to this branch of business Mr. Turner has devoted his energies for many years. He now has a very fine herd, bred from thoroughbred animals, and has also given considerable attention to sheep-raising, making a specialty of Shropshires, and annually breeds three hundred ewes. His ranch covers eleven hundred and eight acres of fine land. This is, indeed, one of the best farms of Montgomery county, and is pleasantly located in Butler township, a mile and a half west and one mile north of the village of Butler. There has been no element of chance in his life record, for every move has been carefully studied and thoughtfully made, and he is thoroughly familiar with the best methods of caring for stock and keeping them in excellent condition for the market. In addition to his property in Montgomery county Mr. Turner owns a ranch of five thousand acres in Coleman county, Texas.

On the 23d of September, 1888, was celebrated the marriage of John B. Turner and the widow of his brother William. They have two children: Adolphus K. and Frank. Mr. Turner is not a party man in politics, but votes as he thinks best, supporting the candidates whom he regards as best qualified for office and advocating the principles which he believes contains the best elements of good government. Fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America. His extensive interests, capably managed, return to him an excellent income, making him one of the substantial citizens of his adopted county.

J. M. CORLEW.

J. Morgan Corlew, who follows farming on section 23, Zanesville township, has spent his entire life in Montgomery county, his birth having occurred within its borders on the 20th of March, 1852. His father, Philip Corlew, was also a native of Illinois, born in 1822, and the family was established in the state at an early day. The grandfather, Philip Corlew, Sr., was of French lineage and, becoming one of the pioneers of Illinois, established his home in Madison county when the work of im-

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JOHN B. TURNER



WILLIAM TURNER

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provement and development seemed scarcely begun. He afterward took up his abode in Montgomery county and it was here that Philip Corlew, Jr., was reared amid the wild scenes of the frontier. He was married in this county to Elizabeth Barlow, and, desirous of providing a good home for his wife and family, he energetically carried on agricultural pursuits, developing a new tract of land into a good farm, upon which he made his home until his death, which occurred in 1855, when he was a comparatively young man of thirty-three years. His wife survived him for about four years and was married a second time. There were three children by the first marriage: J. Morgan Corlew, of this review; Nancy Ann, the wife of Fletcher Beck, of Litchfield, Illinois; and Emma Jane, deceased.

J. Morgan Corlew was reared in Montgomery county, spending his boyhood days on the old home farm, where he worked in the field and meadow when not engaged with the duties of the schoolroom. He was united in marriage, December 28, 1876, to Miss Susan E. Roberts, also a native of this county and a daughter of James Roberts, one of the early settlers of this portion of the state.

After his marriage Mr. Corlew took up his abode upon a farm near Litchfield, where he owned a tract of eighty acres of land, which he improved, carrying on agricultural pursuits there for eight years. In 1884 he sold that property and purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land on section 23, Zanesville township, where he now resides. He at once began the further improvement and development of this place and his farm is now valuable and equipped with modern conveniences. Mr. Corlew makes a business of raising good stock and annually makes shipments of fine cattle to the city market, but is more especially engaged in the raising of hogs. His farm is one of the neatest in the township, everything being in good order and first class condition. He has a substantial residence and barns and other outbuildings, a bearing orchard and a nice variety of other fruits. There is also a beautiful grove of forest trees, an avenue of these trees fronting the house. An air of thrift and comfort pervades the home and everything about

the place indicates that Mr. Corlew is a successful farmer.

To Mr. and Mrs. Corlew have been born six children: Ellie, who is the widow of Jacob File, of Coffeen, Illinois; Fred, who is married and follows farming in this county; Willis and Jesse, who assist in the operation of the home farm; Philip and Joseph, also at home. Mr. and Mrs. Corlew are worthy Christian people, the former holding membership in the Baptist church, while the latter is a member of the Free Methodist church.

Politically Mr. Corlew is a staunch Democrat, giving unfaltering support to the party since casting his first presidential ballot for Samuel J. Tilden in 1876. He has filled several local positions of honor and trust, to which he has been called by the vote of his townsmen who recognized his ability and his loyalty in citizenship. He has, however, never been an aspirant for office, caring little for political preferment. At this writing he is a member of the school board and the cause of education finds in him a warm friend. He has known no other home than Montgomery county, his entire life having been passed here and he has therefore been a witness to much of its growth and development. He is well known in Hillsboro and Litchfield and throughout the northern and western sections of the county and he has the good will and esteem of those with whom business or social relations have brought him in contact.

DANIEL F. BROWN.

Daniel F. Brown, county treasurer of Montgomery county, who since the fall of 1902 has made his home in Hillsboro in order to better discharge his official duties, was born in Harvel township, Montgomery county, in 1870. His father, Martin Brown, was born in Ireland, and is now living in Harvel township, at the age of seventy-four years. He came to the United States in 1856, locating in Greene county, Illinois, where he worked on the farm for eight dollars per month. Two years after his arrival he purchased a tract of land which was practically in the swamps, but he made the most of

his opportunities and by draining and cultivation placed his farm in excellent bearing condition. When his labors brought to him increased financial resources he made added investments in real estate and he is now the owner of one thousand acres, the greater part of which is in Harvel township, although three hundred and sixty acres is in Pitman township. He was a pioneer, strong, sturdy and persevering and he has made all that he has through his own industry. He dealt extensively in stock and as the years have advanced he has become one of the wealthy men of the county. Upon his home he has a comfortable farm residence and is now enabled to enjoy not only the necessities but many of the luxuries of life. Mr. Brown is a communicant of the Catholic church and in his political views is a stalwart Democrat, upon which ticket he has been elected and re-elected township treasurer until his incumbency in the office covers twenty-four years. He married Annie M. Honstead, who was born in Ireland and is now sixty-three years of age. She came to the United States in 1863 with her widowed mother and brother, who located in Missouri. She, too, is a member of the Catholic church and by her marriage she has become the mother of seven children, of whom two are now deceased. Those living are: Daniel F.; James W., who is living on the home farm; Cornelia, who is the wife of John Whelan, a farmer of Pitman township; Sarah, the wife of James Leonard, a farmer of Harvel township; and Rose, the wife of Edward Whelan, a farmer.

Daniel F. Brown, in early boyhood days, attended the district schools and in 1890 was graduated from the Northern Indiana Normal School at Valparaiso. He afterward attended Bryant & Stratton Business College in St. Louis, Missouri, and then entered upon his business career in Farmersville as a dealer in grain and agricultural implements. He remained at that place for five years, at the end of which time he sold out and was thereafter identified with educational interests as a teacher until 1902. In the latter year he was elected county treasurer and is now serving as the custodian of the public funds of Montgomery county. He had formerly been col-

lector of taxes in Bois Darc township for three years.

On the 30th of September, 1896, Daniel F. Brown was married to Catherine Abern. She was born in Girard, Illinois, in 1871, and there is one child of this marriage, Martin Harold. Mr. and Mrs. Brown are members of the Catholic church and he is connected with the Knights of the Maccabees, while politically he is a Democrat. His official record is one which will bear close investigation and scrutiny and he has given entire satisfaction to people of all parties by his capability and prompt discharge of duty.

ROBERT WOLTERS.

Robert Wolters, who is serving as township assessor and who follows farming on section 1, Rountree township, is a native son of Ohio, his birth having occurred in Cincinnati, on the 2nd of June, 1855. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. Louis Wolters, residents of Hillsboro, who are represented elsewhere in this volume. Robert Wolters attended the common schools of Montgomery county and also the Fairview school. He was reared to farm life, early becoming familiar with the tasks incident to the development of the fields. He lived at home until twenty-six years of age and then began farming for himself on the place which is now his home. He has one hundred and sixty acres of fine land under cultivation, constituting an excellent property, which he has acquired as the result of his business sagacity, keen discrimination and unfaltering industry. He has labored earnestly year by year and is widely known in the community as a representative farmer.

In January, 1881, Mr. Wolters was married to Miss Minnie Ahrens, a daughter of Henry Ahrens. She was born in Macoupin county, Illinois, in 1851. Her father is now living with her at the advanced age of eighty-six years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Wolters have been born eight children, but their eldest, Henry, died at the age of six weeks. Those still living are Louisa, Anna, Hulda, Irena, Robert, Albert and Lester, all of whom are at home.

The parents are identified through membership relations with the German Lutheran church and Mr. Wolters is a Republican in his political views and allegiance. He has served as supervisor of his township for six years, has been assessor for four terms and is now filling the latter office. He was likewise collector for two years, was justice of the peace for twelve years and during a long period has been a member of the school board. Every duty of a public nature devolving upon him has been faithfully met and his active co-operation in measures for the public good has been a valued factor in promoting general progress and improvement.

C. H. TIFFIN.

C. H. Tiffin is numbered among the honored veterans of the Civil war, having proven his loyalty to the Union cause by service upon the battle-fields of the south during that long and sanguinary conflict. A native of Ohio, he was born in Pickaway county on the 17th of November, 1843, his parents being Madison and Abigail (Crabill) Tiffin. His father was a nephew of Hon. Edward Tiffin, the first governor of Ohio, who came from England to America and settled in the Buckeye state when it was considered to be upon the far western frontier. Madison Tiffin removed from Ohio to Moultrie county, Illinois, in 1847 and there remained for about seven years, or until 1854, when he came to Montgomery county. After a short period had passed, however, he went to Madison county, Illinois, where he lived until 1866. In that year he returned to Montgomery county, settling in Walshville, where he became identified with farming interests.

C. H. Tiffin of this review accompanied his parents on their various removals until after the outbreak of the Civil war. He was eighteen years of age when in response to his country's call for troops to crush out the rebellion in the south he enlisted on the 12th of August, 1862, becoming corporal of Company I, One Hundred and Twenty-second Illinois Infantry. He remained with the army for three years and was in many important battles. The

first engagement in which he participated was at Tupelo, Mississippi, and later he was at Nashville, Tennessee, and in the battle of Fort Blakeley. He was the second man in his brigade inside the garrison after the capture of the fort and he was detailed as color guard. He served until the close of the war and from Fort Blakeley went to Montgomery, Alabama, and thence to Mobile. Proceeding northward after the close of hostilities he was honorably discharged at Springfield in August, 1865.

When the country no longer needed his services Mr. Tiffin returned to Madison county, Illinois, and resumed the pursuits of civil life. After a short time, however, he came to Montgomery county, moving to this locality at the time of his father's return here. He settled in Walshville and on the 3rd of October, 1867, he was united in marriage to Miss Emma J. Garland, a daughter of Dr. Garland. At this time he purchased a farm in Walshville township, to which he took his bride and they resided there for fifteen consecutive years, or until 1882, when they removed to Hillsboro township and Mr. Tiffin rented a farm for two years. He then took up his abode upon his present farm in August, 1886, and has since carried on agricultural pursuits here with good success.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Tiffin was blessed with three sons: Frank M., Charlie C. and Joseph W. In 1900 Mr. Tiffin was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died on the 19th of October of that year. He has since married Gertrude Edwards and they now occupy the farm in Hillsboro township which comprises one hundred and forty acres of rich and arable land. Mr. Tiffin is a member of the Free Methodist church and has lived an upright, honorable life and now does everything in his power to advance the cause of Christianity in the community where he makes his home.

OTTO FUNK.

Otto Funk has perhaps done more than any other individual to promote musical culture in Montgomery county, having for a number of years engaged in teaching music in East Fork

township. He was born in St. Louis, Missouri, October 6, 1868, a son of Benjamin and Caroline (Krause) Funk, both of whom are natives of Germany. They became residents of Montgomery county in 1884, at which time they settled upon the Jackson farm of four hundred acres. Mr. Funk continuing in its cultivation with good success until 1892, when he removed to Hillsboro, since which time his son Otto has been operating the farm, while the father is now living a retired life in the county seat.

Otto Funk was reared in St. Louis and received four years' training in music there and four years at Konigsburg, Germany, under such distinguished musical educators as Max Brodi, Robert Goldbeck and Theodore Oesten. After studying for some time abroad Mr. Funk returned to the United States and spent two years as a teacher and concert player in St. Louis. He it was who laid the foundation for the love of classical music in Montgomery county. He was instrumental in having the famous quintette club of St. Louis give high class musical entertainments here. The leading members of the club were George Herrick and Alfred G. Robyn. Mr. Funk realized that he could not derive financial benefit from this, but for the love of music and because of a public-spirited desire to educate the people he made a financial sacrifice in order to bring superior musical talent to Montgomery county. At one time he had a very large class of pupils in music, giving as many as two hundred lessons in a month, but he now has only a few scholars as his attention is given to his farming interests. He teaches seven branches of music and is widely recognized as one of the famous representatives of the art in this part of the state, having developed his native powers and talents until he is a superior performer. He plays three hundred selections from memory and when studying he practiced ten hours a day. His income is derived principally from his farm and he is prepared to shelter three hundred head of stock. One winter he sheltered Pawnee Bill's entire wild west show. He has a fish lake upon his farm covering six acres and the water is eight feet deep. It is his ambition to create a fine summer resort and fishery second to none and

in one consignment he received two hundred thousand fish. He also operates the second largest ice plant in the county and this is complete in every detail. In his business he displays marked ability, enterprise, sound judgment and unfaltering diligence and he is justly accounted one of the most progressive men of Montgomery county.

On the 20th of May, 1894, Mr. Funk was united in marriage to Miss Della Edwards, a daughter of C. H. Edwards, of Donnellson, and they had four children: Viola, Olga, Rosa and Benjamin. Mr. Funk is a member of the Modern Woodmen camp, also the Mutual Protective League, the Bankers Life Association, the Washington Life Association. His political support is given to the Prohibition party and he is a staunch advocate of the cause of temperance. In fact, he favors every movement that tends to elevate mankind and to promote the best character development.

ANTON C. GEES.

Anton C. Gees, a veterinary surgeon of Raymond, Illinois, whose well known ability in this profession has brought to him an extensive and profitable business during the thirty years of his practice in Montgomery and adjoining counties, has been a resident of Illinois since September, 1870. He was born across the water, however, his birth having occurred in Westphalia, Germany, on the 20th of September, 1845. His parents were Henry and Mary (Broeckling) Gees, who spent their entire lives in that country, the father dying in 1861 and the mother in 1875.

The boyhood and youth of our subject were passed in Germany and he studied veterinary surgery in his native land. The favorable reports which he heard, however, concerning the opportunities of the new world led him to seek a home in America and on the 16th of May, 1870, he arrived in St. Louis, Missouri. The same year he went to Iowa and afterward to Minnesota, where he worked at harvesting and baying and in the autumn of 1870 he came to Montgomery county, Illinois, where he secured employment as a farm hand, being thus en-



MR. AND MRS. ANTON C. GEES

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gaged for two years in the service of Henry Friedmeyer. He then entered upon the practice of his profession and as a veterinary surgeon he has won creditable success. He is now one of the oldest practitioners in this line in the county and his business has constantly grown in volume and importance, bringing to him very desirable financial return. Purchasing land, he located upon a farm which he continued to cultivate for several years, but during the past twenty years he has resided in the town of Raymond, where he erected a neat residence. He also owns a nice piece of land and has a well improved place in addition to his farm property which he has in this county. His financial resources were limited when he emigrated to America, but his business ability, his capable management and his laudable ambition have been the foundation upon which he has reared the superstructure of success.

In January, 1880, Mr. Gees was united in marriage in Montgomery county to Mrs. Harriet Troft, a native of England, born in Somersetshire, where her girlhood days were passed. She came to the new world in 1879, joining her fathers' family here. Her parents were both natives of England and on coming to America in 1871 first located in Wisconsin, but four years later came to Montgomery county, Illinois, settling upon a tract of land in Zanesville township, where they made their home until death. Both died in 1886, the mother on the 13th of April, and the father on the 25th of December. Mr. and Mrs. Gees have two living children: Sophia, who is a fine musician and is a leader of the choir in the Catholic church in Raymond; and Frank. They also lost two children, Ben Adolphus and Henry, who died in childhood.

Politically Mr. Gees is an earnest Democrat, well informed on the questions and issues of the day, and since casting his presidential ballot for Samuel J. Tilden in 1876 he has never faltered in his allegiance to the party. He was elected and served for one term on the town board, but he otherwise has never sought or held office, preferring to give his undivided attention to his professional duties and business interests. He and his wife were

reared in the Catholic faith and are members of the church of that denomination at Raymond. For more than one-third of a century he has been a resident of Montgomery county, witnessing the changes which have marked its progress toward an advanced civilization. As the years have passed the circle of his friends has been extended with the growth of the circle of his acquaintances and he enjoys in high measure the good will and regard of many with whom he has been brought in contact.

ROBERT J. POTTS.

Robert J. Potts is the owner of two valuable and well improved farms, comprising three hundred and twenty-nine acres of land, which is productive, owing to the care and cultivation which he bestows upon his fields. His home is on section 22, Zanesville township, and he ranks among the substantial agriculturists of his community. He was born October 29, 1872, a son of Richard D. and Mary A. E. (Leyerly) Potts. The father's birth occurred in Macoupin county, this state, in the year 1835. The paternal grandfather, W. B. Potts, was one of the early residents of Illinois, establishing his home in Macoupin county when its land was largely unclaimed and much of it was still in its primitive condition, awaiting the cultivation of the white man to become arable and valuable. Richard D. Potts was brought to Montgomery county in his early youth, was reared here, and when he had arrived at years of maturity was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary Leyerly, who was also a native of Macoupin county. They took up their abode upon a tract of new and undeveloped land, but he soon placed the farm under cultivation and worked persistently day after day and year after year until prosperity crowned his efforts and he became the owner of nearly five hundred acres of land having a high market value. Upon his place he remained until called to his final rest on the 28th of December, 1902. His widow, now surviving him, is enjoying good health at the age of sixty-three years.

Robert J. Potts is their only living child, although two of their children reached mature

years. At the usual age he entered the public schools, wherein he mastered the elementary branches of learning and later he became a student in Blackburn University at Carlinville. When not occupied with his studies or the pleasures of the playground he worked in the fields as his age and strength permitted and remained with his father until after he had attained his majority, carrying on the home farm work for a number of years.

On the 18th of June, 1900, occurred the marriage of Mr. Potts and Miss Caroline Hartmann, who was born and reared in St. Louis, Missouri, and is a daughter of William Henry and Eleanor Hartmann, of that city, whose birth occurred in Germany. Mr. Potts began opening up the farm upon which he now lives, and he took his bride to his new home, continuing the work of further development and improvement there until he has now a very valuable property, his landed possessions aggregating three hundred and twenty-nine acres. He has three barns upon his place, has set out an orchard and has a great variety of fruit, which furnishes many an attractive dish for the table. He now rents considerable of his land, but is still actively engaged in farming, and each springtime gives promise of golden harvests in the autumn in return for the plowing and planting in which he is engaged in the early days of the season. In addition to agricultural interests he is a stockholder and director in the Raymond National Bank, and he assisted in the organization of the People's Mutual Telephone Company and is likewise a stockholder in the Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Potts has been blessed with one son, James Garrett. The parents have many friends among the younger people of Zanesville township, as well as the older residents, and the hospitality of many of the best homes of this section of the county is freely accorded them. In his political views Mr. Potts is an earnest Democrat where national issues are involved, but at local elections he votes independently. He has served for two terms as township assessor, and as a citizen is public-spirited and progressive, being deeply interested in everything that pertains to the wel-

fare and substantial upbuilding of this part of the state. A young man of good business ability and strict integrity, of exemplary habits and upright life, all who know him give him their confidence and regard, and he well deserves mention in this volume.

S. E. GERLACH.

S. E. Gerlach, one of the prominent business men of Waggoner, where he is conducting a general mercantile establishment, has been a resident of Illinois since 1869. Born in Ohio, he first opened his eyes to the light of day in Northampton, Clark county, on the 8th of January, 1867, his parents being Michael and Drusilla (Overpack) Gerlach. The father, a native of Pennsylvania, was there reared, and when a young man he removed to Ohio, where he formed the acquaintance of Drusilla Overpack, whose hand he sought in marriage. She was born in the Buckeye state and they began their domestic life upon a farm there, Mr. Gerlach continuing the cultivation of land in Clark county until 1869, when he removed westward to Illinois, settling in Maconpin county. He lived there for a few years and then came to Montgomery county.

S. E. Gerlach was reared as are most farm boys, working in the fields during the time of spring planting and when crops were harvested in the fall. In the winter months he attended the public schools, and by reading and experience in later years he has added greatly to his knowledge, becoming a well informed man.

The home life of Mr. Gerlach has been very pleasant. He was married on the 16th of November, 1887, in Zanesville township, Montgomery county, to Miss Jane Fooks, who was born December 9, 1864, a sister of George Fooks, who is represented elsewhere in this volume. After their marriage Mr. Gerlach continued to engage in general farming for eight years, meeting with fair success. He then determined to turn his attention to other business interests and became a part owner in a lumber business in Waggoner. Removing to the town, he was actively connected with the conduct of that enterprise until January, 1901,

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S. E. GERLACH AND FAMILY



MICHAEL GERLACH AND FAMILY

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when he sold out and purchased a general mercantile establishment, which he has since conducted. He now carries a large and well selected line of goods suitable for the town and country trade, and he has built up a good business, having a large and constantly growing patronage. He has won a good reputation, not only for excellent goods, but also for straightforward dealing, and he has made it his earnest effort to please his customers and make them entirely satisfied in their trade relations with him. He has improved and built residence property here and he has also bought a good business house.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerlach have two children: Ethel Ann, born March 13, 1890; and George William, born August 27, 1893. The parents hold membership in the Baptist church. Politically Mr. Gerlach is a Republican, taking an active interest in the work of his party. He has been elected and served as township collector and is a friend of good schools, believing in the employment of competent teachers. He served on the school board for several years, and during that time rendered effective aid to the cause of education. He has been a resident of this portion of the county from his youth to the present time, and the fact that many of his staunchest friends are those who have known him from boyhood is an indication that his has been a career worthy of regard and one that will bear the closest investigation and scrutiny.

HON. A. F. McEWEN.

Hon. A. F. McEwen, superintendent of the Litchfield Marble & Granite Works and one of the honored veterans of the Civil war and in days of peace has been equally loyal to his country and her best interests, was born in Hillsboro on the 17th of March, 1842. His parents were John and Lydia (Fitch) McEwen. The former was a native of North Carolina and was of Scotch-Irish extraction, manifesting in his life the sterling honesty and rugged character of the people from whom he was descended. John McEwen came to Montgomery county in 1839. He had been

married in his native state but his wife had died there. As a pioneer he made his way into this district of Illinois and when it was largely a wilderness with but few settlements and almost no improvements. He was a blacksmith by trade and followed that pursuit throughout his entire business career. He took an active and helpful part in the work of progress and improvement here and for many years prior to his death, which occurred in 1848, he filled the office of justice of the peace. He discharged his duties in the court without fear or favor and he also solemnized many marriages among the earlier settlers of the county. His death occurred at the comparatively early age of thirty-nine years. He was an earnest Presbyterian in religious faith and through his efforts in behalf of the church contributed to the moral as well as material development of his adopted county. His widow afterward became the wife of Rev. William J. Boone, of Shelbyville, Illinois. Her death occurred in 1887 and was deeply deplored by many friends for she had the love and esteem of all who knew her. By her first marriage there were four children, two sons and two daughters, one sister residing in Hillsboro, one in Springfield, Ohio, and the brother of our subject in St. Louis.

Alonzo F. McEwen was only six years of age at the time of his father's death. Four children were left to the care of the widowed mother and it became necessary that the sons should early start out in life, so that the subject of this review soon learned to face the hardships and difficulties incident to farming. He was put to work that he might help his mother and he entered the employ of Mr. Hayward, a noble character of Montgomery county, who was known as old "twelve per cent." Mr. Hayward was an extensive landowner and Mr. McEwen entertained for him the greatest respect and gratitude, for at the hands of his employer he met only kindness. Mr. Hayward paid him seven dollars per month, which Mr. McEwen says was the old man's way of helping his mother, for the boy had little to do and was sent to school throughout the winter. In his youth, however, he assisted in the plowing and as he did his work barefooted he was constantly

on the lookout for snakes, which infested the tall prairie grass. There were also many wolves, panthers and wild cats in the locality and large herds of deer were seen, while smaller game was to be had in abundance. His earnest toil awakened a good appetite and brought on sound sleep and these two did much to develop in Mr. McEwen the strong constitution which has enabled him to do an immense amount of hard work in his life and conduct important business interests. After leaving the farm he learned the trade of a marble cutter, at which he had worked but a short time when he became imbued with the "spirit of '61" and enlisted in the famous Ninth Illinois Infantry as a member of Company H, on the 23rd of April, 1861.

This regiment was transferred to Cairo, where the first one hundred days of his services were spent. He re-enlisted at the end of that time and participated in all the memorable battles and stirring incidents with which that regiment was connected. This was one of the most renowned commands of the entire army. With his comrades he re-enlisted July 26, 1861, for three years' service and under General Grant the Ninth and Twelfth Illinois Regiments went to Kentucky. From the landing at Paducah, until the opening of the Fort Henry and Fort Donelson campaign—September 5, 1861, to February 6, 1862—the time was taken up in squad, company and battalion drills and no better drilled troops did the state send to the front than the Ninth regiment. At Fort Henry this command landed opposite the fort on the Tennessee river. The stream was very high at that time and the bottoms were covered with back waters so that wading was necessary. The boys had to place their cartridge boxes on their heads and thus proceed under difficulties, but when the high land was reached Fort Henry was taken on the double quick. Snow, rain and exposure left many ill in the hospital. On the 12th of February the regiment crossed the river and took its position in the rear of Fort Donelson. The Ninth was one of the first to meet the Confederate forces when they tried to evacuate the fort on the morning of the 15th. Many were killed and wounded and a few were taken

prisoners. The battle of Shiloh followed and only five hundred and seventy-eight members of the regiment were able to respond for duty and only two hundred and nine came out unscathed, one hundred and three being killed, while two hundred and sixty-six were wounded. There Mr. McEwen was hit three times, once in the head, a second time in the shoulder and the third time in the leg. On Friday, April 4, 1862, the Ninth regiment, which had formerly been uniformed in a gray suit with a stiff, high gray hat, was furnished with new blue uniforms, which they wore on Sunday morning in the battle of Shiloh for the first time. The regiment was commanded by Colonel Jesse J. Phillips, the brigade by Colonel August Marsey, while General W. W. Wallace was in charge of the division. At the battle of Shiloh the Ninth held position near a ravine not far from the place where General Albert Sidney Johnston was killed. It was recorded that not one straggler from the ranks of the Ninth regiment was found after the engagement at that place—a fact of which no other regiment during the entire war could boast. Colonel Fox says in his *Regimental Losses in the American Civil War*, "It has now become clear that the greatest loss sustained by any infantry regiment in any battle of the war occurred at Shiloh in the Ninth Illinois. This gallant regiment fought on that field at the deadly point known as the 'Hornets' Nest,' when it suffered a loss of three hundred and sixty-six men out of five hundred and seventy-eight engaged, one hundred and three being killed outright." Its gallant Colonel Phillips was conspicuous in the fray and was wounded while his horse was killed from under him. At the noted battle of Balaklava the Light Brigade of six hundred made its famous charge with a loss of two hundred and forty-seven, or thirty-six per cent, while the Ninth Illinois lost sixty-three per cent in the face of a musketry that was more terrible than the cannonading at Balaklava. During the war the Ninth suffered a total loss of seven hundred and sixty-six men in one hundred and ten engagements out of a total enrollment of fourteen hundred and ninety-three. In the regiment there were many officers and privates of Ger-

man, French and American descent but as Illinois citizens their glory will never fade. After the battle of Shiloh Mr. McEwen was sent home on a furlough of six weeks, but on the expiration of that period he returned to his regiment and with it went to Atlanta and on the famous march to the sea. Not long after this he was mustered out and returned home with a most creditable and honorable military record.

Not long after his return Mr. McEwen was married at Hillsboro on the 8th of June, 1865, to Miss Maria M. Abbott, a daughter of Stephen Abbott, one of the prominent citizens of Hillsboro, and a sister of Hon. William Abbott, an attorney of this city. In the spring of 1866 they removed to Litchfield and Mr. McEwen opened a marble shop on the north side of the public square, where he was located in business for twelve years. In 1878 he established a grocery store, which he conducted for two years, but in 1880 he again engaged in the marble business and in 1888 he assisted in organizing the Litchfield Marble & Granite Works, with Hon. T. C. Kirkland as president and Hon. S. M. Grubbs as treasurer, while Mr. McEwen became superintendent and has since acted in that capacity. This is one of the leading firms in this line of business in central Illinois and Mr. McEwen's long experience has well qualified him for the conduct of the extensive and important business which is now accorded to the company.

Into Mr. and Mrs. McEwen have been born five children: Minnie H., born March 1, 1866, is now the wife of John J. Munson, of Minneapolis, Minnesota, and they have one child, an infant; Grace is the wife of James F. Robinson, of Hillsboro, and they have one son and two daughters; Maude A. is the wife of William Wilkes; Alonzo F. is employed in his father's shop; Florence is at home.

In his political views Mr. McEwen is a stalwart Democrat, and upon that ticket was elected to the city council from the third ward in 1874 and 1875. He was appointed by Governor Tanner, of Illinois, a member of the Shiloh battlefield commission and has served in that capacity since September 4, 1897. The members of this commission are to mark positions of the Illinois regiment on the battlefield and

erect appropriate monuments to the memory of those brave men who fell there. The members of the commission at the present writing, in 1904, are Captain George A. Busse, president; Major George Mason, secretary; Colonel J. B. Nulton, Captain Thomas A. Weisner, Captain Benson Wood, Captain J. B. Ramsey, Captain Timothy Slattery, Hon. Isaac Yantis, Hon. A. F. McEwen and Hon. Sheldon A. Ayres. In 1900 Mr. McEwen was appointed chairman of the committee on designs and materials by Major General John A. McClernand, president of the board, and as the result of Mr. McEwen's committee efforts forty magnificent monuments now mark the positions of twenty-eight regiments of infantry, eleven batteries and four detachments of cavalry on the field of Shiloh. He set up the first regimental monument in honor of the Ninth Illinois in the battlefield of Shiloh. He is a prominent and interested member of the Grand Army of the Republic and greatly enjoys meeting with his old comrades at the annual reunions. He also belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp, No. 379. He has been a successful business man and has a host of warm friends, by whom he is loved and respected as a soldier, citizen and substantial man of affairs. Few men are better known in Montgomery county, and none deserve in higher degree the esteem and good will of those with whom they are associated than does Alonzo F. McEwen.

HENRY WARE.

Henry Ware, who is interested in farming in Butler Grove township, was born on the 4th of May, 1845, in the same township, upon a farm which is now the home of W. A. Young. His father, Obediah Ware, was born in Atkinson, New Hampshire, and was married in that state to Miss Electa Post. He removed from New England to Missouri and thence came to Montgomery county, Illinois, settling here in 1823. From the government he entered the land upon which he established his home, developing the farm that was the birthplace of Henry Ware. The part which he took in the development and improvement of the county

was very helpful, for he assisted in laying out the roads and reclaiming the wild land for civilization and in instituting many public measures that have proved beneficial. In his family were ten children, one son and nine daughters, but only two are now living, the sister of our subject being Mrs. Baldwin, who resides in Butler Grove township. The father died at the advanced age of eighty-two years, while his wife passed away in 1859 at the age of forty-nine years.

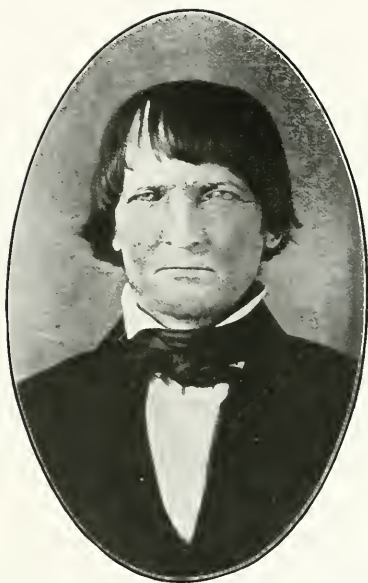
The boyhood days of Henry Ware were quietly passed. He worked in the fields through the summer months and attended the public schools in the winter season, and he gained practical experience in all of the varied duties which fall to the lot of the agriculturist. After attaining early manhood he married Miss Louisa Morrison and for a year thereafter rented a farm. He then began the operations of the home place and subsequently removed to the farm which is now his home. Here he has two hundred and forty acres of rich land on sections 13 and 23, Butler Grove township; his residence, however, stands on the latter section. He follows general farming along progressive lines and the work of plowing, planting and harvesting results in bringing to him a very good income. In his political views he is a Republican, but the honors and emoluments of office have had no attraction for him, as he has preferred to devote his energies to his business affairs.

DAVID Y. SCHERER.

David Y. Scherer, living upon a farm on section 21, Raymond township, is engaged in the raising of grain and stock and has improved a property of one hundred and twenty acres until in its equipments his place is equal to that of any in the community. The farm is situated about three and a half miles from Raymond. Mr. Scherer was born in this township, February 3, 1842, and is a son of David and Mary (Waggoner) Scherer, both of whom were natives of North Carolina. The father's birth occurred in Guilford county in 1802, and there he was reared and married. Five

children were born ere the removal of the parents from North Carolina to Illinois. On reaching this state the father established his home in Montgomery county, securing a tract of land in Raymond township, which he entered from the government. It was all wild and unimproved, but he undertook its cultivation with strong determination and in course of time was gathering rich harvests where a few years before were seen the wild prairie grasses. As the years advanced he prospered in his undertakings and he made judicious investment of his capital in real estate until he was the owner of nearly one thousand acres. He was a prominent man of his community, influencing public opinion along progressive lines and lending substantial aid for the development and upbuilding of the county. He died about 1858 and thus passed away one whose value as a citizen was acknowledged by all who knew him. His wife survived him for many years and reached the advanced age of ninety-three.

David Y. Scherer, belonging to a family of twelve children, seven sons and five daughters, who reached mature years, enjoyed the privileges and also faced the hardships which usually come to a household of large numbers when the parents are only in medium financial circumstances. He has but one surviving brother, Joseph Scherer, who is living in Texas, and two sisters. He attended the common schools in his youth and when not engaged with his textbooks he assisted in the labors of field and meadow, taking his place at an early age behind the plow. He became familiar with all departments of farm work and his practical experience afterward proved of much value to him when he began farming on his own account. Following his marriage he took charge of the old home place and cared for his mother for many years. On the expiration of that period he bought a tract of land on section 21, Raymond township, and removed to this farm. The land was but partially broken and he continued to place it under the plow. He also built fences and continued the work of cultivation and development until almost the entire amount was transformed into productive fields. He erected a good house and substan-



MR. AND MRS. DAVID SCHERER, SR.

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tial barn, planted shade and ornamental trees and set out two orchards, which have yielded an abundance of fruit. Everything about his place is neat and attractive in appearance. There is a fine well of running water for his stock and also good springs upon the place. He raises high grade cattle, hogs and horses, and, in fact, everything about his place is in the finest condition, for he believes in progression and is continually improving his methods of farming in keeping with the advanced ideas of the time. Besides his farm he owns twelve lots in Butler, on one of which is a barn and on another is a two-story house.

Mr. Scherer was married in Rountree township, December 11, 1863, to Miss Louisa M. Morrell, who was born in Hancock county, Ohio, and is one of the twelve children, eight sons and four daughters, all yet living, of Robert Morrell, who came to Montgomery county about 1859. Her father purchased a farm in Rountree township and thereon reared his family, the children leaving the old homestead as they married and established homes of their own. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Scherer have been born seven children, of whom five are living: Mary Elizabeth, the wife of Henry Mitchell, who resides near Vandalia; William J., a business man and miner of California; Oliver E., who is married and resides in Los Angeles, California; Alice R., a music teacher; and Elsie E., at home. The last two are accomplished young ladies. Mr. and Mrs. Scherer also lost two children: Robert R., who died when about thirty years of age; and May Leota, who died in infancy.

Mr. Scherer exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the Republican party and he proudly cast his first presidential ballot for Abraham Lincoln in 1864. He is a friend of the cause of education, believing in the establishment of good schools and the employment of competent teachers, and his opinions in this regard were evidenced by his service on the school board for several years. Both he and his wife were reared in the Lutheran faith and are now members of Ware's Grove Lutheran church, where Mr. Scherer is also identified with the Modern Woodmen. The Scherer home is neat and at-

tractive in appearance, indicating thrift and good taste. The house is surrounded by a fine grove of forest and evergreen trees and beautiful shrubbery. Hospitality is one of the notable features of the household and an air of culture and refinement pervades the place, so that the home has become a favorite resort with many friends, who represent the best element in Montgomery county's citizenship.

CHARLES H. WITHERSPOON.

Charles H. Witherspoon, whose connection with business interests of Hillsboro covers many years, in which he has successfully conducted a jewelry store, was born in the city which is yet his home in 1846. His father, William Witherspoon, was a native of North Carolina and in 1830 became a resident of Hillsboro, here he conducted the first tailoring establishment of the then pioneer town. He was also a carpenter and wagonmaker and figured prominently in business circles at an early day. His political support was given to the Whig party, and because of his belief in the abolition principles he joined the Republican party when it was formed to prevent the further extension of slavery. He held membership in the Presbyterian church and his life was ever honorable and upright, winning him the confidence and regard of his fellow men. He died in Hillsboro in 1886 at the advanced age of eighty-one years. In early manhood he wedded Elizabeth Morrison, who was born in North Carolina and accompanied her husband on his removal to the west. She, too, spent her remaining days in Hillsboro, while her death occurred in 1883 when she was seventy-nine years of age. They were the parents of nine children, but for thirty years Charles H. Witherspoon has been the only living representative of the family. In the public schools of his native city Mr. Witherspoon of this review acquired his preliminary education and afterward attended the old academy. When his education was completed he began clerking in a store and subsequently he learned the jeweler's trade with Frederick Noterman, with whom he remained for five or six years, becoming very proficient in the line of his

chosen vocation. He then established a jewelry business on his own account and has remained in this line continuously since, covering a period of almost one-third of a century. He has a large and well selected line of goods and a finely equipped store for a city of this size and enjoys a good patronage, his business being a profitable one.

In 1886 Mr. Witherspoon was married to Miss Alice Gunning, a daughter of John C. Gunning, a wagonmaker and one of the early settlers of Montgomery county. Mrs. Witherspoon was born in Hillsboro, and by her marriage has become the mother of one child, Nell E. Witherspoon. The parents are members of the Presbyterian church, and fraternally Mr. Witherspoon is identified with the Modern Woodmen and with the Tribe of Ben Hur. He believes in the principles of the Republican party and supports his belief by his ballot. His worth as a citizen and his deep interest in public affairs has been recognized by his fellow men in his election to several local positions, including that of city treasurer and councilman. His entire life having been passed in Hillsboro, he has a very wide acquaintance here and knows and is known to almost all of its citizens. While there have been no exciting chapters in his history, he is respected for his activity and reliability in business, his fidelity in public office and the many admirable traits which he displays in private life.

DAVID WARE, JR.

David Ware, Jr., who carries on general farming in Butler Grove township, was born August 2, 1860, upon the farm which is now his home. The common schools of the neighborhood afforded him his educational privileges and he received ample training in farm labor, working in the fields from the time of early spring planting until after crops were harvested in the late autumn. He assisted his father up to the time of his marriage, which occurred on the 17th of December, 1890, Miss Lottie Mack, a daughter of O. C. Mack, becoming his wife. After their marriage they removed to the farm upon which they now reside,

constituting a part of the old home place. Here Mr. Ware owns two hundred acres on section 10, Butler Grove township, and is engaged in general farming and stock-raising. He keeps on hand good grades of cattle and hogs, and his farm is neat and attractive in appearance, indicating his careful supervision.

Mr. Ware served as school trustee for ten years and was conscientious and capable in the discharge of his duties, doing all in his power to secure good school privileges for the children of the neighborhood. In politics he is a Republican, and, as every true American citizen should do, keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day, thus being able to support his position by intelligent argument. He is a member of the Ware Grove Lutheran church and fraternally is identified with the Modern Woodmen lodge at Butler. He represents a family long connected with the county, widely and favorably known within its borders, and his record is in keeping with the family reputation for integrity, for activity and reliability in business and for loyalty in citizenship.

HUGH HALL.

Hugh Hall, who is conducting a cigar store in Litchfield, is one of the active business men of the city, possessing the enterprise so characteristic of the middle west and while he has utilized his opportunities for business advancement he has also been mindful of his duties of citizenship and has aided in the material progress of Litchfield and in the promotion of many interests which have contributed to the general good. He was born in Fremont, Ohio, in 1865, a son of John and Bridget Hall, who were natives of Ireland. In early life the father came to the United States, establishing his home in Fremont, where he followed the stone-mason's trade until his death. Hugh Hall was the only child of their marriage, but the mother had five children by a previous marriage.

In early life Mr. Hall was placed in St. Vincent's convent at Cleveland, Ohio, where he remained until eleven years of age. He then returned to Fremont and afterward attended



HUGH HALL

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school through the winter seasons, while in the summer months his time was devoted to farm labor, at which he was engaged until twenty-one years of age. He then made his way westward to Kansas, where he pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land, spending eight months in that state in order to gain his title to the property. In 1887 he came to Litchfield and aided in the building of Rhodes' Opera House, where a few years later he became manager and held that position for several years. He also did an advertising business and for the past sixteen years has had the bill-posting privileges of the town. For the past three years he has conducted the largest distinct cigar and tobacco emporium in Litchfield, known as the Buzzards Roost, and of this he is still proprietor, having a profitable business, which he has developed to extensive proportions.

In June, 1899, Mr. Hall was married to Miss Lulu M. Finley, a daughter of James and Elizabeth Finley and an adopted daughter of George W. Amsden. She was born in Indiana and they now have a little son, George. Mr. and Mrs. Hall are identified with the Catholic church and he is connected with the Knights of Pythias fraternity and the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. A Democrat in his political affiliation, he was elected to the office of clerk of the city court at the establishment of the court in the city of Litchfield, and is still holding that position. In 1899 he was chosen city clerk and held that office for two years. He is a member of the Montgomery county central committee of the Democratic party and is its secretary. His interest in political questions is deep and he puts forth effective and earnest effort in behalf of the principles in which he believes.

FRANK J. SCHEFFEL.

Frank J. Scheffel, who is engaged in the butchering business and in the manufacture of sausage at Litchfield, was born in northern Germany, January 21, 1849. His father, also a native of Germany, remained a resident of that country until 1870, when he sailed with his wife for America, arriving in Illinois on the

13th of May, accompanied by his sons. He located at Brighton, this state, where he spent his remaining days, passing away in 1896 at the age of seventy-three years. He had never been ill in all his life until his last sickness. His widow still survives him at the age of eighty years and is living in a little cottage by herself. In their family were four sons.

Frank J. Scheffel was reared and educated in his native country, and, crossing the Atlantic to America, arrived in Illinois on the 26th of April, 1870. He resided in Alton until 1872, when he took up his abode at Medora, Macoupin county, where he spent six years. In 1882 he arrived in Litchfield and purchased a meat market from McReynolds on Kirkham street. He afterward conducted business on State street for fifteen years, and in 1904 he removed to his present location on Kirkham street, where he is conducting business as proprietor of a meat market and as a sausage manufacturer. The good quality of meats which he carries has insured him a liberal patronage, and a customer once secured is always retained by him because of his honorable business methods.

Mr. Scheffel was married at Brighton, Illinois, on the 26th of April, 1874, to Miss Mary C. Thole, a daughter of John Thole. Mrs. Scheffel was born May 5, 1854, at Brighton, Illinois, and by her marriage has become the mother of the following children: Emma died at the age of four weeks. Edward A. was born November 30, 1876, and died February 9, 1904, at the age of twenty-eight years. He was engaged in the butchering business at Alton at that time. He had married in that city and left a widow and two children. Walter William, born in Medora, Illinois, June 7, 1880, is associated with his father in business. Annie died in Medora at the age of twenty-two months and was buried at Sommerfield, Macoupin county. Godfred died May 11, 1882, at the age of five months. Louisa, born in 1883, is at home. Mary died at the age of three months. Harry, born in 1887, is with his parents. John died at the age of eight months. Dolly passed away at the age of twelve years. Paul died at the age of nine months. Francis is now nine years of age. One child died when but five or six weeks old.

Mr. Scheffel is a Democrat in his political views and he took an active part in politics in Jerseyville, Illinois. He is a Lutheran in his religious faith, having been reared in that church by his parents, who were also members. Coming to America in early manhood, his business life has here been passed, and whatever success he has achieved has come as the direct reward of his honest labor. In addition to his business in Litchfield he owns a farm about a mile from the town.

ALBERT R. LEWEY.

The attractiveness of Montgomery county as a place of residence is indicated by the fact that so many of her native sons still make their homes within her borders and are closely identified with her business interests and public affairs. Among this number is Albert R. Lewey, who first opened his eyes to the light of day October 2, 1850, upon the farm where he now lives. He is indebted to the public school system for the educational privileges he enjoyed while under the parental roof; lessons of industry, economy and integrity were instilled into his mind and have borne fruit in his active and honorable career.

On the 27th of March, 1872, Mr. Lewey was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Lavina Beeler. Her father, William Beeler, came to Montgomery county in 1863, but after residing here for one year he returned to Ohio. In 1871, however, he again came to this county and took up his abode in Hillsboro township, where he followed farming for some time. Eventually he removed to Indiana, and both he and his wife died in that state. In their family were ten children: George, Mary, Hannah, Enos, Joseph, Sarah Lavina, Daniel, Anna, Samuel and Martha.

At the time of his marriage Mr. Lewey was about twenty-two years of age, and he then took charge of the old home farm, which he has since operated, placing it under a high state of cultivation and making many fine and modern improvements upon it, until it is now considered one of the best equipped farming properties in Hillsboro township. It is situated

on section 28, about five miles south and one mile west of Hillsboro, and comprises ninety acres of land, which is very rich and arable and therefore responds readily to the modern farming methods which he employs in the cultivation of his crops. He is a man of determined purpose and carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes, and he bears an unassailable business record.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Lewey have been born seven children: Oliver, who lives in Bozeman, Montana; Charley, who is conducting a meat market at Coffeen, this county; Millie, who has engaged in teaching school for a few years; Laura, at home; Everett E., a school teacher of this county; Jessie and Daniel, also with their parents. Mr. Lewey is a Democrat as the result of his study of the questions and issues of the day, but the honors and emoluments of office have little attraction for him, although he is never remiss in the duties of citizenship and co-operates in many public measures for the general good. His life has been honorable and upright, his actions manly and sincere, and he has a wide and favorable acquaintance in his native county.

Z. V. KIMBALL, M. D.

Dr. Z. V. Kimball, engaged in the practice of medicine in Hillsboro, where he has given substantial proof of ability and knowledge that have enabled him to cope successfully with the intricate problems which continually confront the physician, was born in North Carolina on the 26th of October, 1879. He is a representative of one of the old and prominent families of his native state, tracing his ancestry back to Major Buckner Kimball, who came from the north of Ireland about 1750 and served in the Revolutionary war with the rank that his title indicates. His children were Nancy, Betsy, Patsy, Eddie and Harris, all natives of Randolph county, North Carolina. Harris Kimball, the youngest, married Miss Dorcas Wood, of North Carolina, and they had ten children: Joel, Colya, Harris, William, Elihu, Sarah, Patsy, Nancy, Petty and Polly. Of this family Joel, son of Harris Kimball, was the

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MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM BEELER

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grandfather of Dr. Kimball of this review. He was born in North Carolina, August 11, 1799, and died May 28, 1883. He was married first to Nancy Kearns, who was born July 12, 1801, and was married in 1818 at the age of seventeen. They had six children: Thomas H., who was born November 19, 1819, and died January 15, 1890; Wiley J., who was born April 7, 1821, and died in 1900; John A., who was born May 15, 1823, and died July 17, 1824; Martha A., who was born April 7, 1825, and died November 11, 1891; Mary L., who was born March 1, 1828, and lives in Moorsville, North Carolina; and Eliza, born August 4, 1830, and now living in Mount Gilead, North Carolina. Soon after the birth of the last named the mother died, and on the 1st of March, 1831, Joel Kimball married Sarah Lentz, by whom he had ten children: Henry L., who was born December 5, 1831, and died March, 1900; Nancy L., born April 8, 1833; Dorcas A., born April 4, 1835; David Hoyt, who was born January 29, 1837, and died in August, 1840; John Calvin, born September 5, 1839; Chrissie A., August 29, 1842; Sarah S., October 8, 1844; William H., September 28, 1850; Laura W., March 7, 1847; and Joel L., October 5, 1854. Sarah Kimball, mother of the last ten children, died March 16, 1902, aged ninety-four years, eight months and eight days.

John Calvin Kimball, fifth child of Joel and Sarah (Lentz) Kimball, and father of Dr. Kimball, of Hillsboro, was born in North Carolina, September 5, 1839, and throughout his entire life has followed the occupation of farming. He has recently removed from his native state to Hillsboro, although at a former date he had lived here for ten years. He was married to Lucretia Ann Gheen and they became the parents of twelve children: George H., born April 6, 1865, died April 29, 1866; Charles W., born November 18, 1866, died February 22, 1890; Mary Bell, born May 8, 1869, was married December 29, 1886, to J. P. Barkley, and they had one child, Gordon Kimball Barkley, born in 1888. In 1900 she became the wife of Dr. G. Aven, of Bristol, Tennessee. Joel L., born January 29, 1871, was married in 1900 to Lula Roling. Major F.,

born January 13, 1873, died November 15, 1874. Edward H., born January 11, 1876, died June 12, 1894. Mattie F., born February 16, 1877, was married to R. L. Snyder, October 19, 1896. She died August 15, 1903, leaving two children, Lois and Cathline. Z. V. Kimball is the eighth of the family. Clarence M. was born November 3, 1881. Daisy L., born November 16, 1883, was married in 1901 to Ode R. Snyder, and they have twins, Hazel and Helen, born in March, 1904. Sarah L. was born February 21, 1886, and married B. F. Roling, March, 1904. Pearl G. was born April 15, 1892.

Dr. Z. V. Kimball was a student in the public schools of North Carolina and of Hillsboro and afterward attended the Marion-Sims-Beaumont College of Medicine at St. Louis, Missouri, where he was graduated on the 1st of May, 1902. He entered the office of Dr. M. L. Moyer in June of that year and has since engaged in practice, winning for himself a creditable position in the ranks of the medical fraternity of Hillsboro, his years being no bar to his ability and success, although he is one of the younger members of the medical fraternity here. He is thoroughly conversant with modern ideas and the improved methods of medical practice, and by reading and study is constantly broadening his knowledge.

GEORGE W. BROWN, JR.

George W. Brown, Jr., is the owner of one hundred and forty acres of land just outside the corporation limits of Butler, and upon this farm he resides. He was born near Hillsboro, Montgomery county, on the 30th of May, 1843. His father, George W. Brown, Sr., came to this county about 1836 in company with his father, Nicodemus Brown, who with his family settled near Hillsboro upon the farm now owned by Professor Williams. George W. Brown, Sr., was born in Ohio, and after arriving at years of maturity he married Sarah A. Jenkins. Unto them were born six children: George W. and Charles O., residents of Butler; James A., of Mattoon, Illinois; Camilla, of Hillsboro; A. Y., who is agent for the Big

Four Railroad Company at Litchfield; and Albert H., who is with the same railroad company at Hillsboro. The father died December 20, 1903, in the eighty-fifth year of his age, and the mother passed away May 25, 1902, in her eighty-third year.

George W. Brown, Jr., spent his youth on a farm until ten years of age, when the father removed with his family to Hillsboro, and he there had the privilege of attending the Hillsboro Academy. In 1861, however, when eighteen years of age, he started upon his business career as an employe of the firm of Glenn & Pinkney, dealers in merchandise and grain. He continued with these gentlemen until 1864 and afterward spent a year in the service of the firm of Clotfelter & Barnett. In March, 1865, he came to Butler, where he worked for Joseph Baum & Company in a general mercantile establishment for two years, and in 1867 he began business on his own account as a grocer. Not long afterward his brother, C. O. Brown, joined him in business and the partnership was continued until 1881, when they sold out to Hoes Brothers. In 1886, however, he once more turned his attention to general merchandising, opening a store in Butler. He has also continued to buy grain here since 1879 and now conducts a business which is constantly growing in volume and becoming more remunerative. In 1894 he purchased the stock of the McHenry Hardware Company at Hillsboro, and he now conducts one of the largest business enterprises of the kind in this section of the country. In 1898 he bought the implement stock of the firm of Paden & Wilson, of Hillsboro, and in 1900 he purchased the J. R. Challaconbe implement stock. His son, James P., manages the hardware department and Frank H. manages the implement business, while Mr. Brown gives his personal supervision to the other branches and is carrying on a very desirable business.

On the 4th of January, 1865, in Cincinnati, Ohio, Mr. Brown was united in marriage to Miss Henrietta M. Judson, a native of New Jersey, who was educated in the Hillsboro Academy. They have six children: James P., who is residing in Hillsboro; Winnie, the wife of W. A. White, of the same city; Charles J.,

a dry-goods merchant at Weatherford, Oklahoma; Frank H., at Hillsboro; Louis S., a practicing physician of St. Louis; and Roland O., who is in the store with his father at Butler.

Mr. Brown is a member of the Masonic order of Hillsboro, having been initiated into the lodge in December, 1864. After coming to Butler he dimitted to the lodge at this place and has held many positions therein, also serving as representative to the grand lodge. Mr. Brown is a man of keen business foresight, and his ready recognition and utilization of business opportunities have been one of the forceful elements in his success. Mr. Brown's actions have, during his life, been such as to distinctively entitle him to a place in this publication, and although his career has not been filled with thrilling incidents, probably no biography published in this book can serve as a better illustration to young men of the power of honesty and integrity in insuring success.

FRANCIS MARION SAWYER.

Francis Marion Sawyer, who is engaged in the transfer and express business in Nokomis and is serving as supervisor of Nokomis township, has been a resident of Montgomery county for thirty-six years, having located within its borders in 1868. He was then a young man, his birth having occurred in Macoupin county, Illinois, near Staunton, January 17, 1840. His parents were Valentine and Mary Ann (Spence) Sawyer, both of whom were natives of North Carolina, whence they came to Illinois in 1832. The father was a farmer by occupation and established his home in Macoupin county, where for many years he carried on agricultural pursuits. In 1866, however, he removed to Bell county, Texas, where his remaining days were passed, his death there occurring on the 1st of January, 1873, when he was seventy-nine years of age. His wife died in 1853 in Macoupin county at the age of fifty-one years.

Francis M. Sawyer was educated in the common schools and a subscription school of Macoupin county. When fourteen years of age

he began breaking prairie with an ox team, and after five years he devoted the winter seasons to hauling logs to a sawmill. He then had work at teaming from Bethel, Bond county, to St. Louis, carrying butter and eggs to the city market and bringing back goods to the store. After one year he rented a farm and turned his attention to agricultural pursuits on his own account in Macoupin county. At the time of the Civil war he responded to the country's call for aid and enlisted for three years' service in the Third Illinois Cavalry, but during the time that he was waiting to be called to the front he cut his foot while chopping wood, and this so disabled him that he was unable to work or to engage in military service for two years. For a year after his recovery he was connected with farming interests in Illinois, and in 1866 he went to Texas with his father, remaining in that state through the succeeding winter. In the spring he returned to Macoupin county, where he engaged in farming for two years, and the next year he herded cattle in Montgomery county, Illinois. In January, 1868, he removed to this county, locating about nine miles south of Nokomis, in Irving township, where he carried on general farming for several years. In 1875 he removed to a farm near Ohlman, but after one year took up his abode in Nokomis in 1876. Since that time he has been engaged in the transfer and express business in the town, and in 1882 he also began dealing in coal, operating in that commodity for fifteen years. He also conducted a farm a part of the time. He owns a business block in Nokomis and several houses which he rents, and also has a nice modern home which he occupies, and a farm of two hundred acres in Bell county, Texas. His property and business interests in Nokomis are valuable and somewhat extensive. Mr. Sawyer was elected tax collector for three terms, being chosen to the office about 1885. About 1890 he was elected supervisor for one year, and in 1902 and again in 1904 he was chosen for that office, which position he is now filling. No public trust reposed in him has ever been betrayed in the slightest degree, and all know him as a loyal citizen, interested in everything pertaining to general progress.

On the 20th of January, 1861, Mr. Sawyer was married to Miss Elizabeth Bissel, a daughter of William Bissel, who is a brother of Governor Bissel. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Sawyer were: Francis A., a policeman of Nokomis; William L., a druggist of Chicago; Ida A., the wife of Thomas Kinney, of Nokomis; and Andrew Jackson, who died in 1878 at the age of seven years. Mrs. Sawyer died in 1872 at the age of thirty-two years, and on the 11th of September, 1873, Mr. Sawyer was again married, his second union being with Sena I. Birt, a daughter of John Birt, of Montgomery county, who was born in Ohio. By the second marriage of Mr. Sawyer there are three children: Eva, the wife of Harry Powers, a foreman of the Wankegan Wire Works, of that place; Ethel and Lester, both at home. Mrs. Sawyer is a member of the Presbyterian church and Mr. Sawyer belongs to the Masonic lodge. His political allegiance is given to the Democracy and he is recognized as one of the local party leaders.

ARTHUR WARE.

Arthur Ware, born on the old Ware homestead in Butler Grove township, is a son of David Ware, of Hillsboro, who is represented elsewhere in this volume. The old home farm is now occupied by Lyman Ware, his brother, and it was there, on the 18th of November, 1858, that Arthur Ware was born. He early became familiar with farm work there, and in the public school of the neighborhood acquired his education. When twenty-three years of age he was married to Addie Aten, of the same neighborhood, who had been a schoolmate of his in her girlhood days. She was a daughter of T. C. Aten, who came to Montgomery county in the '60s. Not long after their marriage the young couple removed to the farm upon which they have since resided, and this is now one of the best improved and most productive tracts of land in Butler Grove township. Mr. Ware has two hundred and forty acres in the home place on section 10, about two miles north and one mile east of the village of Butler. He is engaged in general farming, in the

raising of Holstein cattle and in the dairy business. He feeds both hogs and cattle, and he has the finest thoroughbred registered Holstein cattle to be found in the county. His business is well managed and his careful supervision, untiring diligence and laudable ambition constitute the basis of his success. Whatever he undertakes he carries forward to successful completion, forms his plans readily and will brook no obstacle that can be overcome by persistent and honorable effort.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Ware have been born four children: Frank, Roy, Mabel and Wilma. The sons have attended college and expect to enter the Agricultural College at Champaign. Mr. Ware has been president of the Montgomery County Farmers' Institute and is now one of its directors. His political support is given to the Republican party, but the honors and emoluments of office have had no attraction for him. He is a member of the Ware Grove Lutheran church, in which he is now serving as an elder. His interest in everything pertaining to the social, intellectual, material and moral welfare of his community is deep and sincere and is manifest by hearty co-operation in many movements for the general good.

MRS. MARY E. SORRELL.

Mrs. Mary E. Sorrell is living on section 9, Raymond township. The ladies of a community usually figure less prominently before the public than the fathers, husbands and brothers, but they perform a no less important part in the world's work in the management of the household affairs and the rearing of their families and in shaping social conditions, and when called upon they have displayed the same strong and commendable business characteristics that are usually accorded to the other sex. Mrs. Sorrell is residing upon a farm which has been her home for thirty-six years and in its control she displays excellent ability and keen business foresight. She is numbered among the early settlers of Illinois, dating her residence in the state from 1839 and in Montgomery county from 1844. Few have so long remained within the borders of this county and

her memory forms a connecting link between the primitive past with its pioneer conditions and the progressive present with all of its indications of modern civilization.

Mrs. Sorrell was born in Cabarrus county, North Carolina, January 27, 1834. Her father, Lewis Carriker, was also born in North Carolina, was reared in that state and was married there to Miss Elizabeth Pitts, also a native of North Carolina. Mr. Carriker was a farmer by occupation and carried on agricultural pursuits in the old North state for a number of years or until after the birth of eight of his children. In 1839 he removed with his family to the west, settling first in Fayette county, Illinois, where he purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land, upon which a log cabin had been built. The town of Fillmore now stands upon a portion of the old family homestead there. With characteristic energy Mr. Carriker began the development and improvement of his farm and continued to reside thereon for a number of years, but later sold that property and in 1844 came to Montgomery county. Here he bought a half section of land about nine miles north of the city of Hillsboro and opened up another farm, upon which he reared his family and remained until called to his final rest. His wife survived him for a number of years and passed away in 1882. Thus the county lost two of its most respected pioneer citizens, but they are yet remembered by many of their early friends and neighbors and their name should be enduringly inscribed upon the pages of Montgomery county's history.

Mrs. Sorrell was reared in Montgomery county and was instructed in the usual household tasks, while in the public schools she acquired her education. In early womanhood she gave her hand in marriage in 1855 to Newton Wiley, a native of this state, and they began their domestic life upon a farm, Mr. Wiley continuing its cultivation and development until his death, which occurred in February, 1862. He was a grandson of Newton Coffey, one of the first settlers of Montgomery county, who came to Illinois from Kentucky. He was actively associated with the pioneer development of this portion of the state and he deeded



MR. AND MRS. HENRY SORRELL

to the county the land upon which the present courthouse now stands. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Wiley were born four children, but they lost their eldest, Marie, who died in infancy. The others are Alice, the wife of Hinton Whittaker, of Waggoner, Illinois; Charles B., who is married and follows farming in Raymond township; and Lewis, who is a farmer and resides with his mother, but operates a tract of land of his own. After losing her first husband Mrs. Wiley was again married in 1868, becoming the wife of Henry Sorrell, a native of Indiana, in which state he was reared, coming thence to Illinois in early manhood. Here he purchased a tract of raw land and improved the farm upon which his widow now resides. After his marriage he brought his wife to the home farm and here they lived in content and happiness until Mr. Sorrell was called to his final home. He owned eighty acres of rich land and the care and labor which he bestowed upon it brought to him a good annual income. Upon this place he reared his family and here he spent his remaining days, passing away on the 20th of March, 1901. Three daughters were born of this marriage: Kittie, who died at the age of thirteen years; Lydia, who died at the age of fifteen months; and Rosa, the wife of A. A. Kendall, a resident farmer of Raymond township.

Mrs. Sorrell resides upon the old homestead and rents the land to her son. She formerly belonged to the Lutheran church, which she joined when eighteen years of age, but she is now a member of the Baptist church. For sixty-five years she has made her home in Illinois and through sixty years has lived in Montgomery county, being one of few remaining early settlers who has witnessed the growth and development of this section of the state as it has emerged from primitive conditions and pioneer surroundings. She has done well her part in the labor of establishing a home and like others she endured the hardships and trials of frontier life. She is much beloved by those who know her and her friendship is prized by those with whom she has been associated, for her life has been characterized by kind words and deeds. She has helped to lift the burdens from the weak, has shared the troubles of others

and by her sympathy has lightened many sorrows.

GEORGE C. FELLNER.

Success is always the result of untiring effort, close application, and the life record which the American people hold in greatest esteem is that of individual accomplishment where prosperity results from personal labor, capable management and close conformity to commercial ethics. These qualities have been manifest in the career of Mr. Fellner, now well known as a contractor and builder of Litchfield, his native city. He was born in 1866, a son of Frederick and Margaret (Grassel) Fellner. The father was born in Bavaria, Germany, and when eighteen years of age came to the United States, locating in Cincinnati, Ohio, where he worked at his trade of cabinetmaking until 1863. In that year he removed to Litchfield, where he began business as a carpenter and contractor, being thus identified with building operations in this city until 1886. He then removed to Los Angeles, California, where he continued in business up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1900. Through his activity and energy he had accumulated a comfortable competence. At the time of the Civil war he responded to the first call for troops and became one of Fremont's bodyguard. At the organization of the Republican party he had indorsed its principles because it was formed to prevent the further extension of slavery—an institution to which Mr. Fellner was strongly opposed. He belonged to the Odd Fellows society and to the English Lutheran church and took an active part in church work, serving for some time as an officer. His wife, a daughter of George and Catherine Grassel, was born in Kentucky and died in 1880 at the age of thirty-six years. She, too, was a member of the Lutheran church. In their family were four children: Charles, deceased; George C.; William, who has passed away; and Katie, the wife of Hugo Theobold, of Los Angeles, California.

In the public schools of Litchfield and in Cincinnati George C. Fellner acquired his edu-

education. He afterward learned the carpenter's trade with his father, with whom he worked for three years. He then went to Los Angeles, California, but for the past fourteen years has been numbered among the contractors and builders of Litchfield, for he has erected a number of the best buildings, being very successful in his labors here. He executes a contract with promptness and fidelity, is true to the terms of an agreement, and by reason of his reliable methods and enterprise has won creditable success.

On the 1st of October, 1900, Mr. Fellner was married to Josie Allen, a daughter of Charles and Lucretia Allen, who was born in Litchfield in 1870. The father was a painter and a resident of this city. Mr. Fellner and his wife are members of the Lutheran church, and fraternally he is connected with the Knights of Pythias lodge and the Odd Fellows society. His study of political issues has led him to give his support to the Republican party, but the honors and emoluments of office have little attraction for him, as he prefers to give his undivided attention to his business affairs.

LYMAN WARE.

One of the old families of Montgomery county is that of which Lyman Ware is a representative, and his birthplace was the farm upon which he now resides. He was born February 15, 1865, and in his youth attended the public schools. In 1893 his father removed to the town of Hillshoro and Lyman Ware then took charge of the old home place—a work for which he was well qualified by his previous training and experience in the fields. From early boyhood he assisted in the task of plowing, planting and harvesting and to this work he has devoted his energies throughout his entire life. His home place comprises one hundred and eighty acres, and he is also engaged in the management and operation of a farm of two hundred acres in Irving township. He carries on general agricultural pursuits, raising the cereals best adapted to soil and climate, and

he is also successfully engaged in stock-raising, making a specialty of shorthorn cattle.

On the 22d of November, 1895, Mr. Ware was united in marriage to Miss Ida Linger, and they have one child, Jennie L., who is now seven years of age. The parents are members of the Ware Grove Lutheran church and Mr. Ware is a Republican in his political affiliation, having supported the party since attaining his majority. His entire life has been passed in Montgomery county, so that he is well known, and with its agricultural interests he has been closely connected throughout his entire life.

DEWITT C. BURRIS.

Dewitt C. Burris, now deceased, was born in Jackson county, Ohio, on the 3d of April, 1826, and was reared upon a farm. His educational privileges were those afforded by the early schools of his native state, which was then a frontier region cut off from the advantages and improvements of the older west by the mountain ranges of Pennsylvania. When twenty-one years of age he began earning his own living, and, thinking that he might have better chances to gain a start in a still more western region, he went from Ohio to Indiana and afterward came to Illinois, settling in Montgomery county when a young man during the early '50s.

As a companion and helpmate for life's journey Mr. Burris chose Miss Roselma Mack, who was born in New Hampshire and was a daughter of Calvin Mack, who came with his family to Montgomery county, Illinois, at a very early period in its development, traveling by wagon. He had two wagons, in which the family journeyed and carried their household effects. The Mack home was established in Butler Grove township, and under the parental roof the daughter Roselma remained until she gave her hand in marriage to Mr. Burris on the 7th of April, 1857. Not long after this the young couple removed to Christian county, Illinois, where he operated a sawmill for a year. They then returned to Montgomery county and he gave his attention to agricultural pursuits in

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DEWITT C. BURRIS



MRS. DEWITT C. BURRIS

Butler Grove township, improving a good farm. In 1863 he removed to the farm upon which his widow now resides and made that place his home for nineteen years, or until the time of his death. He prospered in his undertaking, becoming one of the well-to-do citizens of this part of the state. As his financial resources increased he added to his land until he was the owner of six hundred acres, representing a large investment, which made him one of the substantial residents of his locality. He deserved much credit for what he accomplished because all that he possessed was acquired through his own efforts, guided by sound judgment and prompted by laudable ambition.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Burris were born four children who are still living: Carrie A., the wife of A. C. Sammons; Elzina, the wife of W. E. Kendall, of Oklahoma; Charles, who is living upon the home farm; and Wesley, also at home. Those who have passed away are George, Emma, Hattie and Willie.

Mr. Burris died January 4, 1879, and many who know him mourn his loss, for they had found in him a faithful friend and a straightforward business man, while in his family he was a devoted husband and father. He held office in his township and gave his political allegiance to the Democracy. Mrs. Burris, who still survives her husband and yet resides upon the old homestead, is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

E. HARRIS.

Among the most energetic, wide-awake and representative business men of Montgomery county is numbered E. Harris, of Coffeen, who is engaged in the conduct of a furniture store and is also manager for the Mutual Telephone System, which operates eight hundred and fifty telephones. He was born in Fillmore township, Montgomery county, in 1867, his parents being William M. and Lourana J. (Sears) Harris. The paternal grandfather, William B. Harris, arrived in Montgomery county in 1827, being one of its first settlers. The greater part of the land was still unclaimed and uncultivated,

and where are now seen flourishing towns and villages there was only unbroken prairie. His father was born in Bond county, Illinois, in 1828, and in early life followed agricultural pursuits. He also engaged in merchandising in Fayette county, Illinois, and became one of the active factors in the business life of his community. In 1849 he was united in marriage to Miss Lourana J. Sears, also a representative of one of the oldest families of this part of the state. At the time of his marriage Mr. Harris located in Montgomery county, where he resided continuously until 1872, but is now a resident of Bingham, Fayette county. Unto him and his wife have been born seven children, of whom four are now living.

E. Harris acquired his education in the schools of Fayette county, Illinois, where he spent the early part of his life. In 1891 he came to Coffeen and established a furniture store, which he has since conducted. In addition he carries on an undertaking establishment, holding state embalmer's license No. 555, and both branches of his business have proved remunerative. He carries a large and well selected line of furniture calculated to meet the varied demands of the town and country trade, and his reasonable prices, fair dealing and unfaltering determination to win an honorable success have been the potent elements in his prosperity. He is to-day the oldest merchant in continued business in Coffeen. He is also the manager of the Mutual Telephone System, which has proven of much value to the county, being a source of great convenience, not only in business, but in social life. Eight hundred and fifty telephones are in operation under the management of this company. Mr. Harris is to-day considered the most prosperous business man of Coffeen, and he certainly deserves his success, as it has come to him as the direct reward of his unfaltering diligence, capable management and recognition of opportunity.

In 1889 Mr. Harris was married to Miss Victoria Hicks, of East Fork township, and they have two children, Ruby M. and Frank C. Mr. Harris belongs to the Woodmen fraternity and in his political views he is a Democrat. Upon his party ticket he was elected assessor and supervisor, discharging his duties with

capability and promptness. He belongs to that class of representative American men who, while promoting their individual interests, also advance the general welfare, and Coffeen classes him among its valued citizens, in that he is deeply interested in her welfare and that his co-operation may be counted upon to advance every measure for the general good.

ROBERT J. RICE.

Robert Jefferson Rice, whose business energy and activity are important factors in the commercial life of Waggoner, is conducting a hardware and implement store, of which he has been proprietor for five years. He is also well known in connection with the hotel business, which he has conducted for ten years, and a genial, pleasant manner and unfaltering courtesy, combined with his sagacity, perseverance and business foresight, have led to his success and made him one of the popular residents of this community.

Mr. Rice was born in Macoupin county, Illinois, May 1, 1856. His father, William A. Rice, was a native of Green county, Kentucky, born on the 24th of April, 1826, and the grandfather was George Rice, who was a native of Virginia and a soldier of the Revolutionary war. He followed farming in Kentucky after his removal to the Old Dominion, and subsequently he took up his abode in Illinois, about 1829. He opened a farm in Macoupin county, near Palmira, and upon the old homestead there, in the midst of the scenes of frontier life, William A. Rice was reared. The hardships and difficulties which confront the pioneer became familiar to him and he also enjoyed pleasures which are known only in the new settlements of the west. He was married in that county to Cynthia Patton, a native of Tennessee and a daughter of Robert Patton, whose wife was an own cousin of Henry Clay. Mr. Rice became a farmer of Macoupin county, where he resided for many years, rearing his family upon the old homestead there. He died, however, in Nebraska at the home of his daughter in 1892 and his wife passed away in 1890.

They were the parents of three sons and one daughter.

Robert J. Rice spent his boyhood days in the usual manner of farmer lads of that period, working in the fields through the summer months and attending school in the winter seasons. He afterward enjoyed the advantages of a course in the Northern Indiana Normal school at Valparaiso and in a business college at Jacksonville and later he became a teacher in Macoupin county, Illinois, where he followed that profession for three years, while for five years he was thus connected with the schools of Morgan county. He afterward engaged in farming in Macoupin county, where he owned and operated a good tract of land for about seven or eight years. He then sold out and in the spring of 1895 removed to Waggoner, where he purchased a hotel and livery stable, entering upon that business here. In 1899 he sold the livery stable, but still continues as proprietor of a hotel and in this same year he extended his efforts to other lines of business activity by the purchase of a hardware store on the 4th of July. He has since been numbered among the active and successful merchants of the town, having built up a good trade by fair dealing, earnest desire to please his customers and reasonable prices.

Mr. Rice was married in Morgan county, Illinois, August 18, 1886, to Miss Cora Belle Copley, who was born in Greene county, Illinois, but was reared in Morgan county near Waverly. Her father, Napoleon Copley, was a native of England, born in Berkshire on the 2d of February, 1835. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Rice has been blessed with five children: Verna, Ward, Benton, Clinton and Robert A. The members of the family occupy an enviable position in social circles and their home is noted for a generous and attractive hospitality. Mr. Rice proudly cast his first presidential vote for James A. Garfield and has supported each nominee at the head of the national Republican ticket since that time. His fellow townsmen recognizing his worth and ability and his deep interest in the welfare of his community have elected him to public office. He has served as president of the village board of Waggoner for four years, was assessor in 1896 and in the

spring of 1903 was elected county supervisor, so that he is now serving on the county board. He belongs to the Masonic lodge at Raymond, having joined the fraternity at Waverly, Illinois, in 1883. He exercises strong influence in local political and public affairs and his public career is most commendable, having been marked by the faithful performance of every duty devolving upon him.

ALEXANDER C. DURDY.

Alexander C. Durdy, who is justly classed with the leading business men of Ohlman, where he is engaged in dealing in grain and hay, was born in St. Louis, Missouri, October 3, 1864, his parents being Alexander C. and Josephine (Burbach) Durdy. The father, who was born in Hagerstown, Maryland, was of Scotch-Irish descent and his wife was of German lineage. He removed to St. Louis, Missouri, about 1854, and there reared his family. There were nine children: Mrs. William Schaper, of Indianapolis, Indiana; Alexander C.; Mrs. Ed Rice, of Litchfield, Illinois, whose husband is representing his district in the state legislature; Mrs. Ed Umpley, of Nokomis, whose husband conducts a machine shop; Mrs. Ed Sanders, who lives in Chicago; Mrs. Charles Laws, of Nokomis; Mrs. Charles Singer, of Nokomis; Louis, who married Louise Waggoner, of Pana, and lives in Ohlman; and Leon, a resident of Indianapolis, Indiana.

Alexander C. Durdy was for a time a pupil of the schools of St. Louis. He afterward attended the schools of Montgomery county, subsequent to his parents' removal to this locality, pursuing his studies in Ohlman. When but sixteen years of age he put aside his text books and gave his entire attention to the grain trade, having begun the purchase of grain in the previous year. For almost a quarter of a century he has been identified with this business in Ohlman, purchasing grain and baled hay, which is shipped to the city markets. He first instituted the planters' compress business and was general superintendent of the compresses at Pana, Nokomis and Ohlman. After occupying that position for some time he resigned

and now gives his entire attention to the grain and hay business, being a member of the firm of Metzger, Hill Company, a commission firm of Cincinnati, Ohio, of which he is the vice president.

In 1890 Mr. Durdy wedded Miss Anna Best, a daughter of H. A. and Margaret (Powers) Best, who resided in Palmer, Illinois. Mrs. Durdy was educated in Nokomis and is now well known in the social circles of Ohlman, she and her husband receiving hearty welcome in the best homes of the town. They have become the parents of five children: Harry B., who was born September 13, 1891, and attends school in Ohlman; Merrill, born June 10, 1893; Vivian O., born January 3, 1895; LaVonne, born April 23, 1896; and Alexander C., born March 13, 1899.

Mr. Durdy is a valued member of the Masonic fraternity, the Knights of Pythias lodge and the Modern Woodmen camp. His political views are in accord with the principles of Democracy and he has served as supervisor, having been appointed to fill out an unexpired term of his father. He is well known in Montgomery county, where he has spent the greater part of his life and where he has so directed his efforts as not only to win a competence, but also gain the good will and trust of his fellow men.

CHARLES H. LOCKHART, M. D.

Among the younger representatives of the medical fraternity in Montgomery county is numbered Charles H. Lockhart, whose success would seem to indicate that he had advanced further on life's journey than the thirty-third milestone. He was born, however, in Butler on the 31st of August, 1871, and in his practice in Witt he has secured the support of many of its leading citizens. His parents were Henry A. and Elizabeth (Dunbar) Lockhart, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Missouri. The father came to this state in the early '40s and was engaged in merchandising. He was also one of the first residents of Butler and was well known in Montgomery county as the promoter of business activity and of the substantial

growth of the community. His death occurred in Alaska about 1873.

Dr. Charles H. Lockhart was educated in Hillsboro and entered upon his business career in a drug store in that city owned by Dr. E. Douglas. He was thus employed for eight years, during which time he had become interested in the science of medicine and resolved to make its practice his life work. Accordingly he entered the Missouri Medical College at St. Louis and was graduated from that institution in March, 1898. On the 10th of May of the same year he located for practice in Witt. He has a modern office, carries his own line of drugs and has built up an excellent practice, which comes from the best people of the town and surrounding district. In 1902 he took a post-graduate course in the New York Polyclinic, in New York city, and he has always read and studied in order to keep in touch with the advanced thought of the profession, which has made him a well informed and capable physician. He is a member of the Montgomery County Medical Society, the Illinois State Medical Society, the District Medical Society of Central Illinois and the American Association. Fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen camp, No. 5628, belongs to the Mutual Protective League, No. 90, and is examining physician for a number of the old-line and fraternal insurance companies.

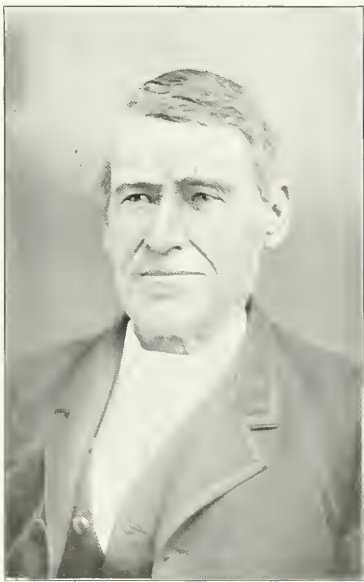
JOEL C. TRAYLOR.

The subject of this sketch was born in Shelby county, Kentucky, October 6, 1814. He was the second of a family of four sons born to James and Nancy (Cardwell) Traylor, who had emigrated to that section from Virginia about the year 1810. The Traylor family are of French Huguenot ancestry. As early as 1671 William Trounillard, a Huguenot, fled before the persecution of Catholic fanaticism, which at that time raged in France, and sought an asylum in the wilds of America. He settled near Petersburg and afterward married Judith Archer, a Virginia girl, and the records show that Peter Jones, the founder of Petersburg, was surety on his marriage bond. James

Traylor married Nancy Cardwell, daughter of George Cardwell and a sister to Wyatt and Peter Cardwell, men well known in Virginia history. Wyatt Cardwell, a first cousin to John Randolph, of Roanoke, was administrator of that famous statesman and carried out the peculiar provisions of his will. The sons of James Traylor were Caleb, Joel Cozens, William and John. Caleb, the elder son, accompanied by his father, removed from Kentucky to Illinois about 1835. John and William came about 1840 and Joel in 1844.

Previous to this time the last named had been in business in a small way in the city of Louisville, Kentucky. When he came to Illinois he at once embarked in merchandising in the south part of Montgomery county. Within a few years he had established a very wide trade, as his was the only store kept within a radius of eight or ten miles. From his early youth Joel C. Traylor had been severely crippled by disease, and through all his life was compelled to walk with the assistance of crutches and a cane, yet he possessed a spirit of such independence that physical ailment did not stand between him and a desire to succeed in the world. Few men in Montgomery county have influenced the community in which they lived in an educational and moral way more than has the subject of this sketch.

His first wife was a Miss Judith Gibbs, by whom he had three children, two having died in infancy; the elder, James, accompanied his parents to Illinois. In the autumn of 1844, when Mr. Traylor had been but a few months in his new home, his wife died, leaving the father and little son alone in a home somewhat separated from neighbors and friends. In 1846 Mr. Traylor took for a second wife Sarah A. Ohmart, a Pennsylvania German girl of nineteen summers. To this helpmeet Mr. Traylor owed much of his success. By his wife Sarah he reared a large family of children, seven of whom lived to reach manhood and womanhood. The oldest boy, mentioned as a child by his first wife, was drowned in Menard county while visiting with his grandfather. The oldest by his wife Sarah was Margaret E., wife of the late Thomas H. Wilson. She was a very popular girl and for



MR. AND MRS. JOEL C. TRAYLOR.

1917
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
URBANA

many years was chief clerk in her father's store. In this way her acquaintance was as wide as the extensive business which he carried on. She died about ten years ago, leaving a son and daughter, Ina M. and Frank E. Wilson, of Coffeen, Illinois. The second daughter, Harriet E., lives with her widowed mother in the same village. M. B. Traylor, the oldest son and formerly a merchant of Coffeen, is at present residing in the city of Denver, Colorado. He has a family consisting of a wife, Dora, *nee* McDavid, and three sons, Joel, Frank and Edward. Jacob L., second son, is a resident of Coffeen. The greater part of his life since a boy of seventeen has been spent in the work of teaching. In 1890 he was elected county superintendent of schools, in which capacity he served until 1894. In 1895-9; he was superintendent of the village schools of Coffeen. In 1898 he established the Coffeen Normal School and Academy and was proprietor of that institution until 1900. He has been engaged during the last three years in selling life assurance for the Equitable Life Assurance Society of New York. Jacob L. Traylor was married in 1878 to Miss Mary F. Hicks, and to them three sons and five daughters have been born. The eldest, Lew Randolph, is engaged in real estate business in Coffeen. Lyman E., second son, is a clerk in the store of O. A. Edwards. Paul, the third boy, is a lad of twelve, at present in the public school. Claire, the eldest daughter, died March 5, 1904. She was a girl of unusual prominence, a thorough scholar in the academic branches and as a musician had few equals. She was Latin teacher during the last year of the Coffeen Normal School and Academy, after which she gave private lessons in music to some of her near relatives and friends. Her death was not only a loss to her immediate family, but to the entire community in which she lived. The second daughter, Jessie, is at present a teacher in the public schools, and Alma, the third daughter, will complete the high school course in the village schools this year. Ruth, a girl of twelve and twin to Paul, before mentioned, is a pupil with him in the intermediate department of the school. Blanch, the baby girl, entered school this session for the first time.

A. E. Traylor, the third son of Joel C. Traylor, lives on a farm near the old homestead. He married Miss Ollie Hill and to them have come two sons and two daughters. Chloe and Maud are young girls, just budding into womanhood. Ross and Guy, his two boys, are fine little fellows, just beginning school life. A. E. Traylor was for some years a teacher in the public schools of Montgomery county, but he has given his entire attention of late to farming and stock-raising. Flora, the third daughter of Joel C. Traylor, is the wife of Charles Laws, whose biography and portrait appear in this volume. They have one son, Joel, who is a boy of ten, and four daughters. The eldest, Miss Effie, is a young lady of seventeen; Lena, the second girl, is about twelve years old, and Camilla is a little tot of eight, while Marian is the baby. Clement A. Traylor, the youngest son of Joel C. Traylor, is at present engaged in the hardware business in the village of Coffeen. He is the youngest member of his father's family and is at present thirty-five years old. Some eight years ago he was married to Miss Ione Sperry, of Nokomis, and to them have been born two sons, George and Elmer. George, the elder, is taking his first lessons in the public school. Elmer, a bright little fellow, wonders why he can't go, too. Both C. A. Traylor and his wife were for some years engaged in teaching in the public schools of the county. By strict adherence to business methods Mr. Traylor is regarded to-day in business circles as a safe and conservative man. He enjoys a large patronage, and by fair dealing his patrons have become his friends.

JOHN K. BEAL.

John K. Beal, who is engaged in general farming and stock-raising, conducting his business along modern lines which lead to success, was born in Butler county, Ohio, near Hamilton, February 6, 1865, and there spent the first seven years of his life, after which he came to Montgomery county, Illinois, with his parents, the family home being established in North Litchfield township in 1872. After

three years there passed, the family removed to Hillsboro township, where the father began farming, and upon the old homestead there John K. Beal was reared to manhood in the usual manner of farmer lads of the period. He attended the common schools and assisted in the labors of field and meadow, continuing with his father until twenty-four years of age, when he began farming for himself. He purchased forty acres of land in 1892 and still owns that property. To his original purchase he has added, however, until he now has a valuable farm of one hundred and seventy-three acres, of which eighty acres is bottom land. In addition to the production of the cereals best adapted to soil and climate, he is engaged in the raising of horses, mules and cattle, and has some fine animals upon his place.

On the 15th of December, 1898, Mr. Beal was united in marriage to Miss Jennie McAdams. They had two children, but one died at the age of two and a half years, the other when four years of age. Mr. Beal takes quite an active and helpful interest in community affairs, supporting every movement which he believes will contribute to the public good and the general progress. He is a Democrat in his political affiliation and has served as highway commissioner in Hillsboro township. He is a valued member of Montgomery lodge, No. 40, I. O. O. F., of Hillsboro, and his standing among his brethren of the fraternity is indicated by the fact that he has been called to fill all the chairs in the lodge. A resident of the county through almost a third of a century, he is well known here and has been a witness of much of the modern growth and progress. His many friends know him as a reliable business man and one worthy their regard and confidence.

ZENO J. RIVES.

Zeno J. Rives, lawyer and congressman, was born in Hancock county, Indiana, on the 22nd of February, 1874. His father, Alfred J. Rives, who is now living in Litchfield at the age of fifty-four years, was a native of North Carolina and came to Montgomery county in 1880. He located in the city which is still

his home and for a time carried on a general contracting business. He has taken an active and helpful part in community interests; serving as superintendent of streets and also as superintendent of waterworks and in these capacities has labored for the best interests of his city. His political views are in accord with the principles of the Republican party and in his fraternal relations he is a Woodman. He married Lettice S. Heath, who was born in North Carolina and is now living at the age of sixty-one years. She is a member of the Baptist church and an estimable lady whose good qualities of heart and mind have endeared her to many friends. In the family were four children, of whom William T. and Sarah I. are now deceased. The others are Perry and Zeno J., both residents of Litchfield.

Zeno J. Rives was but six years of age at the time of his removal to Litchfield and obtained his education in the public schools of this city. After putting aside his text books he worked at any labor that would yield him an honest living, but soon after took up the reading of law. He was admitted to the bar on the 12th of October, 1901, and then entered into partnership with the late P. A. Wilhite, since which time he has been practicing with success. In March, 1904, his partner died and Mr. Rives has since been alone in the practice. He was appointed to fill the office of city clerk in August, 1903, and served in that position with satisfaction to all concerned.

For the practice of law Mr. Rives is well fitted by reason of his natural attributes and his thorough preparation and research. Realizing that in this calling more than in almost any other, success depends upon the efforts of the individual, and also in an unusual degree to keenness, power of analysis and logical summarizing of the chief points in a case are essential, he has attained a credible position which he now holds as a representative of the Montgomery county bar. He entered upon practice in 1901 and his success came soon because his equipments were unusually good, he having been a close and earnest student of the fundamental principles of law. Nature endowed him with strong mentality and he has acquired that persistent energy and close application with-



Geno J. Rives

out which there is no success. Along with these qualities he also possesses the rare gift of oratory. His advancement has been continuous and he is recognized as one of the leaders in his chosen calling.

In the summer of 1904, without solicitation, Mr. Rives was nominated to represent the twenty-first district in congress. The district was supposed to be hopelessly Democratic. The Democrats nominated the strongest man they had in the district, Hon. Ben F. Caldwell, who had been elected to the same office by a plurality of three thousand seven hundred and seventy-six in the same district two years before. The morning of November 9th showed the wisdom of the nomination and that Mr. Rives had been elected by the decided majority of one thousand and seventy-seven over his strong Democratic opponent. His great popularity at home was manifested a few days after the election by a splendid meeting at the opera house in Litchfield in which the whole people met, irrespective of politics, to offer Mr. Rives their congratulations.

Mr. Rives is a member of the Knights of Pythias and is also a very active and consistent member of the Presbyterian church; in fact his labors in this direction have been far-reaching and effective in the various departments of church work; in the Sunday-school and elsewhere the results of his efforts are conspicuous.

JACOB E. HALLER.

Jacob E. Haller, who is interested in general farming and stock-raising, finding in this department of business activity opportunity for successful accomplishment, was born September 16, 1868, in Audubon township, Montgomery county. The family is of German lineage and his parents, Jacob and Annie (Abrahamson) Haller, are still living.

Jacob E. Haller pursued his education in the schools of Audubon township and Oak Grove, south of Nokomis, and also spent three years in the high school at Nokomis. He was reared upon the home farm in the usual manner of lads of the period, gaining practical knowledge of the work of field and meadow through the

assistance which he rendered his father. In the fall, when he was twenty years of age, he went to Sacramento and to San Francisco, California, greatly enjoying his visit upon the Pacific coast. He then returned home and engaged in the operation of the home farm for two years, after which his father returned to the old homestead, but Jacob E. Haller continued to operate the place for two years longer. He then removed to what is known as the Best farm, west of Nokomis, comprising two hundred and forty acres, which his father owned. He afterward spent two years upon the farm that is now occupied by his father, later lived upon the James Scott place for two years, and then removed to the Casselberry farm, where he has now resided for three years. This place comprises two hundred and eighty acres, but in connection with general agricultural pursuits he is engaging successfully and extensively in the raising of stock. He makes a specialty of thoroughbred Duroc hogs, having thirty head. He and his brother-in-law purchased a very fine hog in Iowa, which they will keep for breeding purposes. They held a sale of fine hogs on the 28th of September, 1903, and also sold a number of horses. Mr. Haller is equally successful as a raiser of thoroughbred Jersey cattle, with Pedro at the head of his herd. The sire of Pedro was a very valuable animal, which sold for fifteen hundred dollars. Mr. Haller's farm is well equipped with all modern conveniences and accessories, and everything about the place indicates his careful supervision and progressive spirit.

On the 23d of February, 1898, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Haller and Miss Maude Harkey, a daughter of Jacob Harkey, of Witt township. Her father was born May 5, 1850, in Montgomery county, while her mother's birth occurred near Fairfield, St. Clair county, September 23, 1855. They have one hundred and twenty acres of land in Witt township and are well known farming people of that locality. Mrs. Haller was born December 10, 1877, and is the second in order of birth in a family of six children. The others are Charlie, who married Rosy Nelson, of Winnebago, Nebraska, where he now makes his home; Nellie May, who was born March 27, 1881,

and is with her parents; Edna Grace, born January 1, 1883; Mattie Blanche, born October 11, 1885; and Glenn Martin, born June 18, 1888. Mr. and Mrs. Haller have one child, Jacob, born January 8, 1901.

In his political views Mr. Haller is a Democrat and filled the office of highway commissioner for six years, while in 1903 he was elected collector, although his district usually has a strong Republican majority. He has been a member of the Masonic fraternity since 1890, belonging now to lodge No. 456, and he also has membership relations with the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America. With a full realization that labor is the only safe foundation upon which to build success, he has worked perseveringly and untiringly in the conduct of his farming interests and has received a good financial reward.

ELI CRESS.

Eli Cress, deceased, who was a respected farmer of Montgomery county, living a quiet, uneventful but honorable life, which won the esteem of all, was born February 25, 1838, in what is now Fillmore township. His father, Peter Cress, came to this country at an early day and settled in Fillmore township, where he reared his family. In 1836 he married Miss Catherine Nusman, theirs being the first recorded marriage in Ronntree township, and her father, John Nusman, was the first white man to establish his home within the limits of that township. Mrs. Cress died about 1860. She was the mother of four children: Eli, Harriet, Jane and one that died in infancy.

In the public schools near his home Eli Cress acquired his education, and under his father's direction he gained intimate knowledge of farm work in all its departments, so that practical experience qualified him to manage his affairs when he began farming on his own account. He continued on the old homestead until after the outbreak of the Civil war, when, in response to his country's call, he donned the blue uniform and went forth to defend the nation's starry banner and the cause it represented. He became a member of Com-

pany B, One Hundred and Seventeenth Illinois Infantry, enlisting at Hillsboro in August, 1862. He went with his command to Meridian and back to Vicksburg, Mississippi, in February, 1864, this being General Sherman's first "grand march." In the Red River campaign he was under General A. J. Smith, of the Sixteenth Army Corps, in March, April and May of 1864; was in Arkansas and Tennessee in June, 1864; in the Tupelo campaign in August of the same year; in the Price campaign in Missouri in September, October and November; against Hood in middle Tennessee in December, 1864, and January, 1865; in the Mobile campaign in March and early April, 1865; and thence to Montgomery, Alabama, on the 24th of April, 1865, the regiment being stationed there at the time of the close of the war. He carried the colors in the following battles: Fort de Russey, March 14, 1864; Pleasant Hill, April 9; Tupelo, July 14; Nashville, December 15-16, 1864; Blakeley and Mobile, Alabama, April 9, 1865; and thirty-three skirmishes. During its term of service the regiment marched twenty-three hundred and seven miles, traveled by rail seven hundred and seventy-eight miles, by water sixty-one hundred and ninety-one miles, making a total distance of nine thousand two hundred and seventy-six miles. They captured two stands of colors, four hundred and forty-two prisoners and eight pieces of artillery. At the close of the war Mr. Cress was mustered out at Camp Butler, August 6, 1865. He was a faithful soldier, never faltering in the performance of any task assigned him and on more than one occasion helped carry the colors forward to victory.

Returning home when the country no longer needed his aid, Mr. Cress again took up the work of the farm, which he continued to carry on throughout his remaining days. He made further preparation for having a home of his own by marriage, on the 24th of May, 1866, to Miss Sophronia C. McNitt, a daughter of Thomas B. and Sarah (Cress) McNitt. Mrs. Cress was born on the old home farm September 17, 1842. Her father died in 1860, but her mother is still living and makes her home with her daughter at the advanced age of



ELI CRESS



MRS. ELI CRESS



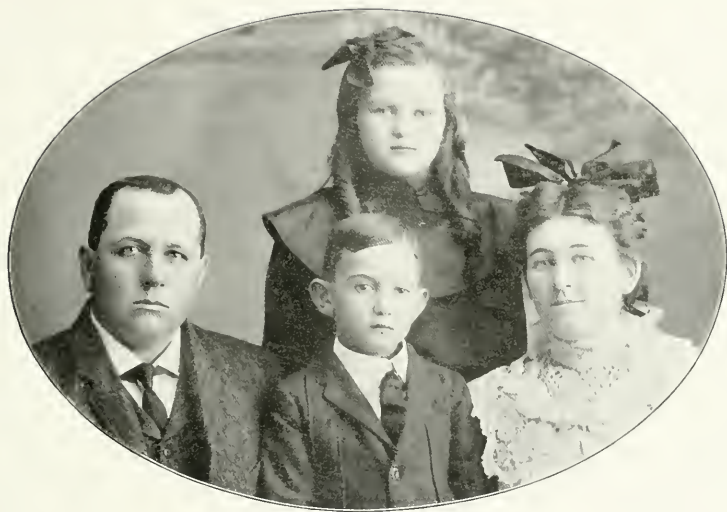
PETER CRESS



MRS. SARAH (McNITT) CHAMBERS



THOMAS B. McNITT



H. E. CRESS AND FAMILY

eighty-four years. She is a woman of remarkable energy for one of her years, and in 1903 made a trip to California alone. She is the eldest native daughter now living in Montgomery county. She is the mother of eleven children, of whom seven died in infancy. Those still living are: Francis T., who is living in Centralia, Washington; Helen, wife of J. P. Price; Jennie, wife of J. C. Jackson, of Garnett, Kansas; and Mrs. Cress.

Eli Cress continued to follow farming on the old family homestead until his death, which occurred January 28, 1871, his remains being interred at Bost Hill. He was a Republican in politics and a loyal citizen, being as true to his country in days of peace as when he valiantly followed the old flag on southern battlefields. Men respected him because he was true to his honest conviction, because of his freedom from self-praise and ostentation, and because he was honorable in all his relations with his fellow men.

He is survived by his widow, who yet resides on the homestead farm, and their son, Howard E. Cress, who was born October 2, 1867. He was educated in the common schools and has always carried on agricultural pursuits, having charge of the home farm, comprising two hundred and seventy acres of land, located in Fillmore and East Fork townships. He was married on the 18th of September, 1896, to Miss Nora E. Upchurch, a daughter of A. E. Upchurch, who has been a resident of Montgomery county for forty-six years. His wife bore the maiden name of Mary Yenny and is a native of this county. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Howard E. Cress have been born two children: Estelle and Orin, both attending school. Howard Cress is a Republican and a progressive and public-spirited citizen, interested in affairs of moment to the community, and he likewise enjoys the confidence of the business community.

JESSE W. OSBORN.

Jesse W. Osborn, through his connection with the Hillsboro Creamery, is identified with one of the leading productive industries of Mont-

gomery county. He was born on the farm on which he now resides on section 14, Butler Grove township, his natal day being November 19, 1865. He is a son of Samuel C. Osborn, who settled upon this farm in the early '60s and who was a native of Montgomery county. The grandfather, Levi Osborn, located in this country at a very early day, arriving here about 1830 from Kentucky. He was accompanied by his wife and one child, making the journey on horseback. His wife, with a baby in her arms, rode one horse and upon another horse carried her household goods—as much as they brought with them. Mr. Osborn walked the entire distance and at length the journey was completed and he undertook the task of establishing a home in this wild region, where pioneer conditions existed and where the work of improvement and progress had been scarcely begun. From the government S. C. Osborn secured a claim covering eighty acres of land on section 14, Butler Grove township, and on this he built a log cabin, containing one room. Many hardships and trials were to be borne in those early days and with characteristic energy he persevered in his work and in due course of time his farm returned to him a good living. His wife bore the maiden name of Lydia Kendrick and they were the parents of eight children: L. D., who is conducting the creamery at Butler; Charles J., a stockman residing in Nebraska; Jesse W.; Mary E., the wife of George Robinson, who is residing near his brother in Butler Grove township; Etta, the wife of Leslie N. Smith, who is conducting the Hillsboro creamery; Bertie, Hattie and Sarah, all deceased. At the time of the Civil war S. C. Osborn enlisted in 1863, serving as a private for about a year. He then returned to his family and farm in Montgomery county and continued to carry on agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred in 1876. His wife died many years later, passing away on the 1st of August, 1901, when sixty years of age.

Upon the old family homestead Jesse W. Osborn spent the days of his boyhood and youth and in the public schools acquired his education. He took charge of his father's farm when eighteen years of age and subsequent to his mother's

death he purchased the interest of the other heirs in the old homestead. He now owns one hundred acres of land and farms altogether three hundred acres, raising general crops and buying and selling hay, corn, cattle and hogs. In 1901 he established the Hillsboro creamery and in 1902 established the creamery in Butler, while the following year he put in operation the creamery at Witt. All of these are under his supervision. He receives each month about twenty thousand pounds of milk daily and ships cream to the value of about five thousand dollars monthly. His business interests are extensive and important and, owing to his capable control, have made him one of the prosperous men of his community. In all of his business interests he is practical, far-sighted and energetic and upon these qualities he has builded his success.

On November 20, 1890, Mr. Osborn was married to Miss Emma Ware, a daughter of David Ware, one of the honored and valued pioneer settlers of Montgomery county. They now have an interesting family of four children: Wesley W., Grace, Clarence A. and Harold M. Politically Mr. Osborn is a Republican and has three times been elected township supervisor of Butler Grove township. He is also a school director and is secretary and treasurer of the cemetery association. His interest in community affairs has been manifest by active co-operation in many measures for the general good and in tangible support of different movements which have for their object the upbuilding of the county.

ALFRED N. BANES.

Alfred N. Banes, prominent as a representative of fraternal circles and a leader in community interests in Hillsboro, having for four years been a member of the board of education and now serving as its secretary, was born in Hamilton county, Illinois, July 1, 1866. His father, Charles Edward Banes, was a native of Tennessee, and is now living in McLeansboro, Illinois, at the age of seventy years. He came to this state from Tennessee with his parents when five years of age, the family home being

established in Hamilton county, where he was reared amid the scenes of frontier life. He was a farmer throughout the years of his active business career, but at the time of the Civil war he put aside agricultural pursuits in order to espouse the cause of the Union, enlisting in Company A, of the Fortieth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was enrolled at Springfield in 1861 and served until the close of the war, participating in many important engagements and thus displaying his valor and loyalty on many a southern battlefield. In his political allegiance he is a Republican, and he maintains pleasant relations with his old army comrades through his membership in the Grand Army of the Republic. In early manhood he married Elizabeth Perry, who was born in Illinois and died September 6, 1872, at the age of thirty-six years. She was a daughter of Leroy Jackson Perry, an early resident of this state.

Alfred N. Banes, one of a family of five children, acquired his education in the public schools and completed his preparation for life's practical and responsible duties by pursuing a course of study in the business college at Dixon, Illinois. He afterward pursued a teacher's course at Covington, Indiana, and then engaged in teaching school for eight years in Christian county, Illinois. During the last three years of that period he was principal of the schools at Harvel. On the expiration of that period he began editing the Harvel Era, which he conducted for three years and at the same time was connected with J. J. Carey in the lumber business at that place. In December, 1898, he was appointed deputy county clerk of Montgomery county under John M. Shoemaker and has served in that capacity to the present time, proving a capable and faithful officer.

In 1895 Mr. Banes was united in marriage to Miss Phoebe A. Carey, a daughter of Jesse J. and Helen (Ross) Carey. Her father was a farmer and merchant of Harvel, who removed from Pike county to Christian county and thence to Montgomery county. His political views were in accord with the principles of Democracy and he served as a member of the board of supervisors for three terms, acting as chairman of the board in 1898. He is now engaged in the lumber business at Harvel and

is a man of considerable means, having directed his business interests with such care that he has acquired a handsome competency. Mrs. Banes was born in Pike county, Illinois, in 1865, and has become the mother of five daughters: Ada E., Myra E., Havilla J., Gladys and Eunice.

The parents are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and Mr. Banes belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity, Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America. He is very prominent in these organizations and has represented each local lodge in the grand lodge. In his political views he is a Democrat and does everything in his power to promote the growth and insure the success of his party. His entire life has been passed in Illinois, and during much of the time he has lived in Montgomery county, where he has a wide acquaintance. He is known for his reliability in business, his faithfulness in office, his progressiveness in citizenship and his fidelity in friendship, and these qualities have made him a valued resident of Hillsboro and Montgomery county.

LEROY F. WOOD.

Leroy F. Wood, a member of the firm of Wood Brothers, real-estate dealers in Litchfield, conducting extensive and profitable business operations in land and improved property, was born on the 25th of January, 1841, in North Litchfield township, and is the eldest son of Elder John and Elizabeth W. (Williams) Wood, the former a Baptist minister. The paternal grandfather was Bennett Wood, who was born in Virginia, and died in Montgomery county, Illinois. He had a family of ten children, including Elder John Wood, whose birth occurred in Knox county, Tennessee, in 1818, and died in this county in 1883. His educational privileges were very limited, he being unable to read until after his marriage, when he was taught by his wife. He came to Illinois with his parents in 1828, and for many years he devoted much of his time to the work of the ministry, being a Regular Baptist and a local elder ordained to that office in the Regu-

lar Baptist church. He was a successful business man, owing to his enterprise and unfaltering perseverance and courage. He worked for one man at ten dollars per month until he had earned enough money to pay for eighty acres of land, which he had entered from the government and for which he had to pay the usual price of one dollar and a quarter per acre. He married Elizabeth W. Williams, March 25, 1840, and they became the parents of twelve children, those now living being Leroy F., Mrs. Nancy Bewley, Mrs. Rachel S. Baker, Mrs. Martha M. Post, Francis E., McCurley, William S. and Thomas H.

Leroy F. Wood was reared under the parental roof and in his early manhood was married to Lurancy E. Ward, a native of Vigo county, Indiana, the marriage being celebrated on the 25th of February, 1858. In their family were five children: Mrs. Sarah E. Roberts, the eldest, whose husband is a farmer and resides near Litchfield, has five children, one of whom is married; Rufus F., who is also married, is employed by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company and resides in Litchfield; Rettie, who is the wife of R. H. Coffey, a paperhanger, and they have one child; John S., thirty years of age, is now in his father's office; Jesse A. is married and resides in Holiday, Kansas, where he is now engaged in farming. At the time of the Spanish-American war he enlisted in the United States Army for three years, and for two years was in the Philippines with Battery O of the Sixth United States Heavy Artillery.

After his marriage Leroy F. Wood began farming and followed that pursuit until after the inauguration of the Civil war, when he responded to his country's call for aid, enlisting on the 14th of August, 1862, as a member of Company A, Ninety-first Illinois Infantry. He served as a non-commissioned officer for three years and was in the department of the Rio Grande in the southwest. He took part in a number of important battles and was always faithful to the cause which he espoused. He was wounded at Spanish Fort, Alabama, March 27, 1865, and discharged June 19, 1865. After the war he returned to his family and resumed farming in Montgomery county, but subsequently he learned the carpenter's trade, which

he followed for a few years. At a later date he turned his attention to the insurance business and since 1882 has been a representative of this field of activity. He has also operated in real estate, and in March, 1891, he was joined by his brother in the establishment of the present firm of Wood Brothers. They have dealt extensively in farm and city property and have enjoyed a large clientage.

Mr. Wood became a member of the Christian church in 1858, and for twelve years was connected with the ministry, putting forth earnest and conscientious effort in behalf of the cause. He was elected justice of the peace in 1886 for a term of four years, has also been assistant supervisor, and was on the county board of supervisors from 1884 until 1886, being elected to these various positions on the Democratic ticket.

JUDGE EDWARD YOUNG RICE.

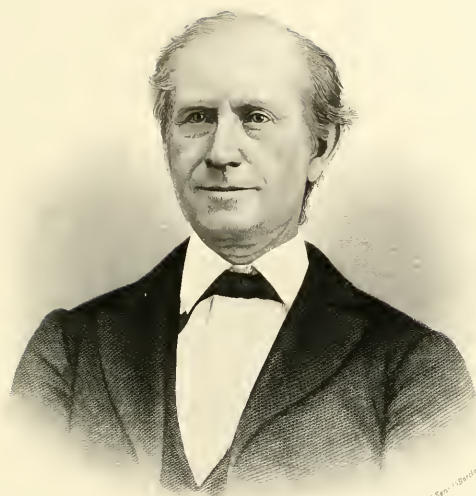
Judge Edward Young Rice was born in Logan county, Kentucky, February 8, 1820. In his native state he remained until about fifteen years of age, when he removed with his parents to Macoupin county, Illinois. His father, Francis Rice, was a native of Caswell county, North Carolina. He was engaged in a ministerial life, and identified with agricultural and mercantile pursuits. His death occurred in August, 1837, aged about sixty-three years. His wife was Mary Gooch, also a native of Caswell county, North Carolina, and a daughter of William and Mrs. (Carr) Gooch. Both were among the prominent families of North Carolina. The parents of our subject had seven sons and four daughters, of whom the Judge was the youngest.

The Judge received a limited education in the common schools, with the addition of about two years at Shurtleff College. He then taught school and studied law with Governor Palmer, at Carlinville, from which place he was admitted to the bar in February, 1844. In September of the following year he came to Hillsboro, where he practiced his profession until in October, 1881, when he entered into partnership with Judge A. N. J. Crook, at Springfield, Illi-

nois. While engaged in the practice of his profession he has always been honored with a large and lucrative practice. In 1847 he was elected to the office of recorder of deeds of Montgomery county. In November, 1848, he was honored with an election to the lower house of the Illinois legislature, a special session carrying him to the year 1851, and in that year he was elected to the office of county judge to fill the unexpired term caused by the resignation of Joseph Ralston, and during the years 1853 to 1857, he was master in chancery. In April, 1857, he was elected to the office of circuit judge for a term of four years, but by the formation of a new circuit, composed of Sangamon, Macoupin, Montgomery and Christian counties, he was re-elected for a term of six years, and in 1867 for a term of six years longer, but before the term expired he resigned his office to accept the nomination for congress from the "old tenth district." In that position he served until in March, 1873, and it was during his term that the state was re-districted. He was a member of the constitutional convention which assembled in December, 1869, and completed its work in May, 1870. In this convention he served upon many important committees. In the early part of 1874, he, in connection with his son-in-law, Amos Miller, opened their present law office in Hillsboro, now under the firm name of Rice, Miller & McDavid. He was married November 29, 1849, to Mrs. Susan R. (Allen) Condy, a native of Clark county, Kentucky. She had one child—Isabella, wife of F. C. Bolton, a railroad operator in Indianapolis. By this marriage, the Judge has two children living—Mary, wife of Amos Miller, and James E. Y., who is attending Blackburn University. He is a Democrat in political tenets, and, with his wife, belongs to the Presbyterian church.

MOSES E. BERRY.

Moses E. Berry, the owner of a productive farm of two hundred and seventy-five acres on section 21, Butler Grove township, is one of the worthy citizens that Ohio has furnished to Montgomery county, his birth having occurred



394 by EB&JA San. 1 Dec 1874

E. Y. Rice

in the city of Cincinnati on the 4th day of December, 1855. He was only a year old, however, when brought by his parents to Illinois, and was reared in this county upon a farm, his boyhood days being passed in the usual manner of farmer lads. He acquired a common-school education and through the summer months worked in the fields. Since attaining manhood he has followed the pursuit to which he was reared, and he is now the owner of a very desirable property, comprising two hundred and seventy-five acres of land, which is very productive. It constitutes a valuable farm, which is highly cultivated and is improved with all modern equipments, for the owner is abreast with the progressive spirit of the times.

Mr. Berry was married September 27, 1877, to Miss Tillie S. Schroeder, and they now have four children: Chester, Arthur, Annetta and Harry. The parents hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, and Mr. Berry belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp. His position on the temperance question is indicated by the fact of his earnest and unflinching support of the Prohibition party. He is thoroughly in sympathy with all that is tending to elevate mankind and to advance the moral condition of the people, and to aid in a substantial and honorable character development, and his own career is guided by high principles, which make him a respected citizen of his community.

ELIAS N. PRAY.

Elias N. Pray, interested in general farming, his landed possessions embracing three hundred and sixty acres of choice prairie land in Audubon township, is also well known because of the active and helpful interest he has taken in community affairs. He was born on the 25th of September, 1857, in Uniondale, Dutchess county, New York, his parents being George D. and Nancy (Baker) Pray, both of whom were natives of the Empire state, and were of English and Scotch lineage, respectively, although both the paternal and the maternal grandparents were likewise born in New York. The Pray family was represented in the Colonial Army during the Revolutionary

war, two of the great-uncles of our subject being killed while defending the interests of the colonists in that long struggle with Great Britain that resulted in the establishment of the Republic. Their remains were interred in the cemetery of Beckman, New York.

George D. Pray had three sisters and three brothers, but all are now deceased. He devoted his energies to agricultural pursuits and was the owner of a farm of two hundred and ten acres, which he conducted with excellent success, but since his death it has been sold. He died when forty-five years of age and his wife passed away at the age of forty-three years, their remains being interred in Verbank cemetery in Uniondale. In their family were two sons and two daughters who are yet living, and one son who is deceased, Elias N. being the eldest of the family. George died in Chicago in August, 1883. Ida is the wife of Charley Duncan, a resident of Pleasant Valley, Dutchess county, New York. Martha resides at Chestnutbridge, in Dutchess county. Seward, the youngest, married Cassie Chase, of Rosemond, Illinois, and he is employed as baggage-man by the Illinois Central Railroad Company at Chicago.

To the public school system of his native county Elias N. Pray is indebted for the early educational privileges which he enjoyed. He afterward spent two years in a boarding school and one year in a military school at Poughkeepsie, New York, and later continued his studies for a year in DeGarmo Institute and one year at Moore's Male Institute. When his education was completed and his text-books laid aside he entered business life to learn its practical and difficult lessons. He began farming in eastern New York, cultivating a tract of land in Dutchess county which belonged to an uncle, and there he remained for six years, after which he operated a cousin's farm for one year and later rented land for a year. This was in 1879, and after leaving the rented farm he came to Montgomery county, Illinois, in March, 1880, where he had previously purchased two hundred and sixty acres. The boundaries of his place he has since extended until he now has three hundred and sixty acres, and all of the improvements upon the farm have

been made by him and stand as monuments to his thrift and enterprise. He planted the entire orchard save a few trees, and has been successfully engaged in horticultural pursuits as well as agricultural pursuits. The farm is well equipped with modern accessories, and his life has been one of unwearied diligence, which has formed the basis of his richly merited prosperity. He is likewise the vice president of the Audubon Detective Association.

On the 22d of February, 1883, Mr. Pray was married to Miss Etta Conant, a daughter of P. H. Conant, of Springfield, Illinois. They became the parents of nine children: Ida, who died December 11, 1896, at the age of thirteen years; Elmer R., who died December 11, 1887, at the age of two years; Sadie V., who died March 15, 1891, when two years old; Nellie, born January 30, 1891; Harry, born July 2, 1892; Gladys, born May 21, 1894; Mabel, born January 1, 1896; Pearl Marie, born September 18, 1897; and Helen Adelaide, born December 10, 1900. The parents hold membership in the Congregational church at Rosemond, and Mr. Pray is a recognized leader of the local ranks of the Democracy, taking an active part in its work and doing all in his power to promote the growth and success of the party. He was assessor for two years, collector for one year and is township treasurer at this writing. His official service has always been acceptable to his fellow townsmen, being characterized by conscientious and capable performance of duty.

EASTON W. WHITTEN.

The desirability of Montgomery county as a place of residence is indicated by the fact that many of her native sons have remained to become substantial residents of this part of the state. Mr. Whitten, now following farming in Fillmore township, was born September 23, 1848, near the present place of his residence, and is a son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Kirk) Whitten, who were early settlers of the county. The father was born in Kentucky and came to Illinois with his parents among its earliest residents. He was then but a boy, and amid the wild scenes of frontier life he was reared,

sharing with the family in the hardships and trials which fall to the lot of those who seek and establish homes in a frontier district. He assisted in the arduous task of developing a new farm, and throughout his entire business career he carried on agricultural pursuits, which he found to be a good source of revenue. He became the owner of two hundred and forty acres of rich land, constituting a fine farm, in Fillmore township, and thereon he spent his remaining days. In his family were seven children, of whom five are now living, namely: Cino, the wife of John Allen, a resident of Fillmore township; Willmuth, wife of Benjamin Roberts, of the same township; Easton W., of this review; Thomas J., also a resident of Fillmore township; and Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Wilson, of Fillmore.

Easton W. Whitten remained under the parental roof during the period of his minority and acquired his education in the public schools, the duties of the schoolroom and the pleasures of the playground largely occupying his attention until he became his father's active assistant in the labors of the farm. He continued to carry on agricultural pursuits on the old homestead until thirty years of age, when he removed to his present place of residence. Here he at first had but twenty acres, but as opportunity has afforded he has added to his possessions, extending the boundaries of his farm until he now owns six hundred and seventy-eight acres. He raises both grain and stock for the market and he has a well developed place, the fields being carefully tilled, while in his pastures are found good grades of cattle, hogs and horses. He has erected a good residence, built a commodious barn and other necessary outbuildings for the shelter of grain and stock, cleared the land, has planted trees, and now has a farm which is very productive in appearance and is worthy of considerable mention.

On the 22d of April, 1880, at the home of the bride, Rev. J. Williford performed the wedding ceremony that made Easton W. Whitten and Celestia Wright man and wife. The lady was born September 11, 1855, and is a daughter of Elijah and Druscilla (Lynn) Wright. Her father is a native of Fillmore



E. W. WHITTEN AND FAMILY



MR. AND MRS. THOMAS WHITTEN



MR. AND MRS. ELIJAH WRIGHT

township, this county, his parents having come here at an early day from Kentucky, and her mother is a native of Kentucky. Mr. Wright owned a valuable farm of about five hundred acres in Fillmore township and built the brick house which stands on a part of our subject's farm. In his political views he is a Democrat, but has never cared for the honors or emoluments of public office. He and his wife now make their home in the town of Fillmore. Of their seven children five are living, namely: Camilla, wife of Robert Nelson, of Fillmore township; Celestia, now Mrs. Whitten; Joseph J., a resident of Ramsey; Sarah Elizabeth, wife of Frank Blackburn, who lives near Quincy, Missouri; and Emerson, a resident of Houston, Texas. Mr. and Mrs. Whitten have become the parents of five children: Perry O., who was born May 28, 1881, and now lives on a farm near Quincy, Missouri; Elijah O., born December 16, 1882; Thomas O., who was born August 21, 1885, and died September 23, 1885; Denver G., born June 20, 1891; and Ina, born December 29, 1892. All are at home with the exception of the eldest son.

Mr. Whitten supports the Democratic party, but political positions and honors have no attraction for him, as his life has been devoted to farming and stock-raising interests. When he came into possession of his place it was largely covered with timber, and to clear this and make the fields productive has been his real lifework.

JOSEPH ROBERT GRANTHAM.

J. Robert Grantham, now living in Butler Grove township, was born in Irving township, Montgomery county, on the 30th of November, 1869. His father, Joseph Grantham, died when the son was but seven years of age, leaving his widow, Mrs. Mary M. Grantham, with a family of six children, the youngest being but six months old. The Grantham family is one of the oldest of Montgomery county, having been established here at a very early day by the grandfather, James Grantham, who settled in Irving township. All around was wild and unimproved and he assisted in laying the founda-

tion for its present development and up-building. His son, Joseph Grantham, was born upon the old farm place in Irving township.

In his youth J. Robert Grantham of this review had few privileges and advantages. He was but ten years of age when he and his elder brother, then a youth of twelve years, took charge of the home farm for their mother. They worked together until he was fifteen years of age, when he assumed the entire management of the home place, his brother hiring out to assist in caring for the family. As opportunity afforded he attended school, remaining a student in the common schools until sixteen years of age, when he entered the Irving high school. All this time he continued his farm work. When twenty-three years of age he began teaching and soon afterward he entered the Wesleyan University, where he spent one term. He was a teacher in the public schools of Irving for one term, and thus he supplemented the income derived from his farming operations. He continued to carry on agricultural pursuits there until 1895, covering a long period, characterized by unflinching diligence and perseverance.

On April 4, 1895, Mr. Grantham was married to Miss Grace M. Westcott, of Butler Grove township, and with her started one week later on a tour of California and the west, returning the last of June following, when they took up the labors of building and improving their home. Their landed estate consists of two hundred and thirty-two and one-half acres, one hundred and eighty acres of which is in the home farm. He has made all of the improvements upon the place, and in connection with general farming has carried on stock-raising, making a specialty of shorthorn cattle. He owns some fine cattle, and this department of his business has proved a good source of income to him.

In politics he is a Prohibitionist and in religion a Methodist, and has served as superintendent of the Sunday-school for many years and taken a helpful part in other church activities. His life has been one of continued and persistent industry crowned with success. The duties which generally come with manhood

fell upon him in the days of his youth, and as the years advanced he made the most of his opportunities, so shaping his business career as to win very desirable prosperity.

WILLIAM ROBERT BIVENS.

William Robert Bivens, who is freight cashier on the Wabash Railroad at Litchfield, and is popular with the employes of that road as well as his fellow townsmen, was born in Milledgeville, Georgia, on the 22d of June, 1850, his parents being William R. and Ann A. Bivens. William R. Bivens spent his early youth in his native state and attended school there, but his educational privileges were somewhat limited, as at an early age he began to earn his own livelihood. He was also a railroad agent in central Georgia. He entered the railroad service in April, 1863, as check clerk during the period of the Civil war. In 1871 he removed from that state to Texas, where he engaged in herding horses and cattle until 1872, going over the prairie to Denver, Colorado. In the latter city he spent the winter of 1872-73 and next went to Pueblo, but in the spring of 1873 he left Colorado for Kansas, where he remained until the succeeding autumn, going thence to Texas in the latter part of that year. In the Lone Star state he was engaged in farming for one year, and afterward engaged in freighting for six years, owning his teams and outfit. From 1882 until 1894 he was again in Georgia in the employ of the Central Georgia Railroad Company, with which he continued for eight years, and was also with Stevens Brothers & Company, extensive manufacturers of sewer pipe, tile and other clay work. With that company he occupied the position of bookkeeper and cashier, and from the latter office he came to Litchfield, Illinois, arriving in this city on the 2d of September, 1894. He has since occupied the position of freight cashier with the Wabash Railroad Company, and is one of the popular officials in that line, his uniform courtesy and obliging manner as well as capability in the performance of his duties winning him the friendship and respect of the employers as well as the patrons of the road.

In 1874 Mr. Bivens was united in marriage to Miss Lydia A. Tomlinson, who was born near Rome, Georgia. They became the parents of six children: Nona, now the wife of H. B. Molyneaux, of Omaha, Nebraska, by whom she has one child; Lonise, at home; Mary, the wife of John Hendrickson, of Litchfield; Joseph, a druggist residing in Holdridge, Nebraska; Henrietta, at home; and Annette, who is attending school.

While in Georgia Mr. Bivens was a staunch supporter of the Republican party, and in 1896 cast his ballot for McKinley, but locally he votes independently of party ties. He was appointed a member of the school board of Litchfield, and in 1903 he was a candidate on the Republican ticket for alderman for the second ward of Litchfield. He was reared in the faith of the Methodist church and always took an active part in its work, and is still interested in everything pertaining to the moral development of his community, but his business cares are too great to allow him to become a very active factor in such work. He has led an extremely busy and useful life, and his present responsible position is due to his industry and integrity.

ABNER SAMMONS.

Abner Sammons, well known in his neighborhood as a man trustworthy in business and energetic in the conduct of his farming interests, is the owner of two hundred and forty acres of land in Butler Grove township. He was born in Morgan county, Illinois, near the city of Jacksonville, on the 4th of April, 1829, and there he spent the days of his boyhood and youth. When he had attained to man's estate he was married in that county to Miss Nancy Ketner, who was born on the 13th of September, 1828, and gave her hand in marriage to him in 1850. He took his bride to his father's farm and continued the management of that property and the cultivation of the fields until 1853, after which he leased a farm in Morgan county and there resided until 1864. In the latter year he removed to the farm in Butler Grove township, Montgomery county, upon

which he now resides and which has been his home for forty years. He has purchased one hundred and forty acres on section 7, Butler Grove township, and he owns altogether two hundred and forty acres of land, on which he is carrying on general farming and stock-raising, although he has passed the seventy-fifth milestone on life's journey. Such a record of activity and continued business usefulness should put to shame many a man of younger years, who, tired of the burdens and responsibilities of business life, would leave to others the tasks which he should perform for himself. Mr. Sammons has made all of the improvements upon his farm, and now has substantial buildings upon the place, well tilled fields, modern farm machinery and, in fact, all of the equipments found upon a model place of the twentieth century.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Sammons have been born seven children: John, who carries on agricultural pursuits in the home neighborhood; Ellen, the wife of Thomas Briggs, a resident of Idaho; Mary and Albert, who are deceased; William, a stock-buyer of Litchfield; James, a stock-buyer and farmer; and Arthur, who is farming near the old home place. Mr. Sammons has served as a school director, but has never sought or desired public office, preferring to give his attention to his business affairs. He is a self-made man who, without fortunate environment or any inheritance in his youth, started out to make his own way in the world and has steadily progressed by reason of his determination and unfaltering purpose.

JOSEPH HACKNEY.

Joseph Hackney, who owns and occupies a part of the old homestead farm on section 31, Pitman township, is a native of Illinois, his birth having occurred near Delhi City in Jersey county on the 6th day of January, 1849. His father, William Hackney, was born in Troy, New York, June 30, 1820, and was a son of William Hackney, Sr., a native of Scotland, who in the year 1836 removed from the Empire state to the Mississippi, there taking up his home in Jersey county, Illinois, where

he assisted materially in the substantial development of the locality in which he made his home. His son, William Hackney, Jr., was then a youth of sixteen years. He aided in the arduous task of developing a new farm and after arriving at man's estate he was married in Delhi to Miss Caroline Wilkins, whose birth occurred in Jersey county, Illinois. They settled upon a farm in that county and during the years of their residence there several children were born unto them. In 1873 they removed to Montgomery county, where Mr. Hackney purchased a tract of land upon which his son Joseph now resides. He became the owner of two hundred and fifty acres, which he cultivated and further improved, cultivating the soil year after year and keeping everything about his place in good repair. He also kept apace with the progressive spirit of the times, using modern agricultural methods in his work and thus gaining success in his well-managed affairs. He resided upon the old homestead here until his death, which occurred July 22, 1895, while his wife passed away in January, 1896. In their family were nine children, as follows: Margaret, the wife of J. D. Kendall, of Zanesville township, who is serving as town supervisor and is mentioned elsewhere in this volume; Sarah J., the wife of W. L. King, of Irving, Illinois; Joseph, of this review; Matthew, who died in 1874 in early manhood; John W., who resides with his brother Joseph; Carrie, the wife of E. P. Michaels, of Carbondale, Illinois; Henry D., a farmer of Pitman township; Udolpho, who died when twenty-eight years of age; and Kate Gracia, the wife of F. O. Rogers, a substantial farmer, who owns a well improved tract of land, adjoining the Hackney homestead.

Joseph Hackney spent his boyhood days in the usual manner of farmer lads, living on the old homestead and attending the public schools of the neighborhood. He remained with his father until about thirty years of age and assisted in the cultivation of the farm, but in 1878 he went to Nebraska, where he purchased land and carried on agricultural pursuits for two years. He next went to Colorado, and he spent two years in Idaho. Returning to Montgomery county in 1883 he took charge of the

home farm, here inherited a part of the tract and, by purchasing the interest of the other heirs, succeeded in the ownership of the home farm, which has since been his place of residence. He is an active, energetic farmer, conducting his business affairs in a capable manner and deriving therefrom a good income. In politics he is a staunch Democrat. He displays in his life many of the sterling characteristics of his Scotch ancestry, including the perseverance, activity and business integrity.

W. SCOTT ROMINE.

W. Scott Romine, interested in farming and stock-raising on section 35, Irving township, was born in Hamilton county, Illinois, May 26, 1861, his parents being James M. and Catherine (Shaw) Romine, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Indiana. They became residents of Illinois in 1856, and in 1865 removed to Montgomery county, locating in Irving township, where the father carried on agricultural pursuits until his death, owning one hundred and forty acres. He died in 1882, when he was fifty-four years of age, and his wife passed away September 6, 1904, at the age of seventy-four years.

W. Scott Romine began his education in the public schools of Irving and remained at home with his mother until twenty-four years of age, when he removed to his present home in Irving township, where he now owns a valuable farm of two hundred and twenty acres. The land is rich and productive, and, being carefully cultivated by him, returns to him large harvests. He labors earnestly for the improvement of his farm, and upon his place are good buildings and modern equipments, which indicate to the passerby that the owner is a man of progressive spirit.

On the 3d of May, 1885, Mr. Romine was united in marriage to Miss Laura J. Neisler, a daughter of Henry Milton and Elizabeth (Lipe) Neisler. The father was a native of North Carolina and came to Illinois at an early day. His wife was a daughter of John Lipe, also a native of North Carolina, who removed to Montgomery county in 1832. Here Henry

Milton Neisler and Elizabeth Lipe were married in 1839. They had little with which to commence house-keeping, but they possessed courage and determination. Their first home was a log cabin of two rooms that stood upon the site of the present home of our subject. Their neighbors were separated from them by long distances and all around were pioneer conditions and environments. Mr. Neisler was a millwright by trade, but he turned his attention to farming and entered forty acres of land. He also bought eighty acres on the installment plan, and as the years passed he prospered in his undertakings and made investment in property until at the time of his death he owned nine hundred acres of land, though at one time he owned over twelve hundred acres. Unto him and his wife were born fifteen children. Mr. Neisler departed this life in 1881 at the age of sixty-four years, and in 1893 Mrs. Neisler became the wife of Joseph Davis, who died in 1899. She is now living at the age of eighty-one years and is enjoying remarkably good health for one of her age.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Romine have been born two children: Doy L. and Guy E. Mr. Romine is a member of the Presbyterian church, and he belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp, No. 1498, and to the Mutual Protective League, No. 8. He was a member of the Irving town board for two years and is a Republican in his political views. In his business affairs he is loyal and enterprising; watchful of opportunity and making the most of his advantages, so that as a farmer and stock-raiser he has met with a fair measure of success.

WILLIAM T. THORP.

William T. Thorp, who is serving for the second term as postmaster of Litchfield, was born in this city in 1869. His father, Edwin C. Thorp, was born near Woodburn, Macoupin county, Illinois, and is now living in Litchfield in his sixty-first year. He was identified with merchandising for a long period, served as postmaster under President Harrison's administration and is now acting as an assistant to his son in the Litchfield postoffice. At the time



W. S. ROMINE AND FAMILY

of the Civil war he proved his loyalty to the government by enlisting in defense of the Union cause as a member of Company D, Eightieth Illinois Infantry, at Alton. He served for two years and ten months and participated in twenty-three important engagements, including the battles of Missionary Ridge, Chattanooga, Lookout Mountain, Perryville, Milton, Franklin, Rosaca, the siege of Atlanta and Jonesboro. He was captured near Rome, Georgia, at which time his command was two hundred and fifty miles from the main line in the heart of the Confederacy and was surrounded by the troops under General Forest, General Edmundson and others. Mr. Thorp was taken to Rome and thence to Belle Isle, but after a few days spent at the latter place he was paroled. Thirty days after receiving the parole he was exchanged and then went back to the front, after which he continued in active service until mustered out after the close of the war in Tennessee in June, 1865. In early manhood he married Rachel L. Tyler, a daughter of Ezra and Maria (Conway) Tyler, the former a farmer by occupation. Mrs. Thorp was born in Indiana in September, 1842, and by her marriage became the mother of six children, of whom four are now living: Addison C., who is in the postoffice in Litchfield; William T.; Edwin G., also in the postoffice; and Bertha A., who is assistant postmaster.

William T. Thorp, the subject of this sketch, was a student in the public schools of Litchfield from the age of six years until he put aside his text-books to become a clerk in his father's store. He was thus employed for five or six years and for some time he has been prominent in official life in the city, carefully caring for the interests of his constituents and of the public in general. He was for one year city clerk. Later he was appointed to a clerical position in the office of the roadmaster of the Big Four Railroad Company, and in 1899 he was chosen postmaster at Litchfield, to which position he has since been reappointed, so that he is now serving for his second term. His administration of the office is characterized by business-like methods, by promptness and fidelity. Mr. Thorp is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and fraternally is connected with the

Masons and the Elks, while his political affiliation is indicated by his appointment to office under Republican administrations.

HENRY P. KASTIEN.

Henry P. Kastien, who for eighteen years has been engaged in merchandising in Harvel, has made his home in Montgomery county since the spring of 1883, but his residence in Illinois dates from 1865, at which time he took up his abode in Madison county, so that he has long been familiar with this portion of the state. He is a native of Germany, where his birth occurred September 13, 1849. His father, Frank J. Kastien, also born in that country, was married there to Louisa Schreve, a native of Germany. They became the parents of four sons and four daughters, who reached mature years, and three sons and four daughters are yet living. The second oldest son came to the new world, locating first in St. Louis. The father spent his last years in Madison county, Illinois, where he died in 1901 at the age of eighty-seven years, while his wife passed away in 1874 at the age of sixty years.

Henry P. Kastien spent the first seven years of his life in his native country. He had but limited school privileges there and, aside from a short course at a private German school in St. Louis, he is largely a self-educated as well as self-made man. He crossed the Atlantic to the new world in 1855, arriving in St. Louis, Missouri, on the 31st of December of that year. Subsequently he went to Madison county, Illinois, where he began work as a farm hand, continuing his residence in that locality until 1883, when he came to Rountree township, Montgomery county. Here he continued to engage in agricultural pursuits for four years, at the end of which time he purchased a mercantile establishment in Harvel, containing a line of dry goods and groceries. This he afterward traded for a stock of hardware, and is now engaged in the hardware and implement business, in which he has built up a good trade, which is constantly increasing. He is well known in Harvel and the surrounding community, is thoroughly identified with its pro-

gressive interests, and in his business career displays the sterling traits which command confidence and respect.

Mr. Kastien was married in Madison county, Illinois, July 8, 1844, to Miss Emma Krumsik, who was born in Madison county, Illinois, and is of German lineage. They have three children: Della, the wife of E. W. Bockewitz, of Harvel; Frank, who follows the painter's trade; and Celia, at home.

Politically Mr. Kastien is independent in his voting at local elections, but where national issues are involved he supports the Democratic party. He has been elected and served as president of the village board, has also been alderman and tax collector, and for four consecutive years filled the latter office. He belongs to Harvel Lodge, I. O. O. F., in which he has filled all the offices and is a past grand, and is likewise a member of the Woodmen Camp at Litchfield and the Mutual Protective League. His residence in Harvel now covers more than twenty years, during which time he has made here a good home, developed an excellent business and won an honored name.

MOSES BERRY.

Starting out in life for himself as a farm hand and working at ten dollars per month, Moses Berry has in the course of years gradually advanced in financial circles until he is to-day one of the substantial citizens of the village of Butler, possessing a handsome competence which has been acquired through his own labors. He was born in Hamilton county, Ohio, March 11, 1823, and when three years of age was taken by his father to Springdale in the same county. He is a son of Thomas and Susan Berry and the latter died when her son Moses was only seven months old. In their family were eleven children. After the death of his first wife the father married again and there were four children by that marriage.

Moses Berry was reared upon a farm. He remained in the services of one family for three years and then went to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he secured employment in a pork packing establishment. He was thus engaged dur-

ing four winter seasons, while in the summer months he was employed at farm labor. On the expiration of that period he purchased teams and began draying in Cincinnati, following that pursuit for ten years. In 1853 he came by way of the river to Illinois, landing at Alton. He there purchased four horses and two wagons and continued his journey to Butler, Montgomery county. He then purchased his farm, at first becoming the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land adjoining his present farm. There he engaged in general agricultural pursuits and also bought stock and fed cattle. In the course of time he sold the original property but made investment in other land and now owns three hundred acres, constituting one of the valuable farms of the county, upon which he made fine improvements. The place is now thoroughly equipped with all modern accessories and the income from his property enables him to live in partial retirement from labor.

On September 20, 1846, Mr. Berry was united in marriage to Miss Eliza Van Sant, a native of Kentucky, and they have now traveled life's journey together for over fifty-eight years. Unto them have been born four children who are yet living: M. E., who resides upon the home farm; P. Illinois, the wife of William Cannon, of Butler; Ida B., the wife of Alonzo Beatty, a resident of Paisley; and Ann, the wife of Jacob Guller, of Raymond. They also lost two sons, William and George.

Mr. Berry now has in his possession an anvil upon which scythes were sharpened and which was used by his father and grandfather in the days before grinding stands were to be had for that purpose. He started out in life a poor boy, but has worked his way upward undeterred by obstacles and difficulties. That he has prospered is shown by the fact that he has now a very valuable farm property in addition to his home in Butler. He contributed generously to the building of the Methodist Episcopal church in Butler, to which he belongs and in which he is serving as a trustee. In politics he is a Prohibitionist, taking a deep interest in the temperance question. He has held the office of supervisor and was school director for thirty-six years. Mr. Berry has now passed

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MOSES BERRY



MRS. MOSES BERRY

the eighty-first milestone on the journey of life and has, therefore, been a witness of many of the changes which have occurred and have shaped the history of the country. He receives the veneration and respect which should ever be accorded to advanced age and which is due him because of his upright, honorable life.

EARL BLACKMAN TRUITT, D. V. S.

Dr. Earl Blackman Truitt is engaged in the practice of veterinary surgery in Hillsboro and is also proprietor of the leading livery barn of the city. He is well known as a representative of an old and prominent family and as one of the native sons of the city, his birth having here occurred in 1815. His father, James M. Truitt, was a distinguished lawyer, a man of rare attainments and a citizen of state-wide reputation. He was born in Trimble county, Kentucky, on the 28th of February, 1812, and was a son of Samuel and Cynthia A. (Carr) Truitt, the former born in Henry county, Kentucky, in 1818, while the latter was born in Indiana in the same year. Samuel Truitt was of English lineage, while his wife was supposed to be of Scotch descent. He followed the occupation of farming with excellent success and was thus enabled to provide a comfortable home for his family, numbering a wife and seven children.

James M. Truitt, the second in order of birth, was but three years of age when his parents removed to Greene county, Illinois, and he began his education in the old time subscription school at Fayette, that county. He remained upon the home farm, assisting his father in its development and cultivation until 1862, when he enlisted in defense of the old flag, being a staunch supporter of the Union cause. He was assigned to duty with the boys in blue of Company B, One hundred and Seventeenth Illinois Infantry, and shortly afterward was promoted from the ranks to the position of orderly sergeant. Two years later he was commissioned second lieutenant and served in that capacity until the close of the war. He participated in many severe battles, including the engagements at Fort Blakeley, and he was mustered out of service at Springfield, Illinois,

on the 5th of August, 1865. Subsequently he spent some time in McKendree College at Lebanon, Illinois, and in 1866 he came to Hillsboro, where he entered upon the study of law in the office of Judge Jesse J. Phillips, with whom he remained until 1872, in the meantime gaining comprehensive knowledge of the principles of jurisprudence and demonstrating his ability to successfully cope with the intricate problems of the law. He practiced his profession up to the time of his death and in the trial of a case he was strong and was recognized as possessing the qualities which go to make up the successful advocate. In manner he was forceful, in speech was eloquent and with his strong personality and strength of character he won friends among the prominent members of the bar of Illinois. He was logical in reason, in debate forceful and in statement decisive. His marked ability for leadership led to his selection for positions of prominence in connection with state affairs. In 1872 he was elected to the twenty-eighth general assembly and served as a member of the house for two years. He then returned to Hillsboro, where he continued in the practice of law up to the time of his death, having a distinctively representative clientele that connected him with much of the important litigation tried in the courts in central Illinois. He was the owner of one of the finest libraries in the state and his studious habits made him largely familiar with its contents. He did much toward molding the policy of the Republican party in Illinois, but sought not the rewards of office in recognition of party fealty. In 1876 he was one of the electors of the Republican party and in 1880 was a Republican elector at large of the state, while in the same year and again in 1884 he was a delegate to the Republican national convention. Mr. Truitt was also one of the oldest members of the Grand Army of Illinois, belonging to E. D. Hubbell Post, No. 403, of which he served as commander. He likewise held membership relations with Hillsboro Lodge, No. 51, A. F. & A. M.

On the 1st of October, 1867, James M. Truitt married Miss Jennie Blackman, a native of Hillsboro, born on the 7th of May, 1847, and a daughter of George and Hannah J. Blackman.

They had two children: Earl B., and Ida, who resides with her mother in Hillsboro. The husband and father died July 25, 1900, at which time he was serving as census enumerator of Montgomery county. With a capacity and experience that would have enabled him to fulfill any trust to which he might have been chosen, he never sought to advance himself in office, but was content to do his duty where he could and left the self-seeking to others. He was a man of very strong convictions and his integrity stood as an unquestioned fact in his career. He was always a student with a scope and breadth of knowledge which rendered him a charming conversationalist. Full of sympathy with the great movements of the world about him, he watched the progress of events with the keenest interest. He was recognized by those who knew him well as a man of most kindly heart, of sterling worth and integrity and incorruptible in all his professional and social relations.

Earl B. Truitt, reared in his parents' home, acquired his literary education in the public schools of Hillsboro and in 1896 entered the Ontario Veterinary College, where he was graduated with the class of 1898. He at once began the practice of his profession and the following year he also opened a livery stable, which he is conducting. He has just erected a fine new brick stable, three stories in height with a basement, in which are the stalls. The building is fifty by one hundred feet and was completed at a cost of six thousand dollars, being the finest structure of the kind in Montgomery county. His patronage is extensive and well merited, because of his reliable business principles and his earnest efforts to please his customers.

In September, 1902, Mr. Truitt was married to Miss Maude Sims, a daughter of Alexander Sims, a farmer now residing in Butler Grove township. Mrs. Truitt was born on the home farm north of Hillsboro in 1884, is a member of the Lutheran church and is well known in this city and county. Mr. Truitt holds membership relations with the Knights of Pythias and with the Modern Woodmen of America, and he gives his political allegiance to the Republican party.

PLEASANT BRIGGS.

Pleasant Briggs, an intelligent, enterprising and well known farmer of North Litchfield township, is numbered among Montgomery county's native sons, his birth having occurred in Zanesville township, March 15, 1851. He is a son of Robert and Penelope (Petty) Briggs, the former a native of Illinois and the latter of Tennessee. Mr. Briggs was of Scotch-Irish lineage, and was born in North Litchfield township, Montgomery county, on the 11th of May, 1824, being then a representative of one of the oldest families of this portion of the state. He became a farmer and owned forty-one acres of land in this township. He married Miss Petty, whose people had come from Tennessee to Illinois, while the Briggs family came from Ohio to Montgomery county. Unto the parents of our subject were born three children, but one died in infancy, and Burd Briggs died December 31, 1901, in Wayne county, Missouri. He married Lucy J. Brandy, and after her death wedded Mrs. Maxwell, of Missouri, who is still living.

Pleasant Briggs largely acquired his education in the Ritchie school near his home, and he afterward engaged in teaching school for two years there. He then turned his attention to farming and began agricultural pursuits on his own account on his present farm, where he owns ninety acres of as fine land as can be found in Montgomery county. It is bottom land, rich and productive, and, owing to his skillful cultivation, he annually harvests good crops, which return to him a gratifying income.

On the 15th of February, 1872, Mr. Briggs was married to Miss Mary Alice Roberts, a daughter of James C. Roberts, who lived in North Litchfield township and belonged to one of the old families of that locality. Two children graced this union: Harmon E., who attended the Beacon school, and spent two terms in the Ritchie school, since which time he has been engaged in farming; and Anna, who died in infancy.

Mr. Briggs' father was a Democrat in his early life and afterward joined the ranks of the Republican party, and Pleasant Briggs has always been an advocate of the principles of that great political organization. He and his

wife belong to Phillips Chapel of the Methodist Episcopal church and are true to its teachings, exemplifying in their lives their Christian faith.

LEMUEL DOYLE.

Lemuel Doyle is one of the younger representatives of farming interests in Montgomery county, and was born on section 3, Butler Grove township, where he yet resides. His birth occurred October 14, 1870, his parents being Isaac and Mary (Mitts) Doyle. The former was born in Greene county, Illinois, January 14, 1842, and was a son of Thomas and Mary (Coates) Doyle, who were natives of Kentucky, whence they removed to Greene county in the year 1832. Isaac Doyle was reared in the county of his nativity and came to Montgomery county in the '60s. His father purchased this farm and had given it to him several years before. He began the cultivation of the land and continued its improvement for many years, erecting excellent buildings and adding all modern equipments. On the 15th of September, 1869, he was united in marriage to Miss Mary Mitts, who was born in Sangamon county, Illinois, March 15, 1844, a daughter of Jesse and Zerelda Mitts. There were two children born of this union: Lemuel and Noah E., the latter a resident of Raymond township. The father died July 29, 1899. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity, being connected with the lodge at Butler for many years. In politics he was a stalwart Democrat and he held the office of township supervisor for three terms. He was also trustee for many many years. His time and attention, however, were chiefly devoted to his farm and the stock-raising interests which he conducted upon the home farm about four miles north and one mile east of Butler.

Lemuel Doyle, whose name introduces this record, spent the days of his boyhood and youth under the parental roof, attended the public schools, and also pursued his studies in Carlville and the Danville Normal College. He assisted his father in early boyhood days and together they carried on the farm until

the father's death. Mr. Doyle, Sr., was the owner of three hundred and forty acres of valuable land, of which one hundred and sixty acres is comprised in the home place.

On the 6th of July, 1896, Mr. Doyle was united in marriage to Miss Clara Molohon, and they have one son, Edgar, born September 8, 1898. Mr. Doyle belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity at Raymond and enjoys the warm regard of his brethren of that order. He is a young man possessing the enterprising spirit of the age and of the middle west, and in his business affairs is found to be energetic and determined, carrying forward with strong purpose and by honorable methods whatever he undertakes.

SAMUEL A. KIME.

Samuel A. Kime, who has been active in community affairs and is the supporter of many movements for the general good, so that he is numbered among the valued citizens of Montgomery county, was born in Litchfield township on the 2d of November, 1857. His father, Joshua Kime, was a native of North Carolina, and in early manhood removed from that state to Illinois, settling in Montgomery county. He married Miss Cornelia Wagner, and took up his abode in Hillsboro township about 1861. There he rented a farm for two years, and on the expiration of that period purchased the farm which is now occupied by George Ferguson, comprising eighty acres of land. To the further development and cultivation of this place he devoted his energies until his death, and was one of the enterprising agriculturists of his community—a man very reliable in business affairs. He died in October, 1889, when but sixty-seven years of age, his birth having occurred in 1822. His wife survived him for two years and departed this life in 1891, when fifty-four years of age. Both were members of the Lutheran church and were people of the highest respectability, enjoying the confidence and warm regard of all with whom they were associated. They had two children, the daughter being Mary F., now the wife of George L. Ferguson.

Samuel A. Kime, the son and the elder child, acquired a common school education and was trained to habits of industry and economy upon the old homestead. When he had arrived at years of maturity he took charge of the farm, which he operated on shares, and there remained until his mother's death. He was married on the 25th of February, 1891, to Miss Mary Johnson and they have two children: Mary I. and Henry Frederick.

Mr. Kime owns altogether one hundred and four acres of land and his property is valuable. His house stands on section 27, Hillsboro township, about one mile west and four and a half miles south of the city of Hillsboro. There he carries on general farming. A glance at his place indicates to the passerby that the owner is a man of enterprise and thrift, careful in his work and practical in his methods. His fellow townsmen have called him to public office and for two years he served as justice of the peace, while for nine years he has been a school director. In politics he is a Republican; fraternally is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America; and religiously with the Methodist Episcopal church, of which his wife is also a member.

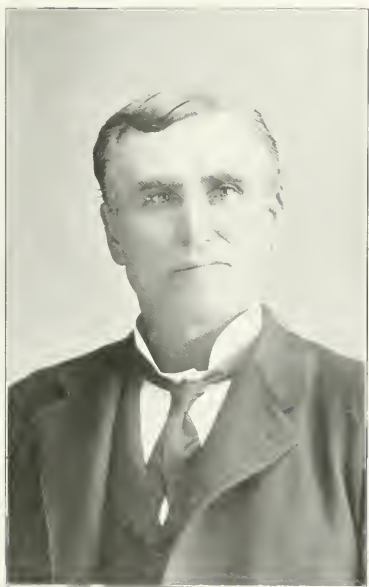
GEORGE W. BATEMAN.

George W. Bateman, who devotes his time and energies to general farming and stock-raising, his home being on section 35, Witt township, was born upon this farm October 24, 1851, his parents being John and Elizabeth (White) Bateman, who were natives of Delaware. When they came to the west, settling in Montgomery county, in the '40s, there were no houses in their immediate neighborhood and many of the conditions of pioneer life existed. They spent their remaining days here, the father passing away on the 23d of March, 1897, when he had reached the age of eighty-three years, three months and twenty-three days. His wife died on the 17th of September, 1886, at the age of seventy-seven years, five months and nine days. In their family were six children: James A., who was born April 4, 1837, and is now living in

Indian Territory; William, who was born on the 4th of August, 1839, and died on the 1st of November, following; Sarah Ann, who was born May 29, 1841, and died at the age of fifty-nine years; John W., who was born February 19, 1845, and died November 14, 1870; Henry, who was born July 12, 1847, and died January 5, 1864; George W., of this review.

George W. Bateman was a student in the district schools of Witt township, the duties of the school room, the pleasures of the playground and the work of the home farm occupying his time and attention through boyhood and youth. He has always lived upon the home farm and when he attained his majority he took charge of the property and has since engaged in the further development and improvement of this place. He is an enterprising agriculturist who realizes the value of rotating crops and of using the best improved machinery to facilitate his farm work. He has made good improvements upon his place and in its appearance it is neat and attractive.

On the 14th of October, 1875, Mr. Bateman was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Lucinda Laws, who was born in June, 1856, and is a daughter of Thomas Laws, who was a native of Illinois and is now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Bateman became the parents of four children, but their first born, Dallas B., born August 22, 1876, died on the 1st of December, 1876. Lorenzo Dow, born July 22, 1878, is now engaged in farming in Fayette county, Illinois. Noi Essie, born September 16, 1880, is now acting as her father's housekeeper. Kerna Clement, born March 25, 1882, was married September 18, 1904, to Dora Casey. The wife and mother died February 19, 1902, and her death was deeply regretted by many friends. Mr. Bateman belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church and has lived a life in consistent harmony with his professions. He has served as a member of the school board for a number of years and the cause of education finds in him a warm friend. He is deeply interested in everything that pertains to the intellectual and moral development as well as the material upbuilding of his community and because of his sterling worth



MR. AND MRS. GEORGE W. BATEMAN

he has gained the warm regard of many with whom he has been associated.

HIRAM B. SPERRY.

Hiram B. Sperry is the owner of a valuable and well improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which he has developed from the wild prairie. A native of Ohio, his birth occurred November 27, 1833, near Chillicothe, in Ross county. His parents were John and Catherine (Snyder) Sperry, both of whom were of German lineage, the father's birth having occurred in Virginia, while the mother was a native of Pennsylvania. John Sperry spent his early youth in Rockingham county. The grandfather of our subject served in the war of 1812, and removed from Virginia to Ohio in 1815, at which time he was twenty years of age, his birth having occurred in 1795. The grandfather purchased land, which he developed into a good farm, making it the family home, and John Sperry afterward purchased the property, on which he lived for seventy years. He then sold out and removed to Greenfield, Ohio, where he died in 1878 at the age of eighty-three years. His wife passed away in 1879 and both were laid to rest in Ohio. Throughout his entire business career John Sperry had carried on agricultural pursuits and lived an upright, honorable life. His political allegiance was given to the Democracy, but later he voted with the Abolition party, subsequently with the Free Soil party and when the Republican party was formed to prevent the further extension of slavery he joined its ranks and continued one of its supporters until his death. He was a member of the Missionary Baptist church. In the family were fourteen children, of whom Hiram Sperry was the seventh in order of birth. Eight are still living, four sons and four daughters: Abraham, the eldest, who was a teacher, is deceased. Isaac, also a teacher, was a member of the Seventy-third Ohio Infantry in the Civil war and was killed at the battle of Gettysburg, his remains being interred in the National cemetery there. Mary has also passed away. Jacob is living in Ross county, Ohio.

Elizabeth and John are deceased. Hiram B. is the next younger. Sarah, who was a teacher, married Steven Whittaker and resides in Pike county, Illinois. Martha married Isaac Gray and lives in Nokomis. Rebecca and Nancy were twins. The former, who was also a teacher, is now the wife of Samuel Wilson and resides in Greenfield, while Mrs. Nancy Baker is living at Chalklevel, Missouri. William, who also followed teaching, was a member of an Illinois regiment in the Civil war. James, a soldier of the Seventy-third Ohio Infantry, was wounded at Lookout Mountain, but recovered and is living in Pike county, Illinois. Judson is living at Chalklevel.

Hiram B. Sperry acquired his education in the public schools of Ross county, Ohio, where he afterward began farming, and throughout his entire life he has carried on agricultural pursuits. He came to Illinois in 1857, settling upon a tract of land in Pike county. The following year he was married to Miss Mary A. Doran, a native of Ohio. They became the parents of eleven children. Cicero J., who was educated in the Danville, Indiana, Normal school and who taught for five years, four years in Illinois and one year in Florida, married Gillie A. Caraway and is now living at Apalachicola, Florida. He is engaged in business as a ship carpenter. Norman J. died when fourteen years of age. J. Milo married Margaret Barber and lives on section 31, Audubon township. Minnie, who engaged in teaching for seven years in Illinois, is now the wife of Emery Pennyacker, of Nokomis. Mary is the wife of Millard Graden, of Audubon. Mattie, who was a successful teacher in Illinois for five years, is the wife of Wilson Huddleston, living in Nokomis township. Ione, who was a teacher for seven years, is the wife of Clem Traylor, of Coffeen. J. Clarence married Hattie Webber and is living in Audubon. Edward married Carrie Scott, resides in Nokomis township and is engaged in school teaching. Nettie is the wife of William Lounsbury, of Witt township. May, who has engaged in teaching for two years, resides at home.

Mr. Sperry is the owner of a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which he has devel-

oped from the raw prairie, making all of the improvements thereon. He broke this land, and after placing it under the plow planted his seed and in due season reaped good harvests. He has since carried on agricultural pursuits and as the years have gone by he has met with a fair measure of prosperity. He taught school for eleven years, following the profession in Ohio for five years and in Illinois for six years and was thus identified with the early educational interests of this state. He has lived to see great changes here, for at the time of his arrival wild animals were yet found upon the prairie, deer being seen in large numbers and many kinds of feathered game were to be seen. As time has passed the pioneer dwellings have been replaced by large and substantial homes, excellent farms have been improved and modern equipments have made Montgomery county one of the leading agricultural districts of this great commonwealth. Both Mr. and Mrs. Sperry are members of the Baptist church, and he is a staunch Republican. He has now reached the age of seventy-one years and is a hale and hearty man, enjoying life and maintaining a keen interest in the affairs of his county and its upbuilding.

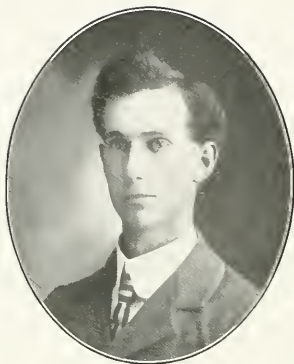
DANIEL CRESS, JR.

Daniel Cress, Jr., living in Fillmore township, was born on the old homestead farm which he now occupies April 29, 1846, his parents being Moses and Crissa (Barringer) Cress, both natives of North Carolina, the former born May 8, 1800, and the latter November 7, 1804. They were married in that state May 25, 1825, and in 1831 came to Montgomery county, Illinois, being among the early residents of this locality. The homes of the settlers were then widely scattered and the work of progress and improvement seemed scarcely begun. The cities were then mere towns and many of the villages had not yet sprung into existence. Pioneer conditions existed throughout the county and there were many difficulties and trials to be met by the early settlers. Mr. Cress purchased his land from Pleasant Shep-

herd, the father of Hiram Shepherd, and eventually became the owner of seven hundred acres, carrying on farming on an extensive scale. He was prominent and influential in community affairs in an early day and his name should be recorded on the pages of history devoted to the early and honored pioneer residents. He died on the 12th of September, 1850, and his wife, who long survived him, passed away September 6, 1883. In their family were the following children: One, who was born March 5, 1826, and died in infancy; Betsy Louise, born February 15, 1827; Edward C., born April 10, 1829; Richard D., who was born August 6, 1831, and was only four weeks old when the family came to Montgomery county; Peggy Maria, born December 8, 1833; George Henry, born January 26, 1836; Caroline C., born June 3, 1838; Mary Ann, born July 8, 1840; Sarah Catherine, born March 23, 1843; and Daniel, born April 29, 1846. All are now deceased with exception of our subject.

Daniel Cress attended school here at an early day, pursuing his studies through the winter months, while in the summer season he worked at farm labor. After the age of sixteen he never attended school, but gave his attention to agricultural pursuits and has remained continuously upon the old home place. The Cress farm is now one of the largest in the county and is also one of the best developed. Mr. Cress started with four hundred acres of land and now has over six hundred acres. Much of his father's old homestead has been sold, while he retained possession of the home and also of some land surrounding it. He has made substantial improvements upon the farm, including the erection of good buildings and his property is neat and thrifty in appearance. His barn is one of the best in the entire county and the other equipments upon the place are in keeping with the day. He gives most of his attention to the raising of stock and has never sold a carload of corn in his life. He bears a national reputation as a breeder of Percheron horses and he is also extensively engaged in raising brown Swiss cattle, Poland China hogs and Shropshire sheep. He owns four stallions all black Percherons and one jack and he raised three of the stallions him-

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FRANK CRESS



DANIEL CRESS, JR.



MRS. DANIEL CRESS, JR.



MRS. CRISSA CRESS



LEVI WHITTEN



MRS. JANE WHITTEN

self. He conducts a breeding stable in seasons and he has many registered animals upon his farm, including horses, cattle and sheep. He has not a cheap horse upon the place, nearly all being pure blooded, while thirty are pure bred. He also keeps a supply of young stock of all kinds on hand and he owns the only herd of Swiss cattle in the county. He has built up an enviable reputation as a breeder and has gained success by unfaltering perseverance and earnest labor.

On the 3d of October, 1867, when twenty-one years of age, Mr. Cress was united in marriage to Miss Jane Whitten, a daughter of Levi and Priscilla (Hill) Whitten. Her father was born in Kentucky, February 1, 1822, and died September 4, 1885, while her mother was born in this county, March 27, 1823, and died December 1, 1888. They were married on the 15th of January, 1841, and were the parents of the following named children: John P., who was born December 31, 1841, and died August 24, 1851; Henry J., who was born November 12, 1843, and also died on the 24th of August, 1851; Austin F., who was born March 27, 1846; Keziah Jane, who was born November 11, 1848, and is now the wife of our subject; one who was born June 1, 1850, and died the following day unnamed; Peter W., who was born November 10, 1853; Chloe Louisa, who was born February 18, 1855, and married Elijah Tuckaberry; Stephen C., who was born August 24, 1857; one who was born and died on the 24th of June, 1860; Thomas, who was born August 21, 1861; and Mary Luvena, who was born August 27, 1861, and died June 15, 1903. Mr. and Mrs. Cress have become the parents of three children: Clara Minnie, born July 27, 1868, is now the wife of Alexander Best, of Fillmore township, and has six children, four sons and two daughters. Myrtie May, born January 7, 1879, died the following April. Frank Edward born September 8, 1880, is at home.

Mr. Cress is a supporter of Democratic principles and in religious faith his wife is connected with the Lutheran church. Both are widely known in Montgomery county and have a large number of friends who esteem them highly and accord them a leading position in

the social circles of the community. As a business man Mr. Cress is known far beyond the limits of Montgomery county and he has ever enjoyed the reputation for honorable dealing that is indeed commendable and gratifying.

ALGY F. STRANGE, D. D. S.

Dr. Algy F. Strange, engaged in the practice of dentistry in Litchfield and thoroughly familiar with the modern methods of this science, was born at Walshville, Illinois, in 1877 and is a son of Alexander T. Strange, who is represented elsewhere in this work. To the district school system of the county he is indebted for the early educational privileges he enjoyed. He afterward pursued a course in the Litchfield high school and was engaged in teaching for two years. He next entered the dental department of Washington University at St. Louis in 1897, spending two years there and then in order to further prepare for the profession which he had determined to make his life work he matriculated in the Marion Sims Dental College in 1900 and was graduated with the class of 1901. In May of the latter year he opened an office, remaining in Litchfield in active practice until 1902, when he accepted the position of demonstrator of operative dentistry in his alma mater, there remaining until the spring of 1903, when he resumed his practice in Litchfield. He has a well equipped office and has already secured a patronage which is large and profitable. The lines are being constantly tightened around the professions and greater ability is demanded of the men who enter this class of life. The knowledge is being continually broadened, and in order to attain success one must have a comprehensive understanding of important principles and methods and must apply his learning in practical manner to the needs of those who desire professional service. Dr. Strange is accorded a leading place in the ranks of the dental fraternity in Montgomery county and the work which he has done has given such excellent satisfaction that his patronage is continually increasing.

In September, 1897, was celebrated the marriage of Dr. Strange and Miss Lulu Hope, a

daughter of James and Mary (Chamberlin) Hope. She was born in Hillsboro township and they now have two children, Russell and Artrude. The parents are members of the Presbyterian church and Dr. Strange is identified with the Masonic fraternity, the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks and the Delta Sigma Delta. In politics he is a Republican. He is also a member of the Illinois and Missouri Dental Associations, the Springfield Society and the Southern Illinois Branch of the Society. He has been named as a delegate to the fourth international dental convention to be held in St. Louis in October, 1904, and he is certainly one of the rising young members of the profession.

DAVID P. ATTEBERY.

David P. Attebery is one of the active and enterprising business men of Montgomery county. He has been closely identified with industrial interests, has taken important contracts in connection with railroad building, and as a farmer and stock dealer has conducted an extensive and prosperous business. He stands as a representative of one of the leading types of American citizens—alert, enterprising and progressive, watchful of opportunities and making the most of his advantages. At the same time he has maintained a high reputation for honorable dealing and has come to be known as one of the trustworthy citizens of Grisham township.

Born in Litchfield, January 16, 1864, Mr. Attebery became a resident of Hillsboro township when only a year old, his parents locating upon a farm at that time. He obtained his education in the public schools, assisted in the farm work through the periods of vacation, and when nineteen years of age joined his brother, W. J. Attebery, in a partnership. They operated their father's farm on the shares for three years, and at the age of twenty-two David P. Attebery went to Kansas, where he secured a homestead claim, upon which he lived for two years. He afterward spent one year upon a farm in Grisham township, Montgomery county, and then, locating

in Litchfield, became a buyer for Wilton & Pierce, stock dealers. He had been in their employ for eight years when he was admitted to a partnership that continued for two years. On the expiration of that period Mr. Attebery removed to the farm upon which he now resides, but engaged in buying stock and grain at Walshville in partnership with A. B. Copeland. He afterward purchased a sawmill in Grisham township, which he operated for three years, and in this way cleared up eighty acres of heavy timber. He has since engaged in general farming and in trading in stock, although he has in a measure extended his efforts to other lines of activity. In 1903 he took a contract to furnish rock for the bridges on the railroad for the cutoff. He hauled iron for sixteen miles of the cutoff, to be used in building culverts for the railroad. Some of these pipes weighed as much as ten tons, and Mr. Attebery did the hauling with steam engines. He also took the contract for cutting out and hauling the dirt on the regular Big Four cutoff. He now owns two hundred acres of land on sections 5 and 6, Grisham township, and has his farm under a high state of cultivation and well supplied with modern equipments and accessories which facilitate farming.

Mr. Attebery has been married twice. In 1887 he wedded Miss Essie Davenport, and they had three children: Bessie E., Nellie Pearl and David E., aged respectively thirteen, eleven and nine years. The mother died at the birth of her youngest child, and in 1897 Mr. Attebery was again married, his second union being with Cora McAdams, widow of William A. Slaughter, who by her first marriage had one son, Vernie R., now ten years of age. By the second marriage there are two children: Willie Otto, four years of age; and Charles E., two years old.

Mr. Attebery does not affiliate with any political party, but votes to support the measures which he believes will work the greatest good for the majority, and for the men whom he thinks best qualified for office. His energy and unremitting industry have formed the salient features of his life history and have proven the basis of his success. Having al-

ways lived in Montgomery county, he is well known here, has many friends and enjoys the confidence of the business public.

JOHN C. GRASSEL.

John C. Grassel, whose farm of two hundred acres on section 32, Butler Grove township, is the visible evidence of his life of thrift and industry, was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, February 15, 1852. His father, George Grassel, was a native of Bavaria, Germany, born in 1806. In early life he learned the trade of blacksmithing, at which he served a four years' apprenticeship. Thinking that better business opportunities were afforded in America, he crossed the Atlantic to the United States in 1836 when but thirty-six years of age. Landing at New York, he afterward worked his way to the west, doing blacksmithing at various places along the way. Finally establishing his home in Cincinnati, Ohio, he there conducted a blacksmith shop for thirty years and on the expiration of that period he removed to Kentucky, settling near Covington, where he followed gardening for seven years. He then came to Montgomery county, Illinois, and with the proceeds of his labor in former years he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Hillshoro township, upon which he lived until 1887. In that year he took up his abode in the city of Hillshoro, where he remained until his death, which occurred in 1894. His life was crowned with a high measure of prosperity and his success was due entirely to his own efforts. He came to America empty-handed save that he had a good knowledge of the trade. He worked earnestly and persistently, allowing nothing to interfere with his labor, and as the years advanced he accumulated a handsome competence which he judiciously invested in land until he was at one time the owner of eleven hundred acres in Hillshoro and Butler Grove townships. This he afterward divided among his children. He carried on general farming and stock-raising and his practical knowledge and untiring efforts enabled him to so conduct his business affairs as to gain the best possible return for his labors. In community affairs

he was interested, taking an active part in many measures and movements for the general good. He served as a school director and both he and his wife were devoted members of the Lutheran church. Mrs. Grassel passed away in 1901 at the age of eighty-six years. She bore the maiden name of Katherine Espert and to her husband she was a devoted companion and helpmate on the journey of life, ably assisting him in his efforts to secure a handsome competency. There was little resemblance between his condition in later years, when surrounded by his own extensive farming lands, and his financial condition when he arrived in America with only a dollar and a half and his clothes wrapped up in a handkerchief. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Grassel were born ten children: Barbara, the wife of Henry Swartz; George F., a dry-goods merchant of Cincinnati, Ohio; Margaret, the deceased wife of Fred Fellner; Mary, the wife of Albert Foreman, of Cincinnati, Ohio; Emma, deceased; John C.; Edward, who is living in Butler Grove township; Henry, who conducts a creamery in Litchfield; Carrie, deceased; and Charles, who resides in Hillshoro.

John C. Grassel, of this review, was but eight years of age at the time of the removal of his parents to Montgomery county. He acquired his education in the common schools and assisted his father in the farm work, being early taught the lessons of honesty, industry and economy. Two years prior to his marriage he located upon the farm which he yet occupies, keeping bachelor hall until he procured a companion and helpmate on the journey of life by his marriage in 1879 to Miss Mary Lewey. Their home has been blessed with five children: Harry, Albert, Walter, Etta and Frederick.

Mr. Grassel owns two hundred and seventy acres of land, of which two hundred acres is comprised within the home farm on section 32, Butler Grove township, where he is engaged in the tilling of the soil and in the raising of stock. He makes a specialty of shorthorn cattle and he is also engaged in the dairy business. His active business career has made his life a useful one and he has now a well improved property, indicating his careful supervision and progressive methods. His fellow

townsmen, recognizing his worth, have frequently called him to office. He served for nine years as road commissioner and then after an interval of six years was again elected to that office, in which he is now serving. He has been school director at different times, altogether covering a period of about fifteen years and no public trust reposed in him has ever been betrayed in the slightest degree. He feels deeply interested in the success of the Republican party and in the promotion of community interests, and fraternally he is connected with the Woodmen lodge. Having long resided in Montgomery county, he is well known to its citizens and the fact that those who have known him longest are numbered among his staunchest friends is indicative of an honorable career.

JAMES F. M. GREENE.

James F. M. Greene, who is filling the position of postmaster at Hillsboro, takes an active part in community interests and is known as an advocate of progressive measures contributing to the substantial upbuilding and the intellectual and moral development of the city. He was born in Circleville, Ohio, on the 12th of September, 1855. His father, Daniel Greene, also a native of Circleville, was a farmer by occupation and at the time of the Civil war espoused the cause of the Union, enlisting in his native city in 1861 as a member of Company C, Eighty-eighth Ohio Infantry. He was mustered out at Camp Chase, Columbus, July 8, 1865, with the rank of first sergeant. The company was stationed at Camp Chase during the war. Subsequent to this time Mr. Greene removed to Indianapolis, Indiana, where he worked at the carpenter's trade, spending his remaining days in that city. He was very prominent and influential in religious circles as a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and his efforts in behalf of the cause of Christianity were far-reaching and beneficial. He died in 1897 at the age of sixty-five years. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Mary E. McCoy, was born in Circleville, Ohio, in 1832, was of Scotch lineage and died in 1888 at the age of fifty-six years. Her father,

James McCoy, was a farmer. Like her husband, Mrs. Greene held membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and her children, eight in number, were therefore reared amid the refining influences of a good Christian home. The family numbered three sons and five daughters, namely: James F.; Robert E., who is engaged in the poultry business in Carlinville, Illinois; Martha J., who is the wife of David G. Kennedy, a clerk in Litchfield; Phoebe Ellen, deceased; Sarah E., who has also passed away; Charles M., who is superintendent of a coal mine at Atchison; Carrie May, who is a trained nurse at Hillsboro and a graduate of the Chicago School for Nurses; and Mary Olive, who, following the same profession, is a graduate of the Rebecca Hospital in St. Louis.

Mr. Greene acquired a common school education and after completing his own course engaged in teaching in Montgomery and Macoupin counties, following the profession for eight years, his capability securing him good positions in connection with educational work. Subsequently he accepted a clerkship in the New York store at Litchfield, where he remained for five years, and in December, 1894, he was appointed deputy county clerk by William L. Seymour, holding the position for four years. On the expiration of that period he entered the hardware store of George W. Brown, with whom he remained until 1902, when he was appointed postmaster by President Roosevelt and is now occupying that position. In business life he was respected for his thorough reliability as well as capable service and in office he has made a creditable record as one who in the discharge of his duty is ever prompt and faithful. He had come to Montgomery county with his parents on the 12th of September, 1865, the family home being located at Butler, where his father engaged in farming for twenty years and then took up his abode in Hillsboro. Mr. Greene, of this review, has therefore long been a resident of the county and has a wide acquaintance here.

In 1897 was celebrated the marriage of James F. M. Greene and Miss Nellie L. Young, who was born in Greenville, Illinois, in 1872. Her parents were J. H. and Louisa (Cooper) Young. Her mother died when Mrs. Greene



J. F. M. GREENE

was but three weeks old and she was reared by her grandmother, Mrs. Cooper, the mother of Judge Cooper. Mr. Young was identified with educational interests, following school teaching in his later years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Greene have been born two children: James Cooper and Ruth Caroline.

The parents are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, take a very active and helpful part in its work and for twenty years Mr. Greene has served as superintendent of the Sunday-school and is a member of the official board. He is identified with the Masonic fraternity and with White Cross Lodge, No. 66, K. P., of Litchfield. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party, and in addition to the office of postmaster he served as tax collector of North Litchfield township for two years, as city treasurer of Litchfield for two years and as city clerk of Hillsboro for two years. In office he has given undivided attention to the duties which have devolved upon him and has ever been reliable, prompt and trustworthy. He is a genial, courteous gentleman, pleasant and entertaining companion, and has many staunch and admiring friends among all classes. As an energetic and conscientious official and a gentleman of attractive social qualities he stands high in the estimation of the entire community.

WILLIAM C. GOODIN.

William C. Goodin, whose record for fidelity and capable service as chief of police of Litchfield is unsurpassed, received substantial evidence of the trust reposed in him when at his re-election he was given the largest vote that has ever been cast for any incumbent of that office. He was born in Bond county, Illinois, July 3, 1866. His father, Charles M. Goodin, was a native of Ohio and was of Irish lineage, his parents having emigrated from Ireland at an early day and established their home in Ohio. Charles M. Goodin remained in the Buckeye state until 1857, when he removed to Illinois, settling in Bond county upon a farm which he cultivated and improved

until the outbreak of the Civil war. He then enlisted in the Third Illinois Cavalry as a member of Company D, being enrolled at Greenville for three years' service. He took part in the battle of Pea Ridge and other engagements and never faltered in his allegiance to the nation's starry banner and the cause it represented. When the war was over he began taking contracts for public work in Louisiana and Mississippi, building levees along the Father of Waters from St. Louis to Louisiana. Later he engaged in the dairy business at Greenville and there his death occurred on the 17th of March, 1894, when he was sixty-four years of age. He was a member of the Greenville Post, G. A. R. His political allegiance was given to the Democracy until the outbreak of the war, when, being a great admirer of John A. Logan, he voted with him and became a Republican, remaining a staunch advocate of the principles of the party until his demise. His funeral was one of the most largely attended in Greenville in many years, a fact which indicated his personal popularity and the high regard in which he was uniformly held. He was married in early manhood to Miss Mary E. Gillespie, who was born in Bond county, Illinois, and is now living with her son, William C., in Litchfield at the age of sixty-seven years. Her father was James E. Gillespie, a farmer and one of the early settlers of Bond county, who served as the first constable there. Mrs. Goodin in her younger days was a school teacher in Bond county and took a great interest in her work. She has been a life-long member of the Methodist Episcopal church and a most earnest and consistent Christian woman. By her marriage she became the mother of six children: Jeanette, John, Ella and Lee, all of whom have passed away; William C.; and Maggie, the wife of Jonah Dodson, of Mayfield, Kentucky.

William C. Goodin acquired his education partly in Tennessee and partly in Greenville, Illinois. After leaving school he was employed for two years on a farm and in 1885 he came to Litchfield, where he learned the blacksmith's trade, following that pursuit for seventeen years in the employ of the Litchfield Foundry & Machine Company. He afterward worked

for a year for the Conneaut & Pittsburg Dock Company at Conneaut, Ohio.

Since attaining his majority Mr. Goodin has been an advocate of Republican principles, staunch in his support of the party and its platform. In the spring of 1903 he was elected chief of police of Litchfield and was re-elected in the spring of 1904. He has made a clean record and won a notable reputation for fearlessness and fidelity. Because of his capable service he is a menace to all lawbreakers, while the law abiding community have the utmost confidence and trust in him.

On the 9th of January, 1901, Mr. Goodin was married to Miss Lottie E. Price, a daughter of Evan and Ann Price, the former a miner. Mrs. Goodin was born in England in 1867. Mr. Goodin holds membership with the Catholic church and the Knights of Columbus and the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. He is popular in Litchfield among all classes and has a large circle of friends who esteem him highly.

WILLIAM F. RAINEY.

William Franklin Rainey, who for many years was identified with agricultural interests in Montgomery county and has long been very active in church work, is now living in Litchfield. He was born in Clinton county, Illinois, December 9, 1836. His father, William W. Rainey, was born in South Carolina, October 5, 1805, and when twelve years of age accompanied his father on the removal to Tennessee, the family home being established near Nashville. When twenty-two years of age William W. Rainey was married to Miss Cynthia Hicks, of middle Tennessee, and soon afterward they removed to Illinois, locating in Clinton county seven miles northwest of Carlisle, the county seat. Ten children, five sons and five daughters, were born unto them. The father was a successful farmer and stock-raiser, keeping and dealing in high grade stock. He and his wife were charter members of one of the first Baptist churches of Illinois, Mr. Rainey serving as one of its deacons. The maternal grand-

father of William F. Rainey was a resident of South Carolina, served in the Revolutionary war until its close and died at an advanced age in middle Tennessee in the faith of the Baptist church.

William F. Rainey was reared to farm life and in his youth enjoyed hunting deer and turkey, which were numerous in the locality in which he resided. In early manhood he was given a farm upon which he resided until the period of the Civil war, when he sold that property and removed to Jefferson county. There he again engaged in farming and stock-raising remaining there three years. He then disposed of that farm and purchased his old home in Clinton county, Illinois. When about thirty-two years of age he came to Montgomery county and for a time worked at his trade of carpentering and building in Litchfield. He then bought land northwest of Raymond, Illinois, but sold that property after two years and removed to Shaws Point, Maconpin county, Illinois, where he rented a farm for a time. He then bought land on Shoal creek ten miles southeast of Litchfield, upon which he remained for ten years and on the expiration of that decade he sold his farm and has since been a resident of Litchfield.

On the 24th of December, 1859, Mr. Rainey married Miss Lucy T. Thompson, a daughter of Archibald W. and Mary Thompson, formerly of Virginia. Her father enlisted at the age of eighteen years and served through the war of 1812. He was with General Jackson at New Orleans, assisted in building the breastworks there of cotton bales and sand from which he said the enemy's cannon balls would bound back toward them. He was there when the English commander sent a note to Jackson that he "would breakfast in New Orleans or hell the next morning." Jackson replied, "Tell your general he will breakfast in hell then." Mr. Thompson removed from the south to Illinois. His first wife, a Miss James of Virginia, was the daughter of a Revolutionary soldier. His second wife was a Miss Bennett, the mother of Mrs. Rainey. By his two marriages Mr. Thompson had twenty-two children. He was never ill a day in his life and he reached the advanced age of eighty-eight years. During

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MR. AND MRS. W. F. RAINY



MR. AND MRS. G. W. RAINEY

the greater part of his life he was a faithful Baptist.

By his first wife Mr. Rainey had twelve children, seven sons and five daughters. The mother was a devoted Christian woman, belonging to the Baptist church. After her death Mr. Rainey married Sarah, daughter of Israel and Jane (Corlew) Fogleman, and they had five daughters and two sons.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Rainey are members of the Baptist church, he having been actively identified with the church for forty-eight years, and during thirty years of that time in the ministry, doing missionary work, according to the teachings of John the Baptist. He was reared in the Democratic faith and for some time supported that party, but during the past twelve years has voted with the Prohibition party because of its staunch opposition to the liquor traffic. For a time he belonged to the American Protective Association and is still strong in that belief. While on the farm he was a member of the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association and was chaplain of his township and county lodges. His has been an honorable and useful career and he to-day commands the respect of all with whom he has been associated.

GEORGE W. RAINEY.

George W. Rainey, whose business interests, carefully conducted, have made him one of the prosperous citizens of Hillsboro township, is now engaged in general farming and stock-raising, also following horticultural pursuits and the raising of sugar cane and the manufacture of syrup. A native of Illinois, he possesses the enterprising spirit so characteristic of the middle west. He was born in Clinton county, near Carlisle, November 8, 1861, and is a son of William F. Rainey, who is represented elsewhere in this volume.

In the common schools George W. Rainey acquired his education and when his time was not occupied with the duties of the schoolroom and the pleasures of the playground, he assisted in the labors of the fields on the old home place. When twenty-one years of age

he began working by the month as a farm hand, and when two years had thus passed he purchased teams with the money he had saved from his earnings and began farming on his own account on rented land in Macoupin county. At the end of a year he rented his father's farm in Hillsboro township for a year, and afterward operated a rented farm in Butler township for a year. The year following his marriage he moved to a rented farm in Hillsboro township, where he lived for two years, when he bought eighty acres of land in Macoupin county, devoting his time and energies to its cultivation and improvement for five years, when he sold that property at a good profit and purchased land in East Fork township, Montgomery county, which he afterwards disposed of at a profit, investing the amount in a fine ranch of four hundred and eighty acres in Butler county, Kansas. He never lived on either place, however, and soon afterward removed to his present home on section 17, Hillsboro township, where he now has one hundred and sixty acres of rich and arable land. This is the old Attebery homestead, known as the Wild Wood farm, where the Farmers Mutual Benefit Association has held annual picnics for the past seven years. Mrs. Rainey was only two years old when her parents located there. The place is pleasantly located five miles from the city of Hillsboro, and here Mr. Rainey follows general farming and stock raising. He also has about fifty acres in orchards, of early and late planting, and for about fourteen years has engaged in the raising of fruit, principally apples of the winter varieties. He also has from thirty to fifty acres planted to sugar cane, from which he makes sorghum molasses, using a steam process in converting this into syrup. This was the first mill of the kind in the county and has a capacity of three hundred gallons per day or thirty gallons per hour. The product of Mr. Rainey's sugar cane fields and orchards add materially to his income, and as a general farmer and stock-raiser he is also meeting with success.

On the 12th of April, 1888, Mr. Rainey was united in marriage to Miss Sarah M. Attebery, who was born in this county, April 10, 1866.

and they have become the parents of seven children, namely: William Walter, born in Butler Grove township, February 1, 1889; Elmer Edwin, born in Honey Point township, Macoupin county, June 22, 1891; George Leo, born in the same township, September 4, 1893; Marshall Truman, also born in Macoupin county, October 29, 1895; Cleda May, who was born in Montgomery county, December 11, 1897, and died December 24, 1897; Charles F., born in Montgomery county, September 11, 1900; and Mabel Marie, born in this county, January 12, 1903. The family is well known in the county and Mr. and Mrs. Rainey have many friends who esteem them highly. The wife and mother is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church at Woodboro, Illinois, which she joined March 1, 1877, at eleven years of age.

Mr. Rainey is connected with the Mutual Protective League and also with Enterprise Lodge, No. 2,031, F. M. B. A., since the year 1890, and is a Democrat in his political affiliations. He was one of the organizers of the Peoples Mutual Telephone Company, was its first secretary and is now one of its directors and treasurer. There are now over one thousand members and the line has been of the utmost benefit to the county, connecting its rural population with the cities. Mr. Rainey is always quick to adopt progressive ideas of a practical nature, and he endorses all measures for the public good, giving his active support to many movements which have for their object the general welfare.

REV. PATRICK F. CARROLL.

Rev. Patrick F. Carroll, of St. Mary's Catholic church at Litchfield, was born in Janesville, Wisconsin, September 10, 1856. His father, William Carroll, was born in Ireland and came to the United States in 1845, locating at Janesville, Wisconsin, where he followed the occupation of farming. He married Alice Cassidy, also a native of Ireland. She came to the United States in 1853. Both were members of the Catholic church. The father died December 26, 1876, at the age of sixty-five years,

while the mother passed away April 9, 1890, at the age of sixty-seven years. They were the parents of six children, of whom five are now living.

Father Carroll acquired his early education in the public schools of Janesville, and in September, 1862, entered St. Francis Seminary at Milwaukee, where he was graduated in June, 1881. On the 29th of June of the same year he was ordained by Bishop Baltes and for a short time was stationed at the cathedral at Alton, Illinois. He afterward spent a brief period at Paris, Illinois, and on the 1st of August, 1882, he was appointed in charge of St. Mary's parish at Litchfield, where he has since remained.

This charge was established about 1859. Previous to the organization of the church the spiritual wants of the people had been cared for by visiting priests. The regular priests have been successively Fathers Colton, Gonant, Vogt, Moczygemba, Meckel, Cluse and Weis, the last named remaining in charge until the appointment of the present pastor, Father Carroll. The first services were held in the houses of the members and afterward in the city hall. In 1860 a brick church was built on the southeast corner of the block in which stands the present house of worship. It was sixty-five by thirty feet and served until 1884, when the foundation of the new church was laid. Two years later building operations were begun, and on Christmas day of the same year the first services were held in the new church. The structure is one hundred and thirty-two by fifty-six feet and is built of brick and stone, in Gothic style of architecture, with the center nave fifty feet in height. It was erected at a cost of twenty-six thousand dollars, and in 1903 the congregation spent about ten thousand dollars in completing and decorating the church. The decorating was done by Leber Brothers, of Louisville, Kentucky, and the work is on a par with that of any church in the county, having cost sixteen hundred dollars. The high altar was the gift of C. B. Mundy, of Litchfield, and is of pure Gothic design, richly decorated in white and burnished gold and onyx. It is illuminated by four hundred and twenty-six electric lights and cost eigh-

teen hundred dollars. The altar of the virgin was the gift of the Sodality and the St. Joseph's altar was a memorial erected in memory of Simon and Margaret Knierly. The Holy Family group was donated by the family of John and Margaret Doran; St. Anthony's altar is the gift of Mrs. D. Wiegreffe; the Sacred Heart statue was given by Mrs. M. Nolan; St. Ann's statue by Mrs. C. B. Mundy. The interior of the church is most beautiful, and in fact is one of the finest in Illinois. The parsonage is a commodious brick structure, which was erected in 1890 at a cost of five thousand dollars. In 1870 St. Mary's parochial school was established and a schoolhouse built. The teachers at that time were the Ursuline Sisters of Alton, and they remained in charge until June, 1890. In September of that year the Dominican Sisters of Springfield took charge and have since conducted the school, which is an efficient one, doing the various work of the grade and high schools. There are now one hundred and twenty-five pupils. St. Francis Hospital was established in 1875 and is conducted by the Sisters of St. Francis of Springfield. The church has a membership of one hundred and fifty families, and its various societies and departments of church work are in a thriving condition. The choir of this church enjoys the distinction of being among the best in the diocese, rendering masses of the best authors, as well as the Gregorian plain chant.

WILLIAM A. GRAY.

William A. Gray, identified with farming interests in Montgomery county, is filling the position of county coroner and makes his home in Butler Grove township. He was born on the 3d of April, 1855, on the old family homestead in that township, his parents being Alexander and Amanda (Choate) Gray, the former born in Virginia and the latter in Kentucky. The father was a farmer by occupation, thus providing for his family through the years of an active business career. There were, however, some chapters in his life history which were more eventful than the period covered by ag-

ricultural pursuits. He served in the Black Hawk war, and after the discovery of gold in California he made an overland trip to the Pacific coast in the early '50s. Eventually, however, he located in Montgomery county, Illinois. In Kentucky he had married Miss Amanda Choate, and they became the parents of seven children, of whom three are now living: William A., of this review; Dr. H. H. Gray, a physician of Keokuk, Iowa; and Susan L., wife of Dr. M. L. Moyer, of Hillsboro.

Mr. Gray of this review was reared to farm life, pursuing his education in the district schools and has always followed the occupation of farming. He now resides about one mile west of Butler, on a farm comprising seventy-seven acres, and devotes his energies to general agricultural pursuits. He has placed his land under a high state of cultivation, and the well-tilled fields return to him good harvests, while upon the market his crops find a ready sale.

Mr. Gray has been married twice. In 1875 he wedded Miss Maggie Aten, a daughter of Jacob C. Aten, a resident farmer of Montgomery county. They became the parents of five children: Clara, who is the wife of Harry Brookman and resides in Butler; George A., who married Emma Cockelnae and lives in Litchfield; Myrtle, at home; Albert C., who is attending medical college in Keokuk, Iowa, and resides with his uncle; and Essie, at home. It was in 1893 that Mr. Gray was called upon to mourn the loss of his first wife. He afterward married Olive J. Chaney, of Litchfield, a daughter of Mrs. Jane Chaney, of that city. Her father had died during her early girlhood. The second marriage of Mr. Gray was celebrated in 1897, and he and his wife now have a pleasant home near Butler and enjoy the warm regard of many friends.

In his political affiliations Mr. Gray is a staunch Democrat and has been prominent in local political circles. In 1900 he was elected coroner of Montgomery county for a term of four years, and on the expiration of that period he was renominated in 1904. He has also been assessor of Butler Grove township for two terms, and his public duties have been discharged with a fidelity and ability that are above question. Fraternally he is connected

with the Modern Woodmen of America, and his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Methodist church.

JOHN GOSHEN WILSON.

More than half a century has passed since John Goshen Wilson came to Montgomery county, for he dates his residence here from the spring of 1853. For many years he carried on agricultural pursuits, while the county advanced in progress and upbuilding, and while carefully managing his individual interests, he has always manifested a public-spirited interest in what has been accomplished in the county, as conditions of frontier life have been replaced by those of the most modern civilization.

Mr. Wilson has now passed the seventy-seventh milestone on life's journey. He was born in North Carolina, March 2, 1827, a son of William and Elizabeth (Keller) Wilson, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of North Carolina. His youth was passed in Jersey county, Illinois, and in April, 1851, he was married in that county to Miss Mary Jane McIntyre. Turning his attention to farming, he entered land from the government, securing two hundred acres in Walshville township, Montgomery county, Illinois. This was still in its primitive condition, but he soon transformed the raw tract into productive fields which he placed under a high state of cultivation. This he eventually sold and then bought one hundred and fifty-three acres in the same township, also placing this under cultivation. When he had disposed of that property he bought one hundred and eighty acres in North Litchfield township and his next purchase covered one hundred and ten acres adjoining Litchfield. The sale of that farm was followed by the purchase of one hundred and twenty acres in Hillsboro township and in 1898 he took up his abode in the city of Hillsboro, where he has since made his home.

Mr. Wilson, by his first marriage, had thirteen children: Silas Riley; George Luther; Ellen E.; Jennie A.; Alice; William Douglas; James Commodore; Martha L.; John G., de-

ceased; Charles, who has also passed away; Emma and Edward, twins, both deceased; and Cora, deceased. The mother died in 1876 and Mr. Wilson was again married, his second union being with Miss Alice Kelso, who died six weeks later. His present wife was formerly Mrs. Chloe Fellers, widow of Dr. Fellers, of Nokomis. Her maiden name was Hill. By their marriage there is a daughter, Vesta Mabel.

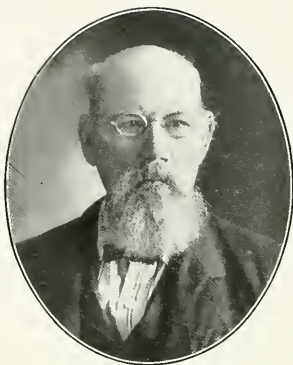
Mr. Wilson is a Democrat in politics and has voted with that party since age gave to him the right of franchise. He served as assistant supervisor, but has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking. He has long been a resident of Montgomery county, has been an active factor in its agricultural development, and is one of the valued citizens, well deserving of mention among the representative men of this part of the state.

STEPHEN DAVID CANADAY.

Stephen David Canaday, whose business activity and success classes him with the representative citizens of Montgomery county, is an abstractor and real estate and loan agent. Hillsboro claims him as one of its progressive and influential citizens and he is numbered among the native sons of the county, his birth having occurred four miles east of Litchfield, on the 3d of March, 1865. His father, Caleb Warren Canaday, was born in Casey county, Kentucky, January 5, 1833, and in 1835 was brought to Montgomery county by his parents, John and Pina M. (Sapp) Canaday, also of Casey county, Kentucky. The mother was a sister of Warren Sapp, who with Ahart Pierce entered from the government the land upon which the city of Litchfield is built. The grandfather secured a tract of two hundred and eighty acres, lying in North Litchfield and Butler Grove townships, and this tract he developed into a well improved and highly cultivated farm.

Caleb W. Canaday was reared on the old family homestead and was early inured to the arduous labor of developing a farm in the midst of a sparsely settled district offering few

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JOHN G. WILSON



C. W. CANADAY



MRS. C. W. CANADAY



S. D. CANADAY AND FAMILY

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advantages to its people. The occupation which claimed his attention in early youth he also made his life work and became the owner of one hundred acres of land in North Litchfield and Butler Grove townships. He married Martha L. H. Starr, a daughter of David B. Starr. She was born three miles west of Hillsboro on the 27th of March, 1842, and is of German and French lineage, while her husband was of Scotch-Irish descent. Her grandfather, James Street, was a Baptist minister, who preached the first sermon ever delivered in Montgomery county, this event taking place soon after the organization of the county. He also married the couple that obtained the first marriage license issued in this county and he was actively identified with the moral development and with the growth of religious sentiment in this part of the county. Caleb W. Canaday gave his political allegiance to the Democracy, but he sought no official positions, preferring to devote his undivided attention to his business affairs. He remained a resident of Montgomery county until his death, which occurred October 25, 1901, when he was sixty-eight years of age. His widow still survives him and yet resides on the old homestead. They were the parents of eleven children: James M., who died October 25, 1880, at the age of eighteen years; Stephen D.; John Sidney, who is engaged in the butchering business in Litchfield; E. Franklin, a dealer in live stock and hay at Coffeen; Julia Alice, the wife of Dayton D. Garver, a farmer residing at Republican, Nebraska; William L., who makes his home on a farm at Butler, Illinois; Lewis W., who is living on the old homestead; Robert N., a practicing physician at Butler; Otie, who died in infancy; Harriet C., who is living on the old homestead farm; and Martha J., the wife of John Nail, a farmer living six miles northwest of Litchfield. All are married with the exception of Hattie.

Stephen D. Canaday acquired his education in the country school and the public schools of Butler and Litchfield and was graduated from the Litchfield high school with the class of 1886. He afterward obtained a position in the Litchfield Planet Mill as shipping clerk, continuing there until December 24, 1887. Two

days later he came to Hillsboro and accepted the position of deputy county clerk under Brewer A. Hendricks, continuing in that office until May, 1892, when, accompanied by his wife, he went to Portland, Oregon. Not liking that country, however, he returned in a short time and again entered the office of the county clerk, where he remained for several months, when he opened a real estate, abstract and loan office in the office with Judge Jesse J. Phillips. This was in 1893 and he has since conducted the business with very gratifying success, having gained a large clientage. He was also one of the organizers of the People's Mutual Telephone Company, of which he was at one time the treasurer and a director.

On the 27th of July, 1890, Mr. Canaday was married to Miss Mattie I. Wilson, a daughter of John G. and Jane (McIntyre) Wilson. Her father was a farmer who removed from North Carolina to this state in 1830 and settled in Greene county, while in 1853 he came to Montgomery county. He makes his home with Mr. and Mrs. Canaday, at the age of seventy-seven years, and is still a hale and hearty man. He followed farming in this county for a number of years and at one time owned two hundred and forty acres north of Litchfield. His wife was of Irish lineage. Mrs. Canaday was born near Litchfield, December 6, 1868, and by her marriage has become the mother of four children, but Amos and Wayne are now deceased. Those still living are Warren and Raymond.

Mr. Canaday was one of the charter members and organizers of the Mutual Protection League of Litchfield, acted as supreme director of the league for four and a half years and was supreme treasurer for a year and a half. He also belongs to the Court of Honor. His political allegiance is given the Democracy and he served twice as clerk of his township. In 1894 he was candidate for county treasurer on the Democratic ticket, but that was the year of the Republican landslide and not a Democrat was elected in Montgomery county on the entire ticket. He was elected, however, to represent the thirty-eighth district of Illinois in the state legislature, November 8, 1904. His advancement in the business world is due entirely to the careful husbanding of his resources,

keen discrimination and executive force. He has won success in this way and is to-day numbered among the leading, influential and honored citizens of Hillsboro. The greater part of his life has been passed within the borders of this county and many of his staunchest friends are those who have known him from boyhood.

JOSEPH McLEAN BAKER.

The true measure of success is determined by what one has accomplished, and, as taken in contradistinction to the old adage that a prophet is not without honor save in his own country, there is particular interest attaching to the career of the subject of this review, since he is a native son of the place where he has passed his active life and so directed his ability and efforts as to gain recognition as one of the representative citizens of Montgomery county. He is actively connected with a profession which has important bearing upon the progress and stable prosperity of any section or community, and one which has long been considered as conserving the public welfare by furthering the ends of justice and maintaining individual rights.

Mr. Baker, a native son of Montgomery county, was born in Grisham township on the 5th of October, 1866. His paternal grandfather was William D. Baker, a native of North Carolina and later a resident of Macon county, Illinois. His father, Rev. William P. Baker, was born in Macon county, Illinois, near Beatur, and is now living at the age of sixty-eight years. After his marriage he lived at various places and engaged in preaching the gospel as a minister of the Cumberland Presbyterian church. At one time he had charge in Alton and is now pastor at Witt. He came to Montgomery county to make his home about 1878 and is now living in Hillsboro. His interest in the church and its upbuilding, however, has never abated, and he is the stated clerk of the Vandalia Presbytery. He owns a farm of one hundred and seventy acres in Grisham township, and to the improvement and cultivation of the land he gave his supervision,

but now rents the property. In matters of citizenship he is public-spirited and progressive, and believing that the Republican party contains the best elements of good government he gives to it an earnest and unfaltering allegiance. He first married Miss Jane McLean, who was born in Grisham township, Montgomery county, and for his second wife married Margaret McLean, who is now sixty-seven years of age. Her father was Joseph McLean, who removed from North Carolina to Montgomery county at a very early period in the settlement and development of this portion of the state. Rev. William P. Baker was twice married and by his first wife, Mrs. Mary Baker, had two children: William C., now deceased; and Ora D., the wife of George Donnell, who is living in Snohomish, Washington. The two children of the second marriage are Joseph McLean and Mary J., the latter at home. William E. Baker, a nephew of our subject, was a member of General Funston's celebrated Twentieth Kansas Regiment and was with that command in the Philippines, where he was detailed most of the time to act as a clerk at the regimental headquarters.

Mr. Baker is a graduate of the Hillsboro high school and for three years after his graduation he was successfully engaged in teaching, but, determining to enter other professional lines of labor, he became a student in the law office of James M. Truitt, of Hillsboro, in 1886. He read law through the summer months and in the winter seasons engaged in teaching school until his study had prepared him for admission to the bar, and he successfully passed an examination in the fall of 1889. He then entered upon the practice of his profession in the same office that he now occupies, and success has continuously attended his efforts. An earnest manner, marked strength of character, a thorough grasp of the law and the ability to accurately apply its principles have made him an effective and successful advocate, and he has been connected with much of the most important litigation tried in the courts of his county for eighteen years. He served as city attorney of Hillsboro for three terms, being first elected in 1893 and re-elected in 1895. In 1899 he was appointed

to fill a vacancy, for his previous public service had well evidenced his ability to faithfully and promptly discharge the duties of the office. He was a delegate to the state Republican convention in 1900 and is a stalwart advocate of the party, doing everything in his power to promote its growth and insure its success. At present he is chairman of the county Republican committee.

Aside from his legal interests Mr. Baker has business affairs of importance. He is the vice-president of the Hillsboro Building & Improvement Association and is a stockholder in the Hillsboro Hotel Company. He likewise has other interests in property in a mining location nearby, known as Kortkamp. Spending his entire life in Montgomery county, he has a wide acquaintance, which is also a favorable one because of his public-spirited interest in community affairs and because of his capability and reliability in the profession which he has chosen as a lifework. He is a prominent and active member of the Presbyterian church and is now serving as elder and chorister.

A. L. ELLINGTON.

Almost every state in the Union has furnished its representatives to Montgomery county, and among those who have come from North Carolina is A. L. Ellington, who was born in Rockingham county, in that state, near Wentworth, December 7, 1852. His parents were Charles W. and Ellen (Allen) Ellington, and the father, also a native of Rockingham county, died in prison at Point Lookout, Maryland, in 1865, when a Confederate prisoner of war. He was a farmer by occupation, following that pursuit throughout his entire business career. His widow passed away in 1874. They were the parents of nine children, of whom eight are yet living.

A. L. Ellington remained a resident of Rockingham county until 1867, when, at the age of fifteen years, he came with his mother and other members of the family to Illinois, settling in Montgomery county, and when twenty-one years of age he started out in life on his

own account, being employed by his mother, with whom he remained until 1873. The family was very poor and he had no advantages to assist him at the outset of his career. He began farming for himself in Fillmore township, where he remained for four years, and since that time he has lived in East Fork township. For fifteen years he has resided upon the farm which is now his home. He continued to rent land for sixteen years and then purchased one hundred and forty acres where he now resides. This is a valuable property and he is extensively engaged in the raising of stock, making a specialty of high grade hogs. He has won a good reputation throughout the county for his success in this direction, and his stock always commands the highest market prices. In his business affairs he is discriminating and his sound judgment has been one of the salient features in his success. All of the improvements upon his farm have been made by him with the exception of the house, and the attractive appearance of the place is an indication of his careful supervision and progressive modern methods.

On the 8th of January, 1874, Mr. Ellington was united in marriage to Miss Lamira C. Campbell, who was born in Perry county, Missouri, October 22, 1855, a daughter of George C. and Mary (Smith) Campbell. In 1863 her family moved to Montgomery county, Illinois, and located five miles north of Coffeen. Mr. Campbell died in 1891 and his widow now makes her home in Coffeen. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Ellington have been born seven children, of whom six are living: Clement L., who is married and resides in Alton, Illinois; Ollie B., the wife of O. B. Root, of Charleston, Illinois; Esther May, Ellen, Joseph Perry and Opal, all at home. They lost their third child, George C., who died in infancy.

Mr. and Mrs. Ellington hold membership relations in the Cumberland Presbyterian church at Donnellson, having always been identified with that organization, and its teachings and principles form a strong motive element in their lives. Mr. Ellington is also connected with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Court of Honor. In politics he has always been a Democrat, but has strong prohibition

tendencies and has ever been an advocate of temperance principles. He stands to-day among the successful men of his community, who, as the architect of his own fortunes, has builded wisely and well. Without any special family or pecuniary advantages to aid him at the outset of his career, he has labored energetically and persistently and his course has been characterized by continued and laudable advancement.

JACOB J. FREY.

Jacob J. Frey, for a number of years numbered among the prominent and progressive citizens of Hillsboro, may well be termed one of the founders of the city, for he has been the promoter of many leading business enterprises, and the growth and development of a city depend upon its commercial and industrial activity. 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 earned for himself an enviable reputation as a careful man of business, and in his dealings is known for his prompt and honorable methods, which have won him the deserved confidence of his fellow men.

A native of Ohio, Mr. Frey was born in the city of Cincinnati, February 16, 1866. His father, George A. Frey, also born in that city, died at the age of thirty-eight years. He conducted a cigar manufactory and was also a trunk manufacturer. In 1866 he removed from Ohio to St. Louis, Missouri, and the following year he enlisted in the Fourth Missouri Cavalry as a member of Company I, thus serving until the close of the war. He joined the army as a private, but was promoted through successive ranks until he attained that of major. He participated in the battle of Missionary Ridge and other important engagements and was mustered out at the close of the war at St. Louis. In one battle he received a gunshot wound, which caused him to lose part of his hand. In 1864 he was captured by the rebel troops, spent eleven months in Andersonville prison and came out almost a

physical wreck, but by careful nursing and attention he finally recovered his health. When the war was ended and he was mustered out of the service he turned his attention to the manufacture of cigars in St. Louis, where he remained until 1866, when he removed to Cincinnati, Ohio, spending about a year there. He then returned to St. Louis, and in 1870 he came to Hillsboro, where he established a cigar factory which he conducted with good success up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1876. In his fraternal relations he was an Odd Fellow and politically was a Republican. He married Miss Clara Benkler, a daughter of John Benkler, a native of Germany, in which country he served as a judge. Both he and his wife died in the fatherland. Mrs. Frey was born near Breimen, Germany, in 1839, and is now living in Hillsboro with a daughter. She was a most devoted wife and mother and made many sacrifices for her children after her husband's death. She holds membership with the Lutheran church and her entire life has been in consistent harmony with her profession. Unto Mr. and Mrs. George A. Frey were born four children: Jacob, of this review; Katie, the wife of John O. Miller; George, who was a member of Company E, Fifth Illinois Infantry, and served in the Spanish-American war, after which he returned home and re-enlisted for service in the Philippines, where his death occurred in August, 1902, when he was twenty-four years of age, his remains, however, being interred in the cemetery at Hillsboro; and Ida E., who is the wife of George Dunn, who is in the office with Mr. Frey, of this review.

Jacob J. Frey was brought to Hillsboro by his parents in 1870 and his early education was acquired in the public schools here. He was only about ten years of age at the time of his father's death. His mother afterward met with financial reverses and found it very difficult to provide for her children, of whom Jacob is the eldest. She then found it necessary to do laundry work in order to keep the larder supplied. She received able and willing assistance, however, from her son Jacob, who did chores for Mr. Stewart in order to help pay the rent, and he also did any other honest



JACOB J. FREY

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work that he could secure that would help his mother. At one time the school board passed a rule that children having no books should be prohibited from attending school. A kind friend, knowing that Mr. Frey had to leave school because of the measure passed, told him to get what books he needed, and if ever able to pay him back he could do so. The years passed and Mr. Frey, because of his unflagging industry and perseverance, prospered and long since he has discharged the indebtedness to his benefactor and also assisted him at a time when business difficulties pressed him hard. This instance is another proof of the old saying that "bread cast upon the waters will return after many days." Mr. Frey was very desirous of obtaining an education, realizing its value as a preparation for life's practical and responsible duties and after leaving public schools he and three other young men employed a teacher who instructed them for two years. In the meantime he clerked for C. B. Rhoades in a dry-goods store and on leaving that employ he accepted a position as salesman in the hardware store of Stewart & Linxwiler, continuing there for about a year, but the work proved too severe a strain upon his health and he returned to the employ of Mr. Rhoades, remaining there until 1885. He then concluded that he would learn the real estate business and obtained a leave of absence from the store for a year with the privilege of returning at the end of that time if he desired to do so. He then went to Topeka, Kansas, where he spent a year and was employed as a clerk in a real estate office of that city. On the expiration of that period he returned to Hillsboro, where he opened an office. He had been quite successful in Kansas, but sickness compelled him to use most of his good money. He had but little capital upon his return to Hillsboro, but the determination and enterprise which have been noticeable among his strongest characteristics from his early boyhood were again manifest and his labors as a real estate agent have met with marked success. In fact, he is now doing the largest business of his kind in the county and his business activity has been an important factor in the upbuilding, progress and improvement of this portion of the state. He has

taken an active part in laying out Prairie Heights and his efforts have been very effective in promoting the substantial improvement of Hillsboro. During his business career he has made no foreclosure of a mortgage that has not been what is known as a "friendly foreclosure."

To many other lines of business activity Mr. Frey has extended his energy with good result. He was one of the incorporators of the Hillsboro Brick & Tile Company and in connection with C. A. Ramsey he incorporated the Montgomery County Telephone Company. In connection with W. A. Howett he secured the franchise for an electric light plant in Hillsboro, costing thirty thousand dollars and in the present year, 1901, he secured a franchise for an electric light plant for Raymond and rebuilt the plant there, which is now in operation. He has just received a franchise from Montgomery county for the use of the roads and streets for stringing wires with the intention of furnishing light and power for the county from one central station. In connection with others he laid out lots in the vicinity of the new radiator plant at Litchfield and was one of the incorporators of the new organization of the electric light company at Litchfield. Mr. Frey is one of the incorporators of the Hillsboro Hotel and was one of the promoters and developers of the Kortkamp Coal Company and helped lay out the village of Kortkamp.

Mr. Frey was married June 27, 1891, to Miss Minnie B. Witherspoon, a daughter of William and Sarah J. Witherspoon, who was born in Hillsboro in 1866. Her father was a merchant of this place and died during the Civil war. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Frey has been born one child, Aldine. The parents are members of the Lutheran church, take a very active part in church work and Mr. Frey is serving as deacon and treasurer. He was also a member of and treasurer of the building committee at the time of the erection of the new house of worship. Socially he is connected with the Knights of Pythias fraternity and in politics he is a Republican. His success in all his undertakings has been so marked that his methods are of interest to the commercial world. He has based his business principles and actions upon strict adherence to the rules which govern industry,

economy and strict unswerving integrity. His enterprise and progressive spirit have made him a typical American in every sense of the word and he well deserves mention in history. What he is to-day he has made himself, for he began in the world with nothing but his own energy and willing hands to aid him. By constant exertion, associated with good judgment, he has raised himself to the prominent position which he now holds, having the friendship of many and the respect of all who know him.

WILLIAM NEECE.

William Neece, who carries on general farming on sections 16 and 21, Audubon township, was born June 24, 1844, in Guilford county, North Carolina, near the town of Greensboro. His parents, Cornelius and Ruth (Pike) Neece, were also natives of that state. The paternal grandfather, Jacob Neece, and great-grandfather were natives of Germany and were soldiers of the Revolutionary war, going through that long-continued struggle without sustaining a wound. Jacob Neece was also in the Mexican war and drew a pension in recognition of his services. He married Jennie Hague, of North Carolina, a relative of Madison Hague, who was one of the pioneer settlers of Montgomery county, Illinois, living at Hillsboro at an early day. Jacob Neece also came to Illinois in the '60s, but after residing for about two years in Pana he returned to North Carolina, where he died two years later and his wife about six years later. He received a good education in the German language, but could also speak English, and he was a wealthy and influential man of his community. By occupation he was both a farmer and blacksmith, and in political sentiment was a Whig. While hunting he was crippled in a fight with a deer.

Cornelius Neece, the father of our subject, was a guard in Salisbury prison in the service of the Confederate States for six months during the Civil war, having been conscripted as was also William Neece, who was detailed to make hats for the Southern Army. He was in the service for three years and had to deliver one hundred and fifty hats every month, carrying

them a distance of sixty miles. Because his entire time was taken up with this work the ladies of the family had to do the work in the fields and support the children. General Wheeler first laid waste to his property and that of his neighbors and afterward Sherman's army devastated the same district. William Neece was not loyal to the south, for he believed that the Union should be preserved intact and because of this he left North Carolina and made his way northward to Indiana, where he worked one season.

After being released from his position as guard in the Salisbury prison, Cornelius Neece returned to his home in North Carolina and two years later removed to Pana, Illinois, where he operated a rented farm in connection with his son. In 1874 he bought a farm of eighty acres in Audubon township, Montgomery county, and afterward added to it an adjoining eighty-acre tract, which was wild and unimproved, but he converted it into a good farm, making his home thereon until his death, which occurred January 12, 1901. His first wife died in 1868, and he subsequently married Eliza Williams, of North Carolina, who departed this life in 1887. Politically he was identified with the Republican party and religiously was first connected with the Methodist Episcopal church and later with the Free Methodist church.

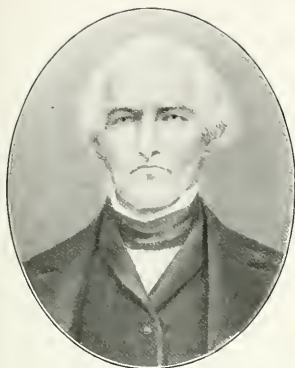
Coming to Illinois, William Neece settled at Pana on the 24th of December, 1865. When he had spent four years as an employe in a brickyard he rented a farm of three hundred acres and in this was more successful, making money quite rapidly. He raised ten thousand bushels of corn which he sold for forty-two cents per bushel, and with the proceeds of this large crop he paid for the nucleus of his present farm in 1874. To his first purchase he has added from time to time as his financial resources have permitted until he now has over five hundred acres and the income from his property is sufficient to enable him to now live retired from business cares. He leaves the active work of the fields to others, merely giving his supervision to the farm labor.

Mr. Neece was married in early manhood to Pyrena F. Williams, and they became the parents of eight children, five sons and three

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MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM NEECE



JACOB NEECE



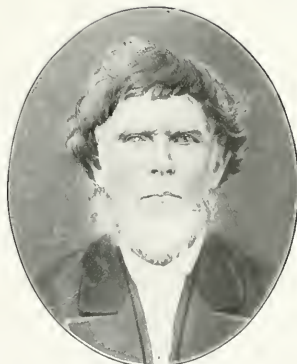
MRS. JACOB NEECE



CORNELIUS NEECE



MRS. SILAS PRESNELL



SILAS PRESNELL

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daughters, but two are deceased, twins, a boy and a girl, having died in infancy. Those living are as follows: Minnie married Henry Tabor, residing in Audubon near the old government grant, and they have four children. George married Lola Sanders and resides with his father on the old homestead. John D. married Norma Wilson and they reside south of Nokomis in Witt township. Lodusea is the wife of Douglas Young and with their three children, two sons and a daughter, they reside south of Hillsboro, on section 7, East Fork township. Bert married Jessie Brown, by whom he has a daughter, and they reside a mile south of the Christian county line, on section 3, Audubon township, near the Prairie Chapel church. Fred married Hattie Price, of Donnellson, and lives in Witt township. For his second wife Mr. Neece chose Miss Molly Presnell, a daughter of Silas and Dica Diana (Sowel) Presnell.

Mr. and Mrs. Neece hold membership in the Free Methodist or Holiness church. When a young man he was identified with the Masonic fraternity, but has not continued his active connection therewith. He spent one winter in North Carolina teaching the doctrine of Holiness and he has labored untiringly to advance the cause of his church. His business career has been very successful and all that he possesses has been acquired through his own persistent and honorable effort. In politics he was formerly a Republican but is now a Prohibitionist.

AMOS S. BARRY.

The birthplace of Amos S. Barry was the old homestead farm on which his grandfather, Richard Barry, located in pioneer times. He arrived in Montgomery county about 1826, when this portion of the state was very sparsely settled, and since that time representatives of the name have carried forward the work which he begun of developing the county along substantial lines. Here he reared his family of seven children. Michael S. Barry, the father of our subject, was born in Barron county,

Kentucky, in 1818. He made the journey by team to Illinois, for the date of his arrival antedated the period of railroad building here, and with the early agricultural development of Montgomery county he was identified. He married Elizabeth Clotfelter and they had three children: Emily, the widow of George Beck, of Hillsboro; John Richard, deceased; and Amos S. By his second wife, Clara Dale, the father had five children, but all are now deceased. By his third wife he had one child, Carrie. Michael Barry lived to be more than eighty years of age, and as one of the honored pioneers and revered patriarchs of the county is yet well remembered by many citizens of this part of the state.

The natal day of Amos S. Barry was January 11, 1848. He was reared to farm life, educated principally in the public schools and was graduated at Bryant & Stratton Business College of Chicago. When twenty-one years of age he started out for himself, going to Texas and the southwest, where he spent the greater part of two years. He afterward located in St. Louis and Kansas City, Missouri, where he was engaged in the commission business until 1874, when he was married and returned to Montgomery county, settling in East Fork township, where he remained for four years. On the expiration of that period he came to the farm which he now owns and occupies, comprising about three hundred acres of land in Hillsboro township. The place is well improved and highly cultivated, and the accessories and conveniences of the model farm of the twentieth century are found thereon. He annually harvests good crops and also raises high-grade stock for market.

On December 31, 1874, Mr. Barry was united in marriage to Miss Alice B. Richards, a daughter of George H. Richards, who is represented elsewhere in this work. They have five children: George R., who graduated at the State University and is now assistant engineer for the Pittsburg, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis Railroad at Columbus, Ohio; Harold B., who was also educated at the State University and is a civil engineer in the employ of the Southern Pacific Railroad, residing at Dudleyville, Arizona; Irene A., who is a

graduate of the Hillsboro high school; and Arthur A. and Edward H., both at home.

For about a quarter of a century Mr. Barry has resided upon his present farm and is known as a reliable and enterprising business man, and as a worthy representative of an honored pioneer family he also deserves mention in this volume.

LEWIS H. THOMAS.

Lewis H. Thomas, living on section 10, Bois d'Arc township, is one of the well-known agriculturists of Montgomery county, and his farm of six hundred and forty acres is one of the best improved places in this part of the state. He was born in Greene county, Illinois, May 24, 1827, and was reared to manhood there on the home farm and enjoyed excellent educational advantages, his preliminary training, received in the district schools, being supplemented by study in Carrollton Academy.

Mr. Thomas was united in marriage, on the 11th of November, 1863, in Greene county, to Miss Ann Linder, who was born in that county, March 3, 1842. He had previously entered land from the government and begun the development of the farm upon which he now resides. By claiming purchase he became the owner of seventeen hundred acres, and upon this farm he settled in 1855, beginning its development and improvement with characteristic energy. He has added all modern equipments and accessories, erected a large two-story brick residence, which was afterward destroyed by fire, and later he built his present fine home, which is also a two-story brick residence. The material for the brick in the first residence and the fuel for making them were products of the farm. In 1853 Mr. Thomas planted ten acres of locust seed and two years later this was supplemented by the planting of fifteen acres more of the same kind of seed. The oldest of this wood was, therefore, but thirteen years when Mr. Thomas began to burn his first kiln of brick, yet the twenty-five acres of locust furnished all the necessary fuel for the three hundred and ten thousand brick that were used in the construction of the first brick

house. The present house is heated by furnace, secures its water supply from waterworks, and is most beautifully furnished, having many modern conveniences which go to make up the model home of the twentieth century. Around the house is a well-kept lawn, shaded by forest and evergreen trees and adorned with flowers and shrubbery. In the rear of the house is a large barn and other necessary outbuildings for the shelter of grain and stock. There is also a grove of walnut, chestnut, pecan, hickory, oak, ash, cottonwood, hackberry, elm, honeylocust, mulberry and soft maple of seventeen acres, which was planted and cultivated by Mr. Thomas. This took the coveted prize of the gold medal from the State Agricultural Society in 1858 as being "the best grove of cultivated timber in the state." For fourteen consecutive years annual Sunday-school picnics gathered here, and they were abandoned because an unprecedented heavy sleet caused such damage to the timber as to make the clearing-up a herculean task. Of trees and shrubs there are sixty-three varieties on the place. There is also a good orchard and considerable small fruit. In connection with his farming interests Mr. Thomas has engaged in raising high-graded stock. He has sold a part of his original tract of land, but he still owns over six hundred acres, constituting a valuable farm.

Mr. Thomas lost his wife in Montgomery county. They were the parents of five children: Etta, the wife of Edward L. Kendrick, of Buffalo, New York; John L., who is engaged in ranching in Colorado; Mary L., the wife of Robert C. Scott, who carries on merchandising in Colorado; Samuel, at home; and Minerva C., who is attending Illinois College at Jacksonville. On the 3d of October, 1889, Mr. Thomas wedded Miss Agnes E. Ball, a sister of John Ball, a prominent banker and agriculturist, conducting business in Farmersville. Mrs. Thomas is a native of Wales, was brought to America during her childhood days and was reared in Virden, Maconpin county. She is a lady of superior educational attainments and was successfully engaged in teaching for a number of years, being connected with the Washington school in Chicago, Illinois, for seven years.

Politically Mr. Thomas has been a lifelong Democrat, but has never aspired to office, although he has supported each presidential nominee on the national ticket for fifty-six years. He served on the honorable county board as supervisor and was a member of several important committees. He has also been township school treasurer for some years. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, being affiliated with the blue lodge at Virden, with Girard chapter and the commandery at Springfield. He holds membership in the Baptist church and has been one of its officers for many years. His life has been in harmony with his professions and he is numbered among the honored pioneer residents of Montgomery county, having for more than a half century resided upon his present farm. He has aided materially in opening up and developing the county and is one of the few remaining early settlers. He is widely known throughout central Illinois as a man of sterling character and worth, a public-spirited citizen, having the confidence and good will of all, and he and his estimable wife are greatly esteemed in the community in which they make their home.

GUILFORD BASS.

Guilford Bass, whose very successful career indicates what may be accomplished by a man of strong purpose and honorable business principles, is now the owner of valuable farming interests in Andubon township. He was born September 26, 1835, in Fayette county, near Vandalia, four miles south of Ramsey. His parents were Guilford and Mary (Proctor) Bass, natives of Kentucky and of English descent. The father was born in 1794 and remained a resident of Kentucky until after his marriage, when he removed with his young wife to the vicinity of Nashville, Tennessee, there living for three or four years. On the expiration of that period he went to Fayette county, Illinois, in the fall of 1827, and secured land from the government. Few settlements had been made in that part of the state and the wild and unimproved condition of the country afforded ample opportunity to the am-

bitious and industrious agriculturists. Mr. Bass secured forty acres and at once began the development of a farm. Throughout the greater part of his life he carried on agricultural pursuits, although he had learned the cooper's trade in early life. He served his country in the war of 1812, participating in the battle of New Orleans on the 8th of January, 1815, and he was never wounded nor captured during the second war with England. He died in 1844, and his wife, long surviving him, passed away in 1873 and was buried in the Tennessee cemetery southwest of Oconee, while Mr. Bass was laid to rest in the cemetery on the old family homestead in Fayette county. They were the parents of twelve children, ten sons and two daughters: John died in Marion county, where he had followed farming and reared his family of two children. Jacob, who was a farmer and had a family of eleven children, died and was buried near Kimmunity, Illinois. William, who was the owner of land in Clinton and Bond counties and had a family of five children, who are yet living, made his home in Wisetown, Illinois. James W., who was married and had six children, lived in Montgomery county and was also the owner of farm property in Shelby county. David, who had a family of nine children, was a farmer by occupation and died in St. Louis, Missouri. Henry, whose family numbered ten children, resided in Bond county and his remains were interred at Camp Ground. Guilford is the next of the family. Elijah, who follows farming in Shelby county, Illinois, has a family of five children, four sons and a daughter. Francis, who follows farming in Newton county, near Grangeville, Missouri, has a family of six children. Josiah, now deceased, was a resident of Montgomery county and his remains were interred in Tennessee cemetery. He had a family of nine children. Mary died when thirteen years of age, and Martha died when eight years of age, being buried in the old homestead cemetery in Fayette county.

Guilford Bass was reared in the usual manner of farmer lads and was early trained to habits of industry and integrity. He was married October 4, 1855, to Keziah Jane Hill,

a daughter of Thomas and Nancy (Massey) Hill, natives of North Carolina, who removed to Illinois prior to the birth of their daughter and settled in Shelby county, their home being on a farm east of Oconee. They had ten children: Henry, who served under General Scott and died in the Mexican war; Sarah, the deceased wife of Lewis Scribner, a farmer of Shelby county; Joel Hill, a farmer residing north of Bingham, in Fayette county, Illinois; John, deceased, who resided southwest of Ramsey and had a wife and one child; Elizabeth, who is now Mrs. Seago and is living in Audubon; Jackson Hill, a stock-dealer of Irving, who has eight children; Thomas, a farmer of this county, who has one child; Mrs. Bass; Amanda, who is the widow of Basil Prater, of Edinburg, and has six children; and William F., who died in infancy.

Guilford Bass has at different times purchased land in Montgomery county. He first bought forty acres of William Smith in 1856 and his next forty was purchased from the father of Joseph Whitmore. His third forty acre tract was bought at twelve dollars and a half per acre, and he next purchased eighty acres at sixteen dollars per acre. Later he bought another forty acre tract and at other times made purchases until his landed possessions now aggregate three hundred and sixteen and a half acres. As he had no assistance in starting out in life, his success indicates clearly that he has worked industriously and persistently to acquire a competence, overcoming all difficulties and obstacles in his path by determined purpose. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Bass has been blessed with twelve children: William Franklin, the eldest, died in infancy. Henry M. married Susan McNichols and has one child living, Roy S. Amanda F. is the wife of Jacob Layman and has one son, Edgar. Joseph M. married Flora Riddle and has one daughter, Mabel. Merv is the wife of Oscar Thompson and has four children: Vernon, Burleigh, Eulalia and Veda. Martha is the wife of Emmet Whitmer. Nancy L. and Ella are at home. Emma is the wife of Edward Walker and has one child, Veda. Albert died September 22, 1903. Nettie is the wife of Samuel Jolly and has three living

children: Rath, Carl and Paul. Edgar married Clara Neathery.

Mr. and Mrs. Bass are members of the Baptist church and are people of the highest respectability, commanding the warm regard of many friends. In politics he has ever been a staunch Democrat since casting his first presidential ballot for James Buchanan, but he has never sought or desired office, preferring to give his time and energies to his business affairs, and by reason of his close application and unflinching diligence he has become the possessor of a farm which is extensive and valuable.

HENRY HAYNES.

Henry Haynes, who is a representative of the farming interests of Pitman township, where he owns and operates a tract of land of one hundred and sixty acres, was born upon this farm, July 12, 1857. He is a son of John and Harriet (Seymour) Haynes and a grandson of William Haynes, who was one of the pioneer settlers of Illinois, establishing his home in Cass county when the work of improvement and progress had scarcely been begun in that part of the state.

John Haynes was born in Indiana and was reared in Cass county, Illinois. Later he removed to Morgan county, where he met and married Miss Harriet Seymour, a native of North Carolina. Subsequently they removed to Montgomery county, establishing their home within its borders about 1854. Mr. Haynes purchased the land upon which his son Henry now resides and at once began to clear the place, which was then largely covered with timber and brush. He also fenced the fields and when the plowing was done he planted the seed which in due time produced good crops. He also put good buildings upon the place and other substantial improvements and there he reared his family, spending his last years upon the old homestead. His death occurred January 16, 1891. His wife still survives him and is now keeping house for her son Greene, enjoying good health at the age of eighty-five years and doing all her own house work. In their family were seven children, as follows: Greene, who owns

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HENRY HAYNES AND FAMILY



MR. AND MRS. JOHN HAYNES

and operates a part of the old home farm; Mary, the wife of S. T. Caldwell, of Edgar, Nebraska; Alexander, who is living near Hoxie, Kansas; Henry, of this review; John, of Colorado; James, who died in March, 1893; and Sarah, who was the wife of W. L. King and died January 30, 1873.

Henry Haynes was reared upon the old homestead and continued to assist his father in its cultivation and improvement until he attained his majority. He attended the common schools in early life and no event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for him in his youth. He was married in Macoupin county, April 3, 1879, to Miss Ella Seymour, a daughter of W. B. and Elizabeth (Bull) Seymour. She was born in Morgan county, Illinois, July 7, 1858, and spent her girlhood days in that county and in Macoupin county.

The young couple began housekeeping upon a rented farm, which he continued to cultivate for a few years. After his father's death Mr. Haynes purchased the interest of some of the other heirs of the family and succeeded to a part of the old farm, including that portion upon which stands the family residence. To the further development and cultivation of the place he has devoted his time and energies. He has repaired and remodeled the house and now has a neat and comfortable residence, while in the rear stand good barns and outbuildings, giving ample shelter for grain and stock. There is an orchard with a large variety of fruit, and modern farm machinery facilitate his work in the fields. In connection with the raising of grain he makes a business of raising good graded stock and is successful in his production of both grain and stock.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Haynes has been blessed with two children: William Herman, born August 28, 1883; and Hattie Evelyn, born December 22, 1895. The parents are well known in this county and the hospitality of many of the best homes of Pitman township is extended to them. Mr. Haynes exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the Democracy. He is accounted one of the leaders of his party in this locality and has been honored with several positions of

political preferment, having served for three terms as highway commissioner, being now in the seventh year of his incumbency in that office. He has also been school director for a number of years and he believes in the employment of capable teachers and the establishment of good schools. Fraternally he is connected with the Knights of Pythias lodge at Raymond. He has always lived within the borders of Montgomery county and the old homestead, which was the place of his birth, is still the place of his residence, so that it is endeared to him through the association of his boyhood as well as of later years.

HENRY ABSALOM CRESS.

Henry Absalom Cress, who is engaged in general farming and stock-raising in Hillsboro township, was born on the farm where he now resides, the date of his birth being August 12, 1859. His father, George H. Cress, was also born in Butler Grove township, where his father located at an early day. George H. Cress was married to Miss Jane E. Corey and Henry A. Cress was the only child of that marriage. From the government the father entered the homestead farm and at once began transforming the wild and uncultivated prairie into productive fields. He continued to make that place his home from the time of his marriage until his death, and passed away at a comparatively early age of twenty-four years. His widow afterward became the wife of William W. Keeley, and now resides in Pueblo, Colorado.

Henry A. Cress spent the days of his boyhood and youth in the county of his nativity and attended the public schools, thus laying the foundation for his successful career by preparation that fitted him to cope with the responsible duties that came in later life. He was married on the 19th of March, 1882, to Miss Annie Clotfelter, a daughter of J. W. Clotfelter, and they have three children, Henry A., Jr., Hubert and James W. The family reside in Hillsboro township, where the farm now owned by Henry A. Cress comprises a valuable tract of land of four hundred and

forty acres, all in one body, about a mile from Hillsboro. He carries on general farming, feeds both cattle and hogs and engages in the dairy business, having a herd of Hereford cattle for that purpose. The various branches of his business have brought to him a good income and his life of intense and well directed activity has made him one of the representative agriculturists of his community. He is a director of the Hillsboro Farmers' Insurance Company. He has held the office of school director for fifteen years, has been highway commissioner, and in politics is a Democrat. Mr. Cress is widely and favorably known in the county where his entire life has been passed and his strength of purpose and unfaltering diligence in his business interests have been notable elements in his career.

JAMES S. BONE.

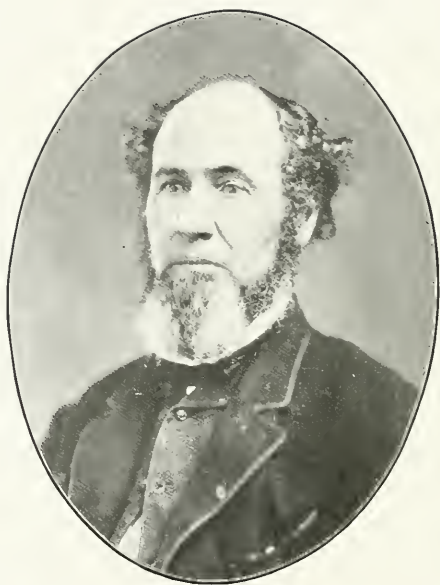
James S. Bone is numbered among the pioneer settlers and honored dead whose life work proved a benefit to his community through the practical assistance which he rendered in promoting the upbuilding and progress of his community during the long years of his residence in Montgomery county. He was born in Lebanon, Ohio, September 19, 1815, his parents being David and Prudence Bone. The father was a farmer and lawyer, following his profession with success and at the same time carrying on agricultural interests. He served his country as a soldier of the war of 1812. When the government became involved in military difficulties with Mexico he again offered his services and was commissioned colonel of an Ohio regiment in the Mexican war. He afterward exerted strong and beneficial influence in securing the passage of all the Mexican claims through congress in 1850 and 1853. In his family were thirteen children.

James S. Bone was reared in Ohio in the usual manner of farmer lads of that early period, the state presenting the same pioneer conditions which have always been features of the west in the early period of its colonization and improvement. He came to Illinois in 1864, bringing with him live stock and a wagon. Here

he engaged in farming and he also in 1867 built the Prairie House in Nokomis, which was destroyed by fire in 1881. He purchased four hundred acres of land on sections 20 and 21, Nokomis township, but later sold two hundred acres to Mr. Argo, and this is now known as the Casselberry place. When it came into Mr. Bone's possession it was all wild and unimproved. He purchased it of the Illinois Central Railroad Company for eight dollars per acre and with characteristic energy he began its development, making excellent improvements thereon.

In 1839 Mr. Bone was united in marriage to Miss Mary Jane Miller, a daughter of Henry and Catherine Miller, of Lebanon, Ohio. She died in 1852 and in 1854 he wedded Mary L. Ross, a daughter of Mathias Ross, who was chief clerk in the dead letter office at Washington through the administrations of Presidents Madison, Jackson, Van Buren and Harrison. He was a close and intimate friend of Thomas Corwin and was well known to prominent political leaders. He also served as collector of revenue in the war of 1812. Her grandfather, Colonel Benjamin Ross, commanded a regiment in the Revolutionary war and Mrs. Bone is now eligible to membership in the society known as Daughters of the American Revolution. She was born in Lebanon, Ohio, in 1815, was educated in Cincinnati, that state, and resided in Washington during her father's connection with official service there. During that time she attended many important receptions, balls and parties given by the leading members of the highest social circles of the city. She passed the eighty-ninth mile-stone on life's journey on the 10th of March, 1904, but she has not a gray hair—which has been a characteristic throughout her entire family—and only recently she has used glasses in reading. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Bone were born four children, two sons and two daughters. Alice P., the eldest, married Madison T. Stuckey, who was assessor and treasurer of St. Clair county, Illinois, and was president of the Electric Light Company, at the time of his death. They had one child that died in infancy; Virginia married Cassius Shotwell, who lives in Chicago, being connected with David Rutter, a coal dealer of that city. They

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JAMES S. BONE



MRS. JAMES S. BONE.

have four children, three sons and a daughter, one son being in St. Louis, Missouri, another in Pittsburg, while the third son and the daughter are at home in Chicago. David H. Bone, the third member of the family, resides in Nokomis and at one time was engaged as a hominy manufacturer of St. Louis, having a mill on Jefferson and Lucas streets. He married Laura Wickersham, who was born in St. Louis, and they have four children: Stewart, who is married and has been with the Missouri Pacific Railroad Company for fourteen years, being now chief clerk for that line at Seventh and Poplar streets in St. Louis; Austin B., who is in the cashier's office of the Illinois Central Railroad Company in Chicago, which position he has occupied for seven years; and Aline and Annie at home. David Bone is a member of the Odd Fellows' Society and is widely and favorably known in this county. William Bone, the youngest of the family, was deputy sheriff for four years and took an active interest in political affairs, being a recognized leader in the local ranks of the Democracy. He died at Kingman, Kansas, March 14, 1885, and was laid to rest in Prospect Hill cemetery at Nokomis.

James S. Bone gave his political allegiance to the Republican party after its formation and he served as president of the town board for eight years, being continued in the office by reelection, his supporters recognizing his capability and faithfulness in the position. He belonged to the Methodist church and he died in that faith in 1896, when in his eighty-first year. His was a long, useful and honorable life, characterized by upright principles, worthy motives and successful accomplishment and his memory is yet enshrined in the hearts of many who knew him in Montgomery county, while upon the pages of its history his name should be enduringly inscribed.

F. H. YOUNG.

F. H. Young, the owner of a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in East Fork township, was born near Donnellson, May 29, 1863, a son of William and Eva (Brown) Young.

He represents an old southern family, his father, William Young, having been born in Tennessee in October, 1810. In that state he was reared until the fall of 1832, when the family home was established near Donnellson, Montgomery county, Illinois. He followed the occupation of farming in Grisham township when that was a pioneer locality. Many of the hardships and trials incident to frontier life had to be met by him, but he possessed unfaltering courage and determination and persevered in his work until he became an extensive and prosperous farmer and stock-raiser. Hardly a furrow had been turned or an improvement made upon his land when it came into his possession, but he added modern equipments and in course of time the once wild land was made to yield to him good harvests. He owned about fourteen hundred acres of land. In politics he was a Democrat, active and influential in the ranks of his party, and about 1851 he served for one term as a member of the state legislature. His wife was born in North Carolina and in her early girlhood days was brought to Illinois, where she formed the acquaintance of Mr. Young, to whom she gave her hand in marriage. His death occurred on the 6th of May, 1900, but Mrs. Young is still living and now makes her home in Hillsboro. Few have a more intimate knowledge of the early history of the county than she, and many interesting incidents of pioneer life are related by her, giving one a true and faithful picture of conditions that existed at that early day.

F. H. Young was one of three children. He was reared upon the old home farm in Grisham township and attended the nearest district school, but while his educational privileges were not very great he was carefully trained to habits of industry and economy upon the home farm, and in the school of experience he has learned many valuable lessons through reading, observation and contact with men in business life. He continued to assist his father until twenty-three years of age and then began farming for himself in East Fork township upon land belonging to his father. He took up his abode upon his present home place in March, 1893, having here one hundred and

sixty acres given him by his father. He has made improvements from time to time here and now has a well-equipped farm, supplied with all modern accessories and conveniences which facilitate farm work and add to the productiveness of the place. He follows diversified farming, having rich fields of grain and good stock, and his energy and careful management are salient features in his success.

In December, 1886, Mr. Young was united in marriage to Miss Clara Edwards, a daughter of C. H. Edwards, of Grisham township. They now have three children: Jennie, Roger Howard and Randall, all at home. The parents hold membership in the Cumberland Presbyterian church of Coffeen and Mr. Young is identified with the Masonic and Knights of Pythias fraternities, the Modern Woodmen camp and the Royal Neighbors of America. He was made a Mason in 1900 in Mount Maria lodge, No. 51, of Hillsboro. In his political affiliations he does not consider himself bound by party ties but votes for the candidate whom he thinks best qualified for office. He has always been true to his honest convictions, straightforward in his relations with his fellow men and loyal in friendship and in citizenship.

WILLIAM CHRISTIE.

William Christie, the senior member of the firm of Christie & Laub, contractors and builders of Litchfield, was born in Truro, Nova Scotia, in 1858. The northern countries of America have furnished to the United States many bright and enterprising young men who have left their native land to enter the business circles of this country, with its more progressive methods, livelier competition and advancement more quickly secured. Among this number is Mr. Christie, who in early manhood sought wider fields in order to give full scope to his ambition and industry—his dominant qualities. He found the opportunity he sought in the freedom and appreciation of the growing western portion of this country. Though born across the border, he is thoroughly American in thought and feeling and is patriotic and

sincere in his love for the stars and stripes. His career is closely identified with the history of Litchfield, where he has acquired a comfortable competence and where he is now an honored and respected citizen.

Mr. Christie is a son of Robert and Harriet (Cox) Christie, both of whom were natives of Truro, Nova Scotia. The father was a farmer by occupation and owned three good tracts of land there. Both he and his wife held membership in the Presbyterian church, in which he filled several positions and in the work of which he took a very active and helpful part. His death occurred in 1890 as the result of an accident when he was sixty-five years of age, and his widow is still living in Nova Scotia. She is of English lineage, while her husband was of Scotch descent. In their family were six children: Nancy, the wife of John Miller, of Nova Scotia; George, a contractor, who is also operating a planing mill in Nova Scotia; William, of this review; Mattie and Henry, at home; and Charles, who is a railroad employe of Boston, Massachusetts.

William Christie acquired his education in the public schools of Nova Scotia, and when his attention was no longer claimed by his textbooks he learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed in his native land for a short time. In 1881, however, he came to Litchfield and worked on the Planet mill, erecting the building and placing the machinery. He was thus occupied for two years. On the expiration of that period he went to St. Louis and in 1889 he returned to Litchfield and began the business for himself as a contractor and builder. This he has followed with marked success and is now one of the leading representatives of his line in the city, employing a dozen workmen. In 1899 he formed a partnership with William Laub under the firm style of Christie & Laub. As a business man he has been conspicuous among his associates, not only for his success, but for his probity, fairness and honorable methods, and in everything he has undertaken he has been eminently practical.

In 1885 Mr. Christie was united in marriage to Miss Etura Wright, who was born in Montgomery county in 1859 and is a daughter of

Carroll Wright, who was a farmer by occupation and one of the earliest settlers of this portion of the state. Mr. and Mrs. Christie now have four children: Blanche, who is a member of the class of 1895 of the Litchfield high school; Hazel; Irene; and Charles. Mrs. Christie belongs to the Presbyterian church and Mr. Christie is connected with the Mutual Protective League, while he exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the Republican party. Time has proven the wisdom of his determination to come to the United States that he might enjoy its better business opportunities, for here his capability has found recognition and the good wages paid for labor have enabled him to advance to a position of affluence.

JUSTUS H. WARE.

There is no better proof of the desirability of Montgomery county as a place of residence or stronger indication of the fact that it affords excellent opportunities and advantages to its citizens than the fact that many of its native sons still reside within its borders. Of this class Justus H. Ware is a representative for his birth occurred July 11, 1834, upon the farm which is still his home and which had been entered from the government by his father, Benjamin Ware, in 1824. Benjamin Ware was born in Gilsun, New Hampshire, and when a young man left the old Granite state, going to New York. He afterward made his way westward to Indiana, settling near Vincennes and later he went to Missouri, where he met his older brother, Obediah. Afterward he proceeded on horseback to Montgomery county, in the spring of 1824 and secured from the government eighty acres of land in Butler Grove township. On March 12, 1828, he was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Slayback, who came to Montgomery county in an early day with her uncle, Israel Seward, removing to this locality from the vicinity of Hamilton, Ohio. She was born in Kentucky and by her marriage became the mother of two children, but the elder, Austin, is now deceased. For many years Benjamin Ware carried on agricultural pursuits upon

the old homestead and thereon he died, July 31, 1855, at the age of fifty-nine years. His wife long survived him and passed away April 2, 1883, at the age of seventy-eight years.

Justus H. Ware was twenty-one years of age at the time of his father's death and he then took charge of the home farm. He had previously attended school as opportunity afforded and he had been trained to the various duties and labors of the farm so that practical experience guided him as he undertook the task of managing the home property. His entire life of seventy years has been passed upon the farm where he was born. He owns one hundred and sixty acres of the original homestead, which was entered from the government by his father, and also has eighty acres of timber land. In fact his landed possessions now aggregate three hundred and sixty acres and the farm at the present time is managed by his son, Mr. Ware thus being relieved to a great extent of the labors and responsibilities incident thereto. His home is situated on section 15, Butler Grove township, about two miles north and one mile east of the village of Butler.

On the 26th of September, 1860, Mr. Ware was united in marriage to Miss Lucy A. Brigham, who came to Montgomery county as a school teacher from New Alstead, New Hampshire, where her birth occurred August 25, 1836. She is a daughter of Aaron and Susan (Proctor) Brigham, pioneers of that locality. To Mr. and Mrs. Ware were born four children: Mary Flora, born November 29, 1862, is at home; Carrie Susan, born May 5, 1861, died December 1, 1866; George Vincent, born September 25, 1867, is living on the home farm, and was married December 12, 1893, to Mamie Grace Bryce, a daughter of Robert and Sarah (McMurtry) Bryce; Amy Lillian, born April 24, 1873, was married October 10, 1900, to J. A. Bushy, who was born December 15, 1871, and they live in Litchfield. They have two children, Leland Ware, born November 24, 1901, and Evelyn, born April 17, 1904.

Mr. Ware gives his political allegiance to the Republican party, the principles of which he has long endorsed. He and his wife are connected with the Lutheran denomination as

members of Ware's Grove church and for several years he served as an elder in the church. He was also township supervisor for two years and takes an active and interested part in all that pertains to public progress and improvement here. Having spent his entire life in the county, he is deeply interested in its growth and development and feels a just pride in what has been accomplished as the years have gone by.

ALEXANDER A. CRESS.

Alexander A. Cress, well known as a real estate operator of Hillsboro, whose developing business has led to substantial success, resulting from enterprising methods in keeping with the progressive spirit of the times, is a native son of Montgomery county. He was born about two and a half miles northwest of Hillsboro, December 2, 1849, and is of German ancestry. His father, Jacob Cress, was born in Indiana in 1818 and died July 1, 1903, at the advanced age of eighty-five years. He was brought to Montgomery county by his parents, Jacob and Catherine Cress, when but six weeks old, and they located about a mile west of Hillsboro, where the grandfather of our subject entered land, thus becoming the owner of several hundred acres. Jacob Cress, the father, was reared amid the wild scenes of frontier life, and he, too, became an agriculturist and accumulated large landed interests, but divided much of his property among his children prior to his death. He was a Democrat in his political views and was a member of the Lutheran church. He contributed in substantial manner to the upbuilding and improvement of the county, especially along agricultural lines, and took an abiding interest in whatever pertained to the welfare and substantial upbuilding of the community. He married Miss Helena Scherer, who was born in Virginia in 1818 and died on the 21st of March, 1902. Her parents were Daniel and Rachel Scherer. The former was a minister of the Lutheran church and in 1833 he removed to Montgomery county, locating in Hillsboro. He was one of the first ministers of his denomination in the state

of Illinois, organized the church in Hillsboro and became its first pastor. He was a circuit rider in the early days when preachers of the gospel traveled from place to place, and in this way he visited Kentucky. His political allegiance was given to the Whig party. He died at Mount Carmel, Illinois, having left the impress of his individuality upon the community in which he labored, while his efforts resulted in the moral development of the people. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Cress were born eleven children, of whom seven are yet living. They were as follows: Alexander A.; John M., deceased; Jacob D., a farmer of California; William S., who is living on the old homestead; Samuel E., a hardware merchant and banker of Sorento, Illinois; Benjamin L., who is deputy United States mineral surveyor of Red Cliff, Colorado; Sophia L., who is the wife of Dr. O. B. Blackman, of Dixon, Illinois; Joseph E., a farmer living in South Dakota; Thomas J., deceased; and two that died in infancy.

Alexander A. Cress supplemented his early educational advantages by study in the Hillsboro Academy, and when his school life was completed he engaged in clerking in the store of Davis & Marshall for two years. On the expiration of that period he purchased an interest in the store and the firm name was changed to Davis & Cress. This relationship was maintained for two years, when Mr. Cress sold out to his brother John, but later he returned to the store and there engaged as a clerk for some time. In 1871 he formed a partnership with W. H. Stoddard in the grocery business, in which he continued for three years. He then sold out to his partner and opened a grocery store on his own account, which he conducted for two years. After disposing of that store he was once more employed as a salesman and continued his connection with commercial pursuits in that way for eight years. In 1883 he went into the real estate business, and is now one of the leading representatives of this line of activity in Montgomery county. For the past eleven years his son, Edward A., has been associated with him in business and the firm has conducted many important real estate transfers and negotiated



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MR. AND MRS. JACOB CRESS, JR.

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large sales. Mr. Cress has a most accurate knowledge of realty values and property throughout the county, and has secured a good clientele, which has brought to him a very gratifying measure of prosperity.

Mr. Cress has been twice married. In 1865 he wedded Miss Sarah M. Bridge. She was born in Oregon, Illinois, and died June 18, 1882, at the age of fifty years, passing away in the faith of the Lutheran church, in which she held membership. Her father was a farmer by occupation and served his country as a soldier in the Civil war. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Cress were born four children. The third, Edward A., born December 16, 1870, in Hillsboro, attended the public schools of this city and afterward entered the law department of the Michigan State University at Ann Arbor, matriculating there in 1890. He had previously read law in the office of Lane & Cooper for two years, and in 1891 he was admitted to the bar. He entered upon the practice of his profession in Chicago, where he remained until the fall of 1893, when he then returned to Hillsboro, where he opened an office and has since engaged in the practice of law with excellent success. He was married in the fall of 1893 to Miss Jennie Linxwiler, a daughter of George W. Linxwiler, formerly a farmer and merchant of Hillsboro, but now a resident of California. Unto E. A. Cress and his wife have been born two daughters, Gertrude and Elizabeth. The parents are members of the Lutheran church and Mr. Cress is identified with the Knights of Pythias and several insurance fraternities. In politics he is a Democrat and at this writing in 1904 is filling the office of city attorney. In 1898 Alexander A. Cress was again married, his second union being with Augusta F. Lewey, a daughter of J. Bowers Lane, also a merchant and farmer of Fillmore, Illinois. She was born in Fillmore in 1856 and first married George Lewey, whose widow she was at the time she became the wife of Mr. Cress.

Our subject and his wife attend the Lutheran church and he is a Mason in his fraternal relations. Politically he is a Democrat and has served as a member of the city council, as a member of the school board and

as justice of the peace. Representing one of the oldest pioneer families of the county and having spent his entire life here, he is well known in his portion of the state and has been an interested witness of the growth and advancement that have here been made. To many measures instituted for the good of the county he has given hearty co-operation and support, and as a business man and citizen he is well worthy of mention in this volume.

W. H. WILEY.

W. H. Wiley is a representative of one of the old pioneer families of Montgomery county, and his father's farm, which was entered as a claim from the government, was his birthplace. He is a son of R. J. Wiley, who came from Kentucky to Illinois with his parents, James and Sarah (Mann) Wiley. They reached Montgomery county in 1827, and several brothers with their respective families came at the same time. R. J. Wiley, the father of our subject, was married in this county to Miss Catherine Dyer, and in 1850 he removed to the farm upon which his son W. H. Wiley was born. There he continued to carry on agricultural pursuits until his life's labors were ended in death on the 17th of October, 1862. His widow still survives him and is now the wife of David Ware, who is mentioned on another page of this volume.

W. H. Wiley is indebted to the public schools for the early educational privileges which he enjoyed, and later he attended the Hillsboro Academy. He afterward took charge of the farm for his mother. When seventeen years of age he began earning his living by working by the month as a farm hand, and he also attended school in the winter seasons. On attaining his majority he assumed the management of the old home place and continued there until 1903, when he came to the farm upon which he now resides. He owns one hundred and twenty acres of prairie land and twenty-seven acres of timber land on sections 25 and 26, Butler Grove township, not far from the city of Hillsboro. His diligence has been one of his strong characteristics and his unflinching energy

proves the basis of the desirable success which he has gained as the years have gone by.

On the 11th of February, 1875, Mr. Wiley was united in marriage to Miss Julia Robertson, and they have three children: Owen H., who is living on the homestead farm; Jessie, the wife of W. D. Lipe, of Litchfield; and Charles, who is also at home. Mr. Wiley is a Democrat and for eighteen years has served as school director. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church and to the Modern Woodman camp, and has a wide acquaintance in Montgomery county, where his circle of friends is continually growing, owing to his sincere interest in the welfare of his fellow men and his integrity in all business transactions.

JAMES P. BROWN.

James P. Brown, who in business affairs is energetic, prompt and notably reliable, has extended his efforts to several fields of commercial activity and has found in this the opportunity for the exercise of his business capacity, keen discrimination and enterprise. Through the years of his active career he has been watchful of all the details of his business and of all indications pointing toward prosperity and from the beginning has had an abiding faith in the ultimate success of his labors, but while he has gained prosperity he has also been a representative of that class of valued American citizens who promote the general good while advancing individual interests.

James P. Brown was born in Butler, Illinois, in 1866. His father, George W. Brown, Jr., was born in Hillsboro, Montgomery county, in 1819, and was a son of George W. Brown, Sr., a native of Virginia, who came to Montgomery county at a very early day, locating near Hillsboro. He was a farmer by occupation and upon the old family homestead his son and namesake was reared. The latter is mentioned at length on another page of this volume. He is still living at Butler, where he is engaged in merchandising and in the grain trade. In Masonry he has attained the Royal Arch degree and is a worthy exemplar of that fraternity. In his political views he is a Democrat, has

served as justice of the peace and has held other positions in this village, including that of postmaster. He owns the old homestead farm near Butler, and has been engaged in business in that locality since 1866 and through the careful conduct of his business affairs he has won a competence that classes him with the most substantial citizens of his community. He was married in early manhood to Miss Henrietta M. Judson, who was born in Middletown, New Jersey, in 1851. Her father was James P. Judson, a native of that state who removed to St. Louis, Missouri, at an early day and prior to the Civil war settled in Houston, Texas, where he engaged in the manufacture of carriages. His death there occurred. His wife, Mrs. Elizabeth Judson, was a native of New York. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Brown were born six children: James P., of this review; Winnie P., the wife of W. A. White, a merchant of Hillsboro; Charles J., who is engaged in merchandising in Weatherford, Oklahoma; Frank H., who is conducting an implement business and carriage repository at Hillsboro; Louis S., a practicing physician and surgeon of St. Louis, Missouri; and Roland O., who is with his father in business at Butler.

In taking up the personal history of James P. Brown we present to our readers the life record of one who is widely and favorably known in Hillsboro and throughout Montgomery county. He continued his education in the schools of Butler until he had completed the high school course and he afterward attended the state high school at Normal, Illinois. On putting aside his text books he entered the office of the county clerk, serving as deputy. There he remained for two years, after which he went to Butler and entered his father's store, assisting in the business there until 1889. In that year Mr. Brown went to California and to Oregon, spending three years on the Pacific coast, during which time he was engaged in the hardware business. In 1894 they purchased the stock of the McHenry Hardware Company at Hillsboro and have been conducting the business continuously since. This is now one of the largest hardware stores in this part of the county and the firm also carries on an extensive implement business, which is in charge of

the brother Frank. The firm of George W. Brown, Jr., is a large one, carrying a stock valued at twenty thousand dollars, and the annual sales reach the sum of one hundred thousand dollars. When the Brown Brothers took charge of this enterprise in Hillsboro they had comparatively small mercantile interests, but by their efforts and superior business tact and judgment they have developed splendid commercial enterprises and the hardware business is second to none in this portion of the state. James P. Brown is also president of the Hillsboro Electric Light & Power Company, is a stockholder of the Hillsboro Hotel Company and also of the Kortkamp Town Site Company.

In 1895 Mr. Brown was united in marriage to Miss Kitty C. Clotfelter, a daughter of James W. and Dorcas Clotfelter. She was born near Hillsboro in 1871 and is a graduate of the high school of Hillsboro and of the Jacksonville Female Academy. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Brown have been born three children: Kathryn D., Marcia Judson, deceased; and Patricia.

Mr. Brown is a member of the Masonic fraternity, in which he has attained the Knight Templar degree and he is familiar with the teachings and tenets of the craft. In politics he is a Democrat. Mr. Brown has made good use of his opportunities, he has prospered from year to year, and has conducted all business matters carefully and successfully, and in all his acts displays an aptitude for successful management. He has not permitted the accumulation of a competence to affect in any way his actions toward those less successful than he, and has always a cheerful word and pleasant smile for all with whom he comes in contact.

To the public-school system of his native town Frank H. Brown is indebted for the educational privileges which he enjoyed in his youth and when his school life was completed he worked upon a farm for three or four years. Subsequently he engaged in clerking in his father's store in Butler for two or three years and then in 1891 came to Hillsboro, where his father purchased the stock of the McHenry Hardware Company. In 1898 he purchased the Paden & Wilson stock of farm implements, machinery, buggies, etc., on South Main street. Frank Brown and his brother were placed in charge of both concerns and continued the implement business at the original location until 1900, when the father purchased the J. R. Challacombe stock of farm implements. In the same year most of the Challacombe stock was sold to M. L. Robertson, and Frank Brown removed the stock of farm machinery into the Brewer building, formerly occupied by Mr. Challacombe. There he is now conducting a successful business, while his brother has charge of the hardware business.

In 1898 occurred the marriage of Mr. Brown and Miss Emma Fields, a daughter of Dr. S. and Louisa Fields. They have two children: Beatrice and Don. Mr. Brown is a Mason and is connected with the Knights of Pythias fraternity and in social circles he has won many friends. He is a young man of notable energy and strong determination, forms his plans readily and is determined in their execution. He represents a family closely and actively associated with commercial development in Montgomery county and his own life record is a most creditable one.

FRANK HAROLD BROWN.

Associated in business with his brother, James P. Brown, in Hillsboro and one of the most enterprising young business men of the city, Frank Harold Brown was born in Butler, August 31, 1872. A sketch of his father, George W. Brown, Jr., who has long figured in public life and business circles of Montgomery county, is given on another page of this work.

JOHN M. CLOTFELTER.

John M. Clotfelter, interested in all matters of citizenship affecting the welfare and progress of Hillsboro and Montgomery county, is now serving for the fourth term as a member of the board of supervisors. He is, moreover, identified with commercial interests of his city, conducting a grocery store with good success. A native son of Hillsboro, he was born in 1859 and is a son of William S. and Susan B.

(Scherer) Clotfelter. The father, who was born in North Carolina, came to Montgomery county with his parents in 1833, settling in Hillsboro. The journey was made through Missouri by team. There were five brothers who came at that time: Lee, Amos L., William S., D. Stokes and James W. All became substantial citizens, being good business men displaying careful management and executive ability. The last named, however, is the only one now living. William S. Clotfelter was a farmer by occupation and also conducted a sawmill and the careful management of his business interests enabled him to accumulate considerable property. He was a Republican in his political affiliations and though he kept well informed on the questions and issues of the day he never sought or desired public office. His death occurred in May, 1890. His wife was a daughter of the Rev. Daniel Scherer, one of the first Lutheran ministers of Montgomery county and in that church she held membership. She died in 1896, at the age of seventy-six years. They were the parents of eleven children, as follows: Louise, who became the wife of William Boeger and resides in Hillsboro; Jennie, who is the wife of Frank Cress living a mile and a half northwest of Hillsboro on the old homestead; Emma; Ida, who is the widow of Thomas Martin and lives in Hillsboro; Ella, the deceased wife of E. L. Waggoner; William H., who also resides in Hillsboro; John M.; James E., who is living in St. Louis, Missouri; Charles, who makes his home in Los Angeles, California; Frank, of Hillsboro; and one that died in infancy.

In the public schools of his native city John M. Clotfelter acquired his education and when it was completed he secured a position as clerk in a grocery store, where he was employed until 1887. He then became a representative of mercantile interests in Hillsboro as a member of the firm of Keath & Clotfelter, grocers, and in 1889 he purchased his partner's interests and has since been alone in business, conducting a good store on South Main street.

In 1894 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Clotfelter and Miss Ethel Nelson, a daughter of Samuel Nelson, of Hillsboro. Her father was a miller and came to this city about the

time of the Civil war. He is still living in Hillsboro. Mrs. Clotfelter was born in this city in 1872, was a member of the Methodist church and died in that faith in 1895, her death being deeply regretted by many friends. Mr. Clotfelter is a member of the Maccabees and of the Commercial Club. His political views are in accord with the principles of the Republican party and in 1897 he was elected upon that ticket to represent Hillsboro township on the board of supervisors, in which he is now serving for the fourth term. As a public official he is reliable, having the best interests of the community at heart and his labors in behalf of the county have been of a practical, beneficial nature.

CYRUS FITZJERRELL

Cyrus Fitzjerrell, whose activity in business affairs has resulted in the acquirement of a handsome competence, is now engaged in buying and shipping stock at Raymond, and the volume of his business insures him a good annual income. He was born in Jersey county, Illinois, November 6, 1846, and is a son of Judge William Fitzjerrell, whose birth occurred in Ohio on the 3d of October, 1815. Eli Fitzjerrell, the paternal grandfather of our subject, was a native of New Jersey, and was of Scotch-Irish descent, his ancestors having located in New Jersey during the colonial epoch in our country's history. Eli Fitzjerrell came to Illinois in 1830, settling in Macoupin county and there his son, Judge William Fitzjerrell, was reared to manhood and as a companion and helpmate on life's journey he chose Miss Elizabeth Courtney, who was born in Madison county, Illinois. They removed to Montgomery county in 1856, locating in Zanesville township, where Judge Fitzjerrell opened up a tract of land and improved an excellent farm, carrying on agricultural pursuits with success for many years. Upon that place he reared his family and spent many years, but his last days were passed in Raymond in honorable retirement from labor. He died there May 7, 1900, while his wife passed away February 14, 1883. He had been active and influential in com-

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MR. AND MRS. CYRUS FITZJERRELL



MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM FITZJERRELL

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munity affairs and his labors proved of benefit to the locality. He was one of the associate judges of the county and served in other local offices, discharging his duties so promptly and capably that no word of condemnation was ever uttered against his official career. In his family were three sons and three daughters, of whom two sons and two daughters are yet living.

Cyrus Fitzjerrell was reared in Zanesville township upon the old home farm and assisted in its operation, working in field and meadow as soon as his age and strength permitted. He attended the common schools to some extent, but is largely self-educated, adding to his knowledge through reading, observation and experience since attaining adult age. He was married in Zanesville township, September 12, 1867, to Miss Eliza A. Greenwood, a native of Kentucky and a daughter of Joseph Greenwood, who removed from the Blue Grass state to Illinois, becoming one of the early residents of Macoupin county, where Mrs. Fitzjerrell was reared and educated. The young couple began their domestic life upon the old home farm, Mr. Fitzjerrell succeeding to the ownership of a valuable tract of four hundred acres. He built a good residence, added other buildings, kept everything about his place in neat repair and in addition to the cultivation of the cereals best adapted to soil and climate he also engaged in the raising and feeding of stock, continuing in this business until 1903. He then placed the farm in charge of his son and removed to Raymond, where he is now engaged in the buying and shipping of stock. He has followed this business for many years and makes weekly shipments of both cattle and hogs, sending out about one hundred earloads annually. His business has now reached extensive proportions and because of his correct estimate of the value of the stock he is enabled to make judicious purchases and profitable sales. Mr. Fitzjerrell is also financially interested in the Raymond National Bank, which he assisted in organizing and of which he is now a director and vice president.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Fitzjerrell has been blessed with three children: Etta, now the wife of Dr. W. F. Waggoner, a physician of Carrollton, Illinois; Harry B., who is married

and was a medical student in the Northwestern University at Chicago, completing his course with the class of June, 1904; and William Ross, who is married and operates the home farm. They also lost two sons in infancy, Frankie and Cyrus Newton.

Politically Mr. Fitzjerrell is a staunch Democrat and in Zanesville township he was elected for two terms to represent his district on the county board of supervisors. He has been a delegate to numerous conventions of his party and earnestly desires Democratic success, doing all in his power to secure the growth of the party organization. Fraternally he is a Master Mason. His standing in the county is that of an honorable, enterprising business man and reliable citizen, and in the control of his private interests he has won both prosperity and an honored name.

CHARLES L. BROWN.

Charles L. Brown, who is engaged in the cultivation of one hundred and thirty acres of land on section 29, Witt township, about one-half of which he owns, was born one mile east of his present place of residence on the 14th of January, 1870, his parents being Thomas J. and Virginia E. (McCamant) Brown, who were also natives of Illinois. The father, born in Montgomery county, June 7, 1843, and carried on farming until 1902, but is now living in Litchfield. The mother, who was born in Fulton county in 1847, died in 1872. Her parents were natives of West Virginia and came to Illinois in the early '40s. Our subject's paternal grandparents were born in Tennessee and removed to this state in 1830. The grandfather, who was a farmer by occupation, died in 1846 at the age of forty-four years, and the grandmother passed away in 1889 at the age of seventy-nine.

At the usual age Charles L. Brown began his education, attending Starr school, in Witt township, district 23. In the summer months he worked in the fields and enjoyed the sports in which farmer lads usually indulged. He remained at home until twenty-six years of age and then started out in life on his own

account. He had no assistance, but has become the owner of a neat little farm of sixty acres, which is well improved with good buildings and an orchard and which represents an industrious career. He is farming one hundred and thirty acres, and all of the land is now highly cultivated and returns to him good crops.

On the 21st of April, 1896, Mr. Brown was united in marriage to Miss Anna M. Hoehn, who was born in Clinton county, Illinois, February 14, 1873, a daughter of Andrew and Bertha (Oferle) Hoehn, of Witt township, who are natives of Germany and came to Montgomery county in 1875. The father is here engaged in farming. Three children have been born unto Mr. and Mrs. Brown, two sons and a daughter: Walter T., seven years of age; Celia B., a little maiden of five years; and Ray A., a lad of two summers. The parents are communicants of the Catholic church. Mr. Brown served as a member of the school board for four years and in his political views is a Democrat. He has a wide acquaintance in the county which has always been his home and has gained the warm friendship of many with whom he has been brought in contact.

CONRAD WIEGAND.

No country has furnished a more desirable class of citizens to America than has Germany. The sons of the fatherland are usually men of enterprise, capable in business, reliable in citizenship and with strong home-loving tendencies. Mr. Wiegand represents this class. He was born in Saxony, Germany, February 15, 1842, a son of Daniel and Elizabeth Wiegand, who came to America when he was nine years of age. They took passage on a westward bound sailing vessel, which was three weeks in making the trip and then dropped anchor in the harbor of New York. They did not tarry long in the eastern metropolis, however, but went at once to Butler county, Pennsylvania, where they resided upon a farm. There the father died when his son Conrad was but thirteen years of age and the subject of this review soon afterward started out in life on his own

account. He secured employment on a steamboat sailing from Louisville, Kentucky, to New Orleans and was thus employed between the ages of thirteen and nineteen years. When the Civil war broke out he was in the latter city, but he managed to make his way to Indiana. He had watched with interest the progress of events and being in entire sympathy with the Union cause he enlisted as a member of Company 1, Thirtieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, joining the regiment at New Albany. After two months there passed the command proceeded to Richmond, and at a mountain pass in West Virginia he and fifteen comrades were captured. They were then taken to Libby prison, where they were incarcerated for nine months and were then transferred to Tuscaloosa, Alabama, where they remained for three months and were then paroled. Mr. Wiegand started to return, but he proceeded only as far as Raleigh, when he was again captured and was imprisoned in Salisbury, North Carolina, where he remained for three months and was then exchanged. He was sent to Governor's Island and thence went home on a furlough. Later he went to Columbus, Ohio, where in September, 1862, he enlisted in the Tenth Ohio Cavalry and served until the close of the war. He was in the battle of Chickamauga, one of the most hotly contested engagements, and was also with Sherman on the celebrated march to the sea. He served throughout the entire period of hostilities as a private and although he was frequently in the thickest of the fight he was never wounded, notwithstanding the fact that he had three horses shot from under him. Brave and loyal, he never faltered in the performance of his duty, but was ever true to the old flag and the cause it represented.

Not long after the war Mr. Wiegand went to Belleville, where he worked in the coal mines for two years. On the expiration of that period he came to Montgomery county, where he began renting land and in 1883 with the capital he had acquired through his own labor he purchased forty acres, where he now resides. To this he has since added as his financial resources have given him opportunity until now he owns two hundred and ninety-nine acres lying in Hillsboro and in Grisham township.

The home farm comprises one hundred and ninety-nine acres on sections 10 and 3, Grisham township, and is a valuable property with well tilled fields, in which he uses the latest improved machinery, with rich meadow lands, good buildings and, in fact, all modern equipments and accessories such as are found upon the model farm of the twentieth century.

In June, 1876, Mr. Wiegand was united in marriage to Miss Caroline Kala and their union has been blessed with five children, three daughters and two sons: Mary, who is now the wife of Henry Niemann; Annie, the wife of John Boget; Sophia, the wife of Walter Bohe; George, who is at home engaged in general farming; and Theodore, who died at the age of six years and was buried in Waveland cemetery. The parents are members of the German Lutheran church and Mr. Wiegand gives his political support to the Republican party. He displays in his life many of the sterling characteristics of his German ancestry, but he is thoroughly American in thought and spirit and in matters of citizenship, too, he is as true and loyal to-day as when he followed the old flag upon the battle-fields of the south.

WILLIAM C. SMITH.

William C. Smith, a general farmer and stock-raiser of Raymond township, was born in Sangamon county, Illinois, not far from the village of Raymond, May 17, 1865. His father, William Smith, was born in Germany and came to the United States when a lad of fourteen years. He made his way direct to Illinois and afterward worked by the month near St. Louis. Subsequently he took up his abode in Sangamon county, where he attained his majority and was married, the lady of his choice being Miss Hannah Schelpe, a native of Germany. A farmer by occupation, the father carried on general agricultural pursuits in Sangamon county for a few years, during which time two children were added to the household. About 1870 he removed to Montgomery county, settling in Raymond township, where he opened up a farm upon which he reared his family. For many years he continued actively in ag-

ricultural life, and as the result of his persistent labor and careful management he accumulated a handsome competence that now enables him to live retired. He is a resident of Harvel at this writing, occupying a nice home there. Into him and his wife were born eight sons and seven daughters, all of whom reached years of maturity and the sons and six of the daughters are married.

William C. Smith spent his boyhood days on his father's farm in Raymond township and attended the public schools, acquiring a fair English education, which qualified him to meet the practical and responsible duties of business life. During the months of vacation he assisted his father in the farm work and continued to give him the benefit of his services until he had attained his majority and was married. In 1885 he was joined in wedlock to Miss Sophia Welge, a native of Montgomery county, who spent her entire life here, passing away on the 6th of February, 1893. She left three children: Erna Louise, Anna and Estella. The first two are at home with their father and the youngest daughter is now living with her maternal grandmother. On the 11th of March, 1896, in Butler Grove township, Mr. Smith was again married, his second union being with Miss Minnie Rieke, a native of Butler Grove township and a daughter of William Rieke, who was born in Germany and became one of the early residents of Montgomery county. By the second marriage there are two children, Johnnie and Roscoe.

After his first marriage Mr. Smith began farming in Raymond township, commencing with one hundred and twenty acres of land, which he continued to cultivate for several years. He afterward operated the old family homestead for four years and in January, 1891, he purchased his present property and took up his abode thereon. It is a farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 25, Raymond township. He has since rebuilt and remodeled the house, has fenced the place and made many substantial improvements, including the planting of a good orchard. His farm is now well improved, constituting a desirable property, but when it came into his possession it was much run down and the buildings were all in poor

repair. He has worked earnestly and energetically to bring about this transformation which has since occurred.

Politically Mr. Smith is an earnest Democrat, keeping well informed on the questions and issues of the day, but giving his time and attention principally to the business affairs. He has held no public office save that of school director. He and his wife are members of the Lutheran church and were reared in that faith. Mr. Smith also belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp and is well known to his brethren of that fraternity. He is classed with the industrious, frugal, careful and successful farmers and he keeps everything about his place in excellent condition and the neat appearance of his buildings and the highly cultivated fields indicate his enterprise. He is a man of good habits, thoroughly reliable in business transactions and honorable in all his relations with his fellow men and his upright character has gained him favorable acquaintance.

GEORGE S. WILSON, M. D.

Dr. George S. Wilson, whose successful career as a member of the medical fraternity is the direct result of careful preparation and conscientious purposes combined with a thorough and comprehensive knowledge of the principles of medicine and a humanitarian devotion to the needs of his patients, is also well known in Nokomis and Montgomery county as a successful investor in mining and oil stocks. He has, moreover, an agreeable manner, an unflinching courtesy and a kindly disposition that render him popular with all and the circle of his friendship is continually broadening.

Dr. Wilson was born in Richmond, Jefferson county, Ohio, on the 31st of January, 1865, his parents being John T. and Susan (Graden) Wilson. His paternal grandfather, a native of Ireland, came to America in 1812 and it is supposed that the great-grandfather in the paternal line was killed in the second war with England. He left landed estate in County Down, Ireland. The grandfather, John Wilson, was united in marriage to a daughter of Peter Taylor, of County Down, Ireland, and

her death occurred in 1872, when she had reached the advanced age of eighty-six years.

Their son, John T. Wilson, was born November 2, 1825, and after arriving at years of maturity he followed farming in Jefferson county, Ohio, where he owned one hundred and twenty acres of land in the vicinity of Richmond. This property was later sold to a sister of our subject. John T. Wilson was united in marriage to Miss Susan Graden, whose birth occurred in 1834. She lost her mother during her early girlhood and when but twelve years of age was left an orphan by the death of her father, who died near Germano in Jefferson county, Ohio, in 1846. Of her brothers, Aleck and John Graden died in Nokomis. James Graden was a congressman of the state of Washington. He was very prominent and influential in the northwest and he laid out the town of Walla Walla. Jacob Graden now resides in Kansas City, while Thomas is a sheep man of the west and both are wealthy. For many years John T. and Susan (Graden) Wilson traveled life's journey together and they were separated by death for only a brief period, the father dying on the 7th day of March, 1903, while the mother passed away on the 14th of April, of the same year. They were laid to rest in Ohio near the old home where they had so long lived. Both were consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Wilson was a Republican in his political views. They were the parents of six children, of whom Dr. Wilson is the fifth in order of birth. Thomas A., the eldest, was married to Mandane Anderson and resides in Nokomis. Mary Jane died at the age of nineteen years. Maggie A. became the wife of John Ramsey, who died in 1890, and his widow now resides upon the old Wilson homestead in Jefferson county, Ohio. James E. is a carpenter and mechanical engineer of Nokomis. John W., the youngest of the family, married Amy Sutton and resides in Carroll county, Ohio, where he follows farming and is also serving as a justice of the peace.

Dr. Wilson acquired his early education in the district schools of Jefferson county, Ohio, and afterward attended Richmond College in his native town, from which institution he



DR. G. S. WILSON

was graduated on the completion of a commercial course. It was his intention, however, to prepare for the practice of medicine and soon afterward he entered upon a course of lectures in the Columbus Medical College and was graduated on the 2d of March, 1892, from this institution. He is an alumnus of the Starling Medical College of Columbus, one of the oldest medical colleges of the state, its existence covering more than sixty years. He practiced medicine during the summer of 1892 and then matriculated in the Medical College of Indiana, now connected with the University of Indianapolis. He was graduated from that institution on the 30th of March, 1893. He took his final examinations on the 28th of that month and began practice two days later at Rosemond, Illinois, where he remained until June 14, 1899, when he removed to Nokomis, where he still resides, having gained here a large and lucrative practice. He belongs to the Central Illinois Medical Society, and in addition to the work of a general practitioner he has his full share of consultation work and is examiner for various life insurance companies, including the New York Mutual, the Home of New York, the John Hancock and the Bankers' Life. He is also examiner for the Modern Woodmen Camp, the Court of Honor and the Loyal Circle. He has a splendidly equipped office and possesses the only static electricity and X-ray machine in Nokomis and, in fact, was the first one to introduce the improved helps to the medical profession in Montgomery county. He also has a special nebulizer, with which he treats the nose and ear. His practice has been attended with a creditable measure of success and his fellow practitioners as well as the public accord him high rank as a representative of the medical fraternity of Montgomery county. He belongs to the Central Illinois Medical Fraternity of Montgomery county. He belongs to the Central Illinois Medical Society and is also a fellow of the Sydenham Society, an association formed in the College of Indiana.

As Dr. Wilson has prospered in his practice and his financial resources have been thereby increased, he has made judicious investment and is now the treasurer of the Keystone Min-

ing & Milling Company of Decatur, owning mining property in New Mexico. There are only ten men interested in this enterprise and thus the profits are proportionately greater than in the companies where there are many stockholders. Dr. Wilson is also a director in the Bradshaw Copper Company, of Arizona, and is the president of the Nokomis Crude Oil Company, having property in Kansas, which the company is now developing.

EDWARD B. HESS.

Much of the surface land of Montgomery county is underlaid with rich coal deposits and the development of the coal fields has become an important source of revenue in this part of the state. Mr. Hess, as manager of the Montgomery Coal Company, is well known in business circles and his position is a responsible and important one. He was born in Macoupin county, Illinois, July 28, 1867, his parents being Samuel S. and Susan (Doty) Hess, both of whom were natives of this state. In 1868 they located in Christian county near Morrisonville, where the father engaged in farming for some time and where he and his wife now live.

Edward B. Hess is indebted to the public-school system of Morrisonville for the educational privileges which he enjoyed. At the age of twenty-one years he started out as an engineer and in 1895 he came to Witt township, Montgomery county, where he accepted a position as engineer with the Montgomery Coal Company. In 1896 he became a stockholder in the coal company and has been its secretary since July, 1897. Throughout this period he has also been manager and the successful conduct of the business is largely attributable to his efforts, his practical knowledge of the best methods of mining coal and of placing the product on the market. He is also a stockholder in the Hillsboro Electric Light Company.

On the 5th of June, 1900, Mr. Hess was united in marriage to Miss Annie Paisley, a daughter of G. W. Paisley, who is represented elsewhere in this work. Her death occurred June 5, 1901, and was deeply regretted through-

out the community, for she had many warm friends. Mr. Hess belongs to Twin City lodge, No. 622, K. P., and he attends the Presbyterian church. His political support is given to the Democracy.

Fred S. Hess, brother of Edward B. Hess, serving as weighmaster for the Montgomery Coal Company, was born in Morrisonville, Illinois, December 16, 1878, and also attended the schools there. He spent one year as a janitor in Oak Park, Illinois, and in 1899 he came to Paisley, where he has since been weighmaster with the Montgomery Coal Company. He was married December 16, 1901, to Bessie McBride, a daughter of Richard McBride, of Morrisonville, and the brothers reside together. Fred Hess is also connected with Twin City lodge, No. 622, K. P., and his political allegiance is given to the Democracy. The brothers are well known young business men of Paisley and are making steady and substantial advance in industrial circles.

WILLIAM AULT.

William Ault, now deceased, was a respected farmer of Montgomery county, whose entire life was actuated by honorable principles as manifested by his fidelity in citizenship, his trustworthiness in business relations, his faithfulness in friendship and in his devotion to his family.

Mr. Ault was born in Hardy county, West Virginia, in 1840, and there spent the days of his boyhood and youth. He remained at home until after the inauguration of the Civil war, when in 1862, prompted by a spirit of loyalty to the Union, he enlisted as a member of Company B, First Regiment, P. H. B., Maryland Cavalry, with which he served for three years, lacking two months. He participated in the siege of Petersburg and carried dispatches to Williamsport during that battle. At the battle of Chancellorsville he and a comrade were sent out as spies to investigate the position and strength of Stonewall Jackson's forces, and in returning he was captured by Union soldiers who believed him to be a Rebel spy and put a rope

around his neck, intending to hang him, but just at the last moment his life was saved by a Union officer. He was a brave and intrepid soldier, often found in the thickest of the fight in many hard fought battles, and at the close of the war was honorably discharged with the rank of corporal.

Following the close of hostilities Mr. Ault spent a year in Ohio and then came to Montgomery county, Illinois, where he continued to reside until called to his final rest. He was married here on the 20th of September, 1875, to Miss Mary Corlew, a daughter of Rev. William H. Corlew, who was born in Illinois, and was brought to Montgomery county by his father, Philip Corlew, who was one of the earliest of the pioneer settlers. William H. Corlew became a minister of the Baptist church and engaged in preaching the gospel for many years. He was also a prominent man in public affairs and for a long period served as justice of the peace, his decisions being strictly fair and impartial. He was always true to every trust and his high moral worth and his active interest in the welfare of his fellow men made him a valued and highly respected citizen. He married Eliza A. Black and they became the parents of seven children: Henrietta, the wife of B. Kessinger, of Kansas; Martha, deceased wife of James Sims; Mrs. Ault; Amanda, deceased; Eliza and Lucy, who are living in Colorado; and Lottie, the wife of Addison Applegate, who is residing upon the old home farm of the family. Rev. Corlew, who was born in 1819, died March 3, 1897, and his wife, whose birth occurred in Illinois, January 12, 1824, passed away on the 11th of April, 1904. Like her husband she was a most consistent Christian. In early life she joined the Christian church and her religious faith was manifested in her kind and generous spirit and many deeds of helpfulness and of mercy. On the 5th of February, 1846, she gave her hand in marriage to Rev. Corlew and was thereafter a most devoted companion and helpmate to him on the journey of life.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Ault was blessed with six children; Annie, who died at the age of two years; Daisy, who died in childhood; Maggie and Retta, who are engaged in teaching

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM AULT



MR. AND MRS. W. H. CORLEW

school; Verna and Vena, who are attending school in Charleston, Illinois.

At the time of his marriage Mr. Ault took his bride to his farm and continued to engage in agricultural pursuits until his labors were ended in death. He was very practical as well as progressive in his farm work and as the years passed accumulated a handsome competence, leaving at the time of his death three hundred and twenty acres of land, to which his wife has since added by purchase a tract of eight acres, so that she now has four hundred acres, six miles southwest of Hillsboro. She superintends this place and displays excellent business ability thereby. On the 2nd day of June, 1896, Mr. Ault was driving a team of mules and leading another from the field where he had been working, when death came to him. His team continued on to the barnyard gate and there stopped, and soon afterward Mr. Ault was discovered by his little daughter. He had previously suffered from heart trouble, which was undoubtedly the cause of his death. He had been a member of the Masonic fraternity and in politics was a stalwart Republican, giving unfaltering support to the principles of the party. He held membership in the Methodist church, to which his widow belongs, and his life was actuated by high principles and honorable motives.

HUMPHREY H. HOOD, M. D.

Dr. Humphrey Hughes Hood, fourth of the ten children of Lambert and Sarah (Hughes) Hood, was born September 19, 1823, in Philadelphia, of which city his father's family had been residents for four preceding generations. His mother was of Welsh nativity, coming with her parents to this country in early childhood.

In 1837 the family removed to Alton, Illinois, and afterward to Otter Creek Prairie, then in Greene, now in Jersey county. Their stay in the west was only for about eighteen months, at the end of which time they returned to Philadelphia. In 1848, after reading with a tutor, Dr. Hood entered Jefferson Medical College, of Philadelphia, and was graduated in the spring of 1851. The following autumn

found him in Jersey county, Illinois, where he had lived a short time during his boyhood. In the summer of 1854 he removed to the new town of Litchfield, which had been laid out the preceding autumn, where he engaged in the practice of his profession, and, excepting one year's residence in Taylorville, remained a resident there until his death.

In June, 1855, he was married to Miss Matilda Woodhouse Jackson, eldest daughter of Mr. Charles S. Jackson, of Jerseyville. Five children were born of this union, of whom three survive: George Perry Hood, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and Misses Sarah Frances Hood and Annie Hughes Hood, of Litchfield. Dr. Hood became a widower January 2, 1867, and in July, 1869, was married to Mrs. Abigail Elvira Paden, daughter of the late Mr. Joseph Torrey, of Springfield. Their children, both living, are: Harold Hood, of Litchfield; and Mrs. Louise Rahmeyer, of Manila, Philippine Islands.

In September, 1862, Dr. Hood entered the army with the appointment of assistant surgeon of the One Hundred and Seventeenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and after one year was appointed surgeon of the Third United States Heavy Artillery, with headquarters at Fort Pickering, Memphis, Tennessee, holding that position during the three remaining years of his service, a part of which time he was also on the staff of General John E. Smith as surgeon-in-chief of the district of west Tennessee, see.

When a boy, during his short residence in and near Alton, in 1837 and 1838, his attention was first drawn to the subject of American slavery by the action of the pro-slavery mobs that destroyed the presses of the Alton Observer and finally murdered its anti-slavery editor, the Rev. Elijah Lovejoy. Dr. Hood was relating the story of the incidents of this outrage to some friends at a little social gathering and made mention of his coming up the river on a steamer from St. Louis to Alton and overhearing a portion of a conversation by some of these depredators. This was a short time previous to the occurrence of the outrage, but not enough was gathered of a nature sufficiently tangible to cause him to take prior action

against the parties to the crime. These outrages, committed with impunity, together with the bitterly proscriptive and murderous spirit exhibited by many people toward those who condemned them, made the subject of this sketch an abolitionist for life. He, however, before the Civil war, never favored any federal interference with slavery in the states where it existed, he did believe that its introduction into the territories should be forbidden and that no more slave states should be admitted into the Union. He identified himself with the Free-soil party, whose platform enunciated these views and whose battle cry was, "Free soil, free speech, free press, free labor and free men." He followed that party in 1856, when it was merged into the newly organized Republican party. He voted for the Republican nominees at every presidential election from 1856 to 1900, inclusive.

Dr. Hood was never a seeker after public position, but, nevertheless, was not infrequently chosen for office. He was three times elected an alderman of the city of Litchfield and once supervisor of North Litchfield township. He served many years as a member of the Litchfield board of education, and for much of that time was its secretary. In 1884 he was elected as the Republican minority representative for the legislative district composed of Christian and Montgomery counties, in the general assembly, and was one of the memorable One Hundred and Three by whose votes John A. Logan was, for the last time, returned to the United States senate. His official duties in every case were discharged with the most scrupulous and careful consideration for the interests of his constituents and the people of the state. The same adherence to his convictions of duty and a close observance of the golden rule in his business and social relations, together with a warm fidelity to the interests of his friends, characterized his conduct in private life.

Dr. Hood was from childhood a regular attendant upon religious services, and after his removal to Illinois, in 1852, upon those of the Presbyterian church, to the support of which he freely contributed, but did not unite with that communion until 1890. During his re-

maining years he was active in church and Sunday-school work.

His death occurred in his eightieth year, on Friday, February 20, 1903, after an illness of but four days. Although failing in health for ten years or longer, he had been giving unremitting attention to his business, and on the day preceding the fatal attack, was apparently in more than ordinarily good health. His funeral, under the direction of the Past of the Grand Army of the Republic, took place at the Litchfield Presbyterian church, on the Sunday following his decease, and was largely attended.

HON. E. H. DONALDSON.

Hon. E. H. Donaldson, now residing in Fillmore, is one of the prominent and influential citizens of Montgomery county, taking an active part in community affairs and in public office demonstrating his loyalty to the general good by active co-operation in many movements which have formed the basis of the county's prosperity and upbuilding.

Mr. Donaldson was born in Fayette county, Illinois, November 10, 1836, his parents being William C. and Elvina (Hicks) Donaldson, both natives of Tennessee. His paternal great-grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Donaldson, came to this country from near Glasgow, Scotland, about the time of the Revolutionary war, and espousing the cause of the colonists Robert Donaldson entered the army under General George Washington. He was wounded in the thigh by a musket ball which fractured the bone and for three months he lay in the hospital, after which he rejoined his regiment and continued in active service until the close of the war. Later he engaged in farming in North Carolina and from there moved his family to Tennessee, where his death occurred. Our subject's grandfather, Barnett Donaldson, was a soldier of the war of 1812 and died in Fayette county, Illinois, as did his first wife, who bore the maiden name of Mary Andrews. After her death he married Mrs. Charity Breeze, of Jefferson county, Illinois, who also died in Fayette county.

William C. Donaldson, the father of our subject, was born in Carroll county, Tennessee, in 1817, and he remained in the state of his nativity until about fifteen years of age, when, in 1832, he came to Illinois, settling in Fayette county among its pioneer residents. There he attained his majority and afterward engaged in farming and merchandising. He spent his remaining days there, passing away in 1872. He was a man of public-spirited interest in general progress and his influence was ever on the side of improvement. He served as county commissioner and as justice of the peace and in the discharge of his duties he was ever prompt, faithful and reliable. Unto him and his wife were born the following children: Elijah H., of this review; Presley G., a retired farmer of Fillmore, who married Elizabeth Lovegrove and had three children, two sons now living; Mary E., who married Henry Cassey, and both are now deceased; Martha J., deceased wife of J. W. Hicks, of Witt township; Mahala P., deceased wife of T. J. Hill, a merchant of Fillmore; Nancy, who married James Harris and both are now deceased; James C., who married Esther Schirl, now deceased, and resides in Ramsey, Illinois; and Sarah R., wife of D. M. Griggs, of Fillmore.

Elijah H. Donaldson spent the days of his boyhood and youth in his parents' home and pursued his education in the schools of Fayette county. He afterward engaged in teaching there and was also identified with mercantile interests for four years. On the expiration of that period he removed to Montgomery county, settling in Witt township, where he purchased a farm of two hundred acres. There he engaged in the raising of grain and continued to carry on agricultural pursuits until five years ago, when he removed to Fillmore, though he still owns the farm, which is to-day a valuable and well improved place. After his removal to the village he turned his attention to the insurance business, representing the Phoenix, the German, the North American and Connecticut Companies. He has secured a large clientage and is now in control of the business which is extensive and profitable. He also operates in real estate and serves as notary public.

On the 3d of January, 1856, Mr. Donaldson was united in marriage to Miss Mary Ann Rhodes, a native of Fayette county, Illinois, and they have become the parents of five children: William A., who was engaged in agricultural pursuits, married Emma Jane Craig and died June 14, 1900, leaving a widow and six children, three sons and three daughters. James M., the youngest, died at the age of seven years. Of those living, Mary E. is the wife of William Hard. Aaron B., who married Celia Ann Craig and is living in St. Louis, was a minister of the Methodist church for fourteen years, but is now president of the International Leather Company. Lena J. is the wife of Judson Solomon, of Washington county, Arkansas.

Mr. and Mrs. Donaldson hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and he is an exemplary member of the Masonic fraternity, being made a Mason in 1863 at Ramsey Lodge, No. 405, in Ramsey, Illinois, and now belonging to Fillmore Lodge, No. 670, of Fillmore, of which he has served as master for three terms and has also been representative to the grand lodge. His political support is given to the Democracy and upon that ticket he has been elected to various public positions of honor and trust. He served as supervisor for three years; was assessor four years; road commissioner two years, school trustee eight years, school director twenty years, and in 1890 was elected to represent his district in the thirty-seventh general assembly of Illinois. While in the house he proved one of the active working members of the Democratic party, giving to each question which came up for settlement his careful consideration and advocating it with unflinching purpose if he believed in its value to the state, or opposing it with equal earnestness when he deemed it detrimental to the interests of the commonwealth. He was one of the famous "101" Democratic members in the great senatorial contest in 1891, when General John M. Palmer was elected, and a gold medal was presented to him by the Democracy of Springfield as one of the "101." While in the legislature he served as chairman of the committee on roads and bridges, and was also a member of the committees on military affairs,

live stock and drainage and state charitable institutions. He has also served as police magistrate for some time and in any public position which he has been called upon to fill he has proved loyal, discharging his duties with due regard to the interests of the community at large.

Mr. Donaldson has spent his entire life in Illinois and has been a witness of many of the changes which have occurred in Montgomery county. He has seen as many as twenty-four deer in a single herd, while prairie chickens were as numerous as English sparrows are to-day. The country was but sparsely settled and few advantages were to be enjoyed. The early settlers had to go long distances to mill and then had to use their own teams as power to grind their corn. As pioneer conditions have been replaced by the improvements of modern civilization Mr. Donaldson has watched with interest the changes and has kept abreast with the uniform advancement and upbuilding. He stands to-day as one of the representative men of his county, respected and honored because of his reliability in business, his fidelity in friendship and his loyalty in citizenship.

JUDGE AMOS MILLER.

Judge Amos Miller, an attorney of Hillsboro and former county judge, whose influence has been a forceful element in the educational and moral development of his community, was born in Carroll county, Ohio, January 25, 1845. He is a son of Joseph W. and Isabel (McClintock) Miller, the former of German lineage and the latter of Scotch-Irish descent. The father was born in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, and became a farmer, following that pursuit for many years. His political allegiance was given the Democracy and he was a member of the Lutheran church. His wife, who was born in Harrison county, Ohio, is now living in Raymond, Illinois, with her daughter, Mrs. B. F. Culp, at the age of eighty-nine years. She is a faithful Christian, holding membership in the Lutheran church. Her father, Thomas McClintock, was born in Ireland, while her mother, who in her maidenhood was Miss

Fisher, was born in Germany. Joseph W. and Isabel (McClintock) Miller, were the parents of seven children, six sons and a daughter, but two of the sons died in infancy. The sister is Mrs. B. F. Culp, of Raymond, whose husband is a banker and leading business man there. The sons are: Martin, who is a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church in Fresno county, California; Eli, the cashier of the First National Bank, of Litchfield; John, who is serving as sheriff of Montgomery county; and Amos.

Judge Miller spent his early boyhood days in Ohio, and in the spring of 1862 accompanied his parents on their removal to Illinois, the family home being established upon the farm east of Nokomis. His preliminary education was acquired in the district schools, and he afterward spent two years in what was then known as the Illinois State University, a school under the general synod of the English Lutheran church. He afterward worked for three summers at the carpenter's trade, and in the winter season engaged in teaching school. On the 1st of August, 1866, he arrived in Hillsboro and after locating here he pursued the study of mathematics, astronomy and literature under the direction of L. F. M. Easterday. He secured a position in the county clerk's office as deputy under W. D. Shirley, filling that position most acceptably for seven and a half years, and while thus engaged he also took up the study of law at the suggestion and under the direction of Judge Edward Lane. When he had read for some time he was admitted to the bar in 1869, but he continued in the clerk's office until 1874. In the spring of that year he formed a partnership with his father-in-law, the late Judge E. Y. Rice, for the practice of his profession at Hillsboro and this relation was continued until the death of Judge Rice in 1883. In the meantime Joel K. McDavid had become a student in the office and later a partner in the firm, and the business relation between Judge Miller and Mr. McDavid was continued until 1886, when the former was elected to the county bench, filling that position for one term. His decisions were fair and impartial, being characterized by a comprehensive understanding of the law and



JUDGE AMOS MILLER

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correct application of its principles to the point in litigation. Upon his retirement from the bench he resumed the private practice of law, winning and retaining for himself a notable position as a member of the Montgomery county bar.

Judge Miller has long been a recognized leader in public thought and action in Hillsboro, and his efforts have contributed in tangible way to the substantial development of the county along many lines. For fifteen years he has been a member of the school board, and is now its president. In 1874 he was elected city attorney of Hillsboro, and in 1876 he was elected states attorney, and was re-elected the following term. After a lapse of several years he was again elected to that office in 1884, and he left the impress of his individuality upon the legislation enacted during these two terms, for he upheld strenuously every measure which he believed would benefit the commonwealth and strongly opposed every act that he believed would prove detrimental to the community. In the fall of 1903 he was appointed the Democratic member of the board of voting machine commissioners by Governor Yates.

In September, 1871, Judge Miller was married to Miss Mary R. Rice, a daughter of Edward Y. and Susan (Allen) Rice. Mrs. Miller was born in Hillsboro in 1850, is a graduate of the Sacred Heart Convent of St. Louis, and has become the mother of two children, Isa and Rice. The elder, a graduate of the Hillsboro high school and also of Hosmer Hall, in St. Louis, Missouri, is now the wife of Harry O. Pinkerton, a traveling salesman of Marshalltown, Iowa, now of Gillespie, Illinois. Rice, after graduating from the high school of Hillsboro, spent three years in Cornell College and was graduated from the law department with the class of 1899. He then formed a partnership with his father, which continued until the fall of 1901, when he took charge of the business of the Hillsboro Coal Company as its secretary and treasurer. He married Winnifred Wool, of Hillsboro, and they have one child, Rice Wool Miller.

Judge and Mrs. Miller are prominent members and active workers in the Lutheran church, of which he is serving as elder, and with the

exception of a period of two years he has continuously served as superintendent of its Sunday-school since 1868. He has several times been a delegate from the central Illinois synod to the general synod, and was appointed a member of the board of education in the church and assisted in the selection and location of Midland College at Atchison, Kansas, which institution is now in a flourishing condition. He stands for all that is honorable in man's relations with his fellow men, as the advocate of higher education and as the exponent of a progressive citizenship, and his course as a lawyer as well as in private life has drawn to him the admiration and respect of his fellow men.

C. H. HILL.

The growth and prosperity of any community depends upon its business activity and the men who are prominent in its upbuilding are those who successfully control its commercial, industrial and professional interests. Of this class C. H. Hill is a worthy representative and Fillmore is indebted to him for what he has accomplished in its behalf. He is a native son of Fillmore township, born November 21, 1880.

His father, W. H. Hill, was born four miles east of Fillmore in Fayette county and was a son of Elijah Hill, a pioneer of that locality. The family is one of the oldest in this part of the state and in the early development of Illinois bore a helpful part. W. H. Hill was reared in the county of his nativity, became familiar with agricultural pursuits in youth, and after attaining his majority followed farming for some time. When the Clover Leaf Railroad was built through Fillmore he removed to that place and embarked in the agricultural implement business. Later he turned his attention to the lumber trade and on disposing of his interests in that line engaged in buying and shipping stock. His labors were attended with success and he annually made large sales. In 1897 he also began merchandising, purchasing the store of J. Q. Bost & Company. Owing to ill health he went to Colorado in 1904 and there died on the 12th of July, that year. By

his ballot he supported the Democratic party and served as supervisor four terms. Fraternally he was connected with the Modern Woodmen of America. In early manhood he married Miss Louisa C. Alexander, a daughter of the late John Alexander, of Fillmore township, and to them were born thirteen children, but only three are now living.

C. H. Hill was reared under the parental roof, pursued his education in the schools of Fillmore and afterward went to Colorado where he spent six months, being employed in a store. He then returned to Fillmore and for four years has been connected with a store in this town. As a merchant he is enterprising and, carrying a large line of goods, he has also endeavored to please his patrons by honorable methods and has therefore secured a good patronage.

Mr. Hill is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America and with the Knights of Pythias fraternity and gives his political support to the Democracy. Having spent almost his entire life in this locality he has a wide acquaintance and his genial manner and many excellent traits of character have rendered him popular with a large circle of friends. He represents one of the old families of this portion of the state and the Hill family is also numerous, there being twenty-three voters by the name in Fillmore township.

R. B. ALLEN.

Among the native sons of Montgomery county who have been successful in their business affairs and are now capably controlling valuable farming interests R. B. Allen is numbered. He lives on section 22, Zanesville township, where he owns and operates one hundred and fifty acres of rich farming land. He was born December 22, 1861, a representative of one of the pioneer families of the county. His father, Squire S. H. Allen, was a pioneer here and for sixty-two years has been one of the public-spirited citizens of this part of the state, aiding in laying broad and deep the foundation for the present prosperity and upbuilding of Montgomery county. He was born in Ken-

tucky in 1831, but was reared in Zanesville township, Montgomery county, Illinois. His father, Robert Allen, was one of the first settlers who came to this part of the state from Kentucky and established his home in a district which was wild and unimproved, but in course of time he developed a good farm from the unbroken prairie. His son was here reared and became active in carrying on agricultural pursuits. For years he filled the office of justice of the peace and his decisions were strictly fair and impartial. He also served as township clerk for eleven years and in the discharge of every public trust that has ever been given to him he has proved himself faithful and able. In 1864 he moved to the west, making the overland trip across the plains to California. He then resided in the Golden state for two years, after which he returned to the east by way of the Pacific, the isthmus of Panama and New York city.

R. B. Allen, whose name introduces this record, spent his boyhood days upon his father's farm and was early trained to the work of the field and meadow, while in the district schools he acquired the education that fitted him for life's practical duties and the prosecution of business interests. He started out in life for himself when nineteen years of age, working as a farm hand by the month and was employed in that way for seven years. He then rented a tract of land which he farmed for one year and thus, having made a start in life, he sought a companion and helpmate for the remainder of life's journey. He was married in Zanesville township, September 8, 1890, to Miss Nettie Driskell, a native of Zanesville township and a daughter of Marshall Driskell, who is represented elsewhere in this work.

Mr. and Mrs. Allen began their domestic life upon a little farm of twenty acres and in connection with its cultivation Mr. Allen also operated rented land. He sold his property in 1896 and bought where he now resides on section 22, Zanesville township. This he began to improve and he built a good neat residence and large and substantial outbuildings. He has a good orchard that yields its fruits in season and the equipments of his farm are excellent, he using the latest improved machinery to carry

on the work of the fields. In connection with the tilling of the soil he is engaged in the raising of high graded stock and he breeds and deals in pure-blooded Berkshire hogs. He is known as a successful farmer and stock-raiser and his prosperity is attributable entirely to his own efforts, for he began life as do the majority of American citizens, without financial assistance.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Allen have been born four children: Josephine D., Robert Marshall, Willard T. and Lester L. The parents are consistent and faithful members of the Christian church, taking an active and helpful part in its work and he has served as an elder in the church during the past six years. He is also active in the Sunday-school and was its superintendent for ten years. He votes with the Democracy and keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day, but has never sought or desired office. He has not only lived in Montgomery county throughout his entire life, but has always made his home in the same township and school district and he is thoroughly identified with its interests, desiring its best development and contributing his share to the upbuilding and progress.

JOEL K. McDAVID.

Joel K. McDavid, whose extensive property holdings class him with the substantial citizens of Montgomery county and who is also a factor in its financial interests, was born upon a farm two and a half miles east of Hillsboro, October 31, 1853. The family is of Scotch-Irish lineage and through various generations its members have been farming people. His paternal grandfather, William McDavid, came from Tennessee to Illinois at a very early period in the development of this portion of the state, making a settlement east of Coffeen. His son, John T. McDavid, was born in Montgomery county, upon a farm a mile west of Coffeen, to which his parents had in the meantime removed. He is now living in Irving at the advanced age of eighty-two years. Through the greater part of his active business career he carried on agricultural pursuits, and, prosper-

ing in his undertaking, became one of the well-to-do citizens of his community. In his political views he has long been a stalwart Democrat and has served as supervisor of his township, while in 1868 he was elected to the office of county sheriff, discharging his duties without fear or favor. He was formerly actively identified with the Masonic fraternity and the Odd Fellows lodge and he is a consistent member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church. He married Miss Edna J. Knight, who was born in Montgomery county and died in March, 1890, at the age of forty-three years. She was a daughter of William Knight, who came to this county at an early day and followed agricultural pursuits. He was of German lineage and was a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church. Unto Mr. and Mrs. McDavid were born six children: Albin B., who is a minister and also an agriculturist of Sullivan; William J., who is filling the position of county superintendent of schools; John T., Jr., a stock-buyer of Irving; Joel K.; Augustus B., a farmer of Irving; and James L., a hardware merchant of Hillsboro. After the death of his first wife, John T. McDavid was married to Miss Malinda Snell, and they became the parents of one son, Frank L., who is now assistant cashier of the Montgomery County Loan & Trust Company.

Joel K. McDavid acquired his early education in the district schools and afterward attended Hillsboro Academy and the Lincoln University at Lincoln, Illinois. He was graduated from the latter institution with the class of 1878 on completing the Latin scientific course. After leaving school he entered the office of Rice & Miller, attorneys of Hillsboro, with whom he read law and in 1880 he was admitted to the bar. He then became a member of the firm and practiced successfully for a number of years, but in more recent years has been devoting his time and energies to the supervision of his large property interests, having placed much of his capital in that safest of all investments, real estate. He is, however, closely associated with financial concerns of the county and in 1900 was chosen president of the Montgomery County Loan & Trust Company's Bank the oldest bank of the county, in which

position he has since served. He is, likewise, the president of the Hillsboro Building & Loan Association, which is capitalized for two million dollars and is one of the largest concerns of the kind in the state. He and his wife have twenty-three hundred acres of land and he is also interested in the McDavid Hardware Company. He stands to-day as the type of the American business man of the middle west, alert and enterprising, watchful of opportunities and so utilizing the means at hand as to gain gratifying success. At the same time his business methods are in close conformity to the ethics of the business world and he has thus made for himself an honored name while winning the confidence of his fellow men by the prosperity that he has achieved.

In September, 1879, Mr. McDavid was married to Miss Emma Tiffin, a representative of the family to which Judge Edward Tiffin, the first governor of Ohio, belonged. She was born in Madison county, Illinois, in 1860, a daughter of William and Alcinda (Blackwell) Tiffin, formerly a farmer and stock-buyer of Madison county. Mr. and Mrs. McDavid have one child, Edward P., who was a graduate from the Missouri Valley College at Marshall, Missouri, in June, 1903. Mr. and Mrs. McDavid are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian church and his political support is given to the Democracy. He is a man of enterprise, positive character, indomitable energy, strict integrity and liberal views and has been fully identified with the growth and prosperity of the county of his nativity in which his entire life has been passed.

CHARLES FRANCIS LIPE.

Charles Francis Lipe, whose well improved farm is a proof of his enterprising spirit and useful career, resides on section 11, Irving township. His birth occurred on this farm January 16, 1872, his parents being John S. and Catherine Louisa (Weller) Lipe. They were also natives of Montgomery county, representing early pioneer families of this portion of the state. The maternal grandfather, John Weller, was born in Maryland in 1792 and in early life

removed to Stark county, Ohio, where he married Miss Mary Lingofelter, also a native of Maryland. He first came to Illinois in 1839 and walked all the way back to Ohio in the winter of 1839-40. In the latter year he removed to this county, making the journey by steamboat down the Ohio river and up the Mississippi to St. Louis, where his goods were unloaded. One of his horses fell off the boat into the river at that place but was rescued by ropes. From St. Louis he proceeded overland to Montgomery county. He and his family took up their abode in a log cabin in the northwest corner of Irving township, where they were surrounded by dense forests, inhabited by wolves and other wild animals that would gather round the hut at night and howl as though they were going to take possession. It was a very common thing in those days to see the red man skulking through the woods in his savage state. Mr. Weller was not long permitted to enjoy his new home, however, for he died three years after his removal to this state, leaving a widow and nine children, of whom Mrs. Lipe was the youngest, being then a little over two years old. The others of the family were Jacob; John; Elizabeth; Mary and Sarah, who are now deceased; Daniel, a resident of Raymond township; Adam, of Ronntree township; and Mrs. Edward Tester, of Irving. After the death of her first husband Mrs. Weller was married again to Joseph Weber, who also died about ten years after their marriage. She lived to the advanced age of eighty-four years, dying in the winter of 1886.

John S. Lipe, the father of our subject, was born December 25, 1839, a son of Nelson and Nancy (Hoffner) Lipe, who were both born in North Carolina in 1812, the former on the 1st of November and the latter on the 4th of February. They were married in that state September 8, 1831, and the following day started for Illinois. Coming direct to Montgomery county, they located on section 4, Irving township. Nelson Lipe followed both farming and milling, his mill being operated by horse-power, and in business affairs he was very energetic and successful. He died on the 24th of November, 1880, and his wife passed away May 6, 1895. They were the parents of eleven children.



J. S. LIPE



MRS. J. S. LIPE



MR. AND MRS. C. F. LIPE



MR. AND MRS. E. D. LIPE



MRS. NELSON LIPE



MRS. JOHN WELLER

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but only four are now living, namely: Mrs. Sarah Carriker, of Rountree township; and Jacob L. Lipe, Mrs. Mary Blackwelder and Mrs. Maria Hefley, of Irving township. Nelson Lipe has three sisters still living: Mrs. Delilah Walcher, now in her eighty-fifth year; Mrs. Elizabeth Davis; and Mrs. Diana Fite. His parents were Mr. and Mrs. John Lipe, who also came to Montgomery county in 1831 and settled on what is known as the D. T. Hefley farm in Irving township. John Lipe was a soldier of the Revolutionary war and was the father of thirteen children. John Lipe, the father of our subject, was reared in this locality. In 1861 he enlisted as a private in Company E, First Illinois Cavalry, under Captain Paul Walters, and was mustered in at Benton Barracks. He participated in a number of engagements of the Civil war and was taken prisoner at the battle of Lexington, where his horse was shot from under him, but was soon paroled and sent home.

On the 9th of April, 1863, John S. Lipe was united in marriage to Miss Catherine L. Weller, who was born November 3, 1840, and they became the parents of nine children, of whom Charles F. is the sixth in order of birth. Two of the number, George C. and William B., died in infancy. Those still living are Anna E., the wife of C. W. Hefley, of Irving; Albert N., of Paisley; John L., of Litchfield; Ephraim D., of Irving township; Charles F.; Herbert S., at home; and Nancy E., the wife of Ralph Thumb, of Witt township. After his marriage the father engaged in farming on the old homestead where his widow yet resides. When the place first came into possession of the family it was considered almost worthless, it being swampy and largely under water. Besides the ducks and fish that there abounded there were moccasins, rattlesnakes and other poisonous reptiles, but Mr. Lipe converted the place into a very desirable property. At the time of his death he was the owner of three hundred and thirty-seven acres of rich land, which had been accumulated as the result of his industry and capable management, for at the time of his marriage he had only fifteen dollars and a team of horses and was in debt for one of them. He passed away December 30, 1878, at the compara-

tively early age of thirty-nine years, and Mrs. Lipe still resides on the old home farm at the age of sixty-four years.

Charles F. Lipe supplemented his early educational privileges by study in the Irving high school. In his youth he assisted in the farm work and he remained at home until twenty-one years of age. In 1895 he went to Cedar county, Iowa, where he followed farming for two years, and on his return to Montgomery county began farming on the place where he now resides. He has made excellent improvements here, including the erection of a good house and barn, and he owns ninety acres of land, the greater part of which is now under a high state of cultivation. He has had a brief experience in merchandising, for when he completed school he entered the store of Brookman & Lipe, thus becoming a partner in a general mercantile establishment. After a year, however, he resumed agricultural pursuits.

On the 2d of September, 1900, Mr. Lipe was married to Miss Mary B. Carriker, a daughter of John T. and Alice Carriker, of Irving township. Her father, who now follows farming on section 14, was born in Irving township, November 28, 1848, his parents being James and Prudence Carriker, who were natives of North Carolina and Tennessee, respectively. James Carriker came to Montgomery county about 1832 and cast in his lot with its early settlers. He resided here until his death in 1852 and his wife passed away in 1888 at the advanced age of seventy-two years. Their son John T. Carriker was educated in Irving township and lived at home until twenty-seven years of age. He has devoted his entire life to agricultural pursuits and now has a farm of forty acres in Irving township, which is well equipped with modern improvements. He has held all of the official positions of the township, has been a member of the school board and gives his political support to the Republican party, believing firmly in its principles. On the 20th of December, 1874, he married Miss Alice Kelly, a daughter of S. Kelly, of this county, also one of its pioneer residents. To Mr. and Mrs. Carriker were born five children: James Frederick, of Irving township; Mary B., the wife of Charles F. Lipe; Albert Harris, who is living in the state of

Washington; George Francis, who is in the employ of the government at St. Louis; and John Homer, at home.

Since their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Lipe have resided on the farm which they now occupy and with characteristic energy he is devoting his time and attention to agricultural pursuits, his labors being attended with good and profitable returns. He votes with the Republican party, but never seeks or desires public office, preferring to give his time and attention to his business affairs.

EPHRAIM D. LIPE.

Ephraim D. Lipe, whose farm of one hundred and twenty acres on section 11, Irving township, is well improved, was born upon that section December 2, 1870 and is a son of John S. and Catherine (Weller) Lipe, of whom extended mention is made in the sketch of Charles F. Lipe. The son pursued his education in the Oak Grove school of his native township and in the summer months, when school was not in session, he assisted in the labors of the fields, early gaining extensive and practical experience concerning farming methods. He remained at home until twenty-one years of age and then started out in life for himself, purchasing eighty acres two miles east of Irving. Upon this tract he engaged in farming, but after three years he sold the property and purchased seventy acres of land where he now lives on section 11, Irving township. In 1901 he made an additional purchase of fifty acres and now has a good farm of one hundred and twenty acres. He has erected two substantial barns and keeps everything about his place in good repair. His fields are well tilled, his farm machinery is of modern construction and his careful supervision of the place is evident to the passerby at a single glance.

On the 4th of November, 1891, Mr. Lipe was united in marriage to Miss Cora A. Cook, who was born in Champaign county, Illinois, September 10, 1870, her parents being Charles and Martha A. (Freeman) Cook, of Champaign county, where her mother died September 18, 1874. About two years later her father re-

moved to Montgomery county and is now engaged in farming in Irving township. During the early days of the gold excitement in California he went to the Pacific slope with his father, Jesse Cook, who crossed the plains four times. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Lipe was born a son, Earl C., November 4, 1902, who died August 8, 1903, at the age of nine months and four days. Mr. Lipe exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the Republican party, but is not an office seeker, preferring to give his undivided attention to his business affairs, which, being carefully conducted, are bringing to him a good financial return.

JOHN C. SHORT.

John C. Short, who carries on general farming upon a tract of land of one hundred and sixty acres in East Fork township, was born in southeastern Missouri, August 2, 1844. His father, Abner Short, was a native of North Carolina, spent his boyhood in that state and with his parents removed westward to Missouri. There he formed the acquaintance of Miss Jane Campbell, also a native of North Carolina, and they were married in Missouri, beginning their domestic life there upon a farm. Subsequently they removed to Illinois in 1857, settling two miles north of the farm upon which their son John C. Short now makes his home. There the father carried on general agricultural pursuits throughout his remaining days, passing away on the 25th of January, 1884, when seventy years and ten months of age. He was one of the early settlers of the county who had long resided within its borders and was familiar with its history, while of its development he had been an eye witness. His entire life record was such as commended him to the confidence and good will of those with whom he was associated and his loss was therefore deeply deplored. In the family were six children, of whom three are now living.

John C. Short was brought to Illinois in early boyhood days by his parents and upon his father's farm here was reared. No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for him in his youth, for he worked

in field and meadow when not occupied with the duties of the schoolroom. Like other boys, he enjoyed the pleasures of the playground, but he was thoroughly taught the value of industry and integrity in the active affairs of life. When about twenty-three years of age he left home for a time and worked at the carpenter's trade. He afterward engaged in clerking for six months and then resumed farming, purchasing forty acres of land. At a later date he sold this and bought the home place of one hundred and sixty acres, which is devoted to the raising of both grain and stock. There is a good house and barn upon his land and he uses the latest improved machinery in the cultivation of the fields. He is practical in all that he undertakes and his efforts have been crowned with a measure of success that makes him one of the substantial residents of his community. He is a director of the Hillsboro Farmers Mutual Association, formed to insure farmers against fire and lightning. He has seen great changes in methods of agriculture, for when he came here he saw prairie broken with five or six yoke of oxen, and the plow which was used was very crude in comparison to those in use at the present day. He saw deer upon the prairie and he can remember when the leading towns of the state were mere villages, while others had not sprung into existence.

On the 28th of January, 1873, Mr. Short was married to Miss Jane Louisa Turner, a daughter of McKinsey Turner, of Montgomery county. Her father came from Tennessee to Illinois, was numbered among the early settlers here, at one time served as sheriff of the county and was widely known throughout this part of the state. He was a strong Democrat in politics and was identified with the Masonic fraternity and the Methodist Episcopal church, to which the mother of Mrs. Short also belonged. Mr. Turner was twice married, his first wife being Rachel Ward, by whom he had three sons and one daughter. His second wife was Malissa Bennett, a native of Massachusetts, and by that union there were two sons and five daughters, including Mrs. Short. The father died in 1862 and the mother in 1876.

Five children have been born unto our sub-

ject and his wife, of whom four are living: Mabel Agnes, Myrtle Fidelia, Roberta Blanche and Ralph Moody. They lost their third child, Orpha Dayton, who died in infancy. The living children are all graduates of the Hillsboro high school and Mabel has been a successful teacher in the schools of Colleen, Irving and Montgomery, having taught for three consecutive terms at the last named place. Blanche has been a teacher of the Victor schoolhouse and Ralph is assisting his father in the operation of the home farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Short belong to the Presbyterian church of Hillsboro, reared their children in that faith and have had the satisfaction of seeing them all become church members. Mr. Short is a member of the Hillsboro Mutual Farmers League. He gives his political support to the Democracy, has served as school director and is well known as a warm friend of the cause of education, putting forth every effort in his power to advance the cause of the schools. He has always given loyal adherence and substantial support to movements to advance the welfare of the county in other directions and is known as a progressive citizen as well as a successful business man.

T. J. HILL.

T. J. Hill, a member of the firm of Hill Brothers, general merchants of Fillmore, was born in Missouri, in 1845, his parents being Elijah and Hannah Hill. The father, a native of Kentucky, was reared in Allen county, that state, and upon his removal to Illinois settled in Fayette county in 1832. There were few settlers within the borders of the county at that time and the Hill family took an active and helpful part in reclaiming the wild district for the uses of civilization. The father carried on agricultural pursuits with success for many years, but his life's labors were ended in death in June, 1871. In his family were ten children, of whom six are now living. Isaac Hill, a brother of Jack Hill, was born in 1852, was reared in Montgomery county and built the first house in the town of Fillmore. He also built the first business house and began

dealing in lumber, carrying on trade along that line until he sold out and removed to the west. He is now located near Joplin, Missouri, where he is engaged in lead and zinc mining and has made an excellent success in this business.

T. J. Hill spent the days of his boyhood and youth in Fayette county and remained a resident of that portion of the state until about ten years ago. He then spent one year in Texas and afterward came to Fillmore, where he became connected with mercantile interests as a partner in the firm of Grigg & Hill. Later he sold his interest to Mr. Grigg and then in connection with his brother, W. H. Hill, purchased the store formerly owned by John Q. Bost. The firm of Hill Brothers was organized and they have since engaged in business as general merchants, having a well appointed store, containing a large and carefully selected line of general merchandise.

It February, 1872, T. J. Hill was united in marriage to Miss Mahala Donaldson, who died in 1876 and in 1880 he was married to Miss Rebecca Robertson. He had four children, but Joseph, the eldest, is now deceased. Those still living are Osian, Ethel and Jessie. Mrs. Hill belongs to the Universalist church and Mr. Hill gives his political support to the Democracy.

PERRY COMMODORE OLLER.

Perry Commodore Oller, who was one of America's most distinguished Indian scouts and whose life record formed a most interesting chapter in the annals of the great west, was born in Bourbon county, Kentucky, on the 4th of February, 1819, a son of George and Elizabeth (Taylor) Oller, the latter a near relative of President Taylor. He was descended from an ancestry honorable and distinguished, being related to the Taylors, Johnsons, Clays, Jacksons, Putnams, Bullocks and others of the foremost families of Kentucky and Virginia and the original colonies. When he was but twelve years of age his parents removed to Illinois and the family was attacked by Indians near Swan lake. It was then that

Mr. Oller entered upon a course of life which involved his entire career. The fearless boy carried a message to Kaskaskia, seventy miles through an unknown wilderness, seeking assistance, and successfully accomplishing his mission. He faced the dangers and hardships of pioneer life in this state and was early identified with agricultural interests. On the 6th of April, 1855, he married Elizabeth Snook, a daughter of Amos Snook, whose grandfather was one of Washington's bodyguards. Mrs. Oller died in 1862, leaving three sons, Amos, Thomas and Jacob.

Placing his children in the care of their grandmother, Mr. Oller started for the far west, conducting a wagon train across the plains. During an absence of eight years no word was received from him by his relatives. In the meantime he was engaged in the perilous duties of scouting and carrying messages for the various army officers of the west and gained an intimate knowledge of the red man, his habits of living and his means of warfare. He was then detailed to carry an important message from Portland, Oregon, to St. Louis, through two thousand miles of country inhabited by hostile Indians. His business successfully completed, he returned to the west in 1869. He has engaged in scouting from the Yukon valley in Alaska to Mexico, and for thirty-eight years his relatives, receiving no communication from him, supposed that he was dead. He was known among the Indians as "Cultus Boston Man"—a bad fighter. Something of his bravery, daring and his skill in horsemanship and with the rifle is indicated by the fact that when a boy he won a five hundred dollar wager by riding erect on a wild colt, bareback, carrying a horse-pistol in one hand and a rifle in the other, and killing on the wing two pigeons thrown from a trap simultaneously, one with a pistol and the other with the rifle. He also won one thousand dollars and gained the championship of St. Louis by killing ten pigeons on the wing in nine shots, thrown from traps two at a time. On another occasion he was captured by Indians and was to be burned alive at the stake, but when the red men came to untie him from the tree he slipped his hand through the noose,

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PERRY COMMODORE OLLER



JUDGE AMOS OLLER



DAVID S. OLLER

jerked a knife from an Indian's belt, thrust it into his captor's body, picked up pistols dropped by his foe and, quicker than thought, started a dozen braves on their way to the happy hunting grounds and escaped. The only act for which he ever claimed any credit, and certainly one of the bravest of his many brave deeds, was that of dashing, single-handed into a band of Indians and rescuing two children destined to burn at the stake. On another occasion he found two babies scalped and trying to nurse their mother, who with their father had been killed several hours before. Mr. Oller followed the trail of the savages and brought back the scalps of the children and their parents and also those of five demons who had done the bloody deed. Not long after the death of Custer a band of Sitting Bull's braves captured two children after butchering their parents in cold blood. Oller followed their trail for several days and finally succeeded in locating the band. Leading a horse, he boldly rode into their camp. After disarming suspicion he had a smoke with the chief and managed to drop a note where the oldest child could find it. Before leaving the camp he secreted his rifle and revolvers in the brush about fifty rods away. The note instructed the children to mount one of the horses in sport, getting on and off so as not to arouse suspicion. The scheme worked like a charm. In a short time the Indians grew careless, and before they could realize what was happening he had leaped into the saddle and was off like a shot, the other horse following with the children. Securing his arms and ammunition, he held the savages at bay and rode night and day until he reached the settlement.

These are but few of the many tales which might be told of his bravery, his strategy and his diplomacy while scouting on the plains of the west. After an absence of almost four decades Mr. Oller returned to Illinois, where his family received him as one from the dead. He resembles greatly some of the characters that figure in Cooper's western tales, and the story of his life reads like a romance, proving again the old adage that truth is stranger than fiction. His last days were spent at the

home of his son, Judge Oller, and he reached the very advanced age of eighty-six years, passing away on the 14th of January, 1904. In his last days he remarked: "The Lord has been good to me, and I am ready for the roll call when reveille sounds." A publication, the Gatling Gun, writing of Mr. Oller in October, 1902, says:

"In conversation with Mr. Oller one feels that he is talking with a man of the heroic age, to the companion of Kenton, Boone and Crockett. He is a perfect type of the men of brawn and brain and iron who blazed the way through the wilderness for advancing civilization from Jamestown to the Golden Gate. He is now making his home with his son, Judge Amos Oller, of Litchfield, one of the best informed and brightest men it has ever been our pleasure to meet."

JUDGE AMOS OLLER.

Judge Amos Oller, city attorney of Litchfield and one of the leading lawyers of the Montgomery county bar, was born April 16, 1856, at the old Amos Snook homestead, four miles southwest of Litchfield, in Macoupin county, Illinois. He is the eldest son of Perry C. and Elizabeth (Snook) Oller, and was but five years of age when his mother died. She left three children, who were then placed in the care of their grandfather, while the father went to the far west to act as an Indian scout, and long years passed ere he was again heard from. In the meantime Judge Oller had acquired an education, largely through his own efforts, had prepared for the bar and had won a place of prominence in the legal fraternity of Montgomery county.

The Judge began his studies in the district school near his home and afterward attended the Northwestern Normal School at Valparaiso, while in 1878 he entered the Indiana State Normal School at Terre Haute. On completing his literary course he took up the study of law under the direction of United States Senator Daniel Vorhees and was admitted to the bar of Illinois. He also attended the Wesleyan Law University at Bloomington and

was graduated with honors, winning the prize for the highest scholarship at the examination in 1881.

Judge Oller entered upon the practice of law, which he followed in Macoupin county and in Litchfield, and in order to further perfect himself in his chosen calling he devoted one year to post-graduate work in the Washington Law School at St. Louis, Missouri. Resuming practice in Litchfield, he has since remained an active member of the bar and has easily maintained a position of prominence among the members of the legal fraternity. His clientage has been large and of a distinctively representative character, and in the preparation of his cases he is thorough and painstaking, while in the presentation of his cause he is forceful and logical, giving strong and convincing reason for his position by a logical presentation of facts and the law applicable thereto. In 1898 he was elected to the bench of the newly constituted city court of Litchfield and made a remarkable record in that he never had a jury to disagree; never granted a new trial; and no decision which he rendered was ever reversed. He filled the office for one term and then returned to the private practice of law, which he found more remunerative. He is the present city attorney of Litchfield and he also has a large private practice, indicative of the reputation which he bears for legal learning and for power as an advocate and counselor.

On the 19th of January, 1879, Judge Oller was married to Miss Ida Huddleston, who was not fifteen years of age until the 22d of July following, and who belonged to one of the wealthiest families of Macoupin county. Seven children were born unto them: George Ellis, who was born October 22, 1879, and is now a section chief in the census office at Washington, D. C.; Lolah Maie, now deceased; David Samuel; Ola Belle; Jesse Bennett, deceased; Bertha Ann; and Marion Jennings. The mother died May 1, 1904, at the age of forty-one years and in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal church, to which she and Judge Oller had long belonged. The Judge is a member of the Modern Woodmen camp and the Mutual Protective League. Politically

he is a Bryan Democrat. He has ever studied closely the questions and issues of the day and has taken an advanced stand on many subjects affecting the general welfare. He has always been a leader among labor organizations, and in early manhood was mobbed for his advocacy of the union. He was the first judge of the state ever elected on the labor ticket and he has ever been the champion of the interests of the man who labors with his hands for a livelihood. He ranks among the ablest jurists and scholars of Illinois—a man of strong mental attainments, of studious habits, whose opinions, formed as the result of careful investigation, are upheld with tenacity and courage.

DAVID SAMUEL OLLER.

It is difficult, indeed, to write a sketch concerning a young man; a youth who has all of life before him, and while of acknowledged worth and ability, has not as yet had the full opportunity of showing what is in him. Yet, if we were called upon to select a young man whose future might well be magnified, judging from his past, we would not hesitate to pick the subject of this sketch. He was born in Staunton, Illinois, September 15, 1884, and came to Litchfield with his parents, Judge and Mrs. Amos Oller, in the fall of 1887.

His education was received in the schools of Litchfield, and from the very first he showed signs of precocity and genius. He passed through the grades, and the high school, graduating in 1902 with high honors. After graduating he accepted a position with the New York Store and was shortly promoted to the position of head clerk and assistant purchasing agent in the clothing department. With his friendly disposition and jovial manners he has won a host of friends, and commands a large patronage for the establishment by which he is employed.

While not yet of age he has the appearance of being older, and in the fall of 1904 was selected as a petit jurymen in the Litchfield city court. He was not challenged, and served in several important cases, being made foreman of the jury in each instance, and the verdicts

returned were confirmed by the higher courts.

He is very popular in the younger society of the city, which, while regretting his absence from many a social function as a bachelor will congratulate him on his marriage, which occurred on Thanksgiving day, 1904. The bride is Miss Mary Walton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Walton, well known residents of Macoupin county. She is a graduate of the Carlinville high school, and of the Litchfield Business College. They will make their future home in this city.

WILLIAM E. NEWSOME.

More than half a century ago George H. Newsome was born in the county of Wicklow, Ireland, near the little village of Johnstown, and on an adjacent farm to that on which he was reared. Mary J. Smith was born February 23, 1855. It was here amidst rural scenes that the Irish lad and lassie learned to love each other and in the fullness of years, when manhood and womanhood's estate were reached, these two hearts were united in the holy bonds of wedlock. The ceremony was celebrated in St. Peter's church, Dublin, in 1871. Two days thereafter they set their faces toward the "Land of the Free" and after a journey of ten days on the steamer St. Andrew were landed safely at Quebec. The greater part of the following summer was spent in Canada, seeking a suitable place in which to commence their home life together. In the autumn of this year they passed over to Syracuse, New York, where Mr. Newsome remained but a short time, when, lured by stories from the west, he commenced the journey toward that region of great possibilities. Interested in the work of coal mining, Mr. Newsome settled at Collinsville, Illinois, where he secured employment in connection with the mines at that place. He and his wife remained in Collinsville for some years and several children were born to them while here. In company with R. L. Dingle, the shaft of the Hillsboro coal mine was sunk about 1887, after which he assisted Mr. Dingle in sinking the shaft at Coffeen. In 1888 he moved his family to the latter place and assumed the man-

agement of the mine here, which position he held until January 14, 1892. On this date he was killed by the falling of the cage on which he was entering the shaft. Mrs. Newsome, thus left alone, a widow with eight children, most of whom were young and unable to assist in earning a livelihood, presented a serious problem as to how she should be able to keep her little flock together. She went to work, however, with a will and with the aid of the older ones has succeeded in not only caring for and educating her children, but she has the satisfaction of knowing that with the exception of the two younger, who are in school, that her children are comfortably fixed in the world. Hattie H. was for eleven years a teacher in the public schools of Coffeen, at the end of which time she retired to the regret of those who know of her excellent qualities as a teacher. Mae, also a teacher in the public schools of the county, is now the wife of Charles E. Clark, editor of the Winchester Standard. George H., the second son, is connected with an insurance company in the city of St. Louis. Robert Emmet, recently graduated from the Chicago College of Pharmacy, is at present employed as a druggist in that city. John is a grocery clerk in Coffeen. Leroy is attending college at Valparaiso, Indiana, and Albert, the youngest son, is a student in the Coffeen high school.

We now come to the biography of William E., the oldest son of George Newsome. This young and energetic business man was born February 8, 1878. Schooled in necessity, he learned when but a mere boy the value of a dollar, and the habit of thrift, begun in childhood, has been the key by which he has achieved his success in the business world. William is a shrewd, far-seeing business man and his investments have always been well placed so that at the age of twenty-six he is in command of quite a little fortune. He owns several good paying properties in the little city of Coffeen and is on the alert and ready to buy any piece of real estate in which he feels there is reason to believe there will be an appreciation in price. While Mr. Newsome is not a communicant at any church, yet his attendance is usually at the Cumberland Presbyterian. While his people are of Irish origin, still they were of the Church

of England. Their connection, however, since residing in Coffeen has been with the Cumberland Presbyterian church at this place. William Newsome is an illustration of what lies before any industrious American boy. That the future holds a deserving place for him is the belief of his many friends, and though he has been frugal, he has not been parsimonious, for to all laudable causes he has subscribed in proportion to his ability, and in securing an additional shaft at Coffeen he was one of the heaviest subscribers to that public donation. Personally Mr. Newsome is of pleasing address and his affability and courteous treatment of everybody makes him everybody's friend.

Mr. Newsome is at present the central committeeman of the Republican party for East Fork township. In 1903 he was elected to the office of town clerk although the township is heavily Democratic. In fraternal circles Mr. Newsome is recognized as a Knight of Pythias and a member of the Masonic order. In these he takes considerable interest and doubtless enjoys the secret work of the lodge room. We anticipate, however, that before many moons have waned that Mr. Newsome will be able to find even greater pleasure in the home-lodge which he is amply able to establish.

JOSEPH WHITMORE.

Joseph Whitmore, one of the native sons of Montgomery county, was born in Audubon township, March 29, 1847, and is now living on section 22 of the same township, devoting his time and energies to agricultural pursuits. His parents were Amos H. and Mary (Wells) Whitmore, the former a native of London, England, and the latter of Virginia. His paternal grandfather was Nathaniel Whitmore, who was also born in London and belonged to the English nobility, the family owning a large estate in that country. In 1812 Amos H. Whitmore came to America on a prospecting tour for his father, who afterward crossed the Atlantic and located in Vermont, whence he subsequently removed to Ohio, settling near the mining town of Wheelersburg, Scioto county,

where he owned a farm of two hundred acres which is still in possession of one of his descendants of the name of Nathaniel Preston. Our subject has in his possession a document in his grandfather's hand writing drawn up at Piermont, Grafton county, New Hampshire, November 12, 1811, giving power of attorney to his son, Amos H. This was recorded in the recorder's office in Athens county, Ohio, December 19, 1813, Vol. II, page 117, E. Perkins, register. The handwriting is exceptionally good. Our subject also has a letter written by Joseph Dana to his father, Amos H. Whitmore, on the 5th of November, 1818.

Amid pioneer surroundings Amos Whitmore was reared and he assisted in the slow and laborious task of improving a new farm and developing the wild land into productive fields. For some years he made his home near Columbus, Union county, Ohio, and there reared the children of his first marriage, his wife being Miss Sarah Smith. After her death he wedded Miss Mary Wells in 1838, and they became the parents of two sons and three daughters: John, who married Marian Brown and resides in Nokomis township, this county; Mrs. Mary M. Hill, of Nokomis; Mrs. Abigail Kellogg, whose husband is living retired in Nokomis; Mrs. Athalinda Lease, a resident of Nokomis township; and Joseph.

In the fall of 1845 Amos H. Whitmore came to Illinois and purchased raw land, securing seventeen hundred and twenty acres from the government and land companies, for which he paid from fifty-eight cents to three dollars per acre. The country was wild and the work of improvement and progress seemed scarcely begun. There were large herds of deer roaming over the prairie and there were many wild turkeys and smaller game. Wolves were also seen in great numbers and rattlesnakes were heard in the wild prairie grass. There were no fences at that time and one could drive across the prairie to Pana without coming to a fence or building to impede progress. The prairie grass grew as high as a horse and almost as far as the eye could reach there was one boundless stretch of this waving grass, having the appearance of a billowy sea. In early days Mr. Whitmore raised hogs, which he drove to St.



JOSEPH WHITMORE AND FAMILY

Louis, Missouri, where he sold them for from a dollar and a half to two and a half per hundred weight. He would take a load of dressed hogs to the city and bring back a line of merchandise for the business men of Audubon, which town at that time contained about fifteen houses and one large store. Later more houses were built and three stores and two hotels established, but like so many other places it was killed by the railroad. In early days Audubon and Hillsboro were really the only large towns between Mr. Whitmore's farm and St. Louis. He continued to make his home in Audubon township until his death, which occurred in 1857 in the house where our subject now lives.

Joseph Whitmore attended the district schools near his home until eighteen years of age, the winter months being devoted to study, while throughout the summer he aided in the work of the farm. After his father's death he operated the farm for his mother until the fall that he was twenty-one, when he was married and began farming for himself upon one hundred acres. After his mother passed away he bought the old home place and has always lived upon the same quarter section. He now has a valuable farm of two hundred and forty acres on section 22, Audubon township, its excellent appearance indicating his careful supervision and attention and proving that his life has been one of industry and earnest toil.

On the 25th of October, 1868, Mr. Whitmore married Miss Cornelia Drake, who was reared in the vicinity of Portsmouth, Ohio, and in 1866 came to Illinois with her parents, Austin and Sarah (Wells) Drake, the family home being established in Audubon township, where her father engaged in farming. He was a fine judge of stock and also practiced veterinary surgery. Leaving here in 1876, he lived in various places until 1884, when he removed to Springfield, Illinois, where he is now living retired. During the Civil war he served for three years with the Army of the Cumberland, and is to-day a staunch Republican, taking an active interest in politics. Religiously he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. His wife died in February, 1888, and was buried in Nokomis cemetery. Of their eight

children four sons and one daughter are still living, the latter being Mrs. Whitmore.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Whitmore have been born five children: Hettie, who was engaged in teaching in the public schools of Montgomery county for five years and is now the wife of Dr. Elmer E. Wells, of Ironton, Ohio; Mamie and Lester, who died in infancy; Noma, the wife of James Stewart, a resident farmer of Montgomery county; and Grover, at home. The parents are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and have a wide acquaintance in Montgomery county, where they have long resided. Mr. Whitmore's mind bears many pictures of the early days with its varied experiences such as are common in frontier settlements, and he feels a commendable pride in what has been accomplished by Montgomery county's progressive citizens, among whom he is justly numbered.

LEVI ASA HUSSEY.

Levi Asa Hussey, well known in commercial circles in Montgomery county, and connected with the V. Hoffman estate, of Litchfield, was born in this city in 1869, his parents being Charles W. and Matilda (Stephens) Hussey. The mother was a second cousin of Alexander Stephens, at one time vice president of the Southern Confederacy, and a daughter of Asa Stephens, who was a carpenter by occupation. Charles W. Hussey was born in New Hampshire, is a machinist by trade and still follows that pursuit. He came west to Illinois in 1865, locating at Litchfield and is now employed in the shops of the Big Four Railroad Company at Mattoon, Illinois. He has reached the age of seventy-five years and his has been an active and useful career. His political support is given to the Democracy. His wife, who was born in South Carolina, has now reached the age of sixty-seven years. She is a member of the Baptist church and a consistent Christian woman. In her family were six children: Henry W., who is a shoemaker residing in Litchfield; George W., a miller living in Kansas City; Levi Asa; Sarah E., who is engaged in the millinery business and resides

with her parents; Mary A., at home; and Matilda A., now deceased.

During his early boyhood Levi A. Hussey attended the public schools of Litchfield and then entered upon his business career as a clerk in the store of Valentine Hoffman. He has been continually connected with this establishment and from a humble capacity worked his way steadily upward. He is now one of the partners in the store and ranks among the more progressive, enterprising and successful business men of the city.

In July, 1892, Mr. Hussey was united in marriage to Miss Ida M. Hoffman, who was born in 1872 and is a daughter of Valentine and Marie Hoffman. They now have one child, Lottie L. They hold membership with the Methodist Episcopal church, Mr. Hussey serving on its official board and in the various departments of church activity they take a helpful interest. He is a Democrat and has been tax collector for two terms and is now serving as alderman from the second ward, proving a capable member of the city council and one who places the good of the municipality before partisanship or personal aggrandizement. Socially he is identified with the Odd Fellows lodge at Litchfield. He is a man of broad sympathies, and the poor and needy have found in him a friend. The difficulties which he had to encounter in his own business career have made him ever ready to extend a helping hand to those who try to aid themselves, and in his business he ever rewards faithful services on the part of his employes when opportunity offers.

JAMES C. HOPE.

One of the beautiful country homes of Montgomery county is the property of James C. Hope. It was erected by him and stands in the midst of a fine farm of two hundred and sixty acres of land, about four miles south of Hillsboro. The place is equipped with all modern conveniences and accessories and but a glance is needed to indicate to the passer-by that the owner is a man of business enterprise, progressive and practical in his farm work.

It was upon this farm, on section 26, Hillsboro township, that James C. Hope was born February 1, 1851. The family were among the early settlers of North Carolina and he traces his ancestry back to Robert and Catharine (Allison) Hope. The former was born November 2, 1750, and died October 14, 1805, while his wife was born September 2, 1750, and died December 22, 1837. They were married November 21, 1771, and became the parents of the following children: Margaret, born October 5, 1772; James, December 12, 1774; Abner, December 28, 1776; Allison, May 27, 1779; Catharine, February 3, 1782; Silas, February 3, 1782; Thomas, December 14, 1783; Robert, March 22, 1786; Agnes, September 19, 1788; John, October 23, 1790; and Levi, September 13, 1795. There was one, Nancy, whose name does not appear on the registers of births but does appear on that of deaths. She died June 14, 1796, probably quite young. Margaret, the eldest of this family, married a Mr. Alexander, and one of her sons lived at Oxford, Mississippi, for a time, and it is thought moved from there to Texas. James and Abner went to Missouri and it is from the latter that our subject is descended. Allison removed to South Carolina and he and his family after him were people of wealth and high social standing. Catharine married David Crawford and her daughter, Mrs. Thomas Robinson lived at Oxford, Mississippi, until its occupation by General Grant in 1862, when they returned to the old Dr. Robinson homestead at Poplar Tent in Cabarrus county, North Carolina, and lived there until her death. Her son and daughter afterward kept a hotel at Salisbury, North Carolina. Another son, Rev. C. W. Robinson was a Presbyterian minister in that state. Silas Hope probably died young. Thomas died in North Carolina. Robert was a lawyer at Concord, that state, and was the father of old Dr. Bob Hope, a man of prominence at Rock Hill, South Carolina. Agnes probably died young. John was at one time a wealthy and prominent planter of Alabama and was a member of the board of trustees of the University of Alabama.

Levi Hope died at the home of his son, James Edward Hope, four miles from Oxford, Mississippi, at the age of ninety-five years. He mar-

ried Melissa Harris, an aunt of Dr. Sam Harris, of Cape Girardeau, Missouri. Of their eleven children nine reached middle age. Catharine married William Kimmons, a farmer, who resided eight miles from Oxford, and died at the age of thirty-five. Cornelia married his brother, Dr. H. H. Kimmons. Robert died when a young man, a graduate of medicine and a talented, accomplished and magnificent specimen of a man, though inclined to be dissipated. Charles died in Water Valley, Mississippi, after the Civil war. John died during the war. Frank died at his home after the war. George, fresh from college, was killed in the battle of Murfreesboro, Tennessee. Ed was badly wounded in the battle of Franklin, Tennessee, but is still living. His son, Leighton Hope, was for several years inspector of pensions in the city of New Orleans. Elam, who was a physician of high standing in Morehouse parish, Louisiana, died with yellow fever in 1878 at the age of seventy-nine years, leaving a large family. For many years Levi Hope was an elder in the Presbyterian church and those of his children who were connected with any church were also Presbyterians.

Abner Hope, the grandfather of our subject, removed from North Carolina to Cape Girardeau county, Missouri, about 1827, and about 1835 came to Illinois, settling in Montgomery county. He entered land from the government and developed and resided upon the farm which is now occupied by R. C. Richards. He took an active and helpful part in the early pioneer progress of the county and aided in laying the foundation for the present prosperity and upbuilding of this portion of the state. Here his death occurred in 1840.

Robert Hope, the father of James C., was born in Iredell county, North Carolina, in July, 1818, and was therefore about seven years of age when the family removed to Missouri. Later he came with his father to Illinois and was identified with the early development of Montgomery county. He married Miss Mary A. Clotfelter and removed to the farm on which our subject now resides. There he made his home for many years and reared his family, numbering five children: Tirza, who died at the age of twenty-two years; Harriet, deceased

wife of John A. Mitchell; Mary, the wife of John Sands, of Litchfield; James C.; and George, who resides in East Fork township. The first home of Robert Hope after his marriage was a log cabin, but in course of time he was enabled to add more modern improvements to his farm, upon which he spent the entire period of his married life. He had two hundred acres of land and lived a most industrious, useful and honorable life. His death occurred in 1881 and his wife passed away in 1889. They were members of the Presbyterian church and took an active part in church work.

From boyhood James C. Hope has been familiar with the history of Montgomery county, has seen the many changes which have occurred here, and has known and been known by its people. He attended the common schools in his youth and worked at farm labor on the place where he still resides. At the time of his marriage he settled upon a part of the old homestead and now has two hundred and sixty acres of valuable land, the fields yielding to him good crops in return for his care and cultivation. He is also engaged in the feeding, buying and selling of cattle and finds this a profitable branch of his business, for he is an excellent judge of stock and therefore makes judicious purchases and sells to good advantage. Moreover he is thoroughly reliable and has never been known to take advantage of the necessities of his fellow men in any trade transaction.

On Christmas day of 1873 Mr. Hope was married to Miss Mary Chamberlain, who was born in Indiana, a daughter of Samuel and Orilla Chamberlain. They have eight children: Oscar L.; Cora A., the wife of Herman Cowan; Lula M., the wife of Algy Strange; Laura, Pearl, Howard, Edgar and Ethel, all at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Hope are consistent members of the Presbyterian church of Hillsboro. He is a Republican in his political views, is active and influential in community interests and is now serving for the fifth year as highway commissioner. Fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America, and in all matters pertaining to the general welfare he

is deeply interested and gives many measures a public-spirited support.

LOUIS H. MEY.

Louis H. Mey, a representative of the leading productive industries of Hillshoro, being extensively engaged in the manufacture of carriages and wagons, was born in Peine, Hanover, Germany, on the 30th of June, 1850, and was brought to America in 1851 by his parents, August H. and Dorethea Mey, also natives of Germany. The father was born in Hardeggen, Hanover, March 15, 1823, and the mother was born in Peine, Hanover, March 22, 1828. The family home was established in St. Louis, but after three months the father, who was a wagon-maker by trade, brought his family to Hillshoro, arriving here October 15, 1851. He continued work in his chosen field of labor up to the time of his death, which occurred April 25, 1899. His wife died December 2, 1894.

In the early days before the advent of railroads when the wagon-making business did not demand all of his time and attention, August H. Mey would haul produce by team to St. Louis, and upon his return would bring back groceries for the three merchants who were then doing business in Hillshoro. In early life he had been left an orphan with the care of a sister devolving upon him. He learned the trade of wagon-making in Germany and there conducted a shop ere his emigration to America. Throughout his entire life he continued in the same line of business and his persistency of purpose as well as his capable workmanship was a strong element in his success. He established the carriage and wagon factory now owned and conducted by his son Louis H. He was a member of the Lutheran church, to which his wife also belonged, and in public affairs he was prominent and influential. He gave his political allegiance to the Democracy and served as a member of the city council for a number of years. Unto him and his wife were born four children: Louise, who became the wife of Louis Welge and after his death married Frank Brandes, of Raymond, Illinois; Emma, the wife of Fred Brandes of Hillshoro; Louis

H., of this review; and August G., who died April 2, 1900.

Brought to Hillshoro in his infancy, Louis H. Mey was reared in this city and after attending the public schools continued his education in the Hillshoro Academy until fourteen years of age, when he put aside his text books and entered his father's shop in order to learn the wagon and carriage making trade. When twenty-one years of age he became owner of a half interest in the business and after his father's death he assumed entire control and has continued in this line up to the present time. His enterprise has been characterized by continuous development and expansion and he now occupies three buildings, one being a two-story brick structure forty by sixty feet. The blacksmith shop is a one-story brick building twenty-four by sixty feet and the wood-working shop is a two-story structure built of brick and frame and is twenty-four by eighty-two feet. Mr. Mey manufactures both wagons and carriages of a superior grade and his is one of the oldest as well as most prosperous industrial concerns of the county. He has a thorough and intimate knowledge of the business, has kept pace with the progress made along that line and places upon the market a fine line of carriages and wagons, which he sells at reasonable prices, so that he has gained a very liberal and desirable patronage.

On the 27th of December, 1871, Mr. Mey was united in marriage to Miss Barbara Anna Sherer, who was born in Maryland, November 30, 1852. Her father, Henry Sherer, who was a blacksmith by trade, was born in Pennsylvania December 2, 1811, and was married on the 9th of November, 1843, to Miss Caroline Tracy, who was born May 17, 1828. They became the parents of eleven children, five sons and six daughters, of whom the eldest was born in Pennsylvania, just across the line from Maryland; the next four in Maryland; and the others in Ohio. In order of birth they were as follows: John; George L., September 22, 1846; Mary E., November 8, 1848; Jacob J., October 16, 1850; Barbara A., November 30, 1852; Lorre F., May 23, 1854; Phoebe A., March 2, 1856; Robert P. M., December 10, 1858; Eleanor B., November 16, 1860; William



LOUIS H. MEY



MRS. LOUIS H. MEY

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H., June 15, 1802; and Laura C., April 14, 1865. The Sherer family lived in Preble county, Ohio, for sixteen years and then came to Illinois, locating in Montgomery county in 1867. The son George L. now lives on the old homestead. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Mey were born eight children: Walter R., who is associated with his father in business; Edward A., who is also with his father; Arthur L., deceased; Lawrence F. and Charles H., who are assisting their father; Dorothea Emma, Jesse W. and Helen B., at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Mey hold membership in the Lutheran church and Mr. Mey is a Democrat in his political affiliations. He has served as a member of the city council and is deeply interested in everything pertaining to the welfare and progress of Hillshoro, where almost his entire life has been passed. Those who know him—and his friends are many—entertain for him the warm personal regard which is prompted by an honorable business career and by a loyal citizenship.

WILLIAM H. WILSON.

The farming interests of East Fork township find a worthy representative in William H. Wilson, who is one of the native sons of the locality, his birth having occurred on section 1 of the township, July 21, 1846, his parents being Joshua H. and Emma (McDavid) Wilson. The father was born in the vicinity of Louisville, Kentucky, and when a youth of eight years accompanied his parents on their removal to Montgomery county, Illinois, the family home being established on section 1, East Fork township, where the grandfather carried on agricultural pursuits. Here he followed farming until his death, which occurred on the 17th of September, 1873. He removed to the vicinity of the home of William H. Wilson and there became an extensive farmer. In his family were fifteen children, five sons and ten daughters, all of whom grew to maturity, but only two are now living: Joseph C., a veteran of the Mexican war and a resident of Irving, Illinois; and Lydia, wife of William C. McDavid, living near Coffeen.

Joshua H. Wilson was reared to farm labor, early becoming familiar with the best methods of caring for the crops and also the best methods of raising stock, and when he entered upon his business career he followed the occupation to which he had been trained in youth. Success attended his efforts and he became one of the extensive farmers and stockmen of his locality, having a large and well improved tract of land and raising high grades of cattle and horses. He married Miss Emma McDavid, a daughter of William McDavid, and they became the parents of two children. After the death of his first wife, Joshua H. Wilson was again married, his second union being with Sarah Hutchinson, of Greenville, Illinois. They had four children, of whom only one is now living: Martha J., the widow of William A. McDavid. She is now conducting the Hillshoro House. Mr. Wilson was one of the leading men of his county and deserved great credit for what he accomplished, for he had no financial assistance in his early manhood. Business conditions, however, were favorable and he had the sagacity and foresight to improve these. As time passed and his financial resources increased he made judicious investment in land and was the owner of about twenty-six hundred acres at the time of his death. Mr. Wilson of this review, however, can remember when his father only had one hundred and twenty-five acres under cultivation and at that time there were but few settlements between the family residence and Hillshoro.

William H. Wilson has herded cattle on what is now the old homestead and he drove an ox team in his boyhood days, but great changes have occurred in farm life and in the methods of cultivating the fields. Machinery has been improved and many farm implements have been invented and at all times Mr. Wilson has kept apace with the general progress. He attended school in his boyhood days through the winter months, but in the summer seasons assisted in the work of field and meadow and thus gained practical experience, which proved of much value to him when he started out in business life for himself, when about twenty-three years. He began farming upon the old homestead, the place being divided, William H.

Wilson receiving four hundred and thirty-nine and a half acres, while one brother received four hundred and twenty-nine and his sister six hundred and eleven acres. That Mr. Wilson has led a busy life and one crowned by successful accomplishment is indicated by the fact that his landed possessions now cover twelve hundred and ten and a half acres. He is engaged in farming and stock-raising with good success, his labors annually returning to him a handsome income.

On the 9th of December, 1869, occurred the marriage of William C. Wilson and Miss Martha E. Newberry, a daughter of Cornelius Newberry. She was reared near Irving, Illinois, and by her marriage became the mother of two children, but only one, Ollie R., is now living. The daughter has been carefully educated in music and has recently completed a course of study in Epstein Conservatory of Music in St. Louis. The parents belong to the Cumberland Presbyterian church, taking an active part in its work and contributing generously to its support. In his political views Mr. Wilson is a Republican and keeps well informed on the issues of the day and gives an earnest allegiance to his party. His time and attention, however, have never been given to seeking public office, for he has preferred to devote his energies to his business affairs and he stands to-day as one of the most successful and honored agriculturists of his community. He has never taken advantage of the necessities of his fellow men in any trade transaction, but has followed legitimate business lines and by his fair dealing and reliability has not only won prosperity, but has also won the enviable regard and respect of those with whom he has been associated.

V. A. BOST.

V. A. Bost, the owner of a good farm of three hundred and thirty acres in Fillmore township, Montgomery county, was born in Fayette county, Illinois, September 15, 1853. His father, Henry Bost, was a native of North Carolina, born September 17, 1820, and was a son of Jacob Bost, who was born in Cabarrus

county, that state, on the 4th of April, 1794, and died near Bost Hill in Fillmore township, this county, October 7, 1884, when over ninety years of age. At the age of twenty-two he married Miss Margaret Cross, also a native of Cabarrus county, North Carolina, who died in this county on the 25th of May, 1853. On the 14th of February, 1854, he was married in this county to Miss Elizabeth Ury, also a native of Cabarrus county, who came to this county with her father, John Ury. She died August 12, 1883. Jacob Bost brought his family to this county in 1836 and made his home upon a farm in Fillmore township throughout the remainder of his life. He was survived by five children, namely: Susan, Jacob, Monroe, Dorcas and John J. Elvira, the eldest of the family, died in childhood in North Carolina, and Henry, Martin and Kate died in this state after having reared families of their own.

Henry Bost, the father of our subject, was principally reared and educated in his native state, being about sixteen years of age at the time of the removal of the family to Montgomery county, Illinois. He wrote of the journey, September 1, 1836, as follows: "We left our old home in North Carolina, Cabarrus county, forty-nine miles to Lincoln we traveled through on the fourth day; thence to Betherford forty-four miles we traveled through on the sixth day. We crossed the Blue Ridge mountains at the Hickory mountain gap on the eighth day; thence to Ashville, forty-one miles, we went through on the ninth day; thence to the Painted Rock, forty-six miles; thence to Beens Station, fifty miles; thence to Croparchet in Kentucky, ninety-five miles; thence to Danville, twenty-two miles; thence to Louisville, eighty-five miles; thence to Arleaus, forty-nine miles; thence to the Wabash at Terre Haute, ninety-five miles; thence to Paris, twenty miles; thence to Charleston, twenty-eight miles; thence to Shelbyville, thirty-four miles; thence to Hillsboro, forty miles; in all seven hundred and twenty-six miles from Concord to Hillsboro. We landed here October 12, 1836." At that time much of the land was still in possession of the government and Henry Bost entered a tract, thus laying the foundation for his later prosperity and business advancement. He was

one of the first settlers of the county and assisted materially in its growth. He was active in reclaiming the wild land for uses of civilization and he co-operated with his fellow townsmen in promoting many measures for the general good. At the same time he so conducted his business affairs as to win most gratifying success and as his financial resources increased he extended the boundaries of his place and added to his realty holdings until at the time of his death he owned sixteen hundred acres of land. His death occurred February 28, 1876, and he is now survived by four of his children. His wife, Mrs. Elizabeth Bost, was born February 17, 1825, and passed away September 12, 1857.

V. A. Bost was reared in Fayette county, Illinois, but came to Montgomery county when twenty-two years of age, settling upon what is now his home place. He secured two hundred acres of land from his father and he has since added to his property until he now has three hundred and thirty acres in one body. He has made improvements upon his land and has recently erected a good stock barn; in fact, he has all of the equipments and facilities needed to promote his business affairs and throughout the community he is recognized as a representative stock dealer. He raises cattle, sheep and hogs and also fine horses, mostly of the Norman breed. He also raises a good grade of cattle for market and as a farmer has ever been successful, conducting his business affairs with due regard to the ethics of commercial life. He has always been familiar with the diseases of horses and cattle and has been very successful in his treatment of the same. In 1903 he passed the examination as a veterinary surgeon and received a diploma from the Southern Illinois Veterinary and Medical Association.

On the 25th of November, 1875, Mr. Bost was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Scherer, who was born in Montgomery county, July 12, 1855. Her father, Simon Scherer, was a native of North Carolina, and one of the early settlers of this county, locating at Hillsboro. He engaged in farming and the manufacture of brick; was a Republican in politics; and a member of the Lutheran church of Hillsboro,

which he helped to build. He died on the 24th of January, 1856, and his wife, who bore the maiden name of Mary Blackwood and was born in Montgomery county, November 26, 1833, departed this life January 20, 1900.

Mr. and Mrs. Bost have had ten children: Lula L., who was born March 19, 1877, and was married February 11, 1901, to Homer Harris, of Fillmore township; Mary M., born August 15, 1878; Daisy E., born December 1, 1879; Ada O., born November 18, 1880; William Roy, born April 22, 1883; Ralph S., born January 4, 1885; a twin of Ralph S. who died in infancy; Bessie B., born June 4, 1887; Letta O., who was born October 2, 1890, and died August 10, 1891; and Leva M., born September 6, 1894.

Mr. and Mrs. Bost are members of the Lutheran church, are interested in its upbuilding and generous in its support. Their children also belong to the church. Mr. Bost has served as president of the Montgomery County Sunday-school Association and he does all in his power to promote the various church activities and extend the cause of Christianity in his locality. He belongs to the Court of Honor and the Masonic fraternity, being made a Mason at Fillmore lodge, No. 670, in 1874, and gives his political support to the Democratic party.

WALTER H. TOBERMAN.

Walter H. Toberman, who is engaged in the grain business and in the operation of the grain elevator at Coffeen, was born April 19, 1879, in Fillmore township, Montgomery county, and is a son of Isaiah and Mary Toberman, who are represented elsewhere in this work. He acquired his early education in the country schools of his native township and was afterward graduated from the high school of Fillmore with the class of 1898. In 1900 he entered into partnership with his brother T. A. Toberman in the creamery business, which they conducted at both Fillmore and Chapman, remaining in that line of business for a year. They then established a grain and hay commission business at St. Louis, where they remained

in 1902 and a part of 1903. In the latter year they purchased the elevator at Coffeen and embarked in the grain business here under the firm style of Toberman Brothers. This relation was continued until the 30th of June, 1903, when T. A. Toberman died. Walter H. Toberman has since been alone in business and he handles a large amount of grain annually, his enterprise furnishing an excellent market for farmers of the surrounding district.

On the 16th of September, 1903, Mr. Toberman was united in marriage to Miss Stella Short, a daughter of Dr. H. S. Short, of Fillmore. He belongs to the Baptist church, while his wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church of Fillmore. Fraternally he is connected with the Knights of Pythias lodge and the Modern Woodmen camp, both of Fillmore, and in his political affiliations he is a Democrat. In Coffeen and other portions of Montgomery county he is accounted a successful young business man, well liked and highly respected. He possesses creditable ambition, strong purpose and untiring diligence, and in this way is developing a grain business which has already reached extensive and profitable proportions.

HARVEY BECHTEL.

Harvey Bechtel, who follows farming on section 10, Raymond township, where his place of one hundred and sixty acres is well improved and valuable, was born in McLean county, Illinois, near Leroy, on the 20th of May, 1865. His father, Samuel Bechtel, was a native of Ohio, born in Piqua county, August 13, 1823, and spent the days of his boyhood and youth in that state. He was the second in order of birth in a family of five children, whose parents were John and Esther Bechtel. In Knox county, Ohio, he was married in 1848 to Catherine Kontz, who was born in Pennsylvania and in childhood removed to Ohio with her parents. Samuel Bechtel carried on agricultural pursuits in Knox county, Ohio, for a number of years and in 1853 upon his removal westward settled in McLean county, Illinois, near the village of Leroy, where he opened up

a farm upon which he reared his family and remained until called to his final rest, his death occurring January 3, 1901. His wife departed this life October 28, 1898, at the age of seventy-seven years. She left five children: George, Samuel, Joseph, Harvey and Mrs. L. A. Killion. The family originally numbered four sons and six daughters, but five daughters died in infancy.

Harvey Bechtel, the youngest of the family, was reared upon the old family homestead and mastered the elementary branches of English learning in the district schools of the neighborhood. He was also trained to farm work, assisting his father in the cultivation and development of the fields until after he had reached man's estate. He was married in McLean county December 8, 1891, to Miss Minnie Eskew, who was born in that county and spent her girlhood days there. Her parents, James M. and Mary A. (Collins) Eskew, were pioneer settlers of McLean county.

After their marriage Mr. Bechtel carried on the old home place for several years and then removed to Shelby county, where he purchased a farm of eighty acres, which he improved for a year. In November, 1902, he purchased his present property on section 10, Raymond township, and he now has a well improved farm. He has added to his house a good summer kitchen and his place is one of the neatest and most attractive in appearance in this part of the county. In addition to his commodious residence he has two good barns and all the out-buildings necessary for the shelter of grain and stock. There is a large bearing orchard, containing many varieties of fruit trees and around the place is a well trimmed hedge fence. The lawn is adorned with fine shade trees, and the farm presents a most attractive appearance. In addition to the cultivation of grain Mr. Bechtel is also engaged in the raising of good grades of stock.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Bechtel have been born three children, who are yet living: Samuel M., Harvey F. and Flora L. They also lost two children: Catherine A., who died at the age of four years, and one that died in infancy. The parents are members of the Christian church at Harvel and he is serving as one



MR. AND MRS. HARVEY BECHTEL

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JUL 1964

of its elders and also on its official board. In politics he is a staunch Republican, where national issues are involved, but he has never sought or desired office, as his business affairs have claimed his entire attention. He has worked hard as the years have gone by and as the result of his indefatigable energy he is now the owner of valuable property.

WILLIAM GREENWOOD.

William Greenwood, a resident of Fillmore township, is one of the most extensive land-owners of Montgomery county, his holdings comprising eight hundred acres, but it is not alone his possessions that enable him to rank with the representative men of Montgomery county. He has always commanded the confidence and good will of those with whom he has been associated and his business affairs have been conducted along lines which have proven of benefit to the county as well as a source of individual profit. Mr. Greenwood is a native of Germany, born January 1, 1840, and with his parents he crossed the Atlantic to America, the family home being established in New Jersey. He is a son of William and Katherine Greenwood, who were also born in Germany. The father learned and followed the carpenter's trade in that country, but after coming to the United States he carried on agricultural pursuits. Several years were passed in New Jersey and he then came with his family to Montgomery county, Illinois, about 1850, but in 1857 he removed to Alton, this state. In 1867, however, he located near Nokomis, where his death occurred in 1873. He had lost his wife during the early boyhood days of their son, William.

William Greenwood accompanied his parents on their various removals, going to Nokomis in 1867. Since 1881 he has resided upon what is now his home property in Fillmore township. He started out in life for himself on attaining his majority, first earning his living as a farm hand, in which capacity he was employed for four years. He then rented land for two years and on the expiration of that period purchased one hundred and fifty acres on the prairie at

Nokomis. On leaving there in 1881 he came to his present farm, buying a tract of one hundred and sixty acres of land from Mr. Landers. This formed the nucleus of his present extensive possessions. His diligence and perseverance resulted in producing good crops and the profit which accrued from his sales enabled him to invest in more land from time to time until he is now the owner of eight hundred acres, constituting a very valuable and desirable property. He raises both grain and stock and has a well equipped farm, supplied with all modern conveniences and the facilities that will promote his business along profitable lines. His present desirable financial condition is in great contrast to his surroundings in youth, for he began working as a farm hand at eleven dollars per month. He also worked in brick-yards and on a steamboat and thus by following any pursuit that would yield him an honest living he gained a good start in life. He has won success in his agricultural operations and he has also assisted his sons in gaining a start, for in former years they aided him to the best of their ability.

On the 11th of March, 1865, Mr. Greenwood was united in marriage to Miss Christine Krummell, of Madison county, Illinois, and unto them were born eight children, all of whom are now living: Emma, born May 23, 1866, married William Bockstruck, a resident of Bond county, and has three children. Henry, born August 21, 1867, married Bertie Bockstruck, by whom he has two sons, and they reside in Bond county. Mary, born October 17, 1869, is at home with her parents. William C., born October 1, 1871, married Rosa Jenserous, by whom he has four children and they live in Fillmore township. August, born January 23, 1873, is mentioned below. Louis, born December 1, 1874, married Anna Becker, by whom he has three children, and they live in Fillmore township. Otto, born January 11, 1877, was married October 27, 1901, to Dora S. Brackebusch, a cousin of his brother August's wife, and a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Brackebusch, who are prosperous farming people of Fayette county. Otto Greenwood follows farming and stock-raising and supports the Republican party, and both he and his wife are

members of the German Methodist Episcopal church. Bertha, born March 15, 1879, is the wife of August Brackebusch, of Fillmore township, and they have two daughters.

Mr. and Mrs. Greenwood belong to the Methodist church and are deeply interested in its promotion and growth. He is a local preacher, having engaged in the work of the ministry in Nokomis and other parts of Montgomery county. Whatever tends to advance the cause of Christianity receives his earnest endorsement and in as far as possible his co-operation. The cause of education also finds in him a warm friend and he believes in providing good schools that will give to the children excellent educational privileges. For thirty years he has been a school director. His political support is given the Republican party. Mr. Greenwood is a man whom to know is to respect and honor, for his entire life has been straightforward and unassailable. His history will bear the closest investigation and scrutiny and, in fact, is well worthy of study by those who have regard for the value of character and who wish to progress in life along lines that not only win success, but also gain an untarnished name.

AUGUST GREENWOOD.

August Greenwood, son of William Greenwood, one of the leading pioneer settlers of Montgomery county, was born in Christian county, Illinois, near Nokomis, January 23, 1853, and was a youth of seven years when his parents removed to the old homestead in Fillmore township. He attended school in Van Burenburg and later was a student in Danville College in Indiana and in the Central Normal College, being graduated on the completion of a commercial course with the class of 1893. He was reared to the occupation of farming, early becoming familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist and has always carried on general farming pursuits with the exception of one winter, in which he was engaged in selling books. He then returned home and farmed

with his father until 1899, when he removed to the place upon which he now resides. He and his brother each have one hundred and five acres of land, which was given them by their father and August Greenwood now devotes his attention to the raising of both grain and stock. His fields are well tilled and in his pastures are found high grades of cattle, horses and hogs. On the 6th of January, 1902, he was appointed administrator for the estate of Henry Bockstruck, of Van Burenburg.

On the 19th of February, 1899, Mr. Greenwood was married to Miss Emma Brackebusch, a daughter of Henry Brackebusch, of Fayette county. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and, like her husband, she has gained the friendship of many with whom she has been brought in contact. Mr. Greenwood votes with the Republican party and in 1890 he was appointed to take the census for town 8 in Fillmore township. He is well known, having a wide circle of acquaintance and is classed with the representative young farmers of Montgomery county.

T. H. EDWARDS.

T. H. Edwards, who is engaged in coal mining and makes his home in Coffeen, was born in Grisham township, Montgomery county, in 1866 and is a representative of one of the old families of this part of the state, his parents being George and Sarah (Clark) Edwards. His father was also born in Grisham township at Edwards Chapel and during his business career has followed the occupation of farming, owning and occupying a farm which is situated on the boundary line between Bond and Montgomery counties, lying partly in Grisham township. The first of the name living in this county was T. H. Edwards, the grandfather of our subject, and since that time representatives of the family have borne an active and helpful part in the work of upbuilding here. George Edwards is a Democrat in his political views and affiliations and takes a deep interest in the questions and issues of the day, keeping well informed thereon so that he is able to give intelligent reason for his political position.

T. H. Edwards remained in Grisham township until about sixteen years of age, when he entered upon his business career in the employ of J. W. Majors, with whom he made his home until his marriage. On the 11th of October, 1891, he was joined in wedlock to Miss Florence Hendricks, a daughter of Dr. Hendricks, of Coffeen, and their home has been blessed with two children, Harry Alfred and Ruby Belle. Mrs. Edwards is a daughter of Dr. Hendricks and Tillie (Coffeen) Hendricks, the latter a daughter of the founder of the town of Coffeen.

Upon removing to Coffeen Mr. Edwards conducted a butcher shop for about a year. He then began work in a coal mine and has since been employed in that capacity. His business career has been attended by success and he now owns seven lots in the town, upon which he built a pretty home on removing to Coffeen. He also owns forty acres of land in East Fork township. Of the Knights of Pythias lodge of this place he is a charter member and in his political views he is a Democrat. At the present writing he is serving as a member of the school board of the town and is interested in public affairs and this has prompted his co-operation in many measures for the general good.

CAPTAIN EZRA C. CHACEY.

Captain Ezra C. Chacey, a leading druggist of Hillsboro, and prominent in the military circles of the state as a member of the Illinois National Guard, was born in St. Louis, Missouri, September 24, 1878. His father, Ezra J. Chacey, was a native of Ohio, and was one of a family of seven children, four sons and three daughters. Two of his brothers were soldiers in the Civil war and one of these, P. P. Chacey, is now a member of the state legislature of North Dakota, while the other, Washington, died at his home following the war, his health having been impaired by his service. Both were with Sherman on the celebrated march to the sea. Ezra J. Chacey was a captain on the Mississippi river throughout almost his entire life and for many years made

his home in St. Louis. About a year prior to his death he left the river and took up his abode in Hillsboro, where he passed away on the 23d of October, 1896, at the age of fifty years. In his fraternal relations he was a Mason and also a Modern Woodman, and his political allegiance was given to the Republican party. Through his business capacity and careful management he accumulated a competence, and he was ever open-handed and liberal, his generosity being one of the salient traits of his character. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Johannna Cline, was born in St. Louis in 1849, and was a daughter of John D. and Nancy M. Cline. Her father built the first frame house in Hillsboro and was actively identified with the early development and progress of the city. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Chacey were born four children: Ezra C.; Anna Olive, who was graduated from the University of Illinois with the degree of Bachelor of Arts, and is now assistant in the Hillsboro high school; Blanche Holmes; and Geneva Rhodes.

Captain Chacey, of this review, was afforded excellent educational privileges, for after completing a high school course in Hillsboro by graduation he entered the University of Illinois, where he spent the years 1895 and 1896. On leaving that institution he entered the engineering department of the Missouri River & Bonne Terre Railroad in Missouri, where he remained for a year. He spent one year in Hillsboro after the death of his father and then entered the service of the Spanish-American war. He was second lieutenant of Company E of the Fifth Regiment of Illinois National Guard. This regiment was accepted and, with his command, Captain Chacey went to Camp Tanner at Springfield and afterward to Chickamauga Park, Tennessee, on to Newport News, later to Lexington, Kentucky, and then returned to Camp Lincoln. When at Camp Tanner he was elected by his company to the rank of captain, but owing to his youth—he was then but nineteen years of age—Governor Tanner would not issue the commission. In January, 1899, he was again elected captain of the company, and this time was commissioned, while in 1902, he was re-elected. He is very prominent and popular among the officers of the regiment

and the men of his own command, is an excellent disciplinarian and is thoroughly conversant with the tactics of war. On the 8th of March, 1899, following the return of the regiment Mr. Chacey purchased the drug store formerly owned by Edwards & Company, and is now proprietor thereof. He is conducting a good business, having a well equipped establishment and, through his enterprising efforts, he has secured a good patronage.

Mr. Chacey was married on the 24th of April, 1901, to Miss Sarah B. Allen, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William M. Allen, of Pilot Grove, Missouri. Her father was born at Lexington, Kentucky, and was a member of Shelby Cavalry Corps in the Confederate service during the Civil war. Mrs. Chacey is a cousin of Rear Admiral James E. Jouett, who was known as fighting Jim Jouett. Mr. and Mrs. Chacey have one child, Sara Menefee. Mrs. Chacey is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church there. Fraternally, Mr. Chacey is connected with the Knights of Pythias lodge, with the Order of the Maccabees and with the Spanish-American War Veteran's Association. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party. Well known in Hillsboro, he is held in high esteem by many friends, is popular with all who know him and, although a young man, he already occupies a notable position in business and military circles.

RUFUS C. PADEN.

Rufus C. Paden is proprietor of an excellent farm of one hundred and sixteen acres in Hillsboro township and is numbered among the successful agriculturists of his community. He has placed his dependence upon the substantial qualities of energy, strong determination and laudable ambition and has gradually worked his way upward until he is one of the prosperous residents of his locality. Moreover, he is a native son of Montgomery county and has for almost half a century witnessed the growth and development of this portion of the state.

Mr. Paden was born in Hillsboro township on the 4th of February, 1856, a son of James and Mary Paden. His father died in 1871

at about the age of forty-four years, but the mother, who is now Mrs. McHenry, is still living, making her home in Hillsboro. Rufus C. Paden acquired a common school education and when not occupied with the duties of the school-room he assisted in the labors of the home farm, becoming familiar with all of the duties that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. When twenty-one years of age he began business on his own account by operating the home farm in connection with his brothers. He was at one time associated with his brothers in the ownership and control of a lumbyard in Hillsboro, continuing that business for four years. Later he was connected with the agricultural implement business for two years and about the time of his marriage he took up his abode upon the farm which is now his home. He here owns one hundred and sixteen acres of rich land devoted to general farming. He raises diversified crops and as the result of modern methods and careful management he has won desirable success.

On the 4th of November, 1885, Mr. Paden was united in marriage to Miss Mattie Lewey and they have one son, Lester Lewey, born November 9, 1890. In his political affiliations Mr. Paden is a Republican and keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day. He has served for three terms as highway commissioner, but otherwise has not sought nor held office, preferring to give his attention to his business affairs. He was made a Mason in 1882, belongs to the lodge at Hillsboro and has served as junior warden. He is thoroughly in sympathy with the teachings and tenets of the craft and in his life exemplifies its beneficent principles.

HON. ROBERT McWILLIAMS.

Robert McWilliams, of Litchfield, is one of Montgomery county's most distinguished citizens and has left the impress of his individuality upon public interests here. He was born in Dalton, Wayne county, Ohio, in 1830, and, removing to Illinois, joined his brother Amzi McWilliams in Bloomington in 1854. Just prior to his arrival here he had been admitted to

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MR. AND MRS. R. C. PADEN.



MR. AND MRS. JAMES PADEN.

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the bar in Coshocton, Ohio. At a later date he established his home in Sullivan, Moultrie county, and thence removed to Shelby, Illinois, where he entered into partnership with Judge Anthony Thornton and was engaged in the practice of law for two years.

On the expiration of that period Mr. McWilliams took up his abode in Hillsboro, where he lived until the outbreak of the Civil war, being at that time associated in a law practice with Judge Jesse J. Phillips. In 1862 he started in a wagon with fife and drum, canvassing the county for recruits. A man distributing Union bills preceded him. He succeeded in raising great enthusiasm and raised three companies of men. In Springfield they were mustered into service and Mr. McWilliams was elected captain of one of the companies, which became Company B, One Hundred and Seventeenth Illinois Infantry. With this command he served until the close of the war and in the meantime was promoted to the rank of major. He did loyal and valuable service in the Red River expedition and other campaigns.

Mr. McWilliams wedded Miss Mary Allen, who was born in Bond county, Illinois, in 1836, a daughter of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Burnside) Allen. Her father was a farmer by occupation and was a representative of one of the old families of North Carolina and became one of the early residents of Montgomery county. Unto Mr. and Mrs. McWilliams were born three children: Benjamin, an attorney of Chicago; Grace, who died in 1898; and Paul, now city judge of Litchfield.

Mr. McWilliams' patriotic citizenship has been manifest in days of peace as well as in days of strife and his devotion to the general good was shown by his service as a member of the state legislature, being called to represent Montgomery county in the general assembly. Resuming the practice of law upon his return to Litchfield, he easily maintained a foremost position in the ranks of the legal fraternity and was in active practice until 1898, when he retired from the profession. He has been connected with much of the important litigation tried in the courts of his district, was logical in his reasoning and ever presented a strong case to judge or jury because of his careful

preparation and his thorough understanding of the facts and the law applicable thereto. In his political views he has ever been a stalwart Republican, endorsing the principles of the party since its organization, and he is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. Religiously he is connected with the Presbyterian church and for many years has served as one of its trustees.

JOSEPH MITCHELL.

Joseph Mitchell, who is engaged in general merchandising in Paisley, and whose influence in behalf of the moral development of the community has been far-reaching and effective was born in England on the 20th of October, 1874. He was brought to the United States in his infancy and his education was acquired in the common schools of Montgomery county and in Nokomis. He remained at home until twenty-one years of age, and then began farming for himself on a tract of land a half mile west of Witt. After a year he removed to a place about two and a half miles west of that town and continued its cultivation and improvement for three years. He next sold that property and took up his abode in Paisley, where he became identified with commercial pursuits as a general merchant. His business here has grown and he carries a large and well selected line of goods, such as is demanded by the general trade. His success is well merited, because in his business dealings he has never been known to take advantage of the necessities of his fellow men and he also puts forth earnest effort to please his customers.

On the 26th of January, 1896, Mr. Mitchell was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth May Settle, a daughter of John Settle, of Oconee, Illinois. They have one child, Mildred E. who is now six years of age. Mr. Mitchell and his wife belong to the Presbyterian church and he has taken a very active and prominent part in its work, serving as Sunday-school superintendent for the past three years, and also as president of the Christian Endeavor for that period. He is likewise president of the township Sunday-school Association and he con-

tributes generously to the support of the church and does everything in his power to promote its activities. He belongs to Quinn City lodge, No. 622, K. P., and he is now a school trustee of Witt township. In politics he is a Republican and in all matters of citizenship he is progressive and enterprising.

W. A. BOYD.

W. A. Boyd is the owner of a valuable farm of two hundred acres situated on section 22, East Fork township, and to the property he has added all modern improvements and accessories, which constitute one of the best farms of the locality. He was born in Coles county, Illinois, in 1854, and is a son of A. J. and Sarah Boyd. His father was a native of Kentucky, spending his boyhood days in that state and in Indiana. Removing then to Illinois, he settled in Coles county, where he engaged in carpentering and in 1874 he removed to Kansas, where he died. He led a useful, active and honorable life, although he never sought to figure prominently in public affairs.

W. A. Boyd was reared in Coles county and pursued his education in the schools of Mattoon, Illinois. When he was but eleven years of age his mother died and about the same time his father lost all that he had by going security for a supposed friend. It was thus necessary that the subject of this review earn his own living and at that tender age he started out in life for himself, securing employment on a farm. He worked in the fields, fed and handled fancy horses, being employed by the month. In 1880 he came to his present home where his wife owned eighty acres of land. Mr. Boyd purchased eighty acres additional, erected a good residence and barn and added other modern equipments. He now owns two hundred acres of rich land, well improved, his farm being in excellent condition. Upon it is found good machinery to facilitate the labors of the fields and he annually harvests good crops as the reward for the care and labor which he bestows upon his place. However, he is giving much attention to the raising of stock, making a specialty of fine horses and he has a half

mile track upon his farm, on which he trains his horses. He now owns a three-year-old, Highlander, which is registered in class A, Volume 1. He has gained a reputation throughout this portion of Illinois as a breeder of fine horses and has made sales of some very valuable stock. Everything about his place is neat and attractive in appearance, giving indication of the careful supervision of a progressive owner.

In 1879 Mr. Boyd was united in marriage to Miss Ida Edwards, a daughter of William Allen Edwards, and they became the parents of three children, of whom two are now living, Iva and Nellie, both at home. The parents belong to the Methodist Episcopal church at Coffeen and Mr. Boyd is identified with the Court of Honor. Deeply interested in political questions and the success of the Republican party he gives to it an unfaltering support and does everything in his power to promote its growth and insure its success. He has never sought office, however, as a reward for party fealty, preferring to give his time and energies to his business affairs, which are now crowned with prosperity. He certainly deserves great credit for what he has accomplished and he may well be called a self-made man, for he owes his prosperity not to any fortunate combination of circumstances but his own determination, capable management and business foresight. He has persevered in the face of obstacles and by the utilization of his opportunities he has steadily worked his way upward from a humble financial position to one of affluence.

FRANK W. NIEFT.

Frank W. Niefert, who follows farming on section 9, Witt township, was born in Jefferson county, Kentucky, June 15, 1864, his parents being Carl and Henrietta (Ernest) Niefert, both of whom were natives of Germany, whence they came to the United States about 1845. They located in Kentucky, where they remained for several years, and thence came to Montgomery county, Illinois, in the spring of 1866. The father purchased a farm from the railroad company and he is still living upon a tract of land, which he there developed and improved, making

it a good and productive property. He is now seventy-six years of age, but his wife passed away in 1892 at the age of sixty years.

Frank W. Niefert is indebted to the public-school system of this county for the educational privileges which he enjoyed in his youth. At the age of twenty-one years he began farming on his own account on the old homestead and in 1895 he purchased one hundred acres of land where he now resides on section 9, Witt township. His entire life has been devoted to agricultural pursuits and he now has a well improved property, his land being highly cultivated and returning to him good harvests.

On the 29th of October, 1895, occurred the marriage of Mr. Niefert and Miss Anna Hochm, a daughter of Bernard Hochm, who is now living retired in Paisley. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Niefert have been born four children: Clarence, Irene, Mattie and Walter, aged respectively eight, six, four and two years. The parents are members of the Catholic church of Nokomis and Mr. Niefert belongs to the Mutual Protective League, No. 90, of Witt. He is a Republican in his political views and served as collector of his township for two terms, while for seven years he was assessor and for three years township trustee. He has also been a member of the school board for three years and is deeply interested in everything pertaining to the substantial upbuilding and improvement of the locality, in which he has so long made his home, his residence in the county covering almost the entire period of his life

added to his property. He arrived in this country ere he attained his majority and in its business conditions he found the opportunity for success which he desired and which led him from humble financial conditions to one of affluence and he died in 1894 upon the farm, where his son George was born and upon which his widow is still residing. In their family were ten children, of whom George W. is the eldest. The others are Minnie, who died when about six years of age; Emma, who died at the age of one year; Charlie J., who married Louisa Meyers and resides in Irving township; Henry E., of Irving; Frank H., who is living with his mother; Etta M., Lewis H., Jesse and Josephine, all at home.

George W. Fesser, having acquired his education in the district schools, has followed farming throughout his entire life, having gained practical knowledge of the work in early boyhood by assisting his father in the labors of field and meadow. He has one hundred and sixty acres where he resides, a part of which he has rented and the other part he farms himself. He has bought improved land, has built three barns and has otherwise carried on the work of improvement until he now has an excellent farm property and is meeting with a merited degree of success as a farmer and stock-dealer.

On the 22d of September, 1899, Mr. Fesser was united in marriage to Miss Minnie L. Morain, a daughter of James M. Morain, of Irving township, who came from Ohio in an early day and purchased land in Montgomery county. Both he and his wife are now deceased. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Fesser have been born five children: Etta M., born May 15, 1890; Lester H., January 1, 1893; Viola L., November 3, 1897; George W., November 12, 1901; and Ivan, June 4, 1904. The family circle yet remains unbroken by the hand of death and the first three children are attending school, it being the desire of Mr. and Mrs. Fesser to provide their children with good educational privileges and thereby fit them for life's practical duties. In politics he is a Republican. He has served as highway commissioner and school director and manifests a helpful interest in matters pertaining to the

GEORGE W. FESSER.

George W. Fesser, numbered among the successful and enterprising farmers of Nokomis township, was born on the 8th of September, 1865, in Rountree township, and has always lived in Montgomery county. His parents, Henry and Mary (Westphal) Fesser, were natives of Germany and the father, on emigrating to America, established his home in Sangamon county, whence he afterward removed to Montgomery county during the period of its early settlement and development. He purchased four hundred acres of land and afterward

general good and the welfare of his community. In addition to his farming pursuits he has provided for his family by carrying a policy in the New York Life Insurance Company. In his business he is manifesting the sterling traits of character which always lead to success and he is accounted one of the able and enterprising farmers of Nokomis township.

CHARLES A. TOLLE.

Charles A. Tolle, who is closely associated with business interests in Litchfield as manufacturer of soda and mineral waters, his business having reached extensive and profitable proportions, so that it is a valued factor in the commercial life of the city, was born in Hanover, Germany, in 1863, his parents being Louis and Caroline Tolle, both of whom were natives of Germany. The father was a miller by occupation, who conducted that business in his native land until his death, which occurred in 1881, when he was forty-seven years of age. He had served his country in the German war of 1866. His wife, who still survives him, is now living in Hanover at the age of seventy-three years, and Charles A. Tolle paid a visit to her in the winter of 1903-4. In their family were seven children, of whom five are yet living, and with the exception of the subject of this review all are yet residents of the fatherland.

Charles A. Tolle acquired his education in the schools of Germany and there learned the miller's trade, but the opportunities of the new world attracted him and, hoping that he might benefit by the business advantages of America, he came to the United States in 1880 when seventeen years of age, locating in St. Louis, Missouri. He there worked at the miller's trade for two years and on the expiration of that period removed to Greene county, Illinois, where he was employed in a mill for one year. He afterward spent three or four years in a similar way in Carlinville, Illinois, and subsequently went to Mount Olive, where he worked at his trade for six months. He next located at Union, Missouri, where he also spent six months as an employe in a mill and in 1888

he turned his attention to the grain trade, conducting his own business on his own account for two years.

In 1890 he came to Litchfield and established a bottling business for the manufacture of soda and mineral waters, ginger ale, cider and vinegar. He also has a distilled water plant, which is one of the important departments of his business. He has been very successful in this new undertaking and his trade covers a large territory, extending over a radius of sixty miles from Litchfield. This is the only enterprise of the kind in the city. He has a well equipped plant and his manufactures are absolutely chemically pure and are recommended by physicians because of the excellence of the quality and the fair dealing of the proprietor. The business has continually increased and Mr. Tolle is realizing therefrom a very gratifying profit.

In 1889 occurred the marriage of Mr. Tolle and Miss Kate Houser, a daughter of Christian and Virginia Houser. She was born in Walshville May 4, 1869. Her father was a harness-maker and also owned considerable land. Mr. and Mrs. Tolle were the parents of three children, of whom two are now living, Florence and Julia. They are members of the Lutheran church and Mr. Tolle belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity, the Modern Woodmen camp and the Mutual Protective League, the Fire Association and the United States Commercial Travelers. He is interested in all that pertains to the city's progress and his political allegiance is given to the Republican party. He has served as alderman of the fourth ward, has acted as treasurer of the fire department and Litchfield numbers him among her enterprising business men.

MICHAEL J. BUSCHER.

Among the more enterprising and capable young business men of Montgomery county is numbered Michael J. Buscher, the secretary and assistant cashier of the Litchfield Bank. He was born April 13, 1875, in Atlanta, Indiana, his birthplace being his father's farm, on which he spent the first seventeen years of his



CHARLES A. TOLLE.

life, early becoming familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. During that period he acquired his education in the public schools and he afterward began teaching in the country and city schools, following that profession for five years, during which time he gave excellent satisfaction because he had the ability to impart clearly and readily to others the knowledge that he had acquired. He, in 1894, came to Illinois and entered the services of the Mundy-Settlemin Grain Company, of Litchfield, in the capacity of secretary and bookkeeper. He was thus engaged until 1902, in which year he entered the services of the Litchfield Bank & Trust Company, and is now secretary and assistant cashier. His position at first was practically that of office boy, but his business capacity and faithfulness won ready recognition in promotion and he has been advanced from time to time until he is now occupying a responsible position in connection with the institution.

On the 15th of July, 1903, Mr. Buscher was married to Miss Eliza C. McElligott, a daughter of John McElligott, of Litchfield. They have one son, John Paul, whose birth occurred April 27, 1904. The parents are members of the Catholic church and Mr. Buscher is a Democrat in his political views, but is not bitterly partisan. He belongs to the Elks lodge, of Litchfield, and also holds membership relations with the Knights of Columbus. He has steadily worked his way upward by study, close application, by intelligent effort and by courteous treatment to those with whom he is associated in the business world. He is well liked by all and he and his accomplished and amiable wife occupy an enviable position in the social circles of their adopted city.

F. MARION JONES.

F. Marion Jones is the owner of a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, and is also conducting a dairy of twenty cows. He is alert, enterprising and farsighted in business affairs and his strong determination has enabled him to overcome difficulties and obstacles such as come to every individual in a business career.

He was born in Calhoun county, Illinois, and when he was but eleven months old his parents removed to Douglas county, settling near Tuscola, upon a farm. There he remained until sixteen years of age. At that time he lost his father and he began earning his own living by working as a farm hand by the month in Douglas county. After a short time he removed to Montgomery county, settling in Litchfield township, where he was employed as a farm laborer by the month until he attained his majority. On the expiration of that period he began renting land, thus starting out upon an independent business career. Not long afterward he went to Springfield, where he remained for sixteen years and, during that time, he was engaged in carpentering and in conducting a meat market and grocery store. He continued a resident of that city until 1889, when he took up his abode upon the farm which he now occupies, and to its development and cultivation he has since devoted his energies with good success. He has one hundred and sixty acres of land, which is arable and productive, situated on section 1, Grisham township. In addition to general farming he is also engaged in the dairy business and milks about twenty cows.

F. Marion Jones was married to Catherine Lovely, and they have two children, Laura B. and Ray S. After losing his first wife he wedded Mrs. Laura B. Beck, the widow of George Beck, and a daughter of Hiram Long, who was one of the early pioneer residents of Montgomery county, born in Kentucky, whence he came to Illinois, settling first near Litchfield. He afterward removed to Hillsboro township, where his remaining days were passed. By her first marriage Mrs. Jones had three children: Jessie T., G. Clarence and Lola G. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Jones has been born a son, Harold F. In his political affiliations Mr. Jones is a Republican and has served as constable and as school director. He is also connected with the Red Men and his brethren of these fraternities esteem him because of his fidelity to the principles of the organization. Dependent upon his own resources from the age of sixteen years, his advancement in life and his success in business are attributable to his own efforts.

WILLIAM A. ALLEN, M. D.

Dr. William A. Allen, who is interested in the practice of medicine and in agricultural pursuits as well, resides two miles south of Donnellson and in the town and throughout the surrounding district has acquired a large patronage which is indicative of the confidence reposed in his professional skill by his fellow citizens. He was born in East Fork township, January 28, 1856, his parents being Robert S. and Harriet (Ohmart) Allen. The father was born in North Carolina in 1832 and was a young man of about twenty-two years when in 1854 he emigrated westward to Illinois, settling in East Fork township, Montgomery county. Developing a farm there, he reared his family upon that place and William A. Allen spent the days of his boyhood and youth there and attended the district schools of the township. He afterward engaged in teaching school for two years, but regarded this merely as an initiatory step to further professional labor. Desirous of making the practice of medicine his life work, he began reading with Dr. Haynes and subsequently he attended the Missouri Medical College of St. Louis, in which institution he was graduated with the class of 1878. He then located where George Allen now resides and practiced there for many years. In 1882 he opened an office in Donnellson, where he maintained his home, until 1899, when he removed to his present location. He has been very successful in practice, for he is careful in the diagnosis of a case and in the administration of medicines, and his knowledge is proven by the excellent results which have attended him in his professional labors. He also continues farming and stock-raising in Montgomery county and in addition to his property here he has twelve hundred acres of land in the northern part of Bond county.

On the 5th of May, 1881, Dr. Allen was united in marriage to Miss Clara Clotfelter, of Hillsboro, who is a most estimable lady, having many warm friends in Montgomery county. She is a daughter of James W. Clotfelter, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. She belongs to the Presbyterian church and by her marriage she has become the mother of one daughter, Rubie. Dr. Allen affiliates with the

Knights of Pythias fraternity and with the Masonic lodge at Sorento. In politics he is a Democrat, but has never sought or desired public office, preferring to devote his attention to his professional labors and other business interests. Anything that tends to bring to man a more comprehensive knowledge of the science of medicine and thus render his labors more effective in checking the ravages of disease is of interest to Dr. Allen, who is continually broadening his knowledge by reading and investigation. He belongs to the Bond and Montgomery Counties Medical Societies and also to the District Medical Society, the Illinois State Medical Society and the American Medical Association. He is now numbered among the prosperous residents of the county and yet all that he has acquired has been won through his own unaided efforts during a quarter of a century.

JOHN H. LOUCKS.

John H. Loucks, a lifelong resident of Montgomery county, whose activity as an agriculturist has led to substantial success, was born in Hillsboro township, December 31, 1866, his parents being William and Louisa (Langford) Loucks, who removed from Indianapolis, Indiana, to Montgomery county in 1864. They located on a farm two miles west of Hillsboro, and at the old home place John H. Loucks was reared. His education was acquired in the common schools and when twenty years of age he began earning his own living. He has made agricultural pursuits his principal occupation since attaining manhood. He is very industrious and is both practical and progressive in his methods of farming. The farm consists of two hundred acres in Montgomery county, of which one hundred and thirty acres is the home place. Mr. Loucks has made many improvements upon the farm, which is now a model property, supplied with all the equipments and accessories needed to facilitate farm work and render his efforts more effective in gaining a good living from the soil. He raises various cereals and is also raising stock of good grades. The farm is located about five miles southwest of Hillsboro and its neat and thrifty appear

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JOHN H. LOUCKS AND FAMILY.



MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM LOUCKS.

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ance renders it one of the attractive features of the landscape.

On November 30, 1892, at Litchfield, Illinois, Mr. Loucks was united in marriage to Miss Lavina Atterbury, a daughter of William Atterbury, and they have two children, Omar and Paris. The parents are members of the Woodshoro Methodist Episcopal church and take a helpful interest in many of the church activities. Mr. Loucks is now serving as superintendent of the Sunday-school and he contributes generously to the support of the church and does all in his power to promote its growth and extend its influence. He is also church treasurer and clerk of the board of trustees. Politically a Democrat, he has never held office and is yet a public-spirited citizen. His life shows the power of industry in achieving success, and of honesty in winning an untarnished name.

M. D. HOLMES.

M. D. Holmes, now living in Hillsboro, is a representative of the farming interests of Montgomery county, owning and operating a tract of land on section 31, East Fork township. He is one of the native sons of the county, his birth having here occurred in 1848, his parents being Joel D. and Miranda D. Holmes. The father was born in Maine and at an early age was left an orphan. He was then reared in New York, where he remained until twenty-one years of age, when he came across the country and purchased what is now known as the old family homestead. He was one of the earliest settlers in East Fork township, and though he had to endure hardships and trials incident to pioneer life in early days he gradually won success through his enterprising labors and was enabled to secure the advantages and conveniences known to the older east. He was a progressive man, a fact which was manifested in his business career as well as in citizenship, and he became an extensive farmer, owning about nine hundred acres of land at the time of his death. He was accounted one of the leading men of his community, respected for his fidelity in citizenship, his interest in

business transactions and his loyalty to his home ties. In his political views he was a Republican. He died in 1871, while his wife, surviving him for about twelve years, passed away in 1883. They are survived by three living children, but M. D. Holmes is the only one residing in Montgomery county.

On the old family homestead M. D. Holmes spent the days of his boyhood and youth. He was reared to farm life, early becoming familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of an agriculturist. His preliminary education was acquired in the schools of his township and when he had mastered the branches of learning therein taught he entered the Hillsboro Academy, where he spent one winter. He began business life upon a farm which his father gave him when he was twenty-two years of age and there carried on agricultural pursuits for five years, at the end of which time he traded the property to his brother, who was living on the home place, and since then Mr. Holmes has resided upon the old family farm. He has given most of his attention to stock-raising, feeding cattle for the market for many years. At the present writing he is practically living retired, while his sons conduct the farm. His rest is well earned because he has been a busy man, diligent in his business affairs and conducting all interests so as to merit the esteem and confidence of his fellow men.

In October, 1871, occurred the marriage of Mr. Holmes to Miss Amanda Barnett, a daughter of Jesse Barnett. Their marriage was blessed with eight children, but only three are now living: Fred D., who lives at Raymond; Chester D., who is living on the home place; and Hiram Marshall, who resides in Missouri. Mrs. Holmes was born in Missouri, but was reared in Montgomery county and her death occurred here in August, 1898. She was laid to rest in Waverly Cemetery amid the deep regret of many friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Holmes held membership in the Presbyterian church and he is a Republican in his political views. The home farm comprises two hundred and twelve acres of land, well equipped with modern conveniences and accessories, the buildings being substan-

tial and modern. Mr. Holmes has worked earnestly and persistently year after year to obtain a comfortable competence. He has realized that there is no royal road to wealth and that there is no excellence without labor and by his persistent industry he has gradually advanced financially, at the same time gaining the trust of his fellow men by his honorable business methods.

W. F. BOTE.

W. F. Bote, who is filling the position of check weighman with the Montgomery Coal Company, was born in Madison county near Bethalto, Illinois, on the 17th of May, 1871. He is a son of Adam and Mary (Zolzar) Bote, both of whom were natives of Germany, whence they came to America in 1845, locating at St. Louis, Missouri. There the father conducted a blacksmith shop for eighteen years and on the expiration of that period removed to Madison county, Illinois, in 1863. He purchased two hundred and forty acres of land and engaged in farming thereon until February, 1877, when he sold that property and came to Montgomery county, purchasing a farm of two hundred and twenty acres a half mile southeast of Witt. It is now located within the corporation limits of the town and a portion of it has been subdivided and sold as town lots. Adam Bote was for almost a quarter of a century a respected and valued resident of Montgomery county and his death here occurred November 27, 1900, at the age of seventy-three years. His widow still survives and is now living in the town of Witt at the age of seventy-two years, the anniversary of her birth being June 8, 1904. Mr. Bote was deeply interested in church work, took a very active part in promoting the cause of Christianity in his community and was also influential in public affairs relating to the government of his township, filling various township offices. In the family of this worthy couple were the following children: Katie, who died at the age of twenty-seven years; Daniel, a resident of Nokomis; Mrs. Mary E. Bert, who is living in Nokomis, where her husband is filling the office of postmaster; Lizzie, who

became the wife of George Neece, of Nokomis township, and died in 1895; Bertha, who is the wife of N. I. Pitgner and resides on the old homestead; Liddie, the wife of Aaron Platt, of Witt; W. F., of this review; and Sadie, the wife of John Anderson, of Nokomis township.

W. F. Bote was educated in the district schools of his township and at the age of nineteen years started upon his business career as a brakeman on the Big Four Railroad, being thus employed for six months. He later engaged in farming for two years and subsequently he assisted in sinking the Montgomery coal shaft. He has been working there since that time and in 1900 he was appointed to his present position as check weighman. He has also conducted a restaurant in Witt and is one of the enterprising, industrious business men of his locality.

On the 1st of December, 1895, Mr. Bote was married to Miss Anna Holmes, a daughter of William and Jane (Roberts) Holmes, the former an engineer. Mr. and Mrs. Bote now have three children: Newell S., seven years of age; Mildred May, a little daughter of four summers; and Floyd C., two years old. The parents are members of the Presbyterian church and Mr. Bote belongs to Twin City lodge, No. 622, K. P., of Witt; to the Modern Woodman camp, No. 5628, of Witt; and to the United Mine Workers, No. 167. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party and he keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day, thus being able to support his position by intelligent argument. He has long resided in this locality, where his sterling worth has made him widely and favorably known as a reliable and trustworthy business man.

L. M. CHAMBERLIN.

L. M. Chamberlin, who is engaged in general farming in Hillsboro township and owes his prosperity to his own intelligently directed efforts and unflinching diligence, was born in South Litchfield township, October 15, 1864. His boyhood days were unmarked by any event of special importance that varied the routine

of farm life for him. He worked in the fields and pursued his education in the public schools of Litchfield, and throughout his entire life has been connected with farming interests. The experience which he gained in youth has proven of practical value to him since he began farming on his own account, and his work is carried on along progressive lines, leading to desirable results.

On the 22d of December, 1888, Mr. Chamberlin was united in marriage to Miss Florence Simpson, and they became the parents of one child, Vonnice. The wife and mother died in 1891 and in 1892 Mr. Chamberlin was again married, his second union being with Miss Mary Sims. They have three children, Inez, Delbert and Edna.

At the time of his first marriage Mr. Chamberlin located upon a farm which he rented for a year, when his father purchased the property. He continued renting until 1897, when with the capital he had acquired through his own labors, economy and careful management he purchased two hundred and eighteen acres of land, of which eighty acres is rich bottom land. The place is now well tilled and the fields return to him good crops. In addition to general farming he is engaged in the feeding of cattle and hogs, and the sale of his stock adds materially to his annual income. His farm is situated on sections 27 and 28, Hillsboro township, about five miles from Hillsboro. His political support is given the Democracy, but he has neither time nor inclination for public office, preferring to devote his energies to his business affairs, which, capably conducted, have made him one of the substantial citizens of the community. Having always lived in this county, he has witnessed many changes here, has seen its rapid development in the last forty years, and has felt just pride in what has been accomplished.

CHRISTIAN D. ZUBER.

Christian D. Zuber, who is engaged in the manufacture of cigars in Litchfield, is also actively interested in the welfare and development of the city and has been a co-operant

factor in many movements which produce commercial stability and promote the progress and improvement of the city. He has spent his entire life here, his birth having occurred in Litchfield March 17, 1872. His father, Christian Zuber, Sr., was born in Germany, and when fourteen years of age came to the United States. After spending a short time in St. Louis and other places, he came to Litchfield in 1859. He was a butcher by trade and carried on business along that line until 1881, when he retired from active life. He married Amelia Wareholt, who was born in St. Louis, and they became the parents of five children, two sons and three daughters. Mr. Zuber voted with the Republican party and fraternally was identified with the Odd Fellows lodge. He died January 12, 1898, at the age of fifty-eight years, and his widow is still living in Litchfield at the age of fifty-four.

Christian D. Zuber continued his studies until he had mastered the branches of learning taught in the high school of Litchfield. He afterward learned the trade of cigar-making and in 1896 engaged in business for himself, having at first but one employe. That he has prospered and his business grown is indicated by the fact that he now employs seven journeymen cigar-makers and the output of his factory is a half million cigars per year. The brands of cigars which he manufactures are Zuber's Favorite, a five-cent cigar; El Triunpho, a ten-cent cigar; and also the Blue Bonnet and C. D. Z. He sells largely throughout the surrounding territory and has established a good market for his product, the sale of which brings to him a very desirable financial return.

Mr. Zuber was married May 3, 1899, to Dora Balke, who was born at Mount Olive, Macoupin county, Illinois, in 1875, a daughter of Henry Balke, who was a mining boss. Mr. and Mrs. Zuber have two sons, Carl and Arthur. They are members of the Lutheran church and Mr. Zuber belongs to the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, the Odd Fellows society, Knights of Pythias fraternity, the Modern Woodmen camp and the Cigar-Makers Union. He is also a member of the Litchfield fire department and his political support is given the Republican party. He is well known in the

city which has always been his home and his genial manner and deference for the opinions of others have made him popular in the social circles in which he moves.

SETH E. WASHBURN.

Seth E. Washburn, who follows farming on section 32, Irving township, was born in Syracuse, New York, April 18, 1847. His parents were Thomas D. and Roxanna M. (Joslin) Washburn, both born on the 25th of April, 1819. The father was a graduate of Burr Seminary of Vermont, of Phillip Academy, the Andover Academy and Harvard College. He completed a course in Harvard Medical College and also attended the New York University, and in the year 1849 he came to Illinois, establishing his home in Grayville, but in 1851 he removed to Lawrenceville, and in 1856 came to Hillsboro, where he afterward made his home, practicing his profession continuously with the exception of a short period spent in the military service of his country. In 1862 he joined the Union Army as assistant surgeon of the One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry and during the last eighteen months of the war was post surgeon at Little Rock, Arkansas. He was always deeply interested in his profession and its advancement, and was likewise active in support of many measures for public progress and improvement in his community. He died September 30, 1893, after almost forty years' residence in Montgomery county, in which period he had proved himself a valued citizen. His wife passed away June 25, 1904, at the age of eighty-five years and two months.

Seth E. Washburn supplemented his early educational privileges by study in the academy at Hillsboro and also in Jacksonville College. When but fourteen years of age he joined the Union army as a messenger boy at Alton, Illinois, and in 1864 he regularly enlisted, becoming a member of Company H, One Hundred and Forty-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry. After the close of the war he spent three years in Missouri and three in Kansas, after which he returned to Montgomery county. He has

made agriculture his life work and about 1875 he removed to the place upon which he now resides, comprising one hundred and nineteen acres of land, which, now under a high state of cultivation, is very productive. He also breeds Jersey cattle and has some fine stock upon his place.

On the 3d of November, 1874, Mr. Washburn was united in marriage to Miss Josephine M. Richmond, who was born in 1850 and is a daughter of William and Harriet Newell (Doty) Richmond. The father was born in Licking county, Ohio, in 1822, and followed the occupation of farming. The mother was born in 1824 and died in 1855, being long survived by Mr. Richmond, who departed this life in 1886. He had come to Montgomery county with his parents, Henry W. and Eliza Richmond, in the early '40s, and the grandfather of Mrs. Washburn died here in 1874, while his wife, who was a native of Trenton, New Jersey, passed away in 1889. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Washburn have been born three children: Ruth, who died at the age of eleven months; Harriet E., the wife of J. B. Turner, Jr., of Montgomery county; and William B., who is married and lives in Hillsboro, Illinois.

Mr. Washburn belongs to F. D. Hubble Post, No. 403, G. A. R., of Hillsboro, and the Modern Woodmen Camp, while his wife is a member of the Congregational church. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party and he is now highway commissioner, also school trustee and has been assessor of his township. Few men of his age can boast of military experience and service in the Civil war. Since that time he has lived the quiet but useful and honorable life of the farmer and in his business career has not only gained success but has also made a name which is synonymous with straightforward dealing in his community.

W. F. SCHLUCKEBIER.

W. F. Schluckebier, who is living in East Fork township on what is the old family homestead, was born May 21, 1871, his parents being Christian and Fredericka (Ortmyer) Schluckebier. His father was born in



S. E. WASHBURN.



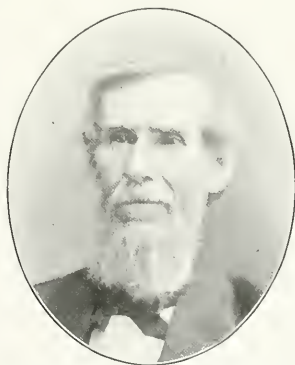
MRS. S. E. WASHBURN.



WILLIAM RICHMOND.



MRS. T. D. WASHBURN.



DR. T. D. WASHBURN.

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Waldeck, Prussia, Germany, on the 22d of February, 1829, and is, therefore, seventy-five years of age. He remained in his native country during the period of his boyhood and youth and for some years after attaining his majority, but when twenty-eight years of age arrived in St. Louis, Missouri. He secured employment as a farm hand in the vicinity of that city, where he remained for about five or six years. On the expiration of that period he took a half interest with the Krumel Brothers in a rented farm of forty-five acres, now lying within the corporation limits of St. Louis, which they operated in 1861 and 1862. They paid for this a rental of four hundred dollars per year and Mr. Schluckebier remained thereon for about ten years. He then came to the old home place in East Fork township, Montgomery county, establishing his home thereon about thirty-four years ago. The place comprised one hundred and twenty-two acres at the time of his purchase, but he afterward added to this until he had four hundred and twenty-four acres in the home tract and one hundred and twenty acres in Bond county. Upon his farm he was largely engaged in the raising of cattle and hay. When he arrived in St. Louis he had but three dollars. He is a self-made man for all that he now possesses has been acquired through his unflinching enterprise and labor. He made enough within ten years to pay for one hundred and twenty acres of land and his example is one well worthy of emulation, showing what can be accomplished by unflinching diligence, careful economy and strong purpose. On the 15th of October, 1861, in St. Louis, he married Fredericka Ortmyer, who was born in Germany in 1834, and died December 26, 1873. In June of the following year he was again married in Shelby county, Illinois, his second union being with Doretta Hazelmeyer, who died January 18, 1878. He now resides upon the old home place with the subject of this review and has retired from farm life, enjoying now a well merited rest. Of his three children, Julia, who died August 25, 1903, was the wife of Omer Cooper, Mary F., the older daughter, is the wife of Allie Edwards.

W. F. Schluckebier, the only son, attended school in Donnellson, Illinois, pursuing his studies through the winter months, while in the summer seasons he worked upon the old home farm. At the age of twenty-two years he entered upon an independent business career by renting land from his father. This he operated for eight years. He then purchased half of the tract and his father gave him the other half, so that he now has four hundred and twenty-four acres. His sister was given one hundred and twenty-five acres of another farm. He has always been very successful as a farmer and his familiarity with modern business methods is shown by his capable and successful conduct of his farm. He built the barn upon his place, but his father erected the rest of the buildings except the house. This is now a well improved property and Mr. Schluckebier keeps everything about the place in excellent repair.

Near Donnellson, February 13, 1898, was celebrated the marriage of W. F. Schluckebier and Miss Louisa M. Heckel, who was born in Grisham township, October 27, 1868. Her parents were Jacob and Wilhelmina (Helfers) Heckel, the former born in Alsace-Lorraine, Germany, August 18, 1810, and the latter near Hanover, Germany, June 6, 1851. The father came to America in 1847 and first settled near Belleville, Illinois, but in 1866 came to Montgomery county and he and his wife are now living in Grisham township. Of their seven children four are still living, namely: Louisa M., wife of our subject; Lotta, wife of Fred Krumel, of Grisham township; and John and Bertha, both at home. Mr. and Mrs. Schluckebier have four children: Nellie M., born January 22, 1899; Charles C., born October 21, 1900; Minnie A., born June 22, 1902; and Mary L., born February 6, 1904.

Mrs. Schluckebier is a member of the Presbyterian church and Mr. Schluckebier gives his political support to the Republican party, of which his father has also been an advocate for a long period. Mr. Schluckebier is an old settler, representing one of the pioneer families of the county and his life-long experience at farming has made him very capable in the

department of industry which he has chosen as his regular occupation.

MRS. MARY EMILY BECK.

Mrs. Mary Emily Beck, residing in Hillsboro, is one of the native citizens of Montgomery county and has long been a witness of the development and progress here that have wrought great changes and placed this county on a par with the leading counties of the commonwealth. Mrs. Beck was born in Hillsboro township in 1842. Her father, Michael Smith Barry, was a native of Kentucky, born in 1818, and when fourteen years of age he was brought to Montgomery county by his parents, Richard and Nancy (Smith) Barry, who located in Hillsboro township, where the grandfather of Mrs. Beck followed the occupation of farming. The family is of English lineage and representatives of the name moved from Virginia to Kentucky at an early period in the development of the latter state.

Michael S. Barry was reared on the old family homestead in Montgomery county, also became a farmer by occupation and for many years carried on agricultural pursuits, thus acquiring a competency and providing a comfortable living for his family. He was reared in the Baptist faith, and in his political views he was originally a Whig, but upon the organization of the Republican party he joined its ranks. His death occurred in 1899, when he was more than eighty years of age. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Clotfelter, was born in North Carolina in 1815 and died in 1858. She was the daughter of David and Nancy (Short) Clotfelter. Her father started for Montgomery county when this district was just opening up to civilization, but died ere he reached his destination. The others of the family came to the west. Mr. and Mrs. Barry became the parents of three children: Mary Emily; John Richard, who died in early manhood in 1872; and Amos, a resident farmer of Hillsboro township.

Mary Emily Barry spent her childhood days in her parents' home and was trained to the duties of the household. She acquired her edu-

cation in the district schools and afterward engaged in teaching, but in 1864 she gave her hand in marriage to George W. Beck, who was born in Maine in 1837. He was brought to Montgomery county, Illinois, when but three years of age by his parents, Thomas and Isabel Beck. In their family were nine children. George W. Beck acquired his education in the district schools, was trained to farm labor, and throughout the greater part of his life carried on agricultural pursuits. He was seventeen years of age at the time of his father's death and he then started out to make his own way in the world. He had no capital, but he possessed strong resolution, determined courage and energy, and as the years passed he succeeded in acquiring a competency, and in 1886 he put aside business cares and removed to Hillsboro, where he lived retired until called to his final home on April 20, 1896.

At the time of the Civil war Mr. Beck espoused the Union cause and enlisted, in July, 1861, as a member of Company E of the First Illinois Cavalry. He was taken prisoner at Lexington, Missouri, in 1862, and soon afterward was given his parole. He then returned home, and in 1864 he was drafted for service, but having a parole he sent a substitute. He held the rank of first sergeant and was mustered out at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, after which he was honorably discharged. He had one very narrow escape in battle, his collar button being shot away by a rebel bullet. Had the bullet swerved even a fractional part of an inch he would have been wounded.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Beck were born seven children: Carrie Adelaide, who married Amos Edwards and lives in East Fork township; Amy Alice, who became the wife of George Seymour and died in 1898; Elizabeth, who married Seborn Emery and is living in Hillsboro; Edith C., the wife of Fred Ludwig, a merchant of St. Louis; Charles R., who died in infancy; Roscoe E., who is living on the old homestead; and Mary Isabel, who is at home with her mother.

Mr. Beck was reared in the faith of the Methodist church, with which he was long identified, but in his later years he joined the Presbyterian church, to which his widow now belongs.

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GEORGE W. BECK.



MRS. MARY E. BECK.

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His life was ever upright and honorable, being in consistent harmony with his professions. There were no exciting chapters in his career, yet his history proves the force of energy and capable management in the active affairs of life. Wishing to gain a competence, he placed his dependence upon the substantial qualities of untiring labor, careful management, and upon these foundation stones he built his success. He won the warm regard of his many friends by his fidelity to every duty, and in his own home he was a devoted husband and father.

H. C. HAWKINS.

H. C. Hawkins, a retired farmer now residing in Donnellson, is enjoying the fruits of his former toil, for in earlier years he followed agricultural pursuits and worked earnestly and energetically to gain a competence to be enjoyed by him in the evening of life. He is one of Illinois' native sons, his birth having occurred in Georgetown, Vermillion county, January 21, 1845. His parents were Cozba and Sarah (Milner) Hawkins. His father was born in Kentucky, September 26, 1815, and with his parents came to Illinois where amid pioneer conditions he was reared. After attaining his majority he married Miss Sarah Milner, who was also born in Kentucky, June 24, 1813, and they became the parents of seven children, of whom two are now living: H. C. and Madison, who is a resident of Oklahoma. The father died November 6, 1889, and the mother passed away April 1, 1893. The Hawkins family was established in Illinois at a very early period in its development, for the grandfather of our subject settled within the borders of the state before Chicago was a town. The great prairies were unbroken and over them roamed wild deer. Almost the entire state still waited the awakening touch of civilization to make the field productive.

Mr. Hawkins was reared in Montgomery county from the age of twelve years, for his father brought the family to this county in March, 1857. He was but a youth of seventeen years when he responded to the country's

call for aid, his patriotic spirit being aroused by the attempt of the south to overthrow the Union. He enlisted in Company B, One Hundred and Seventeenth Illinois Infantry, and was always with his company, participating in many important engagements, including the battles of Tupelo, Nashville, Fort Blakeley, and many others, over thirty in all. He was also in the movements of the Red River Campaign and the battle of Mobile. He was never wounded or captured, although he was in a number of hotly contested engagements and never faltered in the performance of any duty. When the company was organized he was then the youngest member and after the close of the war he was mustered out, receiving an honorable discharge in Springfield in 1865. He now has in his possession three cents in paper money, which he drew from the paymaster at Montgomery, Alabama, while in the army.

H. C. Hawkins then returned to Montgomery county and in connection with his brother rented his father's farm, while later he began farming on his own account, continuing to conduct the old homestead alone for six years. He then purchased eighty acres of land in East Fork township and afterward added forty acres additional. Still he continued to add to the place as opportunity afforded and his financial resources permitted until he now has two hundred and forty acres in East Fork township. He also has some property in Donnellson and in Grisham township where he was engaged in general farming and stock-raising.

On the 27th of November, 1867, Mr. Hawkins was united in marriage to Miss Mary J. Donnell, who was born April 25, 1847. Her father, T. C. Donnell, was born in Greenbury, Guilford county, North Carolina, August 12, 1812, and died March 21, 1904, in this county. The town of Donnellson was named in his honor, for he entered the land from the government and resided thereon for sixty-six years, being ninety-one years of age at the time of his death. He was one of the most venerable and honored citizens of the county and took a very active and helpful part in promoting its progress and upbuilding. A strong Republican in politics, he never missed an

election but did not care for office. Religiously both he and his wife were members of the Presbyterian church. She bore the maiden name of Jane Findley, was born in Wilson county, Tennessee, March 11, 1812, and died July 31, 1900. They were married on Pleasant Prairie, two miles northwest of Sorento, Illinois, and were the parents of ten children, of whom two died in infancy, while eight grew to mature years and seven are still living, namely: Nancy, the wife of Rev. W. W. M. Barber, of Windsor, Illinois; John M., a resident of Wilber, Oregon; George W., of Shelbyville, Illinois; James G., of Donnellson; Sarah, wife of B. F. McLean, living near Donnellson; Mary J., wife of our subject; and Thomas E., living near Donnellson.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Hawkins belong to the Cumberland Presbyterian church and Mr. Hawkins is also a member of the Grand Army Post of Hillshoro. In politics he is a Republican and while he has never sought or desired office for himself he has yet given stalwart support to the principles of his party and keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day. He is, moreover, an enterprising business man who deserves much credit for what he has accomplished as he had only three dollars when he started out in life for himself. Nearly all that he possesses has been acquired through his diligence and capable management and his farming property is the visible evidence of his life of thrift and industry.

JOHN M. WAGGONER.

Prominent among the business men of Waggoner and the representatives of farming interests in the northwest part of Montgomery county is John M. Waggoner, a man of rare capacity and enterprise, who has been an important factor in community interests and whose labors have resulted not only in benefit to himself, but have also promoted general progress and the substantial growth of his locality. He is the president of the Bank of Waggoner and as a farmer and stockdealer has extensive interests, owning a large and well improved

tract of land, covering more than six hundred acres.

The life record of this gentleman is a credit to Montgomery county, for he is numbered among her native sons, his birth having occurred on the old family homestead in Pitman township on the 8th of March, 1864. His father, George W. Waggoner, was born in Hardin county, Kentucky, October 8, 1826, and was a son of Adam and Mary A. (Terry) Waggoner, who were among the early settlers that removed from the Blue Grass state to Illinois. Adam Waggoner established his home in Jersey county when its population was limited, the work of upbuilding and development being scarcely begun there. It was in Jersey county that George W. Waggoner was reared. He was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth McCullough, who was born in Rockingham county, Virginia, March 22, 1827, and in 1833 removed to Macoupin county, Illinois, where they were married on the 2d day of December, 1851.

Early in the '50s George W. Waggoner purchased land in Pitman township, Montgomery county, also entered some land from the government and thus acquired possession of several hundred acres. Before him lay the arduous task of developing a new farm, but he resolutely set to work to reclaim the tract for the purposes of cultivation and in due course of time reaped harvests as the reward of his labors. He died in the prime of life, passing away September 29, 1866, at the age of forty years, but already he had achieved success that many an older man might well envy. His wife, surviving him, capably reared their family, doing a mother's full duty to her children. Their family numbered four sons, all of whom reached mature years. Horace G., who was the eldest, was married and was then engaged in farming and stock-raising. He later established the Bank at Waggoner and was the president and manager of that institution until his death in September, 1901. His loss was deeply deplored by many friends and was also felt in the business circles of the town. George P. Waggoner, the second son, is a prominent farmer of Pitman township; and Henry Q. Waggoner is the third son. Sketches of these gentlemen will be found elsewhere in this volume.



MR. AND MRS. GEORGE W. WAGGONER.

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John M. Waggoner, the youngest son, was reared to manhood on the old homestead and as soon as old enough took charge of the farm, which he operated successfully for a number of years. At length he succeeded to a part of the estate, including the old home and he yet owns that property. In connection with his farm interests he has been very actively and largely engaged in the stock business, raising, feeding, buying and shipping stock, his broad and practical experience in youth making him well qualified to carry on business on his own account and his farming interests are now extensive and valuable, while the products of his place bring a gratifying financial return, owing to the careful management which he displays in his stock-raising interests and the capable manner in which the fields are cultivated. After the death of his eldest brother he succeeded to the presidency of the Bank of Waggoner, but continued to reside upon the farm until the fall of 1903, when he removed to an attractive residence in the village. He, however, continues to supervise his agricultural interests and yet buys and ships stock. His life is indicative of the progressive, enterprising spirit of the middle west, which has led to the rapid and substantial development of this section of the country.

John M. Waggoner was married on the 7th of November, 1887, to Miss Ella Wall, a native of Montgomery county, who was reared and educated here and is a daughter of John and Sarah Wall, of Pitman township. Mr. and Mrs. Waggoner have had three children: Maude E., born January 3, 1889; Alice, who was born March 26, 1892, and died June 13, 1892; and J. Marcus, born October 6, 1899.

Mr. Waggoner votes with the Republican party and has firm faith in its principles, but has no desire for political preferment. His wife is a member of the Christian church and he also attends its services and contributes to its support. Every measure for the general good receives his endorsement and in matters of citizenship he is public-spirited, his interest in his community being manifest in tangible way by the helpful part he has taken in promoting its business development and substantial growth. He is a man of strong individuality,

of native force of character and persevering spirit and he carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes.

GEORGE SPINNER.

George Spinner, deceased, who for over thirty years was an honored resident of Montgomery county, was born in Baden, Germany, on the 25th of October, 1838, and was a son of Valentine Spinner, also a native of that country. Reared in Baden, George Spinner there became familiar with farming methods, but believing that he might have better business opportunities in the new world, he disposed of his interests in his native country and crossed the Atlantic to the United States, arriving on the 4th of July, 1864.

Making his way into the interior of the country, Mr. Spinner settled in Clinton county, Illinois, where he worked by the month for a year and a half, and then engaged in operating rented land for about two years. On the expiration of that period he came to Montgomery county in the spring of 1869 and established his home in East Fork township, renting the farm on which his brother Frank Spinner now resides. In 1871 he purchased the home place which is now occupied by his son Louis Spinner. At first he had but seventy acres, which, however, proved the nucleus of more extensive possessions. As his financial resources increased he added to his property until he had one hundred and seventy acres and likewise a house and two lots in Hillsboro and a house in Coffee at the time of his death. He brought to this country about eight hundred dollars in gold, which was then at a premium and could have been exchanged for twenty-one hundred dollars in other currency, but he kept it until after the Civil war was over, at which time he was enabled to obtain only a small premium. This money, however, he invested in a team of horses and began farming. He made for himself all that he possessed and his life demonstrated the value of industry and perseverance in overcoming obstacles and difficulties in winning prosperity.

Mr. Spinner was married in the spring of 1866 to Ernestine Huber and they became the

parents of three children, who are yet living: Louis and Joseph, who are both represented elsewhere in this volume; and Mrs. Ann Huber, a resident of East Fork township. Mr. Spinner was a Democrat in his political views and was accounted one of the representative men of his township but always refused to hold public office. He died January 14, 1901, honored and respected by all who knew him, but his widow is still living, making her home in Hillsboro.

EDWARD HILT.

Edward Hilt, a farmer and breeder of fine stock, is living on section 16, Rountree township. He was born in New Jersey, April 2, 1851, a son of Phil and Emma (Ross) Hilt, who were natives of Germany. After emigrating to America they became residents of New Jersey and in 1880 they arrived in Montgomery county, Illinois, where the father spent his remaining days, his death occurring in 1899, when he was sixty-seven years of age. His first wife died in 1857 and he afterward married her sister Louisa, who is now living in Irving township at the age of sixty-three years.

Edward Hilt was educated in Jersey county, Illinois, and remained with his parents in his boyhood days, working as a farm lad when not engaged with the duties of the school room. He was afterward employed as a farm hand by the month until twenty-two years of age and in 1872 he came to Montgomery county. Here he rented a farm in Rountree township and with characteristic energy and determination began the task of acquiring a capital that would enable him at some future date to become a landowner. When ten years had passed he purchased fifty-three acres and later he sold that property and bought one hundred and seventeen acres, where he now lives, also forty acres additional. He has placed some of the improvements upon this property and has a good farm well equipped with modern conveniences. He is engaged in the breeding of Duroc Jersey hogs, having many full blooded animals, and he also breeds the red polled cattle and keeps a high grade of horses. His fences

constitute one of the attractive features of his place and yet his well cultivated fields are worthy of attention and indicate his careful supervision and progressive methods.

On the 19th of July, 1872, Mr. Hilt was married to Miss Haidee Bridge, a daughter of Thomas and Margaret (Parker) Bridge, both of whom were natives of England who came to America about 1849 and located in Jersey county, Illinois, where they bought land and continued to live until death, dying during the early girlhood of their daughter. Mrs. Hilt has made two trips to England, where she has enjoyed pleasant visits. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hilt have been born eleven children: Charles, who is living in Raymond, Illinois; Tessie, the wife of D. J. Warnings, of Rountree township; Oelia, the wife of William House, of this township; Katie, the wife of John Shore, of the same township; Mabel, Etta, Essie, James, Charlotte and Frances, all at home; and Walter, who died at the age of two years.

Mr. Hilt is a member of the Lutheran church and also belongs to the Mutual Protective League, No. 131, of Rountree. His political views are in accord with the principles of the Democracy and he has served in some local positions, having been assessor, town master and a member of the school board. In his business affairs he has won the prosperity which is the direct result of untiring effort and capable management and in his business career he has also gained the respect and confidence of his fellow men by reason of his straightforward methods.

BEN ROHLFING.

Ben Rohlfig, a liquor dealer in Paisley, was born in St. Louis, Missouri, September 31, 1878, his parents being Christ and Dora (Cassily) Rohlfig. Her father was a brother of Mrs. George T. Seward, of Hillsboro, who is mentioned elsewhere in this work. Christ Rohlfig was born in Hillsboro, while his wife was a native of Germany. He became a bookkeeper for a commission company of St. Louis, Missouri, and was retained in that position up to the time of his death, which oc-



MR. AND MRS. EDWARD HILT.

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curred in 1882, when he was thirty-seven years of age. In the family were five children: William, who is now a gate keeper at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in St. Louis; Lulu, the wife of J. L. Kimball, who is engineer with the Montgomery Coal Company; Ben, of this review; George, a shoemaker of St. Louis; and Christ, who died when only two weeks old.

Ben Rohlfing acquired his education in the schools of St. Louis and after putting aside his textbooks he learned the trade of paper-hanging, which he followed continually until 1901, when he came to Paisley and began working in the mines for the Montgomery Coal Company. He was thus employed for two years or until December 10, 1903. He established a saloon which he is now conducting, having secured a good trade in Paisley which makes his business a profitable one.

On the 10th of March, 1904, Mr. Rohlfing was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Lorena Kimball, a daughter of Calvin and Lucretia (Ghen) Kimball, who were natives of North Carolina and came to Montgomery county about 1869. The father was engaged in farming here for a number of years, but he and his wife are now living in Hillsboro. Mr. Rohlfing is a member of the Mine Workers' Union and he gives his political allegiance to the Democracy.

LEWIS McPHERSON.

Lewis McPherson, a representative farmer and a native son of Montgomery county, is also well known as a member of one of the old and honored pioneer families of this portion of the state. He was born in Litchfield on the 10th of January, 1867. His father, James H. McPherson, was born in Kentucky, December 13, 1826, and there remained until about twelve years of age, when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Greene county, Illinois. He was there reared upon a farm amid scenes of frontier life for the work of development and progress was then in its primitive stages in the locality in which the family home was established. He was mar-

ried there to Rebecca J. Ash and after his marriage he devoted his attention to the operation of his grist and saw mill. Subsequently he built the first saw mill in Litchfield and did the sawing for the first building of the town. His mill stood near the site of the old Planet mill. In partnership with his brother, William A., he continued in the manufacture of lumber for many years, conducting a successful business. They removed the saw mill from Litchfield to Zanesville and subsequently to Grisham township, continuing the business on Shoal creek. There Mr. McPherson was in partnership with William A. Lewis and this relation was maintained from 1867 until 1885, when he retired from business. About 1870 he removed to the farm where he now lives and where he has made his home continuously since, with the exception of two years spent near Walshville. His wife passed away in the year 1870. There were six children by that marriage: George, who resides in St. Louis, where he is shipping agent for the Em-bree & McLean Carriage Company; Matilda, the wife of Isaac Price, of Hillsboro; Lewis; Henrietta, deceased; Lucy; and one that died in infancy. In his business affairs James H. McPherson has been very successful and at one time was the owner of eight hundred acres of land, of which he has now about four hundred and forty acres. Of this three hundred acres is bottom land and is very rich and valuable. In 1902 he suffered from a paralytic stroke, which has since confined him to the house.

Lewis McPherson obtained his education in the common schools and in the business college at Jacksonville. He was married in 1889 to Miss Sarah E. Stevens, and they have three sons: James S., Lewis O. and Albert S.

Mr. McPherson of this review is the owner of one hundred acres of land adjoining the old homestead and in addition to the operation of his farm he has the management of his father's estate. Throughout his entire life he has been connected with agricultural interests and the practical experience which he gained in youth has proven of much value to him as he has conducted his private interests in later life. In his work he is very progressive and determined and he utilizes the various

model methods of farming, which have proven of practical benefit in his work.

S. W. KESSINGER.

S. W. Kessinger, the well known and popular editor of the Litchfield Monitor, who has been called the historian of Litchfield, was born in that city, September 25, 1861, and is a son of Thomas G. and Rebecca E. Kessinger. The southern Illinois conference of the Methodist Episcopal church convened in this city on the day of his birth and shaped his name to Samuel W., the middle initial standing for a name highly honored and respected in Methodist circles. He attended school here from 1873 until 1875, and as the family removed to Butler in the fall of the latter year he continued his studies in the schools of that place for four months, but in January, 1876, they took up their abode in Raymond. Mr. Kessinger resumed his education at Litchfield on the 1st of January, 1883, but quit school in March, 1884, and entered Blackburn University at Carlinville as a member of the class of 1887. In March, 1887, he left college to take possession of The Monitor, but was graduated at Blackburn University in June, 1888, being given the Master's degree by his alma mater in 1894. On the 27th of June, 1888, Mr. Kessinger was united in marriage to Miss Bessie E. Caldwell, of Zanesville, and to them have been born four children, namely: Harold, Ruth, Samuel W., Jr., and Elizabeth.

Mr. Kessinger at first leased The Monitor for four years and a half but purchased it from B. S. Hood September 1, 1891, and has now published the paper for eighteen years. This journal is the outgrowth of the Hillsboro Free-Press, established in 1850. In the campaign of 1860 the Free-Press suspended publication and early in the summer of 1863 the Union Monitor was established by the Republicans of this county with John W. Kitchell, of Hillsboro and recently of Pana, as editor. It published a Litchfield edition, of which B. S. Hood was editor. After undergoing many changes the office was moved to Litchfield in 1867. Since that time it has swallowed several competitors

and was swallowed by a competitor in 1873, but the name of Monitor was still used. The Monitor has had the following editors: J. W. Kitchell, 1863 to 1865; E. J. C. Alexander, 1865 to 1867; B. S. Hood, 1867 to 1870; Bangs & Gray, 1870 to 1872; H. A. Coolidge, 1872 (Kimball & Taylor, owners); Edward Feagan, 1872 (Taylor owner); A. J. Coolidge and George B. Litchfield, 1873 to 1874; H. A. Coolidge, 1874 to 1878; B. S. Hood and C. A. Walker, 1878; B. S. Hood, 1879 to 1881; B. S. Hood and John G. Campbell, 1881 to 1883; John G. Campbell and Charles Hood, 1884 to 1885; B. S. Hood, 1885 to 1887; Kessinger & Warden, March 1 to November 1, 1885; and S. W. Kessinger, 1887 to the present time. It will thus be seen that The Monitor has had a number of editors. No matter what his abilities may or may not be, it is easy to see that the present editor has been at the helm for a longer period than any of his predecessors. When he took control The Monitor was issued weekly, on Saturdays, but after a year he changed the day of publication to Friday. In April, 1892, the Daily Monitor was established and the weekly issued on Thursdays. The Cleveland times struck the country, and this particular section of it, with severity. On the 3d of January, 1896, the daily was discontinued and for three years The Monitor was issued weekly, on Thursdays. On the 1st of January, 1899, a semi-weekly issue of the paper was begun, on Tuesday and Friday of each week, and this has been continued up to the present time.

LEIGHTON W. CLINE.

Leighton W. Cline is the proprietor of a large department store in Litchfield and in his life history he displays the force of business enterprise, capability and keen foresight, for he owes his success to his own efforts and his record demonstrates the possibilities that are open to young men of strong determination and ambition. He is numbered among the native sons of Madison county, Illinois, where his birth occurred in 1866. His father, James W. Cline, was born in Montgomery county



S. W. KESSINGER.

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near Walshville and became a farmer and stockman. He was also engaged in mercantile business at one time and at his death he left a good farm and other realty. At the time of the Civil war he responded to his country's call for aid, enlisting in Company E of the First Illinois Cavalry near the beginning of hostilities. He was captured at Lexington, Missouri, by Price, but was afterward paroled. Subsequently he was drafted, but on account of his parole was discharged. He took part in several engagements and subsequent to the war he became a valued member of the Grand Army of the Republic. He gave his political support to the Republican party and he was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. In early manhood he wedded Mary E. Thompson, a daughter of Rudolph and Susan Thompson. She was born in Ohio and is living in Litchfield at the age of sixty-five years. Her father was a farmer and came from Ohio to Illinois at an early day, settling in Jersey county, where his last days were spent. Mr. and Mrs. Cline traveled life's journey together for many years and were separated by death in March, 1904, when James W. Cline in his sixth-eighth year was called to his final rest. They were the parents of four children: Leighton W.; Chassie, who married F. W. Cooper and is living at Nilwood Illinois; Cullen, who is employed in his brother's store; and J. Stanley, who is local editor for the Daily Herald.

Leighton W. Cline acquired his education at Carbondale, Illinois, in the State University, in the Wesleyan University at Bloomington, and in the Blackburn University at Carlinville, Illinois. On leaving school he entered the employ of R. F. Milner, a druggist of Litchfield, for whom he worked for nine months. In 1887 he became identified with business interests of this city as a merchant, purchasing the grocery store of M. A. Parrish. There he conducted business for seven years as a grocery merchant and then began adding other lines of goods, but his stock developed from what was a small business in 1887 to his fine department store, which is one of the largest enterprises of the kind in this portion of Illinois. He carries a stock

valued at forty thousand dollars and his store building is forty-four by one hundred and thirty feet, two stories in height with basement. He owns this business and he employs twenty-seven people in the conduct of his enterprise.

In 1889 occurred the marriage of Mr. Cline and Miss Delina Cooper, a daughter of Henry and Mary Cooper. Her father is a railroad contractor, is also interested in coal mines and is a large landowner. He is now living at Nilwood and it was in the vicinity of that town in Macoupin county that Mrs. Cline was born in 1866. By her marriage she has become the mother of two children: Gladys and Leighton W. In his political views Mr. Cline is a Republican, who has comprehensive knowledge of the political situation in the country and the questions and issues of the day, but has never sought office, preferring to devote his attention to his business interests, which have developed rapidly under his careful management, honorable methods and unfaltering enterprise. He is yet a young man, but has attained a success that many a man of twice his years might well envy.

GEORGE W. COLLINS.

George W. Collins, who is the proprietor of a good farm of eighty acres on section 14, Witt township, was born in Urbana, Illinois, on the 15th of October, 1858, his parents being Peter S. and Susan C. (Starling) Collins, who were natives of Lancaster, Fairfield county, Ohio. They started from that place for Oregon, but at Covington, Indiana, while en route, members of the family were taken ill and they remained there for two years. On the expiration of that period they removed to Urbana, where the father engaged in contracting and building. He took the contract for the construction of the first street railway, extending from Champaign to Urbana, the motive power for the road being furnished by horses. He also built under contract the first university building at Champaign. He afterward bought a farm four miles west of Champaign, upon which he took up his abode and there he spent his remaining days, dying in

1867 at the age of forty-one years. His wife was again married in July, 1875, becoming the wife of J. H. Van Gundy. Her death also occurred near Champaign on the 29th of June, 1895, when she was sixty-four years of age.

George W. Collins was educated in the common schools of Champaign county and in the academy at Logan, Ohio, where he remained until 1875. He then returned to Champaign county, where he made his home until February, 1901, when he came to Montgomery county and purchased eighty acres of land on section 14, Witt township, upon which he now resides. He was also among those who purchased coal lands in this county in the spring of 1904. Prior to coming to this county he spent fourteen years as a traveling salesman, first selling school supplies and later hardware and machinery. He has made for himself an enviable record as an honorable business man and is now displaying the same characteristic enterprise and perseverance in the control of his agricultural interests.

On the 16th of February, 1882, Mr. Collins was married to Miss Lida M. Gehrig, a daughter of Charles F. and Johanna M. Gehrig, both of whom were natives of Baden, Germany. After a residence of some time in Michigan they removed to Champaign county, Illinois, in 1871, and the father there engaged in farming, although he was a millwright by trade. On the 13th of November, 1895, when sixty-three years of age, he was called to his final rest, but his widow is still living and makes her home at Seymour, Illinois, at the age of seventy-two years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Collins have been born four children: Charles P., who is twenty-one years of age; Jesse J., aged seventeen years; Frank H., fifteen years old; and Floyd S., who is four years of age.

Mr. and Mrs. Collins hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, taking an interested and helpful part in its various activities, and Mr. Collins is superintendent of the Union Sunday school at Prairie Chapel. He is also a school trustee of Witt township and he gives his political allegiance to the Republican party. Fraternally he is connected with Seymour lodge, No. 597, I. O. O. F. Without any special family or pecuniary

advantages to aid him at the outset of his career he has steadily worked his way upward in the business world and is now the possessor of a good farm. He has also, by a genial manner and unfailing courtesy, gained many friends, who entertain for him genuine respect.

FRED MONDHINK.

Fred Mondhink is a prominent farmer and stock-feeder and shipper of Montgomery county. That his business affairs have been capably conducted along modern, progressive lines is indicated by the fact that his possessions have been increased and he is now the owner of four hundred and twenty acres of land which is productive and yields to him good harvests. He was born in Madison county, Illinois, March 25, 1849, his parents being Henry and Charlotta Mondhink. The father was a native of Germany and there spent the days of his boyhood and youth, while in that country he was also married. Believing that he might have better business opportunities in the new world, he severed the ties that bound him to his native land and crossed the Atlantic to the United States. Making his way direct to Illinois, he settled in Madison county and there reared his family.

Fred Mondhink spent the days of his early youth on the old family homestead in Madison county and in Litchfield. His educational privileges were quite limited, and in fact he is largely a self-educated man. He began working when a small boy for neighboring farmers, and being employed in the fields he assisted in the plowing and planting, receiving for his services twenty-five cents per day. He worked as a farm hand both before and after the Civil war, and later he rented a tract of land which he cultivated for twelve years. His economy and careful management during that period brought to him the capital that enabled him, in 1881, to become the purchaser of a tract of land of one hundred and sixty acres. He located upon this farm in 1882 and it has since been his home. That quarter section formed the nucleus of his present valuable possessions.

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MR. AND MRS. FRED MONDHINK.



MR. AND MRS. HENRY MONDHINK.

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As his financial resources increased he extended the boundaries of his farm from time to time by additional purchases until he now has four hundred and twenty acres of as rich land as can be found in central Illinois, and no better farming country is seen in all the United States than is here found. He has erected a large residence, attractive in appearance, and has also built substantial barns and made other improvements which add to the value and attractive appearance of the place and also indicate his progressive, practical spirit. He is dealing in stock, buying, shipping and feeding, and he always has good grades of cattle and horses upon his place. In recent years he has fed from three to four carloads each year, and his stock-dealing interests have proven an important source of income to him. On one occasion he shipped five carloads and at another time he purchased seven carloads of cattle from one person. He is now one of the most extensive stock-dealers in this part of Illinois, and the purchase just mentioned was one of the largest ever made by a stock-dealer of this locality. In July, 1903, he formed a partnership with C. F. Mondhink.

Mr. Mondhink was married on the farm which is now his home, October 26, 1871, the lady of his choice being Ann Eliza Wray, a native of Montgomery county, born upon this farm and a daughter of James W. Wray, whose birth occurred in Sangamon county and who became one of the early settlers of this part of the state. Six children have been born unto Mr. and Mrs. Mondhink: Mary, who died at the age of three months; Lulu, who reached mature years, was married and died at the age of twenty-three years; Lottie; Charles H., Harry H.; and Perlie.

Mr. Mondhink's study of the political questions and issues of the day has led him to give his vote to the Republican party, but he never seeks nor desires office, preferring to give his undivided attention to his business affairs. He is a Master Mason, belonging to the blue lodge at Raymond. Throughout his entire life he has resided in Illinois and is closely identified with the people and the development of Montgomery county. He started upon his business career empty-handed and had no assistance

from friends or family, but he realized the value of unfaltering labor and economy, and owing to his frugality and good business judgment has worked his way steadily upward until he is now one of the substantial men of his community, who has gained not only success, but also has won the honorable name that is the result of strict integrity and an upright character.

A. G. BUTLER.

A. G. Butler, who has been active and prominent in public affairs in Montgomery county, being recognized as one of the leaders of the Democratic party, is now the owner of a well improved farm of three hundred and twenty acres in Fillmore township, and his business career, like his political record, is creditable and commendable. A native of Tennessee, he was born in Buenavista, Carroll county, January 1, 1839, and is a son of C. J. and Martha J. Butler. His father was born in North Carolina, but was reared in Tennessee, in which state he began farming on his own account. He remained there until 1865, when he came to Illinois, settling near Ramsey, where he spent his remaining days. His wife died several years after the establishment of their home near Ramsey.

A. G. Butler is indebted to the public school system of his native state for the educational privileges he enjoyed. He was reared upon his father's farm and in 1860 he came to Montgomery county, Illinois, with his elder brother, arriving here during the time of the political campaign when Lincoln was candidate for the presidency. He started in business with an uncle in a store at Donnellson and continued in that for three years.

About that time Mr. Butler was married, being in March, 1866, joined in wedlock to Miss V. J. Casey, a daughter of John G. and Louisa Casey, who were residents of Fillmore township. Her father was an early settler and very prominent man and had a wide acquaintance in the community where he made his home. Mrs. Butler was an only child and by her marriage she has become the mother of five children, of whom two died in infancy.

while three are still living, namely: Charles F., who resides upon the home farm; Ora J., who is living near Chapman; and Louisa, the wife of J. J. Alexander, Jr., of Fillmore township.

After his marriage Mr. Butler began farming upon the old family homestead and has made most of the improvements there. He now owns three hundred and twenty acres of land and he gave to each of his three children eighty acres. He is largely devoting his attention to the raising of stock, having fine cattle, hogs and sheep upon his place and the grain which he raises is used for feeding. Being an excellent judge of stock he always makes judicious purchases and because his animals are of good breeds they find a ready sale upon the market. Moreover, he is always reliable in his business transactions and as his word is trustworthy he has in business circles a reputation which is enviable.

Since 1863 Mr. Butler has been a member of the Masonic lodge at Fillmore and prior to that time he held membership relations with the Masons at Ramsey, Fayette county. He also took the chapter degrees in Hillsboro and is now a Royal Arch Mason. He likewise belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp and in his life he exemplifies the beneficent spirit of these fraternities. His study of political questions has led him to give earnest allegiance to the Democracy and on that ticket he has been elected to several positions, including that of a highway commissioner. He was supervisor for a number of years and in 1878 he was elected sheriff of Montgomery county, receiving the largest majority of any man ever elected in the county, his opponent being William Bolles. In office he has always been loyal to the duties which have devolved upon him and his fidelity has been one of the notable elements in his career. He has ever taken an active interest in all that he has believed would prove beneficial to the town and county and has been the promoter of many public enterprises. About six years ago he removed from his farm to Fillmore and now employs a man to conduct the place, while he gives to it general supervision, but is not actively engaged in the labor of raising grain and stock.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Butler hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, with which they have been identified for twelve or fourteen years and they have taken a most helpful interest in church work in Fillmore, contributing generously to its support and doing all in their power to advance the cause of Christianity. Mr. Butler's life has at all times been in harmony with his professions and his is, therefore, an untarnished career, such as commands good will and confidence in every land.

DAVID DAVIS.

David Davis, deceased, was one of the early pioneers who did much to promote the welfare and growth of the city of Litchfield. In young manhood he settled in this city, and throughout a business career covering more than forty years, was connected with almost every project for the advancement of the city. He was born in Madison county, Illinois, in December, 1838, and received his education in that county. At the age of sixteen years he came to Litchfield with his father, David Davis, Sr., and after serving various merchants as book-keeper for a period of about two years, he embarked in the grocery business in an old frame building on East Edwards street. He was one of the first grocers in the city, and prospered from the start. In 1871 he erected a large three-story brick building at the corner of State and Edwards streets, and embarked in the wholesale business.

In 1870 he became a stockholder in the Litchfield Bank, and the following year became president of that institution. Shortly afterward the concern was reorganized under the name of Beach, Davis & Company, and Mr. Davis was actively engaged in the management of the business until he retired from business, about the year 1892.

He was an uncompromising Republican and filled many positions of trust. He served several terms as mayor, and was at one time president of the school board. He also served several terms as alderman. On December 23, 1867, he married Miss Blanche Keating, of Rockbridge, Greene county, who with four



David Davis

children: Captain David Davis, of Litchfield; Lieutenant Edward Davis, Eleventh Cavalry, United States Army; Miss Regina Davis, and Mrs. Blanche Crabb, of Litchfield, survive him. Mr. Davis died in April, 1898, the evening before his sons were to leave for the front in the Spanish-American war.

David Davis, the father of the above, was born near Genoa, Italy, of Welsh parents, in 1785, and at the age of fourteen years came to the United States. In the city of New York he learned the baker's trade and came west, locating in St. Louis when it was nothing more than a typical French village. He served for five years in the regular army, during which time he participated in the war of 1812. In the battle of Queenstown he was wounded by a saber and was taken prisoner and as such was taken to Boston, where he endured all of the hardships of war. At the close of the war he returned to St. Louis, where he resided until about 1837, when he moved to Madison county, Illinois, and engaged in farming. In 1856, two years after the establishment of the town, he moved to Litchfield, and for years was engaged in business with his son. He died in 1872, at the advanced age of eighty-seven years, respected by all who knew him.

The present David Davis was born in Litchfield, September 12, 1868, and was reared and educated here. At an early age he accepted a position in the bank with which his father was associated, remaining there until he became connected with the Litchfield Gas & Electric Company, of which he is secretary and manager. He is also largely interested in the Beach & Lang Milling Company, and in the Illinois Brick & Tile Company. He is also chairman of the committee on industries of the Litchfield Board of Trade, and to his untiring efforts is due the location of the Litchfield plant of the American Radiator Company, an institution which has done much to lift Litchfield from a state of great financial depression. Mr. Davis is a tireless worker, making the interests of Litchfield his own, and depending entirely for his own success upon the success of his home city.

He served during the Spanish-American war as captain of Company K, Fourth Illinois Vol-

unteer Infantry. He has just completed a term as commander of United Spanish War Veterans, Department of Illinois. He is well known throughout the state in electric circles, as well as others where his extensive business engagements have given him a wide acquaintance. He was married February 11, 1893, to Miss Estella Beach, daughter of Henry H. Beach, one of the early citizens and manufacturers, of Litchfield, who is now a resident of Canon City, Colorado.

His brother, Lieutenant Edward Davis, of the Eleventh Cavalry, United States Army, was also reared and educated here, graduating from the Litchfield high school in 1891, and from Cornell University four years later. He then studied law and began its practice in Chicago. He went to the Spanish-American war as second lieutenant of Company A, First Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and saw service in the campaign at Santiago. At the close of the war he enlisted in the Thirty-third United States Volunteers with the rank of captain, and served for almost two years in the Philippines. At the expiration of his term of enlistment he joined the Eleventh cavalry with the rank of first lieutenant.

JOSEPH SPINNER.

Among the resident farmers of East Fork township is numbered Joseph Spinner, who was born in Clinton county, Illinois, in 1868, and is a son of George and Ernestine (Huber) Spinner, of whom mention is made on another page of this volume. He was reared in East Fork township, where he also attended school, gaining a fair practical English education. In his youth he assisted in the labors of the home farm and when twenty-five years of age he started out in life on his own account by assuming the management of the home place. He has made many excellent improvements here and now has a property which is neat and thrifty in appearance, a glance indicating to the passerby the careful supervision of the owner. Mr. Spinner has eighty-five acres of land in East Fork township and he also owns one hundred and eighty acres in Fillmore

township. He has been very successful while farming here, raising both grain and stock, and each branch of his business returns to him a desirable income. He has also made excellent improvements upon the farm in Fillmore township and both properties are valuable.

Mr. Spinner was married April 11, 1893, by Rev. Father Storp, at St. Louis' Catholic church, Nokomis, to Miss Lena Huber, a daughter of Andrew Huber, of Witt township, and they now have three living children: Minnie, Genevieve and George. Mr. and Mrs. Spinner are communicants of St. Agnes' Catholic church in Hillsboro and he is a Democrat in his political affiliations. He is connected with the Equitable Life Insurance Company. Almost his entire life has been passed in East Fork township, so that he has a wide acquaintance and his many excellent traits of character have made the opinion in which he is uniformly held a favorable one.

GEORGE ELLIS OLLER.

George Ellis Oller, eldest son of his parents, Judge Amos Oller and Ida E. Oller, was born October 22, 1879, at the residence of his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Huddleston, nine miles south of Carlinville, Macoupin county, Illinois. He has been noted all his life for his physical and intellectual strength, happy disposition and devotion to his parents, grandparents, brothers and sisters, and for being one of the best workers wherever employed, either in school or on the farm, factory or office of any of his co-laborers. As soon as vacation commenced every season during his school days, from the time he was old enough to attend school, he spent his holidays on the farm with his grandparents or in some of the factories of the city, earning his own spending money, and when thirteen years old his grandmother made him foreman of her large stock and grain farm, consisting of over a section of land.

At the age of fifteen he had hauled off and marketed about a thousand bushels of wheat, collected the money for his grandmother, but

it was after banking hours, and, having some errands to attend to in the city, he sent his teams out with the other hands and was intending to drive out in the buggy after some necessary repairs had been made thereon, which detained him until after dark. He noticed a couple of suspicious characters watching him while he was paying the blacksmith for the work, which necessitated him showing the large roll of bills he carried in his pocket. Becoming alarmed, but never the least frightened, he went and bought a Smith & Wesson revolver, loaded it and started home, and while passing through a dark and lonely spot in Macoupin creek bottom, a mile south of Carlinville, he was stopped by two men, one catching hold of the horse's reins and the other presenting a pistol toward him, telling him to throw up his hands, but he had been taught to always carry his weapon in his hand when expecting danger. He was a crack snapshot and quicker than a flash he had fired twice, each shot taking effect on the bandits. The horse, a high-blooded animal, made a lunge, jerked from the one holding it and started down the road at full speed. He drove home, delivered the money to his grandmother, said nothing about what had happened, for fear it might frighten her, but drove to Litchfield immediately, a distance of twelve miles, to inform his father of what had transpired. His father secured the services of a noted character, whom he had once defended, to go to Carlinville and see if he could learn from any of his pals the result of the shots, and afterward learned that each of the robbers had been seriously but not fatally wounded and had been taken to a private hospital at St. Louis for treatment, but he could never find out the identity of the parties. That his old client would never reveal.

Mr. Oller graduated from the Litchfield high school in the class of 1899, and soon thereafter passed a civil service examination and accepted an appointment under the Hon. Thomas M. Jett, member of congress, in the census bureau, where he has continued to be promoted from time to time until he is now section chief, and for the past season has been assigned to special work for the department in Iowa, Ne-



GEORGE E. OLLER

braska and South Dakota. While in Washington he has worked sixteen hours a day, eight of which he has devoted to his duties in the office and eight attending the Georgetown Law University, where he has attended two years, passing high grade examination, and will complete the course next spring.

Mr. Oller has no bad habits, and says that in public life he has been brought in contact with all classes of people, but never found it necessary to drink in order to associate with his chums. All persons acquainted with Mr. Oller predict for him a glorious future.

ROBERT P. BARNARD.

Robert P. Barnard, classed with the diligent and thrifty farmers of Nokomis township, was born in Livonia, Livingston county, New York, September 14, 1858. His father, Benton Barnard, was also a native of the Empire state and was a lineal descendant of John Alden and Priscilla Mullens, who came to America in the Mayflower and whose romantic history has formed the basis of many an interesting tale. Others of his ancestors were numbered among the heroes of the Revolutionary war, who fought for independence and Robert P. Barnard is therefore eligible to membership in the Sons of the American Revolution. Benton Barnard married Lillis P. Smalley and on removing to Illinois in 1879 settled in Montgomery county, where he purchased a farm March 2, 1868. One of his sons had already come to this state. He and his wife died upon the farm which is now the home of their son, Robert, the father passing away on October, 19, 1885, and the mother on the 10th of November, 1896, but their remains were taken back to Livonia, New York, for interment. There were five children in the family: Melvin Monroe, who married Emma Smalley, of Bunker Hill, Illinois, is now a farmer of Caldwell, Kansas. Solon Smalley died and was buried at Livonia, New York. Lillis J. is the wife of George Hopponough, of Livingston county, New York. One son died in infancy.

Robert P. Barnard, the youngest, was af-

forded excellent educational privileges, attending the Genesee Wesleyan Seminary of Lima, New York, and completing a course in a business college at Lima by graduation. He afterward spent a year here and then went to Kansas and later to Oklahoma, where he entered into the stock business, which he followed for two years. He purchased five hundred acres of land at that time and has since added one hundred and forty acres to his possessions, which he still owns. He has carried on farming on his present place since December 17, 1879, and is largely devoting his farm in Kansas to the raising of wheat, securing excellent crops annually, so that he derives a good income therefrom. He is very progressive in his methods, using the latest improved machinery and carries forward his work along modern business lines that indicate his foresight and enterprise and have led to his success. At the present writing Mr. Barnard is filling the position of secretary and general manager of the Peoples Mutual Telephone Company, with lines extending into Christian, Fayette, Bond, Madison and Macoupin counties, with head office in Hillsboro, Montgomery county, Illinois.

On the 7th of April, 1891, Mr. Barnard was married to Miss Adelaide P. Hamlin, a daughter of Palmer and Jennie (Squire) Hamlin, the former a native of New York and the latter of England. Mr. and Mrs. Barnard are the parents of three children, but Virgie, the second, born September 26, 1893, is the only one now living. Leon, born August 15, 1892, died on the 21st of October, of the same year and was buried in Nokomis cemetery. Robert Parker, born January 17, 1902, died on the 20th of the same month. In his political views Mr. Barnard is a Republican without political ambition, yet having a citizen's true interest in the success of his party, because he believes that its platform contains the best elements of good government. He holds membership with the Mutual Protective League and also with the Methodist church and his career has not only been a successful one, but has also been characterized by the commendable qualities which everywhere command respect and confidence.

HENRY P. KASTIEN.

Henry P. Kastien, who for eighteen years has been engaged in merchandising in Harvel, has made his home in Montgomery county since the spring of 1883, but his residence in Illinois dates from 1865, at which time he took up his abode in Madison county, so that he has long been familiar with this portion of the state. He is a native of Germany, where his birth occurred September 13, 1849. His father, Frank J. Kastien, also born in that country, was married there to Louisa Schreve, a native of Germany. They became the parents of four sons and four daughters, who reached mature years, and three sons and four daughters are yet living. The second oldest son came to the new world, locating first in St. Louis. The father spent his last years in Madison county, Illinois, where he died in 1901 at the age of eighty-seven years, while his wife passed away in 1874 at the age of sixty years.

Henry P. Kastien spent the first seven years of his life in his native country. He had but a short course at a private German school in St. Louis, he is largely a self-educated as well as self-made man. He crossed the Atlantic to the new world in 1855, arriving in St. Louis, Missouri, on the 31st of December of that year. Subsequently he went to Madison county, Illinois, where he began work as a farm hand, continuing his residence in that locality until 1883, when he came to Rountree township, Montgomery county. Here he continued to engage in agricultural pursuits for four years, at the end of which time he purchased a mercantile establishment in Harvel, containing a line of dry goods and groceries. This he afterward traded for a stock of hardware, and is now engaged in the hardware and implement business, in which he has built up a good trade, which is constantly increasing. He is well known in Harvel and the surrounding community, is thoroughly identified with its progressive interests, and in his business career displays the sterling traits which command confidence and respect.

Mr. Kastien was married in Madison county, Illinois, July 8, 1874, to Miss Emma Krumssik, who was born in Madison county, Illinois,

and is of German lineage. They have three children: Della, the wife of E. W. Bockewitz, of Harvel; Frank, who follows the painter's trade; and Celia, at home.

Politically Mr. Kastien is independent in his voting at local elections, but where national issues are involved he supports the Democratic party. He has been elected and served as president of the village board, has also been alderman and tax collector, and for four consecutive years filled the latter office. He belongs to Harvel Lodge, I. O. O. F., in which he has filled all the offices and is a past grand, and is likewise a member of the Woodmen Camp at Litchfield and the Mutual Protective League. His residence in Harvel now covers more than twenty years, during which time he has made here a good home, developed an excellent business and won an honored name.

WILLIAM S. GRUBBS.

William S. Grubbs, one of the early settlers of Montgomery county, dates his residence in this locality from 1858, and his enterprising efforts as a general farmer and stock-raiser have made him one of the substantial citizens of the community. He was born in St. Clair county, Illinois, near Belleville, on the 25th of September, 1854, and when four years of age was brought to Montgomery county by his parents, Edwin and Sarah (McAdams) Grubbs, who settled upon the farm which is now the home of their son William. They had five children, and after the death of his first wife, who passed away in 1852, the father was again married. At his death the county lost one of its honored pioneer settlers and leading farmers.

In the usual manner of farmer lads William S. Grubbs was reared. He attended the public schools, his time occupied by his textbooks and the pleasures of the playground, and he was also instructed in the work of the fields, becoming familiar with every labor incident to the development and cultivation of a farm from the time of early spring planting until after crops were harvested in late autumn. He remained at home until twenty-



H. P. KASTIEN

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four years of age, when he went to Colorado, where he remained one summer, and after his return he rented land near New Corners for two years. He afterward spent one year in South Litchfield, and one year in Hillsboro, after which he returned to the old homestead, where he has since remained, with the exception of a year passed in Kansas. He now owns one hundred and eighty acres of land in three tracts, one hundred acres being in the home farm on section 9, Hillsboro township, about two miles west of the county seat on the old Hillsboro and Litchfield road. Here he carries on general farming, and for fourteen years he has been engaged in feeding cattle and hogs for the market. He has good buildings upon his place and his carefully directed labors enabled him to keep everything upon his farm in good condition. He utilizes the latest improved machinery in the cultivation of the fields and the care of the crops and his energy and ambition have been the means of bringing to him very creditable and gratifying success. He votes with the Republican party, with firm faith in its principles, but has never sought office as a reward for party fealty.

LEOPOLD SCHRAUT.

Leopold Schraut, an enterprising business man of Hillsboro, is successfully conducting a meat market and in his business career has demonstrated what it is possible to accomplish through energy, enterprise and careful management, for he started out in life empty handed and his success, therefore, is attributed entirely to his own efforts. He was born in Baden, Germany, in 1851, a son of Joseph Schraut, who was a farmer by occupation. Leopold Schraut acquired his education in the schools of his native country and there learned the butchering trade.

In 1871 he bade adieu to friends and family and sailed for the new world that he might take advantage of the business conditions in America, concerning which he had heard favorable reports. Locating in East St. Louis, he there remained for twelve years en-

gaged in the butchering business and he also spent some time in the employ of the Clover Leaf Railroad. Removing from East St. Louis, he took up his abode in the city of St. Louis, where he conducted a meat market until 1881. In 1882 he established a butchering business at Donnellson, Illinois, and in 1893 came to Hillsboro, where he established a market that he has since conducted with gratifying success. He now has a fine establishment and a very liberal patronage which is constantly growing. At one time he was proprietor of three shops, one in Coffeen, another in Donnellson and the third in Hillsboro. His business methods will bear the closest scrutiny and investigation and his reliable dealing has been one source of his prosperity. He now owns a pretty home south of town and grounds covering seven acres.

In 1882 Mr. Schraut was united in marriage to Miss Frances Windhalt, a daughter of Frederick and Jernsha (Stanley) Windhalt, the former a farmer by occupation. Mrs. Schraut was born near Coffeen in 1864 and by this marriage there are three children: Charles, Annie and Lena. Mr. Schraut belongs to the Catholic church, while his wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Fraternally he is connected with the Masonic lodge, the Court of Honor and the Mutual Protective League. His study of the political issue and questions which affect America's welfare has led him to give his allegiance to the Democracy. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to seek a home in America for he found that the reports of business conditions were not exaggerated and that the new world offered excellent opportunity to the young men of determination and resolute purpose.

LOUIS SPINNER.

Louis Spinner is one of the younger farmers of East Fork township, but his years do not seem any bar to his ability and in carrying on agricultural pursuits he has gained very gratifying success. He was born in East Fork township, October 27, 1873, and is a

son of George and Ernestine (Huber) Spinner, who are represented on another page of this volume. In that township he was reared and attended school. He started out in life for himself when twenty-five years of age, up to which time he assisted in the development of the home farm, as did his brother. In his business career he has been successful because of his perseverance and earnest labor. He has eighty acres in the old homestead and he raises both grain and stock. His father made all of the improvements upon the place, save in the fall of 1904 Mr. Spinner erected a good residence upon the place.

In 1900 at St. Louis' Catholic church in Nokomis, Mr. Spinner was married by Rev. C. Johannes, to Miss Paulina Mast, a daughter of Charles Mast, of Witt township, and they have two children: Cyril Francis and Matilda Frances. The parents are members of St. Agnes' Catholic church at Hillsboro, and Mr. Spinner is a Democrat in his political views. He served as collector in 1901 and 1903, but has never been active as a politician in the sense of office seeking. He has, however, been deeply interested in the success of his party and for several years he has been elected by a large majority to the position of school trustee. Fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen camp and with the Equitable Life Insurance Company. He has always lived in Montgomery county, is well known to its settlers, especially in East Fork township, and in his life has displayed many strong characteristics that have rendered him popular with his many friends.

WILLIAM C. GOODIN.

William C. Goodin, whose record for fidelity and capable service as chief of police of Litchfield is unsurpassed, received substantial evidence of the trust reposed in him when at his re-election he was given the largest vote that has ever been cast for any incumbent of that office. He was born in Bond county, Illinois, July 3, 1866. His father, Charles M. Goodin, was a native of Ohio and was of Irish lineage, his parents having emigrated

from Ireland at an early day and established their home in Ohio. Charles M. Goodin remained in the Buckeye state until 1857, when he removed to Illinois, settling in Bond county upon a farm which he cultivated and improved until the outbreak of the Civil war. He then enlisted in the Third Illinois Cavalry as a member of Company D, being enrolled at Greenville for three years' service. He took part in the battle of Pea Ridge and other engagements and never faltered in his allegiance to the nation's starry banner and the cause it represented. When the war was over he began taking contracts for public work in Louisiana and Mississippi, building levees along the Father of Waters from St. Louis to Louisiana. Later he engaged in the dairy business at Greenville and there his death occurred on the 17th of March, 1894, when he was sixty-four years of age. He was a member of the Greenville Post, G. A. R. His political allegiance was given to the Democracy until the outbreak of the war, when, being a great admirer of John A. Logan, he voted with him and became a Republican, remaining a staunch advocate of the principles of the party until his demise. His funeral was one of the most largely attended in Greenville in many years, a fact which indicated his personal popularity and the high regard in which he was uniformly held. He was married in early manhood to Miss Mary E. Gillespie, who was born in Bond county, Illinois, and is now living with her son, William C., in Litchfield, at the age of sixty-seven years. Her father was James E. Gillespie, a farmer and one of the early settlers of Bond county, who served as the first constable there. Mrs. Goodin in her younger days was a school teacher in Bond county and took a great interest in her work. She has been a lifelong member of the Methodist Episcopal church and a most earnest and consistent Christian woman. By her marriage she became the mother of six children: Jeanette, John, Ella and Lee, all of whom have passed away; William C.; and Maggie, the wife of Jonah Dodson, of Mayfield, Kentucky.

William C. Goodin acquired his education partly in Tennessee and partly in Greenville, Illinois. After leaving school he was employed



W. C. GOODIN

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for two years on a farm and in 1885 he came to Litchfield, where he learned the blacksmith's trade, following that pursuit for seventeen years in the employ of the Litchfield Foundry & Machine Company. He afterward worked for a year for the Conneaut & Pittsburg Dock Company at Conneaut, Ohio.

Since attaining his majority Mr. Goodin has been an advocate of Republican principles, staunch in his support of the party and its platform. In the spring of 1903 he was elected chief of police of Litchfield and was re-elected in the spring of 1904. He has made a clean record and won a notable reputation for fearlessness and fidelity. Because of his capable service he is a menace to all law-breakers, while the law-abiding community has the utmost confidence and trust in him.

On the 9th of January, 1901, Mr. Goodin was married to Miss Lottie E. Price, a daughter of Evan and Ann Price, the former a miner. Mrs. Goodin was born in England in 1867. Mr. Goodin holds membership with the Catholic church and the Knights of Columbus and the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. He is popular in Litchfield among all classes and has a large circle of friends who esteem him highly.

ST. FRANCIS HOSPITAL.

St. Francis Hospital was established about 1875, with Sister Fredeline as the sister superior, the mother house being at St. Mauritz, Minster, Germany. There were twenty sisters who came from Germany in that year, leaving that country on account of religious

troubles there. They arrived in Litchfield at the time of the pastorate of Father Michel, who is now located at Alton, Illinois, and they began their work in a little frame house where they continued until 1889. The building lots for the new hospital were purchased on the 12th of April, 1889, and in the same year they moved into their present building, which is a large three-story, brick structure, in which they are treating twenty patients, with accommodations for thirty. The hospital is fitted up with all modern appliances and conveniences for the care of the sick, with baths, hotwater heat, electric lights and everything to facilitate the work of caring for the patients. The rooms are pleasant, light and airy, are cool in summer and warm in winter, and there is a reading room supplied with interesting literature. There is a beautiful lawn surrounding the building, which was erected at a cost of ten thousand dollars, and in the summer of 1905 there will be an addition made, costing a similar amount. There are now nine sisters in charge and the sister superior is Sister Gerome, who came in 1900 from St. Francis, Springfield, while Father Huison is director. Mother Pauler is mother superior of the whole St. Francis congregation in the United States and in Springfield there is a training school for the sisters. The institution first had a struggle for existence but it is now on a substantial basis and it is the only hospital in this section, so that patients come to it from long distances. The new building was dedicated September 17, 1891, by Rev. L. Huison, director, and since that time its efficiency has been continually promoted and the work has been constantly extended.

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JACOB L. TRAYLOR

HISTORICAL

By JACOB L. TRAYLOR

INTRODUCTION

"The pleasant books that silently among
Our household treasures take familiar places
And are to us as if a living tongue
Spake from the printed leaves or pictured
faces."

As we look upon the picture of the past, perspective lengthens the lines of fact until they seem lost in the haze of traditions. In our preparation of the present volume we have tried to present from the mass of material at hand only the credible. Where we have allowed some interesting anecdote to creep in, it has been done but to illustrate phases of character that have had to do with the story of a people. It would seem an easy task to write the history of some particular place or state, especially if appearance in time, were easily determined, yet we find it not a little difficult to gather proofs concerning important events in the history of our own county. It is much easier to get correct biography of our worthy pioneers than to get data that has to do with the experiences of those brave and noble spirits. Our purpose, however, is to assist the reader in bringing himself into such close association with the fathers that we may be able to share his joys, his sorrows, his bounty and his privation. The years that fill up the gap between the Then and Now we shall attempt to draw aside and present the picture which shall tell the story of a plain people, struggling to establish for them-

selves and for their children, a home in the wilderness. In other words, we hope to preserve to other generations at least a glance into the practical life of the fathers. That all those who came to settle the prairies and woodlands of Illinois were model characters, we shall not attempt to establish, but that quite all were men and women of sturdy habits and unquestioned virtue, is matter of absolute knowledge.

Almost a century has gone by since the first settlers came from Virginia, Kentucky and the Carolinas to plant civilization in the wilds of what is now Montgomery county. That these performed well their part in laying the foundation of our present social, political and moral conditions, that their hopes were fully realized, that their aspirations have long since realized their fruition furnishes for our picture its most delicate coloring and affords to us, their children, the keener appreciation of what they have done. From the stately and palatial homes that cover our land to-day is but a narrow space that separates between the settler's cabin with its privations and the former with all the comforts and convenience of a modern home. Nowhere in the annals of story do we find a tale so pleasing, so full of adventure and interest as is to be found in a study of the experiences of the pioneers in American life. The men and the women who braved the wilderness were peculiarly fitted for the self-imposed task of subduing the wild woodlands and the broad extending prairies into safe habitations for men. The wild beasts that prowled about

the settler's cabin and made night hideous with their howlings, the treacherous red man, who yet lingered in the forests, doubtless filled with forebodings the settler and his family. While we have no evidence of midnight massacres, yet the story of their atrocities lingered in the minds of the early settlers. We know, however, that the Indian children often sought the playgrounds of the pioneer schools to mingle with the boys and girls of that early day. It is not surprising to us that the red man yielded the hunting grounds of Illinois under great protest and when the struggle for his removal beyond the Mississippi came in 1832, quite a number of Montgomery county's pioneers were called upon to take part in what is known as Black Hawk's war of 1832. In the preparation of this work, however, it is not our province to

discuss the justice of the removal of the Sacs and Fox Indians from the territory of Illinois. We shall content ourselves with the simple narrative without embellishment of our earlier inhabitants as we find it told in the stories, legends and traditions, extant among our people. I acknowledge indebtedness to many of our older citizens, to books and papers in which they have left records of their experiences. If this volume meets the approbation of the children and children's children of those who struggled, and whose triumph is told in these pages, I shall feel repaid for whatever effort has been made to collect some of the more interesting facts concerning the fathers. I am,

Very truly yours

JACOB L. TRAYLOR.

ILLINOIS

A broad and fertile plateau, bounded on the west by the Mississippi, upon the south by the Ohio and the east by the Wabash, gives us the state of Illinois. Possibly nowhere in the world is an area of fertile soil of such extent. In the earlier history of the country it attracted the attention of the French and their occupation of it is evidence that they considered it of great importance in the building up of "New France." Fort Chartres, the most impregnable fortress then known in the western world, was built by France that her claim to the Illinois country might not be disputed. The earlier settlements of Illinois were made by the French at Kaskaskia, Prairie Du Rocher and Cahokia. It was here that they remained in undisputed possession, until 1759, at the close of the French and Indian war, when by the treaty terminating that struggle, it came into possession of England. The bitterness of the Indians in this special territory toward the English made it somewhat difficult to establish English rule over the different Indian tribes of this section. The passing of this territory from the possession of the French to that of the English is marked by a fierce and bloody struggle on the part of the Indian tribe, who were friends of the former and bitter foes of the English. One of the most persistent and stubborn resistances to English rule was made by Pontiac, possibly the greatest Indian leader ever known to the northwest. Although the English held this territory from 1763 until the close of the Revolutionary war, little was done to

colonize it or to take advantage of the great opportunities for building up an English empire in Illinois territory. The French population of Illinois villages in 1763 was about 2,000. There were also about five hundred slaves, which latter fact establishes the point that Illinois, under the French, was slave territory. In the autumn of 1765 the Forty-second Highlanders, consisting of one hundred and twenty men under Captain Sterling, arrived at Fort Chartres, and on the 10th day of October, for the first time within the limits of the state of Illinois, the Lillies of France were displaced by the Cross of St. George. The early French people were law-abiding, simple and happy folks. The first English governor of Illinois was Captain Sterling, who lived but three months after receiving his commission. He was succeeded by Major Frazier, who in turn gave way to Colonel Reed. The latter made himself so odious to the inhabitants by his oppressive military edicts that he was soon displaced and the command was given to Colonel Wilkins, who established a court of justice of seven judges. This was the first English court ever convened in Illinois, and held its first session at Fort Chartres, December 9, 1768. The proclamations issued by George III clearly show that he intended to divide the Illinois country into baronial estates. Private ownership to the soil was forbidden, and had it not been for the Canadian Frenchmen, such an attempt to establish feudalism might have been successful in this great northwestern territory. In 1774

the British parliament passed the Quebec bill, which extended the limits of Canada so as to include all the territory north of the Ohio river. This was the first feudal act of parliament, to which the colonists took offence. The Virginia colony, which claimed the territory north of the Ohio, took exception to this act of intrusion upon territory belonging to that colony. It would seem that at the close of Wilkins' term that the English soldiery were withdrawn from the Illinois country, that the sweet-spirited French priest, St. Ange, returned to take charge of the post deserted by the English conquerors. Following St. Ange in the government of the settlement comes Rocheblave, who was in command of the Illinois country at the time of the conquest by George Rogers Clark. This adventurous spirit was a native of Albemarle county, Virginia, but had joined the Kentucky settlements prior to October 17, 1777, on which date we find him arguing before Patrick Henry, governor of Virginia, for a commission to invade the Illinois country.

After several interviews Governor Henry yielded his consent to the plans of Colonel Rogers, who immediately thereafter set about the execution of them. It was absolutely necessary that secrecy as to the purpose of Rogers should be maintained, and covering his real purpose by rumors that his expedition was to defend the Kentucky settlement against the attack of the Indians, enabled him to deceive the English who might have thwarted his purposes by strengthening the post which in reality he expected to capture. Colonel Clark's expedition embarked at Pittsburg, and after an uneventful journey down the Ohio, they "shot the falls" at Louisville and, on the 24th of June, landed a little above Fort Massac. From this point he marched directly across the country to Kaskaskia. It was on the evening of the 4th of July that Clark arrived at his destination. The complete surprise of the garrison made it a bloodless victory. It has been rumored that the surprise was not altogether unpleasant to the French inhabitants. The broad humanity of Colonel Clark was shown in his treatment of this people. Some had expected to be driven from their homes, to be plundered of their property and to be denied the rights of their re-

ligion, but when Clark assured them that Americans left every man free to settle his religious matters with his God, a shout of rejoicing went up from the assembled multitude, and when Clark further told them that France was allied to the new government, which they sought to establish, they very readily promised allegiance. Cahokia and all the adjacent towns promptly yielded to Clark's authority, and the young republic became firmly established, and on the soil of Illinois. Clark's conquest forever settled the destiny of Illinois. The treaty of Paris, 1783, all rights to this territory was ceded to America. The general assembly of Virginia, 1778, provided a temporary government, and in 1779 Illinois became a county of Virginia, styled the Illinois county. John Todd, a colonel under Clark, administered the affairs of government. In 1782 Todd was succeeded by Timothy Montbrun, a French priest. From this time until the occupation by St. Claire, the records are silent and we are led to infer that the priestly government was eminently satisfactory, both to the state of Virginia and to the people of Illinois county. The first American settlement made in Illinois was made at a place named New Design, and is located in the present county of Monroe. Five families, consisting of that of James Moore, Shadrack Bond, James Garrison, Robert Kid and Larkin Rullaford, made up this first primitive settlement. Kid and Rullaford had been soldiers in General Clark's army. This notable settlement was made in the summer of 1781. Having crossed the Allegheny mountains from their homes in Virginia, they embarked from Pittsburg on a vessel called the Ark, and on reaching the mouth of the Ohio river, no little difficulty was found in directing their crude vessel up the current of the Mississippi. These Virginia settlers had no sympathy for the Indians and in consequence, a spirit of hostility soon manifested itself, and it became necessary to build block houses for protection. In 1784 the state of Virginia ceded all her rights in the northwest country to the general government, thus severing her connection with the territory which at no distant day should lead in the grand galaxy of states. In 1785 lands purchased from the Indians were, by previous act of congress,

to be surveyed so as to facilitate settlements and guarantee to the purchaser such lands as he selected and paid for. It was at this time that the system of public surveys began. One Thomas Hutchins mapped out the territory along the Ohio and formulated a basis of description that obtains in every farm and village lot in the entire northwest. In 1787 Arthur St. Claire, a venerable Revolutionary soldier, received the appointment of governor of all the country north of the Ohio river, which was designated as the northwest territory. In 1790 the governor, with Winthrop Sargent, secretary of the territory, organized the settled portions of the Illinois country into the county of St. Claire. In 1795 settlements had so increased as to make the organization of a new county necessary and Randolph county was laid out, occupying the territory south of an east and west line drawn through the settlement of New Design from the Mississippi to the Wabash river, all territory north of this line was St. Claire county, all south of this line was Randolph county. In 1809 Illinois territory was separated from the Indiana territory and Ninian Edwards appointed governor, his commission bearing date April 24, 1809. The seat of government was fixed at Kaskaskia, where it remained until 1820, when it was removed to Vandalia. By act of congress May, 1812, the first grade government, which consisted only of governor and judges, gave way to what was known as the second grade government. Under the first grade government all county and town officers had been appointed by the governor, but under the second grade government these officers were to be elected by the people, but the right of suffrage was granted only to tax payers. The counties of Madison, Gallatin and Johnson were organized at this time and an election was ordered in each of the five counties, to elect members of the legislative council, seven representatives and one delegate to congress. The first delegate to congress elected by the people was Shadrack Bond. Illinois was indeed fortunate during the period of its early settlement by being comparatively free from the ravages of Indian wars. In this her history is unlike that of Ohio and Indiana, whose story is one of bloody atrocities on the part of

the red men. The immunity which Illinois enjoyed we must accredit to the kindly office of the French priest, whose dominance over the savage tribes inhabiting the territory was almost absolute. Another reason existed for the protection of the Illinois settler, being further away from Canada than Ohio and Indiana, British gold had not been used so extensively to poison the minds of the Indians against the settler. It had been with feelings of great reluctance that the English had given up the region of the northwest territory that borders on the Great Lakes, and they had hopefully looked forward to a time when they might again come into possession of that very desirable territory. Nor had the British been careful to preserve the treaty stipulations between America and England, and a state of border warfare had existed from 1789 until 1812, when America for this and other causes felt compelled to issue a second declaration of war against Great Britain. The history of this war does not effect to any great extent the condition of the Illinois settler. The part played by the Illinois settlers in the war of 1812 is hardly commendable when reviewed in the light of present historical fact. Unfortunately Governor Edwards lent his influence to the destruction of the French settlements along the Illinois river and accordingly with a small force of Kentucky and Illinois rangers under command of General Hopkins and Governor Edwards, the several French settlements along the Illinois, including that of Peoria, were destroyed. The French inhabitants were made prisoners and transported down the Illinois river to its junction with the Mississippi, where these luckless people were abandoned by their heartless captors on the banks of the Mississippi. The sufferings of these outcasts have been told in the French story books that contain narratives of the experiences of the French in the wilds of America. Many of these French people found their way back to their old home, and here amid the ashes they laid the foundations anew of what to-day is the second city in point of population and wealth within the borders of our great State.

Early in 1818 the territorial legislature petitioned congress for admission into the Union,

as an independent state. Our delegate at that time, Nathaniel Pope, by his activity, secured an early recognition of the petition and in December of that year, an act was passed by which the territory of Illinois became a sovereign state. In July, 1818, a convention had been called at Kaskaskia to draft a constitution. Jesse B. Thomas was president and William C. Greenup secretary, and the following are the names of the counties then in existence which were represented in that convention: Randolph, Madison, Gallatin, Johnson, Pope, Jackson, Crawford, Bond, Union, Washington and Franklin, being in all, at the time of the admission of the state of Illinois, but eleven organized counties. This constitution was not submitted to a vote of the people, for by its provisions judges, prosecuting attorneys, county and circuit judges, recorders and justices of the peace were all appointed by the governor or the legislature instead of being elected by the people. In September, 1818, as a result of the first election, under the first constitution, Shadrack Bond was elected as the first governor of the state of Illinois. Pierre Menard was elected lieutenant governor and together they were inaugurated October 6, 1818. The seat of government was removed to Vandalia in 1820, and one among the first acts of the legislature was to create the Illinois State Bank, with a capital of half a million dollars, based on the credit of the state. In 1822 Edward Coles succeeded Bond on the governorship and it was in this election that a contest over the question of slavery was finally settled in harmony of the ordinance of 1787. The reader will remember that this ordinance, prepared by Jefferson, prohibited slavery in the entire territory of the northwest, of which Illinois was a part. However, slavery had existed in Illinois through various subterfuges until after the election of Governor Coles. This able and uncompromising advocate of freedom doubtless preserved to Illinois the spirit of the ordinance of 1787. Those who advocated slavery made a determined effort to have the constitution amended so as to provide for the institution of slavery, but in the election which had been called at the behest of the slavery party, the cause of freedom triumphed in a vote

of six thousand six hundred and forty against that of four thousand nine hundred and seventy-two in favor of slavery. To Governor Coles more than to any other man is due this signal victory which placed Illinois for all time in the column of free states. When General LaFayette was visiting America in 1825, by invitation, he became the guest of Governor Coles at Vandalia. This signal recognition of the Illinois people cemented a friendship between the French and the American settler. Ninian Edwards was elected governor to succeed Governor Coles, and during his administration of four years we find but little that would interest the student of history, save that the finances of the state were much improved during his term. John Reynolds, in 1830, was elected governor, and it was during his administration that the war commonly known as Black Hawk's war occurred. The Hawks and Fox Indians had occupied the territory between the Rock and Mississippi rivers, but by treaty, in 1804, had ceded these lands to the United States. One of the provisions of the treaty allowed the Indians to retain their land until they should be wanted for settlement, but during the war of 1812 a part of the tribe, under Black Hawk, had allied themselves to the British, while Keokuk, the principal chief of the tribe, had remained true to the United States. Black Hawk's village was on the tongue of land at the mouth of the Rock river, between it and the Mississippi, and after peace had been declared, at the close of the war of 1812, amicable relations existed with the Indians until 1830, when Keokuk made a final cession of all the lands held by his tribe east of the Mississippi river. Black Hawk opposed this cession and used all his powers of oratory to persuade the different tribes from Canada to the Mississippi to aid him in resisting the removal of the Sauks and Foxes to the west of the Mississippi. During the winter of 1830, when Black Hawk, with his tribe, were on a hunting expedition, the pale faces took possession of his village and even the fur trader at Rock Island, who had formerly purchased his furs, and whom Black Hawk had regarded as an especial friend, had made an arrangement by which he was to cultivate the corn field outlying the vil-

lage. A compromise was made by which the fields were to be divided equally between the new claimants and the former Indian owners. This truce did not prevent disputes and the trespassing on each others' rights led to a memorial signed by the white settlers, setting forth their grievances and asking for the removal of their Indian neighbors. Governor Reynolds, in the spring of 1831, issued a call for seven hundred volunteers to protect the white settlers along the Rock river. To the governor's call one thousand six hundred volunteers promptly responded, and under General Gaines, were dispatched to the scene of the trouble. Black Hawk yielded to the situation and crossed to the west side of the Mississippi river. At a time of year when the Indian should have planted his maize that in the coming winter he should have bread, Black Hawk, with his starving followers, was camping upon the western shores of the Mississippi river. Here a treaty was held with him on the 30th of May and, under its terms, he gave up his intentions of returning to his Illinois home. Rations were dealt out to the submissive Indians and the volunteers were dismissed. Early in the spring of the following year, 1832, Black Hawk, in an evil hour, recrossed the Mississippi, under pretense of paying a visit to his Winnebago friends in Wisconsin, and to plant corn in their country. General Atkinson, then in command at Fort Armstrong, sent messengers after him to warn him back, but Black Hawk paid no attention to these, but continued on his way until he reached Dixon's ferry, where he established his camp. During his stay at this place, Mrs. Dixon invited Black Hawk to dine with her family and Black Hawk afterward related the circumstance, showing that he felt complimented by the attentions paid him by this noble woman. On learning of Black Hawk's return to Illinois, Governor Reynolds immediately issued a call for volunteers, and General Whiteside, with one thousand eight hundred men, was immediately sent after the enemy. Black Hawk had in the meantime changed his encampment to the banks of Sycamore creek, a tributary of Rock river, some thirty miles above Dixon. Two days after the arrival of the volunteers at Dixon, under Gen-

eral Whitesides, he dispatched Major Stillman to make a reconnoissance on Black Hawk's camp. Black Hawk was entertaining his Winnebago friends at a dog feast when the volunteers approached his camp and he sent a party of six out to meet Major Stillman under the protection of a white flag. The undisciplined volunteers fired upon the little party of Indians, killing two of them during the retreat. Black Hawk, justly indignant at the treatment of his commissioners, raised the war-whoop and repelled the attack with his accustomed spirit. This was the first blood drawn in the Black Hawk war. After this engagement Black Hawk immediately broke camp and had fled northward, whither was not known. The two thousand four hundred men who had volunteered in the service had now seen enough Indian fighting to satisfy their curiosity, and their term of service having nearly expired, they were discharged. The part that was taken by volunteers from Montgomery county will be set forth in an article under the caption of the Illinois Soldier Boy. It is sufficient to know that Black Hawk was defeated and the Indian power broken through the efforts of General Scott of the Federal forces, and not as some of us have been led to believe, by the early Illinois settler. In fact, it might not be out of place to remark that the settlers in the Illinois country had not developed a penchant for fighting Indians. Black Hawk was made prisoner and sent to Fortress Monroe, where on the 26th of April, 1833, he was discharged from further imprisonment and returned to his people. Nothing worse than honorable warfare could be charged against him. The large cities through which he passed en route to his new home poured forth much of its population to see this aged Indian. In broken English amusing, earnest, and sometimes ludicrous, this old veteran of the forests and prairies would philosophize on the absurd and foolish customs of civilization. He prophesied that the white man would see the day that their courts of justice and their prisons would be insufficient to protect the community against the criminals that civilization would develop. Black Hawk died October 3, 1835, at his home on the Des Moines river, near the present village of Iowaville. He

was buried in a sitting posture and a large mound of earth raised above him. This marks the resting place of him who may with propriety be called the last native defender of the soil of Illinois. Joseph Duncan was elected governor in 1834 and, under his administration, a new state bank was chartered with a capital of one million five hundred thousand dollars. The capital stock of this bank was afterward increased to two million dollars, and also an assumption of the stock of the Shawneetown branch of this bank, to the amount of one million dollars more. These financial schemes were to enable the state to make certain internal improvements. The building of railroads, digging of canals were cherished objects during this period of our state history. To divert the trade from St. Louis to Alton was a part of the state policy, but, as usually happens, the over capitalization of the banks resulted in a suspension of specie payments and panic severe and awful swept over Illinois. Nor was the financial depression confined alone to the western country, for it is a matter of history that the whole country felt the depression of 1837 as much, and in some instances even to a greater degree, than did Illinois. In the autumn of 1838 Thomas Carlin was elected governor and the state was casting about in every direction for relief from the financial embarrassments into which she had lately been plunged. Instead, however, of retrenching taxation by abandoning a portion of the public works previously undertaken, in order to secure the completion of at least a portion of them, the legislature very unwisely made additional appropriations. Among these fanciful schemes we note that the governor was authorized to negotiate a loan of four million dollars to prosecute the work on the Illinois and Michigan canal. This, with other foolish expenditures, tended to destroy public confidence in the credit of the state. After July, 1841, the state actually made no further efforts to pay the interest on its public debt and the state banks necessarily went into bankruptcy. The public debt of Illinois at this time was in the neighborhood of fourteen million dollars, a large sum indeed for the young state, in its poverty of both means and credit, to attempt to float.

It was at this time that state bonds were offered at fourteen cents on the dollar without so much as finding a buyer. Thomas Ford was elected governor in August, 1842, and not only the financial embarrassment, against which he had to contend, but a disturbing factor in the Mormons, who had settled at Nauvoo in 1840, made his administration one of much responsibility and care. The Illinois and Michigan canal, during his administration, was by act of congress mortgaged to a body of eastern bondholders for a sufficiency of money to complete it. This gave relief to the state treasury and work on the canal was immediately resumed, but it was not completed until April, 1848. It was during this administration that the Mexican war was declared and the first regiment of Illinois volunteers ever enrolled for field service was sent to this war, and in passing, we will remark that Montgomery county's quota to the Mexican war will receive especial notice in the article previously referred to. In June, 1847, a convention was called in Springfield for the purpose of framing a new constitution. This convention was ratified by the people in March, 1848. This convention concluded its labors in August of that year and the new constitution was ratified by the people in March, 1848. Previous to the constitution of 1848 there had been no subdivisions of counties into civil townships, and consequently no township organization. This machinery for the establishment of local government was authorized by the new constitution and was perfected in 1851, according to the system now in practice. In 1852 Joel Matteson was elected governor, and it was in this election that a new element in politics made its appearance. The Abolition party presented the name of Dexter A. Knowlton as a candidate for governor. This was the first attempt to recognize that party politically in the state. This same year, however, at the November election, E. B. Washburn was elected to congress, by an alliance formed between the old Whig party and the new Anti-slavery party. A notable event during Governor Matteson's administration was a state law for the support of public schools, passed on the 15th of February, 1855, and of which we will have occasion

to speak later. At the November election in 1856 William H. Bissell was elected governor on the Republican ticket. His administration was a strong one and both branches of the legislature could boast of men of exceptional power and prestige. In the winter of 1858-9 a United States senator was to be chosen to fill the place of Judge Douglas' expiring term. This remarkable man and exponent of state sovereignty felt that his re-election as a vindication of his position on the Kansas-Nebraska bill was of absolute necessity at this time. The Republican party meanwhile, elated at the rapid rise and growth of their party, felt themselves competent to contest before the people the question at issue between themselves and their able opponent. The choice of the Republicans fell upon Abraham Lincoln as a candidate to oppose Judge Douglas for the senatorship. That the people might the better form an opinion as to the question at issue, it was arranged that these able contestants should present their views in joint debate before the people of the state. Both Lincoln and Douglas were champions each in his cause, and their powers upon the stump could scarcely have been equalled by any other two representatives of their parties to be found in the United States. Judge Douglas won the election by a small majority in the legislature, while Mr. Lincoln had a small majority of the voters, but this very defeat made him the idol of the anti-slavery men and finally gave him the presidency of the republic. In 1860 the national Republican convention met at Chicago, and on the third ballot at this convention Abraham Lincoln received the nomination for the presidency, and Hannibal Hamlin was nominated as candidate for the vice-presidency. The results of the election in the autumn of 1860 were favorable to the Republicans, and Abraham Lincoln, having received a majority of the votes in the electoral college, was inaugurated president of the United States on the 4th day of March, 1861. Richard Yates was elected governor of Illinois at the November election, and on the 14th of January, 1861, was duly inaugurated. The alarm of Civil war had sounded throughout the south, but not until Fort Sumter was fired upon did these alarms take tangible form. That a crisis was at hand

the most conservative of our statesmen were compelled to acknowledge, and the time had come when men measured their patriotism by a love of state or their desire to perpetuate the Union. It was a time when men of force like Douglas, Logan and other Democrats had to choose between secession and the preservation of the Federal Union. Then it was that our Illinois senator, Stephen A. Douglas, won his greatest glory and honored his state by a hearty endorsement of the policies of Mr. Lincoln. Although he soon afterward died, he had set a noble example of patriotism and magnanimity to his party, which undoubtedly effected the issues of the war. While we shall in another chapter give the roster of the Montgomery county soldier boys of 1861, it is well here to state in round numbers the number of troops furnished by the state of Illinois during the war of 1861-5, one hundred and eighty-five thousand nine hundred and forty-one infantry, thirty-two thousand eighty-two cavalry and seven thousand two hundred and seventy-two artillery, making an aggregate of two hundred and twenty-five thousand three hundred men of all arms furnished by the state during that war. As leaders of armies in the field or as promoters of public opinion from the platform, there is doubtless no state that leads our own in the worthy characters whose names are written on the pages of American history in letters of enduring fame than are the sons of Illinois. Lincoln, Grant, Douglas, Logan, Washburn and a host of others who appeared at this immediate period of our history have added to an already large list of pioneer soldiers and statesmen additional luster and honor. Richard J. Oglesby succeeded Richard Yates in the governorship in January, 1865, and it was in the following April, on the morning of the 15th, that news came of the assassination of Abraham Lincoln by John Wilkes Booth, at Ford's Theater, on the evening before. No state in the Union felt the force of this blow so keenly as did Illinois. Lincoln was her especial pride, her most honored son, and his untimely death occasioned such an outburst of grief as had not been witnessed before on the death of any public man. For a while all manner of business was laid aside, the stores were closed without

public order to do so, and in solemn procession, men in every walk of life were to be seen wending their way to their several places of religious worship, to hold memorial service, in honor of their beloved dead. John M. Palmer succeeded to the governorship of Illinois January, 1869, and a most notable event of his administration was the constitutional convention, which met in Springfield in December of that year. No changes had been made in the organic law of the state since 1848, and changed conditions required some changes in the constitution, and accordingly, a new constitution was framed and submitted to the people for adoption in 1870. Special legislation, recklessness on the part of the state, county or municipality to incur debt was forbidden in the new law. Restrictions upon the power of the legislature were very marked and provision for the representation of the minority in every county was made under the new law. We might state that no constitution of any other state embraces so many inhibitions and none so many direct mandates. Richard J. Oglesby became governor again in 1873, but shortly afterward resigned, having been elected to the United States senate, John L. Beveridge, the lieutenant governor, succeeding to the office of governor on the resignation of Mr. Oglesby. The administration of Mr. Beveridge was marked by no especial feature of interest and he was succeeded January 8, 1877, by Shelby M. Cullom. During the administration of Mr. Cullom the period of depression in finance, which had been most marked since 1853, culminated in the financial panic of 1877. To the student of finance it is not a long way to discover the underlying causes which led to the panic of 1877. It is not the purpose of this treatise to inquire into these causes. It is sufficient, however, to note that extravagance and waste is always followed by a period of poverty and want. Further, history bears us out in establishing an analogy in the affairs of man to the physical law of action and reaction. In other words, an unparalleled expenditure of human energy and force has always been followed by a period of lassitude or rest, and it is the opinion of the writer that these recurring periods of prosperity and depression are in obedience to

a law as fixed as we find it in the physical world. When we have emerged from these periods of depression, we have swung to financial heights much greater than we had ever known before. This condition can be noted in a country whose natural resources are as yet but partially developed, and I am safe in prophesying that, though we may have our financial panics recurring with automatic precision every twenty years, yet we will come forth from each of them with renewed spirit, with higher aspiration and with strengthened purpose, which shall enable us as a people to realize conditions of prosperity and happiness such as has been unknown to any people that have lived before us. Among the many things that have contributed to the development of the state, has been her great trunk lines of railroad that cross and recross the state in almost every direction. By means of these arteries of commerce, the products of her field and her factory have always been accessible to the best markets. The first strike on the part of labor, of which we have an account, occurred during the first administration of Mr. Cullom. Centers of disturbance were Chicago, East St. Louis and Braidwood. These disturbances were soon quelled and the wheels of industry again set in motion. Governor Cullom, having been re-elected in the fall of 1880, was inaugurated January 10, 1881. In his message he announced to the people that the last dollar of the state debt had been paid or provided for. The only amounts not paid were twenty-three thousand dollars, upon which interest had stopped, and which had never been presented for collection and supposed to have been lost. There is about nine hundred and fifty thousand dollars due from the state to the school fund, and which can not be paid, as this fund only requires the interest on the amount. As the state annually collects and pays out the sum of one million dollars to the counties, to be distributed per capita for school purposes, it is simply a legal fiction to regard the former as a debt. The term of David Davis, as senator from Illinois, having expired, Governor Cullom was chosen to fill his place and this promoted Lieutenant Governor John M. Hamilton to the position made vacant by the resignation of the governor. Governor Hamilton's administration

is rather meager of events that would be of interest to the reader. He was succeeded in 1885 by Uncle Dick Oglesby, who for the third time had been elected to the office of governor of the state. Succeeding to the governorship at a time when much political discontent manifested itself, proves the affection in which the people of the state held the venerable soldier, but the political skies were beginning to darken and the hold of the Republican party had begun to lose its grasp upon the independent voter. We find at this time Elijah M. Haines, an independent, elected to the speakership of the legislature by a Democratic vote, and this marked the beginning of a struggle which finally culminated in the election of a Democrat in the person of John M. Palmer to the United States senate. Joseph W. Fifer became governor of the state in 1889, after one of the most spirited canvasses between the Democratic party, represented by John M. Palmer, and the successful candidate, Mr. Fifer, representing the Republicans. Mr. Fifer received but twelve thousand plurality over General Palmer in this election. General Fifer, while a most estimable man, seems to have lacked that force of character which leads to a strong and forceful administration. While his incumbence of the office of governor is free from scandal and corruption, yet it lacked popular approval at the succeeding election. John P. Altgeld, of Cook county, a German born, yet American raised citizen, was nominated by the Democrats to oppose Governor Fifer. The flag law and the compulsory school law gave much offence to the German population of the state, and, as these laws were regarded as of Republican origin, that party was held to a strict accountability at the polls in the autumn of 1892. Altgeld was elected governor by a plurality over Mr. Fifer of thirty-two thousand votes. In January, 1893, Mr. Altgeld assumed the duties of governor and his administration, though most vigorous, fell upon times and conditions that marked his administration with bitter and acrimonious charges and counter-charges between Mr. Altgeld, the governor of the state of Illinois, and Grover Cleveland, the then president of the United States. Overshadowing all other items of interest, during the administration of Mr. Altgeld was the strike of the railroad em-

ployes of the several roads converging in the city of Chicago. It was during this period that the national administration assumed the right to employ the Federal army in the suppression of riot in a sovereign state over the protests of its governor. It would seem strange to the student of history to find that the representative of the Democratic party, in the person of the president of the United States, setting at naught what had been regarded as a cardinal principle of that party since the formation of the government. It is not within the province of this paper to take issue with either of the parties to this contest. Suffice it, however, that we may remark that we consider the able defence of Governor Altgeld as unparalleled in the array of argument which he produces to maintain the position which he took, and, again, we might say that it ill-becomes the retired president to attack the position of his late antagonist, who by the circumstance of death is not in a position to reply to his bitter anathemas. It might not be out of place in commenting upon the administration of John P. Altgeld to observe that, while there seems to have been lack of appreciation of the reforms which he inaugurated, of the evidences which he gave of a devotion to duty and a fearless discharge of those duties, regardless of personal interest, that the careful student will give to the efforts of Mr. Altgeld a place in the affairs of state that will be as enduring as our fabric of government. Governor Altgeld was re-nominated in 1896, and under the banner of William Jennings Bryan went down to defeat in the political tidal wave that engulfed the Democratic party that year. His opponent, John R. Tanner, was elected by a majority of over one hundred thousand and was inaugurated governor January 11, 1897. Mr. Tanner was a man of strong force of character, and it has been remarked that he little brooked what stood in the way to the consummation of his purposes. In other words, he was regarded by many as an unscrupulous politician. That he possessed nerve, was shown in more than one instance during his term of office. We might cite his action in the Virden riots, when he threatened to bring the state militia against the imported miners during the strike troubles of 1897. In

justice to this peculiar, yet remarkable man, we may say that no official has ever done directly or indirectly for organized labor in the state of Illinois, as was done by John R. Tanner. His friends were most extravagant in their praises of his constancy to a friend, while his enemies, even in his own party, heaped upon him the most bitter abuse. The factions into which he split the Republican party yet remain as a legacy of the Tanner regime. Succeeding Governor Tanner is Richard Y. Yates, of Jacksonville. This young man is the son of the elder Richard Yates, frequently spoken of as the war governor. Young Mr. Yates is also a man of force, though possessed of a disposition to reward only his friends. That he has made a good governor neither Democrats nor Republicans will attempt to deny, but his Republican opponents attributed to him the disposition and spirit of a party tyrant. In consequence, many forces were arrayed against him when he sought a re-nomination before a convention of his own party to the office of governor. Never in the history of any state has there been so long protracted struggle over the nomination for the office of governor in any party. Mr. Yates was at last defeated, but out of that defeat came victory, for by party manipulation, he was able to dictate the nomination of his friend, Mr. Deneen. We will say, relative to the administration of Mr. Yates, that it will take high place along with that of many of its predecessors. His effort to defeat graft, his vetoes of measures and appropriations that were intended for personal and private gain on the part of certain promoters and legislative grafters, ought certainly to endear Governor Yates to the common people, the tax-payers of the state. The present United States senators both belong to the Republican party. The senior senator, Shelby Cullom, has served his state in that capacity for three terms, and is regarded among the strong men of the senate. Mr. Cullom belongs to that type of statesmen that is fast disappearing. Absolutely honest, he is the more easily imposed upon by the professional politician, and during the long period of his services as senator, some criticism has attached in several instances to his position relative to certain measures that have passed the senate.

Uncle Shelby, as he is familiarly called, has never been accused, however, of using his official position to further personal end, and when the long roll is called that contains the honored list of Illinois statesmen, the name of Shelby M. Cullom will find a place there. Albert J. Hopkins, the junior senator of our state, is not so well known, but in so far as he has represented us in the upper house of congress, his vote has been with his party on all questions advocated by the federal administration. In this there is strong contrast between Mr. Hopkins and his predecessor, "Billy" Mason. Senator Mason, it will be remembered, opposed the administration in its Philippine policy, holding with Senator Hoar, of Massachusetts, that no warrant existed in the government of the islands for a violation of the principle "That the right to govern rests upon the consent of the governed," and his speeches in the senate were rather caustic in their arraignment of the administration for its un-American policy. For this challenge to the administration Senator Mason forfeited his seat in the upper branch of congress. While Senator Hoar received from the legislature of Massachusetts the endorsement of his state by a re-election to that most august body. It would seem that the conservative New Englander is not so easily disturbed over a difference of opinion that may arise over new and unsolved problems. Let us hope that this spirit of conservatism and fairness may become more universal. The present congressman representing the district of which Montgomery county is a part is the Hon. Ben F. Caldwell. He is serving his third term as a Democrat, yet he is broad enough, after each and every election, to remember that he is the representative of all the people of his district. As a senator in the state legislature he was author of what is known as the "gross weight" bill. This measure provides for the weighing of coal at all mines before it is screened, and thus the miner receives payment for the full weight of the coal. Until the passage of this bill there was continual friction between the operators on the one side and the miners on the other. The question of the size of the screen, which allowed a separation of the small coal from the lump coal, was con-

tinually obtruding itself between a satisfactory agreement to the parties concerned. This bill before mentioned entirely eliminated this feature of the matter and thereby paved the way to an agreement between operators and miners that has been satisfactory and productive of the best interests of each. We venture the remark that in no other state where the mining industry is so large is there less friction between employer and employe. The present representative in the state legislature from Montgomery county is the Hon. Edward Rice, of Litchfield. That he has served his constituency well is not questioned, yet how little can the representative of a district accomplish for the good of his people, especially if he belongs to the minority of his party! It is a notorious fact that under existing conditions we have no popular government save that which the speaker and a few committeemen see fit to allow. No discussion of public measures save those reported out of the committees at the dictation of special interest as represented by those who are fortunate enough to be on the "inside." This condition in the several legislatures, regardless of party, has become so prevalent that the people are clamoring for a

way by which legislation that is demanded may be accomplished, some states having adopted the Swiss principle of the "initiative and referendum," and in this way they hope to be able to secure for themselves what they can not expect to have by their representatives. We understand that Mr. Rice is favorable to a constitutional amendment providing for this radically Democratic measure. Such a law would entirely eliminate the possibility of boodling, and the lobbyist, whose purpose at our state capital is to corrupt legislation at its fountain head, would find such protection thrown about the people's representatives that it would be impossible to secure through corruption the passage of laws detrimental to the public good. We hope the good sense of all our people will require at the hands of our representatives the submission of an amendment to our constitution providing for the "initiative and referendum." In conclusion to this article I desire to state that much incorporated herein has been taken from "Blanchard's Notes on the History of the State of Illinois." Also some of the data was gathered from "The Gazeteer of Illinois," published by J. M. Peck, 1834.

THE AUTHOR.

HISTORY OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

A STORY OF THE EARLY SETTLERS OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY.

That John Hill settled on the Hurricane in the autumn of 1816 or the early spring of 1817 is a fact easy to be established. If in the spring of 1817, however, others may contend that John Hill was not the first settler in Montgomery county. From what we are able to gather we are led to conclude that the first settlement was made by Mr. Hill in the autumn of 1816, and that his brother, Henry Hill, with others arrived in the spring of 1817. As the story runs, we must chronicle a tradition that one Robert Briggs claimed to have settled in that part of Montgomery county north of the present city of Litchfield in the year 1816. We have no means by which we may confirm this tradition, nor do we have any desire to deny to Mr. Briggs the honor of having made the first settlement in the county, but we will say that there is lack of sufficient evidence to warrant us in making the statement that his settlement antedated that of John Hill. The Kickapoo Indians occupied the county in various settlements when the first white settlers came to take possession of it. Among those who settled in the southeastern part of Montgomery county were Joseph Williams, Henry Pyatt, William McDavid, John and Henry Hill, Jesse Johnson, Henry Sears, Aaron Casey, Harris Reavis, Joseph and Charles Wright, Easton Whitton, John Kirkpatrick, Henry Rowe, John Russell, David Bradford, James Card, John Levi and

a few others whose names have been forgotten. In the settlement near Hillshoro, made in 1817-18, history records the following: Alexander McWilliams, Solomon Pruitt, John Norton, Roland Shepherd, Jarvis Forehand, Gordon Crandall, William Clark, David McCoy, Nicholas Lockerman, Hugh Kirkpatrick, Melcher Fogleman, William Griffith, Joseph McAdams, James Street, Luke Steel, John McPhail, Joel Smith, David Kirkpatrick, Jesse Townsend, Jacob Cress, John Butler and Israel Seward, John Nussman, William Brazzelton, the schoolmaster. At about the same time we find a settlement being made in southeastern part of the county near the present village of Walshville. Among those who settled here were Nicholas Voyles, William Stevens, Austin Grisham, James Baker and John Jordan. The latter was a Baptist minister, who preached the first sermon in Montgomery county, though that honor has been claimed for James Street, of the Hillshoro settlement, and also for Henry Sears, of the Hurricane settlement. It is well to remark that it is recorded in a previous history of Montgomery county that the Rev. James Street in 1817 held a meeting at the house of David McCoy, of the Hillshoro settlement. This authority further states that the Rev. Henry Sears, of Hurricane settlement, was the first resident minister of the county. In 1820 the Hillshoro settlement organized a church body and built, in 1821, a rude place of worship, constructed of logs with a dirt floor and puncheon

pews. It was here in the wilderness that we find this uncouth and primitive tabernacle; but who shall say that within its walls worshipped a people not less God-fearing than their descendants, whose magnificent temples of worship are examples of architecture that would astonish the fathers? I hardly think that in the progress which we have made in material things since our sires met in the forest and their humble places of worship we have made a degree of spiritual progress commensurate with our opportunities and our wider knowledge of other things. Is it possible that with all our boasted achievements in the physical world there is absolutely no progress in the spiritual?

In offering a remark upon this subject I am pleased to say that it is my belief that the perfect work of grace in the human heart has never been improved upon since our Savior walked and talked along the shores of Galilee; that while we may embellish our places of worship and make them fit places for the Master's use, yet we must not forget that these do not constitute any part of the kingdom of God, for the Master hath said, "The kingdom of heaven is within you." While we think it perfectly proper and right to build beautiful houses of worship and dedicate them to holy purposes, yet not the house nor its surroundings or furnishings can of themselves bring men to Christ, but those who worship there and whose lives are consistent with the teachings of the lowly Nazarene are the elements which persuade men that there is a higher and a more perfect way of life. The desire for the salvation of men is so strong upon every Christian heart that it amounts to a passion approaching that of our Lord; hence the intense earnestness and often fanatical efforts of certain Christian men and women to convert the world in a day, nor can they understand why, in the providences of God, the world moves so slowly toward conviction, toward conversion, toward righteousness. It has been the experience of the writer through several years of religious life that to worry because we can not accomplish in a day what Jesus himself did not accomplish in His time only wastes energy and spirit and renders us

the more incompetent to perform the service which is ours. Let us, therefore, as Christian men and women, go forth bearing precious seeds and the promise that sometime, somewhere, we shall gather precious sheaves. To the old church in the wilderness and to the little schoolhouse on the hillside, doubtless, we are indebted for the strong and sturdy character of the men and women of that generation that is passing—our fathers and mothers. We have had more advantages than they, better schools, and withal a better environment; but are we better men and women? We have a higher culture, which gives us, possibly, a keener appreciation of the artistic, and the lines of beauty might appeal to our sense of form; yet the true and the good found as responsive vibration in the hearts of our fathers and our mothers as we have ever known. I am not pessimistic, neither am I such an optimist as to believe that the law of compensation is not just as exacting in the moral world as in the physical, and that the moral sense of a people is blunted by the inordinately wild and reckless chase for the material things of the world. This digression from the subject of history I hope will not be without some interest to the reader. As old Tuhah Cain was the first blacksmith in the world, so Melcher Fogleman enjoys the distinction of having been the first blacksmith in Montgomery county. Another colony came from Kentucky and settled near where Fillmore is located. Among those whose names are preserved were James Card, Thomas J. Todd, Henry and Peter Hill and Mark Mason. This was about the year 1820. In the same year recruits were made to the settlement at Hillsboro, and among those were Thomas C. Hughes, Hiram Rountree, Daniel Sherer, John Tilson, Daniel Meredith, Thomas Robinson, John Yoakum, John Elder and others. Possibly the most valuable acquisition to Montgomery county at this time was Hiram Rountree. Judge Rountree, as he was known to the people of Montgomery county for a period of half a century, was one of the most remarkable men of his time. In the formation of this county, and during its earlier experiences, Judge Rountree directed its affairs in nearly every department of administration.

The earlier records of Montgomery county were all kept by him, and it is a matter of no little interest to spend an hour looking through the records as kept by Judge Rountree fifty or sixty years ago. The writer has heard his father relate the following anecdote relative to Judge Rountree: On the occasion of a visit by a gentleman from one of the eastern states to this county, in the early '30s, he questioned one of the citizens of Hillsboro as to who was the recording clerk. The answer, Rountree. Who is your probate judge? Again the answer, Rountree. And who is your commissioner? Again the citizen replied, Rountree. The idea that one man could fill all of the offices seemed so ludicrous to the stranger that he exclaimed: "My God, are there no other men capable of filling office in this county?" This story is only told to show the high esteem in which Judge Rountree was held and the absolute faith which the early citizens had in his ability to discharge the duties of the several offices to which they elected him. As Judge Rountree occupied so conspicuous a place in the early history of the county, I will append the short biographical sketch given in Perrin's "History of Montgomery County," published in 1882: "Judge Hiram Rountree was a ruling spirit in Hillsboro for many years, exerting a greater influence than any man, perhaps, that has ever lived in the place, and deserves more than mere passing notice in these pages. He was a native of North Carolina, where he was born December 22, 1794, but his early life was spent mostly in Kentucky. He was a soldier of the war of 1812 under General Shelby, the first governor of Kentucky. He studied law in Bowling Green, and in 1817 removed to Edwardsville, Illinois, thence to Fayette county and to the state capital, Vandalia, where for several sessions he was enrolling clerk of the house of representatives. In 1821 he removed to Montgomery county, and as circuit clerk organized it. The remainder of his life was spent in the county, and there were few positions of importance that he had not held at some time during his long and useful career. It is sufficient, however, to remark here that for forty-eight years in succession he served the county in an official capacity. He

was a zealous member of the Methodist church from the year 1818 to the time of his death, March 5, 1873, and his Christian life is still familiar to many of the older residents of the city and county." It might be well to add that in honor of Judge Rountree one of the townships has been named for him. But so long as Montgomery county preserves her early records there will be no occasion to have other reminders to keep for other generations memories of Hiram Rountree. Montgomery county was organized in 1821 by act of the general assembly, approved February 12 of that year. Its boundaries were as follows: Beginning at the southeast corner of section 24, township 7, north range 2, west of the third parallel meridian, thence west eighteen miles to the southwest corner of section 19, in township 7, range 5, west, and thence south to the south line of said township, thence west to the southwest corner, thence north to the northwest corner of township 12, thence east twenty-four miles to the northeast corner of township 12, north, and range 2, west, thence south to the place of beginning, to be known as Montgomery county. Melcher Fogleman, James Street and Joseph Wright were appointed commissioners to locate the seat of justice for said county. The newly-created county was named in honor of General Montgomery, who fell before Quebec. The student of history, as he recalls the roll of the several counties of Illinois, discovers that he has a record of the most illustrious names known to American history. It will be observed that the eastern boundary of our county extended as far north as our present western boundary, but in the year 1839, on the formation of Dane county, now called Christian, a large slice was taken out of the northeast corner, leaving it in its present irregular shape. The commissioners appointed to locate the county seat met at the house of Joseph McAdams for the purpose of determining the proper site. Under the act providing for the creation of the county and the selection of a site as county seat, the owner of the land upon which the site was to be located should donate twenty acres for public buildings. After much deliberation the commissioners selected what was known as the McAdams place, which is

about three miles southwest of Hillsboro. This town was to be known as Hamilton. It must be kept in mind that the commissioners were not unanimous in the selection of this place as the county seat, for Joseph Wright, the commissioner living in the Hurricane settlement, was much opposed to its selection and refused to sign the report as commissioner. Wright drew up a minority report, in which he set forth the fact that the site so selected was neither the geographical center of the county nor the center of population. So bitter became the controversy over the matter that the legislature passed an act in the year 1823 creating a new commission to relocate the county seat, and on this new board were appointed Elijah C. Berry, Silas L. Wait and Aaron Armstrong. The new commission met in pursuance of the provisions of the act creating it and chose the present site of Hillsboro. The following incident is told in connection with the location of the county seat: It was discovered, after the location had been made, that the land had not been entered from the government, so it became necessary to find some one who had sufficient money to make the entry, and after a canvass of many of the citizens one Newton Coffey, living down in the Hurricane settlement, was found who had fifty dollars in money—something unusual for an early settler at that time. Mr. Coffey was sent for, and after much persuasion was induced to make an entry of the land necessary to the location of the county seat. He made a donation of twenty acres for public buildings and laid out the beginning of the present town of Hillsboro. It is a matter of history that the town of Hamilton had really been projected, so far as having been laid out, lots sold, streets and alleys surveyed and all the requirements necessary to the building of a town, but that no public buildings had been erected. The relocation of the site to Hillsboro seems to have paralyzed any further effort on the part of the promoters to build a town at Hamilton. I have not been able to secure information relative to why the earlier county seat was to have been called Hamilton, but I surmise that the habit so strong upon the public men of that day to reflect credit upon those whom they

would especially honor led the first commissioners to name their town in honor of Alexander Hamilton, and if I might conjecture further I would say that possibly Joseph Wright was a disciple of Thomas Jefferson and his opposition was as much to the name, and possibly more, than to the fact set forth in his minority report. This suggestion, which is not warranted by the evidence, is only assumed by a knowledge of the political acerbities of the times. It has been said that the faithful chroniclers of events will not color the facts of history by too much suggestion. But in a study of the times we are often tempted to express an opinion that is warranted by attendant circumstances and conditions. These circumstances and conditions are unknown to the reader, and consequently he may conclude that the writer presumes too much upon his credulity. It has been an observation, however, that the matter thrown in to illumine is oftentimes the more faithful part of the story. The first court of Montgomery county was held at the home of Joseph McAdams, at what is now known as the old McAdams place. The Hon. John Reynolds presided over this first term of the circuit court and Hiram Rountree acted as recorder. The grand jury selected to serve at this first term of the circuit court were John Seward, James Black, George W. Shipmen, David Bradford, William McDavid, John Beck, James Card, George Davis, Elisha Freeman, Henry Hill, Louis Scribbner, Hiram Reavis, James Walker, Newton Coffey, Jarvis Forehand, John Yoakum, John Elder and Thomas Robinson. The county commissioners' court was held in the spring of 1821 and consisted of John Beck, John Seward and John McAdams as county commissioners. The county officers who were appointed at this term of court were Hiram Rountree, clerk; John Tilson, treasurer; Joel Wright, sheriff; L. M. Townsend, probate judge; and James Wright and Daniel Meredith, first constables of the county. Thus we have by appointment to the various offices probably the most available that could have been selected at this time. Joel Wright, the first sheriff of the county, we learn, was not

one of the first commissioners appointed to fix the county seat, neither the James Wright who was appointed as one of the first constables related to either of the others. Many of the descendants of Joseph Wright are living in Fillmore township near where their ancestor made his settlement more than eighty years ago. John Tilson, whose name appears as the first county treasurer, was a man of more than usual ability, and it is said that he kept the first store at Hillsboro as early as 1821 and was appointed as first postmaster at the county seat. Mr. Tilson came to Illinois from Massachusetts and brought with him that spirit for education and general progress that has marked the people of his native state. The moral and educational interests of Hillsboro owe to Mr. Tilson much that has been accomplished along these lines, as we shall have occasion to note in the chapter relating to educational interests. Mr. Tilson built the first brick dwelling in the county. It was a large two-story dwelling, but, owing to the poor quality of the brick out of which it was made, it has long since been torn down. It is claimed that the first settler upon the site of Hillsboro was one John Nussman, but as he had not entered the lands upon which his cabin stood he did not derive the benefits that came from the location of the county seat in his immediate neighborhood. Nussman's cabin was located near the late A. H. H. Rountree's residence. Nussman, according to the custom of all the earlier settlers, raised a large family of children. Some of the descendants of Mr. Nussman are yet to be found in the vicinity of Hillsboro. The Nussman wagon shop was the first of its kind in the county, and some are yet living who remember the old mechanic who kept in repair the lynch-pin wagons and ox-carts, yokes and bows so necessary as a part of the pioneer home. The first tavernkeeper was James Rutledge, whose tavern, or inn, was located in the south part of town. James Rutledge was the father of the late Thomas J. Rutledge, once a prominent attorney of the Montgomery county bar, and also of Dr. H. R. Rutledge, for many years a dentist in Hillsboro and identified with much of the church interests of the town. Dr. Rutledge has not

lived in Montgomery county for some years. Joel Wright, who was the first sheriff of the county, like Mr. Tilson was also an eastern man. He held the office of sheriff from 1821 until 1826, and we are not informed that Joel Wright left any representatives of his family, for it seems that tradition is silent regarding him; at least we have been unable to discover what became of him. As we have stated that John Tilson erected the first brick house in Hillsboro, it might be of interest to further state that David B. Jackson, father of W. K. Jackson, erected the first frame house in our county seat. Mr. Jackson was one of our early merchants, a tavernkeeper, county surveyor, and withal a very useful man in the community. In 1825 John Prentice came to Hillsboro and opened up the second general store in the village. Mr. Prentice was fairly successful in his venture, and in addition to selling goods succeeded, by dint of energy and economy, to raise quite a family of children. We will have more to say concerning the early settlers of Hillsboro on the chapter set apart especially for the city of Hillsboro and community. The rugged virtue of the early pioneer settlers is shown by a rather peculiar incident in the life of one of their number. Nicholas Lockerman was among the earliest of our settlers, and he had brought with him from his former home a mistress rather than a wife. In other words, there had been no legal marriage between Lockerman and the woman who bore his children and claimed a place of wife in his home. So indignant were his neighbors at this infraction of the moral law that Lockerman was notified that he must either marry the woman who lived with him as his wife or move to some other locality. Lockerman chose the former alternative, and, as the story goes, was married by the Rev. James Street out in the open field where he and his wife were hoeing corn. To-day, under circumstances of such character, men might take refuge under the "common law marriage agreement" and thus avoid possible scandals such as our fathers could not condone in their time. Wiser, perhaps, in our generation than they, yet have we not lost attachment for that robust sense of virtue that prevailed among

the pioneers? The next couple married in Montgomery county was David McCoy to a Miss Kirkpatrick. The marriage ceremony was performed by the Rev. James Street, but the first marriage license ever returned in Montgomery county was that of William H. Brown to Miss Harriett C. Seward by the Rev. T. S. Townsend. It has been contended that the wife of the Rev. T. S. Townsend taught the first school in 1823, but this honor without doubt belongs to Mr. Brazzleton, whose first school session precedes this some two or three years. The first physician that ever practiced medicine in the county was Dr. Garner, who had married Martha Kilpatrick, daughter of David Kilpatrick, who had settled about two miles west of Hillsboro. Whether Dr. Garner was successful as a practitioner I do not know, but as the man of medicine years ago was compelled to search for his remedies among the herbs of the field and the roots in the valley we are led to suppose that Dr. Garner knew them all by name and was able to dispense them so as to alleviate the ague-ridden populace. At least no evidence of mal-practice appears against him in the records. Contemporary with Dr. Garner was Dr. Boone, one of the early physicians. He was a man of much intelligence, personally very popular and related directly to Daniel Boone, the Kentucky hunter. Dr. Boone commanded a company of Montgomery county boys in the Black Hawk war, and when he had served out his term he re-enlisted as surgeon in Captain Rountree's company and served to the end of the war. Later Dr. Boone removed to Chicago and in the course of years served that city as mayor. The doctor's sympathy for the south during the rebellion led him into some trouble. His effort to provide for the comforts of some of his old Kentucky friends who were confined as prisoners in Camp Douglas led to his arrest. Later, however, he was released, no charges having been preferred against him. Under the townships we shall have occasion to notice in a more extended manner those who have contributed to the history of these separate sections. For convenience the county was early divided into voting precincts, which later, under the constitution of 1848, were changed into

civil townships. These precincts, however, did not conform to the present civil township, for in some instances the voting precinct was much more extended than the civil township. Montgomery county did not adopt township organization until a great majority of the counties throughout the state had taken advantage of this constitutional provision. There is much in township organization to be commended, as it brings the government of local affairs to the immediate direction of the people, the board of supervisors, in a sense corresponding to the legislative body, or, in other words, bearing the same relation to the county that the general assembly does to the state, in so far as providing for public expenditures on improvements for the public good. Space will not permit a review of all the county officials whose names might be of interest in a work of this kind, and while it would afford us much pleasure to present that honored roll to readers of our story, yet we must forego that pleasure and content ourselves with casual notice of those who, from time to time, have come more prominently into notice. Among those who have filled the office of sheriff, and whose names are well remembered by our older citizens, we find that of John Fogleman, John Corlew and John McDavid. We mention these specifically because these octogenarians yet remain with us. John Fogleman resides on his farm near the city of Litchfield and is nearly eighty-five years old. Uncle John Corlew yet resides on his farm at the good old age of ninety years, while Uncle John McDavid lives in the suburb of Irving, quite hale and strong for a man of eighty-two. Soon these landmarks of bygone generation will be removed, and only a few years at most will it be possible to receive at first hand stories of pioneer times. John Fogleman is a son of Melcher Fogleman, mentioned previously in this article, and John McDavid is a son of Uncle Billy McDavid, who settled near Coffeen, on McDavid's branch, in the year 1820. Of the elder McDavid we shall have something more to say when we take up the history of East Fork township. Among the circuit clerks we might mention that Hiram Rountree and Charlie Jenkins were the most conspicuous occupants of that office,

but no more efficient clerk of the circuit court has ever occupied the position than the present incumbent, Duncan C. Best. In the office of county clerk the names of Shirley, Raymond, Keethly, Hendricks, Seymour and Shoemaker form a list of able and courteous officials. George Raymond died suddenly and unexpectedly. While a Republican in politics, yet he was elected to the office of county clerk by good majorities. B. A. Hendricks, a very affable gentleman, and during his first term in office a most efficient clerk, died by his own hand, leaving a testimony in this rash act that wine is a mocker and that strong drink is raging, and he that is deceived thereby is not wise. At the time of B. A. Hendricks' election to the office of county clerk no young man had brighter prospects than he, and his friends cherished the hope that at some future time, in positions of greater trust than that of county clerk, he might aspire, and the author well remembers that in private conversation he had admitted that he had hopes of something greater. In an evil hour the demon of strong drink exerted a mastery over the man and led him captive to his own destruction. These remarks are made out of the kindest feeling for the dead, but if we find some unpleasant things to chronicle whose narration will sound a warning to others, we shall feel that the story told is not sacrilegious nor is it unkind to the memory of the dead. John Shoemaker, who is serving his second term, is a most faithful servant of the people. I failed to note in my remarks three of our late sheriffs, notably Henry N. Randall, Ben Cassidy and the present sheriff, John Miller. Montgomery county has reason to congratulate herself that she has been served by a trio of such excellent officials. The long line of county judges who deserve mention would form quite a list. From among them we enumerate the following: Lane, Kingsberry, Phillips, Miller, Allen, Cooper and McMurray. In this Montgomery county has been especially favored, for her judges have been men of character, and in no instance can we recall any dereliction to duty. Our state's attorneys have been forceful prosecutors, and most of them have been promoted to higher positions, notably Miller

and Allen to the judgeship and Thomas M. Jett to congress, and in our young and energetic present prosecuting attorney we are well pleased and hope for him a wider sphere of usefulness at no distant day. Mr. Hill enjoys and deserves the confidence of the people as a public official. The county treasurer's office has been ably filled by such men as "Jim" Haynes, Columbus Freeland, John Green and Dan Brown, the present incumbent, all of whom were most excellent men and public servants. Dan Brown, the present treasurer, is the son of Martin Brown, who has lived in Harvel township for many years. Dan is a rugged, stanch young Democrat and a worthy son of Uncle Martin, who has been dubbed "King of the Irish." We expect greater things yet from our young friend "Dan." The earliest school commissioner of the county was Butler Seward and after him we have few names that are remembered until we reach that of Jesse C. Barrett. This able and efficient county superintendent did as much, and possibly more than any other, to elevate the standard of public instruction in Montgomery county. His long period of service enabled him to accomplish certain ends that a short period of years could not have done. Mr. Barrett was virtually superintendent of the county schools for a period of thirteen years. During the first four years he was assistant superintendent to Thomas E. Harris, but the direction of the affairs of the office devolved upon him. At the close of Mr. Harris' term, Mr. Barrett was elected and re-elected so that he was able to accomplish much good in the system which he had adopted for the management of the district schools. No superintendent of this county ever enjoyed the confidence of the teachers to a greater degree than did Jesse Barrett. This the writer can affirm, because it was his province to be one of the profession during Mr. Barrett's administration. Succeeding Mr. Barrett was the writer of this article, and if there was anything commendable in his administration, it was the fact that the state course of study was adopted throughout the county during his term of office. A strong corps of teachers lent their support to his administration and whatever of success attaches to it

came by reason of their loyal support. We should like to give a list of the names of those teachers, but space forbids and lest we might forget to mention some one of the more worthy, we must be content to refer to them as a body of men and women who honored their profession and the superintendent whose good fortune it was to labor with them. Succeeding to the superintendency was W. H. Groner, of Litchfield. Mr. Groner had been one of the leading teachers of Montgomery county for many years and his election to the superintendency was a fitting recognition of the services which he had rendered as a teacher in the public schools. Mr. Groner's administration was eminently successful. He saw to it that the state course was applied to all of the schools in so far as it was practical and the system of graduating under the state course that had been adopted during the previous administration was carried out and gradually the objections which had been urged against the state course during its early adoption disappeared. At the close of his term Mr. Groner did not care to stand for re-election and W. J. McDavid, the present incumbent, succeeded to the office of county superintendent of schools. Mr. McDavid has made a faithful and efficient officer and so far as we are advised, is maintaining the high standard of efficiency in our public schools. His re-election last year evidences the esteem in which he is held and the satisfaction of the people with his administration. The men who have been signally honored from Montgomery county by election to federal offices present but a short list. Notably Judge E. Y. Rice, Edward Lane and Thomas M. Jett. Judge Rice served this congressional district as its representative in the early '70s. Prior to his election he lived in the city of Hillsboro, and the old Rice home is one of the landmarks of that city. Situated in a beautiful forest of virgin oaks and elms, it presents rather a pastoral appearance and it was here that Judge Rice passed the closing years of an eventful and useful life. Although but a youth at the time, I can well remember the speeches made by Judge Rice in his canvass for congress, and my father's country store being quite a rendezvous for the citizens in

the south part of the county, one of his dates was sure to include "Traylor's store," and here, from the old porch as a rostrum, it is said that the Hon. E. Lane made his first political speech. James Davis and later his son Robert W. Davis were wont to address the voters of this section from the same rostrum. Edward Lane was next to serve Montgomery county and the district as representative to congress. Mr. Lane was elected to several terms in the popular branch of congress, and during his incumbency of that office he won a national reputation. Mr. Lane is an especial friend of W. J. Bryan and the soundness of his Democracy has never been questioned. We regard Judge Lane as the ideal lawyer. His life has been one of struggle and his indefatigable energy has won for him a competency and to-day he is reckoned one of the solid financial men of our county. Thomas M. Jett, the younger of the trio, also served several terms in the national congress. Mr. Jett, by his forcefulness, won his way to congress while but a young man, and though by the re-districting Mr. Jett was thrown in the same district with Ben Caldwell of Springfield, it is probable that had he cared, he might have secured the nomination over that gentleman. That Mr. Jett has a bright outlook for the future, his friends are glad to believe. That he is deserving the people of Montgomery county, regardless of party, are free to acknowledge. Mr. Jett, associated with Mr. Kinder, constitutes one of the strong law firms of the county. It might be well at this time to consider the topography of the county in general. Nearly every grade of soil is to be found in the county. In the extreme northern part, which in the earlier settlement consisted of wide stretches of flat bog lands unsuited to any purpose known to the early settler, and the south part consists of rolling prairies, which lose themselves in the hill sections along the creeks. In the eastern part, especially in the south part of Andubon township and southeast Fillmore much hill land, that is suited only to orchard and grazing purposes. The land in these sections has a good clay sub-soil, which renders them especially adapted for apple, peach, pear, plum and small fruit growing. In many parts

we find most excellent springs that provide living water throughout the year. In the south part of East Fork and in much of Grisham, Irving, Walshville and South Litchfield are found extensive tracts of what is known as post-oak flats. These sections, which have been universally regarded as the poorest soil, are under the superior class of cultivation that is being given by some of our German farmers that they may be made very productive. This grade of soil seems to respond more readily to fertilization than any other. The close and compact nature of this soil makes it necessary to use some means by which it may be made more porous. The use of the cow pea and red clover as plant fertilizers are admirably adapted to post-oak soil. Most of the hill land is of a reddish cast, and by careful management to prevent washing, is among the most fertile soils of the county. The writer was pleased to observe some upland of this character, belonging to Jacob Boover, which this year will undoubtedly yield from sixty to eighty bushels of corn per acre. When it is remembered that this land has been in cultivation for a period of seventy-five years, we are lead to conclude that soil does not wear out, but that by intelligent and careful management, that all grades of Montgomery county soils may be made more productive. The virgin timber has almost disappeared, but much of a younger growth is yet to be found in the south part of the county. Only a few years ago it was not difficult to find oak, sycamore and cottonwood three feet at least in diameter, but to-day one might travel many miles without ever discovering a single representative of the virgin forest. Originally the timber growth of our section consisted of white oak, post oak, black oak, Spanish oak and pin oak, the white and scaly bark hickory, the white and the red elm, the wild cherry, the hackberry, the black walnut, and along the streams many very large sycamore and cottonwood trees. Among the different growths not suited to the use as lumber were the crab apple, prickly ash, black haw, red haw, mulberry, persimmon, redbud and various other shrub-like trees. It was not difficult thirty years ago for boys in their jaunts through the forest to

supply themselves with berries, nuts, grapes, plums and such other fruits as grew in abundance over the hills, and to-day the men and women of forty-five and fifty years old well remember when, as little tots on their way to school, they stopped to gather the wild strawberries in the spring or to gather in the autumn the hickory nuts, black haws and persimmons. We well knew that the wild crab, after it had laid through the winter covered by the leaves, was not bad to the taste when all other apples were gone, and you boys who are older, that chance to read this sketch, will understand what I mean by sweet root time. The boys in our schools to-day would laugh at the expression, but to the boys of thirty-five and forty years ago, the sweet root was sought after and much prized by them. Oftentimes, in company with others, we have played hookey at school in the spring when the frost had gone out of the ground and sweet root time was at hand. For the information of present day boys, I will state that the tap root of the small hickory was the article after which we spent so much time to secure. Quite a good many medicinal shrubs and plants were to be found growing in different parts of the timbered section of the county. The sassafras, shumach, alder, prickly ash, bitter-sweet, red root, sarsaparilla, yellow root, bone set, black cohosh, ginseng, sweet ennis and many others with which the local doctor alone was acquainted. The geology varies in different parts of the county. In the south part, after passing through the soil, we come to a light colored checked clay formation. This is succeeded by several feet of yellow granular clay, which in turn is underlaid by a bed of sand, which contains a good quality of hard water. Underlying this first bed of sand is a calcareous deposit which undoubtedly gives to the water its lime-like nature. Underneath this lime rock is a blue clay formation, which varies in depth with location. This is again succeeded by a bed of quicksand in most parts of the southern section of the county. The water from wells which tap this second bed of sand is not usually of such hard quality as water furnished from the first strata of sand. In different parts of the county we have chalybeate springs, some

containing sulphate of iron, others magnesia and others salts of various kinds. There is but little rock formation near the surface in any part of the county. Near Rocky Ford, on West Shoal, is the most pronounced formation to be found in any part of the county. If we should ever determine to build a system of hard roads, it is apparent that some other substance besides rock would have to be used in the construction, and it has occurred to the writer that the great beds of fire clay underlying our coal measures might some day be utilized in making a species of paving brick suited to this purpose. While but few autos are in use outside the great cities, it has been demonstrated that as vehicles for carrying purposes they are practical machines, and the time is not far distant when these horseless carriages will be owned and operated by some of the wealthiest farmers. The demand for hard roads is noticeable in almost every section of the country, and state conventions have been called to devise some means by which this demand may be satisfied. The great cost attaching to the construction of hard roads across our wide prairies is an item of expense that looks scary to the average farmer. In the construction of gravel roads in the vicinity of Charleston, Illinois, I find that the minimum cost has been in the neighborhood of one thousand dollars per mile. I have but little faith however, in the endurance of this class of hard roads, and parties in that neighborhood assured me that during the open muddy winter of 1902-3 that these sand-gravel surfaced roads were little better than the well graded dirt road. With an inexhaustible supply of material out of which to make paving brick and millions of tons of cheap coal wherewith to burn them, we are certainly in a position not only to make hard roads, but to make them of the best quality. Roads that when once constructed will last for hundreds of years. The American people in the matter of road building have been quite unlike the ancient Roman with whom they have so frequently been compared. While the Roman republic took pride in building great highways, and it is to the credit of that people that many of these roads are yet in use, the purpose of their con-

struction hardly justified the building. As the Roman highway provided a means for the rapid movement of her armies from one part of the empire to the other, the building of American roads should be for more laudable purposes. Returning to our subject of the geological structure of our county, we will notice the coal measures which within recent years has proven a source of wealth to our people. The first coal mine operated within our county was at Litchfield, Illinois. The coal vein worked at that time was from three to four feet in thickness. The quality of the coal superior to that which has since been worked in the thicker vein lying somewhat below. The mine at Hillsboro has been in operation some fifteen years and produces a superior quality of coal. This has been the most successfully operated coal mine within the county. In the development of this mine the operators were very careful not to rob the pillars so as to occasion a "squeeze" in the work. The Kortkamp Brothers were in charge of this mine for a number of years and the character and credit of the work belongs to them. In strong contrast with the Hillsboro mine is that of the mine at Coffeen, where, I am told by expert miners, that all the advantages lay with the mine at Coffeen. A much softer fire clay beneath and less "clod" between the coal and the rock above, in other words, a better bottom and a better top. A vein of coal ranging from seven to eight feet in thickness, and superior in quality to any other coal in this section of the state. With all these advantages the management of this shaft, by a few farmer operators, almost wholly ruined the plant and bankrupted themselves. So anxious were the stockholders to secure early dividends upon their stock that immediate robbing of pillars commenced on the opening of the shaft. An observation would be apt in this connection that the "shoemaker would better stick to his last." The men who assumed the management of the Coffeen mine were farmers who had been more than ordinarily successful in their line. W. S. Barry and James B. McDavid were both men of ability and each had succeeded in gaining a competency as a farmer and stock-raiser, but in their management of the Coffeen mine, no more ab-

solute failure could have been conceived. Not only did they bankrupt themselves, but many of their friends, who shared with them in the responsibility of their mining venture. The coal industry at Coffeen at the present writing is under the direction of successful coal men from Pennsylvania. These operators have been able not only to put the mine on a basis of meeting its expenditures, but must certainly have proven a paying venture, as the company are at the present time arranging to sink a new shaft at this place. The coal mine located at Paisley has been in a measure fairly successful. The coal is of good quality and the mine has been kept in good condition. Mr. George W. Paisley, the operator, has found that it pays well to employ superintendents who know what is best in operating and developing a mine. This mine has the largest output of any mine in our county. The new mine at Litchfield had somewhat of an experience in its earlier management like that at Coffeen, but fortunately for the mine and for the stockholders, the concern was thrown into the hands of a receiver and J. D. Crabbe, one of the most successful coal operators in Illinois, was made receiver. Under his management, it was soon put on a paying basis and I am informed that very recently it sold at figures considerably above the capital stock. At Raymond is a coal mine of small capacity. The quality of the coal is good, but the vein is only about three feet in thickness, so that as a commercial mine, it can not hope to accomplish very great things. The per diem tonnage of the several mines of Montgomery county is in the neighborhood of three thousand tons, and the several mines employ in the neighborhood of seven hundred men. Much talk of a new mine at Nokomis and Donnellson is heard. Prospecting has been made at each place, and veins of from six to seven feet have been discovered. Quite a number of years ago, when the old Litchfield mine was in operation, the observance of the accumulation of oil in the "sump" led some parties at Litchfield to make investigations in regard to petroleum deposits. A very heavy black oil was discovered and several wells were sunk. For quite a number of years this oil was sold to the trade for lubricating purposes,

but for some reason these wells have not been operated for some time. I am not in position to say whether the oil deposit did not exist in sufficient quantity to pay for the operating or whether influences existed that made it more profitable to shut the wells down. The gas flow from a well in the vicinity of Litchfield was reasonably strong, and for some months after its discovery exhibited at night quite a spectacular appearance when allowed to burn. From what has preceded, I am satisfied that in the near future attempts will be made to more fully prospect for oil and gas within the limits of our county. Several tile and brick factories have been operated in different parts of the county. A very fine quality of brick has been made for many years at Hillsboro, and the brickyards of Marshall and Seymour have furnished brick to build most of the brick structures throughout this section of the country. These yards, I believe, are both now out of use, but the brick and tile factory near the coal mine at Hillsboro, and a similar one at Litchfield, and another at Ohlman, supply the ever increasing trade in this class of building material. Some years ago it was thought much more expensive to build out of brick, but the rapid increase in the value of all grades of lumber has so increased the price of frame building that in the future business houses especially will be erected out of brick, and there will be no excuse for having a fire limit in our villages and towns. It will be only a matter of dollars and cents with the advantage in favor of brick structures. The agricultural products consist of corn, oats, wheat and rye, with timothy and clover hay produced in large quantities. During the period of 1875-85 was the great wheat decade, and during some of the years Montgomery county produced a million bushels of wheat. It was no unusual thing for fields of hundreds of acres to average thirty to thirty-five bushels per acre, and as some countries have their golden age, certainly it was at this period that we had a wheat age. The results of the rich harvests of 1879, 1880 and 1882 occasioned greater improvements among the farming classes in the way of nice homes, good barns, etc., than all the accumulations that had preceded it. Since 1885 clima-

tic changes, chintz bugs or Hessian flies have made it almost impossible to grow a crop of wheat, and our farmers, after many failures, have turned their attention to other crops such as corn, oats and hay. Much of the hill land in the south part of the county has been seeded to pasture and stock raising has become one of the essential features of Montgomery county farming. In the northern part of the county, where the soil is deep and black, corn raising is the principal item of agriculture. The north half of our county lies within what is known as the corn belt, while the south half is diversified, fruit growing, stock raising and mining filling up the measure of her industries. In the early history of the state, Montgomery county, with others, saw fit to extend aid to certain railroads, if they should construct their line across her boundaries. In this way a county indebtedness of some fifty thousand dollars was assumed by the people. But this burden has long ago been lifted and we are free to express the opinion that the voters of forty years ago acted wisely in securing the road. Our county has been most fortunate at all times in having wise counselors in its financial management. Our neat little court house, which is ample for all our needs, was built out of the funds from the sale of swamp land that had been donated to the county by the general government. While some of our sister counties, notably: Macoupin, to build her magnificent courthouse, almost bankrupted her people, our county must consider that theirs has been in a sense a gift from the general government. To this disposition of our swamp land fund, we are indebted to the influence of such farsighted men as Judge Rountree and Judge E. Lane; and when we remember that the present structure was erected under the head of repairs, we are the more indebted to them for inviting criticism (which I am informed was given without stint) for the courage manifested in securing to the people this lasting tribute to their wisdom. No county, perhaps, within the state presents a better condition financially and otherwise than does Montgomery county to-day. With not a dollar of public debt, with all her public buildings in good repair, and with

a balance in her treasury, surely the county is in a position to look the future in the face with much hope and wide expectation. We have a county farm, where our more unfortunate poor are kept, and be it said to the credit of the overseers, Edward Barringer, that in a spirit of kindness and much indulgence, he endeavors to make the stay of these unfortunates as comfortable as conditions will allow. I might here remark that we have been very fortunate in securing the services of keepers of the poor farm for many years, men of broad sympathy, who are not apt to forget that in the whirligig of affairs the man of fortune to-day might become the pauper of to-morrow. These men, acting along the lines of the golden rule, have tried to do unto others as if they were the others. I shall mention in this connection John Stobb and "Buck" Williamson and the present incumbent, Mr. Barringer.

Some years ago the city of Litchfield established her city court and thus gave much relief to our circuit court. Colonel Amos Oller was elected to the judgeship of the city court of Litchfield. He presided over that court with dignity and fairness and won for himself a reputation of a fearless and upright judge. Judge Oller was succeeded in office by Paul McWilliams, a young attorney of force and ability. Judge McWilliams, when elected, was the youngest judge officiating in that capacity within the state. Mr. McWilliams has fully met the expectations of his friends, while those who opposed him because of his youth, acknowledge their surprise in the soundness of his decisions and the dignity with which he presides on the bench. Judge McWilliams has increased in popularity with the people of Litchfield, and a sense of the responsibilities of the position which he holds has added a decided judicial cast of mind. We believe in Judge McWilliams' future and, in our forecast, place him in a most honored position. We shall now take up a short sketch of each of the townships in their order, and in doing so we must be brief as we find the space allotted to us is rapidly being filled.

HILLSBORO TOWNSHIP AND CITY.

As Hillsboro township is the more important in the early settlement of the county, we will give it first place in the sketches, which we desire to present in these pages. As has been previously stated, the first settlement within the township was made at Hillsboro in 1817, or nearly ninety years ago. The children born in that frontier settlement within the first decade, if living to-day, would be aged men and women. Among the early pioneers we have mentioned a goodly number in our article relative to the county in general, but we promised to extend the list when we came to make up the record of the townships and we desire to name in addition to those previously mentioned, Benjamin Rose, William and Charles Linxwiler, George H. Anderson, Robert Mann, Mark Rutledge, William Knight, John Bostick, James Grantham, James Wiley, William, John and Charles Cannon, C. B. Blockberger, Solomon Harkey, Joseph Miller, John S. Hayward, Charles Holmes, Jacob Wilson, John Slater, Alexander Scott, Wesley Seymour, John Dickerson, Ira Boone, William Brewer, Thomas Sturtevant, Alfred Durant, John Meisenheimer, Ned Gossage, E. B. Hubble and James Blackman. While these do not give a complete list of the earlier settlers of Hillsboro, yet the records which I have examined make special note of them. A record of the old Dutch families in New York has enabled some very fertile and resourceful historian to establish class distinctions by reference to this list of first families. We hardly believe that any attempt will be made to construct a Four Hundred for Hillsboro out of the references which we make of the pioneer ancestors of the very respected citizens of our county seat. Nevertheless, it will be a matter of pride to be able to number one's ancestry among those hardy pioneers whose energy and industry carved out of the wilderness this noble heritage which we possess. I will remark here that in the preparation of this work I have frequently been asked, "who constitute the pioneers"? This question is somewhat difficult to answer by reason of the fact that many of our industries were rather late in their development, so that a pioneer in agricultural lines might not

necessarily have belonged to the same decade as a pioneer in some manufacturing industry. I will instance that the old woolen mills that stood in the south part of town would date as a pioneer institution of its class. I think that we are safe in classing all who came to our county in the first two or three decades of its history as early settlers, or those who came within the period of 1816 to 1850. I find in the *Gazeteer of Illinois*, published in 1834, this reference to the town of Hillsboro: "That it is the seat of justice of Montgomery county, is situated twenty-eight miles northwest from Vandalia. It has six stores, four taverns, three blacksmiths, three carpenters, one cabinet-maker, two physicians, two tanneries, one shoemaker, two tailors, one tinner, a postoffice, land agency office by John Tilson, Jun., Esq., fifty families and about two hundred and fifty inhabitants. It is situated in an elevated region near Middle Fork and Shoal Creek. The Presbyterian society in this place has built a neat brick edifice in the modern style for a house of worship. Hillsboro is a healthy and flourishing town. The principal roads from Vandalia to Springfield and another from Shelbyville to Alton pass through this place." I further note that the vote of Montgomery county, cast in 1834, was four hundred and seventy-five, and that the population of the county was four thousand four hundred and thirty-eight. And, again in the table of county officers for the year 1834, that the name of Hiram Rountree alone appears as circuit clerk, probate judge and magistrate, but in looking over this table I find that in the more than sixty counties that were organized at that time the same condition appears in eleven other instances, that is, where one man seems to hold all the county offices, and in this list is the county of Cook with R. L. Hamilton virtually the public administrator. John Reynolds was the governor of the state at this time and our United States senators were Elisha K. Kane of Kaskaskia and John M. Robinson of Carmi. The state was divided into but three congressional districts and the newly elected representatives whose terms were to commence are given as follows: the first district was represented by John Reynolds, Bell-

village; the second district by Zadok Casey of Mount Vernon; and the third district by William L. May of Springfield. These items of interest given in connection with the settlement of Hillsboro are, that the reader may be able to arrive at the more correct conclusion by association with these points in our state history. While the village of Hillsboro contained but two hundred and fifty inhabitants in 1834, it contained the elements of citizenship that were soon to make it an educational center for the people of this section of the state; accordingly in 1836 with John Tilson as moving spirit the Hillsboro Academy was projected and Professor Isaac Wetherill, with his wife as associate in the female department, was selected to superintend and instruct in this new institution of learning which had sprung up in the wilderness. Professor Edward Wyman and Miss E. F. Hadley were selected as assistants to Professor Wetherill. Miss Hadley, however, having charge of the department of music. To this institution of learning many of the boys and girls who received academic instruction in our county for the succeeding forty years are indebted to the "Old Academy." The course of instruction provided was both classical and scientific. In fact, providing a basis for a course in any of the eastern institutions of learning. For many years the pride of Hillsboro was its academy, for it brought a most desirable class to reside here that their children might have the advantages of a higher education. With the inauguration of a "higher" course of instruction in connection with the public schools dates the decline of the smaller academies and colleges in the west, and the academy at Hillsboro was no exception, but was compelled, for lack of patronage, to close its doors some twenty-five or thirty years ago. We will mention, however, that the old structure was used for high school purposes by the city schools for some few years later. By way of criticism upon somebody, and I am at loss to be able to fix responsibility, I call attention to the desecration of the old college building, by using it as a horse barn and pig sty and that in a most public place, where every passerby who enters Hillsboro by the Vandalia road

must view this old building put to shame. Far better had the torch been applied when the period of its usefulness was over. Then might the students who once cherished memories of the quaint yet noble structure, as it stood among the maple trees in the south part of the city, still feel reverence for our Alma Mater. Its massive columns, giving it the appearance of some ancient seat of learning, made us believe that really we had been to college. The female department or Ladies' High School, which, by the way, was the first of its kind in the state, did not prove as successful as had been anticipated. A few years later the attempt to segregate the students was abandoned and co-education of the sexes was adopted and proved eminently satisfactory. The building formerly used as the female department is now occupied by the Hillsboro Journal as an office and press room. If the academy proper could have been preserved as a museum or lyceum building, more credit might attach to those responsible for its removal from its ancient grounds and its present desecration. Apart from the city of Hillsboro the home of Joseph McAdams was the most prominent, because of the first courts of the county having been held there. This place is about three miles to the southwest of Hillsboro. But few representatives of Joseph McAdams' family remain in the county, and I am informed that of the twelve children of the elder McAdams, not one is living to-day. Alexander McWilliams settled about four miles west of Hillsboro, and not a few of his descendants are living in the county at the present. John McWilliams, one of the early business men of Litchfield, was a son of Alexander McWilliams. William Cannon, who settled in Hillsboro township some four miles south of the city of Hillsboro in the year 1824, has possibly left as many descendants as any of the earlier settlers of the county. His sons were "Chuck," James, Sam, John and Martin, all dead but the last, and all left several children each. His daughters are Christena Edwards, Susan Green, Betsey Stevens, Permilla Grisham, Sarah Vickory, Norah Edwards, Mandy McCalister and Mariah Huffman and Martha Pence, all living

except Mrs. Huffman. "Uncle Billy" Cannon, as he was known, has through these children descendants reaching into the hundreds. About the time of the settlement of William Cannon, his brother-in-law, Horace Mansfield, made a settlement in the same neighborhood. Mr. Mansfield was the father of the late George Mansfield and of Mrs. John Price, also long since dead. Each of these left several children, among whom is C. C. Mansfield, banker at Donnellson, Illinois. Mrs. Fred Holmes and the late Frank Mansfield, of Hillsboro, Illinois. Mrs. Price left quite a family of children, among whom are John, Thomas, Isaac, Joseph, James, George and Clement, most of whom have removed to other states, while James, a merchant at Donnellson, and Isaac and Joseph living on farms in Grisham township, are the only ones remaining in the home neighborhood. John Crabtree, Sr., settled not far from the McAdams' settlement, and here built and operated one of the first mills in the country. This antique horse mill later gave way to what was known as the Old Pepper mill. This latter was run by a water wheel, but the volume of water being small necessarily made the process of grinding extremely slow, and it is related that when a grist was brought the patrons would camp in the neighborhood for days together until his turn was reached. This slow process gave the name Pepperbox to the mill. One of the first saw mills to be operated in this township was put up by Mr. Blockberger, near the city of Hillsboro. These earlier industries have long since given way to the most modern equipment. The Glenn Brothers' flouring mill was for many years one of the best in this section of the state, and some of the best equipped saw mills have cut into boards the virgin forest that covered the larger part of Hillsboro township. When we reflect that much timber of superior quality was heaped into piles of logs that formed the settlers' clearing and reduced to ashes, we are made to feel that there was wanton destruction of much timber that ought to have been preserved, but the settler was excusable in this, that he found the prairie soil more difficult to prepare for cultivation than the soil of the timbered portions of the

county. Consequently, moving along the lines of least resistance, we find all the earlier settlements made in the woodland near springs or streams of living water. Many reasons are found why this was the more inviting section for settlement. The "clearing" furnished rails sufficient for the fencing of the little field, and it was not necessary to have a wagon to haul the rails to the lines where the fence was to be built, but these were made near where they were to be used and thus much extra labor avoided. These patches were not cultivated for any number of years for the class of cultivation soon impoverished the soil, and these fields were turned out as waste and other patches were cleared for tillage. It is a remarkable fact that many of these small fields have since been reclaimed, and by present methods restored to former fertility. It may be of interest to the reader to know that in breaking the soil oftentimes the prong of a forked stick capped by a piece of steel or iron offered the only means of preparing the soil for planting. Somewhat later this gave way to the bull tongue, and this to the bar-share, and this later to plows of the present form and fashion. There are to be found yet within the county some few examples of the old-fashioned plows. The wooden mold board, with a few strips of iron, has been preserved by Daniel Cress, of Fillmore township, and on his farm may be seen many of the implements used by his father fifty or sixty years ago. At or near the time of the settlement of the Harkeys and the Brewers, at Hillsboro, the father of Amos and Alf Sawyer settled on the farm just east of town, near the Vandalia road. Mr. Sawyer was a valuable acquisition to the neighborhood of Hillsboro. Being an eastern man and schooled to industry and economy, his example was not lost on his neighbors, many of whom had come from the slave states of the south. The paralyzing effect of slavery upon the energies of the white race of the south was not so marked as it became later, yet the easy, happy-go-lucky of the southern settler was noticeable even at this time, and so this injection of a little eastern spirit and enterprise was most fortunate for our people. The population of our county is largely made up of a

citizenship of equal parts Yankee and Cavalier. The former ingredient being of the old Puritan stock and the latter "noble blood" if you please. Out of this blending of types has come a generation of men and women of hardy physique and nobleness of character such as is not surpassed in qualities of manhood and womanhood by any people in the world. Alf Sawyer was engaged for many years in merchandising in the city of Hillsboro, but for the past several years has given his attention almost wholly to his agricultural interests. He married Ellen, daughter of William Brewer, by whom he has reared a very interesting family of sons. Dr. Anos Sawyer is among the most successful practitioners in the county. The Doctor married a Miss Dent, of Missouri. She is a near relative to the wife of President Grant. Mrs. Dr. Sawyer is widely known for her work in the Women's Christian Temperance Union. The Sawyer daughters became Mrs. Dr. Fink and Mrs. Best. The latter, after a period of some years in widowhood, was married to Justice Jesse J. Phillips, of Hillsboro. By her first husband she has two sons and one daughter: Duncan C. Best, our present Circuit Clerk, Thomas Best, of the United States army, and Miss Amy Best, who at the present writing is at home with her mother. Dr. Fink left, by his last wife, two sons and one daughter. William, the elder son, resides somewhere in the east. Dr. Hugh Fink practices dentistry in the city of Hillsboro, and Julia is the wife of County Judge McMurray. Mary Fink, a daughter of Dr. I. W. Fink by a previous marriage, is the wife of Henry Cory, who lives on the old Cory homestead, near the bridge on the Butler road. Jacob Cress, who settled near Hillsboro as early as 1818, left two sons, Absalom and Jacob. Absalom has been dead for quite a number of years, and "Uncle Jake," as he was known, died only a short while ago from injuries that he received in a fall from a wagon. The sons of Jacob Cress are A. A. Cress, of Hillsboro, who, with his son Ed, conducts an extensive real estate business; Samuel Cress, a successful hardware merchant of Sorento, Illinois, and William S., who resides on the old homestead. There are several other chil-

dren, of whose whereabouts I am not informed. Jacob Cress and Helen, his wife, were members of the Lutheran church, and Rev. Daniel Sherer, father of Mrs. Cress, organized the Evangelical Lutheran church in Hillsboro about 1823. Lucretia, the only daughter of Jacob Cress, married a Mr. Blackman and resides at Dixon, Illinois. His two sons, Benjamin and Joseph, are in business in the west. On the Cress Hill, as you go toward Butler, live Ab and Frank Cress, who are representatives of Absalom Cress, Sr. This branch of the Cress family, which settled near Hillsboro, has done much to promote the general interests of the county. Judge William Brewer, who came to Illinois in 1834 and afterward settled at Hillsboro, in 1839, was for many years one of the solid financial men of the county. Judge Brewer was elected judge of the probate court in 1843. He was the first Whig ever elected to office in the county, but so acceptable was he that he was re-elected in 1845 and again in 1847. In 1850 he was elected to represent this district in the state legislature. He served two terms in this capacity and refused to become a candidate for re-election. In 1853 Judge Brewer was elected to the office of justice of the peace, and it is related that of the many cases decided in his court, that not one was ever reversed on an appeal. It is further told that he joined in marriage more couples than any other man within the county, having united one hundred and twenty-seven couples in the happy bonds of wedlock. Judge Brewer was very successful in his land investments, and having unbounded faith in the increasing valuation of Illinois lands, he put all of his available cash into that class of property, and when he died his real estate holdings were among the largest individual properties in the county. He left three children: Mary, the wife of S. M. Grubbs, of Litchfield; Ellen, wife of Alf A. K. Sawyer, of Hillsboro; and William H., of Hillsboro, recently deceased. Solomon Harkey came to Montgomery county, Illinois, and settled on a farm near Hillsboro in 1833. He had removed from his North Carolina home to Illinois in 1828 and had worked at his trade, of tanner, for West & McKee, near Edwardsville,

for some years. In 1831 he was married to a daughter of Jacob Cress, of Hillsboro, and this possibly accounts for his settling near this place. Solomon Harkey was a most public spirited man, and many of the enterprises set on foot in Hillsboro owed their origin to his energy and push. As a stock breeder he evinced more interest than any other man in this section of the country. Imported Norman horses and the best breeds of cattle were to be found in Mr. Harkey's stalls and on his farm. Forty years ago, when Montgomery county held its annual fair, Mr. Harkey never failed to carry off some of the best premiums. He belonged to that class of men who, by desiring the best, added materially to the general average in the best of all classes of stock. Not alone is Mr. Harkey remembered for what he did to better conditions in agriculture and stock raising, but for the earnestness of his Christian life. It is said that he was converted under the preaching of the Rev. Peter Cartwright in 1830, who was holding a series of meetings in the Methodist church at Edwardsville. Colonel Paul Walter, though not to be regarded as among the earlier settlers of Hillsboro township, deserves mention at least in a work of this kind, because of the many enterprises that he sought to establish in the community. Naturally of an adventurous turn of mind, when the gold fever of 1849 swept over the country, Paul Walter was one of the first to make arrangements to take a party across the plains and the mountains to the new Eldorado in California. He made several trips to the Land of Gold, and incidentally secured for himself quite a little fortune for that day. He later settled in Hillsboro and built the grain elevator down at the depot and the Walter's stable, now used by the Brown Brothers as an agricultural wareroom. Unlike Mr. Harkey, whose sketch precedes this, the sporting nature of Mr. Walter led him to fancy fast horses, trotters and pacers being his specialties, and some of the fastest horses belonging to these classes in our county were owned by Colonel Walter. At the county fairs before mentioned, Colonel Walter was a very familiar figure, and though many years have gone by, I fancy I can see him driving around

the small ring of the amphitheater, calling out the names of the prize winners in the different classes of the exhibits at the fair. This honor seemed to be accorded to him by common consent and well did he perform his part. I have thought, as I have listened to Colonel Walter discussing the points of excellence in a horse, that surely if any man ever worshipped at the shrine of superior horseflesh; it was the old Colonel. At the time of his death he was the owner of Illinois, a stallion that was afterwards sold to George Gould for ten thousand dollars. Colonel Walter left surviving him several children, among whom are Mrs. John R. Challacombe, Miss Sue Walter, George Walter, Scott Walter and Miller, the youngest son. James Clotfelter, one of the few old-timers that remains settled in East Fork township about three miles southeast of Hillsboro, but for quite a good many years he has resided in the city. Mr. Clotfelter, as farmer and stock-raiser, has been wonderfully successful. He owns quite a large farm in East Fork and Hillsboro townships, and to his credit we may say that possibly he has fed and shipped more fat cattle to market than any other feeder in Montgomery county. While other men were content to feed cattle through a period of a few years, Mr. Clotfelter has made it a business for almost half a century. If cattle were high priced, Mr. Clotfelter had some to sell, and if low priced, possibly as many were to be found in his feed lots, but by persistent effort in one line of business, he has secured a competency, and in his old age may enjoy the comforts which a sufficiency of this world's goods brings. Mr. Clotfelter has reared a very interesting family of children, among whom are the wives of Thomas M. Jett, Dr. W. A. Allen, James Brown, Ab Cress and Tom Williamson. Ralph is his only son and takes an interest with his father in stock-raising and feeding. Stokes Clotfelter, a brother of James, was a man of great force of character; not satisfied with doing things on a small scale, he was oftentimes engaged in some mammoth transaction requiring the expenditure of thousands of dollars. At one time we find him building the large brick structure, which bears his name, on Main street, or erecting a handsome dwell-

ing, at a cost of fifteen or twenty thousand dollars, and again we find him in Kansas City as one of the most extensive buyers for the eastern markets. No venture seemed too big for Uncle Stokes. These adventurous spirits have their place in the upbuilding of every community, and of their energy and means the community in general is usually benefited. We believe this is true of the subject discussed, though in his declining years financial embarrassment came upon him, yet the faithful chronicler of men and time will not deny that his name be preserved with that of his contemporaries. Another character that we desire to notice is Joseph T. Eccles, who for many years was one of the most energetic and public-spirited men of the county seat. Mr. Eccles was a native of Kentucky, and came to Vandalia, Illinois, about 1830, where he remained until about 1840, when he removed to Hillsboro and engaged in merchandising. Mr. Eccles was a member of the constitutional convention, held at Springfield, 1845, and he nominated Richard Yates, the elder, for governor in the convention at Decatur, Illinois, in 1860. In politics, Mr. Eccles was originally a Whig, but on the formation of the Republican party, he became identified with it, and in Montgomery county was regarded as its leading representative. The Glen Brothers, John and James, have done much for Hillsboro, having established the Glen flouring mills, and being for many years the largest buyers of wheat, they necessarily became acquainted with the farming community throughout the county. Later they were instrumental in organizing the Montgomery County Loan & Trust Company Bank. These boys were of Irish origin, having been born on the "Old Sod." They came with their father, Thomas S. Glen, to the United States in 1837. James Glen was for many years president of the bank which they had established. The brothers own large landed estates near Hillsboro. John F. Glen was captain of a company in the Civil war, and it was reported that he never had occasion to put a man in the guard house. When he felt it necessary to discipline a soldier, it was done on the spot and the incident was closed at once. These brothers enjoy the esteem of all who know

them, and while they have retired from the duties of active life, their influence is felt in the social and political life of the community. It must be a pleasure after years of activity in business pursuits to be able to retire feeling that we have wronged no man and that the justly earned competency may be enjoyed without reproach of conscience or bitter regret. Judge E. Y. Rice, having received notice in a preceding chapter as one of the honored citizens of Montgomery county, came to Hillsboro in 1844. At this time he was a young and rising attorney, having just completed a course of study with John M. Palmer of Carlinville. Mr. Rice was elected to the office of recorder of deeds in 1847 and in 1848 he was honored with an election to the lower house of the legislature. In 1851 he was elected to the office of county judge and from 1853 to 1857 received the appointment of master in chancery. In the latter year he was elected to the office of circuit judge and served until 1867, when he resigned to accept a nomination to congress from the old Tenth district. He was a member of the constitutional convention, which prepared the present constitution of the state of Illinois. Judge Rice left the impress of his example upon the bar of Montgomery county, and it may be truly said of him that his high character had much to do with elevating the moral standards which are universally recognized by the bar of our county. Judge Rice left but two children, James E. Y., who at present is connected with the Hillsboro Coal Company; and Mrs. Mary Miller, wife of Judge Amos Miller, of Hillsboro. Though Judge Rice has been dead for some years, he is remembered by a wide circle of friends who will not forget his genial, kindly nature and pleasing manner. Captain Thomas Phillips was one of the earlier settlers of Hillsboro township. The old Phillips farm, situated west of Hillsboro, was one of the most improved country places in the county fifty years ago. Captain Phillips later in life removed to the city of Hillsboro and was much interested in the raising of fine breeds of horses and cattle. In my search I find that Thomas Phillips was second lieutenant in a company that served under Hiram Bountree as captain

in the Black Hawk war in 1832. I do not find in the records of the war of 1832 or of the war with Mexico that Thomas Phillips served as captain of any company. I am led therefore to conclude that the fact of his having been a lieutenant in Rountree's company occasioned his having been called Captain Phillips. I will note in passing that possibly in the day when the muster was in vogue that Mr. Phillips might have been captain of the militia. It might be of interest to note in this connection that in the period from the formation of the county until about 1840 it was the custom to have muster rolls from three to five times each year. On these occasions all the able-bodied citizens between the ages of eighteen and forty-five were required to attend. These were times when those who were disposed might imbibe freely of the good old corn juice or whiskey of that period. We can hardly suppose that much fraud was practiced in that early day in the manufacture of decoctions that to-day are sold over the bar for whiskey, at least some of our citizens assure me that the art of making whiskey out of poisonous drugs had not come into general use. Speaking further of the family of Thomas Phillips, we would state that several of his sons have been prominently before the people in various ways. His oldest son, Henry Phillips, followed in the footsteps of his father and gave attention to the raising of fine stock. Burrell, who is yet living at Hillsboro, was for many years a buyer and shipper of cattle and hogs from that market. At one time Burrell Phillips represented this senatorial district in the lower house at Springfield. Mr. Phillips was a popular official and is remembered very kindly by his many friends throughout the district. Sidney B. Phillips, a third son, was killed at the battle of Shiloh. General Jesse J. Phillips, recently deceased, was Montgomery county's most honored citizen. Serving through the Civil war, he arose from the rank of captain to that of major general, and it was said by the late Governor Oglesby that Jesse J. Phillips was the greatest soldier in the army of the west. That he was one of the greatest lawyers in the state does not require other evidence than his elevation to the supreme bench of the court of the state

of Illinois. He served as chief justice of the state and his decisions while on the supreme bench established many precedents in matters of law that will remain as monuments to his judicial wisdom as long as common law governs courts. This eminent jurist, like many other great men, had his faults, yet an indulgent people draw the broad mantle of charity over his frailties and remember him as the incorruptible judge, the great lawyer, the good friend.

In closing up the list of familiar names that have had to do with the making of Hillsboro township and city, we will mention those that come readily to mind. We may possibly omit some who have served as faithfully and who deserve to be remembered in these pages as those whose names appear. William C. Miller, engaged in general merchandising; E. Douglas, druggist; Joe Klar, at the old Rountree corner; and Wash White, at the old Sawyer stand; "Farmer" John Clotfelter, who keeps groceries; John Barkley; Duncan Goad; Ed Stubblefield, the druggist; Jim Brown and Frank Brown, hardware and implements; and Logan McDavid, also dealer in hardware, are some of the firms that for several years have been engaged in these various lines of trade in the city of Hillsboro, and we must not omit the young men whose real estate deals have done so much to further the improvement of the county seat. Jacob J. Frey is one of the hustlers whose name has been identified with nearly every enterprise connected with the progress of Hillsboro within the last ten or fifteen years. Stephen D. Canaday has also done much along the same lines and is now the nominee of the Democratic party for representative to the state legislature from this district. Henry Crawford is another one of the boys whose efforts have helped in the progress of the city, and William Abbott, whose name will appear in the chapter allotted to the Montgomery county bar, has also been a factor in building up the solid interests of the city and surrounding community. Among the physicians who stand well and whose reputations rest upon services already done, may be mentioned Dr. Will Douglas, Dr. George Clotfelter, Dr. Fields, Dr. Sawyer and Dr. Moyer.

and Dr. S. H. McLean, recently deceased, and the late Dr. I. W. Fink. Among the dentists are Dr. Wynans, Hugh Fink, Dr. Roberts and Dr. Colby. Those who have been commissioned as guardians of the peace are C. W. Grassel, John Maddox, Alex. Cress, whose courts are shunned by law-breakers, for in the dispensing of justice they have earned the respect of all good citizens by strict enforcement of law. While we shall close the narrative of Hillsboro township and city, we do so feeling that more of interest remains untold than we have been able to cover in this short story.

NORTH AND SOUTH LITCHFIELD TOWNSHIPS AND THE CITY OF LITCHFIELD.

Much that we shall have to say concerning the city of Litchfield and the immediate vicinity we owe to the Coolidge papers prepared by H. A. Coolidge, of the city of Litchfield, for a previous history of Montgomery county. It is related that in 1818 Robert Briggs, of North Carolina, settled in North Litchfield township, near the present home of Martin Ritchie, and that he had previously lived in Walshville township for a period of two years, but the land upon which he had settled in that township having been entered by another, he was compelled to change his location, and the narrator further states that Mr. Briggs left his cribs of corn and pushed north a few miles further into what is now North Litchfield township. I think, however, that due allowance should be made in speaking of the cribs of corn left behind by Mr. Briggs. When we consider the primitive method of raising corn in 1816-17 a due respect for Mr. Briggs would compel us to state that the conditions could not have been such as to have necessitated any considerable loss on the part of Mr. Briggs by leaving behind his corn crop. When Mr. Briggs left Walshville township he could have had no neighbors of more than one year's acquaintance, for we are satisfied that no settlement was made in the township of Walshville prior to 1817. I think that we

are safe in stating that Robert Briggs and John Hill were in reality about contemporaries in settlement. There must have been some "first settler," and that that settler was John Hill or Robert Briggs, which no man living is able to tell. In the year 1817 several families made settlement in the southeastern part of South Litchfield township and another settlement was made somewhat later in the neighborhood of Honey Bend, and these settlements were the nearest neighbors to Mr. Briggs. The conditions that obtained at this early date would appear to the average citizen of to-day as almost incredible. A few patches of corn, cultivated by the most rude and primitive implements, obtained for the settler a few bushels of corn, out of which he was expected to have his year's bread. The forest, with its game, consisting of deer, turkeys, squirrels and opossums, furnished his table with meat. What they had of swine was but little better than the wild hogs that are to be found in parts of Arkansas to-day. The idea of feeding corn to hogs was not to be thought of, but they were slaughtered as they came from the mast. The forests were full of nuts, such as hickory nuts, acorns, haws, upon which these semi-wild hogs grew fat. I am told by some of the older citizens that the character of the mast upon which the hogs were fattened could be known by the peculiar flavor of the pork. Water fowl were in abundance during the early spring in the prairie lakes and along the streams. The quail and the prairie hen afforded for the settler his most dainty dish, and we have authority for saying that squirrels were only killed to keep them from eating up the settlers' corn. There were very few horses in use as draft animals, and the family that could boast of one riding animal was rather fortunate. For draft purposes cattle were used exclusively, and the ox-cart was about the only vehicle noticeable as part of the belongings of an early settlement. Many of the settlers in their removal from the older states had brought with them cattle, sheep, horses and usually two or three pigs. It may be a matter of interest to relate that one reason why so many removals were necessary was that crops sometimes had to be raised to

enable the emigrant to have bread sufficient to carry him a little farther in the wilderness, and thus we find many of the settlers coming by way of Ohio and Indiana stopping for a season in each of those states and then pushing farther west into the Illinois country. It must have appeared to those pioneers who braved the dangers and privations of the early settlement of this state that time would not come within the next hundred years that would see the broad prairies and the deep forests made into beautiful farms. That the spirit of adventure led these men into the wilderness, the charm that surrounds an enterprise in which there is an element of hazard and a certain degree of danger, seems to have fascinated a class of men who enjoyed the experiences of pioneer life. That good has ultimately come out of what to-day we might justly characterize as foolhardiness we must acknowledge; but as every age has developed a spirit best suited to its peculiar conditions, so the age of settlement within the United States gave rise to the development of a class of men who found pleasure in the dangers and hardships attendant upon pioneer life. From the time when we find John Smith lifting his voice at Jamestown in his effort to preserve that early settlement of Virginia, that same spirit has made itself manifest through all these years, until at last, swallowed up in the general progress of the age in which we live, the spirit of adventure is now passing as an element in the American life. I have sometimes been led to believe that the pent-up energies of a people may find expression in adventure, in deeds of daring and in acts of heroism that might, under other conditions, have developed a class who, by restraint and an abridgment of the wider liberties and privileges, would become criminals who would despise the present order of things. In fact, it is the opinion of the writer that many of our criminals, had their energies been properly directed, instead of being notorious as violators of the law they would have occupied positions as forceful leaders in fields of usefulness. Criminals are but the snarls and tangles in the skein of social life that evidences a condition in development of our youth that requires a wise system of

education to overcome. That we must provide some radical changes in the social and the industrial order, so that the energies of our young folk may be expended along lines of character building and not leave them exposed to such development as of necessity must result from the abnormal conditions that govern in every avenue of life to-day. Money and the possession of it has become such a dominant factor in our present economy that every ambition and aspiration leads to that goal. It has deadened the sense to the desire of excellence in the various professions and vocations of life. The question no longer is, Shall I be able to attain first place or rank in my profession? but, overshadowing all, is How much can I make out of it? In other words, by dollars and cents is every success to be measured. Returning again to the settlements made, I find that the Wilkinsons, Hurley, the Williams, Mathews, Roberts, Lockerman and Thomas Hughes were about all who had as yet settled near Litchfield as early as 1828. The first church that was erected in the township was near the present site of Honey Bend. It was built of logs. Here the Baptist folk of that early day were wont to assemble and listen to those long and tiresome sermons that were popular with the primitive Baptist, even down to our own time. These were a godly people, and while they might indulge in a dram of good old whiskey occasionally they were an austere and upright people. In the neighborhood of Honey Bend was also the first Methodist meeting house. The founder of the sect in this western wilderness was a man by the name of William Williams, and in this settlement there lived one Isaiah Hurley, upon whom the duty of village schoolmaster devolved. That poor Hurley had experiences far from pleasant are matters of tradition. It is narrated that on one occasion at Christmastime the big boys rode poor Hurley on a rail and ducked him in the branch before he would consent to treat the school to a gallon of whiskey. The people who settled along the western part of Montgomery county were nearly all from the southern states. I find it related by Mr. Coolidge that Whiteside, the Indian fighter, paid annual visits to Mr.

Briggs, and he states that Whiteside claimed that a battle with the Indians had been fought some years before in the southeast part of North Litchfield township, and that several Indians had been killed there. If this incident be true, it occurred prior to any recorded settlement within the limits of the county, Bennett Woods settled on land east of Shoal creek, in North Litchfield township, about 1828, and John and James Roberts had previously formed a settlement at Honey Bend. In 1829 Thomas C. Hughes made settlement on the farm at present owned by Martin Ritchey and this became a near neighbor to Robert Briggs. In 1830 there might have been six or seven families living in North Litchfield township. The first funeral service held in the township was in 1829 on the occasion of the death of Mrs. Bennett Woods, and the first marriage of record in that township was that of Sarah Briggs, eldest daughter of Robert Briggs, to Joshua Martin. James Street, the pioneer preacher, possibly delivered the first sermon in that township. In the settlement of South Litchfield township we find Melcher Fogleman, John Norton and James Bland; Spartan Grisham and Theodore Jordan lived with Fogleman; that in 1824 Melchor Fogleman removed to the neighborhood of the pepper mill, or, as it was called, the Clear Spring settlement. In 1820, it is stated, the family of Nicholas Lockerman was the only one living within the present limits of South Litchfield township; that the population of the county in that year was about one hundred. Within the succeeding ten years but six families had made settlements in South Litchfield township, and in addition to others named Simon McAfee and James Penter settled in the eastern part of the township. Anthony Street, brother of James Street, appeared about this time, and his ability to manufacture gunpowder gave him quite a reputation among the early settlers. There was hardly a settlement that did not have, as one of its accessories, a "distill house up the hollow," and it was no discredit for any one to engage in the manufacture of whiskey, and I do not find that any form of beer was brewed excepting from persimmons. I am told, however, that persimmon

beer was something like our own "lager," requiring large quantities to satisfy the thirst for drink. Not until in the later '30s had orchards appeared, so that hard cider as a beverage was almost unknown until about 1840. To get their corn milled in the early history of the township was not the least of the settlers' troubles. They must either go to mill down to Edwardsville or else over to Old Ripley, in Bond county. To do either, however, required at least a week or so from home. As has been stated in a previous chapter, the pepper mill over near Hillsboro at the Clear Spring settlement was built in 1824, but the capacity of this mill made it a source of annoyance, especially to one who had other labors to attend to or business cares that demanded his presence at home. John Crabtree settled in the Clear Spring neighborhood and afterward came into possession of the pepper mill property. Our reason for mentioning at this time Mr. Crabtree's connection with South Litchfield is that the settlement in the eastern part of South Litchfield might properly be regarded as a part of the Clear Spring settlement, and it is rather a difficult matter to keep township lines in mind as we attempt to chronicle events that pertain to the settlements. James Copeland and the Forehands crossed Shoal creek to the bluff southwest of Truitt's ford about 1832. The first schoolhouse built in South Litchfield township was in 1838, near the residence of J. N. McElvain. Tradition reports that John Fogleman taught school in this house in 1843. It is well to remember that students often attended school from several miles distant, and although the schoolhouses were far apart it was no unusual thing for thirty or forty pupils to be enrolled in some of the schools at an early day. While we did not have the free-school system, yet pupils were not debarred from attending school by reason of an inability of parents to pay. As in many other things, the spirit of liberality obtained with reference to school privileges. While the teacher was compensated in various ways for his services, there was no such thing as a fixed salary or stipend upon which he could depend. The school usually extended through September, October and November, and the tuition was

fixed by the teacher at a rate of from one dollar and fifty cents to two dollars per term. As money was almost unknown as a medium of exchange, the tuition was payable in corn, pigs, cattle, coonskins and what not that might pay any other obligation. To read, to spell and to "cipher" and to be able to write was thought to fit the individual for any possible position in life, and students of the time often excelled in some one of these branches of study. Fair mathematicians were to be found among the students of these early schools. Good readers and spellers were frequent, and ability to write a beautiful oval hand with a quill pen is evidenced in many of the records that are to be found in the reports of our county. Other families that came to Litchfield vicinity were the Blackwelders, the Corlews, the Simpsons and the McWilliamses. John Corlew came to South Litchfield township about the year 1836. Having served as a commissioned officer in the war with Mexico, Mr. Corlew was elected sheriff in 1848 and again in 1852. William Simpson antedated the settlement of Mr. Corlew some years, having made his settlement in 1831. Mr. Simpson has also been honored by election to county office, having served his county as treasurer. In the decade between 1830 and 1840 the homesteads in South Litchfield township would not have exceeded ten or a dozen at most. John Fogleman, in 1840, settled on his present homestead. Mr. Fogleman also served in the capacity of sheriff some forty years ago, and it is remarked at this day that Mr. Fogleman refused re-election to office on the ground that he did not believe that succession in office is good policy. Mr. Fogleman and Mr. Corlew are yet living at advanced age. These men have been examples of moderation in all things. They have lived simple lives, honored by all who know them, and doubtless when their names are called each will be able to say, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith." In writing of the city of Litchfield I am again indebted to the papers of H. A. Coolidge and to Samuel Kessinger, of the *Monitor*, for the facts and figures relating to the city. The city of Litchfield is located in both North and South

Litchfield townships, two-thirds of its territory being in the former and one-third in the latter township. The city is beautifully located on the undulating prairie as it breaks into the hill lands just west of Shoal creek. It is about fifty miles east of St. Louis and forty-two miles south of Springfield, Illinois. The first settler within the limits of the town was Isaac Weaver, who in 1842 occupied a cabin near the entrance to the public square. In 1835 Evan Stevenson and in 1836 Joseph Gillespie, in 1838 G. B. Yenowine, Isaac Ross, and in 1849 John Waldrop and Ezra Tyler entered the land upon which the present city of Litchfield is located. In 1847 Royal Sherer built a cabin on the southeast slope of the mound now owned by W. S. Palmer estate. Sherer being a single man, it does not appear that he ever occupied the cabin which he had built. In 1849 Ezra Tyler settled on the forty acres which he had entered, and A. Hart Pierce built a log house on the mound near where the North school building stands. Pierce and Caleb W. Sap in 1849 had entered the southwest quarter of section 33, in North Litchfield township, and this afterward became the nucleus of the present city of Litchfield, and now I am sure that I will be pardoned if I quote the language of Mr. Coolidge as he sets forth so aptly the beginnings of the city: "In the summer of 1853 residents of the present city were Alfred Blackwelder, near the site of the Weipert House, burned in 1880; Jacob Sherer, on the mound in the northwestern quarter of the city; his brother, Ralph Sherer, a quarter of a mile east of him; Nelson Cline, near Fred Stahls; A. Hart Pierce, on the schoolhouse mound; J. Y. Etter, between Martin Haney's restaurant and the Wabash Railway; O. M. Roach, in a diminutive room in Cummings & McWilliams' addition; Ezra Tyler, in the southeast part of town, and J. W. Andrew, on the Davenport estate. The site of the town laid out for building purposes was a cornfield, and when Simeon Ryder and Hon. Robert Smith, of Alton; Hon. Joseph Gillespie, of Edwardsville; Philander C. Huggins, of Bunker Hill; Josiah Hunt, chief engineer of the Terre Haute & Alton Railway, and John B. Kirkham formed a syndicate to purchase the sites

of prospective stations along the line of the road then in process of construction they bought out Mr. Cline. They agreed to lay out a town on the eighty acres owned by Pretlow and Cline, and after reserving the land needed for streets, public squares and railroad uses to reconvey to Pretlow one-half the lots and blocks on his forty-six acres in full payment for the remainder. Mr. Kirkham was made the agent of the syndicate, but in a few days he was replaced by P. C. Huggins, who retained his position through successive purchases of additional land to be laid out in village lots, until E. B. Litchfield, of Brooklyn, New York, became the sole owner of the company's interest in the city. The railroad was completed no further than Bunker Hill from the western end when Thomas A. Gray, county surveyor, in October, 1853, laid out among the standing corn the original plat of the town. Gillespie was also laid out, and Messrs. R. W. O'Bannon, T. W. Elliott, H. E. Appleton, James W. Jefferis, J. P. Bayless and W. S. Palmer, of Ridgely, Madison county, having decided to remove to a point on the proposed road, drew straws to determine whether to locate at Gillespie or Litchfield. The fates willed in favor of Litchfield, and accordingly in January, 1854, Mr. O'Bannon bought the east half of the block facing on Slate street and lying between Ryder and Kirkham streets for one hundred and twenty dollars. Any part of the east front would not be a bargain at that price for a single foot (1882). This was the first purchase in the proposed town, and Mr. O'Bannon began at once to arrange to build a store on the southeast corner of his purchase. Mr. Jefferis appears to have been the second purchaser and Mr. Appleton and Mr. Palmer must have secured lots soon after. Mr. O'Bannon obtained lumber for the frame of his store in the neighborhood, but the other lumber was obtained at Carlisle. His store was completed and occupied April 24, 1854, and Mr. Jefferis had his dwelling, now the south part of the George B. Litchfield house, nearly ready for his family, but Mr. Elliott, by bringing here the material of his home at Ridgely, managed to get his family placed in it May 5, 1854, and thus he was the pioneer settler

of the town, though his home was antedated by the Jefferis house. Mr. Jefferis' family came three days later than Mr. Elliott's, whose home formerly stood on the ground now covered by the Parlor shoe store. The fourth building was a rude blacksmith shop on Mr. Southworth's corner. W. S. Palmer in May began the erection of the west half of the building the first door above L. Huffman's bakery, but as Mr. Palmer went to the woods and hewed out the framing timber he did not finish his store until fall. The next building erected was by Ezra Tyler for a grain warehouse on the site of the O. K. mill. There was not time to build houses, and therefore rude structures and small buildings were carted over the slimy prairie on runners from other points. Thus J. P. Bayless brought here on rollers one-half of what had been a blacksmith shop at Hardinsburg. It had no floor, no door nor window. He placed it on the corner north of E. Burdett's shop and made it do for a home for several years. Up to this time Mr. Tyler supplied meals and lodging to the men who were founding the city. As to roads, the great highway from Hillsboro to Bunker Hill ran a mile south of town, and the route from Edwardsville by way of Staunton to Taylorville entered the town near its present southwest corner. The road was laid out by striking a furrow for several miles on one side and then returning with another furrow equidistant on the opposite side. The road lay between these shallow ditches and marked the route well enough for the few people who were condemned to use it. Mr. Palmer and Mr. Mayo, his brother-in-law, put a stock of general merchandise in the store just built by the former and the east end was also his family residence. By the latter part of 1854 six families had planted themselves here and the town consisted of about a dozen buildings, of which one was a wagon shop, one a blacksmith shop and two were stores. By November, 1855, the number of dwelling houses had increased to eleven, and the town, seen under a December sky, had an uninviting aspect. The population must have been at least one hundred, for when need comes folks can be compacted together as close above ground as in it. By

October the railroad was opened as far as Clyde, and in January the Pretlow estate was sold by his executor. The sale was held in the store of W. T. Elliott and the day is still widely remembered for the dense rain which prevailed. The embankment for the railroad had formed a dyke across State street and interrupted its drainage. A miniature lake was thus formed, and it was the policy of the parties owning land just west of the town plat to have the dyke maintained in order to force the location of the passenger station in their vicinity, where, in anticipation of a decision in their favor, a sidetrack had already been graded. Mr. O'Bannon, Mr. Bayless and others cut this dyke and thus averted the location of the depot a quarter of a mile to the westward. The earlier sales of lots on State street has been made at the rate of thirty dollars for sixty-six feet front; the price in May, 1854, was increased to fifty dollars. There were no apparent natural advantages for the creation of a prosperous town. It was not known that the railroad shops would be located here, and Shoal creek presented a serious barrier to communication with the country to the east, and on the other side the prairie still spread, with here and there a settler, who was toilsomely breaking the virgin sod. The site of the plat had been bought in midsummer, 1853, at eight dollars or ten dollars per acre, and the plat gave two acres to eight lots and the surrounding street. At the Pretlow sale one-half the lots were sold by public outcry, and it is instructive to note the purchasers and the prices paid. The terms were one-third down and the balance in one year. One of the lots would to-day sell for three hundred per cent more than the sixty-six did at that sale, which was at least four times greater than the value of half the townsite before it was laid out. In 1854 "Nigger Dan," from Carlinville, built a hotel, which is now the east part of the Phoenix House. He was able only to enclose the building, and, such as it was, it was the first house of entertainment in the town. The next year E. W. Litchfield supplied the means to finish it. As to "Nigger Dan," I have not been able to learn his real name or subsequent history. Dr. Gamble was the first physician

and lived on a half-floored house west of the Methodist church. Dr. H. H. Hood, who first opened an office at Hardinsburg, was the second one, and had his office at J. M. McWilliams' store, which was between the Phoenix House and the Central Hotel. On November 24 of this year the railroad was opened to Litchfield and the sale of the Pretlow property following gave such an impetus to the town, which it has not since lost, though panics, fires, war and the removal of the railroad shops have each only given a breathing time to lay wiser plans and build its prosperity on a more stable basis. By the close of this year eight or nine families in addition to the six or seven families on farm lands when the town was surveyed had homes in the city. We can enumerate W. O'Bannon, W. T. Elliott, H. E. Appleton, James Jefferis, J. P. Bayless, W. S. Palmer, "Nigger Dan," G. Evans and a little later T. G. Kessinger. In the spring of 1855 Messrs. E. W. Litchfield, E. E. Litchfield, E. S. Litchfield, George H. Hull and the three Dix brothers and C. F. Howe came from central or western New York, all related to E. C. Litchfield who had become practically the owner of the town site. Several additions to the town were laid out, and James Cummings removed his store and contents from Ardinsburg and placed it just west of the cigar factory on Ryder street. He was the first postmaster. The original plat of the town, which bore the name of Huntsville, was never recorded. It was the purpose to have the name of the postoffice the same as the name of the town, and as there was a postoffice called Huntsville in Schuyler county the name of the town was changed to Litchfield in honor of its virtual proprietor. The railroad being open to Alton, Messrs. E. W. Litchfield and C. F. Howe began the sale of lumber, buying a carload or two at Alton and unloading it where State street crosses the railroad. E. E. Litchfield bought the Tyler grain warehouse and, removing it to the site of the D. Davis grocery store, converted it into a store and began the sale of dry goods. A year or two later he went out of the dry goods business and became a hardware merchant. James and William McPherson erected a flouring or grist mill and a residence just

north of the Planet Mills' office. These were the first buildings south of the railroad. In the fall of 1855 ground was broken for the railroad shops. The winter of 1855-56 was an open one, and the tide of immigration setting in deep and steady, building went on during the entire season, and a hundred dwellings and other buildings were put up by the close of 1856. The passenger station had been completed and the roundhouse with thirteen stalls had been enclosed and the foundation laid for the machine shops. The town had been incorporated as a village, with R. W. O'Bannon president of the board of trustees. The public houses had increased to four—the Montgomery House, now the Phoenix, by A. C. Paxson; the Litchfield House, opposite Woodman's lumber yard, by Mr. Johnson; the Central Hotel, by J. Hawkins; and the Palace Hotel, by R. Chism. The Methodist and Presbyterian churches were built, but not quite completed. Hood & Bro. and Dr. Grinstead had drug stores, the first adjoining O'Bannon's store on the north and the second in the building now occupied by G. B. Litchfield as a restaurant. Bagby & Corrington had succeeded McWilliams and R. N. Paden in the State street stores south of the public square. O'Bannon & Elliott and Palmer & Jefferis in their own buildings continued to sell dry-goods and clothing, and Henderson, Hull & Hawkins had a store across the street south of Woodman's lumber yard. Til Shore sold stoves and hardware in the Harris building below Brewer & Grubbs' bank, which he had erected in 1855. E. E. Litchfield was in the same line on his corner. James Cummings & Son were merchants in the Cummings building opposite the Central Hotel; John McGinnis sold clothing where Julius Machler's saloon is now (1882). John P. Bayless had succeeded James Cummings in the postoffice. There was but one saloon open, and that for but part of the time, where Peter Kane dispensed. B. C. Beardsley had begun business in Litchfield's store. There were two physicians, Hood and Grinstead; no lawyer, one schoolmaster and no resident preacher. When the railroad was opened as far east as Litchfield, John P. Bayless was appointed the first agent and his office

was among the foundation timbers of the water tank, which stood near the southwest corner of the car works office. R. E. Burton was the painter and photographer; John P. Davis & Bros., the plasterers; William Downey, the bricklayer; while Farrar & Sinclair kept the livery stable where Griswold's stable is now. P. J. Weipert, harnessmaker; C. Hoog, boots and shoes; and J. W. Cassidy, tailor, were sufficient in their day. Mr. Johnson and his son with saws and bucks cut the fuel for the locomotives; G. W. Nelson ("Fiddler George") was the constable, and L. D. Palmer the justice of the peace. J. L. Hood sold furniture in the Cummings building for Olcott & Company, of Alton, and W. B. Charles ("Captain"), having in his old age deserted the river steamer, had a little stock of clothing for sale in the same building. Carpenters were counted by the score and their wages were high. The population had by 1857 increased to six or seven hundred. The earliest residents were chiefly from the slave states, Kentucky or North Carolina. Messrs. Appleton, Grinstead, Mr. Long and a Mr. Thomas were of English birth, while Messrs. Hoog & Weipert were German; a few came from Ohio, and there was a liberal infusion of persons from the state of New York, while the Irish brogue was heard on every side. The spring of 1857 opened late, with rain and cold, and the streets were gorged by the depth of black, tenacious mud, and as for sidewalks there were none. The second block east of State street was a shallow pond and the water fowl frequented it in the early spring. Drains and sewers were unknown and the rainfalls skulked and dodged through grass and rubbish to the head of the water channels which begin a mile or more distant. A few dwellings boasted more than two rooms and people stayed here comforting themselves with the hope of improved future and a release from their narrow surroundings. The railroad had been opened to Terre Haute the previous year and Edwin C. Dix had succeeded Mr. Bayless as station agent. The previous year several carloads of grain had been shipped to St. Louis in sacks. The village organization was kept up and E. C. Dix was president of the village board. Some

ordinances had been adopted, but were not enforced. The town was the common fighting ground for the surrounding country, and groups of bullies would ride into town, fire their courage with whiskey and then gallop through the streets, carrying clubs or weapons, seeking a fight. On such occasions "Old Shake," foreseeing their purpose, would usually lock his door and disappear for the day under the pretense of hunting or fishing, though a thinner excuse than fishing could not be imagined. The first circus tent spread here drew not less than five thousand persons to town, people coming as much as forty miles to witness the moral horsemanship, to be astonished at the wit of the clown and to admire the frisky mules. Still, the religious impressions of the performances have not yet been observed, or, if so, have failed of a chronicler, though the town is not wholly ignorant of preachers who thought the noblest passage in the Bible was Job's description of a horse. There have been circuses here since, but not to arouse the excitement as that first one, and men are said to have gone fishing, but no one with so good a purpose as "Old Shake," or with equally as commendable results as on the occasion of this first circus at Litchfield." Mr. Coolidge further relates, in regard to the establishing of manufactures, that "in 1854 James McPherson and William, his brother, built a grain mill and residence on the site of the Planet Mill, and these were the first buildings south of the railroad after the laying out of the town. The mill would be called a humble affair to-day, but it was ample then for all local wants. The next year R. H. Peall and J. M. McWilliams became the owners and added much expensive machinery. McWilliams dying in 1857, the mill fell into the hands of Ezra Tyler, who operated it until 1860, when he sold it to M. J. Gage. He, fully doubling its size and capacity, practically made the mill a new one. In 1866 Best & Sparks purchased it and leased it first to E. A. Cooley and John Best and then to A. W. Samson. The owners afterward planned to replace the wooden structure by brick mill and the main building was erected, but in 1870 an evening fire destroyed the mill and the project

of replacing it was finally abandoned. A second mill was completed in 1860 half a mile up State street by John C. Reed and James McPherson. In the spring of 1863, in some unknown manner, this was also destroyed by fire. The attempt to connect its destruction with military and political troubles had no sufficient basis. Perhaps some card-playing youths knew more than they told. The mill, however, was not rebuilt. Wesley Best and David R. Sparks, from Staunton, completed a three hundred barrel mill on the railroad a quarter of a mile west of State street. The mill was twice enlarged and its goods achieved a flattering reputation. It, too, was burned in February, 1879, and arrangements were made to rebuild it in 1881, but when the walls were fairly begun the property was sold to D. L. Wing & Company, who demolished what had been built, and the barren site is to-day the sole memorial of what was one of the best old-style mills in central Illinois. Peter Boxberger in 1868 built a flouring mill on the railroad a quarter of a mile east of State street. Three years later he sold it to Peter McLenan. This was also destroyed by fire, in 1873. About this time T. G. Kessinger had a custom mill opposite Best & Sparks' mill, but it was not kept up long. In 1873 Mr. Boxberger built the flouring mill near the Indianapolis & St. Louis depot. Becoming embarrassed, he formed a partnership with Julius Machler and the firm failed. All the mills used burstones and completed the manufacture of flour in two grindings. Their capacity was limited, and until the opening of the coal mines and the introduction of water-works they struggled under great difficulties. In the spring of 1881 D. L. Wing & Company, of Springfield, Massachusetts, began the erection of the Planet Mill, which, by reason of its capacity and the new system of converting wheat into flour and the character and completeness of its appointments, will bear a short description here. The mill building proper was fifty by one hundred feet and five stories high, exclusive of basement and Texas. The basement contains shafting and main driving pulley, elevators, fan and wheat sink. The main floor contains seven reduction mills and

nine sets of smooth and corrugated rolls, fifteen purifiers, six bolting chests and flour chests, packers and cleaning machine. It may be of interest to know that flour-making consists of about thirty operations. A barrel of flour is made every two and one-half minutes. The motive power is given by a three hundred horsepower engine. The grain elevator has a capacity of one hundred thousand bushels. There are six buildings belonging to the mill, and the out and the in business is equal to twelve carloads per day. Sixty-five men are employed. The cost of the mill was two hundred thousand dollars. The mill went into operation November, 1881." You will note that this report of Mr. Coolidge in 1882, was just one year after the Planet Mill went into operation. Mr. Wing did not operate this mill for any great length of time, but sold it to the Kochler Milling Company, of St. Louis. This was decidedly the most extensive milling plant ever built in this section of the state, and the city of Litchfield might well feel proud of a mill whose product was exported beyond the seas. Unfortunately, the country was startled a few years ago by a terrific explosion, whose vibrations were felt as far east as Vandalia and north as far as Taylorville. People wondered if an earthquake shock had passed over this section, and the writer well remembers, though eighteen miles away, that the shock was so great that glassware and china were toppled from their places and no doubt existed in the minds of any one in this section that we had experienced quite a severe shock from an earthquake. Not long afterward we were apprised, however, that the Planet Mill at Litchfield had been destroyed by an explosion. There have been many rumors as to the cause of this explosion. Some have accounted it as a result of accumulating dust in the storage room. It demolished the mill completely, with the exception of the tall stack that for several years thereafter stood as a monument of one of the leading industries of the city. The mill has never been rebuilt, and it is the judgment of many that as a financial investment it was not a success. At the time that the Planet Mill was built Montgomery county was a part of the great wheat belt of Illinois, but since

that time climatic changes have rendered it no longer possible to raise wheat in our county. Nearly twenty-five years have gone by since then, and in that space of nearly a quarter of a century agricultural products have changed, so that our chief staple to-day has changed from wheat to Indian corn and timothy hay. That our people are more prosperous since they have left off trying to raise wheat is apparent to every observer. Stock-raising is now carried on very extensively. Horses, cattle, sheep and swine are shipped from our county in large numbers, and it is interesting to observe that in the past few years the dairy interests of the county have increased at least a thousandfold, and in addition to this sideline of the farmer he has another from which he draws profits equally as great. The poultry product has become of such importance that no well-kept farm is without this department, being carefully and systematically looked after. These two items in the farmer's account are nearly as great, when taken in the aggregate, at the close of the year as were his former wheat crops, and when we realize that these products are distributed throughout the year they give a more general prosperity to the community than we had under what is known as "the wheat age" of the country. To take care of the enormous wheat crops of 1879, 1880 and 1882 required the expenditure of all the energy and strength possessed by our farming people during the period of harvest, and, being a country boy of sufficient age to make a "hand" during that period, I remember the experiences of that time. Most of the wheat was bound by hand, and usually five binders were required to keep the wheat bound ahead of the machine. In cutting a field of wheat it was customary to divide the distance around the field into four stations, and in this way five men were necessary to keep the wheat out of the way of the machine. In an early day, when the old hand rake was used, men bound abreast, and it required six or seven men to do the work that five could more easily do by binding in stations. Returning again to the report of Mr. Coolidge, he further says: "The foundry and machine shops of H. H. Beech & Company were built in 1857 and operated as

a separate interest until 1876, when by sale they were consolidated with the car works. The original concern for years supplied the railroad repair shops with castings and was largely engaged in the manufacture of engines and mill machinery. The concern worked an average of fifty men. As early as 1856 a planing mill was running where is now Weigresse's lumber yard. In a few years it was dismantled and in 1867 Mr. Weigresse built his sash, door and blind factory, which was discontinued in 1876 and the machinery removed. L. Huffman had a brewery where the coal shaft is, and, finding the business ruinous, abandoned it. J. E. Gay had a carriage factory, working twenty hands. He had no capital and went into bankruptcy. The railroad shops were removed to Mattoon in 1870-71 and the spacious buildings stood tenantless and silent. Those who imagined that the permanent welfare of the city depended on retaining the shops began to look for the signs of decay. The mystery of cause and effect is insoluble, but as a sequence the city's gift of fifty thousand dollars to the Decatur & East St. Louis Railroad was followed closely by the removal of the shops, and when that decision was made public the population had sunk to the lowest point touched in twenty years. It was learned that the shops could be obtained on a long lease for a low sum. They could quickly and cheaply be turned into car works, and the scheme was elaborated to organize a stock company to build railway cars and coaches. Parties from the east offered to conduct the business if Litchfield would supply the capital. The proposal was declined without thanks. In the winter of 1871-72 the company was formed and in May the work was begun. A year later a fire from the cupola destroyed the foundry and machine shops. This portion of the works was rebuilt, and in a few years the company's patronizing roads were unable to meet their engagements and the company obtained an extension on its paper and at the appointed dates honored all its obligations. The company was reorganized in 1877 with a diminished capital stock, but in effect with enlarged resources, and has been prosperous. Last year the payroll bore over four hundred names and the

monthly pay-sheet exceeded nineteen thousand dollars (1882). The coal mine and the car works employed nearly six hundred and fifty men and the monthly wages were thirty thousand dollars. At about the same time of the loss of the Planet Mill there crept in dissensions between the stockholders of the Litchfield Car Company who resided in the city of Litchfield and those who resided in St. Louis. These dissensions continued to grow until at last they resulted in the removal of the shops to Memphis, Tennessee. Some of the parties living at Litchfield built other shops at Mount Vernon, Illinois, and to these shops many of the laborers who had found employment at Litchfield left, either for Memphis or Mount Vernon. Following upon the heels of the loss of the Planet Mill, the additional disaster of losing the car shops brought to Litchfield the most extreme financial depression that the city had as yet known. Property values rapidly decreased, and those having homes, but dependent upon their labor, disposed of their property at whatever figure they could get, and it is rather remarkable that values continued to depreciate until property could not be rented at any price because there was no employment in which labor might engage for a livelihood. Those who had known the city in her more prosperous time were surprised on passing through her suburbs to find by far the greater number of the residence properties vacant and with doors and windows nailed up to prevent the absolute destruction of the property by those who were perfectly willing to convert these houses into fuel or kindling wood. It is reported on good authority that many houses were actually destroyed during this period. But Litchfield has arisen from her lethargy and her embarrassment and to-day presents, in striking contrast, a prosperous condition and bids fair to accomplish greater things than she has ever done before. Instead of depending upon certain lines of industry that gave employment to so many of her residents, she has diversified those lines into many smaller concerns, and thus she is relieved of a congested condition that so often occurs when a people is wholly dependent upon a single industry. Her glass works, employing

from sixty to eighty men; her machine and repair shops, employing a similar number, and her various railroads, giving employment to several hundred of her laborers, and in addition the new Radiator Works that will give employment to many more, have been a means effective in restoring to Litchfield a great degree of her former prosperity. Litchfield, with her many railroads, has advantages that must, sooner or later, be recognized by manufacturing interests that seek a location that will enable them to have a wide distribution from a common center. The tendency of manufacturing concerns is to get away from the large city, so as to be freed from the annoyances that hamper those engaged in large enterprises that require extended plants in the manufacture of their wares. The price of real estate in the neighborhood of large cities is another element taken into account when a manufacturing establishment of any consequence is to be located. This element alone is driving the factory away from the large city into the smaller towns, where transportation can be had with equal advantage, with less cost in the erection of a plant and less taxation. No small city in this section of the middle west can boast of superior advantages over Litchfield. We desire now to call attention to some few of the prominent characters whose efforts have done much in the building up of the city. D. C. Amsden, H. H. Beach, James W. Jefferys, David Davis, R. W. O'Bannon, D. R. Sparks, Warder Cummings, D. Van Deusen, S. M. Grubbs, J. P. Bayless and Dr. H. H. Hood are names familiar to all who make a study of the history of the city. While others have contributed as much, possibly, as those that we have named, yet these stand out so prominently that to call attention to them can not possibly offend others who are as deserving as these. Quite a list of younger men are to-day making history for Litchfield which shall be read with interest by others in years to come. Among those actively engaged in enterprise in Litchfield may be mentioned Carl Bartling, manager of the Hoffman estate; R. Cline, whose department store on State street is one of the largest establishments in the county, and Taylor's store, consisting of

dry goods, clothing and ladies' and gents' furnishing goods, is also an extensive affair of its kind; Milner's drug store, on the corner, and M. M. Milner, on the other side of the street, with Hood's drug store almost opposite, each carrying an extensive line of drugs, paints, perfumes, etc., furnish the city and surrounding community with everything needed in the drug line. Many small stocks of merchandise are found in various parts of the city, and these do quite an extensive local trade. Hugh Snell, owner and manager of the Litchfield Opera House, also conducts a laundry in the rooms adjacent to the postoffice. The Wood brothers, Leroy and Tom, do quite an extensive real estate and collecting business. L. F. Wood, the senior member of the firm, has for many years been connected with various enterprises of the town. Groner & Taylor also conduct a real estate business and contribute their share to the business transactions of the city. We have mentioned Mr. Groner before, as he served the county as superintendent of schools for a period of four years. Mr. Taylor for quite a number of years resided at Walshville and served that township in various official capacities. Mr. Taylor belongs to that class of men who have done much in the development of the county within the last thirty or forty years. Joseph Paisley is another of the young men of Litchfield who is contributing of his means and energy to rehabilitate the city. Joe Paisley is well known for the energy and enterprise which he manifests in every undertaking to which he puts his hand. He is at present secretary of the Mutual Protective League, and to his efforts is due, more largely than that of any other, the success which this fraternal insurance company has achieved. C. B. Munday, engaged in the grain business, is also an important factor in the city's history. Mr. Munday, in connection with D. O. Settlementier, has conducted an extensive grain business along the various lines that concentrate at Litchfield. They do a large export business, and besides their extensive grain investments find time to engage in other profitable lines. We are informed that to Mr. Munday Litchfield is indebted for the reorganization of the old M. M. Martin Bank into the new institution

which to-day is one of the strongest banking concerns in this section of the state. Hugh Hall, who conducts a cigar parlor just west of the bank, is a young man of force, and doubtless will leave his mark on the development of "New Litchfield." Nathan, the clothier, assisted by "Brownie" May, makes you feel at home when in the city, and that he will sell you the best quality of goods for the same money of any house in the city we will leave to them to say. Among the physicians who are doing an extensive practice at the present time are Dr. Colt, Dr. Sihler, Dr. Blackwelder, Dr. Williams, Dr. Johnson and Dr. Snell. Dr. Colt has an extensive practice at the St. Francis Hospital, and nothing that we can say here will add to the reputation which he has acquired as a physician and surgeon in this community. Dr. Sihler is also well known as a very successful physician. He has an extensive practice and is certainly deserving of the confidence which the people repose in him. It is a pleasure for the writer to remark these kindly words about the doctor, as through a period of years he has found him a genial friend and wise counselor. Dr. Blackwelder is a member of the Blackwelder family which has done so much for the city and surrounding country. He is a son of Uncle Alfred Blackwelder and a brother to William, David and Monroe Blackwelder. Dr. Blackwelder has an extensive practice and is highly esteemed by the people of Litchfield. Dr. Williams is also regarded as a very successful practitioner, and Dr. Johnson is noted for his scientific research, and the appliances with which his office is supplied would do credit to an ordinary sanitarium. In regard to the Blackwelder family I will remark that each of these brothers, William, David and Monroe, has served his township in the office of supervisor. They are at present all retired from their farms and are living in the city of Litchfield, surrounded with the comforts that come to those who, by toil, during the earlier years of life have provided for themselves a competency. It gives me pleasure to chronicle that these are among the sons of one of the pioneer fathers of the county. Another character that we shall notice is James B. Hutchinson, the nurseryman. Like the Blackwelders, he is

another son of one of the pioneers and has contributed more to the horticultural interests of the county than any other man, and possibly all others combined. Mr. Hutchinson is growing old with the years, but in spirit he is as young as when I remember him in his meridian, and though the rays of the slanting sun are now casting a mellow light across his pathway, and though his day be nearing the close, it will be a pleasure to think of him as one who planted the trees that others might eat of their fruits.

ROUNTREE TOWNSHIP.

Rountree township is composed almost wholly of prairie land. The only watercourse of any importance within the township is the Middle fork of Shoal creek, which flows in a southwesterly direction through the entire township, having its origin in section 1, northeast part of the township, and its outlet in the southwest quarter of section 32. Fawn creek, a small stream, flows through the eastern section of the township. The soil is a rich black loam, and in the more northern part of the township it belongs to what was once known as swamp land. This class of soil is the most productive that we have in our county. Since these bog lands have been thoroughly tiled and open-drained they are the most fertile to be found in any country. It is the same class of land that is to be found in what is known as the corn belt of the state. The only hindrance or drawback that can be found to these flat sections of country is the monotony of scenery and the deep black mud during the rainy seasons of the year. I do not know but that since this section of the country has been thoroughly drained and the malarial conditions removed the health of our population in the north part of the county is just as good as we have it in the hill country of the southern part of Montgomery. Rountree township received its name in honor of Judge Hiram Rountree, of Hillsboro, and in the language of Mr. Barry we may repeat: "The name is a fitting tribute to the memory of that most excellent man who did as much if not more than any other per-

son toward the development of the county." It is rather remarkable that John Nusman, who was the first settler in the city of Hillsboro, should have removed to this wild and uninhabited section. It is impossible at this day and in our age to understand the impelling motive that stirred the pioneer to be foreverlastingly moving on and on. Mr. Nusman, in 1830, made a settlement in the south part of the township in section 32. Here he cleared away a small patch and planted it to corn, and some of his descendants relate that from the door of his cabin he could keep his family supplied with all kinds of wild game; that deer were attracted to his home out of curiosity, and that often droves of these timid animals were within gunshot of the house. The wild turkey roosted in great numbers in the trees near by. Near Mr. Nusman's residence was a camping place of the Kickapoo Indians, who annually visited this section for the purpose of hunting. They were friendly to Mr. Nusman and seemed to take great interest in his family. It is related that he carried on a considerable trade with these red men of the forest. Mr. Nusman remained on this place until the year 1852, at which time he died. Henry Nusman, at last account, was the owner of his father's old homestead. John Dryer, in 1833, came from Tennessee and entered a farm in section 30. Like all other pioneer settlers, he was compelled to undergo many privations. The fact that he had pushed out away from other settlements made the building of his home the more difficult. It is reported that he lived for some time in a temporary lodge made of poles, fashioned somewhat after the tepee of the Indians. Several years passed by before other settlements were made in this township, but in 1840 William Hedley entered a tract of land in the south part of the township, which he sold to Wiley Lipe in 1844. In 1842 Wilson Carriker made a settlement nearby, and in 1844 John Riderour and William Tanner located in this settlement. Mr. Tanner afterward purchased a tract of land in the northern part of the township and improved a home on which he lived until 1872. Mr. Riderour improved the farm upon which Martin

Lingle lives. George Carriker, Alfred Carriker, Allen Lipe and Noah Lipe were also early settlers of Rountree township. The first school ever taught in this township was by Wesley King, who was regarded as one of the ablest teachers in his day. Noah Lipe built the first schoolhouse erected in Rountree township, for which he received the munificent sum of seventy-five dollars. This house was built in 1846 and Wesley King was the teacher through a period of six consecutive years. The first marriage of which we have any record was that of Peter Cress to Katherine Nusman, which took place in the autumn of 1836. The first justice of the peace was Henry Friedmeyer, who was appointed in the year 1845 and served continuously for a period of twelve years. The first minister to deliver a series of gospel sermons within the boundaries of Rountree township was the celebrated eccentric, Peter Cartwright. Through his efforts an organization was effected in 1843 and maintained its identity until 1874, when it was abandoned by part of its members uniting with Montgomery church and part with Burks chapel. The old church building has long since disappeared, and no trace remains of the first church edifice erected in this township. Among those who have come into prominence during later years is the late Jacob Weller. The late William H. Peck, George W. Watson, Maryfield Truitt, Martin Lingle, Henry Warnsing, Fred Heims, B. B. Bowles, George Sims, Henry Hitching, William N. Shore and the Englehart brothers. These present a part of a long list of those who have successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits in this township. Mr. Truitt served Rountree township for many years on the board of supervisors and is a brother to the late J. M. Truitt, of Hillsboro. He belongs to one of the pioneer families of Montgomery county. Mr. Truitt is well known and well liked. He is in the closing years of a life spent in usefulness, and as the shadows lengthen the satisfaction of knowing that his best efforts have been given to what his hands have found to be reward sufficient for any good man. Henry Warnsing is another notable character of this township, and he is known in all parts of

Montgomery county. Mr. Warnsing has made quite a reputation as a public crier at sales in nearly every township. He has had some little experience in politics, and although a Democrat he has been elected to township offices in the strongest Republican precinct of the county. This evidences the popularity and esteem in which Mr. Warnsing is held by his neighbors. Noah Lipe and Wiley Lipe were for many years two of the most prominent figures in the social and industrial life of this township, and each of them has been classed among the forceful, energetic citizens of our county. Each in his day acquired a competency and has left to his children quite an estate and the legacy of a good name. George Watson lived near the center of the township and was a son-in-law of William H. Peck. For many years Mr. Watson was engaged in farming on a large scale. He afterward removed to Raymond and thence to Chicago, where, we understand, Mrs. Peck and one of her daughters have since died. George Watson was a good citizen and Montgomery county can ill afford to lose such men. His large interests here, however, may call him back to spend his declining years among his old friends and neighbors.

AUDUBON TOWNSHIP.

The southern part of this township is broken and somewhat rough, but the western and northern portion is prairie land, though somewhat undulating. The first settler is said to have been Thomas Hill, but near the same time Basil Hill and Joseph Davis located near him. This settlement was made in the central part of the township. The next year James Card made a settlement on the mound in what has been known for many years as Card's grove. In 1834 a colony of emigrants from Massachusetts made a settlement in this township. Among these were Isaac Hinkley, Robert Little, Otis Little and William Pike. These colonists laid out the town of "Old Audubon," and it is said by some that they had hoped in the making of a new county to secure the county seat. In this they were disappointed, and the location

of the Indianapolis & St. Louis Railroad spoiled all their plans and disappointed their hopes. Evidences still remain of this old town, yet for many years no attempt has been made to carry on any business at that place. Richard Crow, however, has for many years carried on country merchandising at a point about one mile east of the old townsite. Mr. Crow, now a man of sixty years of age, was born and reared in the neighborhood. He tells me that these energetic eastern people had arranged to present a building to the new county for court purposes, and that they had provided, at the four corners of their intended city, quadrangular tracts of land which were to be used as public parks. Again we have illustration of "the best laid plans of men and mice gang aft aglea." In the northern part of Audubon it is claimed that Thomas Price made a settlement in 1831, and that his son, John Henry Price, was the first child born in the township. The Virdens made a settlement in North Audubon in about 1832, and George Cottingham in 1835, and in 1836 he was followed by his brother, William Cottingham, Bailly Osborn and William Craig. In 1843 Shipton Estes, William Orear, James Smith and William T. Slater settled in the northeast corner of South Audubon. "I find it stated by T. J. Riley, in an article on Audubon township, that at an early date a number of wealthy settlers came in from Massachusetts and entered large tracts of land. They built magnificent residences and farmed extensively, but after remaining a short time grew discouraged and sold out, disposing of their land at a price ranging from thirty cents to sixty cents per acre. The fine houses built by them partially remain, and though they have gone very much to decay they still bear signs of their former grandeur. A part of one of these farms is that known at present at the 'Old Blue Farm.'" The first school taught in this township was kept by Charles Turner, and the first church was organized by the Rev. Mr. Huntington, of the Unitarian denomination, and a house of worship was built in 1839. The denomination would indicate that it was to accommodate the New England settlers, for Unitarianism was almost wholly

unknown among the earlier settlers who came from the south. The first marriage recorded as having taken place in the township was that of John Slater to Miss Julia Coy. Hiram Holmes built the first mill and kept the first hotel in Audubon. This was at the old town of Audubon. Samuel Patch and M. S. Cushman were the first merchants, while Isaac Hinkley, the postmaster, received the appointment as land agent. One of the wealthiest and possibly the largest landowner of this section of the county was Robert Little, and in looking over an atlas published in 1874, forty years after Mr. Little came from Massachusetts to Old Audubon, I find that several sections of the best portions of the township were owned at that time by Mr. Little, but thirty years have gone by since then, and Mr. Little, with all those who came with him from his eastern home, have been borne by the current of years into the great ocean of the past, but many years will pass by before these pioneer spirits will be lost in the depths of forgetfulness. Among those who have contributed later to the development of the township may be mentioned W. F. Weber, William Blue, Ashery Rhodes, Alfred Brown, Michael Ohlman, Alex Durdry, John Russell, Joseph Whitmore, Hiram Virden, James Bass, Guilford Bass, William McNichols, Alex Stewart, Palmer Hamline, Elijah Ullom, E. N. Prey, J. M. Elwell, S. C. Wagner, J. L. Graden, John Marley, James H. Glasgow, T. J. Pattengale and Hiram Sperry. These form a list that may well be called a roll of honor for Audubon township. Many others should appear in this list, but we have forgotten through the years that have gone by since visiting Audubon township. In the little town of Ohlman we desire to mention "Eck" Durdry, son of the late Alexander Durdry, who for quite a number of years represented Audubon township on the board of supervisors. "Eck" succeeded his father at Ohlman in the hay and grain business, and it is reported that last year Mr. Ohlman shipped from that point about one thousand carloads of hay, exclusive of his grain trade. "Eck" Ohlman, son of Uncle Mike Ohlman, lives on his father's old homestead. Besides he gives attention to several hundred acres, which he owns indi-

vidually, that lie adjacent to his father's farm. "Eck" Ohlman is one of the most extensive farmers in Montgomery county. He is also a breeder of fine cattle and horses. The writer has often enjoyed the hospitality of his home, and we can not say that in our travels abroad it has ever been our pleasure to be more royally entertained than we have been at the country place of "Eck" Ohlman.

NOKOMIS CITY AND TOWNSHIP.

In 1840 Bluford Shaw made the first permanent settlement in this township. In 1843 Hugh Hightower made a settlement in section 33 and for some years was the only resident in this section of the county. Mr. Shaw having moved to another locality. In 1846 Mason Jewett, Samuel Redding, John Nichols and John Henry located near where the present city of Nokomis stands, and a few years later Royal Lee, John Wetmore, William Bonton, Absalom Vanhouser, William Lee and Andrew Coiner located north of the present city. John Wetmore was the father of Moses Wetmore, the millionaire tobacconist of St. Louis, Missouri, and when a lad Moses attended the public school in the vicinity of Nokomis. Henry Lohr has the credit of having taught the first school in the township in 1848, and John Wetmore, before mentioned, was the first justice of the peace for that township and J. W. Hancock its first constable. It is recorded that Constable Hancock and Miss Margaret Merrett were the first couple to be united in marriage in that township. Jacob Haller, who lives on the mound just south of the city, is one of the most prominent characters living in that section. He has been unusually successful as a farmer and stock-raiser, and to-day has one of the best appointed farms in Montgomery county. He is a son of Henry Haller, who at an early day made a settlement in East Fork township. John Beatty was for many years connected with most of the public enterprises of the community, and at one time held in his possession the large farm just west of Nokomis which until recently was owned by Abraham Bourquin. Mr. Beatty some years ago

moved to Missouri, and we are informed that he has been dead some two or three years. H. F. Rood is another of the influential men belonging to that time when Nokomis was being built. He contributed of his means and influence to make Nokomis enterprises successful. He was for some years president of the Nokomis National Bank. Another family to be remembered in this connection is the Culp. B. F. Culp was the first cashier of the National Bank. He did not remain in the neighborhood of Nokomis very long, but removed to Raymond, where he established a private bank which he conducted until recently. B. F. Culp was for many years one of the leading citizens of the county. He is at present living in the state of Washington and is engaged in the banking business in his new home. James Young is another of the early settlers of Nokomis township and is to be reckoned one of the strong financial men of Nokomis. For some years past Mr. Young has been living in the city. His large estate is under the direct management of his son William, who lives at the old homestead and the experience of the writer can attest that he and his good wife are first class entertainers and that William Young is one of the most hospitable and obliging young farmers that we have met in the county. James Young, the pioneer, is a native of Ireland, and has recently visited his native land and in addition made a trip to the continent, visiting France, Italy and several other continental nations. Mr. Young is one of the most interesting men that we have met and at the age of seventy-eight he is hale and strong as the ordinary man of sixty. John Carsteens is one of the older business men of the city. He has been for many years engaged in operating an elevator at this place. Associated with his son Garrett for many years, they did an extensive business. John Carsteens represented his county in the legislature some few years ago and it is remarkable that his son Garrett served in the same capacity only a few years later. The older gentleman is living in an elegant home in the city, but Garrett, unfortunately for his family and the community, died when in the very morning of a promising business and political career. Among the business men

that may be mentioned as at present engaged are Wesley Russell, who carries a large line of dry goods and who, by the way, is a son of one of the earlier settlers of Fillmore township. Wells and Brown, who have an extensive stock of ready-made clothing and gents' furnishing goods. Joe Weinstein, who carries an extensive stock of ladies' and gents' furnishing goods in addition to a full line of dry goods; Todd and Snell, also engaged in a similar line, do an extensive business; Jesse Griffin, who carries a large line of hardware in addition to his extensive stock of furniture, and Albert Spannagel, who also carries a similar stock, and in justice to Mr. Griffin and Mr. Spannagel the writer wishes to say that in his opinion that no two stocks equal to theirs is to be found in this section of the state. John Crickenberger owns and operates the electric light plant at Nokomis. He is also engaged in other lines of business and is to be reckoned among the very substantial men of the city. Nokomis, like other cities of its size, has its share of attorneys at law, notably D. Zepp, Will Todd and George Webster. These lawyers practice in the county courts, circuit courts and the city court of Litchfield. They are each and all first class in their profession and besides are excellent citizens. (Something that we can not say about all lawyers.) D. Zepp for several years after coming to Montgomery county was city superintendent of the Hillsboro and Nokomis schools. Since his change of professions, he has resided in Nokomis and has built up a good practice and enjoys a good income therefrom as well as from his real estate holdings. Mr. Webster is a genial, whole-soul fellow, and quite popular in his home and the surrounding community. He is a young man of considerable ability and promises to be heard from in business and political circles at a future time. Will Todd is well and favorably known throughout Montgomery county. At one time a teacher in our public schools, he aspired to higher things and after a few years spent in the study of law, was admitted to the bar. At present he resides in Nokomis. He is a thorough Democrat and doubtless will receive at the hands of his party the treatment which a loyal party man deserves. Will

Todd is a fine fellow socially, a good lawyer and a true friend. The writer shall be pleased to see Mr. Todd occupying some position of trust and responsibility, for surely he deserves well of the people of Montgomery county. Alfred Griffin conducts one among the largest real estate and loan lines of any man in our county. The years which he has spent in Nokomis building up an extensive trade has also gained for him a reputation for honesty and fair dealing not surpassed by any business man in this section. The writer having had occasion to know Mr. Griffin in a business way, is not surprised at the success which he has achieved. His habits of exactness in detail and his thoroughness in attending strictly to every phase of his business inspires a confidence in his patrons which loose and negligent habits could never accomplish. Mr. Griffin lives in one of the most elegant homes in the city and is of that turn of mind to enjoy his surroundings. A. J. Williford, the very efficient and courteous cashier of the Nokomis National Bank, is a son of Rev. A. J. Williford and a grandson of Jordan Williford, the pioneer. We have noticed in our sketch of the Williford family this gentleman, but desired to mention his name in connection with our chapter on the city of Nokomis. Mike Ohlman, at present a resident of Nokomis, was formerly a citizen of Audubon township, but having grown old, Mr. Ohlman concluded to leave the farm and come to Nokomis, so here at the advanced age of eighty-five he, in company with his wife, is spending the evening hours of a long and useful life. It is remarkable that one of Mr. Ohlman's years should be so spry as he is. He walks down town almost every day and few men of sixty years would care to keep pace with him. He has an elegant home near the public school building and here "Uncle Mike" is glad to meet his many old friends, among whom the writer is proud to be numbered. Nicholas Bentz is another of the very successful business men of the city and Henry Bender and Woltman & Company must not be forgotten in this narrative. "Tom" Riddler is not only well known in the vicinity of Nokomis, but as a buyer of horses and mules is well known throughout this section of the state.

Mr. Hardsock, the miller, and Robert Paddock, the lumberman, are among the successful business men of the city. Dr. T. J. Whitten, son of Austin Whitten, the pioneer, Dr. Wilson and Dr. Hovey and Dr. Strange have each a wide practice in their profession. Dr. Whitten is perhaps more widely known in this section than any other practitioner. He was for several years in charge of the Prince Sanatorium at Jacksonville, Illinois, and is called in consultation throughout a wider territory than any other physician and surgeon in southern Illinois. Among the leading hotels favorably known to the traveling men is the Hagee House at Nokomis. Other good hotels are to be found in the city, but the homelike appointments of this hostelry has made it well known to the "boys on the road" and it has been universally praised by them. The proprietor, Eugene Hagee, has died but recently. His wife will keep the house running, however, but we shall miss the jolly laugh of our old friend "Gene." That he had his faults his friends acknowledge, but at the same time his many good traits covered over the defects and we shall remember him as a good and kind friend. Richard Hill and George Bliss, whose names have appeared in the chapter on Fillmore, are sons of pioneers of Fillmore township and to-day these elderly men are enjoying the fruits of well spent years in the incomes which by toil in earlier years they have gathered. We regret to be compelled to close this narrative, for so much that we should like to include must be omitted that we feel that our work is hardly half done, and that the subject deserves fuller treatment.

WITT TOWNSHIP AND THE VILLAGES OF WITT AND PAISLEY.

In 1831 James and David Brown located on east fork of Shoal creek on section 17, Witt township. They did not settle, however, on the same side of the stream, David making his home on the west side and James on the east. They lived here almost isolated for a period of three years, when Martin Harkey in 1833

located on a farm near them. Mr. Harkey had previously lived in the vicinity of Hillsboro. The next to make settlement in the neighborhood was Christopher Armantrout. In 1839 Joshua Seekler made a settlement north of Armantrout and the following year, 1840, M. W. Seekler settled near his brother. While these earlier settlers have passed away, their descendants may be found in the neighborhood and to the credit of their fathers, it may be said, that they left surviving them an upright citizenship of which the county and the state may be proud. Names that will be remembered in the history of the township are the Balsleys, the Carrikers, the Chapmans, the Lohrs, the Hochms, the Marks, and the Hubers. Many of these came from Germany and settled this section of Montgomery county, and be it said to their credit that not a better citizenship can be found than the German-American boys and girls who have come to manhood and womanhood in Witt township. The village of Witt was laid out in 1869 by William Wood, who erected the first store building in the village. Keys & Bartlett kept the first stock of general merchandise in this building. The following year Lee Hall put in a small stock of goods which he afterward sold to Antonio Leon. Leon in turn sold to Christian Marks who afterward disposed of the stock to Henry Welker. The Witt postoffice was established in 1869 and was kept in Keys & Bartlett's store. The first physician who located in Witt was Dr. McElrath. In 1867 Nicholas Bentz erected a steam elevator there. This marks the beginning of a very prosperous little village. Some ten years ago a coal mine was sunk just west of Witt on lands belonging to George W. Paisley, and Mr. Paisley laid out an additional village, but not as a part of the town of Witt. The first to organize of these villages was the old town of Witt, and taking advantage of existing conditions, they included the larger part of the new village of Paisley. However, this did not prevent the Paisley people from securing a separate depot, postoffice and organizing a separate school district. Conditions not altogether favorable to the development of these separate parts of the village of Witt have existed since the organization of that

town. Recently the Big Four Railroad Company has cut out separate stations for these places and has established a depot near the line dividing the town into sections and it is the impression of some that before long things will be more harmonious and that these people will see the advantage of uniting their efforts in building up as one town. Among the most prominent characters in the village is the Hon. George W. Paisley, who served as state senator from this district. For many years Mr. Paisley was one of the leading members of the Montgomery county bar, but later he became more interested in his large farming interests and removed from Hillsboro to the neighborhood of Witt. Later he became interested in the Montgomery County Coal Company, and it is due to his enterprise that the mine was sunk at Paisley. At present he owns a controlling interest in the stock of the company before mentioned and is its president and general manager. Mr. Paisley is an unusually forceful character and in all his enterprises he has been fairly successful and to-day at the age of sixty-six he is one of the active, energetic business men of Montgomery county. Robert Dixon and Henry Shuping are engaged in the grain business and operate one of the largest elevators in the county. Both are genial, enterprising men and have succeeded in building up an immense trade in their town. Short & Ernst operate an elevator in the west portion of the village or in that part usually known as Paisley. They have likewise a fine trade and are both good business men. Quite a number of general stores are located in the two parts of the village. We have not space, however, to enumerate or to give the attention that they deserve. Rufus Barringer, son of Caleb Barringer, is the present supervisor of the township. He is a livery man and has a good business. Dr. Charles Lockhart is the only physician in the village, and enjoys a large income from one of the most lucrative practices of any physician in our county. The doctor deserves all the success which he has received, for no other physician in this section of the state has prepared himself more thoroughly for the practice of his profession than Dr. Lockhart. The present postmaster of the Paisley end of

the town is Miss Kate Daly, once a teacher in the public schools of the county. Her people are old residents of Irving township and formerly came from the Emerald Isle and settled in Illinois near Alton, but afterward removed to Irving township, where Mr. Daly for many years was engaged in farming, but like many others, when he felt the weight of years, deemed it best to retire and consequently we find him enjoying a pleasant home during his declining years in the village of Paisley. The people of these villages do not lack for church privileges and we find several church organizations in thriving condition with houses of worship and regular services every Sabbath day.

GRISHAM TOWNSHIP AND THE VILLAGE OF DONNELSON.

The first settlement made in this township was by Spartan Grisham about the year 1819. He settled on a farm west of the village of Donnellson and his estate passed into the possession of his descendants. Spartan Grisham came to Illinois with Melcher Fogleman and lived with Mr. Fogleman until he set up house-keeping for himself. He was a man of great force of character such as the times demanded, and he was indeed a Spartan in character as well as in name. In the settlement of that section Mr. Grisham was for many years the central figure. Next in settlement in this immediate neighborhood was Jesse Johnson, who settled just north of the present village of Donnellson, yet to the westward of the township line. He afterward removed across into East Fork township and made a settlement on the branch near what was afterward known as the Russell place. Thomas Johnson, his son, made a settlement just north of his father Jesse, and lived here until he was quite an old man. He died a few years ago and was buried in the Bear Creek cemetery. Jesse Johnson about 1840 sold his possessions in Illinois and migrated to Iowa, where he lived but a few years and again turned his face westward for the Pacific slope, and in 1850 we find him in far away Oregon. It is related of him that he enjoyed every species of adventure and that

when he could hear his neighbor's axe or his neighbor's wife calling the cows, he thought it time to move. He lived to a good old age and died and was buried amidst the mountains that girt the wilderness in which he had made his home. Nathan Irving was another who made his home in that part of the county embraced within Grisham township. He was also a rover, having lived in quite a number of states, and hardly had he warmed a new cabin until the spirit of adventure pushed him westward and we last hear of him in Missouri. The home of James Street, who settled near the old pepper mill, was just over the line in Grisham township. He built his cabin at this place in the year 1820 and was the first to preach the gospel in what was known as the Clear Spring settlement. This same James Street by holding over the head of Nicholas Lockerman the fires of an eternal hell, persuaded that gentleman to marry the woman who he had kept for several years as his wife. Street was a man of untarnished character and in his day was considered a very able preacher. He was not a rhetorician nor was he able to express himself in those finished and superb sentences of the classical scholar, yet he could preach hell and damnation until the sturdy pioneers quaked at the awfulness that awaited the wrong doer. And, gentle reader, would not just a little bit of that same kind of gospel accomplish better results than the sugar-coated sermonizing to which we are continually treated? Yes, if heaven is to be gained by righteousness in our lives and hell is to be shunned, would it not be well for the clergy to dwell with especial emphasis upon the consequences of a life spent in wickedness? William Griffith settled near the central portion of the township near the same time that Mr. Street made his settlement. He was a modest and unassuming man and like many of those whose names are forgotten, his work was done without ostentation or show. Many of his descendants live in the county and are among its best citizens. Thomas Edwards came to Illinois from Kentucky in 1826 and improved a farm near Bear creek in the north-eastern part of the township. It was the same that for a number of years was owned by the

late Charles Edwards and is the same now owned by his sons, Jesse, Charles and Edward. Thomas Edwards, the pioneer, was fourth corporal in Captain Rountree's company during the Black Hawk war. Mr. Edwards left several sons, among whom were Sidney, Allen, Wesley, Charles and George. Sidney Edwards located in Bond county near Sorento, where he lived until his death, which occurred some years ago. Allen Edwards and Wesley Edwards were in the Mexican war, Company C, James C. McAdams, captain. Allen Edwards settled in East Fork after his return from the Mexican war and by industry and economy succeeded in acquiring quite a large estate. He did not live, however, to enjoy what he had succeeded in gathering, for he died at the early age of forty-eight years. Wesley Edwards, a very genial and pleasant gentleman, lived to be quite an old man. He died but recently and left quite a family of sons and daughters. Charles Edwards, who for many years resided upon and owned the ancestral estate, died but a few years ago and left surviving him a wife and several children, all of them having arrived at maturity. Among his sons are Thomas C. Edwards and Walter, very successful business men of Coffeen. William Edwards, the older son, is connected with the postoffice department in the city of St. Louis. The other sons are engaged in farming and stock-raising. He has several daughters who are married and reside in this section. George Edwards, the younger son, resides in the village of Donnellson. He has several sons, among whom are Thomas H. Edwards, who lives in Coffeen, and Robert, who at present resides in Bond county in the vicinity of Greenville. Accompanying Thomas Edwards to Illinois from Kentucky came John Elder, who improved the farm owned by the late John Price. We do not know that any of Elders' descendants remain in this county. Robert McCullough, another of the early pioneers who settled in this neighborhood, has left the influence of his example in the vicinity where he spent so many years. His grandson, Samuel McCullough, resides near Donnellson. In 1827 Clement C. Aydelott, a Methodist preacher, located on the farm now owned by his son, George R. Aydelott. While the Rev.

Aydelott is remembered by the writer as one of the most devout men, yet we find that he was not afraid to go to war and his name is to be found upon the roll of privates in Rountree's company to serve in the Black Hawk war. None of the early pioneers could have exercised greater moral influence than did Rev. Aydelott. His religious life was an open book and no one doubted that Clement Aydelott was an earnest, sincere Christian man. He organized the first Methodist church in Grisham township. He died in 1865 at the age of sixty years, but his wife survived him many years and died at the age of over four score. His son George has long been one of the most prominent citizens of Grisham township and like his father, he enjoys the confidence and esteem of all who know him. Clement Laws of Coffeen and William Laws of Greenville are great grandsons of Clement Aydelott by their mother's side, whose mother was an only daughter of Clement Aydelott. George Aydelott has no children and with him one pioneer name will cease to exist. William Young, a brother-in-law of Clement Aydelott, came to Illinois in 1828, accompanied by his brother James. Mr. Young in 1830 located on the farm now known as the old Young homestead. Here he lived for fifty years and it was here that he succeeded in laying the foundation of one of the largest estates ever built up in Montgomery county. Mr. Young at one time served his district in the state legislature and refused a re-election because, as he said, "a man without an education has no business in the legislature." While the educational acquirements of Mr. Young were limited, yet for good horse sense he has had no superior in this section of the country, and it can be said with credit not only to Mr. Young and to those who bear his name, but to the community at large, that the annals of Montgomery county will show no name in its long record of honest and upright characters more loved and more esteemed than that of William Young, very familiarly known as "the old Squire." The writer well remembers when a boy in assisting Mr. Young in loading some grain that had been grown on a rented farm that the question of honest division on the part of the renter came up and

Mr. Young remarked: "A man may fool me, but he can't fool that Old Fellow up yonder." Men would live and raise their families as renters of Mr. Young and it has been said that he never requested the removal of a tenant nor did he ever bring suit against any man or in any way enter into law against his neighbor. A record certainly to be coveted and an example that may well be imitated. Squire Young died at his home in Hillsboro only a short while ago at upward of ninety years of age. Other names familiar in the early history of Grisham township are William and Robert Paisley, Jacob Holbrook, Spartan Jordan and William Rogers; and later Tipton Cox, Uriah Wilson, Fred Helfers, the Angersteins and others. James Wilson and Bonaparte Wilson are sons of the late Uriah Wilson and are among the most influential and popular citizens of Grisham township. James Wilson has served his township in different official capacities and is the present township supervisor. "Bona" Wilson is extensively engaged in agricultural lines and recently succeeded in procuring several thousand acres of coal leases in his township for a mining syndicate. The Messimore family and the Kessinger family have long been prominently connected with the social and political affairs of Grisham township. The village of Donnellson lies partly in Montgomery and Bond counties. It is also divided on the Montgomery side by the west line of East Fork township. Among the business men of the village may be named William Boone, hardware and agricultural implements; and James Price engaged in the same line; Baxter Taylor, general merchandise, Wilson Laws and S. G. Gardner, carrying on similar lines; Fred Krummel, furniture and undertaking; Henry Myatt, engaged in hay and grain trade. Among the physicians are Dr. W. A. Allen and Carey and Son. These have an extensive practice. Among those deserving especial mention at this time is Rev. William Young, who for many years was a resident of East Fork township; but during the past few years has made his home in the village of Donnellson. He has been among the forceful men in his community and his influence has always been on the moral side of

every question. He has always believed in the strict enforcement of law and his opinion upon matters demanding legal settlement is often times sought by both parties before an action at law is taken. His advice and council has possibly averted more suits than that of any other man in our county. In other words, he might justly be styled "The Peacemaker." Shelby Young, a brother of William Young of Donnellson, is another unique character of this section. He is not so conservative as his brother William, but his influence for good has been far reaching and doubtless Shelby Young will be remembered as well and as kindly as that of any man in the vicinity of Donnellson. This hurried survey of the past and present of Grisham township the writer is well aware is too briefly stated to do justice to the many noble characters that have come and gone and that are now engaged in the affairs of the present. Within the narrow confines of Grisham township many scenes of interest have been enacted and much of importance in the history of Montgomery county has transpired there, yet, we must leave untold more perhaps than can be found in this narrative and to search out these traditions and chronicle them we leave to the service of another.

WALSHVILLE TOWNSHIP.

About 1817 there came to the neighborhood of Walshville Nicholas Voiles, Melcher Fogleman, William Stevens, Elias Baker and his son James. Two or three years later James Jordan, Austin Grisham and others settled near. In 1826 J. W. Garrison, Thomas Evans, John Evans and Joseph Evans and in 1828 Robert Kirkland made settlement in the same neighborhood. These men were in character and spirit similar to those that we have described in the history of other townships. They were just as true, just as brave as their contemporaries and in the sections where they located their influence has been as marked for good as the influence of pioneers who settled in other parts of the county. It has been

claimed by some writers on the earlier history of Montgomery county that James Jordan who settled near Walshville, preached the first sermon ever delivered within the present boundaries of Montgomery county. We know, however, that conflicting evidence exists to show that James Street might have deserved this honor and there is also tradition that one Henry Sears, of Hurricane settlement, deserves that credit. We leave the matter, however, to some more exact and precise historian. We are perfectly willing to leave these questions of minor importance to be ferried out by someone more interested in minutia than the writer. About the year 1810 John Simpson and John King made improvement of the lands upon which the present village of Walshville now stands. These two pioneers have left several descendants in this part of the county. The first marriage that ever took place in Walshville township was that of James Jordan to Elizabeth Grisham. This occurred in the year 1825. It is related that Peter Cartwright organized a Methodist class at the residence of Elias Baker in the year 1824. Probably this was the first Methodist Episcopal class in Montgomery county. Rev. James Jordan had organized a Baptist church at the residence of William Cline, which was later reorganized by the Rev. William Burge in 1836. No church edifice was erected until ten years later. This was a log structure and served the congregation until about 1862 when the organization decided to build a new place of worship and located it in the village of Walshville. This building was destroyed by fire in 1866 and in 1869 they rebuilt their church, since which time the organization has passed through the varying experiences of prosperous conditions and depressions. In 1850 E. D. Smith opened a country store at what is now the village of Walshville. Some years later he sold his business to a Mr. Bowers. Bowers in turn sold to Chapman and Kennedy and they to Michael Walsh. In 1855 Mr. Walsh laid out the village and named it in honor of himself. The township, however, takes its name from the village. John King built his residence about this time and Seymour and Cline built a brick store room and put in a general stock in 1856.

Shortly after Cline sold his interest to Eli Deshane, who afterward became sole owner of the stock. Mr. Deshane did quite an extensive business at Walshville and accumulated a very creditable estate by attention to business and the practice of habits of economy. William Kingston for many years conducted a general merchandise business in the village, and several others whose names are familiar to the people of this section may be named. Sanders & Hodges, Blevins & Denny, Hodges & Boyd, Thomas Barlow, Boone Copeland and A. T. Strange, the last named more recently engaged in business. A. T. Strange for the last quarter of a century has been very closely identified with the affairs of Walshville township. As an administrator of large estates and as trustee for parties left in trust he has had as much and possibly more experience than any other citizen of the township. He was for many years engaged in the profession of teaching; later, however, he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. He has been identified with organizations that have had for their purpose a union of the agricultural classes. He was an active organizer of the Grange and the Farmers Mutual Benefit Association. No man residing in that section of the county enjoys the confidence and esteem of the public more than Alex T. Strange. Among the physicians that deserve mention in these pages are the following: Ambrose Barcroft, John T. Koen and M. S. Davenport. This trio of very worthy professional characters, each of whom has left his influence for good upon the locality, has moved on to the silent halls of the dead, and while their voices are hushed and while they are no longer able to practice their skill that others may live, yet what they have done is not silent and the example of their lives is ever living. T. T. Smith, who lives just south of the village, is another of the deserving citizens of the township and he has been identified with much that has been done in the moral and social uplift of the community. William Neiman, who lives near the west line of the township, is a German-American who at different times has represented his township on the board of supervisors, and along with him may be named Harm Keiser, who for a longer period

of years served that township on the board than any of which we have record. Following Mr. Keiser comes H. H. Monke, also of German parentage. This township is largely settled along the western and southern part by thrifty German population and we are glad to note that no part of Montgomery county has a more enterprising people than Walshville township.

The story which we have told is incomplete, but space will not allow any further narrative of this township.

FILLMORE VILLAGE AND TOWNSHIP.

We have had occasion to notice a few of the first families of Fillmore township. The first settlement of this township was made in the neighborhood of the old town of Vanburenburg. It was made by John Hill in the autumn of 1816, and here the succeeding spring others came and made settlement near him. These early settlers came from Kentucky, and the year previous to their settlement near the burg they had spent in some other part of the state. Among this little band were Harris Revis, Henry Hill, Levi Casey, Aaron Casey, John Lee, Joseph Wright, Henry Piatt. It is related that these parties built their cabins in a group about a large spring in that neighborhood. It must be remembered that not a few Indians were to be found near this place, and it is well known that the average Kentuckian of that day had no particular love for the red man. Somewhat later this little community was broken up by each of the parties locating on different claims. Harris Revis made his claim near the southeast corner of the township, where he lived until his death, which occurred in 1840. Several of his descendants live in the neighborhood of where this old Revolutionary soldier made his settlement. Adjoining the Revis farm Henry Hill entered a claim, and his grandson and his granddaughters own the larger part of the old homestead. John Hill, the first pioneer, entered a farm in the same locality, and it is also in possession of his descendants. Levi Casey set-

tled on what to-day is known as the Briggs farm, but in 1837 he sold his homestead and moved to Shelby county, where he afterward died. Aaron Casey, a son-in-law of Revis, settled on a farm near Samuel Hill, and John Lee entered a tract of land adjoining Revis. Aaron Casey afterward sold his farm to Samuel Hill. Joseph Wright, who was one of the commissioners appointed by the legislature to fix the county seat, made settlement in this community, and Henry Piatt built a home near that of Joseph Wright. The farm settled by Joseph Wright passed to his son, Jarrett Wright, and is yet in the family. Among the most prominent pioneers of Fillmore township was Newton Coffey, father of Cleveland Coffey and grandfather of Newton Coffey, who now lives on the old homestead. Newton Coffey, Sr., is the same who entered the tract of land where Hillsboro now stands and afterward donated twenty acres to the county to be used for public purposes. Mr. Coffey came to Illinois in the fall of 1817 and settled west of the Hurricane about five miles. His nearest neighbors were those who were living over near the "burg," but in the spring of 1819 several settlers made their way to the neighborhood of Mr. Coffey. Among these were Easton Whitten, Colbert Blair, John Beck and Stephen White. All these were from Kentucky and originally from Virginia. Easton Whitten the next year made his settlement over on Dry Fork, and Beck settled just north of Mr. Coffey, and Stephen White and Colbert Blair just west of Mr. Coffey, near Shoal creek. The first mill erected in Fillmore township was in 1825 by John Beck, one of the commissioners appointed to relocate the county seat, and who selected Hillsboro instead of Hamilton, where the first commissioners had attempted to locate it. John Beck made his settlement not far south of the Vandalia road, and the old mill, which was a treadmill operated by a yoke of oxen, stood on the George Blackburn place. Benjamin Rose built the next mill operated in the township in 1838. This was afterward sold to a man by the name of Austin, who did a very flourishing business for several years. The next mill was run by steam and operated by John Hill. It had but

one buhr and the demands of the trade kept it going almost constantly. Harris Wright and James Kirk bought this mill and operated it until 1846. The sawmill first erected was run by hand. It consisted of what was called a whipsaw, and one man stood below and the other above, and in this way the log was ripped into boards. John Fuller in 1840 built a mill in the grove near where he lives at the present time. (Deceased but a few days ago.) He operated it but for a year or two, when it was sold and removed from the township. The first school ever taught in Fillmore township was in 1825 by Mr. Hatchett in a little log house that had been used by Aaron Casey as a residence. The succeeding year Benjamin Robbins followed Mr. Hatchett, and thus from these humble beginnings the excellent school system which we enjoy to-day has come. The first frame schoolhouse ever built in the township was in 1845 near the little village of Vanburensburg, and it was known as the Easley schoolhouse. In 1821 a burial ground was staked off on Dry fork on an old battlefield, where at one time, many years before, an encounter took place between United States troops and a band of hostile Indians. The first interment in this cemetery was that of Stephen White, who died in the summer of 1821, and the first birth in the township was in 1819, which happy event occurred in the family of John Beck, and the first wedding was between John Revis and Patsey Coffey. The ceremony was performed by Squire Levi Casey and took place in 1822. The village of Vanburensburg was laid out by Joshua White in 1842, but prior to this time there had been a postoffice in the neighborhood, and as early as 1837 it is recorded that Benjamin Roberts kept the postoffice at Hurricane. This was the name which this settlement bore through all the earlier years, and the name attached to the postoffice until it was abandoned by the rural route which was established from Fillmore through the Hurricane neighborhood about two years ago. Robert White kept store at the "burg" through the same period that Joel C. Traylor kept one ten miles further west. The "burg" had the reputation, during the Civil war and the period immediately pre-

ceding it, of being a tough place, and there is little doubt that the reputation which it held was justly earned. It must not be thought, however, that many good people did not live in this vicinity. The years that have passed since then have borne away in their stream the unsavory characters that made Vanburensburg a place feared by some of the more timid of our people forty years ago. Emery Wright is carrying on quite a prosperous business in merchandising at this place. While there is no railroad within several miles of the place, this country store is patronized very widely, and Mr. Wright enjoys an excellent business. Jocie Lynn settled in this neighborhood some time later and acquired quite an estate, which at his death fell to his sons and daughters, who at present live in Fillmore township. Dr. B. Haynes, a veteran physician, removed from East Fork township to Fillmore some thirty years ago. Besides being very successful in his practice, he has been very prominent in the political and social life of the community. He is still living on his farm and actively engaged in the practice of his profession, though seventy-six years have left their marks upon him. Prominent among the settlers who came to the township somewhat later than those mentioned in the earlier history of the township are Fred Snyder, John Fuller, Ed Hurd, Joseph Easley, Tom Harvey and the Blackburn brothers. Most of these came from Ohio, but were originally from Virginia. Moses Fuller, father of John Fuller, died but a few years ago, after having rounded out a century. Richard Blackburn, the eldest of the brothers, was the first to make his home in this section. He bought the property known as the old Bradley tavern and settled in that community about 1838. William Blackburn, George Blackburn, Charles Blackburn and Robert Blackburn came about two years later. They settled near one another and for many years this was known as the Blackburn settlement. All these brothers succeeded in building for themselves good homesteads. Their descendants own much of the lands formerly entered by their fathers. Since the death of Uncle Robert Blackburn, which occurred about one year ago, Harrison Black-

burn, oldest son of George Blackburn, is the oldest member of the Blackburn family now living. He resides on a farm in East Fork township, but also owns the Tom Harvey farm in Fillmore township. Harrison Blackburn properly belongs to the sketch of East Fork township, but his identity is linked with the history of Fillmore township more closely. Lafayette Blackburn, only son of Robert Blackburn, lives on the homestead of his father. For many years Lafayette Blackburn was engaged in merchandising at Hillsboro, and immediately following his removal from Hillsboro to Oregon he was engaged in real estate ventures in that western country. His son and daughter have been engaged in educational and mining enterprises in the west. Stewart is at present in Colorado, and Miss Blanche during the past year has been making her home with her father at the old homestead. There are several members of the Blackburn family living in the neighborhood of Coffeen. James, a son of William Blackburn, lives in the village and his brother John at the old home. Charles Blackburn left but one son, who lives somewhere in the west, and besides H. H. Blackburn, George Blackburn, Sr., has a son, Ezra, living in St. Louis. Richard Blackburn also has a son, George, living somewhere in Kansas. A daughter of Richard Blackburn was the wife of Rev. T. W. McDavid, whose family we have noticed in the chapter on East Fork. James Kirk came to Fillmore and settled in the north part of the township near Bost Hill. He afterward changed his location to the farm where he lived until a few years before his death. Mr. Kirk was a very peculiar man, quiet and inoffensive, yet exerting a wide influence. He was very successful in acquiring a large estate, and at the time of his death was one of the largest landowners in the township. Another family prominent in the settlement of Fillmore township and closely identified with the Cress family were the Bosts—John Bost, Henry Bost and Martin Bost, sons of Jacob Bost, who came from North Carolina in 1838 and settled on a farm about one mile south of the present village of Fillmore. His brother Aaron, who accompanied him from the old north

state, settled somewhat later on the farm now owned by John I. Bost, at what is known as Bost Hill. Henry Bost, who died some years ago, left surviving him several sons and daughters, among whom is Rufus Bost, who lives at present in Oklahoma; Durley, who lives in Christian county, and Victor, who is engaged in agriculture and stock-raising on a farm south of Fillmore. Victor Bost has been very successful in a financial way and has earned the reputation of being among that class of our citizens who reflect high credit upon the community by the moral standards which they have adopted. Mr. Bost was for several years the president of the County Sabbath School Association, and by his interest he has contributed very largely to the success that has come from this union of effort. John Bost for many years lived on his father's old homestead, but has within the last few years retired to the village of Fillmore and has given the control of the farm over to his son, John Q. Bost, who lives upon the ancestral estate. Martin Bost, who has been dead for many years, left surviving him a widow and ten children, among whom are Cyrus, Byron, George and Herbert, all citizens of Fillmore township. Among the daughters of Martin Bost are Dorcas, wife of Dr. John T. Hendrix, of Coffeen. Dr. Hendrix until recently was engaged in the practice of his profession in the neighborhood of Fillmore. For several years the doctor enjoyed a wide and successful practice in the neighborhood of the village of Fillmore. However, in 1902 the doctor saw fit to change his location, and since that time has been residing in Coffeen. About the time that the Bosts came from North Carolina there came from New Hampshire and settled in his neighborhood Joseph Knowles, Alfred Bliss, the Lanes, the Richmonds and a man by the name of Fairbanks. Alfred Bliss settled on the mound near where George Richmond now lives. Like all the earlier settlers, he built for himself a log house, in which he lived some years and raised quite a large family of children, several of whom are to-day honored citizens of the county. Some time along in the '50s Alfred Bliss became connected with the Methodist Episcopal conference as

a local preacher. He afterward was identified as an itinerant minister and for several years "rode the circuit." No character in this section was more widely known than that of Uncle Alfred Bliss. He was among the few Methodist preachers who succeeded, by economy and thrift, in securing a small fortune. Mr. Bliss was a very successful business man, and no one had a keener perception of what constituted a good bargain than Uncle Alfred. For the last few years of his life he lived with his daughter, Mrs. White, over near Effingham. In the division of his estate he gave to his children and grandchildren, by will, an equal inheritance in all his property—that is, the child and the grandchild were made to share alike. At the age of more than four-score years this aged patriarch closed his earthly career. By an active life, filled with many valuable experiences, he had earned the rest which had been promised him, and the well-spent life is a legacy more enduring, more valuable to his children and grandchildren than any other which he could have given them. Charlie Bliss, son of Alfred Bliss, editor of the *Montgomery News*, will be noticed in the article given the Montgomery county press. George Bliss, another son, lives at Nokomis and is a retired farmer of considerable means. George Bliss and wife have no children, but the disposition of Mr. Bliss is such that all the children in his neighborhood call him uncle. They have, however, an adopted daughter in whom they are very much interested. Among the daughters of Alfred Bliss are Mrs. James Moody, Mrs. L. C. Allen (now deceased), Mrs. Devore (also deceased) and Mrs. White, who lives in Effingham county. Mrs. Moody lives with her son Charles at the home of the late James Moody. She has a very interesting family, consisting of the son, Charles, and several daughters. L. C. Allen, who married another of the Bliss girls, has been identified with nearly all the progressive movements in his town and township for many years. He is at present conducting a private bank at Fillmore, and it is considered among the soundest financial institutions in the county. Mr. Allen built the first brick structure in the village and has been one of

the factors in building up the trade of that town. His son Ned is conducting a hardware store, furniture store, undertaking, and at the same time carries a large line of vehicles and agricultural implements. Ned Allen and Anna, his wife, are much interested in the social life of the town. The Methodist Episcopal church, of which Mrs. Allen is a valued member, owes much to her efforts in building up a Sabbath-school, league work and the financial assistance which she gives to the different benevolences of the church. Ned Allen has inherited from his father energy, push and economy and to-day, although under forty years of age, he is one of the financially strong men of Fillmore. Ned is courteous in all his dealings and the trade which he has established is evidence of his honesty and fair dealings in business. Frank Herron married Jessie Allen, only daughter of L. C. Allen. At present Frank is cashier in the Allen Bank. Carl Allen is professor in the Southern Illinois Normal at Carbondale. He is a rising young man and doubtless will occupy high place in the educational world. Joseph Knowles, who settled in Fillmore township in 1838, was the father of John Knowles, William Knowles, Joseph Knowles, Jr., and George Knowles. He had three daughters who were married to Alfred Bliss, Gideon Richmond and Martin Bost. Of these William Knowles, John Knowles, Harriet Richmond and Hannah Bost are yet living, but much advanced in years. (1904.) George Richmond is the oldest son of the late Gideon Richmond and at present he is living on the old homestead. Ernest Richmond, a second son, died some years ago. The late J. B. Lane was for many years one of the most prominent figures in Montgomery county. He was associate judge at the time when the present courthouse was built. For many years he kept a stock of general merchandise in the north part of the township. He had quite an extensive trade from the surrounding country and his store was a great meeting place for the north Fillmore people. J. Bowers Lane had much to do in having the village of Fillmore located at its present site and his influence did much in having the contest between Chapman and Fillmore decided

in favor of the latter. He was an excellent business man and left to his family quite an estate. "Tim" Lane, his eldest son, is among the popular business men of Fillmore and conducts a general store at his father's old stand. "Torny" Lane lives in Litchfield and is engaged in general merchandise. Ora Lane, the youngest son, died recently. He had several daughters who are married and are living in the neighborhood of Fillmore; his eldest daughter, however, is the wife of A. A. Cress, of Hillsboro. Moses Cress, father of Dan Cress, came from North Carolina and settled on a farm near the western boundary of the township where "Little Dan" now resides, and it is on this farm that I remarked in another chapter than many of the old time agricultural implements may be seen. Dan Cress has been much interested in the growing of Norman horses and fine breeds of cattle. He has one of the best stock farms in Montgomery county and on it may be seen some of the best horses and cattle. His son Frank is associated with him in the care and management of his estate. Frank is a young man whose inclinations lead him to adopt the vocation of farmer and stock man in preference to that of a profession. The writer well remembers Frank Cress as a student at school much interested in all that pertained to agriculture. Peter Cress who settled in the north part of Fillmore township came from North Carolina during the '20s and made settlement near Bost Hill. The records show that Peter Cress was a private in Rountree's company during the Black Hawk war. It is a matter somewhat difficult to discover the relationship that existed between Peter Cress, Moses Cress and Jacob Cress, who were all early settlers of Montgomery county. There came to the county at a much later date Daniel Cress and his brother Eli. Daniel, frequently called "Big Dan," settled on a farm near Shoal creek that had previously belonged to Henry Hill, Sr. It was one of the first settlements in the western part of Fillmore township. "Big Dan" married for a second wife a daughter of James Kirk, who has been noticed in this article. At the present time Mr. Cress lives on the old Jim Kirk homestead. Eli Cress settled on the Hillsboro and Fill-

more road on the west side of Shoal creek. He raised a large family of children, who are among the honored citizens of this county. John and Richard Alexander are among those who formed the settlement on Dry fork immediately south of the present village of Fillmore. John Alexander was the father of Mrs. Thomas Sears who, by the way, was the mother in turn of Mrs. Isaac Hill, mother of our present states attorney, L. V. Hill. Richard Alexander was among the prominent citizens of his section of the county in his day. His sons Joseph and Samuel were well known and at one time were prominent in Montgomery county politics. James Alexander, son of Richard Alexander by a second wife, is the present circuit clerk of Fayette county. Peter Alexander is a son of John Alexander and is well and favorably known in Fillmore township. Mark Mason, father of Henry Mason, settled in this neighborhood at about the same time with the Alexanders. Henry Mason lives on the old Mason home and is among the few old settlers, the first native born of the county. Mark Mason, Jr., is engaged in general merchandising in the village of Fillmore. He maintains the excellent reputation borne by his ancestors and those who patronize his place of business know well that they will be treated fairly. Mr. Mason married Miss Flora Blackburn, daughter of Harrison Blackburn, of Coffee. William Snyder and Samuel, his brother, were sons of Frederick Snyder of pioneer times. Neither of these lived to be old men, but the influence of their lives has been felt in the community in which they lived. William Snyder left several sons, among whom are John W. of Morrisonville, Fred and Ora, who live on the old home, and several daughters who are married and live in this community. Samuel Snyder also left quite a family of children, among whom are John H. and Lafayette. These boys, now in the meridian of life, are among the solid and substantial citizens of Fillmore township. The several daughters of Samuel Snyder are married and reside near the old home. John Landers is another of the Fillmore farmers that deserves a place in this narrative. While he came to the township at a later date than many others, yet he has been

very prominently connected with the political and social life of its people. He married a Miss Hill, sister of Sam Hill and a daughter of Henry Hill, the pioneer. By this marriage Mr. Landers has several children, among whom are his son Samuel, now city superintendent of the Dallas (Oregon) public school. He is a young man of much promise and will be heard from in his country's history. Edward Landers and John are farmers, living in Fillmore township. The daughters are all married to some of the best citizens in the community. Uncle John lives on the old home and is happy and contented as he passes down the evening of life. Harris Wright and Elijah belong to the pioneer Wright family. They are both men now in the decline of life, having fought a good fight, and they are waiting the call to join the great host of relatives and friends that have gone on. Jefferson Wright, son of Elijah Wright, is a prominent business man of Ramsey, Illinois. Stephen White, who died in 1821, left surviving him two sons, Ambrose and James. Ambrose White settled near the west line of Fillmore township not far from where New Boston is situated. He left two sons, William and Stephen. William White, the elder son died a good many years ago and left surviving him Iva J. White, Ambrose White and Stephen H. White. Iva J., the oldest son of William White, is among the oldest school teachers of Montgomery county and is actively engaged in the work of his profession to-day. Ambrose and Stephen H. are both engaged in farming and live in the vicinity of Coffeen. Stephen White, second son of Ambrose White and grandson of Stephen White, the pioneer, lives on a farm south of Coffeen at the advanced age of eighty-three years and may be reckoned one among the oldest native born in the county. Stephen White has several sons who live on the old ancestral homestead. Docia White, daughter of Ambrose White, was the wife of John Boyd. She left surviving her several children, among whom are William, Stephen, Robert, Curtis and James. These sons live in the neighborhood where they were raised. Among those who came to Montgomery county about the year 1840 was Henry Sellers, George Ohmert and Jo Sherman.

These settled north of the Vandalia road on what was afterward known as the Hoffman estate. The farm at present is owned by Byron Bost. Henry Sellers left surviving him several sons, among whom are Samuel, Daniel and John. Samuel Sellers lives in the west part of Fillmore township on the top of the hill on the east side of Shoal creek as you go from Coffeen to Fillmore by way of the Sellers bridge. Uncle Sam is a unique character and enjoys telling a story as well as any man in the township. He is growing old, however, yet for one of his age he is blessed with good health. Sam has raised a large family of children, all of whom are grown and have gone out into the world to build for themselves a fortune and a name. George M. Ohmert afterward removed to East Fork township. Among the children left by George M. Ohmert was Jacob Ohmert of Logan county, now dead, and Sarah, afterward the wife of Joel C. Traylor. She is living at the advanced age of seventy-six years and has recently removed from the old Traylor homestead to the village of Coffeen. Harriet Allen was also a daughter of George Ohmert. She was the mother of Dr. Allen and George Allen, who have been noticed in the chapter of East Fork township. McCager Wright, son of Joseph Wright, the pioneer, improved a homestead in the neighborhood of his father. He died some few years ago and left surviving him four sons: James, John, Charles and Cook. James and John live in the vicinity of the old home, while Cook and Charles live in other sections of the country. George W. Miller for many years lived on the farm now owned by Tim Livingstone. He was a very enterprising and energetic citizen and much interested in the organization of the farming class into societies that would enable them to act in harmony and for their best interests. He was organizer for the Grange movement that swept over the west about thirty years ago. George Miller left surviving him George W. Miller, who lives on a farm in the western part of Fillmore township; David Miller, a carpenter, who resides in the village of Fillmore; William Miller, also of Fillmore and engaged in the same line of work as his brother David; Jack Miller, whose whereabouts are un-

known to the writer, and several daughters, among whom are Mrs. P. J. Hill, of Hillsboro. Henry Hill, the pioneer, left among other children Henry and Levi, who settled in the neighborhood near where the present village of Chapman is located. Levi Hill died some years ago and left several sons who live on and near the old homestead. Henry Hill, Jr., is at present living with his son-in-law, "Ted" Hicks, on the farm which he improved many years ago. Uncle Henry is nearly eighty years old and getting quite feeble; however, we see him occasionally on the streets of Coffeen. He has one son living at Hillsboro and another on a farm near the village of Coffeen. Peter Hill, the oldest son of Henry Hill, is engaged in coal-mining and Jefferson, the second son, in farming and stock-raising. Another character that we shall notice in our narrative of Fillmore is Jude Smith, who settled several years ago amidst the virgin woods that covered the hills east of Shoal creek and immediately south of Bost Hill. Mr. Smith by years of toil succeeded in clearing away the forest and making for himself a comfortable home. He has, however, recently removed to the village of Fillmore that he may have a few years of rest, to which he is entitled by reason of labor faithfully performed. Mr. Smith has succeeded in rearing a family of interesting children, among whom are Della and Bertha, teachers in the public schools of Montgomery county; and Walter and Milton, both of whom have left the profession of teaching for other lines of service. An older daughter is the wife of Archie Sellers, who is related to the Sellers family already noticed in this narrative. About the year 1827 Wooten Harris, accompanied by his sons Benjamin and William, emigrated from Hickman county, Tennessee, to Montgomery county, Illinois. The ancestors of Wooten Harris originally came from Wales and settled in Virginia. An older son of Wooten Harris, named Starling, remained in North Carolina on the removal of his father from that state to Tennessee. It will be noticed that Wooten Harris originally came from Virginia to North Carolina, thence to Tennessee and thence to Illinois. Wooten Harris, pioneer, had a brother Zachariah, who came from Humphreys county, Tennessee, to

Illinois in 1829. He had seven sons: Ancil, Benjamin, Zachariah, Pendleton, Jacob, Wooten and Henry. Wooten Harris, the elder, was a soldier in the Revolutionary war and for several years drew a pension from the government for services rendered during that great struggle. Benjamin, son of Wooten, settled on a farm since known as the Scribbner homestead. It lies southwest of the village of Fillmore about one mile and a half. The sons of Benjamin were Wooten, Joel, Benjamin, Jr., William and John. He had four daughters: Elizabeth, Sarah, Frances and Mary. Elizabeth was married to Henry Bost; Sarah to J. Bowers Lane; and Mary to Isaiah Toberman. Wooten Harris, son of Benjamin, married Evelyn C. Woolard in 1853. She was a daughter of the Rev. James Woolard, a pioneer Methodist preacher, well and favorably known to all the earlier settlers throughout this section of the state. Wooten Harris, the son of Benjamin, was for many years an influential and esteemed citizen of Hillsboro. He was one of the founders of the Haskill-Harris Bank and when that institution failed it brought ruin to Uncle Wooten, yet no one who lost in that institution ever blamed Wooten Harris for the failure. Wooten Harris left surviving him two sons, Henry and Bert, the latter, however, died some years ago. The former is not living in this state nor is his whereabouts known to the writer. John Harris, a son of Benjamin, married Sarah C. Toberman in 1857 and by her he had two sons, Jasper and Homer, and also several daughters. Jasper and Homer are living on farms in this community. William B., son of Wooten Harris, the pioneer and who came with his father to Illinois in 1827, died in 1875. He had four sons, Thomas D., William M., Benjamin and Wooten; the latter died without issue. He had also seven daughters: Frances, who married Levi Sears; Sarah, wife of Whitfield Halford; Polly, wife of George Turnbow; Betsey, wife of Frank Scribbner; Kate, wife of Robin Rhodes; and Mahala, the wife of Willis Casey. William M., son of William B. and grandson of Wooten, the pioneer, lives at Bingham, Illinois, and is at present in a fair state of health for one of his age. He was seventy-six years

old in March last. He is the father of E. Harris of Coffeen, Illinois, and also of Nilla, wife of Willis Donaldson, station agent at Fillmore, Illinois. He has other children who live in Oklahoma and Texas. Isaiah Toberman, who married Mary Harris, daughter of Benjamin, is the present owner of the old Harris estate, sometimes called the Scribner homestead. Isaiah Toberman has for many years been an active business man in the village of Fillmore and associated with his sons he has carried on a grain and hay business in Fillmore, Chapman and Coffeen. Although a gentleman of considerable years, he remains active in the business cares of the large trade which he and his sons have built up. Mr. Toberman for many years was engaged in farming and stock-raising and during the threshing season he operated a threshing machine for quite a number of years. I have heard it stated that Isaiah Toberman is the only man in this section who ever made any money out of running a threshing machine. He tells me, however, that by this means he largely built up his present estate. He is regarded as one of the very substantial citizens of the township. His son Marion assists him in looking after the Fillmore part of the business and Benjamin until recently had charge of the work at Chapman, while Walter was in control of the elevator and hay business at Coffeen. Ben has recently moved to Coffeen and Walter has removed to St. Louis to look after their large interests in the city trade. Elijah Donaldson, who is at present living in the village of Fillmore, was formerly a resident of Witt township and served as supervisor for that township several terms. He also represented this senatorial district in the state legislature as a Democrat. He was one of the famous 101 who supported John M. Palmer for the United States senate. I think, however, that when Palmer deserted the Democratic party in 1896 that Elijah refused to wear his 101 badge and relegated it to a place among the antiquities which he expects to bequeath to his children. Mr. Donaldson is an active business man and has been unusually successful in all his ventures. He is engaged in the real estate business and in looking after his landed property north of the village of Fill-

more. Elijah Donaldson's father, William, came from Tennessee to Illinois a few years before the Civil war and settled a few miles north of the present village of Bingham. Among his sons were Elijah, above mentioned, Presley and James. His daughter Sarah married Daniel Griggs, who is at present in business in Fillmore. Aaron Butler, ex-sheriff of Montgomery county, is another of the prominent characters of Fillmore township. He was married to Miss Jane Casey and settled north of the present village of Fillmore about the close of the Civil war. Here by industry and frugality he added much to the estate which his wife held from her father, John Casey. Mr. Butler has retired from the farm to a beautiful home in the village of Fillmore. Here he and his wife, after the struggle of raising a family is over, feel that they are entitled to the pleasures that a substantial income may furnish. Mr. Butler is a pillar in the Methodist church at Fillmore and has done much to build up the society at that place. Dr. Short and Dr. Hoyt, his son-in-law, are the only physicians resident in the village. Dr. Short has practiced his profession in that community for many years and has not only built up and maintained a wide practice, but at the same time has gathered a fair competency for his declining years, and he it said to his credit that no man in Montgomery county has given better opportunities to his children to secure collegiate education than he. His sons William and Sheridan are both practicing physicians, while Walter, after completing a course at the University of Illinois, received an appointment in the United States Army. Bird, his younger son, we understand, is also preparing himself for a physician at Marion-Sims Medical College. He has two daughters, Lutie and Stella. Lutie is the wife of Dr. Jesse Hoyt, of Fillmore, and Stella is the wife of Walter Toberman, of St. Louis, Missouri. Dr. Hoyt, of Fillmore, is among the leading physicians of this section of the county, and his wife acts as his assistant in the postoffice. Horatio Prater, son of Asa Prater, lives on his father's old homestead near the center of the township. He has held various township offices and is regarded in every way as an exemplary man. His mother was

the daughter of Harrison Brown, who at one time was sheriff of Montgomery county, and a sister of J. C. Brown, who lives near Coffeen. The long roll of reputable and deserving characters who have contributed to the history and many who are to-day adding to the material progress of Fillmore township we are compelled by lack of space to omit from this narrative.

EAST FORK TOWNSHIP AND THE VILLAGE OF COFFEEN.

A long time ago, in the year 1820, William McDavid came from Tennessee and settled in East Fork township near the famous Fox Indian spring and here for forty-six years he made his home. Children grew up about him and in turn made homes of their own. Mr. McDavid was an eccentric character, a man possessed of far more native ability than the average. It is related that after he had made settlement that occasional visits were made by individual members of the Fox tribe to the vicinity of their former home near the Big spring down as late as the year 1835. T. W. McDavid, the youngest son of Uncle Billy, lives on the old homestead, where he was born more than seventy years ago. When Mr. McDavid came from Tennessee he was accompanied by Jesse Johnson, his father-in-law, who settled in Grisham township, near where the village of Donnellson now stands. After Mr. McDavid, James Card made settlement in East Fork township in 1821 and located on the farm now owned by Daniel Cress. Mr. Card lived for one year at this place when his wife having died, he returned to his former home in Kentucky. He came back, however, in 1823 and settled in the north part of East Fork township near the Irving line. He remained here for two years and then removed to Fillmore township. It is remarked of Mr. Card that he was a remarkable man in many respects, daring, intrepid and intensely religious. Mr. Card made the first overland trip from this section of the county to St. Louis. He had no means to direct his course but a small pocket compass and of necessity he was compelled to cut his roads through

the woodland and to make a fording place across the stream. It required many days' traveling with his slow ox team, but his return trip was fully as difficult because of being heavily loaded with supplies, which he had purchased in St. Louis. Many of Mr. Card's descendants yet reside in this county. A settlement was formed in the south part of the township in the years between 1821 and 1826 and among those whose names appear we find as follows: Joseph Williams, John Kirkpatrick, E. Quinn, Henry Rowe and David Bradford. Williams settled on the farm which was afterward known as the Riley Hampton Mound. It is now the home of Rev. Alexander Hampton, a grandson of Joseph Williams. Kirkpatrick located over near where the village of Donnellson stands. The exact location of these other early settlers is not known. In 1826 Benjamin Rhodes came from Indiana and settled on section 8, in the north part of East Fork township. His was the only cabin in this part of the township for some years. William R. Linxwiler, a step-son, afterward owned the Rhodes property and later sold it to Joel K. McDavid. In 1824 Jordan Williford came from Tennessee and located on a piece of land near Uncle Billy McDavid's. He lived on this place about three years and then sold out to Mr. McDavid and moved over on Shoal creek, where he remained until 1856, when he removed to Arkansas. Jordan Williford had a large family of children, among whom was Andrew J. Williford, a minister of the primitive Baptist church and well known throughout this section for a period of many years. Uncle Jackie Williford, as he was called, preached at Bethel, just north of where Coffeen now stands, for a period of nearly half a century. Mr. Williford has left several sons, who reside in Montgomery county. Grandsons of the elder Jordan Williford, the pioneer, and the sons of A. J. Williford, the preacher, are James Williford, of Litchfield; Thomas Williford, who lives in Fayette county; Hiram Williford, the school teacher, also living in Fayette county; and A. J. Williford, Jr., the efficient cashier of the Nokomis National Bank. These men are well known and respected in the neighborhood in which they were reared, as well

as in the localities in which they have established their homes. Andrew J. Williford, Jr., presents an article in this work under the head of the banks and banking. Its perusal will be of interest to all who have not studied the workings of the national banking system. Mr. Williford, the cashier, has an elegant home and most interesting family in the city of Nokomis. Here he has lived for several years and during this period he has established a reputation in connection with the bank that makes his services of great value to that institution. His success proves that a young man of energy and industry, coupled with economy, may within a few years provide for himself the things necessary for the comfort and happiness of those dependent upon him. Mr. A. J. Williford, Jr., was married to Mary Johnson, a daughter of the late Ben E. Johnson, of Hillsboro. Their union has been blessed with a family of several boys and girls. Hiram Williford, the teacher, has but one son, who has received an appointment as a cadet in the military academy at West Point. This young man, Forest Williford, has the making of character that some day will command the respect and esteem of his fellows. We base this assertion or assumption on the fact that the elements of the pioneer and the preacher have come down through the generations to find expression in the efforts and achievements of this scion of one of the pioneer families. Two brothers by the name of Mann came to settle in the northern part of East Fork township about the year 1830. One of these was the father of Robert Mann, who for many years was a prominent citizen of Hillsboro. Samuel Haller made a settlement some two miles north of where Coffeen is now located. Mr. Haller raised a large family of children, many of whom have been prominent in county and local affairs. Henry Haller for many years lived at Hillsboro and was engaged in different lines of business at that place. He died some two or three years ago. Jacob Haller, of Nokomis, one of the most successful farmers and stock men of the county, is a son of Henry Haller. Dr. T. B. Haller, recently deceased, was also a son of this pioneer settler. Dr. Haller for many years was engaged in the practice of his

profession at Vandalia and it was here that he built up a large and lucrative business. Caleb Traylor built the first mill in the township at the place now known as New Boston. This was in the year 1836. He and his father, James Traylor, had come from Kentucky the year previous. The elder James Traylor was one of the first school teachers within the county and some few of the older citizens remember having attended his school. Caleb Traylor was most unfortunate in the operation of his mill. On one occasion his hand and arm were crushed in some of the machinery and later he fell from some part of the upper story upon some timbers below and broke his neck. This was unfortunate for the family of Mr. Traylor in more ways than simply the loss of his services as bread winner for his family for having a large family of boys, the advice and counsel which a father alone can give was lost to them at a period when they needed it so much. The second mill built in East Fork township was operated by D. M. Williams. It was in the neighborhood of Traylor's store but built before Joel C. Traylor established his store in that part of the township. This mill was operated for a period of twenty years or more and was finally sold to Alfred Bliss, of Fillmore, by Joel C. Traylor, who had come into possession of it. The writer has faint remembrance of this old mill, for as a child he played with others about the yard at hide and seek among the logs. Forty years have gone by since the removal of the old mill, yet a few of the old logs are to be seen lying about in their decay, marking the place of one of the earlier enterprises of the township. The water still flows from the old spring, yet little trace of the pond that collected its waters for the use of the mill is to be found. The burstones that ground the corn into meal were reserved when the mill was sold and these stones are to be seen in the yard at the old Traylor homestead. The first store doing a general merchandise business was opened by Joel C. Traylor in the south part of the township in 1844. For many years Mr. Traylor gathered the produce from the surrounding country and hauled it overland to St. Louis, bringing back in return such merchandise as the people at that time re-

quired. Until the building of the I. & St. L. Railroad it was the custom of Mr. Traylor to send down a wagonload of produce every week in the year. To do this it became necessary to have two wagons and while one was on the trip to the city, the other was engaged in gathering its load for the succeeding week. Many of the old citizens of the south part of the county will remember these weekly visits of his produce wagon. In this way Joel C. Traylor, who having been a cripple from birth and requiring the assistance of crutches by which to walk, was possessed of that same spirit as the other pioneer settlers and the thought of asking assistance because of his condition would have stung his pride and he would have resented as an insult the charge that he was unable to make his way as other men in the world. Traylor's store was a great meeting place for the country for miles around on election days, at conventions and the annual horse show which took place here in the early spring of each year. Here were brought together some of the breeds of horses that would sound familiar by name to our readers of that generation. Jim Kirk usually would have at the show his Copper Bottom and Stump-a-deler and Tom Whitton with his Diomedé (Old Tom Benton) and Uncle Clem Aydelott with Red Lion. Uncle John Price with Old Archie. These are a few who would congregate and take much pride in showing the good points of their stock. These were horses of endurance and I doubt that Montgomery county can show a grade of horses superior to those that were bred in the county just prior to the Civil war. While the introduction of our large, beefy Norman and Clydesdale horses have added a spirit of docility, they have at the same time so reduced the endurance that the horse found on the farm to-day is not the equal to those which our fathers bred forty years ago. Among those living in the Traylor settlement were the Ropers, the Wardens, the Neals, Laws, Thackers, Hawkins, Allens, McCaslins, Harrisons, Jones and the Woods. The Ropers removed from this section to Missouri some thirty-five years ago. Nathan Warden, a carpenter, settled near the old mill about the year 1845. He came from Kentucky and was regarded as a

most quiet and inoffensive citizen. Together with his good wife, Aunt Polly, he lived in this vicinity until about twenty years ago, when he removed to the neighborhood of Walshville. He died here some ten or twelve years ago. Quite a family of boys and girls were raised by Mr. Warden and several of these reside in Montgomery county. His second son, Alfred M. Warden, studied law with Judge E. Lane, of Hillsboro. This young man left the ancestral home and settled at Washburn, Wisconsin. We understand that "Alf" has become quite a prominent citizen in his adopted home. Having been elected to positions of honor and trust in his county, we are glad to note that a fellow schoolmate is succeeding so well in the world. He is at present judge of the city court of Washburn, Wisconsin. Hugh McCaslin and his brother Gray settled near the line between Bond and Montgomery counties early in the '30s. Hugh's home was over in Montgomery and Gray's just across the line in Bond. Hugh McCaslin lived to the good old age of ninety-three. He left several sons who have been prominently connected with the affairs of the neighborhood and county. Wiley F. McCaslin, the wagonmaker, recently died at the age of eighty-three and Mark McCaslin, his brother, who lived in the vicinity of Nokomis, has been dead for several years. Wiley McCaslin leaves a son, William S. McCaslin, who is a business man of Coffeen, and one maiden daughter, Miss Ella, a school teacher, who lives on the old homestead in the Traylor neighborhood. William Neal came to this county at the same time that his father-in-law Uncle Douglas Young made a settlement on Bear creek. William Neal was regarded among his neighbors as a strictly religious and moral character. He was identified with the church work of the neighborhood for many years and assisted in building the Methodist Episcopal church at Edwards Chapel and the Free Methodist church at Walnut Grove. No man in the neighborhood enjoyed the confidence of every one more than did William Neal. If he ever had a difference with any of his neighbors, there is no tradition that relates it and in the memory of the writer he stands out in bold relief as the exemplary Christian, father

and neighbor. William Neal and his wife, Sarah, have passed on to that country from which no traveler returns. They left several children and grandchildren, among whom are Allie, who lives in Hillsboro, and Burton, a minister, who resides in St. Paul, Minnesota. Their oldest daughter, Ellen, who married Cyrus Bost, died early in life leaving one daughter, Zella, who is our present stenographer. Dona and Frances live at Greenville, Illinois, the latter the wife of Albert Hayden. William Laws, who is yet living at the advanced age of eighty years, made settlement near Walnut Grove some sixty years ago. Mr. Laws married a daughter of Gray McCaslin and by her has raised several children, among whom are Thomas G. Laws, the present postmaster at Coffeen; C. L. Laws, township treasurer; and Wilson Laws, a merchant of Donnellson; several other children whose whereabouts are unknown to the writer. Dr. B. Haynes also lived in this community for a number of years and was one of the leading characters in the community. The doctor had the largest family of any one in the neighborhood and it was a great pleasure to the boys and girls when the time came for a party down at the doctor's, for we well knew that it meant a good time, as the doctor never failed to provide for the entertainment of the young folks. George Wilson, who settled on the old Davenport place, was another to contribute to the upbuilding of the schools and churches of the neighborhood. Uncle George and Aunt Jane never failed to attend the prayer meeting and the Sabbath-school unless by sickness or some unavoidable cause they were prevented. Uncle George is living at Donnellson, enjoying the evening of life as well as one of his advanced years could expect. Aunt Jane has gone to her reward and if ever it might be said "I know that my Redeemer liveth," none could have left behind an evidence of a trust more abiding and assuring than she. John S. Stevens, who had spent his earlier life upon the high seas and who had visited almost every quarter of the globe, by chance drifted into Montgomery county. It was here that he met a young widow by the name of Betsey Brown, a daughter, however, of William Cannon, of whom we have before

spoken at length. The hardy sailor succumbed to the charms of the young widow and in due time they were married and after a few years' residence on Bear creek they came to live in the settlement at Walnut Grove. Here they have raised a large family and here they have acquired quite an estate for themselves and for their children. The elder son, Thomas, died but a short while ago and left surviving him three sons, who are earnest and industrious young men. John Stevens, Jr., lives on the farm and has acquired quite a reputation as public auctioneer. Mary is the wife of I. J. Brooks and Eliza is the wife of H. H. Brooks, while Pernelia is the widow of Henry Root. Commodore is living on the old homestead and is regarded as a shrewd business man. Robert Milner settled just west of the Hampton Mound about 1850. Quite a colony came from the eastern part of the state in Edgar county and made settlement at the same time with Mr. Milner. Among these were the Hawkins, the Gordon, the Tennison and the Desart families. Robert Milner was a very excellent citizen. He had but two children: Isaac and Jennie. Isaac Milner was married to Emma Frame and together they commenced the building of an estate. Isaac was unusually fortunate in his investments and being a farsighted business man, he promised to become a man of much means, but early in life he was seized with consumption and died almost at the beginning of the race in which so much had been expected. He left a son, Alva, who has since grown to manhood and occupies the homestead of his father. Alva is an energetic farmer and stock man and will accomplish good in the world. Thomas Wood came into this part of the township in the latter part of the '20s and settled near Sugar Camp branch. He was the earliest settler in his immediate neighborhood. Captain Peter C. Wood is a son of Thomas Wood and is the oldest living person born in East Fork township. Captain Wood is rather a remarkable man in many respects. During his early manhood he spent much of his time in study, preparing for professional life, and has during all the years since been a very wide reader of scientific and literary books. Few men in the township have so wide a knowl-

edge or so practical an education as Captain Wood and his reminiscence of men and earlier times is very interesting to any one who desires a knowledge of the earlier settlement of the country. Captain Wood served as a volunteer through the Civil war and was captain of a company during a greater portion of that time. John W. Young, a son of William Young, who settled near Donnellson in 1830, pushed eastward across the prairie and settled near the homestead where his widow now resides. John W. Young was the most successful stockman in the south part of East Fork township. He was for several years an extensive buyer of hogs and cattle and shipped by way of Donnellson to St. Louis and Buffalo markets. He was a man whose integrity could not be impeached and who established a reputation for scrupulous honesty in all his dealings with his fellow men. It has been said of him that a widow or an inexperienced boy would be treated with the same fairness that he would show to the experienced trader. Mr. Young by his industry and economy acquired a large body of land in the neighborhood of Donnellson. By exposure, which the character of his business necessitated, he contracted pneumonia and lived but a few days thereafter. Mr. Young will long be remembered by those who knew him, for he was a faithful friend, a kindly father and a just man. James W. Johnson, son of Thomas Johnson and grandson of Jesse Johnson, the pioneer who settled near Donnellson, improved the farm now owned by Shelby Young. James Johnson, during the years of his productive manhood, acquired quite a competency, but in an evil moment he was persuaded by designing men to invest very extensively in Chicago real estate. This was in 1892-93, just prior to the Columbian Exposition, a time when real estate sharks spread over the country their nets to catch the unwary. Unfortunately, Mr. Johnson in company with others fell into the scheme that afterward proved his financial ruin. In 1903 Mr. Johnson removed to Portland, Oregon, there in the evening of life to begin over again life's struggle. No picture more sad than this, when through the years of our productiveness by thrift we have gained a competency for old age to find that in a moment

of weakness we have been shorn of all and left exposed to the humiliations of an unsympathetic world. It is true that our friends may pity, yet even this to the sensitive soul is gall and bitterness. Cozba Hawkins, with his sons, Aaron, Henry and Matt, came to East Fork township with the Milners and others. They were very successful as farmers and acquired for themselves elegant homes in the south part of the township. The old gentleman and his son Aaron are dead. Matt has removed to Kansas and Henry is a citizen of Donnellson. Henderson Hawkins, a son of Aaron, lives at the country seat of his uncle Henry, which, by the way, is the same as was settled by Hugh McCaslin at least seventy-five years ago. Allen Edwards may be styled the pioneer of the prairies, for he was the first among the hardy spirits who pushed out into the midst of the prairie to establish a home. It required the effort of many years to improve and fence a large body of prairie lands. This is what Mr. Edwards did and died before he was fifty years old. He left an estate of several hundred acres of land, which is the nucleus of the beautiful farms which his several sons now own as homes. The older of these is William T. Edwards, the present supervisor of East Fork township, while the second, John W., is an extensive land owner living west of Coffeen some three or four miles. Frank Edwards lives in Coffeen and is engaged in the banking business. He has been very successful in his financial adventures and is regarded as one of the solid men of the community. Samuel Edwards is a farmer and stock-raiser. He is also engaged in the buying and shipping of live stock from Coffeen. The two younger sons, Amos and Allen, Jr., are very successful and are rated among the substantial citizens of the township. R. S. Allen came to Illinois from North Carolina in an early day and was employed by Joel C. Traylor as helper in his store and in the huckstering which he carried on between the people of his neighborhood and St. Louis. Mr. Allen proved himself an efficient assistant to Mr. Traylor in his work, and while he was winning the respect and confidence of his employer he also won the regard of Harriet Ohmert, the sister-in-law of Mr. Traylor. He was married

to Miss Olmert and settled within a few rods of the Traylor homestead. Here he lived for several years and here were reared his sons, Dr. W. A. Allen, of Donnellson, and George N. Allen, who lives on a farm some three or four miles west of Coffeen. Robert Allen died some ten years ago, but his influence in the community in which he lived and with those with whom he had associated will ever remain until those who knew him have followed him into the great beyond. Mr. Allen was of a devout character and the religious bent of his mind influenced others to a consideration of these great subjects. Harriet Allen, the mother and wife, has also laid aside the cares and burdens of life, for she, too, has followed her husband Robert S. Allen into that far country from which they will return no more. Dr. W. A. Allen has practiced his profession in the neighborhood of Donnellson for the last quarter of a century. He has arisen by attention to business to be recognized as one of the leading physicians in this section of the state, and while he has succeeded professionally he has also acquired an extensive estate of some twelve hundred acres of choice land in the neighborhood of Donnellson. George N. Allen, the younger of the two brothers, while never a robust man of health, has succeeded in a financial way and has an elegant farm of four hundred acres, the larger part of which is rich black soil and for which he has refused quite a little sum of money. Mr. Allen is a director in the Hillsboro National Bank and has interests in Arkansas timber lands. Recently he has purchased an elegant residence in the village of Donnellson, to which he will remove in the near future. His sons Orin and Cullen will take charge of the farm and conduct it along the same lines in which their father has been so successful. Tobias Thacker settled near William Laws, having married a daughter of Gray McCaslin and a sister to Mrs. William Laws. Tobias Thacker was a son of Allen Thacker, who lived in the north part of Bond county and who reached the extreme age of one hundred years. Mr. Tobias Thacker, however, died at the age of about seventy years. Uncle Tobe, as we used to call him, was a man noted for the firmness of his character. In-

deed, it has been said of him that in some instances his firmness amounted to stubbornness, but withal Mr. Thacker was so sure of being right that he was persuaded that the position which he took on any question was necessarily right and needed no defense whatever. Uncle Tobe was a firm believer in the Presbyterian confession of faith and for many years he was the chief supporter and mainstay of the Presbyterian church in his neighborhood. There is no doubt in the minds of those who knew him but that Uncle Tobe earned the plaudit of "Well done, thou good and faithful servant." Quite a number of sons and three daughters were born to Mr. and Mrs. Thacker. The oldest of these, Robert Thacker, is a man of exceptional mental power. For several years he was engaged in the profession of school teaching, but has since operated a telephone system in the south part of the state and a line of dairies along the Vandalia Railroad. Preston Thacker, a school man, has been engaged in his profession as superintendent of the city schools of Raymond during the past three years. He was a very formidable candidate on the Republican ticket for county superintendent of schools in 1902. Although Montgomery county at the time gave to some of the Democratic nominees six or seven hundred majority, yet Mr. Thacker was defeated by the small minority of sixty-one votes, and it is to his credit that this township, which is his home, although Democratic at the previous election by one hundred and fifty majority, reversed itself and gave to Mr. Thacker a majority of one hundred and twenty-four votes. Preston Thacker is a rising young man and if I might forecast his future I would give to him a prominent place among educators of our state. Gordon Nichols, a very worthy character, came and settled in that part of East Fork township known as Lazy Neck about the year 1850 and by perseverance and economy he was able to build up quite an estate which he enjoyed until some two years ago, when by an accident he was thrown from a loaded wagon and received injuries from which he shortly afterward died. Mr. Nichols has left several children in the vicinity of Coffeen, among whom are W. C. Nichols, an only son, Mrs. Frank Edwards,

Mrs. Sam White and Mrs. Newton Lyles. In the earlier settlement of the township a family of Jones came to East Fork from South Carolina and among these were William, Martin P. and Hardin. Each of these three representatives of the Jones family have descendants in the neighborhood of Coffeen. Quite a good many years ago Martin P. Jones was about the only counselor at law in the township and in the absence of James Davis, who was the only lawyer in the county, the word of Martin P. was sufficient in the courts of justice in this section of the county, and much of the law that we hear on the corners of the street in Coffeen to-day has come down from some of the legal expressions of Uncle Mart. Hardy Jones was not the same type of man as Uncle Mart, for while Martin was hospitable to a fault and would share his last dollar with a friend, Uncle Hard was as close in a financial sense as the bark on a blackjack. Uncle Hard enjoyed his liquor quite as much as did any of the early pioneers, but sir, "I buy my own liquor for my own use" is a remark attributed to Uncle Hard. While this spirit was not often met with at that early day, we do not find it infrequent in our own time and I believe that when it comes to a matter of drinking, if the social feature could be eliminated entirely, much less harm would be done. "Ki" Thacker and "Fee" were also early settlers in the western part of Lazy Neck and here they raised to manhood and womanhood large families of children. These two old men yet remain and frequently may be seen on the streets of Coffeen. Both are intensely religious in their professions and the example of their lives is felt in the community in which they live. The most prominent family in the settlement of East Fork township was that of William McDavid. His son "Carroll," W. C. McDavid, who for nearly half a century was a justice of the peace, was the first child born in East Fork township of white parents, and although Uncle Carroll lived to be over eighty years old, he made his home within a short distance of where he was born. It is said of Uncle Carroll that during the long period that he was justice of the peace that no case decided by him was ever reversed in the circuit court. In religion

he was a Cumberland Presbyterian, a man very firm in his opinions. This feature of his character made him respected of all men and especially fitted him for the office which he held so long and which he so efficiently filled. In early life W. C. McDavid was married to a Miss Hunter and to them was born one son, James S. McDavid, the honored president of our village board. His second wife was Lydia Wilson and she bore to him Joshua, Emily and Logan. The first named lives in Hillsboro and is deputy county clerk. Emily, married to David Neisler, is living in Colorado and Logan lives on the family homestead and is engaged in agricultural pursuits. Logan is a graduate of the Missouri Medical College and stood high in his classes. He preferred, however, the occupation of the farmer and stock man rather than that of his profession. He is by reason of his education and scholarly accomplishments an interesting gentleman. James S. McDavid is identified with the village of Coffeen in various ways since its organization. James S. McDavid has done much to further the best interests of the community. Like many others, he became interested in the sinking of a coal shaft at this place and as a result he suffered financial reverses that swept away much of the property which by industry and economy he had been many years in accumulating. He is among those that have contributed to almost ever enterprise that has made Coffeen what it is to-day, and though he has lost much in property he has not lost that genial spirit which makes and holds to him that class of friends who can appreciate his true worth. That he has faults is perfectly natural, for who of us have none? But we have been able to discover few men among our associates who were faultless, and it has been my observation that force of character and men of large individuality have some very grievous shortcomings, but the wise friend will not condemn because of these peculiar kinks of nature. Mr. McDavid was for several years clerk at the coal shaft, city superintendent of schools and first assistant in the high school, member of the village board and president of the same, so that these evidences of the appreciation of his good qualities have not been lost upon the com-

munity. T. W. McDavid, the younger son of William McDavid, the pioneer, lives on his father's old homestead. He is a minister of the Cumberland Presbyterian church and has served his people as a faithful and efficient steward through many years. He has raised quite a large family of sons and daughters. His eldest son, Frank, is state senator from the Springfield district in Missouri; his second son, Emmett, is cashier of the National Bank at Raymond; his son, Cook McDavid, has not been at home for several years and his whereabouts are unknown to the writer. Lester McDavid was for several years a teacher in our public schools, but has lately engaged in farming. Horace McDavid is a student at the Miliken University. Horace is an exceptionally bright young fellow and doubtless will reflect credit upon his family and the community in which he spent his youth. Several daughters in the family are married. The oldest is the wife of M. B. Traylor, Denver, Colorado; the second is married to Lawrence File, of Irving, Illinois; Ella married Rolla Carr and is living in California; while Anna, who had spent some years in teaching, married George Beck and lives on the old Beck homestead. Minnie and Lena, two unmarried daughters, remain at home with their father. James B. McDavid, one among the most noted characters of East Fork, served his township and the county in official capacity at different periods of his life. Uncle Jim, unfortunately for himself and for his friends, in the closing years of his life allowed himself to be drawn into speculation, which caused him much worry and the loss of his large estate. Uncle Jim was a man of kindly disposition, but at the same time very desirous of accomplishing his purposes, and having entered the vortex of speculation he was not satisfied to withdraw so long as he felt confident that he had a chance of winning. In this case again we are able to point a moral, that it is dangerous to change horses while crossing the stream, and so we find that there is an element of danger always attending any change that is made late in life from an occupation or profession in which we have achieved success to one of which we are entirely ignorant.

James B. McDavid died but a few years ago and his vast estate was swallowed up in the settlement of claims that had been made to further his financial ventures into which he had been led in his old age. Another character that we desire to notice at this time, who for many years was one of the most prominent in this section of the state, is Joshua H. Wilson. He was one of the most extensive stock-raisers, buyers and shippers to be found in southern Illinois. He belonged to a class that existed in this country about thirty or forty years ago. Barney Hunter, of Bond county, and Jacob Strong, of Morgan county, were his contemporaries and belonged to the same class as Mr. Wilson. At the time of his death, which occurred some thirty years ago, he owned nearly three thousand acres of land, hundreds of cattle, mules and horses, and the sale of his personal effects is remembered to this day as the largest public sale ever held in Montgomery county. Josh Wilson was one of nature's noblemen, and like all men of large enterprises he was generous, sympathetic and kind. It is related of him that he furnished teams to those who might want to engage in farming but had not the means to buy. He supplied poor families throughout the section with milk cows, only stipulating that they should be careful not to kill the calf with the churn stick, and if it were a question as to whom more acts of charity might be credited, I doubt not that the name of Josh Wilson would lead that of any other in all this section. Mr. Wilson left surviving him two sons and one daughter. The elder son, William H. Wilson, is living on his father's old homestead. Thomas H. Wilson, the second son, died some few years ago and left behind him three children, a wife and a good name. The daughter, Mattie Wilson, is now the wife of James B. Barringer of Hillsboro, who, by the way, is a grandson of William McDavid of pioneer fame. Harrison Brown, another of the early settlers and a neighbor of Josh Wilson, was at one time sheriff of Montgomery county. On the old Brown homestead lives J. C. Brown, familiarly known as Jack Brown. Jack is an excellent farmer and has succeeded in farming and stock-raising. For several years he has been engaged

in breeding short horn cattle and one of the best herds is to be found on his farm. Daniel Sellers and Boone Isaacs were also early settlers along the Vandalia road in East Fork township. Both of these old settlers have passed away but have left many children surviving them who are residents of different parts of the county. Just before the breaking out of the late Civil war, Leonard Fath, a German who had settled in Missouri and engaged in blacksmithing and farming, removed to Illinois and bought an extensive tract of land in the north part of the township. He had several sons who grew to manhood and became prominent in the political and social life of the county. His son, Leonard Fath, Jr., was elected and re-elected to the office of sheriff and his son, John Fath, served the county as circuit clerk through a term of four years. John Fath has purchased property in Coffeen and will soon become a resident of the village.

Among others whose names were familiar thirty years ago might be mentioned Joel Holmes, Ruben Lewey, Dave Lewey, John Lewey and Wesley Edwards. These formed part of a settlement near Allen Edwards' estate. Long years ago one Fountain Whitledge settled the farm on which the present village of Coffeen is located. For some reason unknown he committed suicide and left his wife and children in possession of quite an estate. His son John, who lives in Hillsboro and is identified with much of the county's history, not caring to conduct agricultural enterprises, sold his father's estate to G. F. Coffeen and here comes into the history of East Fork one of the most unique and forceful men who has ever resided in this section. When the L. & St. L. road was building, G. F. Coffeen, then a young man, had contracts for building certain parts of the road. After the completion of the road, Mr. Coffeen drifted into Montgomery county. Here he engaged in farming and stock raising and no man thought more of a good horse than did Gus Coffeen. Mr. Coffeen represented his district in the state legislature in 1860. In 1880, when the location of the Toledo, St. Louis & Kansas City Railroad was being fixed through this section, Mr. Coffeen was successful in having it located across his farm, and by his in-

fluence he secured the location of the depot and siding at this place. It was also due to his energy and influence that the coal mine which has been everything to the town was located at this place. Yet, Mr. Coffeen was more fortunate than the other stockholders in the Coffeen Coal and Copper Company. He sold out his interests in that concern for five thousand dollars and was the only one of the original stockholders who made anything out of the venture while several of them lost not only what they put in but thousands of dollars in addition. Gustavus Coffeen, in whose honor the village is named, in general appearance was a magnificent specimen of manhood, about six feet in height, broad shouldered and weighing two hundred and twenty-five pounds. The intelligent expression of his face and his physical bearing would attract attention in any group of men. He was naturally a leader among his fellows. A partisan Democrat he stood for many years as a leader of that party in the community. An incident which he enjoyed relating occurred while he was serving on the claims committee in the state legislature. The famous Wardwell gun claim was before the committee. That at least one-half of the claim was "padded" was evident to all the members of the committee. The claimants had secured just one-half the committee favorable to the allowance of the claim and it required an additional vote to report it out favorably from the committee. The agent for the Wardwells offered Mr. Coffeen twenty thousand dollars to make a favorable report, which, he it said to his credit, he indignantly refused. He states, however, that the claim was allowed at the succeeding session of the legislature. It is evident that in this case some one was found in the next legislature willing to take the bribe, and it is further evident that the people were not protected against bribe givers forty years ago, nor are they protected against that favor-seeking class to-day, and only the adoption of a constitutional amendment providing for "The Initiative and Referendum" will prevent this wholesale jobbing in special privileges by our state legislatures. W. S. Barry, son of John Barry, of Hillsboro township, was for many years a prominent farmer and stock man, but unfortunately he

became interested in the Coffeen Coal and Copper Company and was elected the first president of that concern. Like many others that had to do with the Coffeen Coal Company, his experience cost him very heavily. Mr. Barry has always borne the reputation of being an upright and honorable man and the misfortunes which came upon him in his old age are much to be regretted, but being of an ambitious spirit, it is to be hoped that out of the tangles of the company's business Mr. Barry will be able to come off with a sufficiency to provide for his declining years. Donald McLean, a Scotchman, settled in East Fork township about 1840 and secured for himself and his children several hundred acres of the best land in the township. Among those sons are John, Duncan, Neil and Thomas. All of these men live on farms and are engaged in agriculture and stock raising. John and Duncan McLean both lost heavily in the collapse of the Coffeen Coal and Copper Company, but with the accustomed spirit and energy of the Scotch blood, they have gone to work with will and will soon recover from the losses which they sustained. Henry Ludewick, who lives on the mound, is another early settler of the township. In his declining years he enjoys the comforts of an elegant home and all that a competency may bring. His wife, however, has been an invalid for several years. Wood, an only son, is a very successful stock raiser and feeder. Calvin Paisley, who lives in the north part of the township, is one of our best citizens and most successful farmers; and the Funks, who live west of Mr. Paisley, are a German family who have acquired quite an estate by energy, thrift and economy. Otto Funk, the oldest son, is a musician of more than local reputation. After completing his studies in this country, he was for several years a student in Germany. We predict for him a brilliant future. Mr. Robert Funk, another son, is among the successful business men of Irving. Early in the settlement of the wide prairie that stretches eastward from Hillsboro there came two brothers, John and Abner Short, and they succeeded in changing much of the wild prairie into beautiful farms. Both of these pioneers have passed away, but their sons are honored citizens of the county. John C.

Short, son of Abner Short, is one of the influential citizens of the township. He has a very interesting family, and it has been a matter of interest with Mr. Short to give his children an education as thorough as our schools would provide and in this way his home has become a center of refinement. James Short, son of John Short, is living at Paisley, Illinois, and is engaged in the grain and hay trade. Mr. James Short is among the prominent citizens of his section and personally we esteem him among our especial friends. William Frame, an early settler of the county, was also a pioneer of the prairies and like most of those who left the skirts of timber and pushed out into the "blue stem" wilderness, has been richly rewarded for the privations which they for several years endured. Uncle Billy Frame has several children, who are at present among our best citizens. Amos and George live on farms in this township and Mary, his daughter, is the wife of Samuel Edwards, of Coffeen. Howard Young and Jacob Young are sons of William Young, the pioneer and brothers of John W. Young, whom we have mentioned in this connection. These men are among the substantial and solid citizens of the township. They enjoy the reputation for integrity and uprightness bequeathed to them as a legacy from their father. Howard Cress is another of our young men, who is establishing for himself a reputation among his fellow men that is without flaw or blemish. He is a nephew of Joseph P. Price and lives on an adjoining farm. Mr. Cress is related to the Fillmore branch of the Cress family. Joseph P. Price, who lives in the extreme northeastern part of the township, is a man of more than ordinary ability. He has served his township in various official capacities and has also been a member of the state legislature from this senatorial district. Mr. Price has a beautiful farm well stocked and well kept and though his friends have tried to persuade him to move from the farm to the town, he has very wisely refused to accede to their wishes. He is a Democratic partisan and at present is committee-man for his township. Mr. Price is a gentleman of great force of character and he is an acquisition that any community might feel proud to have. Another character living in

the rural section of the south part of East Fork we must not fail to mention is Jacob Booher, living on the farm where his father settled early in the '20s, and is among the oldest native born of the township. He has succeeded financially, socially, and otherwise in his neighborhood. He has served the township as supervisor and in other minor capacities. His older brother, Thomas Booher, lives near him at the advanced age of eighty-two and is possibly the oldest native born except John Fogleman and John T. McDavid, in the county. In passing, we desire to notice a few of the more prominent business men of Coffeen as it presents a record today. We have Dr. Cook, the veteran physician of the community, still active in the practice of his profession after forty years of service, and Dr. Entrekim, who also enjoys a large and lucrative practice. Dr. Entrekim has lived in Coffeen about fifteen years and is highly esteemed as a physician and public citizen. We have also Dr. Turney, who has lately located among us. He comes well recommended and we extend to him a hearty welcome and wish for him a prosperous future. W. F. Pfertner & Company, O. A. Edwards, Sidney Hilton, Fred Morse, Sam Walker, Oliver Edwards, Eiken & Company and Harry Hickman include those doing a general merchandise and grocery business. C. A. Traylor carries on the only hardware establishment in town and Robert McGuire and Al Mathews do a restaurant business and Robert Isley at the brick and John Barringer at the Morgan House provide good things to eat for all who may come this way. Charles Lewey provides us with the best pork and steak and Clem Laws sells to the farmer harness, saddles and bridles and vehicles of all kinds. Jo Myers, the optician and jeweler, will sell you a watch, will fix your eyes or do anything else for you in his line. Taylor Phipps, the barber, and Bud Jones, in the same line, are here to cut your hair and give you an easy shave. Ella Daly and Nellie Barkley each keep an elegant line of millinery. We have two banks which will receive notice in the chapter on banks and banking. Our real estate men are the Edwards Brothers, Homer Roberts and L. R. Traylor. These will sell you anything from a town lot to a ranch in Texas. E. Harris, our furniture

dealer and undertaker, does an extensive business. He is a licensed embalmer and in his preparation of the dead for burial has no superior in this section of the state. We are well provided with three livery men, who furnish the best turn-outs for little money. Mr. Cundiff, Mr. Fleming and Mr. Bunton are all courteous gentlemen and supply Coffeen with everything needed in the livery line. The Toberman Brothers operate the grain elevator and buy hay, timothy and clover seed and all other products that come in their line. Jake Sherer and Jo Chumley each do a good business at blacksmithing. John Elam owns and operates the dairy at this place. He pays out several thousand dollars to the farmers of this section annually for milk. We have four churches in the village. Possibly the Methodist Episcopal people have the largest following. The Free Methodists have a prosperous society here and the Cumberland Presbyterian church is in fair condition, although they have no regular pastor at present. Rev. Charles Koehler is the present Methodist Episcopal pastor and Rev. J. C. Sills officiates in the same capacity for the Free Methodist people. The Catholic society, which has been established as an organization for several years, has not as yet built themselves a house of worship, but hold their services in the hall of the Howell Building. They have no resident pastor, but are supplied by the priest at New Douglas.

HARVEL TOWNSHIP AND THE VILLAGE OF HARVEL.

This is the smallest civil township in the county, consisting of but one half of a congressional township. Formerly Harvel township comprised both Pitman and Harvel in its territory, but in 1878 on petition the township was divided and its present boundaries fixed. This township is possibly the only one in the county that reports no waste land. No settlements were made in this section until 1854 when Herman Pogenpohl, a German, made a settlement in section 30. Following him came C. Courcier who settled near Mr. Po-

genpohl. This gentleman, however, was a Frenchman and after living some ten years in the neighborhood, sold his farm to Joseph Vincent. We learn that Mr. Courcier removed from Illinois to Texas and that he has accumulated quite a fortune in the Lone Star state. Nicholas Hankinson is another who made his settlement in 1854 north of Mr. Pogenpohl. Descendants of Mr. Hankinson still live near the village of Harvel. In 1855 William F. Jordan, A. C. Jordan and C. H. Jordan made settlements in this prairie country. Jean Baptiste Millett, a Frenchman, also made a settlement in Harvel at about this time. He sold out soon thereafter to William Bockewitz. John Munsterman in the summer of 1855 settled the farm in the northern part of the township, which he afterward sold to Conrad Weller. B. Tulpin, a Frenchman, is another of the early pioneers of Harvel township. Mr. Tulpin afterward engaged in business ventures in the village of Harvel. The village of Harvel sprang up soon after the completion of the Wabash road and derived its name from John Harvel who made the location of the village. William Vansandt kept the first general assortment of merchandise and he was followed shortly afterward by B. Tulpin previously mentioned. The Harvel postoffice was established in 1850 with George Vansandt as postmaster. In 1873 Ira Nelson and D. O. Settlemeyer built the first elevator,—and in 1876 Henry Niehaus built a much larger one. This passed into other hands a few years later and several changes have been made in the ownership since they were first erected. Henry Bennett was the first physician to locate in Harvel. William Adams has been for many years in the elevator and milling business at this place and W. W. Whitlow also was engaged for several years in shipping grain and hay from that point. J. J. Carey for several terms supervisor of Harvel township, is another of the business men who have succeeded in their enterprises in that village. While owning a valuable farm east of town, Mr. Carey carried on an extensive trade in lumber. Mr. Carey is the father of Mrs. A. N. Banes of Hillsboro. It will be remembered that Mr. Banes is an efficient deputy in the

county clerk's office at Hillsboro. W. W. Whitlow, whose name appears above, was for several years a member of the board of supervisors from this township and it was the privilege of the writer to serve with him, and we are pleased to acknowledge that he was one of the most capable men of that board. Martin Brown and John Young are characters that belong to the history of this township. Martin Brown is the father of our present county treasurer, Dan Brown, and Uncle Martin has long been known as a political factor in his township. He has reared quite a family of children who are residents of Montgomery county and who honor in character and service their parents. John Young is of German stock and has served his township in the capacity of assessor through more years perhaps than any other similar township officer in the county. Much might be said of those who have contributed to the building up of the magnificent homes of this township, of those who settled in this bog like section of Montgomery county and who by toil and the expenditure of much money succeeded in draining these marsh lands and securing to cultivation the richest section of our county. We are told, however, that the history of a people begins when the actors have passed from the scenes of their activity and as many remain who were participants in the settlement of this section of our county, the story is the more briefly told.

TOWNSHIP OF BOIS D'ARC AND THE VILLAGE OF FARMERSVILLE.

This township is one of the most fertile in the county. The soil belongs to that class of lands described as black loam soil. In no section of the state do we find more fertile soil than in Bois d'Arc, Montgomery county. One of the first settlers in this territory was John Henderson in 1825. He was followed shortly after by a Mr. Hendershot and these two families were the sole inhabitants of this section for a number of years. In 1835 a settlement was made at Macopin's Point by a man named Woods. Here he built a tavern which was a favorite stopping place for travelers

making the journey from Springfield to Hillsboro. A postoffice was established here soon after and kept by Mr. Woods. Louis Sedentop is the present owner of the old Wood homestead. In 1850 Louis H. and Samuel R. Thomas in making a prospecting trip through this section, were so favorably impressed with the character of the soil that they determined to make their homes in this section. In 1852 they located claims which today are known as the Louis Thomas and Samuel Thomas homesteads. Samuel R. Thomas has been dead for several years, but by his enterprise and industry he secured for his family quite a large area of these very rich lands. His family retain the greater part of what the father gathered. Louis H. Thomas, at one time the owner of nearly three sections of this soil, is one of Montgomery county's very best citizens. Unfortunately for Mr. Thomas, within recent years he was drawn into a railroad speculation that cost him the larger part of this immense estate. Mr. Thomas has been a friend to the deserving of his township and his neighbors relate many incidents illustrating his generosity to those who sought his aid. When a good man has financial reverses, it should not take the name of failure, for no man of this character can fail. He may lose his material possessions, but he may retain his character, which is, after all, the only possession whose value is not measured by gold. The "Gold Standard" may be the highest known among nations, but it is inadequate in measuring the value of character. You may ask how then shall we estimate such an elusive thing? By comparison this physical world and all the stars that stud the sky can not purchase faultless character, but men and women may have it for the living. Absalom Clark came with the Thomas Brothers and entered the north half of section 7 and the south half of section 8. This he converted into one of the best farms of our county. Among those that we desire to name are Prior Witt, William Smith, Joseph Smith, Anthony Almond, John Ward, Frank Dunkley, Mark Risley, Hiram Young, George Rice, Sanford Clow, Peter Christopher, Albert Clayton, John Price, James Woodward, William Garrison, Henry Weston, Henry Hathaway,

William King, George and Cornelius Lyman and Michael Simason. These are perhaps a majority of the names of those who made early settlement in Bois d'Arc township. Some of them are yet living and are glad to relate their experiences in settling up this prairie country. Quite a colony of Irish settlers located near the line separating Harvel and Bois d'Arc townships and are to-day among the wealthier citizens of our county. At the time when they made these settlements, this land was covered for the greater portion of the year in stretches of lakes and tall water grass, and I have thought that possibly these Irish emigrants were reminded by the condition of the land of the bog lands of their native country, and that in reality they selected this section from choice. The village of Farmersville sprang up on the new railroad that had been built by D. L. Wing & Company from Peoria to Litchfield, which road is now a part of the Illinois Central, situated in a territory somewhat removed from other centers of trade. Farmersville has made rapid growth and to-day boasts of several hundred inhabitants. Louis Sedentop, who lives at the old Woods homestead, has contributed very largely to the building of this little town and much the larger part of the present village plat has been made on his lands. A. J. Witt has contributed also in additions to the village. John Ball, the banker, has given assistance in various ways to the upbuilding of this little city. Among the industries located here is a brick and tile factory which does an extensive business. The elevator operated by Nobbe & Son does a large business in grain and hay. They also keep a lumberyard in connection with their grain business. Several stocks of general merchandise that do credit to a village of this size have a wide trade throughout an extensive farming section. Lee Paul, cashier of the Farmersville Bank, is among the young enterprising business men of Farmersville, and William McLean, who owns an elegant homestead just west of the village, is another who has served his township faithfully and well. John Newport, who represented this township for several years on the board of supervisors, has exerted a wide influence for good in that township. Uncle John

is now a very old man and has within the last few years resided in the village of Farmersville. Here he is spending the evening of life as pleasantly as the infirmities of age will allow. Finishing the chapter we feel some little satisfaction in knowing that during a recital of these few facts, we have in a sense visited some of our old friends in Bois d'Arc township, that the names of some whose friendship we prize just as much may chance to be omitted here results from the lapse of memory and not because of any desire to neglect.

PITMAN TOWNSHIP AND THE VILLAGE OF WAGGONER.

This township was originally a part of Harvel, but for the accommodation of its citizens, the township of Harvel was divided and the west part was named in honor of Joseph Pitman. This township is almost wholly within the black soil belt of the county. The first settler of this township was Henry Denton, who entered a piece of land in the year 1822. He lived on this homestead until 1830, when he died and his was the first burial of which we have any record in this township. John Haynes was another early settler of this section. He came some years later than Denton. Henry and Green Haynes, sons of John Haynes, were living in the neighborhood of the old homestead at last accounts. John Haynes was a brother of Dr. Baxter Haynes, who is living at an advanced age in Fillmore township. John L. Rogers in 1829 made a settlement in the southwest part of the township. Here he built a mill and operated it for some years. Mr. Rogers died in 1852 and left surviving him three sons and two daughters. These are among the honored citizens of the country. At last accounts the sons were located in different sections of the state of Illinois. That three families by the name of Rogers settled in the western part of Montgomery county, makes it somewhat difficult to omit tangles in their genealogy. The daughters of John L. Rogers, if we are not in error, were the Misses Jennie and Molly, who were for several years teachers

in the public schools in the city of Litchfield. One of these, Miss Molly Rogers, is now the wife of a physician and resides in the city of Charleston. At last account Miss Jennie Rogers was engaged in school work in East St. Louis. Theodore Rogers, son of John L. Rogers, became prominent as a Methodist divine and the writer does not know whether he is living at present or not. Davis Bagby came to this section with his father-in-law, Miller Woods, in 1832, and located in the southwest corner of the township. Both were men of excellent reputation and each did his part in the struggle to subdue the wilderness. Bagby was a soldier of the war of 1812 and seems to have won distinction during that memorable struggle. The records are silent with reference to Miller Woods, but we gather it that he died quite a good many years ago, but David Bagby lived until 1865, when, worn with the cares of a long and eventful career, he closed his earthly account, and we are informed by those who remember him, that he was a most excellent gentleman and good neighbor. D. G. Whitehorn was another of the earlier settlers of Pitman township, locating a homestead on section 18 in 1831. He married a daughter of the David Bagby previously mentioned, Miss Katherine Bagby, 1834. This was the first marriage ceremony performed in this part of the country. Another early settler was George Waggoner. He came to Illinois from Kentucky about 1830, and settled on section 29. Mr. Waggoner died in 1864, and left surviving him several children. In 1833 Frederick Hamilton settled in the western part of the township. He did not remain in this neighborhood for any great length of time, but removed to the south part of the county and many of his descendants reside in that neighborhood. Fred Hamilton, however, made several trips to Kansas prior to the Civil war and died in that state. His sister was an aunt by marriage to the writer of this article. I notice in a previous history of this county it is stated that Fred Hamilton died in Zanesville township in 1835. This is, however, an error, and I am not surprised that these mistakes often creep in be as careful as we may. Between the years of 1837 and 1840 Zadok Leach, William King, Tazewell

Brown, Flower Husband, William Hamilton and L. C. Richards came from the south and settled in this section. Each of these were valuable accessions to the neighborhood and in nearly every case some representative of these families remain. Most of these pioneers were laid to rest in the old burying ground at Sulphur Spring. Many of their graves are unmarked and the story of their lives must remain a simple tradition. The first school in Pitman was kept by William McIver, in 1854, in a little school house built by the united effort of the earlier settlers. Pitman township, however, four years later enjoyed the privilege of having a public school, which was kept by William King. The first justice of the peace was John L. Rogers, elected in 1840. The church history of this township, like that of the others mentioned, was of a primitive character, but the religious fervor of the pioneers was just as intense and the devotion of her people was just as sincere as was found in the other settlements. The village of Waggoner situated two miles from the south line and two and a half from the west line of Pitman township, is a thriving little village. Surrounded by an enterprising citizenship Waggoner bids fair to become quite a little town in the near future. Among those who have been prominent in the affairs of this township the past few years we may name Horace G. Waggoner, Henry and John Waggoner, Felix Richardson, J. W. White, C. H. Jordan, Charles Gillman, S. F. Brubaker, C. H. Burton, who for many years was school treasurer of his township and Charley Treadway, once among the most successful teachers of this section of the county. Felix G. Richardson, whose name appears above, has for several years served his township as a member of the board of supervisors. Mr. Richardson is one of the public spirited influential men of Pitman township. The late Horace Waggoner was another of the forceful characters of that section. Unfortunately he had arrived scarcely at his meridian when the grim messenger called him from the affairs of life. James White is another who through the struggles and privations gathered for himself an estate ample for all the needs of age. Mr. White has also passed into the be-

yond, but he has left several children who are among the best citizens of our county. Frank DeWitt, the political heavyweight of the Democratic party in Montgomery county, lives in Pitman township. While Mr. DeWitt tips the scales at over three hundred pounds of avordupois, he has a heart proportionately large and a generosity as ample as any man of his means could possibly be. This gentleman is well known throughout the country, having been mixed up in some of the political wind storms that sweep over our county every four years. While Mr. DeWitt has not succeeded in knocking the political persimmon, it does not follow, however, that he would not make an acceptable county official.

ZANESVILLE TOWNSHIP.

This township is undulating in part and level in part. It is drained by tributaries of the west fork of Shoal creek and Macoupin creek. Robert Palmer is supposed to have been the first settler within the limits of this township, at least we find it recorded that he had established an inn near the site of Old Zanesville as early as 1824. Tradition speaks of Robert Palmer as an all around hard character. Many robberies having been committed in his locality, suspicion soon attached to him. His tavern was stopping place for a gang of thieves and gamblers and soon became noted in this western country as a dangerous place for one to stop who had money. It was no uncommon thing in an early day for the traveler to disappear to be heard of no more and doubtless Palmer and his gang were quite as notorious as the Benders, who operated some years ago along the Kansas frontier. Palmer, finding that he was under suspicion, disappeared rather mysteriously. Later, it is reported, that he was hanged afterward for complicity in a brutal murder in the state of Iowa. Conditions were such in the immediate neighborhood of the Palmer tavern that few permanent settlements were made while he remained in that section. We find that in 1828 George Brewer entered the land on which the village of Old Zanesville was located and that he laid out a part of his

land in town lots. He secured the location of a postoffice at this place and called it Leesburg in honor of a wholesale merchant in St. Louis, in whose name the land was entered. Mr. Brewer built a commodious store building and put in a stock of general merchandise. Other parties were attracted by the opportunities which seemed to present themselves in the neighborhood of Leesburg. By 1830 there had been accessions to the town and surrounding community that warranted the organization of a school and the building of a place of worship. So rapidly did this frontier burg improve that in 1835 it lacked but few in population of being as large as Hillsboro. While this settlement at Leesburg was being made, several pioneers had entered the southwest corner of the township and had made a settlement there. Among those whose names have been kept were Isaac Bailey, James Crawford, Thomas and Zebedee Williams. Somewhat later Robert Allen settled near them and following Mr. Allen was Beatty Burk, George Burroughs, D. V. Schumway and Oliver Chastine. About 1840 a settlement was made near the head waters of Shoal creek and among these we find Walker Williams, Elgin Smith, Jefferson Parrott and Moses Martin. Another party settled in close proximity to the village of Leesburg. Among those are Joseph Vignos, Dr. Caldwell and Spence Smitherman. Dr. Caldwell was one of the earliest physicians of this section and at last accounts, the doctor was living in retirement at the village of Waggoner. The writer remembers him as a resident of the old village of Zanesville, about twelve years ago. The doctor was very entertaining and enjoyed reciting the experiences of pioneer times. Spence Smitherman was engaged in farming and stock-raising. He took especial pride in breeding a class of traveling horses and some of the best roadsters that were sold from this county went from the Smitherman farm. He also operated a flouring mill in the village of Old Zanesville (formerly called Leesburg). The Jacksonville and Vandalia stage-coach lines passed through Leesburg and the state road leading from Carlinsville to Taylorville intersected the old Vandalia road at this place. In 1838 Edward Crawford erected the first

horse mill in the township. This primitive concern was operated almost day and night to supply the settlements adjacent with bread stuff. In 1869 a company consisting of Messrs. Sharp, Johnson and Berry erected and equipped the Zanesville flouring mill. It is reported that the first cost of this mill was sixteen thousand dollars. At its completion it was the largest and most complete mill in Montgomery county, having a capacity of one hundred barrels of flour per day. For three or four years this mill did an extensive business and paid large dividend to its owners, but in 1873, when the financial crash came and a panic seized the people, this enterprise, like many others, became seriously involved. Sharp and Berry, who had become sole owners, disposed of the mill to Spence Smitherman and Clark Sinclair, who for reasons best known to themselves, never attempted to operate it. At the first election held in this precinct which, at that time, 1835, included the entire northwest part of the county, George Brewer and James Crawford were elected justices of the peace. Stephen Crawford, son of James Crawford, born in 1831, on the night of the 13th of November, was the first child born in the township. It is recorded that the great meteoric shower, known as the falling stars, occurred on this date. Certainly James Crawford, the pioneer, would have occasion to remember the event. The first school teacher was one Henry Mayor, but the exact time is not recorded. The schools of this township were not different from those in other early settlements in the county. Usually some vacated cabin was appropriated and made to serve as a school room. In other cases we find that the settlers came together at some point near the center of the settlement and built a log cabin for school purposes. In many instances these rude structures were not provided with other than a dirt floor and a log sawed out of the east or south side served as a window to admit light. At the west or north was built a large open fire place with a stick chimney daubed with mud, and in these primitive academics our fathers and mothers, the sons and daughters of the pioneers of Montgomery county learned to read, to cipher and to write. Elder James Street, of Clear Spring settlement, preached at

the residence of Jacob Baker as early as 1830, and a Baptist organization was effected in that neighborhood soon after. Other denominations have had their organizations, have built churches and each in its time has flourished, but the building up of surrounding villages and towns along our railroads has interfered very seriously with the maintenance of church organization in rural communities and Zanesville township is not an exception to these conditions. While we do not desire to bar the progress or stay the immutable law of change, yet to travel throughout the country districts in any part of our state, the decay of the rural church is so noticeable as to bring a feeling of sadness over one whose early life knew only the sacredness of the country church. To-day these tenantless houses standing so near the burial places of our fathers keep silent watch as they crumble into decay over the last resting place of our pioneer dead. If there is aught that can stay the mad rush of the present generation in its scramble for wealth, it might be for each to walk alone through the deserted graveyards which may be found in many parts of the country where slabs of marble, green with lichens that almost obliterate the letters carved on the face, tells in few words the name of the worthy dead who lies beneath. To reflect upon the end of the struggle which has no purpose higher than dollars might well afford to listen to the teachings that come from those silent graves. In 1869 the village of Zanesville had four large general stores, one grocery, three blacksmith shops, two wagon shops, two hotels, one cooper shop and two saloons. The latter always a curse to any people. Three physicians hung out their signs in this busy little burg, George Mayfield, J. W. Wheeler and G. W. Caldwell. Dr. Mayfield was among the earlier physicians of the town. In an altercation with a man by the name of Hardy, Mayfield was killed. In the trial it was proven that Mayfield was the aggressor and Hardy was acquitted on the ground of self-defense. Another record of murder belongs to Zanesville township. In 1853 Andrew Nash, in a drunken brawl, killed Peter Lockerman. Nash, escaping from the country, was afterward apprehended in Arkansas, brought back and placed in jail at Carlin-

ville. He was tried and condemned to be hung. His friends circulated a petition to be presented to the governor to have his sentence commuted to life imprisonment, fearing that the governor might grant the petition, a mob of Lockerman's friends appeared before the jail in Carlinville at night and so frightened Nash that he committed suicide by hanging himself in his cell. Among those who are to-day foremost in the affairs of Zanesville township are George W. Martin, who owns a very fine farm in the southeastern part of the township. O. K. Rummans, who lives in the neighborhood of Old Zanesville, and Oscar B. Cane, his neighbor, are both farmers who contribute to the progressive spirit of the community. R. A. Barnett, who lives in the southwestern part of the township, has also been a leading character in his immediate section. Among those whose names were familiar a few years ago, was Dan P. Rogers, Perry Martin, James Duff, Joseph Vignos, Spence Smitherman and many others whose accounts are closed but whose works are living still. At present there is no postoffice within the limits of the township unless it be at Barnett, where a portion of the village lies within Zanesville. Three railroads, the Wabash, crossing the southeast corner, the Illinois Central, dividing the township almost into two parts from north to south, and the Burlington, which touches the southwest corner, have proven of but little immediate value to Zanesville township, as no station of importance has been located therein.

RAYMOND TOWNSHIP AND THE VILLAGE OF RAYMOND.

Raymond township was named in honor of Thomas Raymond, at one time vice-president of the Wabash Railroad. This township is somewhat diversified in the character of its soil and with reference to its surface. The west fork of Shoal creek, with its tributaries, flow through this township in its western half. Therefore we find the hill section of Raymond township in its western part. The northern and eastern part, comprising the larger division

of the township, consists of a deep rich black soil. It ranks as one of the most fertile and productive townships in the county. Land values in this township in the black soil sections have doubled within the last ten years, or, in other words, advancing from fifty dollars per acre in 1894 to one hundred dollars per acre in 1904. Men of money who do not care to enter the maelstrom of speculation find that under existing conditions these lands return an income of five per cent annually on an investment of one hundred dollars per acre. The certainty of an income and the security of the investment places these lands as valuable and as secure an investment as government bonds. To be sure men who seek to increase their capital at least by a hundred per cent every two or three years are not tempted to make investments in Illinois real estate. We can not hope to see an advance in farm lands within the next ten years such as has been within the period just past, nor could we hope should farm products decrease one-half in present average values, that lands would maintain their present prices. It was Russell Sage who said that "five per cent and no hazard are gilt edge investments." Therefore, so long as real estate will pay an average of five per cent on the investment, the careful and discreet investor will seek such holdings. The undulating lands which lie adjacent to the water courses are not so valuable as are the flat black lands. Yet, there is a vast difference in the management of these different classes of soil. We have noticed that among our most successful farmers we find many who have grown wealthy on undulating lands where the soil is light gray or even chalk-like (post oak). The farmer on our gray lands who depends upon grain raising can not hope to grow rich, but we know quite a good many men of means who by stock-raising and fruit growing, and who have depended largely upon dairy and poultry raising to acquire considerable moneys in bank and if we were to search out the men of large means in Montgomery county to-day, the larger half by far would fall south of a middle line drawn east and west through our county. The first permanent settler in Raymond township was Butler Seward, who located at what has been

known as Seward's Point, on the farm now owned by Samuel Miller and formerly owned by Elias Miller. Mathew Mitchell was the next to locate and his settlement is where Fred Mondhink now resides. David Sherer purchased the improvements that had been made by Mr. Mitchell and the latter moved to another locality. James Baker made a settlement at which is now known as the Oscar Seward homestead and Robert Conyer settled the farm now known as the John Cass place. Mr. Cass purchased the Conyer homestead in 1833 on which he lived until his death. Mr. Cass has many relatives and lineal descendants remaining in that section of the county. It might be well to state that I find one record that claims the first settlement of Raymond township to have been made in 1827 by William Wilson and that Mathew Mitchell purchased the improvements which he had made. Oscar Seward, son of Butler Seward, purchased the Baker improvements about the year 1835. These were located immediately south of his father's homestead at Seward's Point. Oscar Seward was a very remarkable man and the writer remembers many incidents that might be recorded to show the hospitality and generous spirit of Mr. Seward. It is related of Mr. Seward that in 1860 when Abraham Lincoln had received the nomination for presidency that Mr. Seward, in company with other leading Republican citizens of Montgomery county, made a pilgrimage to Springfield to pay their respects to Mr. Lincoln, and that on their return Mr. Seward very generously entertained the entire company. It may not be out of place to relate a circumstance in which the writer in connection with several of his neighbors were made the recipients of Mr. Seward's hospitality. It will be remembered that in 1881 the southern part of Montgomery county suffered a complete failure because of the drouth of that year and the following winter, 1881-82, was very open and wet and we were compelled to haul corn from the northern part of the county over the almost impassable highways. Some half dozen of our party had returned by nightfall as far as Oscar Seward's. We were invited by Mr. Seward to pass the night at his place. On the next morning, however, he refused absolutely to be rec-

compensated for our night's lodging, saying that he was glad to be able to do so small a favor for his friends in the south part of the county, that some day the luck might change and we could return the favor to him or some one else. Oscar Seward has been dead some years and left several children surviving him. These and their children do well to honor the memory of their father and grandfather, Oscar Seward. At the Butler Seward home during the earlier period of the county, a public house known as Seward's Point was kept. It was a regular changing place for the stage coach of early times and here such men as Douglas and Lincoln, whose renown was to cover the land, would stop on their regular visits from Springfield to Vandalia. Some few years ago the writer paid a visit to Elias W. Miller, and on returning Mr. Miller said: "Tonight you will occupy the room in which Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas have often slept." However, as Mr. Miller came into the room and sat chatting with me until 2:00 o'clock in the morning, I was not disturbed by the shades of these great men in my visions nor dreams. In speaking of Elias W. Miller I wish to say that for power of penetration and intellectual alertness that I have met few men who were to be considered his equal. Had Mr. Miller received educational advantages in his youth and schooled himself in the law, he would have been a diplomat worthy to represent any cause at any court. Another character who came later upon the scene was Thomas Jefferson Scott. He resided on a farm near Mr. Miller, and on several occasions he represented his township on the board of supervisors. Mr. Scott has been dead some years, but he left surviving him his good wife and several sons and daughters. These form part of the great body of energetic young citizenship of the county. Edward Grimes, who owns a beautiful homestead about two miles east of the village of Raymond, is one of the most prominent citizens of that township. Mr. Grimes is very much interested in everything pertaining to farm life and work. He has been a member of the state board of agriculture and much interested in the success of our annual state fair. But few homes in Montgomery county are more attractive and

systematically arranged than that of Edward Grimes of Raymond. Uriah Hartwick for many years a prominent figure in the business and political circles of Raymond, was well known throughout Montgomery county. He served his township several terms as a member of the board of supervisors. He died very unexpectedly to his friends some two years ago. Fred Mondlink, during the period of his youth and early manhood, was compelled to struggle hard to gain a footing in the world. For several years Fred worked by the month for Oscar Seward and later bought him a home which formed the nucleus of his present goodly estate. Fred is not only engaged in farming and stockraising, but is an extensive feeder and shipper. He ranks as one of the solid citizens of Raymond township. Mr. Samuel Miller, the present owner of the Elias Miller homestead, is one of the few who have engaged in the shipping of hogs and cattle to so watch the markets and time his shipments as to be able to more than "break even" in his hazardous business. Mr. Miller in his line has been very successful and to-day as a result of his watchfulness and care, enjoys a large estate. William Bowles, ex-sheriff of Montgomery county, was another of the forceful characters that belonged to the same class as Oscar Seward. He was a very prominent citizen of the county in his day, being elected as sheriff at a time when the county was strongly Democratic, gives proof of his popularity among the people. Among the children which he left we may mention his son, familiarly known as "Bud" Bowles. This gentleman has inherited the good qualities of his father and few men in his locality enjoy the confidence and esteem of their neighbors more than "Bud" Bowles. Henry Hitchings, son of John W. Hitchings, the pioneer, is another son of the soil who has acquired a competency and who may during the declining years enjoy the fruits of his industry and frugality. His father, John W. Hitchings, was for many years one of the leading teachers of the county and few of the men and women of middle aged life who spent their school years in that section but remember the old school master, John Kidd, until recently a citizen of Raymond township and the village

of Raymond, but who has removed to Litchfield, was for many years a prominent character in the affairs of Raymond township. Mr. Kidd's narrative belongs to the history of Raymond township and although he is no longer a citizen here, we give him this space to which we believe he is entitled. Dr. P. J. Hernon was for many years a practitioner in the neighborhood of Raymond, but he is now too advanced in years to further practice his profession. He is, however, among the honored and well respected pioneer citizens of the village. John H. Miller, until within the last few years engaged in agricultural pursuits, lived some three miles east of Raymond, on a well apportioned farm. In 1892 Mr. Miller moved to the village of Raymond and engaged in the hardware and furniture business. He sold his farming interests and has given over the control of his hardware and furniture trade to his sons, Clifford E. and George A. His younger son, Lemuel, is at present living in Hunnewell, Missouri, and his older son, Jesse, is a photographer in St. Louis, Missouri. His only daughter is the wife of O. A. Edwards, of Coffeen. Mr. Miller is among the substantial men of Raymond township. Another well known character of Raymond township is Dorman Crane, the auctioneer. For several years he lived with his brother Needham Crane, about two miles south-east of the village of Raymond. Within the last few years, however, Mr. Crane has been a resident of Butler Grove township. Dr. Frank Hicks, son-in-law of Oscar Seward, was for a number of years a prominent physician of Raymond. He has retired from the practice of his profession and is at present engaged in looking after his farming interests. Among the business men of Raymond we may mention Jacob Guller, Charles Sherer, Joseph Kessinger, Charles Schwartz, W. L. Seymour and quite a list of others that we can not at present call to mind. Among those who deserve to be remembered in this article are the late William Peck and Robert Pepperdine. J. D. Parrott is another, who, at last accounts, was yet among the living, but infirm and feeble through the experiences of four score years. Mr. Parrott had several sons, among whom is Walter H., who at one time represented this senatorial

district in the state legislature. His other sons are engaged in different lines of business in various parts of the country. We wish to remark here that Robert Pepperdine was the father of George Pepperdine, the brilliant young attorney who left Montgomery county some few years ago and located in Missouri. William and John Guthrie, who own farms north of the village, have also been helpful in the general progress of the township and the Chapmans are also names familiar to the people of that township, Judge Chapman having been associated with Judge E. Lane at the time of the building of our present county courthouse. Hezekiah Moore is one of the wealthy citizens of the village and has done much to build up the various interests of the town. The coal mine at that place we understand was due to his efforts and that he was among the heaviest subscribers to its stock. Mr. Moore is also one of the mainstays of the Methodist Episcopal church in his town. Another character that we wish to notice is the "Only" John Green. This gentleman established the first banking institution in the village and he has been engaged in various lines of merchandising at this place. He served his county as treasurer, 1890-91, and is well known to almost every citizen within its limits. He is a jolly, genial fellow and to know him means to class him as a friend. D. W. Star is another financial pillar of the village of Raymond and we understand that he is among the heavy stockholders in the National Bank recently established there. Mr. Star is a man who appreciates his friends and the writer is glad to be numbered among them.

IRVING TOWNSHIP AND THE VILLAGE OF IRVING.

This township begins its history with a settlement made in 1826 at what was known as the Bostick settlement. Ezra Bostick had formerly located in the settlement near Donnellson, but two years later in company with his sons-in-law, William and Joel Knight, they formed a settlement about two and one-half miles northeast of Hillsboro, in section 29,

Irving township. Mr. Bostick was an old revolutionary soldier and it is related of him that he had been engaged in many of the hard battles fought between the patriot troops and the king's regulars; that he was severely wounded in one of these engagements and that he never recovered fully from his wound. You will note that we have mentioned three of the old Revolutionary heroes who made their way to the western country to find homes for their children. Joel Knight, who accompanied Mr. Bostick to Illinois, was a Cumberland Presbyterian preacher, and in an early day he traveled from one settlement to another preaching in private homes and when the weather would permit, in the groves, "which were God's first temples." The writer well remembers this saintly old man and it affords pleasure to reflect on the life and character of such men as the Rev. Joel Knight. In 1817, at the close of a long life, this aged servant of our Christ departed this life. He moved out of this earthly tabernacle into the mansion which his Lord had gone to prepare for him. We may forget his figure and form and his words alike be lost in forgetfulness, but his influence shall live on and on through the lives of the generation that come after him until the end. Mark and James Rutledge settled in Irving township near the western boundary line in 1826. James Rutledge remained in the neighborhood until his death, but Mark Rutledge moved to Hillsboro township in 1827 and bought a farm on which he lived until 1858, when he moved to the city of Hillsboro, where he died about ten years later. In 1828 John Lipe, a native of Germany, settled in the northern part of the township and began to build for himself and family a home. Mr. Lipe with other German families had migrated from North Carolina to Illinois and infused our early settlers with the spirit of thrift so characteristic of the Germans. John Lipe died many years ago, but his wife survived him until 1884, and it is reported by G. N. Barry, a former historian of the township, that over four hundred descendants and relatives attended the burial services of Mrs. John Lipe. Possibly there is no other instance that parallels it in the history of the state. James Kelley settled in

Irving township in 1829 and reared a large family of children, among whom we may mention J. Milton, Harvey, George and John and other sons and daughters whose names the writer does not recall. J. Milton Kelley has for many years been one of the most prominent men of Irving township. He was engaged in farming and stock-raising until the last few years, when he sold his farm and moved to the village of Irving. Much of his attention has been given to buying and shipping stock. We believe, however, that Mr. Kelley has recently retired from active business. His influence on the community has been for its betterment, and Mr. Kelley may rest secure in knowing that the reputation formed through the productive years of his life is fixed in the good will of his fellow men. Harvey Kelley is regarded as rather eccentric, but his peculiarities amount to a species of genius. He has for some years been experimenting in the culture of ginseng, and I am informed that the experiment has been very profitable and that he has realized several thousand dollars from the sale of this valuable article of commerce. John Kelley is a very successful merchant in the village of Irving, and his reputation for fair dealing has established for him a wide and desirable trade. In 1830 John Christian and John Grantham both made their appearance in Irving township—the former, a Baptist, and the latter, a Methodist preacher, so that we may suppose an offset in the building up of these two denominations by the acquisition of these settlers. I am free to confess, however, that it is my belief that sectarianism did not govern its adherents so pronouncedly as it does today, and I have sometimes thought that too much sectarianism and the spirit of Christ are not in exact accord, and to this cause I believe we may attribute an influence weakening to the Christian work. We do not know what became of Rev. John Christian, but one of his sons was the father of William V. Christian, deceased, and John C. Christian, who lives in the vicinity of Coffeen. One of the family married Nancy Valentine, of Bond county, but he lived only a few years thereafter. His widow, Nancy Christian, was married later to Harrison Brown, and by him she was the

mother of several children. John C. Christian, of Coffeen, is the father of Arthur Christian and Melville Christian, both of the village of Coffeen. John Grantham died in 1842 and left three sons surviving him. These have done their part in contributing to the religious and social conditions of the community, and the Grantham family has an honored place in the annals of Montgomery county. The first mill built in Irving township was in 1831 and was about three and a half miles southwest of the village of Irving, on the Hillsboro road. It was erected by James Paden, who, after operating it for eight or ten years, sold it to Ezekiel Grantham, who remodeled it and kept it in operation for many years. Many sawmills and gristmills have been operated in the village of Irving and within the township, but only those that are matters of history will be noticed here. The first schoolhouse erected in Irving township was in 1827 and the first pedagogue was Joseph McIntyre. Mr. McIntyre, we are told, was an old man of seventy-five years, but that his muscles were like seasoned oak, and when we remember that in the schools of pioneer time the work of school-teaching was an athletic business and required more muscle than brains, we are not surprised to find this aged Hercules the most popular teacher anywhere to be found. John Grantham was another of the earlier teachers, and this pioneer preacher made his pulpit in the Hopewell church a place for dispensing knowledge as well as spiritual blessing, for he was also the Methodist pastor of the Hopewell congregation. The first public school of the township was taught by William F. King in 1848-49, and the writer remembers that it was his pleasure to visit a school taught by Mr. King in 1890, and while an old man he regarded him as one of the energetic, enterprising teachers of Montgomery county. We believe that this was Mr. King's last term, for he died some two or three years thereafter. If the man or woman who, having spent half a century in the service of school teaching, does not deserve in old days the care and comfort of the state as much as they who go to battle, then public service in the schoolroom is not appreciated as it should be. In other words, the writer

wishes to be understood as favoring a service pension for wornout teachers after they have given the most productive years of their lives in school work, for it is well known that the teacher in our public schools is not sufficiently paid, that by economy and frugal living he may acquire a sufficiency to maintain him in his declining years; that the teacher who gives the best of his life in time and energy is as deserving as the patriot who, for a few years or months, goes to the front in the defense of his country. The first church organized in the township was the Hopewell Methodist Episcopal church, in 1829. Rev. Benson and Rev. Bastian, two itinerant preachers, made this organization. A building was erected in 1830 on Locust Fork, in the western part of the township, and named Hopewell. In 1856 the organization was moved to a place northeast of the village of Irving, about one mile, and in 1868 it was decided by the congregation to move the church into the town of Irving. The Cumberland Presbyterians, under the direction of Rev. Joel Knight, organized a society in 1830, and for many years Mr. Knight was the resident pastor. In 1866 a reorganization of the church was made, and in the following year a place of worship was built in the village of Irving. There is also a flourishing Lutheran organization in this township. As far back as 1842 Daniel Trimmer, a Lutheran minister, effected an organization of the Lutheran adherents in this section. These were largely Germans or of German parentage who had come from North Carolina some years before. In 1858 the Irving Lutheran church was established, with Rev. Isaac Short as first pastor. In 1856 the Christian church of Irving was organized by Elders J. G. Ward and J. M. Taulbee. A reorganization took place, however, in 1876. We may say that the moral influences of the Christian people of Irving, regardless of demonination, has been such that their little city has always maintained a high moral standard. Irving as a village has maintained a temperance board through nearly all of its history, and the years are few indeed which record the presence of saloons at that place. The first business house in the village of Irving was built by William Berry and T. G.

Black in 1846. The first dwelling was built by J. M. Taulbee, and in 1856 the town plat was made by Messrs. Huggins and Rider. Huggins and Rider sold their interests the following year to Robert W. Davis and Madison Berry. The first school taught in the village was by a Mr. Frink, in the old Hopewell meeting house, which had been moved into the town. Dr. J. H. Spears was the first physician to locate in the village. Since that time, however, it would require a long list of names to record the different physicians who have practiced medicine in Irving. Among those who have contributed to the progress of the township and of the village we may name Isaac Lewey, J. B. Cromer, John McDavid, Milton Berry, Charles McKinney, R. V. Parkhill, John Wiley, Sam Wiley, Noah Taylor, H. J. Huestis, Jacob Lyerly, George Fife, Marvin Thumb, Marshall Wynn, Henry Latham, Samuel Bartlett, James Morain and a host of others that we can not at present call to mind. Isaac Lewey was among the earlier settlers of the township, and by industry and frugality succeeded in acquiring quite an estate. Mr. Lewey has been dead some few years, but his wife survives him and is living at present in the village of Irving at an advanced age. Mr. Lewey had but one son, George, who died some twenty years ago. Mrs. Jacob Bone and Mrs. R. V. Parkhill, two of his daughters, reside in the village of Irving. J. B. Cromer was for many years a resident minister of the Lutheran congregation. His widow lived for some years on a farm not far from the village and his daughters were teachers in the public schools of the county. His son George has been located in one of the western states for quite a good many years. John McDavid, Sr., is a son of William McDavid, the pioneer, and has been worthy the name which he bears. John McDavid was sheriff of Montgomery county some time near the close of the war or not long thereafter. John McDavid did not settle in the immediate neighborhood of McDavid's Point, but made his home in the northern part of East Fork township. His first wife was a daughter of the pioneer preacher, Joel Knight, and by her he had several sons, among whom are William J., our present county su-

perintendent; John T., Jr., a grain and stock-buyer of Irving; Joel K., banker and lawyer of the city of Hillsboro; Augustus, who lives on a farm in Irving township; and Logan, who is at present engaged in hardware business in Hillsboro. After the death of his first wife Mr. McDavid was married to Malindy Snell, by whom he has one son, Frank, assistant cashier in the Montgomery County Loan & Trust Company Bank in Hillsboro. Mr. McDavid, at the age of eighty-two, is hale and strong for one so advanced in life. He has been one of the aggressive spirits of the time, but with that aggression has also been coupled the spirit of progress. He has acquired a very large estate, which recently he has shared with his sons. That his life has been a benefit to the age none may doubt, for while there has been seemingly a bent toward selfishness there has also been the moral example which his life has manifested to the world. Milton Berry is a descendant of Madison Berry, one of the pioneers of the county, and is esteemed as one of the most efficient business men in the village of Irving. At present he is cashier of the Irving Bank. Socially and morally Mr. Berry is regarded in his home town as a model gentleman, and our acquaintance with him verifies statements of this kind, which we have often heard made regarding him. Charles McKinney is another of the pushing, energetic characters that have contributed largely to the upbuilding of the business interests of Irving. Commencing a poor boy, Mr. McKinney, at the meridian of life, has accumulated a nice little estate. He has an interesting family, in which he takes great pride. In Christian work Mr. McKinney has been a leader since his early manhood, and with him precept has become example, and his life may be read as an open book, for no one in the village of Irving doubts the earnest and upright Christian life of Charles B. McKinney. He is engaged in general merchandising and has established a trade that ought to please any village merchant. Henry Latham also contributed of his energy to the general uplift of the community. As a dealer in hardware he built up a good business, but, desiring a wider field, he divided his interest at Irving with Mr. Tony Ludewick and put in a large

stock of implements and hardware at the county seat. Dr. R. V. Parkhill is president of the Irving Bank, and he has extensive real estate holdings in the vicinity of Irving. Dr. Parkhill has a wide and lucrative practice and enjoys the reputation of being a very successful physician. His wife is a daughter of the late Isaac Lewey and by him she has inherited a considerable estate. Mrs. Parkhill is a leader in the social circles of her town. John Wiley and Sam Wiley were both early settlers in this section of the county. Sam Wiley has been dead for several years, but Uncle John Wiley is still living at the advanced age of eighty-two. H. J. Huestis, who built the first brick store building in the village in 1856, is still living and at last account was the school treasurer of Irving township. Mr. Huestis has filled this position for a greater number of years than has any other treasurer in any township in the county. Jacob Lyerly, father of Aaron and Richard Lyerly, was also a factor in developing the agricultural interests of this part of the county. George File, son of Jacob File, the pioneer, improved a farm east of the village of Irving about two miles. Here he raised to manhood several sons, among whom is Lawrence, a successful hardware merchant in the village, and who is a son-in-law of Rev. T. W. McDavid, of Coffeen. Marshall Wynn, for many years a very successful schoolmaster and withal a very progressive and forceful teacher, laid aside the birch and engaged in business enterprises to the financial interests of Mr. Wynn, but I am compelled to say that in an educational sense the schools of Montgomery county were much the loser. It has been a pleasure to engage with Mr. Wynn in the discussion of many pedagogic problems, and we acknowledge his prowess in such encounters. Samuel Bartlett died several years ago, but, having been among the leading citizens of Irving through a period of many years, it is well to remember him here. Mr. Bartlett left residing in the neighborhood of Irving many descendants, and among the business men of the county we may mention Henry Bartlett, who is the largest dealer in poultry products of any firm in this section. Daniel Stump, who lives on a farm near Irving, is

one of the business characters we must not fail to notice. For several years Mr. Stump was manager of the large estate of George W. Paisley, but recently he has held a position in connection with the Montgomery Coal Company at Paisley. Dr. Fullerton is another citizen who deserves to be remembered in these pages. He has quite an extensive practice and is regarded as one of the leading physicians of the county. Arthur Kincaide, the druggist, is one of Irving's financial pillars. He is a son-in-law of the late William Brewer, and his wife was a granddaughter of the late Judge Brewer, the pioneer. Mr. Kincaide is one of the large landowners of Montgomery county. He is a young man and has an opportunity to accomplish much good by the means which has come into his possession. Mr. Kincaide's wife died about two years ago without issue, and with her ended the William Brewer line of the pioneer's family. A. K. Vandever, who is the present proprietor and editor of the Irving Times, will be noticed in our chapter on the Montgomery county press.

BUTLER GROVE TOWNSHIP AND THE VILLAGE OF BUTLER.

When Butler Grove township was surveyed in 1819 it included one settler, who belonged, as we have shown before, to the Hillsboro settlement. This settler was Jacob Cress, who in 1818 entered a farm in section 34. Mr. Cress came originally from North Carolina. It is well to note here that in coming across the prairies the early emigrants were compelled to follow Indian trails or buffalo paths in their journey. It is related of Mr. Cress that he made this trip during the warmer months of the year and that he found the flies in such immense swarms that he could not travel by day, and that it was only during the night and when the stars were shining that he could proceed on his journey. Mr. Cress brought with him much live stock from his native state, and we find in a previous narrative the statement that to keep his hogs from being lost he supplied each with a little bell. In 1865 Jacob Cress, the pioneer, crossed to that other

country, having completed his course and having faithfully performed the service of a long and eventful life he might well enter into the joys which are prepared for those who have "fought the good fight." We have noticed at some length Jacob Cress, of Hillsboro township, who was the son of Jacob Cress, the pioneer. The next to locate in this township was Israel Seward, of Hamilton county, Ohio. In 1819 Mr. Seward pitched his tent on what is known to us as Seward's hill. Mr. Seward was the first school commissioner of the county and when teachers made their reports directly to the county commissioner. As the state had provided a small allowance for each child enrolled, it was necessary to make this report to the school commissioner and receive this pitance in addition to the subscription fee paid by the parent. To the reader I would suggest that when visiting the county seat he will find one of these old schedules, kept in 1837 by Alexander Buie in East Fork township. On this schedule you will find the names of the Whittens, the Cresses, the Barringers and many others which were familiar to all the older settlers. The writer, to preserve this document, had it framed in 1892, and it hangs in the county superintendent's office as a souvenir of other days. Mr. Seward left many descendants in the neighborhood of the village of Butler. Butler Seward, who was a brother to Israel Seward, made his settlement in Seward's Grove in 1829, and doubtless it is from this fact that the township derives its present name. Butler Seward, however, afterward removed northward to what was known as Seward's Point. This is located in Raymond township. In 1823 Obadiah Ware came from New Hampshire and settled a part of section 15, and here he built one of the most pleasant and attractive homes in the county. Upon this farm he resided for over half a century. William A. Young, who married a daughter of Mr. Ware, is the owner of the old homestead. Mr. Ware had other children: Mrs. Harris, wife of the late Thomas E. Harris; Elizabeth Westcott; and Henry Ware. A brother of Obadiah Ware was also an early settler of this township. His name was Benjamin, and, like his brothers, was one of the quiet, unassuming, though successful,

farmers of Butler Grove. Justice Ware is a son of Benjamin Ware and succeeded to his father's estate. Ware's Grove, in Butler Grove township, receives its name from the Ware brothers, Obadiah and Benjamin. The wife of Obadiah Ware was a Miss Electa Post, of Addison county, Vermont. She died, however, in 1858, and Mr. Ware died in September, 1876. David Ware's father, I am informed, never came to this state, but David Ware was for many years among the most prominent citizens of his township. He lived northeast of Ware's Grove and much of his large estate included the black, heavy soil lying north and east of the mound. Lyman Ware, John Ware and other sons of David Ware are among the best citizens of our county. William H. Cass settled in this township on section 5 in 1824. Mr. Cass left several children, among whom is William Cass, one of the largest landowners of the township, but who, some years ago, moved to the village of Raymond. The first mill built in the township was in 1825. It was a horse-mill, so called because the power was supplied by horses. This was built by Jacob Cress, Sr. It was the only mill within a radius of many miles, the nearest being Fogleman's pepper mill. This mill was operated in this way for a period of twenty years and was finally remodeled into a steam mill. Mr. Seward erected a mill about one mile south of the present village of Butler in 1839. This venture, being upon rather a large scale, did not prosper, and Mr. Seward soon found himself in financial embarrassment. Mr. Seward was not the man to let a matter of this kind discourage him, and when the gold fever of 1849 swept over the country Mr. Seward, in company with others, made the overland journey to that western country, and there, in the "new Eldorado," he amassed considerable fortune, and he it said to his credit he returned to Illinois and paid all his outstanding obligations. He disposed of the old mill which had been his undoing, and once more stood among his fellow men free from the obligations that had, in a measure, clouded his former good name. My information in regard to this Seward does not reveal his relationship to Israel Seward and Butler Seward. Captain Thomas Phillips

made improvements in this township at an early date. The farm is at present owned by John Grassell. Thomas A. Gray was another early settler of this township, and among those who at one time held large estates may be mentioned Solomon Harkey, of Hillsboro; Henry Welge, John and William Turner, D. C. Burris, George Grassell, Moses Berry, Orlando Mack, James M. Cress, William Watson, John Clinesmith, Joseph Stickle, A. H. H. Rountree, Absalom Cress, Charles W. Jenkins, James Doyle, Isaac Doyle, E. M. Hodges, Robert Bryce, William W. Keele and James M. Puntenev. Many of these estates, however, have changed owners within the past few years. Charles W. Jenkins, at one time the efficient circuit clerk of Montgomery county, owned an estate immediately south of the village of Butler, and here his widow resides on the old homestead. An only son, Roto, manages the estate. A daughter, Camilla, who resides with her mother, was for a period of several years one of the leading teachers of the county. Moses Berry, one of the successful farmers and stockmen of the county, lives on a well-apportioned farm about one mile north of the village. Uncle Moses is a familiar figure in the little town, and though an octogenarian he is frequently seen at the county seat. He has for many years been connected with the school board of the Butler district, and to his interest the Butler schools owe much of the superior standing which they enjoy among the schools of our county. On a farm adjacent to Mr. Berry lives Jesse Barrett, ex-county superintendent of Montgomery county. We have alluded to Mr. Barrett in our article on the county in general. W. A. Young, who lives on the old Obadiah Ware estate, is not to be regarded as limited in his work and reputation to the narrow confines of his township. Mr. Young stands among the best known horticulturists of the state, and for many years he has been a member of the board of agriculture. At the Paris Exposition and also at Buffalo Mr. Young secured first prizes for fruit grown on his Butler Grove farm. Isaac and James Doyle, who settled in the northern part of the township, were gentlemen of the highest order. They were among that class of farmers whose

homes were kept in excellent condition and the neatness which everything showed about their farms at once proclaimed them men of progressive ideas and habits of thrift—two qualities absolutely necessary to develop the highest character in any branch of industrial life. The writer is glad to have been able to know these gentlemen among his true friends, and though they are no more numbered among the living it is a pleasure to reflect upon their good qualities as citizens and as friends. Robert Bryce, for thirty years and more township treasurer of the schools of that township, has become the trusted friend of the succeeding county superintendents of schools who have served in that capacity during the long period of years in which Uncle Robert has made his annual report to that office. Robert Bryce is a native of Scotland and is a typical character of that rugged country. It is a pleasure to converse with him about the Scottish poets and statesmen. He is familiar with the location of all the scenes described in Scott's "Lady of the Lake" and by Robert Burns, whose poems are as familiar in America as in his native land. They describe no quiet vale or mountain crag that Uncle Robert has not seen, for in his boyhood as a guide he pointed out each spot made famous in the song and story that tell of Scottish life. Orlando Mack was another of the earlier settlers of Butler Grove township. He came to this county in 1840 and, being a millwright, he assisted in building and equipping many of the water mills that were found in Montgomery county fifty or sixty years ago. Orlando Mack left three daughters surviving him: Elizabeth, wife of William Ninnoons; Myra, wife of George Walcott; and Ella. Oscar Mack came to this county from New Hampshire with his father, Calvin Mack, about 1830 and settled on a farm in section 9, Butler Grove township. Calvin Mack died in 1845 and left Oscar Mack, then a lad of fifteen years of age, to assist his mother in the direction of the affairs of the farm and caring for the younger members of the family. Dexter Mack is the youngest of a family of six children left by Calvin Mack. At last accounts he was living on a farm about four miles north of Hillsboro. Oscar Mack died some years ago and

left surviving him Calvin H., an only son, and several daughters. Calla Mack, as he is called, ranks among our energetic and enterprising young farmers. He lives on the estate formerly owned by his father. D. C. Barris, who married Roselma, a sister of Oscar Mack, was another of those who have contributed much toward the development of Butler Grove. He succeeded in acquiring a large homestead in the northwestern part of the township. He died some years ago and this estate has been divided among his children. George W. Brown, father of George W. Brown, Jr., came to Montgomery county in 1838. In 1841 he was married to Miss Sarah A. Jenkins, daughter of Stroud and Rebecca Jenkins. The oldest son is George W., Jr., of Butler, Illinois. He has been engaged in the village in various lines of business during the past thirty years. At one time he owned and operated the elevator and mills at that place. For the past few years he has been engaged in general merchandising. His sons, James and Frank, conduct a large hardware and implement business in the city of Hillsboro. Scott Hoes and Charlie are engaged in general merchandising in the village of Butler and they have, by strict business principles, built up a very large trade. They have a very extensive general stock, which enables them to supply their patrons with anything that can be found in any well-arranged general stock anywhere. Frank McWilliams operates the elevator at this place for Munday & Settemeyer. Frank is of the pioneer McWilliams stock, and his upright, business-like methods have won for him many friends in his neighborhood. William Elliman, who lives in the vicinity of the village, is another of the leading citizens of this township. Mr. Elliman has been engaged in farming and stock-raising. He is interested, however, in whatever contributes to the betterment of the community. James Ward, who moved from Bois d'Arc to Butler Grove township about twelve years ago, ranks as one of the first real estate men of the county, and by his attention to his large farming interests and to his land deals he has become one of the financial strong men of Butler Grove township. We may say for Mr. Ward that his estate has been built

up from a beginning so small that it was not appreciable, and, though he enjoys a position of affluence to-day, no man can say that James Ward acquired any of his holdings by deception or indirection. He is another whose latchstring is always out and the hospitality of his elegant home he is every ready to extend with a friend. In closing I must not forget to mention my good friend, James Sammons. Like Mr. Ward, the reputation of Mr. Sammons is not circumscribed, for he is known by cattle-men throughout this entire section of the state. Possibly Mr. Sammons is the largest shipper of fat cattle in Montgomery county. This closes our narrative of Butler Grove township, and we hope to preserve in these pages the names of some of the worthy citizens, living and dead, who have contributed to the progress and development of our county.

THE PRESS OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Realizing the importance that attaches to the press in everything that contributes to the well being of the community, we had promised to give a chapter in this volume exclusively to the press of the county. In pursuance of this idea we sent invitations to each of the editors of our county publications requesting that they furnish us with data concerning the history of each newspaper having a circulation among our people. I am sorry to be compelled to give only such facts as have come to me through outside sources, as but two among our several editors have responded to our invitation. Nevertheless we shall do the best that we can in the face of the fact that we have but little exact data at hand. The first newspaper published in Montgomery county was issued in 1838. It was called the *Prairie Beacon* and was edited by Aaron Clapp in Hillsboro. After a period of eighteen months, during which there was continual financial embarrassment, Mr. Clapp suspended publication. We are told that the enterprise was unpopular by reason of its neutrality on all questions in which it should have been positive. An attempt to carry water on both shoulders resulted in over-

turning the pair. We have this condition of affairs just the same to-day as was experienced fifty years ago. A man or a newspaper must stand for something. If he attempts to stand for everything, sooner or later he stands for nothing. In 1850 Frank and Cyrus Gilmore established the *Prairie Mirror*, a Whig sheet politically, but advocating some of the doctrines taught by Douglas. In 1851 the Messrs. Gilmore sold the *Prairie Mirror* to William K. Jackson, who made Mr. C. D. Dickerson editor and foreman. This gentleman was tainted with the "Know Nothing" doctrine that swept over the country at this time. He purchased the plant from Mr. Jackson in 1854 and continued as proprietor and editor until 1856, when he changed the name to *Montgomery County Herald*. Shortly afterward he sold the *Herald* to Mr. James Blackman, Jr., who conducted it as a "Know Nothing" paper until 1858, when he sold the *Herald* to John W. Mitchell and Frank H. Gilmore, who conducted it as an independent paper until the commencement of the campaign of 1860, at which time Davis, Turner and Company bought it and commenced its publication as a Democratic paper during the campaign. Frank Gilmore repurchased the plant and continued it as a Democratic sheet until 1862, when he sold the outfit to Mr. E. J. Ellis, a refugee from Missouri. Mr. Ellis in turn sold the concern to Ed L. Reynolds and Wilbur F. Stoddard. In 1865 E. J. C. Alexander came in possession of the plant and changed the name to the *Hillsboro Democrat*, which name it retained through the several years of ownership of Mr. Alexander, who sold his interests to the late Ben E. Johnson, who conducted it as a Democratic organ during a period of several years, when on the death of Mr. Johnson, his son Emmet assumed editorship. The name has been changed since the purchase of the publication by Mr. Bliss to the *Montgomery News* and under this heading it is known throughout southern and central Illinois. The present editors, C. W. Bliss and son, Clinton, are publishing one of the best country newspapers in the state. In politics it is Democratic, but not partisan to the extent of being offensive. The forecasts published in the news have attracted

attention as matters of wit and sarcasm. Mr. Bliss has a style peculiarly his own and many of his pungent paragraphs are extensively quoted by publications in all parts of the country. Clinton Bliss, junior editor of the *News*, has won considerable reputation as a writer of stories for children. The *Montgomery News* has a very wide circulation and its popularity extends wherever it is read. The *News Letter* of Hillsboro was established by C. E. and Emma T. Bangs and was conducted by them as a Republican organ during the life time of the late Charles L. Bangs. Charles Truitt became proprietor and editor, which position he held until associated with B. F. Boyd. Mr. Boyd afterward purchased the interest of Mr. Truitt and was for some years sole proprietor and editor of the *Journal*, which name the publication now bore. On the appointment of Mr. Boyd as postmaster in Hillsboro, he sold the *Journal* to Josiah Bixler, who is its present proprietor, editor and owner. Mr. Bixler has made the *Journal* a very excellent paper. It is Republican in politics, but in its editorials it is clean and perfectly free from everything that may be considered questionable in character. The *Journal* has an extensive circulation and finds its way into most of the leading homes of Republican families and those of many Democrats within the county. Mr. Bixler, the editor, was for several years city superintendent of public schools of Hillsboro. He is a scholarly gentleman and wide awake to all that pertains to the interest of his city and his county. In 1867 E. J. C. Alexander sold to B. S. Hood, of Litchfield, the *Monitor*, a Republican organ, which Mr. Hood removed to Litchfield and published for a season at that place. Taylor and Kimball, of Bellville, purchased the plant from Mr. Hood and in turn sold it to Messrs. Coolidge & Litchfield. The former gentleman was the salaried editor of the *Independent*. This was in the latter part of the year of 1871. The office was removed to Empire Hall, where it remained until autumn of 1874. About this time Mr. Litchfield sold his interest to Mr. Coolidge. The latter gentleman remained in control until 1876, when he associated with him F. O. Martin as partner. In 1878 the concern was sold

to Charles Walker and B. S. Hood. Shortly after Mr. Hood became sole proprietor and continued in that relation until 1881 when J. C. Campbell became a partner. The Monitor established its reputation as a newsy publication under the management of B. S. Hood, but by far the ablest writer on its editorial staff was the late H. A. Coolidge. At present the Monitor is owned by Samuel Kessinger and he is also editor in chief and in addition to the publication of his paper as a weekly, he also issues the Daily News. The Monitor is one of the leading Republican papers in this section of the state. It has a wide circulation and is ably edited. Mr. Kessinger being a gentleman of education and ability, has by his enterprise built up one of the best paying newspaper plants in this section of the country. The Litchfield Herald, a Democratic organ, grew out of the necessities of the party to have an advocate in the metropolis of the county. Associated in the earlier management of the enterprise was the late Fred Beeman. After Mr. Beeman's time comes Kelley and Cornedius and in some way Walter S. Parrott was connected with its earlier management, but in what manner, the writer has forgotten. Later Robert P. Bolton and Mr. Kelley became sole proprietors of the concern. Later Mr. Kelley sold his interest to J. C. Wilson, who in turn resold to Mr. Bolton, since which time Mr. Bolton has been sole proprietor and editor. Under his able management the Herald has secured a wide circulation and much valuable patronage. Mr. Bolton is a thorough gentleman and has maintained for his paper under all circumstances the highest standard in its moral tone. He is a ready and versatile writer and his editorials would do credit to a metropolitan paper. Some twenty years ago or more C. E. Cook and Walter S. Parrott established a printing office in the village of Raymond. Here they issued a weekly publication. This was the beginning of the present plant owned by J. W. Potts. He has been the proprietor and editor of the Raymond Independent for several years and the success of the Independent in a financial way has been almost unprecedented in the county. His paper carries the largest line of local ads of any similar publication in our county, and the only criticism that

can be passed by any one as to the Independent is that its reading matter is limited because of the space given to advertisements. With all, Mr. Potts makes his paper an attractive little sheet and it serves as a medium to push all the best interests of Raymond. Joseph W. Potts is a forceful and energetic newspaper man and in a wider field would soon make his influence felt among men in his class. The Irving Times, edited by Aaron K. Vandever, contains a weekly report of the doings and undings of the little village of Irving. Mr. Vandever being an ex-teacher tries to make his newspaper not only a digest of the week's news, but nearly always contains some observation of a character to educate and elevate its readers. Considering the limited territory in which his publication must derive its support, Mr. Vandever has succeeded extremely well. This gentleman comes of pioneer stock, but his ancestry belongs to Christian county rather than to Montgomery. He is a nephew of the late Judge Vandever of Taylorville. Some two or three years ago Harry Dean, a lad of eighteen or twenty summers, established a little paper in Paisley and called it the Search Light. The enterprise, not receiving sufficient patronage, was sold to Mr. Toy of Fillmore. This in turn after a publication of a short while sold its subscription to the Montgomery Democrat, of Coffeen, Illinois. As early as 1868 Nokomis could boast of a newspaper. This was devoted largely to the land interests of the county and had a free circulation. In 1871 Pickett and White commenced the publication of the Gazette, but the expenses of the concern were too great and it was sold to meet the incumbrances against it. In 1873 A. H. Draper commenced the publication of the Bulletin, which was continued through a period of several years. During this period, however, it had several publishers. In 1877 E. M. Hulbert commenced the publication of the Free Press and in 1878 it was consolidated with the Gazette and has been known ever since as the Free Press-Gazette. Mr. E. M. Hulbert, editor and publisher. H. M. Graden published a paper called the Atlas but not receiving much support, it suspended in 1881. In connection with the Free Press-Gazette Mr. E. M. Hulbert began the publication of the Deutsch Amerikaner. This

was the first German paper ever published in this section of the state. Mr. Hulbert sold his newspaper interests to Joseph Wilde, who for several years was sole editor and publisher. Mr. Wilde has since about 1900 associated with him Mr. Henry Webster. Mr. Wilde, being a man of considerable means, has always been able to supply his printing office with the very best materials and his papers have received a wide patronage. His job printing is perhaps as large as that of any other plant in the county. His German paper has a circulation covering several counties in this part of the state. Mr. Wilde is a large contributor to all public enterprises connected with the city of Nokomis and he takes a delight in conserving the moral interests of his town. His wife is a daughter of "Uncle" Mike Ohlman and has inherited from her parents the same cordial and hospitable spirit which they always manifest. Henry Webster, formerly engaged in agriculture but recently associated with Mr. Wilde in his newspaper enterprises, is one of the genteel, up-to-date, business men of Nokomis. His late wife was a Miss Mattie Forehand and it was the privilege of the writer to spend a few months of his school life associated with her as a student at the old Hillsboro Academy. He remembers her as one of the brightest and best students in that institution. Her disposition was one of calm and dignified reserve, but at the same time a brilliant conversationalist and pleasant entertainer. She was the mother of two sons in whom she took great pride. She lived to see them complete their education and enter upon the purpose of life. Henry Webster socially and morally makes his influence felt in the community in which he lives. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and takes great interest in the Sabbath-school, Epworth League and the other church work. The Nokomis Progress, W. P. Hagthorp, editor and publisher, is a newsy little sheet. In politics it is Democratic, of the William J. Bryan brand. However, he carried the Parker ticket at the mast head of the Progress. In addition to the weekly issue Mr. Hagthorp publishes a monthly magazine which is devoted to educational interests and to the cultivation of the taste for better litera-

ture. The magazine also devotes considerable space to the social life of Nokomis. All in all, the Progress is worthy the support and patronage of Nokomis people. Some ten years ago Frank Bolt established a paper at Coffeen and called it the Enterprise. He published it for several months and sold to John W. Whitlock, who after an experience of a little while, sold to Lot Pennington and after Pennington came O. A. Jewett, who was really the first newspaper man to make a success of the business in the village. After a time Mr. Jewett sold the Mercury, as the paper was now known, to William H. McCracken and Walter Roberts. Later, however, Mr. Roberts bought McCracken's interest and has operated the plant ever since. Under the name of the Montgomery Democrat Mr. Roberts has succeeded in building up one of the best newspapers in the county. He has a large cylinder press and gets out one of the cleanest little papers to be found anywhere. Mr. Roberts is a clear, forceful writer, and nothing of an offensive character ever appears in his column. The paper represents the Democratic side of public questions, yet it is always open to any investigation that will lead to the establishment of truth. The Montgomery Democrat has an extensive patronage in this part of the county and the merchants of Coffeen who patronize its columns contribute to the support of a very worthy enterprise. Walter E. Roberts is a young man about thirty years old. Some years ago he married Miss Lillie McGiffin, of his home town. They have a very bright little girl in whom they take especial pride. We have given in this brief article a mere survey of what is being done by the press in Montgomery county. We hope, however, that our friends, the editors, will take "intention" for "deed," and remember that we appreciate in advance their kindly criticisms.

WAR HISTORY OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY.

In our investigation and research we find but four names of Revolutionary soldiers who made their way to the state of Illinois to find

a home in the closing years of their lives. Among these was Harris Revice, whose daughter married Joseph Wright. She being the mother of Harris Wright and Elijah Wright, yet living, and "Yank" Wright, deceased. Wooten Harris was another, father of William B. and Benjamin Harris and grandfather of William Harris, of Bingham, and the late Wooten Harris, of Hillsboro. Ezra Bostick, father-in-law of Joel Knight, and great grandfather of W. J. McDavid, our present county superintendent. The fourth was an old Uncle John Owens, who settled on a farm near that made by Newton Coffey, the pioneer. He was father-in-law of the late Samuel Bartlett, of Irving. In the war of 1812 might be enumerated several who came and settled in this county after our second war with England: William McDavid, John Harrison, Sr., Thomas Allison, James Mann, William Allen, Elijah Davis and doubtless others whose names we have failed to secure. In the war of 1832 in Levi D. Boone's company, Second Regiment Whiteside's Brigade I find this list: Levi D. Boone, captain; James G. Huiiman, first lieutenant; and Absalom Cross, second lieutenant; sergeants, C. G. Blockberger, M. H. Walker, Israel Fogleman and William McDavid; corporals, John Prater, A. T. Williams, Cleveland S. Coffey and Newton Street; privates, James Brown, Samuel L. Briggs, Harrison Brown, Colbart Blaire, H. C. Bennett, Peter Cress, G. W. Canins, John Crabtree, George E. Duff, Michael Fannin, William Griffith, James Grisham, Johnson Hampton, James Hawkins, Benjamin Holbrook, Joshua Hunt, Samuel Ishmael, William Jordan, Artishua H. Knapp, Ephriam Kilpatrick, Stephen Killingworth, George E. Ludewick, Robert A. Long, John K. McWilliams, Thomas J. Mansfield, William Mayfield, Barnabas Michael, Samuel Peacock, Eli Robb, James M. Rutledge, William Roberts, William D. Shurley, Daniel Steele, Curtis Scrubener, Thomas Jefferson Todd, McKinzie Turner, James B. Williams, Easton Whitton, Benjamin R. Williams and James Young. These men were mustered out of the service at the mouth of Fox river on the Illinois river May 28, 1832, two hundred and ten miles distant from the place of enrollment. Hiram Rountree's com-

pany, Second Regiment, Third Brigade, organized May 31, 1832, and mustered out of the service August 16, 1832. Hiram Rountree, captain; John Kirkpatrick, first lieutenant; Thomas Phillips, second lieutenant; sergeants Andrew K. Gray, John Stone, Samuel Jackson, David B. Star; corporals, Spartan Grisham, Malaki Smith, Thomas McAdams, Thomas Edwards; privates, Clement Aydlott, John Brown, John Briggs, Joseph Burke, James M. Berry, Levi W. Booher, Cleveland Coffey, David Copeland, John Corlew, James Cardwell, John Duncan, Thomas Earley, Thomas Evans, Almond Forehand, William Griffith, Thomas Gray, Alexander R. Gray, John Hart, George Harkey, John M. Holmes, William Harkey, Thomas W. Heady, Thomas C. Hughes, John Hannah, Alfred Johnson, William Jones, Jesse Johnson, Thomas Johnson, James Lockerman, John K. Long, John McCurey, Malcolm McPhail, David T. McCullough, Horace Mansfield, Axrin McCulloch, Robert McCulloch, John M. McWilliams, William McDavid, Samuel Paisley, Thomas Potter, James Potter, Jacob Rhodes, Willis Rose, Luke S. Steel, Thomas Sturdevant, Zebedee Shirley, John Slater, William M. Tenis, James Wilson, David M. Williams, William S. Williams, Joseph W. Wilson, Thomas Wood, Thomas Williford, William Young. These two companies form the roll of those who served in the Black Hawk war. Several of these have died within the last few years and only a fortnight ago John Corlew, the only survivor, answered the last roll call and has gone to join his comrades on the other side. In the Mexican war Company C, Third Regiment, was commanded by Colonel Ferris Forman and discharged from service May 21, 1847; James C. McAdams, captain; first lieutenant, Thomas Rose; second lieutenants, John Burke and John Corlew; sergeants, James M. Williford, Miles Morris and Jesse J. McDavid; corporals, William Stephenson, Benjamin Blockberger, Charles H. Rutledge; fifers, Joseph Mapes, James F. Witherspoon; privates, Clayborn Acres, J. B. Anderson, William R. Boyd, John Bodkin, J. Q. Bennett, Nelson Bennett, Benson Card, Ransom Corlew, John Craig, Lafayette Cardwell, Robert W. Davis, William A. Edwards, Mark W. Edwards, John-

son A. Frost, John Fuller, Jackson Finney, James B. Garner, David Graf, Thomas Gunter, H. B. Grubbs, Stephen Harmon, Achilles Harmon, Wilburn Isaacs, B. R. Ishmael, William Kingston, John Kuntz, Jacob Lyerle, John T. Loomis, John M. Lingle, Thomas McWilliams, Joseph McPhail, James McPhail, Thomas Mapes, Joseph Penner, John Pruitt, Major Pruitt, George W. Rose, A. B. Star, Wiley B. Smith, J. M. Scott, John Turrentine, A. B. Thomas, William H. Varner, Joseph G. Wright, Thomas F. Wright, James S. Williams, Jarrett Wright, J. C. Wilson, James B. McDavid, J. M. Quellman; privates discharged on sergeant's certificate: Isaac J. Bishop, William D. Collier, Martin A. Cress, Joel N. Fogleman, Edwin B. Grubbs, Samuel F. King, Isaac Lewey, William B. McCaslin, Thomas A. Norman, Eli Peacock, William Seymour, James Walker; those who died in the service: Robert Williamson, Elija Isaacs, William H. Barnett, Moses Barringer, William C. Burke, George Bryant, Levi Card, John J. Coleman, John C. Gastain, Henry Hill, William S. Halford, Ezra P. Knight, R. G. Lazenby, Charles W. Lynch, Alex. W. Pierson, Franklin Roper and John A. Williams. Those who died in the service were located at Matamoris and Camargo and I find that but one, Levi Card, died of wounds. These he received in the battle of Corgordo, but his death took place at Galapa. I had intended to give a list of those who entered the service of the late Civil war from this county, but I find that it is hardly necessary at this time as it requires but little effort to find in the adjutant general's report of Illinois a complete roster of all the names of those who entered the service from this county and I would advise those who desire to interest themselves in looking over that honored list to secure the report which I have mentioned and there you will find a complete record of their services, the time spent in hospitals, those who died on the battle-field or those who died from the effects of wounds received in battle, those who succumbed to disease and also whether they were deserters or whether they received an honorable discharge. I feel that I have given all that is required at this time concerning our war history.

BANKS OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY.

Banks are essential to the business interests of a community and Montgomery county is no exception to the rule. Early in the history of Hillsboro Robert W. Davis organized a private banking concern with but small capital. This institution later received an addition and was known as the Haskill, Davis & Company Bank of Hillsboro. In 1862 a branch was extended to the city of Litchfield. This banking venture seems to have been profitable during its earlier years. About five years thereafter the Litchfield branch became known as the Haskill, Seymour & Company Bank, Mr. Seymour having purchased the interest of Mr. Davis. Mr. Harris became identified with the Hillsboro end of the concern and that bank was afterward known as the Haskill-Harris & Company Bank of Hillsboro, Mr. Harris having purchased the interests of Mr. Davis. About the year 1869 Mr. Haskill removed to Alton and Judge Brewer of Hillsboro became identified with the Litchfield bank and the firm name was changed to Brewer, Seymour & Company with S. M. Grubbs as cashier. For a period of several years this bank continued under this management. Later, however, Mr. Seymour retired and Mr. Grubbs became the associate of Mr. Brewer and the firm name was changed to Brewer & Grubbs Bank, city of Litchfield. This institution has been one of the soundest banking concerns in this section of the state. Later it has been changed into a national bank, S. M. Grubbs, president, Eli Miller, cashier. At the present time the deposits of this institution are the largest of any banking house in our county. The Hillsboro bank, known as the Farmers-Mechanics Bank, failed in 1878 and three years later it was followed by the failure of the Haskill-Harris Bank, which had been considered a very solvent institution, though the failure of two banking concerns in so short a time in the city of Hillsboro did not destroy the faith of the business men in that town in banking concerns if properly conducted. The failure of the Farmers Mechanics Bank was indeed a great misfortune as it cast a shadow over the reputation of its promoter, the late A. H. H. Rountree, only son of Judge Rountree, the pioneer. Many theories have been advanced as

to the cause of this failure, but nothing satisfactory seems to have been uncovered. That the country had just passed through a most severe panic and that possibly the depreciation in the value of securities held by the bank resulted in losses that finally compelled the suspension as late as 1878. Those who knew Aaron Rountree have never been fully able to bring themselves to that point where they could believe him guilty of deliberate speculation. Mr. Rountree died shortly afterward and it is the opinion of his very warm friends that his death was directly the result of the bank's failure. That he could not return to those who in confidence had trusted their moneys to him so crushed his spirit that he sunk beneath the weight of this reverse, paying the extreme penalty of his misfortune, his life was made the forfeit and what more can a man give than this? The failure of the Haskill-Harris Bank was traceable to the effort which the bank made to finance certain enterprises in the city of Hillsboro. These enterprises proved non-productive and shrinkage in value to an extent that meant to the bank almost complete loss of its advances, forced a suspension in 1881. In the city of Litchfield as early as 1860 John W. Haggart opened a private bank in Beardsley's jewelry store. Having but little capital, he soon closed his accounts and abandoned the business. Nathan Kenyon under a special charter organized the Litchfield Bank and with a paid up capital of twenty thousand dollars opened for business in 1870. Half the stock of this institution was held in Brockfort, New York, and half by citizens of Litchfield. This institution did not prove a financial success and Kenyon sold his stock to Litchfield parties and retired. The stockholders reorganized the business under the firm name of Beech, Davis & Company, of which D. Davis became manager and D. Van Dusen was made cashier. For many years this banking institution has been one of the strongest of the county. It was changed to the M. M. Martin & Company Bank, under which name it flourished until 1902, when it was reorganized. The moving spirits in the organization of the new banking concern was C. B. Munday and D. O. Settlemeyer. The Martin interests were purchased by a company

consisting of several wealthy citizens of Litchfield and a certain trust company of St. Louis, Missouri. It is a state bank and is organized with a capital stock of one hundred thousand dollars. D. O. Settlemeyer is president and Charles E. Morgan cashier. This is one of the strongest state banking institutions in this section of Illinois, having at present total assets exceeding four hundred thousand dollars. The Hillsboro National Bank was organized some fifteen years ago with Charles A. Ramsey, president, and Luther Beck as cashier. Since its organization its history has been one of continued prosperity. It has a capital stock of sixty thousand dollars and besides paying large dividends on its stock it has accumulated a surplus of forty thousand dollars. Stock in this concern has recently sold at two hundred per cent par value. Some three years ago Mr. Beck resigned his position as cashier to take charge of a banking house in Kansas, and Edward Miller was promoted from assistant cashier to the position vacated by Mr. Beck. In this important and responsible place Mr. Miller has proven his fitness and at present is regarded as one of the best posted and most thoroughly informed in matters of banking of our many efficient cashiers. C. A. Ramsey is well known throughout banking circles in this section of the state and his opinion is sought by banking interests in the adoption of new and untried theories relative to the business of banking. All the concerns at present engaged in business in Montgomery county are considered absolutely safe and but little sympathy is felt for him who loses sums of money by trying to hide it away in secret place about his home instead of placing it in a bank.

The Glen Brothers organized under a state charter soon after the failure of the Haskill-Harris Bank, the Montgomery County Loan & Trust Company Bank of Hillsboro. Associated with the Messrs. Glen were some of the financially strong men of that city. This bank at once inspired confidence among the business interests of the country and it was not long until the farmers and stock men began to patronize this institution. James Glen was for many years president of the bank and James Blackburn was its cashier. Succeeding Mr. Black-

burn came Eli Miller and following him James B. Barringer assumed the duties of that very important position. Under the wise management that has governed this banking house, it has been signally successful. It has paid handsome dividends to its stockholders and at the same time it has strengthened its credit and increased the value of its stock by the accumulation of a good surplus. Joel K. McDavid succeeded James Glen as president of this bank some few years ago and the interests of the concern have not lost by the change. We regret that we have not been furnished with a statement giving the actual condition of this bank, but we are in position to give this assurance that it is among the safest banking houses in central Illinois.

The private bank of John Ball was organized under the name of the Farmersville Bank several years ago and being the only banking institution at that time in the northern part of the county, it received a wide patronage. The sterling integrity of John Ball gave the bank immediate standing among financial concerns throughout the country. It is one of the strongest private banks in this section of the state and the deposits are among the largest of any bank in our county. Another banking institution is located at Waggoner and while we are not personally acquainted with the management, we have the assurance from parties living in that vicinity that the bank is a safe and conservative concern having good patronage among the farmers and business men of that section. The private bank located at Irving enjoys a very good patronage and its stockholders receive dividends that satisfy the most exacting. Milton Berry is the very gentlemanly cashier of this bank and Dr. R. V. Parkhill is its president. We are not in position to give the amount of stock nor the deposits which this bank carries. Bliss & Allen organized the Fillmore Bank about fifteen years ago and from its inception it has been well patronized. L. C. Allen is the president and Frank Herron is cashier of this institution. This bank, being located at considerable distance from Hillsboro and Nokomis, has become a place of deposit for a wide territory, and the reputation of Mr. Allen as a safe and conservative business man

established confidence in this bank immediately after its establishment. This bank carries a very large deposit and it is among the best paying banking houses in the county. In 1900 C. F. Edwards established the Bank of Coffeen at that place and at about the same time A. Studebaker and George W. Huffer put in the American Exchange Bank in the same town. While there has been a division of the banking business, yet both of these institutions have paid the promoters large dividends on the stock held by them. The Bank of Coffeen has at the present time a very fair deposit and is regarded as a sound institution. Since last January William T. Edwards has been president and C. F. Edwards cashier of this bank. Arrangements are being perfected to convert the Bank of Coffeen into a national bank, beginning operation January 1, 1905. Mr. A. Studebaker, proprietor of the American Exchange Bank, conducts a loan and exchange business and his careful, prudent methods have secured for him a very nice business. In 1902 C. C. Mansfield established a private bank in the village of Donnellson and at once it became a paying institution through the patronage of the business men and farmers in that community. Thus it will be seen that the private banking concerns of Montgomery county, although numerous, are all doing a thriving business. We account for this through the fact that for the past several years the business interests of our county have been very prosperous and from an agricultural point of view no county in the state has fared better. The diversified character of the farming interests of Montgomery county gives to it a continuous and generous income throughout the year, which was not the case during the wheat age of the county. About eighteen or twenty years ago John Green established a private bank in the village of Raymond and a few years thereafter he sold his business to B. F. Culp, who so managed the affair as to secure a very strong line of deposits and a wide patronage. Mr. Culp, however, sold out his private banking concern to a party of gentlemen in 1902, who established the Raymond National Bank with William H. Cass as president and James E. McDavid as cashier. This banking house is another of the strong banking con-

cerns of our county. Approximating the deposits of the several banks of Montgomery county, we should place them on a reasonable estimate at one million five hundred thousand dollars, and my personal experience within the last few months enables me to state that loans can be secured on good collateral at from one to one and one-half per cent lower rates of interest than can be secured on the same class of collateral in counties lying wholly within the corn belt, and where the land is selling at from a hundred and twenty-five dollars to a hundred and seventy-five dollars per acre. But few banks in the county pay interest on time deposits and the practice is not looked upon by the more conservative element as being in harmony with the best banking rules. However, we would state that some of the strongest banks in this section pay a small rate of interest to time depositors. A. J. Williford, cashier of the Nokomis National Bank, has at our request furnished us with an article discussing the several phases of national banking. In connection with his article he presents a statement of the Nokomis National Bank.

NATIONAL BANKS.

BY A. J. WILLIFORD.

The national bank act was born of the sore need of the government in time of war, and like many another matter that is the fruit of necessity, has thoroughly proved its usefulness. When, after nearly two years of bitter warfare between the armies of the north and south, the necessity for a large increase in the fighting forces in the north, with all that that implies, was made apparent; when the unwelcome fact of the unpreparedness of the Federal government for war was plainly manifest; when the credit of the nation was so impaired that it could no longer find a market for its bonds; when every expedient known under such conditions had been resorted to and failed to meet the requirements; when the officers of government were brought at last face to face with the appalling fact that money, lots of money, must

be had, then the great war secretary, Chase, who had seen this situation coming, placed before congress a plan which he had devised for the chartering, not of a national bank, but of a system of national banks by the Federal government, each bank to be purely a local affair and entirely independent in itself, subject only to the regulation and supervision of the national government. His plan embodied the two essential needs of government—that each bank should be compelled to buy government bonds to the amount of twenty-five per cent of their capital, and might issue circulating notes up to ninety per cent of the value of the bonds.

Capitalists were slow, at first, to take advantage of this law, but gradually it found favor and the government at Washington emitted a sigh of relief. The national banks organized could, and did, provide a market for government bonds, not only for circulation purposes, but for investment also. Although there have been many amendments, the law is to-day substantially the same as originally conceived. One of the latest amendments authorizes the organization of banks with twenty-five thousand dollars capital, fifty thousand dollars having been the minimum heretofore.

One provision worthy of note is that out of the net profits of each bank ten per cent of such profits must be placed in a surplus fund until the surplus amounts to twenty per cent of the capital stock. This is for the purpose of meeting any losses that may occur from loans or investments that prove to be partly or wholly uncollectible, without impairing the capital of the bank.

There are restrictions that tend to make the national banking system one of the best in the world. National banks are forbidden to lend more than ten per cent of their capital to any one person or firm. They can not tie up their funds in real estate loans, which are usually for long time. They are subject to examination without notice by an official examiner appointed by the comptroller of the currency as often as comptroller may require it, not less than once each year. For some years past this has been done twice annually. They must publish sworn reports of the exact condition of the bank at least five times annually, when called for by the

comptroller, such publication being in a newspaper published in the county in which the bank is located. They must at all times have at least fifteen per cent of the amount of their deposits in cash, either in their own vault or in the vaults of reserve agents (other national banks in reserve cities), approved by the comptroller. As a matter of fact most national banks keep thirty, forty, sometimes fifty per cent on hand and with reserve agents.

Each national bank must redeem the circulating notes of any other national bank as well as its own, and the treasurer of the United States must redeem them all. For this purpose each national bank must keep on deposit with the treasurer an amount equal to five per cent of its circulating notes.

All the expenses of the bureau having charge of national banks—the comptroller of the currency—as well as the salaries of the examiners, express charges on currency, etc., are paid by the banks, in part by a tax on their circulation and in part direct. When you add to all this that provision of the law that each stockholder in a national bank is liable to depositors not only for the full amount of the stock they own, but an equal amount in addition, you have as much safety for those doing business with them as seems possible to have, or as is required.

It may interest the general reader to see the manner in which National banks are required to publish reports of their condition that the public may know from time to time just how their affairs stand, so I have included an exact copy of the official report of the Nokomis National Bank, of Nokomis, Illinois, made to the comptroller of the currency by his order, showing the condition of this bank at the close of business September 6, 1904.

BANK REPORT.

Report of the condition of the Nokomis National Bank, at Nokomis, in the State of Illinois, at the close of business, Sept. 6th, 1904:

RESOURCES.

Loans and discounts	\$300,295.01
Overdrafts, secured and unsecured.	4,012.71
U. S. Bonds to secure circulation..	100,000.00
Premiums on U. S. bonds.....	2,000.00

Bonds, securities, etc.....	43,400.00
Banking house, furniture and fixtures	7,500.00
Due from National Banks (not reserve agents)	3,662.01
Due from State Banks and Bankers	320.61
Due from approved reserve agents.	137,662.20
Checks and other cash items	261.59
Notes of other National Banks....	1,000.00
Fractional paper currency, nickels and cts	292.92
<i>Lawful Money Reserve in Bank, Viz.:</i>	
Specie	\$ 9,345.05
Legal tender notes, 14,860.00	24,205.05
Redemption fund with U. S. Treasurer (5 per cent of circulation)	5,000.00
Total	\$629,612.10

LIABILITIES.

Capital stock paid in.....	\$100,000.00
Surplus fund	20,000.00
Undivided profits, less expenses and taxes paid	3,613.53
National Bank notes outstanding..	100,000.00
Individual deposits subject to check	163,438.62
Demand certificates of deposit....	109,859.95
Time certificates of deposit	132,700.00
Total	\$629,612.10

STATE OF ILLINOIS,)
County of Montgomery.) ss.

I, A. J. Williford, Cashier of the above named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief. A. J. WILLIFORD, Cashier.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 8th day of September, 1904.

D. H. ZEPP, N. P.

Correct—Attest:

GEO. SIPPEL.
GEO. TAYLOR.
N. SINGER.

Directors.

It requires but slight knowledge of book-keeping to analyze these reports thus enabling the interested public, not only to perceive the

condition of the bank at that time, but, if noted regularly, to follow its progress, whether improving or declining in usefulness.

Perhaps the most beneficial effects brought about by the national bank act which was felt by the public was the elimination of the ten thousand different varieties of the old state bank notes, whose value was problematical from day to day, and which, to enable the holders to know their value, required the help of the daily publication of the "Bank Note Reporter" without which no bank could do business safely, and even with which they were always in grave doubt as to what the next day would bring forth. By placing a tax on these state bank notes much heavier than that imposed on the national currency the state notes were gradually retired until those banks which were solvent had redeemed all their issue, while those which were insolvent went into bankruptcy.

A careful study of the law creating and controlling national banks, and a just comprehension of the beneficial results of this act viewed in the light of the history of their accomplishments in the last forty-two years, will enable any one to appreciate the far sighted wisdom of Salmon P. Chase, the congress which passed the law, and President Lincoln who signed the bill February 25, 1862.

The Hillsboro National Bank began its corporate existence September 15 and opened its doors for business November 6, 1882, with a capital stock of fifty thousand dollars and the following list of stockholders, namely: William Brewer, William H. Brewer, Edward Lane, Samuel R. Thomas, John J. McLean, Charles A. Ramsey, George M. Raymond, Thomas C. Kirkland, Thomas E. Harris, Henry Friedmeyer, Charles H. Messimore, George W. Brown Jr., Charles O. Brown, William Watson and Moses Berry. Of these fifteen original stockholders only five now have any holdings in the bank, six having died and four having disposed of their stock. William H. Brewer, E. Lane, George M. Raymond, George W. Brown Jr., Thomas E. Harris and Charles A. Ramsey constituted the first board of directors. Charles A. Ramsey was chosen president; William H. Brewer, vice-president, and George

M. Raymond, cashier. Judge Lane and Mr. Ramsey alone remain of the original board of directors, and Mr. Ramsey has the sole distinction of serving continually the same position from the organization until this date, Judge Lane having resigned during his term of service in congress.

In the twenty-two years since its organization the Hillsboro National Bank has had three cashiers, George M. Raymond, from September 15, 1882, to his death in July, 1884; Luther M. Beck, from October 1, 1884, to June 15, 1902, when he resigned to go to another field, and E. J. Miller, who had previously acted as bookkeeper and assistant cashier, from June 15, 1902, to the present time. In 1894 the capital stock was increased to \$60,000 and ten more stockholders added, six of whom still have their names on the stock books. In 1893 the building now occupied by them was erected. The board of directors as at present constituted are: Judge E. Lane, Judge George R. Cooper, W. M. Abbot, George N. Allen, E. M. Stubblefield, C. W. Bliss and C. A. Ramsey.

As evidence of the conservative and careful policy pursued by its officers it may be stated that in the twenty-two years of its corporate existence this institution has found it necessary to charge off as bad debts only \$236 or less than eleven dollars per annum. It may be of interest to the public, as showing the growth of this bank as well as indicating the material prosperity of the surrounding country, to present side by side a summary of the first statement of condition made by the Hillsboro National Bank upon call of the comptroller of the currency December 30, 1882, and the last one made September 6, 1904:

Resources.	Dec. 30, 1882.	Sept. 6, 1904.
Loans and discounts.	\$16,788.70	\$246,406.12
U. S. bonds to secure circulation	25,000.00	60,000.00
Other stocks and bonds	20,465.27	
Premiums paid on U. S. bonds	468.75	
Real estate, furniture and fixtures	1,557.61	11,025.00
Expenses	641.37	756.24

Cash on hand and with			Surplus and undivided		
other banks	49,333.80	87,966.31	profits	418.99	44,465.06
	<hr/>	<hr/>	National bank notes		
	\$96,760.23	\$426,612.94	outstanding	22,500.00	60,000.00
Liabilities.			Deposits	28,198.24	262,147.88
Capital stock paid in.	\$45,643.00	\$ 60,000.00		<hr/>	<hr/>
				\$96,760.23	\$426,612.94

INDEX

BIOGRAPHICAL

Adams, W. W.	318	Chamberlin, John W.	64	Gray, W. A.	501
Allen, George N.	58	Chamberlin, L. M.	620	Greene, J. F. M.	490
Allen, N. B.	329	Chapman, J. R.	266	Greenwood, August	600
Allen, R. B.	566	Christie, William	534	Greenwood, William	599
Allen, Dr. William A.	614	Cline, L. W.	640	Griffin, Jesse S.	35
Anderson, John W.	15	Clofelter, J. M.	541	Grimes, Edward	132
Attebery, David P.	488	Clofelter, James W.	260	Grimes, Walter M.	170
Attebery, William J.	344	Colby, Dr. O. C.	333	Grubbs, S. M.	7
Attebery, William M.	344	Collins, G. W.	643	Grubbs, W. S.	658
Atterbury, J. H.	83	Cook, Dr. William H.	99		
Ault, William	554	Cooper, George R.	24	Haake, Otto	349
		Corlew, J. M.	390	Haake, Solomon	242
Baker, J. M.	508	Counton, William	137	Hackney, Joseph	465
Bandy, J. P.	271	Crabtree, J. C.	221	Hall, Hugh	414
Banes, A. N.	452	Cratty, Samuel L.	28	Haller, Jacob	183
Barnard, Robert P.	657	Crawford, J. E.	383	Haller, Jacob E.	445
Barringer, R. M.	119	Cress, Alex. A.	536	Hampton, J. A.	40
Barry, Amos S.	519	Cress, Daniel, Jr.	482	Harris, E.	45
Barry, A. Sumner	356	Cress, Eli	446	Hawkins, H. C.	631
Bartling, C. F.	71	Cress, Henry	217	Haynes, Dr. Baxter	200
Bartling, Henry W.	91	Cress, H. A.	527	Haynes, Henry	522
Bass, Guilford	521	Cress, W. S.	52	Herman, Dr. P. J.	57
Bateman, George W.	478	Crickenberger, J. H.	327	Hess, E. B.	553
Beal, John K.	441	Cundiff, Hiram C.	268	Hill, C. H.	565
Bechtel, Harvey	596	Curry, W. L.	147	Hill, T. J.	573
Beck, Mrs. Mary E.	626			Hill, L. V.	59
Bennett, Dr. R. F.	272	Davis, David	650	Hilt, Edward	636
Berry, M. E.	454	Doerr, A. T.	251	Hitchings, H. H.	287
Berry, Moses	470	Donaldson, E. H.	560	Holmes, M. D.	619
Bevens, William R.	464	Doyle, Lemuel	477	Hood, Harold	151
Bixler, Josiah	365	Doyle, L. Thomas	86	Hood, Dr. H. H.	559
Black, W. A.	330	Driskell, J. W.	283	Hope, J. C.	586
Blackburn, Jabez	322	Driskell, Marshall	210	Howell, A. M.	169
Blackburn, J. R.	322	Durdy, Alex. C.	437	Hoyt, Dr. J. M.	385
Blackburn, W. H. II.	203			Huffer, George W.	247
Blackwelder, William R.	34	Edwards, C. F.	26	Husband, R. T.	191
Bliss, C. W.	8	Edwards, T. H.	600	Hussey, L. A.	585
Bone, James S.	528	Eldred, S. W.	84		
Bost, C. A.	231	Ellington, A. L.	509	Jenkins, Charles W.	307
Bost, Daniel	299	Elliot, Columbus	144	Johnson, Dr. C. W.	238
Bost, J. J.	339	Elwell, J. M.	77	Jones, F. M.	613
Bost, V. A.	594	Ensor, Zachariah	339	Jones, Joel	127
Bote, W. F.	620	Entrekin, Dr. F. M.	184		
Boyd, William A.	608			Kastien, H. P.	658
Bremer, J. H.	226	Fath, John	329	Kendall, J. D.	97
Briggs, Pleasant	476	Fellner, George C.	429	Kennedy, R. W.	107
Brown, Charles L.	547	Fesser, George W.	609	Kessinger, S. W.	640
Brown, Daniel F.	395	Fisher, Albert	284	Killpatrick, J. S.	385
Brown, F. H.	541	Fitzgerald, Cyrus	542	Kimball, Dr. Z. V.	418
Brown, George W., Jr.	423	Fooks, George	152	Kime, S. A.	477
Brown, James P.	540	Frame, W. A.	108	Kintz, Urban E.	352
Bryce, Robert	196	Frey, Jacob J.	510	Kirkland, T. C.	20
Bumann, Theodore	213	Fricke, William	351	Kirkpatrick, J. W.	241
Burris, Dewitt C.	430	Friedmeyer, Henry	188		
Buscher, M. J.	610	Funk, Otto	397	Lane, Edward	12
Butler, A. G.	649			Lane, T. L.	92
		Gains, G. E.	288	Laws, Charles L.	378
Caldwell, Dr. G. W.	131	Gaulin, William	79	Lewey, Albert R.	418
Canaday, E. F.	72	Gates, J. J.	120	Lewey, C. A.	321
Canaday, Stephen D.	502	Gees, Anton C.	398	Lewey, C. C.	276
Carey, J. J.	68	Gerlach, S. E.	402	Lewey, Oliver	276
Carroll, Rev. P. F.	500	Gillman, Charles	252	Lewey, William A.	14
Carter, W. D.	112	Glenn, John F.	303	Lingle, R. Forest	255
Casselberry, W. H.	275	Goby, A. W.	171	Lipe, C. F.	568
Cave, Singleton D.	176	Goodin, W. C.	662	Lipe, Ephraim D.	572
Chacey, E. C.	601	Gragg, William	19	Lipe, J. J.	318
Challacombe, J. R.	98	Granham, J. Robert	463	Lockhart, Dr. Charles H.	437
		Grassel, John C.	489	Loucks, John H.	614

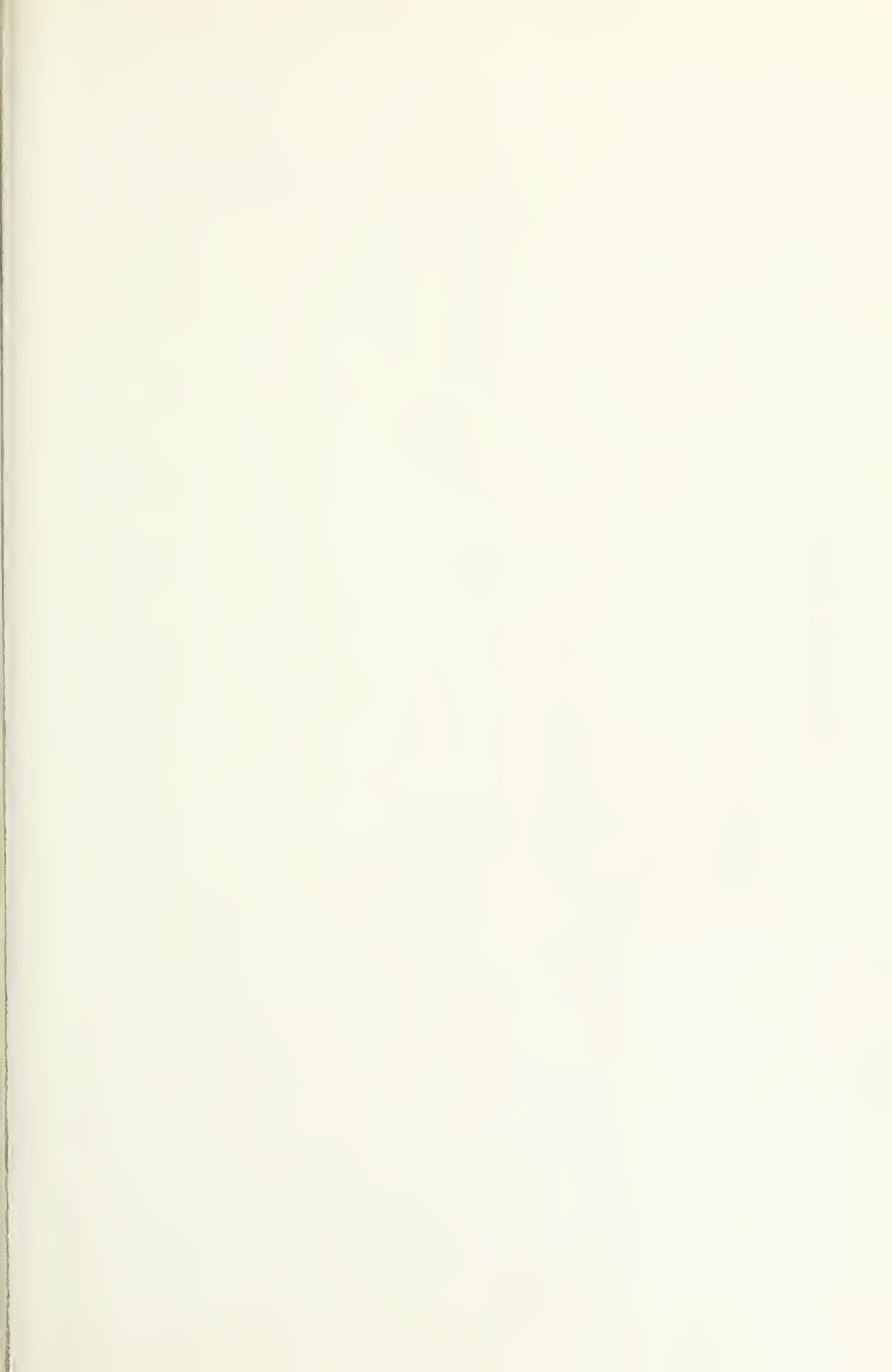
PAST AND PRESENT OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

McCallum, John	195	Rachow, Fred A.	304	Toberman, Isaiah	157
McDavid, Joel K.	567	Rainey, George W.	499	Toberman, M. F.	182
McEwen, A. F.	407	Rainey, William F.	494	Toberman, W. H.	595
McKinney, C. B.	234	Ramsey, Charles A.	78	Tolle, Charles A.	610
McLean, William H.	372	Rhine, R. A.	221	Traylor, Joel C.	438
McMurray, M. J.	88	Rhodes, W. M.	340	Truitt, Dr. E. B.	475
McPherson, R. A.	312	Rice, E. A.	199	Turner, John B.	390
McPherson, Lewis	639	Rice, Judge E. Y.	454		
McWilliams, Robert	602	Rice, R. J.	436	Updike, P. B.	28
Mack, Calvin H.	377	Richards, E. C.	143		
Mast, Charles	181	Richmond, G. A.	233	Van Deusen, Delos	160
Masterson, Rev. Thomas	148	Ripley, James H.	317	Vandevor, A. K.	218
Meriwether, S. A.	237	Ritchie, John W.	214	Van Hooser, William	43
Mey, Louis H.	588	Rives, Zeno J.	442	Vawter, William	327
Miller, Amos	386	Roberts, J. H.	172	Verrickker, James	87
Miller, John H.	48	Robertson, M. L.	311		
Milner, Isaac A.	51	Robinson, S. T.	187	Waggoner, Horace G.	192
Milner, W. A.	607	Rohlfing, Ben	636	Waggoner, H. O.	139
Mitchell, Joseph	644	Romine, W. Scott	466	Waggoner, J. M.	632
Mondhink, Fred	176	Russell, John	256	Ware, Arthur	414
Moody, J. S.	259			Ware, David, Jr.	414
Morgan, Charles E.	384	Sammons, Abner	464	Ware, David S.	104
Morse, Ferdinand	164	Sawyer, F. M.	424	Ware, Henry	409
Moyer, Dr. M. L.	514	Scheffel, Frank J.	417	Ware, J. H.	535
		Scherer, David Y.	410	Ware, Lyman	430
Neece, William	33	Schluckbier, W. F.	622	Warnsing, H. H.	60
Neisler, D. W.	128	Schraut, Leopold	661	Washburn, S. E.	622
Nelch, B. F.	209	Sedentop, Louis	300	Weaver, A. F.	118
Neuhaus, Henry	551	Seward, George T.	117	Weber, Luke C.	183
Newsome, William E.	608	Seymour, W. L.	292	Welge, Louis	138
Nieft, Frank W.	311	Shindler, John T.	259	Weller, Daniel	371
Nobbe, Charles H.	308	Shoemaker, John M.	11	Westcott, T. K.	299
Nobbe, Henry	172	Shoemaker, Samuel	349	White, W. A.	159
		Shoemaker, William	362	Whitmore, Joseph	582
O'Bannon, S. E.	579	Short, Dr. H. S.	111	Whitten, E. W.	453
Oller, Amos	580	Short, John C.	572	Whitten, Dr. T. J.	16
Oller, David S.	574	Sims, George	267	Wiegand, Conrad	543
Oller, P. C.	654	Sims, William	63	Wiley, Lewis A.	389
Oller, George E.	654	Smith, W. C.	549	Wiley, W. H.	539
Osborn, James R.	460	Sorrell, Mrs. Mary E.	426	Wilson, Dr. G. S.	550
Osborn, Jesse W.	451	Sperry, H. B.	481	Wilson, John G.	502
Osborn, Joshua	209	Spinner, Frank	282	Wilson, William H.	593
		Spinner, George	635	Wilton, Harry	297
Paden, Albert M.	350	Spinner, Joseph	653	Wilton, R. L.	281
Paden, R. C.	602	Spinner, Louis	661	Witherspoon, Charles H.	413
Paisley, G. W.	39	St. Francis Hospital	665	Wolters, Louis	334
Parlow, George A.	67	Stauder, Philip	175	Wolters, Robert	396
Paul, Lee M.	100	Stevens, Riley	23	Wood, Leroy F.	453
Phillips, Jesse J.	204	Strange, Dr. Algy F.	487	Wood, P. C.	123
Poland, C. H.	163	Strange, A. T.	248	Wood, T. H.	225
Pope, Daniel	401	Stuttle, Harry C.	352	Wright, Emery	374
Potts, R. J.	355				
Potts, W. B.	457	Thomas, L. H.	520	Yeske, W. J.	373
Pray, E. N.	124	Thorp, W. T.	466	Young, F. H.	532
Price, J. P.	222	Thumb, Marvin	291	Young, William A.	44
Quartley, William T.	222	Tiffin, C. H.	397	Zuber, C. D.	621

HISTORICAL

By JACOB L. TRAYLOR

Introduction	669	East Fork Township and Village of Coffeen	731
Illinois	671	Harvel Township and Village of Harvel	741
Story of Early Settlers of Montgomery County	682	Township of Bois d'Arc and Village of Farmersville	742
Hillsboro Township and City	694	Pitman Township and Village of Waggoner	744
North and South Litchfield Townships and City of Litchfield	701	Zanesville Township	745
Rountree Township	712	Raymond Township and Village of Raymond	747
Audubon Township	714	Irving Township and Village of Irving	750
Nokomis City and Township	715	Butler Grove Township and Village of Butler	754
Witt Township and Villages of Witt and Paisley	717	Press of Montgomery County	757
Grisham Township and Village of Donnellson	719	War History of Montgomery County	760
Walshville Township	721	Banks of Montgomery County	762
Fillmore Village and Township	723	National Banks	765



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