





PAST AND PRESENT
OF THE
CITY OF ROCKFORD

AND
WINNEBAGO COUNTY, ILLINOIS

BY
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ASSISTED BY H. H. WALDO

TOGETHER WITH
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

OF MANY OF ITS LEADING AND PROMINENT CITIZENS AND ILLUSTRIOUS DEAD

ILLUSTRATED

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Dedicated to the
Pioneers
of Winnebago County

1882

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PREFACE.



THE publishers take great pleasure in presenting this volume to the public. In addition to the general history, which is a model of its kind, our corps of writers have gone to the people, the men and women who have, by their enterprise and industry, brought this county 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 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.

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THE S. J. CLARKE PUBLISHING CO.

PAST AND PRESENT OF WINNEBAGO COUNTY

HISTORICAL

GEOGRAPHICAL REVIEW.

The territory now comprised within the state of Illinois first nominally formed a part of Virginia. The English crown, by virtue of discoveries made by the Cabots and the colonies planted by Sir Walter Raleigh, took formal possession of that portion of the new world later known as Virginia. The English colonists in Virginia, however, did not penetrate far into the interior. Thus the royal claim to the "land throughout from sea to sea west and northwest" did not secure the title of the English crown to this vast domain. The French were the first actual settlers in the great Mississippi valley. During the latter part of the seventeenth century Father Marquette, Joliet, La Salle, Tonti and others had explored the shores of the Father of Waters and his tributaries. La Salle descended the Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico. He named the country Louisiana, in honor of his king, Louis XIV. By virtue of these explorations France made formal claim to the territory lying on either side of the Mississippi. Thus, with English colonies on the coast, and French occupation in the valley of the Mississippi, it was only a question of time when there would come a final struggle for the possession of this vast territory.

This crisis came with the French and Indian war, the issue of which committed the destiny of the west to the Anglo-Saxon civilization. By the treaty of Paris, in 1763, Great Britain obtained all the French territory east of the Mississippi, with the exception of the island of New Orleans.

The special claim made by Virginia to the Illinois territory was based upon the bold conquest of this region by Colonel George Rogers Clark.

In 1778 Colonel Clark conducted a series of brilliant campaigns against the military posts at Kaskaskia, Cahokia and Vincennes. The French villages, the only settlements in the region, were seats of British power. If these posts could be taken, and the capture of the British effected, the entire region would be won for the Old Dominion. The scheme appealed to the bold spirit of Colonel Clark, and the outcome justified his most sanguine expectations.

Virginia assured the title to this extensive territory, first by right of her charter, and secondly by the conquest of her own arms. The territory was at once organized into a country called Illinois. By the treaty of Paris in 1783, which terminated the Revolutionary war, the Illinois territory passed forever from the control of Great Britain. In 1784 the delegates in congress from the commonwealth of Virginia presented to the United States a deed of cession of the territory northwest of the Ohio river. By the ordinance of 1787 congress provided that not less than three nor more than five states should be formed from this territory.

By an act of congress in 1800 the Northwest Territory was divided into two parts, called the Ohio and the Indiana Territory respectively. The latter comprised the present states of Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin. In 1809 was organized the territory of Illinois, which also included Wisconsin and peninsular Michigan.

The seat of government was fixed at Kaskaskia. In 1812 Illinois was advanced to the second grade of territorial government; and in 1818 it was admitted with its present boundaries into the Union as a state.

WINNEBAGOES AND THE BLACK HAWK WAR.

Winnebago county does not figure prominently in Indian history. The Winnebagoes, from whom the county derives its name, occupied it as a portion of their reservation at one time. This tribe was first met by the Jesuit fathers at the head of Green bay. The Winnebagoes belonged to the Dakota or Sioux nation. They wandered to southern Wisconsin and northern Illinois and Iowa. By a treaty negotiated at Prairie du Chien, August 1, 1829, the Winnebagoes ceded to the United States certain lands in Illinois, of which Winnebago county west of Rock river was a part. Article V of the treaty granted sections of land to certain Indian descendants of mixed blood, who did not wish to migrate with their tribe. Thirty-six of these descendants were given one section of land each, two received two sections, and three two sections jointly. These grants were unlocated or "floating" lands. From this fact came the word "float," by which these sections were popularly known. These grantees were allowed to select a section, and their choice was to be approved by the Indian commissioner, and by the president of the United States. There were several of these "floats" in Rockford township, some of which now comprise the most populous and wealthy portions of West Rockford.

The Black Hawk war directed the attention of eastern settlers to the Rock River valley. The Sacs and Foxes emigrated into Illinois from the north. Neither tribe was sufficiently strong to successfully meet its enemies. Hence they became one nation. This allied tribe belonged to the Algonquin nation. Black Hawk was born in the Sac village on the site of Rock Island in 1797.

In 1804 a treaty was negotiated between William Henry Harrison, then governor of Indiana Territory, and the five chiefs of the Sac and Fox nations. By this treaty these allied tribes ceded their land on Rock river to the United States. It was provided, however, that the Indians should retain these lands until they were wanted for settlement. During the war of 1812 with England, Black Hawk led a faction in an alliance with the British. Amicable relations existed between the Sac and Fox nations and the United States from the close of the war with England until 1830. In July of that year Keokuk, another Sac chief, made a final cession to the United States of the lands held by his tribe east of the Mississippi river. According to this treaty, his

people were to remove from Illinois to the country west of the Mississippi, and they quietly removed across the river. This treaty was negotiated without the consent of Black Hawk, and he determined to resist the order of the government for the removal of his tribe. This resistance brought affairs to a crisis. Black Hawk always asserted that his intentions in recrossing the river were not hostile. The authorities at Washington and at Springfield, however, construed his action as a violation of the treaty and a declaration of war.

The campaign lasted only seventy-nine days. The most notable incident was the massacre at Stillman's Run, in Ogle county, the site of which is now marked by a monument. Black Hawk, in his retreat, followed the general course of Rock river, passing through what is now East Rockford. The battle of the Bad Axe in Wisconsin practically ended the struggle.

After the cessation of hostilities emigrants from New England and the middle states settled more rapidly in northern Illinois, which in a few years became the most prosperous portion of this great commonwealth.

STEPHEN MACK, FIRST SETTLER IN COUNTY.

Stephen Mack was the first white man who made a permanent settlement in Winnebago county. The exact time is unknown. It was probably about 1829, although earlier dates have been given. He was born in Poultney, Vermont, and in early life his love of adventure drove him into the western wilderness. About 1835 he platted a village at the mouth of Peatonica river, near Rockton, which he called Macktown. Mack married Ho-no-ne-gah, a daughter of a Pottawatomic chief. She was the mother of eleven children, and died in 1847.

Stephen Mack died in 1850, and was buried on his farm beside his Indian wife. Thirty years later, May 19, 1880, their remains were removed and buried in the Phillips cemetery, near Harrison.

In the summer of 1833 John Phelps, in company with a Frenchman, came down Rock river, and made a brief stop at the mouth of the creek where Germanicus Kent and Thatcher Blake located claims a year later. They continued their journey down the river, and selected a site now occupied by the town of Oregon, in Ogle county.

Joseph Kemp was in this section from 1830 to 1840, and again from 1842 to 1844. In 1899 he was living at Michigan City.

FIRST SETTLEMENT IN ROCKFORD.

Germanicus Kent and Thatcher Blake were the first permanent settlers in what is now the city

of Rockford. Mr. Kent was born in Suffield, Connecticut, in 1790. In early life he removed to Huntsville, Alabama, and from there he went to Galena, Illinois, where his brother, Rev. Aratus Kent, was stationed as a home missionary.

Mr. Blake was born in Turner, Oxford county, Maine, March 16, 1809. In 1834 he went to St. Louis, where he heard reports of the Rock river country from soldiers returning from the Black Hawk war. Mr. Blake visited Galena, and there made the acquaintance of Mr. Kent.

In June, 1834, Mr. Kent and Mr. Blake started on a tour of exploration. They went north into Wisconsin territory to the Pecatonica river; thence in a canoe along that stream to its mouth and then down Rock river until they arrived at the mouth of a small tributary, to which the name of Kent's creek was subsequently given. They continued their journey down Rock river to Dixon's ferry, and from there returned overland to Galena.

Soon after their arrival in Galena they prepared for a second journey. On the evening of August 24 these pioneers arrived at their destination, and the founding of Rockford became an established fact. The party consisted of Germanicus Kent, Thatcher Blake, a Mr. Evans, and another man whose name is unknown.

Kent and Blake located claims. Mr. Kent's claim comprised a tract of land which included the Tinker estate, the water-power and the estate now owned by the family of the late Judge Church. Mr. Blake's claim included parts of sections twenty and twenty-nine. Mr. Kent constructed a dam and a sawmill on Kent's creek, and was active in other enterprises. He was not successful in business, however, and he could not weather the financial storm of 1837.

Mr. Kent removed from Rockford in 1844. His last years were spent in Blacksburg, Virginia, where he died March 1, 1862. Fortune was more kind to Mr. Blake. He died October 8, 1880, and left a large estate.

FIRST SETTLER IN EAST ROCKFORD.

The first settler of what is now East Rockford, was Daniel Shaw Haight, who arrived April 9, 1835. He was a native of New York, and before coming to Rockford he had selected a claim near Geneva, in Kane county. Mr. Haight subsequently came to Rockford, and selected a tract of land which comprised a considerable portion of what is now the business and most thickly settled residence district. Mr. Haight was a rugged, roistering pioneer, and a shrewd man of affairs. Mr. Haight's cabin, erected in the summer of 1835, was the first structure on the East side. It was built near the northeast corner of State and Madison streets.

The first public religious service in Rockford

was held the second Sunday in June, 1835, at the home of Germanicus Kent, and was conducted by his brother, the Rev. Aratus Kent, of Galena. It has been said that on that day every soul in Rockford attended divine worship.

PIONEERS OF 1835-37.

Among other notable settlers of 1835 in the township may be mentioned James B. Martyn, James Boswell, James Wood, Eliphalet Gregory, Samuel Gregory, Ephraim Wyman, Richard Montague, William E. Dunbar, P. P. Churchill, Milton Kilburn, Israel Morrill, Ezra Barnum, Anson Barnum, and Dr. Levi Moulthrop, the first resident physician of Winnebago county, as now organized. Dr. Moulthrop died September 12, 1840.

The tide of emigration, which may be said to have begun in 1835, continued for several years. When the Rockford Society of Early Settlers was organized, January 10, 1870, its constitution provided that male residents of the county who settled therein previous to 1840 were eligible to membership. According to this standard, such names belong to the historic roll of honor.

Included in the settlers in the county in 1836 were Thomas Lake, a native of the parish of Selworthy, in England; Herman B. Potter, Selden M. Church, Abiram and Mary Morgan, Sampson George, an English gentleman; Dr. Charles Henry Richings, the second resident physician, who came from England; Bethuel Houghton, Isaac N. Cunningham, Hiram R. Enoch, Jacob and Mary Posson, Nathaniel Loomis and son Henry W.; Alonzo Corey, Spooner Ruggles, A. G. Spaulding, Homer Denton, Charles P. Brady, Henry P. Redington, Jonathan Wilson, Edmund Whittlesey.

The emigration of 1837 was equal to that of the preceding year. John C. Kemble was the first lawyer who practiced in this county. He became insane and in 1840 he was taken to an eastern asylum, where he died a short time afterward. A few of the settlers of 1837 may be mentioned: John Lake, who came from England; Henry Thurston and his son John H.; William P. Dennis, Samuel D. Preston, Eleazer H. Potter, Nathaniel Wilder, George W. Brinckerhoff, Good-year A. Sanford, Rev. John Morrill, David D. Alling, John Beattie, John Platt, Benjamin Kilburn, John Miller and sons, Jacob B., Thomas and George; Isaac Toms, Wm. Twogood, William Peters, Simeon Harmon, Lewis Keith, Joseph Hayes, Seth Palmer.

PECATONICA.

Contemporaneous settlements were made in the several townships of Winnebago county. The

township of Pecatonica was settled in 1835. The first settlers were Ephraim Sumner, William Sumner, Mrs. Dolly Guilford, Isaac Hance, and Elijah B. Guilford, who is still living. The tracts now covered by the village of Pecatonica were first owned by Daniel Reed, and William and Ephraim Sumner. In 1852 Thomas D. Robertson and John A. Holland, both of Rockford, purchased an individual interest in the town plat, and with Mr. Reed laid out the village. The plat was filed for record in December, 1852. During the spring of 1853, arrangements were perfected by which Mr. Robertson was to make and convey all titles to said property.

N. F. Maynard erected the first building and opened the first grocery store in July, 1852. Sullivan Daniels opened the first public hotel, called the Seward House. In September, 1853, the Galena & Chicago Union railroad began the receipt and delivery of freight at Pecatonica station, under the superintendence of Josiah Stevens. The first great improvement for Pecatonica was the construction of the turnpike across the bottoms, a distance of about one and a quarter miles. It was built by subscriptions at a great expense for that time, under the direction of Daniel Reed, Sr., in the autumn of 1853.

The postoffice was established in the autumn of 1853, and Tracy Smith was appointed postmaster.

The Methodist Episcopal church was organized in 1853, by the Rev. Barton H. Cartwright and Rev. Horatio N. Irish. The society met in a grain warehouse, where all the religious assemblies convened. In 1854 a small house of worship was erected, which served the purpose of the society until 1868, when a stone church was erected. The membership of the church in October, 1904, was 166. Rev. Charles Virden has served two years as pastor.

The First Congregational church was organized February 18, 1854, under the direction of Rev. Johnson, with a membership of six. A house of worship was dedicated in the autumn of 1855.

The Swedish Evangelical Lutheran church was organized in the year 1858, by Rev. Andreen.

The First Baptist society was organized in Rock Run, May 7, 1843, under the direction of William Stillwell, and in 1855 was removed to Pecatonica. It maintained an uncertain existence for some years, and finally disbanded. It belonged to the Rock River Association.

The First Universalist church was organized August 5, 1855, with seven members. A chapel was built in 1863, and remodeled in 1875.

The German Evangelical Lutheran church was organized about 1874, with a small membership.

A Roman Catholic society was organized in 1871-2 with fifty members.

A high school building was erected during the summer of 1862, and the first school was opened November 24 of the same year, under the supervision of J. S. Mabie, who served as principal until August 14, 1863. Mr. Mabie afterwards became pastor of the First Baptist church of Rockford.

The village of Pecatonica was incorporated by an act of the legislature of 1868-9. The bill for the incorporation of the village was introduced by Hon. Ephraim Sumner, who was then a member of the house. It now has a population of about 1,400. An opera house was built in 1897. It is owned by a stock company, and has a seating capacity of about 600. Irvin S. Sumner is the postmaster.

WINNEBAGO.

The first settler in what is now Winnebago township was David Adams Holt, who made a claim in 1835 to section 34. William Holt came in 1836, and another brother, Elijah Holt, in 1837. Other pioneers of 1838-39 were Alby Briggs, and Duty, Richard L., and Horace Hudson, three brothers. Duty Hudson opened the first public house in the township, which was known as the Buck Horn Tavern, at Westfield Corners. The first postoffice in the township was established there, and Duty Hudson was appointed postmaster. The place is designated on later maps as Elida.

The village of Winnebago was laid out in 1854 by Duncan Ferguson, under the direction of Thomas D. Robertson, John A. Holland, John VanNortwich, and J. D. Warner. A depot was erected in 1854. J. D. Warner was the first station agent, and he held that position twelve years. N. G. Warner built and opened the first store in 1855. The Methodist Episcopal church was organized as a class, with nine members, in 1839, by Rev. Mr. Worthington. The Methodist Episcopal society was organized in March, 1855, with Rev. Barton H. Cartwright as pastor. A chapel was erected the following year. It was during the pastorate of Rev. Cartwright, in 1855, that the church at Westfield Corners was erected. This field is now abandoned. Rev. T. A. Brewster has served three years as pastor at Winnebago. The church has a membership of one hundred.

The Congregational society was organized July 11, 1846, with eight members, at a meeting called for the purpose at Westfield. In July of the following year Rev. James Hodges was chosen pastor, and remained ten years. He was succeeded by Rev. S. P. Sloan, who remained until November, 1870. The third pastor was Rev. Henry M. Daniels. A house of worship was completed and dedicated in 1854. The church

now has no regular pastor. The membership is eighty-four.

The Presbyterian church was organized August 23, 1868, with twenty-four members. A house of worship was erected in 1869, at a cost of \$4,300. The present pastor is Rev. M. S. Axtell. The membership is two hundred and ten.

The Free Methodist church was organized with ten members May 29, 1865. The present membership is sixteen. The pastor is Rev. James H. Harvey, whose circuit also includes Rockford and Ridott.

The Adventists effected an organization in 1872, with forty-three members.

The first hotel in Winnebago was opened in the fall of 1859, and was called the Winnebago House.

The village of Winnebago has a population of about 500. W. F. Tritle is postmaster. Alworth, a station on the Illinois Central, receives its mail by rural free delivery from Winnebago. A post-office was once established at that point, but it has been discontinued.

CHERRY VALLEY.

The township was first known on the records of Winnebago county as Butler precinct. The name was changed to Cherry Valley upon the adoption of township organization. The land now comprising the site of the village was first settled by Joseph P. Griggs in 1835. He built a small cabin on the west side of Kishwaukee river. Mr. Griggs sold the tract to James Works, and he in turn sold it to Edwin Fitch, who laid out the village and filed the plat for record November 17, 1849. Among the early settlers following Mr. Griggs were A. C. Gleason, and two brothers, W. and S. W. Gleason. Densley Kiser came in 1836 or 1837. The first store was opened by John Waterman; the first hotel was conducted by Mr. Ingram, and called the Ingram Tavern. The first postmaster was Joseph Riddelle. The first grain warehouse was erected by Mr. Calkins, in the autumn of 1851. The Galena & Chicago Union railroad was completed to Cherry Valley in February, 1852.

The Methodist Episcopal church was organized by Rev. H. L. Martin in 1854. An edifice was erected the same year. The membership reported to the conference of 1904 was 86. Rev. A. W. Gillian was assigned to the field at the conference last year.

The Universalist church edifice was erected in 1854, under the supervision of Rev. Simon Park. After a few years the church was abandoned and the building was occupied by a Swedish religious society.

The Freewill Baptist church was erected in

1874, at a cost of \$3,500. The village has a population of about 500. Mrs. Elizabeth Kittle is postmistress.

DURAND.

The village of Durand is a business center for a considerable portion of Winnebago county lying north of Pecatonica river. The village derives its name from H. S. Durand, the first president of the Racine & Mississippi railroad. This line later became the property of the Western Union, and is now owned by the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway company, and the line extends to Freeport.

Among the pioneers may be mentioned L. V. Cleveland, John A. Johnson, and Frederic Sidorus, all of whom came about 1837. The location of the village at this point was the result of a compromise between various interested parties who jointly purchased the site of John Pettingill, Price B. Webster, and Edward Peppers. The proprietors were John F. Pettingill, Bruce B. Webster, Edward Pepper, L. V. Cleveland, Solomon Webster, Duncan J. Stewart, M. C. Churchill, G. H. Sackett, John R. Herring, William Randall and D. H. Smith. These gentlemen on the 18th day of November, 1856, conveyed their interest in trust to J. R. Herring, by whom the town was immediately laid out. Durand was for about two years the terminus of the Western Union railroad. The growth was quite rapid during that time. John F. Pettingill erected a hotel, the Durand House, at a cost of \$13,000.

The Methodist Episcopal church was organized in 1837. Rev. Mr. Whitford preached the first sermon at the residence of Scott Robb. He was succeeded by Rev. McCane, who was on the circuit one year or more. A chapel was erected in 1857. The pastor in September, 1905, was Rev. E. O. Stover. The membership reported to the conference of 1904 was 58.

A Congregational church was organized June 11, 1848, at Hill's schoolhouse, with seven members.

The Roman Catholic church began the erection of a house of worship in 1865-66, which house of worship remained in an unfinished condition for several years. Father Cotter, of Pecatonica, is the officiating priest, and holds services every third Sunday.

A Lutheran church, affiliated with the Norwegian synod, is now in process of construction.

The village has a population estimated at 700. Miss Lillian J. Harris is postmistress. There is a town hall, with a seating capacity of about 300. There are two banks: The Durand State Bank, with a capital of \$25,000; and the Citizens' Bank, a private banking house.

NEW MILFORD.

Prominent among the pioneers of New Milford township were D. S. Shumway, Horace Miller, and Samuel Brown. A town was started by the river at what is known as the Old Shumway place. At one time there were from thirty-five to forty frames erected there; but only a few of them were enclosed. This fact gave the place the appropriate name of "Rib-Town."

In 1838 Dr. A. M. Catlin came from the Western Reserve in Ohio, in company with the Rev. Hiram Foote and Silas Tyler. They were of New England stock, and were part of a movement to found an institution of learning similar to the one then flourishing at Oberlin, Ohio. These missionary educational managers selected a site for their institution near the mouth of the Kishwaukee river. A large building was begun, but never completed. It remained for years as a reminder of the first attempt to found a seminary in Winnebago county.

In 1839-40 George W. Lee platted a town on the upper side of Kishwaukee river, at its junction with Rock river. Quite a town was actually built, with two stores and a blacksmith shop. Both "Rib-Town" and Mr. Lee's plat were named Kishwaukee, but the former was abandoned before George W. Lee platted the second. The latter was sometimes called Lectown, in honor of its founder.

The present hamlet of Kishwaukee is a short distance below the mouth of the Kishwaukee river. There is a postoffice and a Wesleyan Methodist church, which was organized May 17, 1844, with seven members. The church was re-organized in 1863. A house of worship was erected in 1868 and a parsonage in 1870.

The hamlet of New Milford is in the eastern part of the township. The Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railroad passes by it about half a mile to the west.

There have been several attempts to organize churches in the village. The Methodist Episcopal church began as a class about 1838. The church now has its own property, and maintains regular services. The membership in October, 1904, was 122. Rev. S. W. Lauck has served two years as pastor. The church at Davis Junction also belongs to this circuit.

The Congregationalist society built a church in 1877. This field has been abandoned, and the church building is now used as a schoolhouse.

ROCKTON.

The fact has already been noted in this historical sketch that Stephen Mack was the first white settler in what is now Rockton township. Those who next succeeded him were William Tal-

cott and his son, Thomas B. Talcott, who made claims July 4, 1835. These gentlemen may be regarded as the first settlers of the village. Two other sons of William Talcott, Sylvester and Walter Henry, also settled there in 1835, and a fourth son, Wait Talcott, came in 1838.

The first store was opened by J. Ambrose and Timothy Wight in 1837. There is at Rockton more head and fall than at any other point on Rock river. A sawmill was erected in 1838, and a flouring mill in 1839, by Messrs. Talcott and Adams. The village was laid out by William Talcott in 1840, but the plat was not filed for record until May 30, 1844. The proprietors were Messrs. Talcott and Adams. The first bridge across Rock river above the mouth of Pecatonica river was built about 1845. Two bridges below the mouth of this stream were built a few years later. The first hotel was built by Jacob Hyatt, in 1830. It was a frame structure on the south side of Main street. The next hotel was the New England house, completed in 1846. The third public house, a brick building, erected by Porter Vinton, was kept by Samuel Adams, and was called the Mansion House.

The early history of the Rockton Baptist church is closely identified with that of the Roscoe Baptist church. The Roscoe and Rockton United Baptist church was organized in June, 1851. In 1854 the services at Roscoe were discontinued for lack of suitable accommodations. June 28, 1856, the church voted to build a house of worship at Rockton, and January 13, 1858, the building was dedicated. Rev. James Veness supplied the church until 1857, when Rev. D. B. Purinton became pastor. The church enjoyed a rapid growth during this time, when ninety-three united in seven years. The following have been pastors since Rev. Purinton's resignation: Rev. C. T. Roe, Rev. A. L. Wilkinson, Rev. W. Whitney, Rev. James Buchanan, Rev. W. M. Robinson, Rev. A. Whitman, Rev. W. G. Evans, Rev. J. E. Hamilton, Rev. J. J. Phelps, Rev. H. L. Steele, Rev. J. C. Hart, Rev. H. Topping, Rev. Stephen Crickett, Rev. W. L. Jones, Rev. C. W. Woodruff, Rev. T. C. Pederson, Rev. C. J. Eddy.

The First Congregational church was organized in 1830 by Rev. William Adams. The first meetings for public worship were held at different residences, until about 1840, when a small temporary structure was erected. A substantial stone building was built in 1848, at a cost of about five thousand dollars. The society has a bell which was the gift of William Talcott.

In 1855 Rev. Holland Richardson was sent to Rockton as a missionary, and organized a small band of Christian workers. In 1856 they were organized as a Methodist station under the pastor-

ate of Rev. C. F. Wright. A church was erected in 1859. The pastor in September, 1905, was Rev. O. J. Simmons. The membership is 148.

The Racine & Mississippi Railroad reached Rockton October 29, 1856. E. L. Stiles was appointed agent and he held that position for many years. September 10, 1872, Rockton became an incorporated town. There have been three paper mill plants in Rockton. One of these, which was burned down, was never rebuilt. The two now in operation are owned by Bradner Smith & Co. and J. M. Coons. Three flour mills have also been destroyed by fire, and never rebuilt.

The occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the public school in Rockton was commemorated under the direction of the principal, W. W. Austin. At that time W. A. Talcott announced that he and his father would give a lot, building and furniture for a public library, as a memorial of the Talcott family, upon condition that the township would support it by a tax. This generous offer was accepted. Thomas B. Talcott gave the nucleus of books and there have been subsequent gifts. The library now contains about four thousand volumes.

ROSCOE.

August 3, 1835, Robert J. Cross, of Coldwater, Mich., and Col. Von Hovenburg, with a Pottawatomie Indian for a guide, came from Milwaukee into what is now the township of Roscoe. Mr. Ross bought a claim of Lavee, an employe of Stephen Mack, upon which he subsequently settled. In September of the same year, Elijah H. Brown, James B. Lee, and William Mead came from La Porte county, Indiana. Until a postoffice was established at Beloit, the first settlers obtained their mail at Chicago. In the spring of 1837 a postoffice was established at the village of Roscoe, and M. P. Abell was appointed postmaster. The village was laid out under the direction of Messrs. Lelands, Jenks and Tuttle, and the plat was filed for record August 3, 1841. The township and village derived their names from William Roscoe, a celebrated English biographer.

There are two churches, Methodist Episcopal and Congregational. The membership of the former was reported to the Rock River conference of 1904 as 128. The pastor the last conference year was Rev. J. E. Fluck, who also supplied the church at Harlem.

The Congregational church was organized November 28, 1843, with eighteen members. June 3, 1858, the wife and seven children of Rev. Illsley, the pastor, were killed or drowned. In building the Madison branch of the Chicago & Galena railroad, a high embankment had been

thrown up at the crossing of the creek about half a mile above the village. The culvert was too small for the volume of water, and up to the afternoon of the day of the awful catastrophe, a pond two miles long, half a mile in width and from twenty-five to thirty feet in depth had formed above the embankment. About midnight the culvert caved in, the embankment gave way, and the water rushed down in one mighty torrent, carrying away several houses in its maddened rush, among which was the brick house occupied by Mr. Illsley and family, which toppled over and buried beneath its ruins the mother and seven children. Mr. Illsley, who had lost a leg, was comparatively helpless and was carried away by the flood nearly down to the Rock river, where he caught in a tree and held on until he was found by L. W. Richardson, who waded in and carried him out. In the Roscoe Cemetery, near the northeast corner, the eight bodies of one family, who had not all been united for some time till the day of their death, were buried in one day.

Rev. Eaton, the venerable father of President Eaton, of Beloit college, was pastor of this church for many years.

The Beloit and Madison division of the Chicago & Northwestern railway passes near the village of Roscoe. The Rockford, Beloit & Janesville electric line passes directly through the village.

GUILFORD.

In August, 1835, William E. Enoch, the eldest son of Henry Enoch, accompanied by two or three men from Will county, came to what is now Guilford township on a land prospecting tour. While out on this trip, young Enoch was taken sick and returned home. In September following, his father, Henry Enoch, and brothers, Richard H. and A. I. Enoch, started out, and, following the direction of William, struck Rock river at Rockford. Leaving his sons in camp, he started out, and, going northeast from there two or three miles, he struck the spring brook known as Bucklen creek. Believing this stream came from springs, he followed it to its source, which he found in the northeast corner of section 11, town 44, range 2, now in the town of Guilford. Here in the centre of a great prairie he found a spring of water 25 feet in diameter, the water about 24 inches deep and coming up from numerous places in the bottom through snow-white sand. The water was cold, and clear as crystal; the bank of the spring fringed with tall grass and bright prairie flowers. He was so charmed with the location, the great spring, the apparent fertility of the soil, and the general beauty of the surroundings, that he at once made up his mind to make it the future home of himself and family. Going to a thicket of hazel and

young poplar trees a few rods distant, he cut a small stake, and planting it on the bank of the spring, declared it his "claim." This spring became dry in the early seventies. This location was known for many years as the big spring of "Uncle Enoch" in the prairie. Mr. Enoch made this claim his permanent home until the autumn of 1850. Other early settlers of Guilford were Elisha A. Kirk, Thaddeus Davis, Sr., and his sons, David A., Thaddeus, Jr., and Daniel; Harry Doolittle, J. H. Kirk, Elisha A. Kirk, Giles C. Hard, G. L. Horton, and Dr. Charles Church.

A town hall was erected about ten years ago, the funds for which were raised by tax levy. Its cost was about \$1,500. It is on the Guilford Center road, five miles northeast of Rockford.

HARRISON.

Harrison is one of the four extreme northern townships of Winnebago county. The first settlement in this township was made in the fall of 1835 by a Mr. Brayton, who made a claim on section 35. In the spring of 1836, Mr. Brayton moved on his claim and commenced making a farm.

In 1840 the settlers desired to form a new precinct, and it was necessary to present a petition to the county commissioners to have a new precinct formed. At that time a majority of the settlers were democrats, and several of the citizens being together one day, they pitched upon Isaac Parker to circulate a petition. He consented to do so on condition that some of his neighbors (who were Democrats) would work for him hoeing corn while he was absent, to which they readily agreed. Parker then drew up his petition, went to Rockford, where the county commissioners were in session, and had no difficulty in getting a new precinct formed, but was asked what name they should give it. Parker, being a whig, immediately answered, Harrison, which name was adopted. When Parker returned and told how well he succeeded, his democratic friends were greatly disgusted with the name. When the county was organized under township organization the name was continued.

Its war record is notable. The whole number of enlistments was 122; whole number killed or died in the service, 24. It is believed that this town furnished a larger number of enlistments in proportion to the population to the number of voters than any other town in the county. Of the foregoing enlistments, 12 were in Wisconsin regiments, and a number are credited to other townships.

The village of Harrison is in the northeastern part of the township, at the junction of Sugar and Pecatonica rivers. It is a small settlement about

one mile almost directly south of Shirland. It has no railroad facilities, and therefore has made comparatively little progress since the early days. There is a Congregational church, with a membership of forty-four, and the pulpit is supplied by the pastor of Shirland. The Modern Woodmen have erected a hall, which is used for public meetings and lodge purposes.

SHIRLAND.

The township of Shirland borders on the state line. The village of the same name is in the eastern part of the township. It was originally called Kapota, an Indian name. The village has never been incorporated. It has a population of about 125, and is on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul road. Thomas B. Boswell was appointed postmaster October 20, 1860, and served until about ten years ago, when he was succeeded by his son, George E. Boswell, who still retains the office. A town hall was erected about three years ago, in which all township elections and political meetings are held.

The religious needs of the community are supplied by two churches. The Methodist Episcopal belongs to the Freeport district and had a membership in October, 1904, of 208. The pastor is Rev. J. C. Jones, who has served seven years. The Congregational church is one mile and a quarter north of the village. It has thirty-three members. The pastor is Rev. Selby.

SEWARD.

Seward forms the southwest corner of Winnebago county. It is in this township that the highest price has been paid for farm land in this county. The village of Seward is on the Illinois Central. A Roman Catholic church stands some distance north of the railroad track.

Perhaps few persons now living ever heard of the Vanceborough postoffice. Vanceborough was another name for Twelve-Mile Grove, on the State road, about half way from Rockford to Freeport. Ephraim Sumner settled near there when he came to Winnebago county, in 1835. He engaged in milling and farming near Twelve-Mile Grove, and became an extensive landowner.

February 11, 1845, Mr. Sumner was commissioned postmaster of Vanceborough. He was to retain the office during the pleasure of the postmaster-general. The commission is signed by C. Wickliffe, who was postmaster-general during the administration of John Tyler. The seal is the figure of a man on horseback, with a small mail-bag upon his back. Both man and horse are apparently in great haste to reach the next station. This commission, now in possession of Hon. E. B. Sumner, is well preserved, although

it was issued sixty years ago. The elder Sumner built a stone house at Vanceborough, which is still in a good state of preservation, and has well-nigh outlived the memory of the town. These primitive villages along the old stage lines were superseded by the railway station, and they now scarcely live in memory.

Among the early settlers of the township were, A. Bridgeland, Mrs. Sylvia Conover, Samuel Faulkner, William Fitzgerald, Jacom M. Hamilton, Rev. Chester Hoisington, Marcus L. Lowrey, and Hon. Laurence McDonald.

HARLEM.

The first settlement in Harlem township was on the east side of Rock river, on what was called Big Bottom, nearly opposite the stone quarry. A man named Wattles staked out his farm into lots and streets, and called it Scipio; but even its classic name did not give it prestige. The proprietor built the only house ever completed. The stakes remained for several years, until they were plowed under by the owner, who could not give away his lots.

Other early settlers were P. S. Doolittle, G. C. Hutchins, W. T. Magoon, Peter Mabie, Robert Smith, and Lyman Taylor.

The village of Harlem is a small station on the Kenosha division of the Chicago & Northwestern railway. There is a Methodist church some distance from the station.

Argyle is another hamlet on the Kenosha division, near the Boone county line. That portion of the county was settled in an early day by Scotchmen from Argyshire. Their descendants support one of the most prosperous country churches in Illinois. The present house of worship was dedicated February 14, 1878. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Francis L. Patton, of Chicago, but later president of Princeton university. The church will seat six hundred and cost, with furniture, \$12,796. Rev. B. E. S. Ely, Sr., was pastor at the time the church was dedicated. The manse adjoins the church.

BURRITT.

Burritt is one of the few townships in Winnebago county, which has no railroad. There are no towns or villages with the single exception of Wenpletown, in the eastern part. A postoffice was formerly located there, but it has been superseded by the rural free delivery. There is a church in the township on section 14.

Settlements were made in this township at an early date. James Atkinson came from England in 1837. Other pioneers were Thomas J. Atwood, Albert J. Atwood, George A. Atkinson, Edward H. Boomer, Jacob B. Conklin, William Dickinson, Jesse Herrington, Joseph Jennings, William Ludley, and Jefferson Southard.

OWEN.

Owen is a township lying directly north of Rockford. The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad passes through nearly its entire length north and south. There is a station at Latham Park. There was once a postoffice there, but it has been superseded by the rural route.

Among the early settlers may be mentioned Patten Atwood, who went there in 1839; Mowry Brown, who first came to Rockwood in 1838; Wadleigh Favor, William Halley, Frederick M. Knapp, James B. Lee, Stephen O. Thompson, Isaac W. Seaverns.

LAONA.

Laona is the northwestern township of Winnebago county. There are no towns or villages in the township. No railroad passes through it, and there is only one church within its borders. Among the early settlers of the township were Peter Johnson, Niles Patterson, William Phipps, and Rienza Webster.

The late Judge Church is authority for the statement that the population of the county in June, 1837, was 1,086. In 1840 it was 4,609; 1850, 11,773; 1860, 24,491; 1870, 29,301; 1880, 30,505; 1890, 39,938; 1900, 47,845.

ORGANIZATION OF THE COUNTY.

In the summer and autumn of 1835 the settlers in this section began to agitate the question of local government. This matter was promptly brought to the attention of the state legislature.

The counties organized in northern Illinois prior to 1835 were much larger than they are at present. At that time Cook, La Salle and Jo Daviess counties extended from Lake Michigan to the Mississippi river. Jo Daviess was organized in 1827. It then extended east of Rock river, and included the territory now comprised in nine counties.

Cook and La Salle counties were organized in 1831. It was the evident intention at that time to subdivide these counties at a later day, to meet the demands of an increased population. A map of Illinois, printed in 1835, represents Cook county with territory attached on the north for judicial purposes. La Salle has northern territory annexed for the same purposes, corresponding to portions of McHenry, Kane, Winnebago and Ogle counties, and all of Boone and De Kalb, as at present organized. Jo Daviess is shown with annexed territory on the east and south. The distinction between Cook and La Salle counties proper, and their annexed portions, appears to have been in the fact that the former were surveyed, while the latter were not. Although Jo Daviess county was organized eight

years before the map was printed, the map does not even represent the county as surveyed. The conditions, however, in Jo Daviess were peculiar. The country near Galena including a mining camp, with quite a considerable population, and thus required a local government. Hence the organization of the county preceded by several years the government survey of the land.

The state legislature at that time held its sessions at Vandalia. An act of January 16, 1836, provided for the organization of McHenry, Winnebago, Kane, Ogle and Whiteside counties, and the reorganization of Jo Daviess. Section two of the law created Winnebago county, with boundaries as follows: "Commencing at the southeast corner of township number forty-three, range number four, east of the third principal meridian, and running thence west to the said meridian, thence north along the line of said meridian, to the southeast corner of township number twenty-six, in range number eleven, east of the fourth principal meridian; thence west to the dividing line between ranges number seven and eight; thence north along said line to the northern boundary of the state; thence east along said boundary line to the northeast corner of range number four, east of the third principal meridian; thence south to the place of beginning."

Winnebago was thus formed from the attached portions of Jo Daviess and La Salle counties. That part of the county east of the third principal meridian was taken from La Salle; the portion west of this meridian was detached from Jo Daviess. As at first organized, Winnebago county was almost exactly double its present size, and included all of Boone county, and the eastern two township ranges of what is now Stephenson county. Winnebago has never been enlarged or reduced from its original form on its northern or southern boundary.

THE FIRST ELECTION.

The law to establish the county ordered an election to be held at the house of Germanicus Kent, on the first Monday in May, for sheriff, coroner, recorder, surveyor, and three county commissioners, who should hold their offices until the next succeeding general election, and until their successors were qualified. The election, however, was not held until the next August.

No county created by this act was to be organized, and an election held, until a majority of the voters of the prospective county had addressed a petition for the same to the judge of the sixth judicial circuit, or, in his absence, to another circuit judge. The voters were also required to give sufficient proof that the proposed county contained not less than three hundred and fifty white inhabitants. This task was undertaken by Dr. Daniel H. Whitney, who had settled at Belvidere.

These facts were communicated to Judge Thomas H. Ford. He thereupon issued an order, dated July 15, 1836, for an election to be held at the house of Daniel S. Haight, on the first Monday in August. The statute had designated an earlier date and another place for this election; but inasmuch as the organization of the county depended upon a prescribed population, a subsequent section of the law necessarily referred the time and place of such election to the presiding judge of the circuit. Under the first constitution of Illinois, all elections for state and county officers were held the first Monday in August.

Germanicus Kent, Joseph P. Griggs and Robert J. Cross were chosen judges of election. Judge Ford's order has been framed, and is preserved in the office of Captain Lewis F. Lake, the circuit clerk, as an interesting relic of those early days.

The election was held on Monday, August 1st, in a decidedly primitive manner. Written or printed ballots had not then been introduced into Illinois. Under the old constitution, all votes were to be given *vive voce* until otherwise provided by the general assembly; and up to this time no change had been made.

Simon P. Doty, Thomas B. Talcott and William E. Dunbar were elected county commissioners; Daniel S. Haight, sheriff; Daniel H. Whitney, recorder; Eliphalet Gregory, coroner; and D. A. Spaulding, surveyor. The results of the election for member of congress and representatives in the general assembly are given later in this sketch.

One hundred and twenty votes were cast at this election. The names of the voters were as follows: David Caswell, George Caswell, David Barnes, P. P. Burnham, Thomas Crane, Thatcher Blake, Seth Scott, Joshua Fawcett, John Barrett, Jeremiah Frame, John F. Thayer, William Randall, John Welch, Joshua Cromer, John Slavins, David Blake, William Barlow, Joseph B. Baker, Daniel Fairchild, Livingston Robins, Alfred Shattuck, Alva Trask, William Smith, Ira Haskins, John Bunts, Simon P. Doty, Milton S. Mason, Timothy Caswell, Charles H. Pane, Royal Briggs, Solomon Watson, Abram Watson, Ralzimond Gardner, Mason Sherburne, John K. Towner, John G. Lockridge, John Allen, John Lovesse, A. E. Courtright, Henry Enoch, Ephraim Sumner, S. Brown, A. R. Dimmick, Samuel Hicks, H. M. Wattles, T. R. J. English, Oliver Robins, J. P. Griggs, Aaron V. Taylor, Luke Joslin, William Sumner, David D. Elliott, John Handy, Jacob Pettyjohn, Daniel S. Haight, Jacob Keyt, John Lefonton, John Kelsoe, William R. Wheeler, M. Ewing, Charles Works, Sidney Twogood, Phineas Churchill, Thomas B. Talcott, Austin Andrews, Thomas Lake, Benjamin McConnell, Benjamin DePue, Lewis Haskins, Aaron B. Davis, Joel Pike, R. M. Waller, Julius Trask.

William Carey, Ephraim Wyman, P. D. Taylor, William Brayton, Israel Morrill, Harlyn Shattuck, David DeWitt, James B. Young, Abel Thurston, John Kandler, John Adams, Milton Kilburn, Richard H. Enoch, Joseph Chadwick, Daniel Piper, John Hance, Henry Enoch, Jr., Peter Moore, Sylvester Sutton, V. B. Rexford, William G. Blair, Daniel H. Whitney, James Jackson, Isaac Adams, Isaac Harrell, E. A. Nixon, John Wood, William Mead, Joseph Rogers, A. C. Gleason, Henry Hicks, John Brink, E. Gregory, L. C. Waller, James Thomas, G. Kent, Chauncey Mead, George Randall, W. H. Talcott, William E. Dunbar, S. A. Lee, Charles Reed, Charles Sayres, Robert J. Cross, D. A. Spaulding, Benjamin White, Jacob Enoch. The votes of two men, John Langdon and Thomas Williams, were rejected. Not a single voter of this list is now living. The last survivor was Harlyn Shattuck, who died in 1899, near Belvidere.

On Wednesday, August 3d, the county commissioners-elect met in special session at the house of Daniel S. Haight, for the transaction of business necessary to complete the local government. D. A. Spaulding was elected clerk of the county commissioners' court; and Robert J. Cross was chosen treasurer. William E. Dunbar was sent to Vandalia, the capital of the state, with the election returns. The term "court" might seem to imply that this body possessed judicial powers, but such was not the fact. Under the constitution of 1818, three commissioners were elected in each county for the transaction of all its business. This court performed the duties corresponding in a general way to those entrusted under the present law to the board of supervisors.

At this first session of the court the commissioners divided the county into seven precincts, as follows: Yellow River, which included the towns of Silver Creek, Ridot, Freeport, Lancaster, and the south half of Rock River, in Stephenson county; Rock Grove, which included the north half of Rock River, all of Buck Eye, Rock Grove, and the east half of Oneco, in Stephenson county, and Laona and Howard (now Durand) in Winnebago; Peeketolika, corresponding to the towns of Seward, Lysander (now Pecatonica) and Burritt; Kiskaukee, now the townships of Cherry Valley, New Milford, and part of Rockford township; Rockford, which included the present townships of Winnebago, Guilford, the larger part of Rockford, and the south half of Owen and Harlem; Rock River, including the townships of Shirland, Harrison, Rockton, Roscoe, north half of Owen and Harlem, and Manchester in Boone county; Belvidere, which included all of Boone county except Manchester township. This precinct contained two hundred and fifty-two square miles; yet at

the first presidential election, in 1836, it could poll only twenty-three votes. Rock River precinct was twenty-four miles in length, and from six to twelve in width, and included six townships. At the presidential election previously mentioned this immense territory could poll but twenty votes. The number of precincts was subsequently increased to ten.

At this session of the court an order was issued, which fixed the time and place of holding an election in each precinct, for justices of the peace and constables. Upon the election of these officers the county organization was completed. There was as yet no county seat. The act to establish the county, however, had provided that until public buildings should be erected for the purpose, the courts should be held, as the county commissioners should direct.

COUNTY SEAT LOCATED AT WINNEBAGO.

The law establishing Winnebago county designated Robert Stephens and Rezin Zarley, of Cook county, and John Phelps, of Jo Daviess, as commissioners, to locate the permanent seat of justice. These commissioners were authorized to meet on the first Monday in May, 1836, or as soon thereafter as may be, at the house of Daniel S. Haight, for the discharge of their duty. John Phelps never made his appearance. The other two commissioners met July 14th, at the place specified by law, for the selection of a site for the county buildings.

At the county commissioners' court on Thursday, August 4, 1836, the report of the special commissioners was presented. The reader will avoid confusion by noting the distinction between the three county commissioners elected by popular vote, and the special commissioners designated by the statute to locate the county seat. The latter reported that on the 14th day of July they had met at the house of Daniel S. Haight, and that two days later they had selected a site on lands owned by Nicholas Boilvin & Co., on condition that the proprietors should execute a warranty deed to the county of thirty acres of land, so long as it should remain the seat of justice. On the same day Charles Reed presented to the county commissioners a deed of twelve blocks, containing two and one-half acres each, situated about two miles up the river from the ferry crossing.

The law was very specific concerning the location of a site. It provided that if the site chosen should be the property of individuals, instead of government land, the owners thereof should make a deed in fee simple of not less than twenty acres of said tract to the county; or in lieu thereof they should pay the county three thousand dollars, to be used in the erection of

county buildings. Mr. Reed may have presented his deed in good faith, but it was not accepted because it contained an objectionable clause to the effect that the county should hold the property "so long as it should remain the seat of justice." This reservation defeated his scheme.

This tract of land came into possession of Nicholas Boilvin about one year previous. Mr. Boilvin was at one time a government agent for the Winnebago Indians. It has been noted that by the treaty negotiated at Prairie du Chien, August 1, 1820, between the United States and the Winnebagoes, grants of land were made to certain descendants of this tribe. Catherine Myott, a half-breed Indian woman, was one of the two who had received two sections each. Previous to this contest over the county seat, one of these two unlocated sections had been sold to Henry Gratiot. By deed executed August 25, 1835, Catherine Myott conveyed the other unlocated section to Nicholas Boilvin for eight hundred dollars. This was the first individual conveyance of land in Winnebago county. This deed was filed for record in Cook county, September 3, 1835, and recorded by Daniel H. Whitney, recorder of Winnebago county, September 8, 1836. This instrument was the first filed for record in this county. The tract located for Mr. Boilvin, by virtue of the treaty of 1820, is the east half of section fourteen and all that part of section thirteen west of Rock river, in Rockford township, and contains six hundred and thirty-seven acres. At the time Mr. Reed made the offer of his deed to the county commissioners, the property belonged to Nicholas Boilvin, of Chicago, Charles Reed, of Joliet, and Major Campbell.

As soon as the organization of the county began to be agitated, Boilvin and his associates determined to secure the location of the county seat on their site. The entire tract was platted September 14, 1836. It was known as Nicholas Boilvin's plat of the town of Winnebago, and the plat was filed for record September 17, 1836. Reed appeared as the principal manager. There were two hundred and fifty-one blocks, and these were subdivided into two thousand four hundred and thirty-six lots. The town was christened Winnebago. Reed built a two-story house, to be used as a hotel and store, which is still standing a few rods above John H. Sherratt's residence. A free ferry was established; a lime-kiln and a blacksmith shop were built; and a road opened through the timber east from Winnebago, to meet the state road from Chicago to Galena, at a point on Beaver creek. Nothing was left undone to secure the county seat; but the decision of the commissioners, like the law of the Medes and Persians, could not be changed.

Notwithstanding the fact that the special commissioners were given full power by the statute

to locate the county seat, their selection was arbitrarily set aside by the commissioners' court. This rejection, however, was based upon a reason which would have been considered valid by any court. The question did not again come before the people until 1839. Pending the location of the county seat the commissioners ordered that the circuit and county commissioners' courts should be held at the house of Mr. Haight.

EARLY FERRIES ON ROCK RIVER.

The ferry was the first mode of transit across the river. Ferries were established by special acts of the legislature, with regular charters, in territory not under county organization. The issue of licenses for conducting ferries came under the jurisdiction of the commissioners' courts in organized counties. In 1836, at the September session of this court for Winnebago county, Germanicus Kent was authorized to establish a ferry at Rockford, at what is now State street. He was required to pay a license of ten dollars for one year, and rates of ferriage were established.

At the same session of the court Vance & Andrews were authorized to establish a ferry at Winnebago, on the same terms for license and ferriage as given Mr. Kent. C. Doolittle, by his agent, H. M. Wattles, was granted the privilege of establishing a ferry where the line between Rockford and Owen townships crosses Rock river, on the same terms. In the spring of 1836 Harvey Lowe and Nelson H. Salisbury, who had made claims in Howard in the preceding autumn, returned with their families. May 18th they crossed the river at the point now spanned by Trask's bridge. They were the first to cross in the boat which had been launched that day. They had been detained there about a week, and during that time they had assisted in building the boat. This ferry, which was established through the agency of Love and Salisbury, to enable them to cross their claims, subsequently became the thoroughfare in the direction of Mineral Point and formed a convenient crossing for all emigrants to the country north of the Pecatonica.

In 1837 the ferry licenses of Kent and Vance were extended another year, at the same rates. Mr. Kent conducted the ferry at Rockford from 1836 to 1838. In the latter year a license was issued to Kent & Brinckerhoff. The rates of ferriage were changed and the license fee raised to twenty dollars. These gentlemen were succeeded by Selden M. Church, who continued the business until the first bridge was built.

SURVEY OF THE STATE ROAD.

When Germanicus Kent and Thatcher Blake made their settlements, there were no state roads

in this vicinity. Indian trails wended their way through prairie and forest, but these did not greatly facilitate the travel of the white man. At that time Chicago and Galena were the only well known points in northern Illinois. The first settlements in the state were made in the southern portion; and as the tide of emigration poured from the east into the Rock river valley, after the Black Hawk war, each session of the legislature laid out a number of state roads.

By an act approved January 15, 1836, James Gifford, Daniel S. Haight and Josiah C. Goodhue were appointed special commissioners to view, survey and locate a road from Meacham's Grove, in Cook county, to Galena, in Jo Daviess county. The bill directed that the commissioners should make "Elgin on Fox river, in Cook county. Belvidere on Squaw Prairie, in the county of La Salle, and Midway at the ford on Rock river, in the county of Jo Daviess, points on the said road, and shall fix the said road on the most advantageous ground, for a permanent road, having reference to said points." This road was opened without delay, and State street in Belvidere and in Rockford is a portion of this highway, which extends nearly across the state in a general north-westerly direction from Chicago.

THE VILLAGE CHRISTENED.

Mr. Kent was in a sense the first proprietor of the colony. He gave it the name of Midway. This name was suggested by the fact that the settlement was about half way from Chicago to Galena. "Midway, Rock River, Jo Daviess county, Illinois, June 17, 1835," is the name and date Mr. Kent gives in a letter to a friend. The law of 1836 which established the State road, noted in the last paragraph, referred to "Midway at the ford on Rock river."

Under date of October 17, 1837, Mr. Kent writes a letter from Rockford. The settlement was therefore known as Midway from one to three years.

Authorities differ as to the origin of the name Rockford. One writer says the place was known as Rockford by the Indians; and that this name was suggested to them by nature. Upon the site of the present dam was a solid rock bottom, where the water was usually so shallow as to afford easy crossing with their ponies. Hence it was called by them the rock-ford.

John H. Thurston gives a somewhat different, though not necessarily a conflicting, version. He says Daniel S. Haight, Germanicus Kent, William H. Gilman, of Belvidere, John P. Chapin and Ebenezer Peck, of Chicago, and Stephen Edgel, later of St. Louis, met at Dr. Goodhue's office, on Lake street, in Chicago, to name the claim, or mill privilege, which they hoped at some time

would become a town. "Midway," though an appropriate name, was not in favor. Various names were suggested and rejected, until Dr. Goodhue said: "Why not call it Rockford, from the splendid rock-bottom ford on the river there?" The suggestion seemed an inspiration, and was at once unanimously adopted; and from that day to this, Dr. Goodhue has been given the credit of the present name. The date of this christening is uncertain. Mr. Thurston says it occurred in the summer of 1835; but the statute of January, 1836, still designated it Midway. News traveled slowly, however, in those days; and possibly the solons at Vandalia had not learned of the change.

THE FIRST SURVEYS.

The first surveys in Winnebago county were made early in 1836. Don Alonzo Spaulding, a pioneer of 1835, was the government surveyor. One of his associates was Hon. Charles B. Farwell, of Chicago, who in 1887 succeeded the late General John A. Logan as a United States senator from Illinois. In October, 1835, Mr. Spaulding began the extension of the third principal meridian, at a timber corner about two miles north of the point where this meridian crosses the Illinois river, on the western boundary line of La Salle county. Mr. Spaulding extended the third principal meridian north to its intersection with the Wisconsin boundary line. Mr. Spaulding surveyed the range and township lines in all of Winnebago county, and the western range of Boone; and subdivided all of Winnebago except New Milford and Cherry Valley townships.

THE BEGINNING OF METHODISM.

Methodism was established in Winnebago county in 1836. It was therefore the vanguard of the church militant to enter and possess the land. The official record of the first society has not been preserved.

Galena was the first appointment within the bounds of the present Rock River conference. It was at that time, in 1829, in the Illinois conference, which comprised the states of Indiana and Illinois. The Indiana conference was formed in 1834. After this separation of Indiana from the Illinois conference, the latter still covered a vast region. In the autumn of 1835 Rev. William Royal was appointed to the Fox River mission. Rev. Samuel Pillsbury was associated with him. This mission circuit extended northward from Ottawa. In June, 1836, Rev. Pillsbury preached a sermon at the home of Henry Enoch, in Guilford township, seven and one-half miles east of Rockford. This was the first service in the county conducted by a Methodist clergyman.

On that occasion Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Beers and Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Gregory traveled six miles in a heavy lumber wagon drawn by a yoke of oxen.

This service was followed during the summer by occasional sermons by Rev. Royal at Mr. Enoch's house; and Mrs. Enoch often prepared Sunday dinners for the congregation. On his way to conference at Springfield, in the autumn of 1836, Rev. Royal passed through Rockford. Monday afternoon, September 2d, he preached in Samuel Gregory's log house, which stood on what is now block fourteen in Gilbert Woodruff's second addition to Rockford. At the close of the sermon Rev. Royal organized the first Methodist class, which consisted of five persons: Samuel Gregory, Joanna Gregory, Mary Enoch, Daniel Beers and Mary Beers. These pioneer Methodists have been honored by five memorial front windows in Centennial church.

At the conference of 1836 Bishop Roberts appointed Dr. Arnold to the Sycamore circuit, of which Rockford was a part. The few Methodists gathered for worship as often as possible at Mr. Gregory's house. In 1837 the conference met at Rushville, when Bishop Roberts sent William Gaddis, with Robert Lane, as assistant, to the Rockford circuit. This circuit belonged to the Chicago district, over which John Clark was presiding elder. Mr. Lane soon retired from the field, and he was succeeded by Leander S. Walker. At the conference of 1838, at Alton, Bishop Soule returned Mr. Walker to Rockford as preacher in charge, with Nathan Jewett as assistant. During the early part of Mr. Walker's pastorate he preached in the house of James Boswell, north of the brewery. The Methodists subsequently worshiped in a building erected by Mr. Haight on the site of the American House. This building was used for various purposes. In the summer of 1838 the Methodists built a parsonage on First street, between Prairie street and Lafayette avenue, facing west. This was the first Methodist parsonage built within what is now the Rock River conference.

The Rock River conference was organized August 26, 1840, at Mt. Morris. Bishop Waugh presided over this conference, which was held in a grove. Rockford was retained in the Chicago district, with John T. Mitchell as presiding elder, and Semphronious H. Stocking as circuit preacher. August 25, 1841, the conference was held at Platteville, Wisconsin, when Bishop Morris sent John Crummer to Rockford.

August 3, 1842, the conference met in Chicago, and Bishop Roberts assigned Rockford to the care of Silas Bolles. At this time the Methodist church was worshiping in what was afterward known as the "old seminary building." This structure had been begun as a Congregational

church, but was abandoned for the church built on the West side by Kent and Brinckerhoff. In 1842 the Methodists bought this "seminary" property of the county commissioners, and held it for some years. September 20, 1842, the First Methodist church became an incorporate body, with five trustees, as follows: Horace Miller, James B. Martyn, Samuel Gregory, Daniel Beers and Willard Wheeler. At the conference in Dubuque, Iowa, August 30, 1843, Rockford was made a "station," and Bishop Andrews sent Richard Blanchard. November 10th of that year the trustees of the society purchased of Daniel S. Haight the lot on which the parsonage had been built five years previous. The consideration was two hundred dollars.

February 25, 1846, the trustees purchased of William H. Gilman, lots one, two, three, four and five, in the east half of block thirty-one, fronting on South Second street, between Oak and Walnut. The consideration was three hundred and twenty-five dollars. These lots, except lot one, are the same upon which the Centennial church and parsonage now stand, and which were occupied by the First church and parsonage. The contract for building the First church was made with M. H. Regan, in 1846, but it was not completed until 1848.

From 1841 to 1853 Rockford had been a part of the Mt. Morris district. In the latter year, the conference, which met at Chicago, September 14th, redistricted the work, and the Rockford district was formed. Bishop Scott sent Luke Hitchcock to the district as presiding elder. William Tasker was assigned to the First church, and "West Rockford" was left to be supplied by Mr. Chatfield.

Of the sixty sessions of the Rock River conference eight have been held in Rockford. The first convened with the First church, July 18, 1849. Edmund S. James was presiding bishop. August 26, 1857, the conference convened in Court Street church, with Lewis Scott as presiding bishop. At the conference held with the First church, September 23, 1863, Bishop Scott again presided. October 6, 1872, the conference met in the Third Street church, with Bishop Isaac W. Wiley presiding. The next conference in Rockford met October 13, 1880, in Court Street church. Bishop Hurst presided. The charge of heresy preferred against Dr. H. W. Thomas was considered and referred to the presiding elder of his district. September 21, 1884, the conference convened with Centennial church. Bishop Henry W. Warren presided. Bishop Mallalieu presided at the conference held with Court Street church, September 27, 1887. The eighth conference convened with Centennial church, October 3, 1899, with Bishop Hurst in the chair.

FIRST MARRIAGES AND BIRTHS.

The first marriage was that of Dr. Daniel H. Whitney and Sarah Caswell, and was solemnized by Rev. Seth S. Whitman, of Belvidere, December 10, 1836. The first marriage ceremony within the present limits of the county was that of Jeremiah Roberts and Harriet Clausen, and was performed December 11, 1836, by Sylvester Talcott, a justice of the peace. The first marriage, however, reported in the registry in the county clerk's office is that of William P. Randall and Miss Delia Driscoll, solemnized February 13, 1837, by William R. Wheeler, a justice of the peace.

Melissa J. Long, daughter of John B. Long, born in February, 1836, is entitled to the distinction of being the first white child born in the county. The first male child, Ogden Hance, was born in what is now Pecatonica township. George E. Dunbar, son of William E. Dunbar, was born in 1836, in a little log house situated about one block south of Kent street, on Main. Mrs. T. W. Carrico, a daughter of Benjamin Kilburn, was also among the earliest accessions by birth to the population of the village.

COUNTY DIVIDED.—"MILE-STRIP CONTEST."

An act of the legislature, approved March 4, 1837, provided for the reorganization of Winnebago county, and the creation of Stephenson and Boone. The latter was named in honor of Colonel Daniel Boone, the first white settler of Kentucky. By this act Winnebago county was reduced to one-half its original size. The reader will find it necessary, in tracing the boundary lines, to have before him maps of Winnebago and Boone counties; also some acquaintance with the township survey system. Confusion will arise if it is not remembered that the townships in Winnebago county, west of the third principal meridian, are numbered from a different base-line from those east of this meridian. It must also be borne in mind that the ranges west of the third principal meridian are numbered, not as ranges west of the third principal meridian, but as east of the fourth principal meridian.

The first section of this law creates Stephenson county from the eastern portion of Jo Daviess and the western two ranges of Winnebago, as the latter had been organized the preceding year. The next section defines the new boundary of Winnebago. The line begins at the northeast corner of Stephenson, as formed by the preceding section; thence running east on the state line to the section line between sections five and six, in township forty-six north, range three east of the third principal meridian; thence south on said section line to the south boundary of town-

ship forty-three north, range three east; thence west on said township line to the third principal meridian; thence north on said meridian to the southeast corner of township twenty-six north, range eleven east of the fourth principal meridian; thence west on said line to the range line between ranges nine and ten east of the fourth principal meridian; thence north to the place of beginning.

The third section of this law contemplated the boundaries of Boone as they now exist, except the mile-strip on the west. This law was seriously defective in defining the boundary lines. The intention of the legislature, however, was obvious and was accepted until two years later, when the act of March 2, 1839, corrected the errors, which may have been either verbal or typographical.

By comparing the boundary lines of Winnebago and Boone, as defined by the act of 1837, with an atlas of the counties, it will be observed that the eastern boundary of Winnebago was exactly one mile east of the present line. Thus established, Boone was only eleven miles wide. The western tier of sections, which clearly belong to Boone under the government survey, was denied her and given to Winnebago.

This manifest injustice to Boone county was a thorn in the flesh of her citizens and finally precipitated what is known as the "mile-strip contest," the most bitter controversy of those early days. The statement is twice made in Kett's History of Boone county that the assignment of this mile-strip to Winnebago in 1837 was a compromise to conciliate conflicting interests in this county. These "conflicting interests" were probably the ambitions of East and West Rockford for the county buildings. The extra mile-strip may have been given to Winnebago, at the instance of clever manipulators, to increase the voting strength of that part of the county east of Rock river.

In 1843 the question of annexing this mile-strip to Boone county came before the legislature. An enabling act, approved February 28th, provided that sections six, seven, eighteen, nineteen, thirty and thirty-one, in townships forty-three, forty-four, forty-five and forty-six, range three east, should be annexed to Boone, if the voters on the mile-strip should so elect. The strip comprised what is now the western tier of sections in the townships of Manchester, Caledonia, Belvidere and Flora, in Boone county. An election was ordered to be held at the house of Samuel Keith, in the village of Newburg, Winnebago county, May 4, 1843. The citizens of Rockford were deeply interested in the result, although the county seat had recently been relocated on the West side, and the voters the preceding year had expressed a preference for that side. They were

not of course, allowed to vote. Only those on the mile-strip had a voice in the matter. The election called out ninety-five votes. Fifty-one were for annexation to Boone, and forty-four against it; a majority of seven in favor of Boone. This election added twenty-four sections of valuable land to our eastern neighbor, and thus greatly increased her taxable property.

THE FIRST TAX LEVY.

The first tax levy was ordered by the county commissioners' court, at its March term, 1837. One-half per cent. tax was levied on town lots, horses and mares, meat cattle above three years old, watches, carriages, and wagons, and a tax of one-fourth per cent. on stock in trade. Through some technicality, this levy was declared illegal, and a second levy was made. At that time farm lands were not taxable. They were not placed upon the market at the land offices until two years later, and for three years thereafter they were exempt from taxation. It was not until 1842-43 that any county revenue was obtained from this source. The revenue required to meet the expenses of the county until the lands became taxable was derived from assessments against personal property. Under this order the total amount levied was five hundred and sixty-two dollars and fifty-nine and one-half cents.

THE DAY OF SMALL THINGS.

The first frame building in Rockford was erected in 1836, by Sidney Twogood and Thomas Lake. It was a story-and-a-half structure, and stood on the southwest corner of State and Madison streets, and faced east. It was first occupied as a general store by Harry W. Bundy and George Goodhue. The latter was a nephew of Dr. Goodhue. This firm continued in business there only about two years, and then removed to Beloit in the spring of 1838.

The second frame structure was built for Daniel S. Haight, on the northeast corner of State and Madison streets, and to which reference has already been made.

James B. Martyn, who came from Alabama upon Mr. Kent's solicitation, claimed to have built the first frame house in the county, outside of Rockford, in 1836, on his claim on the State road, one mile east of the intersection of State and Third streets. Mr. Martyn died at Belvidere in 1881.

The first theatrical performance was given October 29, 1838, in the old Rockford House. The manager of the company was the elder Jefferson, father of the world-renowned Joseph Jefferson. "Joe" was but a youth, and acted in "Lord Lovell," then a new play. The company was

weather-bound in Rockford while en route from Chicago to Galena. The river was not passable by reason of heavy moving ice.

The first tailor in Rockford was William H. Tinker, who came from Massachusetts. He was in the village in 1836, but he did not consider the outlook very promising, and he left the field. In June, 1837, Parson King Johnson, from Brandon, Vermont, came to Rockford, and found Mr. Tinker's cutting board in the rear room of Bundy & Goodhue's store. Mr. Tinker returned to Rockford, and the firm of Tinker & Johnson became the first in that line in the village. The firm occupied the upper room in a building on the site of 111 South Madison street.

The first shoemaker was Ezra Barnum. He was father of Anson Barnum and Mrs. James M. Wight, and grandfather of Mrs. Sherratt. Mr. Barnum came from Danbury, Connecticut, in the summer of 1837. A history of Danbury shows the Barnums to have been an old family of that city.

The first brick was made in the autumn of 1837 by Cyrus C. Jenks, in Guilford, about three and a half miles northeast of the town.

The first carpenter cannot be determined with accuracy; but it is probable that Thomas Lake and Sidney Twogood were the first skilled workmen. The first saloon was opened in 1837, by Samuel Little, an Englishman. He put up a small one-story building near 316 East State street. The first blacksmith was probably one of the men employed by Mr. Kent. The second was William Penfield. His frame building was on the northeast corner of Madison and Market streets. William P. Dennis was the first house-painter, and in 1837 he displayed his skill on Mr. Haight's first frame house. The first drug store was opened early in the summer of 1838 by "Dr." Marshal, a Scotchman. It was on the north side of State street, about eighty feet from the river. The first bakers were Ephraim Wyman and Bethuel Houghton, who did business in 1838 as partners on South Main street. The first store was kept by John Vance, in a log cabin on South First street, opposite the city hall now in process of construction.

CONGREGATIONALISM—THE FIRST CHURCH.

New England Congregationalism came with the early settlers. This institution was firmly established within three years after the arrival of Mr. Kent and Mr. Blake, and it has maintained a strong and influential position in Rockford until the present time. The First Congregational church was organized May 5, 1837, with nine members: Rev. John Morrill, Herman B. Potter, Israel Morrill, Richard Morrill, Elizabeth P.

Morrill, Mary J. Morrill, Sophia N. Morrill, Minerva Potter, and Eunice Brown.

The church was founded by Rev. John Morrill, at the home of his brother, Israel Morrill, on the west side of the river. It is therefore the oldest church in Rockford, inasmuch as the First Methodist church, formed the previous year, ceased to exist. The three Morrill brothers and their wives constituted just two-thirds of the original membership. During its first year the church had attained a membership of twenty souls. Israel Morrill and H. B. Potter were the first deacons.

The first confession of faith and form of covenant, adopted temporarily at its organization, was that recommended by the Watertown presbytery. One year later, May 4, 1838, this was displaced by the articles of faith and covenant of the Rock River Congregational Association.

Rev. John Morrill was the first pastor. Very little is known of him previous to his removal to the west. He had come in a farm wagon from New York as a home missionary to this county, where his brother had previously settled. Mr. Morrill served as pastor one year from May, 1837. The late Mrs. Eunice Brown Lyon is authority for the statement that Mr. Morrill received no formal call to the pastorate of the Congregational church. He was the leading spirit in its organization, and he may have assumed the work with the understanding, explicit or implied, that he should serve as its pastor for a time. This pioneer minister died at Pecatonica February 16, 1874.

Soon after its organization the church held services in the "stage barn," built by Daniel S. Haight, near the intersection of State and Third streets. Only a few years ago this structure was standing on the farm of Isaac Rowley, near the city. In the summer of 1838 the trustees began the erection of a frame structure on the west side of North First street, on a site near the residence of Irvin French. When the building had been enclosed and shingled it was learned that Messrs. Kent and Brinckerhoff had obtained about eight hundred dollars from friends in New York for a church. Instead of turning over this money to the society to complete the church, these gentlemen built an edifice on their own side of the river. This building was raised in the summer of 1838, and enclosed the same season. When it was completed they turned it over to the society for worship, but retained their nominal title. At that time they possessed no legal title to the land from the government. The unfinished building on North First street was abandoned, and was never afterwards used by this church as a house of worship. It was, however, devoted to other purposes, which will be noted in subsequent pages.

The building erected by Kent and Brinckerhoff was the first church edifice in Rockford, and stood on the southwest corner of Church and Green streets. It was a frame structure, clap-boarded, in Doric style, forty-five feet square inside, and stood on a foundation of blocks of trees, cut in the adjoining grove, with sills resting upon them about three feet above the ground. In fact, the greater portion of the building material was obtained from adjacent lots. The building fronted to the east, and had three windows on each side. A porch about ten feet wide extended across the front, covered by an extension of the roof, which was supported by four fluted wooden columns. This sylvan sanctuary was occupied by the First church about six years.

The Ladies' Foreign Missionary Society was organized in 1838, just one year after the founding of the church. The originators of this movement, like the founders of the church, were largely from New England, who had been interested in foreign missions and education in their eastern homes, and who had not left their zeal behind them, although they might properly have considered themselves on home missionary ground.

The second pastor was Rev. Cyrus L. Watson, who served the church from November, 1838, to May, 1841. He was a genial, social elderly gentleman, a good pastor, and he was highly esteemed. His death occurred at Battle Creek, Michigan. Rev. William S. Curtis, D. D., supplied the pulpit from November, 1841, to August, 1842. Dr. Curtis subsequently became pastor of the Westminister Presbyterian church. His death occurred in 1885, and his funeral was held June 1st, from the Westminister church. Dr. Curtis was succeeded by Rev. Oliver W. Norton, who was the pastor from September, 1842, until some time in the following year. Rev. Lansing Porter served a brief pastorate from February, 1844, to April, 1846.

In the spring of 1846 the church dedicated a new house of worship on the East side. It was a brick structure, and stood on the northeast corner of South First and Walnut streets, on the site of the new city hall. Its dimensions were forty by sixty feet; the walls were twenty feet high. A projection at the rear formed a recess for the pulpit. The roof was one-quarter pitch, with a square tower on the center of the front, rising about twenty feet. From this tower a bell called the people to their public devotions. The bell belonged to Rev. Norton, and he took it with him when he went away. W. A. Dickerman, as agent for the church, subsequently purchased a Meneely bell, in New York, weighing six hundred and forty pounds. This church continued to be the house of worship for this congregation until 1870.

The construction of a new house of worship is frequently, and perhaps generally, followed by a change in the pastorate. Such was the experience of this society soon after the dedication of its new church. The resignation of Rev. Lansing Porter was followed by a call to the Rev. Lewis H. Loss, whose pastorate began in August, 1846.

The pipe organ used in this church was built by H. H. Silsby and his brother. The organist at one time was Rufus Hatch, who subsequently removed to New York, and became one of the most famous operators on Wall street. During his residence in Rockford he was engaged in the dry goods business on East State street, near the site of the Coyner drug store. His home was on South Madison street, where Miss Kate O'Connor's residence now stands. Mr. Hatch removed from Rockford about 1856. When Mr. Hatch became wealthy, he presented the pipe organ which is in use in the present house of worship, to Dr. and Mrs. Goodwin. The doctor was pastor when this church was dedicated. This splendid gift, which cost four thousand dollars, was Mr. Hatch's personal token of esteem for Dr. Goodwin. Some time later Dr. Goodwin preached a sermon on music, in which he referred to its high place in Christian worship. At the close of this discourse Dr. Goodwin said that he and Mrs. Goodwin relinquished all claim to the organ. "It is henceforth neither mine nor yours, but the Lord's, to whom I now dedicate it."

Dr. Loss' pastorate continued until November, 1849. He was a man of ability and thorough education. He went from Rockford to Joliet, where he had charge of a church until 1856. His last pastorate was at Marshalltown, Iowa, where he died. In his last illness he longed to see his old friend and physician, Dr. Lucius Clark, of this city; and his church sent for the doctor and paid his traveling expenses.

Dr. Loss was succeeded by the Rev. Henry M. Goodwin, D. D., who perhaps gave to the church its most distinctive pastorate. It extended from August, 1850, to January, 1872. This period of more than twenty-one years constitutes nearly one third of its entire history. The interim between the departure of Dr. Loss and Dr. Goodwin's acceptance was supplied by Prof. Joseph Emerson, of Beloit college. Dr. Goodwin was graduated from Yale, and the Rockford church was his first parish.

Soon after leaving Rockford, Dr. Goodwin wrote a book entitled Christ and Humanity, which was published by the Harpers. It was dedicated to his friend in these noble words: "To Horace Bushnell, my reverend friend and teacher, whose profound and sanctified genius has made the world his debtor, and whose eminent services to Christianity, in the reconciliation of faith and rea-

son await the verdict of the future ages, these later studies of Christian doctrine are filially and affectionately inscribed by the author." This work was written while the author was enjoying an extended sojourn in Germany. In 1875 Dr. Goodwin was called to the chair of English literature by the college at Olivet, Michigan, which he filled for several years. His death occurred at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Weld, in Williamstown, Massachusetts, March 1, 1893. Dr. Goodwin was seventy-one years of age. His remains were brought to Rockford for burial.

The following named ministers have been Dr. Goodwin's successors to date: Revs. Wilder Smith, Theodore Clifton, William White Leete, Frederick H. Bodman, and Frank M. Sheldon, who began his pastorate Sunday, September 3, 1895. The present membership is about 385.

FIRST PATRIOTIC CELEBRATION.

The patriotism of the little village did not differ essentially from the prevailing type. It necessarily found its expression in more primitive ways than it does at the present time. There was such a display of eloquence and gunpowder as the times afforded; and the amusements differed somewhat from those of to-day.

The morning of July 4, 1837, was welcomed with the boom of all available artillery. William Penfield's blacksmith's anvil did heroic service. A hickory liberty-pole was raised near what is now 310 East State street. Patriotic exercises were held in Mr. Haight's barn, which stood in the grove near the intersection of State and Third streets. The hay was floored for the speakers, and the threshing-floor was occupied by the ladies. Charles I. Horsman read the Declaration of Independence, and Hon. John C. Kemble was the orator of the day. Dinner was served in the old Rockford House by the proprietor, Henry Thurston. The main part of the building had been covered with a roof, and was sided to the first-story windows. Loose boards were laid for a floor, tables were arranged, and, in the absence of crockery, the cold meat was served on shingles. The tickets for this dinner were sold at one dollar each, and this feature of the celebration was a financial success. The celebration was concluded with a public ball, the first in the county, given in Mr. Haight's barn.

FIRST TERMS OF CIRCUIT COURT.

The act establishing the county had provided that until public buildings should be erected, the circuit courts should be held at the house of Mr. Kent or Mr. Haight, as the county commissioners should direct. At the first session of this court it was ordered that, pending the location of the

county seat, the circuit courts should be held at the house of Mr. Haight. An examination at the circuit clerk's office reveals the almost incredible fact that no records of this court previous to 1854, except the simple dockets of the judge, have been preserved. The conclusion must be drawn that this docket was the only record made at the time. Memoranda kept by individuals have given facts upon which the official records are silent.

The first circuit court convened at the house of Daniel S. Haight, October 6, 1837. This is the frame building which stood on the northeast corner of Madison and State streets, and a part of which is now on the northeast corner of Second and Walnut streets. At that time there was no elective judiciary. Under the old constitution the justices of the supreme court and the judges of the inferior courts were appointed by joint ballot of both branches of the general assembly. Under this same fundamental law, these courts appointed their own clerks. The state's attorney was also appointed. The statute of 1835 provided that the general assembly, on joint ballot, at that session, and every two years thereafter, should choose one state's attorney for each judicial circuit.

At this first court Hon. Dan. Stone, of Galena, was the presiding judge. Seth B. Farwell was appointed state's attorney pro tem; and James Mitchell, then of Jo Daviess county, clerk. Mr. Mitchell held this position until 1846, when he was chosen superintendent of the lead mines. He was succeeded as clerk by Jason Marsh, who was appointed by Judge Thomas C. Brown. The offices of circuit clerk and recorder were separate until the second constitution went into effect, when they were united, and this officer was made elective.

The petit jurors on duty at the first term were: Edward Cating, James B. Martyn, Joel Pike, William Pepper, Richard Montague, Isaac N. Cunningham, Thatcher Blake, Henry Thurston, Charles I. Horsman, David Goodrich, James Jackson, and Cyrus C. Jenks. There were but two trials by jury, and these were of very little importance.

The sessions of May, 1838, and April 18, 1839, were also held at Mr. Haight's house; although, for convenience, a room in the Rockford House, on the corner west, was actually used when more room was required. The first grand jury was impaneled at the May term, 1838. The names of this jury were: Anson Barnum, Lyman Amsden, Isaac Johnson, James Sayre, H. M. Wattles, Asa Daggett, H. W. Gleason, Samuel Gregory, Asa Crosby, Daniel Beers, Walter Earle, Isaac Hance, Benjamin T. Lee, E. H. Potter, Paul D. Taylor, Lyman B. Carrier, Aaron Felts, Cyrus C. Jenks, James B. Martyn, Livingston Robbins, Henry Enoch, and Luman Pettibone. Anson Barnum

was appointed foreman. At this term the usual order was reversed, in that the judge occupied one of the few chairs in the house, while the jury "sat on the bench."

The first building erected for the use of courts and religious meetings was built by Mr. Haight, in the summer of 1838, on the southeast corner of Madison and Market streets, on the site of the American House. It was a frame structure, about sixteen by thirty-two feet, with one story. This house, with additions, is now the residence of William G. Conick. In this building were probably held the sessions of November, 1839, and April, 1840. Several of the lawyers who attended the courts in those days attained distinction in their profession. Among these may be mentioned Judge Drummond, then of Galena, who removed to Chicago and became a judge of a federal court; Thompson Campbell, of Galena; Joel Wells, who canvassed the district for congress; Norman B. Judd, of Chicago; and Seth B. Farwell and Martin P. Sweet, of Freeport. The famous John Wentworth, "Long John," made his maiden speech in Rockford, as attorney in a case that promised to bring him prominently before the public. Mr. Wentworth made frequent visits to Rockford in later years; and for several terms he represented the Belvidere district in congress.

September 12, 1840, the county purchased the abandoned building on North First street, which had been commenced by the First Congregational church two years before. The consideration was six hundred dollars. The deed was executed by H. B. Potter, E. H. Potter, and S. D. Preston. Since the building had been abandoned by the Congregationalist people it had been used as a carpenter's shop. When the county obtained possession the building was partially finished so that the courts could be held there. The session of September 10, 1840, and subsequent sessions were held at this place until the transfer of the court house to the West side.

THE STAGE COACH.

The state roads naturally prepared the way for the stage coach. The railroad had not then reached this western region, and the only common carrier was "the coach and four." Stage lines were then running from Chicago in several directions. They carried mails, passengers and light parcels. Frink, Walker & Co. became famous throughout this region as the proprietors of the one stage line which connected Chicago with Rockford. It is impossible to determine the precise date when the stage coach began to make regular trips on this line as far west as Rockford. It is certain that it had thus become an established institution not later than January 1, 1838. On

that day the arrival of the stage coach in Rockford attracted the attention of the people of the village, and large numbers came from the surrounding country to witness the spectacle. The stage office in Chicago was for a long time at 123 Lake street, and later at the southwest corner of Lake and Dearborn.

Frink, Walker & Co. first ran their stage lines only from Chicago to Rockford. The coaches were always drawn by four horses. In 1840 the schedule time from Chicago to Rockford was advertised to be twenty-four hours. Horses were changed at intervals of fifteen miles, at stations built for this purpose. Frink, Walker & Co.'s stage barn in Rockford was the well known barn near the intersection of State and Third streets, and faced north and south. It was built in 1830 for Mr. Haight by Sidney Two-good and Thomas Lake. Few buildings in the county have served more diverse uses. It was there the first patriotic exercises were held; there the First Congregational people first held public services on the East side. When Frink, Walker & Co. purchased the building, it was moved a few rods west, and turned to face east and west. There the first quarterly meeting of the First Methodist church was held in the summer of 1838.

Coaches left the main office in Chicago every Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday, and returned on alternate days. The fare from Chicago to Rockford was five dollars.

From Rockford to Galena the stage line was conducted for a time by John D. Winters, of Elizabeth, a little town south of Galena. The route first passed through Elizabeth, but subsequently the more direct route was by way of Freeport. The first stopping-place west of Rockford was Twelve-Mile Grove. Mr. Winters retired from the business after a time, and then Frink, Walker & Co. had the entire line from Chicago to Galena. The late William Cunningham was in the employ of this firm at one time as a driver between Twelve-Mile Grove and Freeport.

EARLY HOTELS

The first hotel in Rockford was the Rockford House. The early public houses were more generally called taverns. Before the Rockford House was built, Mr. Kent and a number of the other settlers had entertained strangers, but not as regular hotel-keepers. The Rockford House was built by Daniel S. Haight and Charles S. Oliver. It stood on the site of the Young Men's Christian Association building. The wing was finished in the autumn of 1837, when the house was opened by Henry Thurston. The third story, which was divided into two rooms, was reached

by a ladder, which was made by slats nailed to two pieces of the studding, in the first story of the main building. The proprietor's son John was an important functionary. He made the beds and escorted the guests up the ladder when they retired. He was admonished by his sire not to drop the melted tallow from the dip upon his guests. Mr. Thurston's successors as landlord were Lathrop Johnson, Daniel Howell, Andrew Brown, J. Schaeffer, Abel Campbell, E. Radcliff, Major John Williamson, Elam Zimmerman. This hotel was burned March 7, 1869.

The second hotel, the Washington House, was built in 1838 by two brothers, Jacob B. and Thomas Miller, and opened to the public the following year. It stood sixty feet front on State street, with large additions in the rear, with basement kitchen, dining-room, and sleeping apartments above the dining-room. The name of this hotel was changed to the Rock River House. A part of the building stands on 307 East State street, and is occupied as a fruit store. Another part is the saloon building on the southeast corner of State and Madison streets. The successive proprietors of the house were: Jacob Miller, David Paul, McKemey & Tyler, E. S. Blackstone, W. Fulton, H. D. Searles, L. Caldwell.

The log tavern, known as the Stage House, was opened in 1838. It was built on the old Second National Bank corner. Brown's Cottage was opened in 1850 by Andrew Brown. The name was changed to the American House in 1852 by G. S. Moore. The Waverly and the Union House, near the Northwestern depot, on the West side, were opened in 1852. The Inn, which was located where the Chick House now stands, was opened in 1840 by Spencer & Fuller. The Eagle Hotel was opened in 1841. It was located on South Main street, in the third block below State.

In the autumn of 1838 was erected by Dr. Haskell the brick building which was known later as the Winnebago House, on Andrew Ashton's corner. When laying out the ground for the cellar Mr. Silsby persuaded Dr. Haskell to set his building six feet from the line of the street. The Winnebago House was the first brick store built above Rock Island on Rock river. Into this store Dr. Haskell moved the stock of goods from the building on the river bank which had been occupied by Platt & Sanford; and he and Isaiah Lyon continued the business. In 1843 Mr. Lyon closed out the stock and converted the building into a hotel, under the name of the Winnebago House. Mr. Lyon's successors as proprietor were N. Crawford, C. C. Cobern, P. C. Watson, James B. Pierce, Isaac N. Cunningham, and D. Sholts. The building passed into Mr. Seaton's hands in 1854 and was afterward rearranged into stores.

THREE PIONEER PHYSICIANS OF 1838.

As noted in a previous paragraph, Dr. A. M. Catlin emigrated to Illinois from the Western Reserve, in Ohio, in February, 1838. He moved to a log cabin on the bluff overlooking Big Bottom, four miles north of Rockford. A Hoosier by the name of Shores had worn a slight track between his home back on the hills and a plowed field on the Bottom, and this was the only road near the doctor's new home. A small, inconstant, near-by stream, like the road, lost itself in the dry prairie. At that time Dr. Catlin intended to abandon the practice of medicine. To feed his little family, he hired a broken prairie of Herman B. Potter, who lived two miles south of Rockford. This land, six miles from home, the doctor cultivated under difficulties, for it soon became known to the scattered people that he was a physician, and, like Cincinnatus, he was called from the plow. He was not a man to deny the necessities of others; and against his wishes at the time, he was drawn into the practice of his profession, which he continued until near the day of his death, nearly sixty years later. He had practiced in early life in New York and Ohio, and his entire professional service lasted seventy years. He died in 1892, at the age of ninety-one.

Dr. Josiah C. Goodhue settled in Rockford in the autumn of 1838. He had attained some distinction before he became a citizen of this county. He was born in 1803, at Putney, Vermont. The doctor was graduated from the school of medicine at Yale, and began practice at St. Thomas, Upper Canada, in 1824. While there he was married to Miss Catherine Dunn. The doctor emigrated from Canada to Chicago in 1835. He was the first resident physician in that city outside the garrison of Fort Dearborn. When Chicago was incorporated as a city in 1837, Dr. Goodhue was elected the first alderman from the First ward. There were six wards in the city at that time. William B. Ogden was chosen mayor in that year. Dr. Goodhue designed the first city seal of Chicago, and it became known as his little baby. He was quite proud of his offspring. The doctor was the real founder of the first free school system of Chicago. He was one of a committee appointed to solicit subscriptions for the first railroad chartered to run from the city, the Galena & Chicago Union. In his practice in Chicago Dr. Goodhue was associated with Dr. Daniel Brainard. Their office was on Lake street, near the old Tremont House. John Wentworth and Ebenezer Peck were engaged in the practice of law in the same building. Dr. Goodhue was one of the men who drew the act of incorporation for Rush Medical college, and was a member of the first board of trustees. Dr. Goodhue's first house in Rockford was what was then known as the "ball alley," on the northwest

corner of Madison and Walnut streets, where the Golden Censer brick building was subsequently erected. He afterward purchased a home on the site of the watch factory; and the house was moved away when the factory was built. The lot had at one time a pleasant grove, with no fence. Reference was made in a preceding paragraph to the fact that Dr. Goodhue gave to the city of Rockford its name. Dr. Goodhue had thirteen children, five of whom died under five years of age. Four sons and four daughters attained adult life. One son, George Washington Goodhue, died of yellow fever, in Mexico, during the war with that country. Another son, William Sewell, died from illness contracted during the Civil war. He had read law with James L. Loop. Dr. Goodhue's oldest daughter, Mrs. C. F. Holland, widow of John A. Holland, and step-mother of H. P. Holland, now resides in Chicago. Mrs. Hoyt Barnum, another daughter, is a resident of Rockford. Dr. Goodhue's death was the result of an accident on the night of December 31, 1847. He was called to make a professional visit to the family of Richard Stiles, four miles west on the State road. After caring for his patient, he accompanied Mrs. Stoughton, a neighbor, to her home. The night was dark, and he fell into a well, which was then being excavated, and had not been covered or inclosed. Mrs. Stoughton had asked him to wait until she returned with a light; but before she came back the doctor had made the fatal fall. He survived only a short time after he was taken from the well. His death was deplored by the entire community. He was a positive character; nature had liberally endowed him in qualities of mind and heart. Dr. Goodhue was an attendant at the Unitarian church. Mrs. Goodhue was an Episcopalian. She died October 14, 1873. A son of Dr. Goodhue died November 14, 1880.

Dr. Alden Thomas was born at Woodstock, Vermont, November 11, 1797, and was a lineal descendant from John Alden. He was married to Elizabeth Marsh, June 15, 1824. In the autumn of 1839 the family came to Rockford. He practiced medicine about five or six years, and then removed to a farm two miles south on the Kishwaukee road, where he lived about two years. The family then returned to the village, and lived for a time in a house still standing on South Second street, and later in the Grout house near the corner west of the First Congregational church, which Dr. Thomas built. He opened a drug store soon after his return from the farm, and continued in this business until a short time before his death, which occurred March 21, 1856.

DR. HASKELL AND THE FIRST STEAMER.

On the morning of April 16, 1838, Dr. Haskell and family, Mowry Brown and wife, Samuel

Haskell, H. H. Silsby, Isaiah Lyon, Caleb Blood and William Hull boarded the steambot Gipsy at Alton, Illinois. The destination of this party was Rockford. The river was high, the bottom lands were overflowed, and the boat sometimes left the channel of the Mississippi and ran across points of land, and once went through a grove of timber. When the Gipsy arrived at Rock Island and ran alongside the wharf-boat, a strong wind from the east turned the bow out into the stream. As the boat turned, the rudder struck the wharf-boat and broke the tiller ropes. This accident rendered the boat unmanageable, and it was blown across the river to Davenport, Iowa. While at Rock Island Dr. Haskell contracted with the captain that upon his return from Galena he would steam up Rock river to Rockford. At Savanna, Samuel Haskell, William Hull and H. H. Silsby left the Gipsy. They had come to the conclusion that the boat would never reach Rockford; and in company with Moses Wallen, of Winnebago village, where the county seat had been located by the special commissioners, they started afoot for Rockford. They stopped over night at Cherry Grove, and the next morning they traveled to Crane's Grove, on the stage route from Dixon to Galena. There they hired a coach and team which brought them that evening to Loomis' Hotel.

Mr. Silsby writes that a few days after his arrival he arose one morning as soon as it was light to see if he could discover any sign of the Gipsy. He was rewarded by the sight of dense, black smoke, near Corey's bluff, which seemed to be moving up the river. Soon the Gipsy came in sight, and the people gathered on the banks of the river and cheered the boat as it ascended in fine style until nearly over the rapids, when it suddenly turned, swung around, and went down stream much faster than it ascended. It rounded to and tried it again, and soon turned down stream a second time. After several attempts, with the aid of a quantity of lard thrown into the furnaces, the boat ran up the swift current, and soon tied up to the bank in front of Platt & Sanford's store, which stood near the water's edge, in the rear of the Masonic Temple site. The Gipsy was the first steamer that visited Rockford. It was a stern-wheeler, not less than one hundred feet in length, and perhaps thirty in width. It had a cabin above the hold, and an upper deck, open and uncovered. There were several state-rooms.

Dr. Haskell was a native of Massachusetts. He was born at Harvard, March 23, 1790. His father, Samuel Haskell, removed to Waterford, Maine, in 1803. In 1821 the son went to Phillips Exeter academy, and entered Dartmouth college in 1823. He left his college class in his sophomore year, and studied medicine until 1827,

when he received the degree of M. D. from the college. While in college he taught one term of district school in East Haverhill. One of his pupils was John G. Whittier; and the school-master in Whittier's "Snow-Bound" was his former teacher. On page thirty-four of Samuel T. Pickard's Life and Letters of Whittier, is found this allusion to the hero of this poem: "Until near the end of Mr. Whittier's life he could not recall the name of this teacher whose portrait is so carefully sketched, but he was sure he came from Maine. At length, he remembered that the name was Haskell, and from this clew it has been ascertained that he was George Haskell, and that he came from Waterford, Maine." Dr. Haskell never appeared to have been aware of the fact that his gifted Haverhill pupil had immortalized him in "Snow-Bound." Dr. Haskell also received this tribute as a teacher from his illustrious pupil, as given in a later chapter of Mr. Pickard's biography: "He [Whittier] was accustomed to say that only two of the teachers who were employed in that district during his school days were fit for the not very exacting position they occupied. Both of these were Dartmouth students; one of them George Haskell, to whom reference has already been made." Dr. Haskell began the practice of medicine at East Cambridge, Massachusetts, in 1827, and removed to Ashby, in the same state, in the following year.

Dr. Haskell came to Illinois in 1831, and settled at Edwardsville, and two years later he removed to Upper Alton. While there he became one of the founders of Shurtleff college, of which he was trustee and treasurer. The doctor built up a large practice, which he soon abandoned. November 7, 1837, the cause of the slave received its first baptism of blood. On that day Rev. Elijah P. Lovejoy was murdered at Alton, for his bold utterances in behalf of an oppressed race. Dr. Haskell entertained radical anti-slavery views, and he determined to leave that portion of the state in which the pro-slavery sentiment was largely predominant.

From the time of his arrival in Rockford until his removal from the city about twenty-eight years later, Dr. Haskell was a broad-minded, representative man of affairs. He conducted for a short time a mercantile business on the river bank, as the successor to Platt & Sanford. But his ruling passion was horticulture. He entered from the government quite a tract of land lying north of North street, and built the house on North Main street now occupied by George R. Forbes. He planted a nursery and became an expert in raising fruit. It is said that one year he raised sixty bushels of peaches. The severe winter of 1855-56 killed his trees, and from that time he devoted his attention to more hardy fruits. His later Rockford home was on North

Court street, near the residence of Hon. Andrew Ashton.

Dr. Haskell was generous and public-spirited. He and his brother-in-law, John Edwards, presented to the city the West Side public square, which was named Haskell Park, in honor of the former. A street, called Edwards Place, forms the southern boundary of the park. A ward schoolhouse in West Rockford also bears Dr. Haskell's name. In 1853 Dr. Haskell became a convert to Spiritualism, and April 15, 1854, he began the publication of the Spirit Advocate, an eight-page monthly. The paper was an able propagandist of the new faith. A complete file of this paper has been preserved in the Rockford public library. Twenty-three numbers were published.

In 1866 Dr. Haskell removed to New Jersey. There he was engaged in founding an industrial school, and purchased with others a tract of four thousand acres which was laid out for a model community. In 1857 Dartmouth college gave the doctor the degree of A. B., as of the year 1827. Dr. Haskell died at Vineland, New Jersey, August 23, 1876.

PIONEERS OF 1838-1839.

James Madison Wight was born in Norwich, Massachusetts, in 1810. He was admitted to the bar of Queens county, New York, in 1837, and immediately afterwards came west. He first joined his brother, J. Ambrose Wight, in Rockton. But he found no field in that village for the practice of his profession; and he came in 1838 to Rockford, where for a time he taught school. In his early life he served a few terms as city attorney of Rockford. He was one of the pioneer lawyers of northern Illinois, and built up a large practice. He was for many years local attorney for the Chicago & Northwestern railroad and for other corporations. He was also for a time a member of the state legislature, and served on the judiciary committee. Mr. Wight was a member of the constitutional convention of 1870, called to draft a new constitution for submission to the voters of the state. He died in Rockford in 1877.

Jason Marsh was born in Woodstock, Windsor county, Vermont, in 1807. He came to Rockford in 1839. He was accompanied by his wife and children, a brother and wife, and his three brothers-in-law. Soon after his arrival he and the three Spafford brothers built the brick house three miles south of State street, on the Kishwaukee road, later owned by F. J. Morey. A large farm was attached. Mr. Marsh drove daily to the village, where he practiced his profession. His later home was the residence subsequently owned by the late W. W. Fairfield, on East State

street. In 1862 Mr. Marsh entered military service as colonel of the Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry. He was severely wounded at the battle of Missionary Ridge in the autumn of 1863, and returned home. Two months later he again went to the front. In the campaign from Chattanooga to Atlanta his old wound troubled him, and he resigned. His last years were spent on his farm near Durand. His death occurred at the home of his daughter in Chicago, March 13, 1881. He was buried in Rockford with military honors.

Francis Burnap was born at Merrimac, New Hampshire, January 4, 1796. Mr. Burnap settled in Rockford in August, 1839, and began the practice of law in Winnebago and neighboring counties, in the state supreme court, and in the federal courts. He practiced his profession until 1864, when ill health compelled him to retire. Mr. Burnap died in Rockford, December 2, 1866.

Duncan Ferguson was a native of Scotland. He was born in Glasgow, in November, 1810. In 1837 he left his native land and came to the United States. He first settled in Pennsylvania, where he remained two years. Mr. Ferguson removed with his family to Rockford in 1839. In 1840 he was elected surveyor and justice of the peace. He held the office of surveyor until 1856. In 1862 he was appointed assessor of internal revenue. He held this position eight years, and then resigned. For ten years Mr. Ferguson was supervisor from the Seventh ward of the city. March 3, 1873, he was elected chairman of the county board to succeed Hon. Robert J. Cross, who had died February 15th. Mr. Ferguson retained this position until 1881. In 1877 he was elected mayor of Rockford, and served one year. He held the offices of city engineer, assessor, county treasurer, and commissioner of the county under an act of the legislature for the improvement of Rock river. His death occurred May 14, 1882.

Thomas D. Robertson was born in Edinburg, Scotland, March 4, 1818. He came to the United States in 1838. He stopped for a time in Chicago, and arrived in Rockford in December of the same year. Mr. Robertson studied law in Rockford and at Madison, Wisconsin. He was admitted to the bar, and was a prominent practitioner for some years. In 1848 Mr. Robertson and John A. Holland opened the first banking house in Rockford in a building adjoining the European Hotel site on West State street. From that time he gradually abandoned the practice of law, and devoted his attention to banking and real estate. Mr. Robertson was a leader in the movement to secure the extension of the Galena & Chicago Union railroad to Rockford. He had charge of the collection of the subscriptions to the capital stock in Boone, Winnebago and Ogle counties. Mr. Robertson continuously resided in

Rockford for sixty-one years. His death occurred February 4, 1902.

Ira W. Baker arrived at Rock river October 6, 1838, on Saturday, at sundown, with his family of eight, from a grandmother of seventy to a babe of four.

Hon. Edward H. Baker, son of Deacon Ira Baker, was born in Ferrisburg, Vermont, April 5, 1828, and when ten years of age he came with his father to Winnebago county. Mr. Baker received his education at Knox college and Illinois college at Jacksonville. He studied law and was admitted to the bar. At one time he was in partnership with his father-in-law, Jason Marsh. Upon the organization of the Rockford & Kenosha railroad, Mr. Baker was chosen secretary of the company. He was elected mayor of Rockford in 1869, and served one year. His death occurred January 26, 1897.

Henry N. Baker, another son of Deacon Baker, was also a native of Ferrisburg, Vermont. For many years he was engaged in the real estate and loan business in East Rockford. Mr. Baker was for some time president of the board of education. He died in the west a few months ago.

David S. Penfield was the first of three brothers to settle in Rockford. He was a native of Pittsfield, Vermont, and was born in 1812. Mr. Penfield and the late Shepherd Leach came to Rockford in 1838 by way of Dixon. There was then no stable currency. Large numbers of private banks furnished a currency of more or less value, and each state had its own issues. The exchange of money in traveling from state to state was therefore attended with not a little difficulty, and considerable risk. The unsettled country was infested with bandits, and travelers were never sure, when seeking entertainment for the night, whether they would escape the snare of the fowler. Upon their arrival in Rockford, Mr. Penfield and Mr. Leach purchased a large tract of land on the West side. They were also in mercantile business on the site of 322 East State street, and there employed the first tinner in Rockford. Mr. Penfield formed a partnership with his brother John G. in the real estate and loan business; and subsequently became a member of the banking firm of Briggs, Spafford & Penfield, which was merged into the Third National Bank. Mr. Penfield died May 20, 1873, at the age of sixty-one years. Some years ago Mrs. Penfield gave the site to the Young Men's Christian Association on which its splendid building now stands.

Shepherd Leach, to whom reference was made in the preceding paragraph, was an extensive landowner, and amassed a large estate. Mr. Leach was gifted with keen business sagacity, and was successful in nearly every enterprise. He had an extensive acquaintance among business

men; was straightforward in his dealings; and withal, was a man who possessed many qualities worthy of emulation. Mr. Leach died July 9, 1885.

Willard Wheeler came from St. Thomas, Upper Canada, in September, 1830. He was the second tinner in the town. Mr. Wheeler was a brother of the late Solomon Wheeler. He built the house on South First street where Mrs. Julia A. Littlefield resides. To Mr. Wheeler belonged the honor of being the first mayor of Rockford. He died April 24, 1876.

The Cunningham brothers were among the last survivors of that early period. Samuel Cunningham was born August 15, 1815, in Peterboro, Hillsboro county, New Hampshire. He came to this county in the spring of 1839. His active life was devoted to agriculture. He served one term as county commissioner. He died September 28, 1902. His brother, William Cunningham, came to Rockford in the spring of 1838. He spent much of the intervening time on the Pacific coast, but later lived a retired life in Rockford. He died January 7, 1903. The writer was indebted to these brothers for valuable historical information. Another brother, Benjamin Franklin Cunningham, preceded Samuel to Rockford in the spring of 1839. He owned a beautiful home below the city, on a rise of ground which commands an extended northern and southern view of the river. He died June 20, 1900. A fourth brother, Isaac Newton Cunningham, previously noted, came to Rockford at an earlier date.

Joel B. Potter was born in Fairfield county, Connecticut, in 1810. From there the family removed to Orleans county, New York. He received a collegiate education and prepared himself for the Presbyterian ministry. His health failed, and he never resumed this calling. In 1839 he came to this county, where his brothers Herman B. and Eleazer had preceded him. In the same year Mr. Potter built the house now owned by Judge Morrison. He carried on a farm for some years, and was subsequently engaged in the drug business on East State street. He conducted the store alone for a time, and later with his son-in-law, J. F. Harding, as a partner, until the death of Mr. Harding, in 1867, when Mr. Potter retired from business. He died November 30, 1880.

The Herrick family came from eastern Massachusetts in 1838-39. Elijah L. Herrick, Sr., and three sons, Ephraim, Elijah L., Jr., and William, arrived in Rockford in 1838; and the following year there came three sons, George, Edward, and Samuel, and four daughters, Phoebe, Sarah, Martha, and Hannah. About 1849 the father of the family built a cobble-stone house on what is now Eighteenth avenue.

E. L. Herrick was born at Andover, Massa-

chusetts, September 30, 1820. Mrs. Herrick, previous to her marriage, was a teacher in Rockford seminary. She came in September, 1852, and taught three years.

The three Spafford brothers came to Rockford in 1839, in company with their brother-in-law, Jason Marsh. Their father was Dr. John Spafford. The eldest son, Charles H. Spafford, was born in Jefferson county, New York, January 6, 1819. He was educated at Castleton, Vermont. He had chosen the profession of the law, but his decision to come west changed his plans in life. Mr. Spafford performed a conspicuous part in the development of the city. He held the offices of postmaster, circuit clerk, and recorder. He was president of the Kenosha & Rockford Railroad Company. Mr. Spafford, in company with his brother John, and John Hall, built Metropolitan Hall block. The stores and offices were owned separately and the hall was held in common. Mr. Spafford also, with others, built the block now known as the Chick House. Mr. Spafford died in September, 1892, at the age of seventy-three years. Mrs. Spafford died July 19, 1901.

Amos Catlin Spafford was born September 14, 1824, in Adams, Jefferson county, New York. After he came west he followed farming in this county until 1848. About 1854 he became a member of the banking firm of Briggs, Spafford & Penfield. Upon the organization of the Third National Bank in 1865, Mr. Spafford became its president, and held this position for thirty-three years, until his death. In 1876 he was one of the state commissioners at the centennial exposition. Mr. Spafford died suddenly at Adams, New York, while on a vacation, August 22, 1897. Mrs. Spafford died May 22, 1898.

John Spafford was born November 26, 1821. During his long life in Rockford he was engaged successively in farming, grocery, and grain and lumber trade. In 1856 he became the general agent of the Rockford & Kenosha Railroad Company. Until within two years of his death, Mr. Spafford was president of the Rockford Wire Works Company and the Rockford Suspender Company; he was also interested in manufacturing a lubricating oil, and in a planing-mill. Mr. Spafford died September 5, 1897.

Phineas Howes was a native of Putnam county, New York, and was born September 25, 1817. He came to Rockford in 1839. He was a carpenter and joiner, and followed this trade for many years. He purchased a tract of land in Cherry Valley township. For about fifteen years he was a partner with John Lake in the lumber trade. By strict attention to business, Mr. Howes accumulated quite a large estate. His death occurred October 11, 1894.

William Worthington was born at Enfield,

Connecticut, July 5, 1813. He came to Rockford in the spring of 1838. About 1840 he built a brick blacksmith's shop on the southwest corner of State and First streets, where the Crotty block now stands. This shop was eight or ten feet below the present grade. Later Mr. Worthington built a wagon shop on the same lot, about the same size, of wood, one story. This was the first wagon shop on the East side. There were then no other buildings on those corners. Mr. Worthington was the next blacksmith on the East side, after William Penfield, and was probably the fourth in the village. About 1842 Mr. Worthington formed a partnership with Hosea D. Searles, and opened a drug store. This was the founding of the business now carried on by Worthington & Slade.

Laomi Peake, Sr., a native of Herkimer county, New York, emigrated from St. Thomas, Upper Canada, to Rockford, in September, 1839. He was one of the few pioneers who brought ready capital. He came with about five thousand dollars in money, which was a princely sum for that time. Mr. Peake was the first person who made a harness in Rockford, although a man preceded him who did repairing. Mr. Peake purchased the northeast corner lot on First and State streets, and erected a brick building, twenty-two by thirty-five feet, with two stories and a basement, at a cost of fifteen hundred dollars. The corner of this lot is now occupied by J. H. Keeling's drug store. In 1852 he completed a second brick block on the same site, and finished a hall on the third floor, at a total expense of about eight thousand dollars. Peake's hall was the first public hall in Rockford. This block was destroyed by fire in November, 1857, and the side and rear walls were left standing. The corner store was occupied at the time by C. A. Huntington and Robert Barnes, as a book store, at a rental of four hundred and fifty dollars per year. Elisha A. Kirk and Anthony Haines purchased the property in the autumn of 1858, and rebuilt the block the following year. In 1856 Mr. Peake built the substantial stone house on East State street owned by the late Anthony Haines. Mr. Peake died November 8, 1891, at the age of eighty-four years.

William Hulin was a native of Salem, Massachusetts. He settled in Rockton township in 1837 or '38. August 5, 1839, he was chosen a justice of the peace, and from that time he was continually in the public service. He resigned from the office of clerk of the county court a few days before his death, which occurred December 10, 1869.

Daniel Barnum was a native of New York, born in 1778. In 1838 Mr. Barnum, with his wife and six children, came to Winnebago county, and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Cherry Valley township. Mr. Barnum

removed to Rockford and spent his last days in retirement. He died November 8, 1870, at the age of ninety-two years.

Harris Barnum, son of Daniel Barnum, was born in Danbury, Connecticut, September 8, 1819. He came with his father to Rockford in 1838. His early manhood was spent on his father's farm. In 1866 he engaged in the shoe business in Rockford with the late Daniel Miller, but soon sold his interest. In 1874 Mr. Barnum was one of the organizers of the Forest City Insurance Company, of which he served as treasurer until incapacitated by illness. Mr. Barnum held the offices of alderman and supervisor. He died February 26, 1899, in his eightieth year.

Hon. Horace Miller was a native of Berkshire county, Massachusetts, and was born in 1798. He came to this county in 1839, and settled on a large tract of land near the mouth of the Kishwaukee river, which in an early day was known as the Terrace farm. At one time he owned twelve hundred and fifty acres. From 1850 to 1852 Mr. Miller represented this county in the state legislature. He resided on his farm until about 1861, when he came to Rockford and lived a retired life until his death, August 5, 1864.

Mr. and Mrs. John Benjamin came from Canada in 1839, and settled in Guilford township. Mr. Benjamin's step-daughter, Mrs. Sarah A. Cook, who still resides in East Rockford, has the distinction of being the first matron of Rockford seminary. She served in this capacity from 1849 to 1852. The students were served with meals in a frame structure directly opposite the first seminary building, on the east side of North First street.

Among the other pioneers of 1838 were: Alfred P. Mather, William Hamilton, Levi Monroe, and Richard Marsh. In 1839 there came Courtland Mandville, Frederick Charlie, Thaddeus Davis, Sr., Stephen Crilley, D. Bierer, Chester Hitchcock, John Bull, H. Hudson. Others who came previous to 1840 were: Sylvester Scott, James Gilbert, Artemas Hitchcock, John W. Dyer, Samuel C. Fuller, Newton Crawford, Jonathan Hitchcock, Dr. D. Goodrich, Hollis H. Holmes, Stephen Gilbert, and Bela Shaw. Judge Shaw died suddenly May 31, 1865. Five brothers, Thomas, William, John, Robert and Benjamin Garret, with their parents, settled in Guilford township. Thomas died January 20, 1900. He was a Manxman, born on the Isle of Man, February 11, 1827.

TRIALS OF THE PIONEERS.

One of the greatest privations of the early settlers was the scarcity of provisions, which at that time were obtained from the older settlements in the southern portion of the state. The

pioneers possessed limited means, and few were individually able to bear the expense of a journey of such distance. Several neighbors would unite their small sums, and send one of their number for supplies. The difficulties of travel were great; there were rivers to cross, either forded or swam; streams and sloughs to be waded; muddy roads and ponderous wagons. Under these circumstances, the time of the messenger's return was uncertain. Later, when a trade in provisions had been established, the same obstacles kept them at almost fabulous prices, and the settlers were sometimes reduced to the verge of absolute destitution. Flour sold from sixteen to twenty dollars per barrel, and on one occasion Thomas Lake purchased three barrels at twenty-two dollars each. Pork was thirty dollars per barrel; wheat sold from three to four dollars per bushel; New Orleans sugar twenty-five cents per pound; and other provisions in proportion. This condition rendered it impossible for the great majority of the settlers, with their scanty means, to scarcely procure the necessities for their support. For six weeks in the winter of 1837-38 there was a tobacco famine, which was a terrible privation to the slaves of the filthy weed. "Judge" E. S. Blackstone said the people in the early forties were too poor to cast a shadow. Mr. Thurston ventures the assertion that in 1841-42 there were not twenty farmers in the county who possessed a suit of clothes suitable to wear at church or at court, which they had purchased with the fruits of their labor on their farms. Some who had passed the prime of life became discouraged and returned to their homes in the east to die. Barter was practiced even in payment for performing the marriage ceremony. Abraham I. Enoch, a justice of the peace, once took a bushel of beans as his fee. Joel B. Potter, a clergyman, was compensated for two ceremonies in wheat, and one day's breaking. Ephraim Sumner swam Peacatonica river twice one cold night to perform the rite and received fifty cents.

Had it not been for a beneficent Providence, who stocked the woods and prairies with game and the rivers with fish, many would have suffered for the necessities of the barest subsistence. As late as 1841 the scarcity of fruit was a great trial. There was little, and often none, not even canned fruit. There were dried apples, and the housewives made "mince-pies" of them. Sometimes, in case of sickness, the ways and means looked rather dark, and the mother and her whole family might be involved. In such cases none filled a more important place than Miss Betsy Weldon, whom a few will remember. Strong and well herself, she could fill a place of nurse, house-keeper, dressmaker, milliner, and general repairer of clothing. She was ever ready to respond to cases of need.

ROCKFORD HOUSES IN 1838—LATER BUILDINGS—
H. H. SILSBY.

In April, 1838, there were only four houses north of State street, in West Rockford; the ferry house on the site of the Register-Gazette building; Abriam Morgan's log house, on or very near the site of the Horsman residence, which was recently torn down; a log cabin on the bank of the river, about one hundred and thirty rods above State, occupied by Rev. John Morrill, and D. A. Spaulding, the government surveyor; a board and plank house near the site of Mrs. A. D. Forbes' residence, occupied by John and Calvin Haskell, nephews of Dr. George Haskell. South of State street there were quite a number of cabins. Nathaniel Loomis and his son, Henry W. Loomis, lived in a log house near the southeast corner of State and Main streets; and much of the valuable property in this block still belongs to the Loomis estate. On the west side of Main, D. D. Alling had an unfinished house. Directly north was a two-story frame house which remained unfinished for several years. On the same side, opposite the government building, still stands the residence of George W. Brinckerhoff. On the corner north of the Chicago & Northwestern depot, Nathaniel Wilder had a house of one and a half story. On the east side of Main, opposite the depot, Wyman & Houghton had a story-and-a-half building used as a bakery and boarding house. South of the C., B. & O. depot, on the west side of Main, James Mitchell had a small house. On the same side of the street, near the bank of the creek, stood Mr. Kent's house and sawmill. There was a log hut eight or ten rods below the mill that had been used as a blacksmith's shop, and a store near the river. William E. Dunbar had lived in a log cabin about one hundred yards south of the creek, and twelve to fifteen rods east of Main street. Sanford & Platt's store was on the river bank, south of State. Benjamin Kilburn had a frame house on the site of the Hotel Nelson. There was a total of eighteen buildings in the village on the west side of the river, beside the cabin built by Mr. Blake in the grove to the west.

The East side was somewhat larger. The Rockford House was for some time the only hotel between Belvidere and Freeport. On the southwest corner of State and Madison streets stood Bundy & Goodhue's store. Directly south was a building erected by Mr. Haight. The first floor was the postoffice, and the second was occupied by Tinker & Johnson as a tailor shop. On the northwest corner of Madison and Walnut was a ball alley owned by Charles Oliver. On the southeast corner of State and Madison was Potter & Preston's store. They succeeded Bundy & Goodhue on the opposite corner, where they re-

mained until the death of Mr. Preston, when Mr. Potter continued the business alone for a time. East of Potter & Preston's first store was the foundation of the Washington House. On the northeast corner of State and Main was Daniel S. Haight's unfinished frame house. On East State street Mr. Haight was putting up a one-story building for a postoffice, which a few years later was occupied by Worthington & Searles as the second drug store in the village. East of the postoffice site, on the alley, was Mr. Haight's first log house, occupied by John Miller as a boarding house. East of the alley, on State, was Samuel Little's saloon. On North First street was a story-and-a-half house occupied by Samuel Corey, a brother-in-law of Mr. Haight. North of Mr. Haight's frame house was a story-and-a-half house owned by William Hamilton; and at the northeast corner of Madison and Market was William Penfield's blacksmith's shop. Between the "swell-front" and the brick house south of South Second street owned by Samuel I. Church, stood a house with a story and a half owned by Dr. David Goodrich. In the rear of this, on the alley, was a log structure occupied as a schoolhouse about 1837-38. On the site of the street car barns on Kishwaukee street, was Anson Barnum's double log house. At the southeast corner of Second and Walnut was John Phelps' house, afterward owned by William P. Dennis. On the west side of First street, opposite the city hall, was John C. Kemble's house; and on the river bank, north of Walnut, James Clark was building a store in which he kept a general stock. The "stage barn" built for Mr. Haight in 1836 by Thomas Lake and Sidney Twogood, stood near the intersection of State and Third streets. John Vance's log structure, built for a store, was on South First street nearly opposite the city hall. There was a log house about ten rods southeast of the "stage barn," occupied by a Mr. Kingsley, who came from Belvidere to work for Mr. Haight on the Rockford House. James Boswell's cabin was near the Peacock estate. Jacob Posson's cabin was in the vicinity of block twenty-one, Gregory & Penfield's addition. These, with the East side ferry house, and a small log hut used for a stable, were all the buildings within half a mile of the intersection of State and Madison streets, on the east side of the river, in April, 1838. Mr. Haight erected at least seven buildings on the East side, beside three barns, and one-half of the Rockford House. In 1839-40 he built the large two-story brick house, east of Longwood street, which is still standing. Mr. Haight claimed that one hundred thousand brick were used in its construction.

In the spring and summer of 1838 Harvey H. Silsby, Mowry Brown, William Hull and William Harvey built the house now standing north

of Mrs. W. A. Dickerman's residence, for Dr. Haskell, who afterward sold it to John Edwards.

After finishing Dr. Haskell's brick block, Mr. Silsby and Mowry Brown built a house for G. A. Sanford near the center of the block, south of Porter's drug store, on Main street. This house later stood for many years near the Chestnut street bridge. Benjamin Kilburn built his house near the Trask bridge road that season. The rear of the Beattie house was built the same summer.

Mr. Silsby rendered great service to the writer in locating these buildings of the early days. His trade, that of contractor and builder, doubtless fixed the dates of their erection in his mind. No other individual furnished a more valuable fund of information in the preparation of this work. He knew the village from the beginning, and he retained his excellent memory unimpaired to the last. Mr. Silsby died suddenly April 7, 1899, in Kansas, after having spent the winter with his daughter in Rockford. He was eighty-one years of age. Mr. Silsby was born in Acworth, Sullivan county, New Hampshire, November 1, 1817. He went in 1837 to Upper Atton, where he remained until he came to Rockford the following year. After working at his trade for some years, he embarked in mercantile business.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.

The First Baptist church is the second organization of that faith planted in northern Illinois outside of Chicago. It was organized December 22, 1838, at the home of Dr. George Haskell, and was the third religious organization founded in Rockford. There were sixteen charter members, as follows: James and Martha Jackson, Abiram Morgan, Pierce and Evelina Wood, John and Susan Emerson, Wm. B. Brainard, Ransom and Lucy Knapp, George and Eunice Haskell, Mowry and Lucy Brown, Isaiah Lyon, and Caleb Blood. Services were held in a hall on the second floor of Dr. Haskell's brick block, which stood on the site of the Ashton block. The congregation depended upon supplies until May, 1841, when Rev. Solomon Knapp became the first resident pastor. The first house of worship was built in 1841, on the corner now occupied by the American Insurance building, on North Main street.

The second pastor was Rev. Warren F. Parrish, a convert from Mormonism to the Baptist faith. He was succeeded by Rev. O. H. Head and Rev. Luther Stone, and by Prof. Whitman, of Belvidere, as a stated supply.

In the autumn of 1848 Elder Jacob Knapp removed from the east, and November 18th he united with the First church by letter. The church was then without a pastor, and arrange-

ments were soon made with Elder Knapp for holding revival meetings. The little frame building was too small, and the church secured the use of the court house, where it continued to hold services until the new structure was completed. Elder Knapp continued his labors until June, 1849. At the annual session of the Rock River Association, held that month, the church reported sixty-two additions by baptism and seventeen by letter. These accessions increased the membership to one hundred and sixty.

Elder Knapp was one of the most remarkable men of his time. He was born in Otsego county, New York, December 7, 1799. He was graduated at Hamilton Theological seminary in June, 1825, and ordained in the following August at Springfield, New York. After serving the church at Springfield for five years, and the church at Watertown for three years, he began his career as an evangelist. For fifteen years his home was at Hamilton, New York, and for twenty-five years at Rockford.

Elder Knapp claimed to have preached about sixteen thousand sermons, baptized four thousand candidates, and was the means of making one hundred thousand converts by his revival ministry, of whom two hundred became ministers of the gospel. Elder Knapp's mind was characterized by strong logical tendencies, and his sermons abounded in homely illustrations, apt quotations from the Bible, and a good knowledge of human nature. In stature Elder Knapp was short, squarely and stoutly built, his voice was deeply sepulchral, and his manner self-possessed. He was fertile in expedients and possessed an indomitable will. He was quick at repartee, in which he was a consummate master.

To this day the widest differences of opinion prevailed as to the sincerity and true Christian character of Elder Knapp. Many of his fellow citizens believed his daily life was quite inconsistent with the higher ideals which he taught from the pulpit; while others considered him the very incarnation of godly zeal; as a veritable John the Baptist, warning the people in terms of awful grandeur to flee from the wrath to come. President Knott, of Union college, testified: "Elder Knapp is unequalled among uninspired men." Dr. Thomas Armitage, in his History of the Baptists, says: "The writer heard him preach many times, and judged him, as he is apt to judge men, more by his prayers than his sermons, for he was a man of much prayer. His appearance in the pulpit was very striking, his face pale, his skin dark, his mouth wide, with a singular cast in one eye bordering on a squint; he was full of native wit, almost gestureless, and vehement in denunciation, yet so cool in his deliberation that with the greatest ease he gave every trying circumstance its appropriate but unexpected turn."

Elder Knapp died March 3, 1874, on his farm north of Rockford, and was buried in the West Side cemetery, with his feet toward the west, in accordance with his strange request. Elder Knapp's autobiography was published in 1868.

Rev. Ichabod Clark succeeded Elder Knapp. During his pastorate, in 1850, the congregation built the present stone church on North Church street, which is now the oldest house of worship in Rockford.

Dr. Clark was succeeded by Dr. Thomas Kerr, who began his labors June 1, 1860. His first pastorate closed November 1, 1866, when he was called to Hannibal, Mo. After a brief pastorate by Rev. James Lick, Dr. Kerr was recalled to his old charge, and in 1869 he began his second pastorate. In 1870 Dr. Kerr began to preach a more liberal faith. An ecclesiastical council deposed him from the Baptist ministry, and the church excluded him, with forty-eight sympathizers, from its membership. Dr. Kerr was succeeded in the pastorate by Revs. John S. Mabie, L. Anderson, W. A. Stanton, C. H. Moscrip, Theo. G. Soares, C. W. Barber, and W. C. Keirstead. The membership reported to the association in June, 1905, was 287. The value of the church property is \$18,000.

THE VILLAGE INCORPORATED.

Early in 1839 the little village aspired to the dignity of an incorporated town. The general law of 1831 provided that "whenever the white males over the age of twenty-one years, being residents of any town in this state, containing not less than one hundred and fifty inhabitants, shall wish to become incorporated for the better regulation of their internal police," it should be lawful for them to do so. The ambition of the village was sustained by the required population.

A meeting of the citizens of Rockford was held, pursuant to public notice, at the Rockford House, April 1, 1839. It was resolved that the two villages of Rockford, east and west sides of Rock river, be incorporated into one town. Committees were appointed to ascertain the number of inhabitants within the prescribed boundaries of Rockford; to draft an act of incorporation for the town; and to confer with Mr. Brinckerhoff concerning free ferriage for the citizens of the county.

An adjourned meeting was held April 3d, but no business was transacted. A second adjourned meeting was held on the following evening. The committee on census reported that the number of inhabitants was two hundred and thirty-five. The committee appointed to confer with Mr. Brinckerhoff made a report to the effect that he would furnish free ferriage to the citizens of the county on condition that the trustees of the town

would remunerate him, at the close of each year, with such sum as a committee of three should determine, after ascertaining the receipts and expenses of the ferriage. One member of the committee was to be chosen by the trustees, another by Mr. Brinckerhoff and these two were to appoint a third. At this meeting, by a two-thirds vote, as required by law, the town was incorporated. An election for five trustees was held April 10th. There were chosen Dr. Goodhue, Daniel S. Haight, Samuel Little, Ephraim Wyman and Isaiah Lyon.

The statute provided that the boundaries of a town incorporated under its provisions should not exceed one mile square. The trustees restricted the limits as thus prescribed by the law. They organized by the election of Daniel S. Haight, president; Anson Barnum, clerk; John C. Kemble, attorney. Isaiah Lyon was elected collector and treasurer; Henry Thurston, assessor for the first district; John Haskell for the second; Nathaniel Wilder for the third; S. D. Preston for the fourth.

Rockford continued its simple municipal life under this system until January, 1852. These years were quite uneventful, so far as municipal affairs were concerned. The complete records of the proceedings of the board of trustees for those twelve years are contained in a single small volume. This book is well preserved and is in the office of the city clerk. Routine business occupied the most exclusive attention of the board; and frequently less than a page is required to record its proceedings.

EARLY LAND SALES.

The lands in Winnebago county did not come into market until the autumn of 1839. The lands in Rockford and Rockton townships were not offered for sale until 1843, by reason of the famous "Polish claims," which will be considered in detail in subsequent paragraphs. The land office for this district in 1839 was at Galena. The opening of the lands to sale and entry in that year was an interesting event to the settlers of Winnebago county. Some of them had their farms well under cultivation, and had raised a sufficient surplus, so that they were able to secure their farms when the sale began. The uniform government price for land was ten shillings per acre. Speculators were always around the land office on days of sale, waiting for the first chance to make a claim. A common interest bound the settlers together, and they usually maintained their rights in equity against the sharp practices of the land sharks.

Many settlers, however, did not possess ready money. Stock and grain had become plenty by this time, but they could not be sold for cash.

Money at one time commanded thirty per cent. Some of the farmers had their claims bid in on shares. Lands were also bid in by men who had money, on condition that their advances should double in three years—thirty-three and one-third per cent. interest; the money-loaner furnished the money, and gave a bond to the claimant to redeem at the expiration of three years if the money should be paid on or before that day. The money-loaner supposed his title was good, as it was entered in his own name, and paid for in full with his money. It was decided otherwise, however, by the supreme court, which treated it as a mortgage. There was much litigation on this point.

ROCKFORD CEMETERIES.

Four sites have been used in West Rockford for the purpose of a cemetery, besides that used by the Roman Catholics. The first burial in the village of Rockford was that of Henry Harmon, who was drowned at the ferry in Rock river April 7, 1837, on block thirty-five of J. W. Leavitt's plat of the original town of West Rockford. The Commercial Hotel, South Church street, is on the southeast corner of this block. The second interment was of the body of Sarah Kent, a daughter of Germanicus Kent, upon the same block, in 1837. These were followed by the burials of Addison Phillips, who accidentally shot himself in March, 1839, and John Haskell, a brother of Dr. George Haskell, also in that year. Mrs. James Mitchell and some others were buried upon block thirty-five, which was the only place of interment on the west side of the river until about 1840. The proprietors of that portion of the town west of the section line dividing sections twenty-two and twenty-three then gave to the citizens of West Rockford a plat of ground for cemetery purposes, corresponding to block fifty-three in Morgan and Horsman's addition to the city of Rockford, on the south side of State street. This block now includes the land owned by the late Dr. C. H. Riehings. Mrs. Montague, wife of Richard Montague, was the first person buried in this ground. She died February 17, 1842.

From that time this plat of ground continued to be the place of burial until 1844. The original proprietors of the town, by an agreement with the citizens, exchanged this place of burial for a site corresponding to what would have been blocks thirty-seven and forty-eight of the original plat, on the north bank of Kent's creek. This tract corresponds with the switch yards, round-house and stock yards of the Chicago & Northwestern railroad. The bodies were removed from the cemetery near State street and reburied in the new grounds. In the year 1841 the citizens after several meetings, organized an association and

in February, 1845, they obtained a charter incorporating the Rockford Cemetery Association. Under this charter they elected their trustees and other officers, and kept up the organization in accordance with all the provisions of the act. The first trustees named in this charter were John W. Taylor, Ephraim Wyman, Cyrus F. Miller, Richard Montague and Benjamin Kilburn.

From 1844 to 1852 this site remained the place of burial for the Rockford Cemetery Association. During this time the number of graves had increased to about one hundred and seventy-five. The bodies that had been buried on block thirty-five remained there until 1852.

The extension of the Galena & Chicago Union railroad to West Rockford again made it necessary for the association to remove its cemetery, as the grounds had been selected by the railroad company as the site of its depot. A portion of this tract was condemned by the company for this purpose. The association thereupon made arrangements with the railroad company for the sale of the entire property, except seventy feet fronting on Cedar street. The company paid the association one thousand and nine hundred dollars. The frontage of seventy feet on Cedar street was sub-divided into twelve lots, and sold to different persons for three thousand eight hundred and twelve dollars and twelve cents.

In April, 1852, the trustees took measures to procure a new charter for their more extended needs. In the following May the association purchased of Charles Reed, George Haskell and Nathaniel Wilder, a part of the present cemetery grounds. This tract contained thirty-three acres, for which the Association paid twelve hundred dollars. On the 20th of May, 1852, the association made a contract with David D. Alling, to remove all the bodies in the original place of burial on block thirty-five and those in the later cemetery.

At the special session of the legislature in June, 1852, the association obtained a new act of incorporation. The sum realized from the sale of its former property left a good margin after the later purchase. Quite extensive improvements were made with a portion of this reserve. This cemetery is a beautiful spot in summer, well kept, and contains many splendid monuments.

In February, 1880, the association purchased seventeen acres of D. C. Littlefield. The cemetery now covers fifty acres, the purchase price of which was only \$2,000. There have been more than five thousand interments. The association has an invested fund, the interest of which is expended in beautifying this city of the dead.

The Roman Catholic cemetery is also located on the West side.

At an early date Daniel S. Haight appropriated an acre of ground for a cemetery on the

East side. It was situated on the east side of Longworth street, about ten rods north of State. The ground was open prairie. There was no shade from the summer sun, and the wintry winds intensified its desolation.

An act approved February 18, 1847, provided for the incorporation of the Cedar Bluff Cemetery Association. E. H. Potter, Willard Wheeler, Bela Shaw, Selden M. Church, Hollis H. Holmes, and Lucius Clark and their successors were made a body politic and corporate for the purpose. The association was not fully organized, however, until November 28, 1851. Twelve acres in section twenty-three were purchased from Bela Shaw for four hundred dollars, subject to the dower of Rebecca Shaw. The tract was surveyed by Duncan Ferguson, April 3, 1853. It remained the only burying ground on the East side until the organization of the Scandinavian Cemetery Association, which is near Cedar Bluff.

THE SEVEN YEARS' WAR OVER THE SITE OF THE COUNTY SEAT.

The attempt in 1836 to locate the county seat had proven a failure. The county business had been transacted in the meantime in various places in the village. The proprietors of Winnebago did not consider the refusal of their deed of cession to the county, noted in a previous paragraph, as a finality. On that very day began the famous controversy over the location of the county seat, which was continued for seven years with great spirit and not a little bitterness on all sides. The proprietors of Winnebago had expended considerable money in their town plat, and they were anxious to have the county buildings commenced at once, and thus settle the question. On the other hand, the county commissioners opposed the site of Winnebago, and placed every obstacle in the way of such location. Various propositions were made by the proprietors during this and the succeeding year to induce the commissioners to take some action that would secure them in the location which had been previously made. All these overtures were either refused or evaded. The persistent refusal of the county commissioners led to state legislation.

By an act of the general assembly, approved March 2, 1839, the question was submitted to a popular vote. It was made the duty of the clerk of the county commissioners' court to give notice of an election to be held on the first Monday in May, 1839. The law provided that if it should appear that within one hundred of a majority of all the votes cast were in favor of the town of Winnebago, that town should remain the permanent county seat. But if any other place, after the first election, should receive a majority there should be an election held on the first Monday

of each succeeding month, dropping off at each election, the place receiving the smallest number of votes, until some one place should receive a majority of all the votes polled.

These provisions gave Winnebago a decided advantage, but even then the town was unable to win the prize. At the election six aspirants received votes, as follows: Rockford, three hundred and twenty; Winnebago, seventy-five; Roscoe, two; Willow Creek, five; Pecatonica, one; Scipio, one. Total vote cast, four hundred and four, of which Rockford had a majority over all of two hundred and thirty-six.

The prospective village of Winnebago reached the highest point of all its greatness on the day when its ambitious claims were rejected by the county commissioners' court. In April, 1844, many of the lots were sold by the sheriff to satisfy delinquent taxes; and in 1847 the plat was vacated by a special act of the legislature.

In pursuance of the popular vote in favor of Rockford, the county commissioners, on June 8, 1839, selected the public square on the east side of the river as the site for the courthouse. Anson Barnum and Daniel S. Haight were authorized to accept stone and other building material. A large quantity of brick and lumber was contributed by the citizens. This material remained on the public square for a long time, because the county had no money to continue the work. At a special session held June 17, the court selected the southeast corner of block nine as a site for a jail. This is the site now occupied by the Rockford Gas Light and Coke Company. No jail, however, was built upon that location.

At the session of September 28, 1841, a proposition was submitted to the commissioners' court to furnish a suitable jail and quarters for the county offices in West Rockford until permanent buildings could be constructed. This proposal was signed by Messrs. George Haskell, Charles I. Horsman, Abriam Morgan, John W. Taylor, David Alling, Nathaniel Loomis, Ephraim Wyman, Horatio Nelson, Derastus Harper and Isaiah Lyon. Upon executing a bond in the penal sum of one thousand dollars this proposition was accepted. December 11th these gentlemen reported to the commissioners' court that the building for the county offices was ready for use and the same was accepted by the court. This was a frame structure on the southwest corner of Main and Chestnut streets, opposite the Hotel Nelson. This building was occupied by the court until the courthouse was built, and only a few years ago was torn down to make room for the block now occupied by Mead, Hallock & Bennett. The donors at this December session were given an extension of five months to complete the jail. This was a log structure about twelve feet

square, with plank door, and window barred with iron set into the logs above and below. It stood east of the present courthouse, in the same block. Whenever a desperate character was confined therein it was necessary to station a guard. Previous to the erection of this primitive prison the nearest jail was at Galena. When I. N. Cunningham was sheriff he owned a substantially built house a short distance from town, and his brother William once prevented a prisoner from escaping at night by fastening one end of a chain to his ankle and the other to the ankle of the prisoner, and both were secured to the strong puncheon floor. The old log jail did its duty after a fashion until the brick jail was completed.

A controversy arose concerning the precise meaning of the statute under which the election of May, 1839, had been held. That portion of the third section of the law enclosed in parenthesis was ambiguous. The point at issue was whether the law actually authorized an election to select a seat of justice, or merely to decide the general question of removal. The question was before the commissioners' court at its September session in 1841. Each commissioner held a different opinion. May 10, 1842, the commissioners' court requested the bar of the city to submit opinions in writing concerning the legal effect of the popular vote. Opinions were prepared by Anson S. Miller, Francis Burnap, Thomas D. Robertson, James M. Wight, and Jason Marsh. Mr. Miller's opinions were quite elaborate. The attorneys were unanimous in the opinion that the county seat had been changed from Winnebago to Rockford, in accordance with the evident intent of the law. At the session of July, 1842, the commissioners' court authorized the judges of election in the several precincts to take the sense of the voters at the August election on the question whether the county buildings should be permanently located in East or West Rockford. Several precincts did not vote on the question; but the general result was favorable to the West side, inasmuch as the temporary location of the county offices on that side had already given it a degree of prestige. The vote had no legal effect, however, because the law had given the commissioners' court full power in the premises. But it did have a certain persuasive influence.

In April, 1843, Daniel S. Haight, E. H. Potter, Hollis H. Holmes, Laomi Peak, Daniel Howell and John A. Brown, of the East side submitted a proposition to the county commissioners to build a courthouse and jail, to cost four thousand dollars. This proposal was considered, but complications prevented its acceptance. In a few days, April 22d, citizens of West Rockford made a similar proposition. On condition that the commissioners select the site on the West

side, the citizens agreed to erect such buildings as the county commissioners should direct, and according to such plan and finish as the commissioners should furnish for a courthouse, county offices and jail, the said buildings to be commenced before the first day of June next, and the jail to be finished before the first day of January, 1844. The remainder of the said buildings was to be finished by the first day of November, 1844. The donors were to perfect and convey to the county a good title to the land on which the said building should stand, to the amount of two and one-half acres. This proposition was signed by Messrs. George Haskell, Charles I. Horsman, H. W. Loomis, M. Burner, Charles Hall, Thomas D. Robertson, George W. Dewey, David D. Alling, H. R. Maynard, Alden Thomas, S. Skimmer, George Barrows, John Fisher, Derastus Harper, Daniel Dow.

Nothing had been done on the East side toward erecting county buildings with the material furnished, and the proposition from the west side citizens was accepted, with five conditions: These were: First, security must be given to the acceptance of the commissioners or any two of them in term, time or vacation within twenty days; second, that the security be a bond for twenty thousand dollars, and the buildings be worth not less than six thousand dollars; third, that said bond be placed in the hands of the clerk of the court within three days from its acceptance; fourth, that the subscribers to the proposition, or a majority of them, enter into a contract in writing within twenty days to erect the buildings as offered in their proposition; fifth, that the contract be placed in the hands of the clerk of the court within three days from its approval. The commissioners ordered that block twenty-five in west Rockford be the site of the buildings. Thus closed a contest which had continued for seven years.

The brick jail was completed and occupied January 1, 1844. The court house was finished in July of the same year and was accepted by the county commissioners. Derastus Harper and John Beattie were the architects. It was one story, about fifty-six feet long, thirty-five feet in width and seventeen feet high. The court room was fifty-four by thirty-three feet; nine feet in the rear of the bench was partitioned off into jury rooms. Two rows of slips made in the style of those erected in the churches, filled the room outside the bar, and accommodated three hundred persons. The entire edifice, including the pediment, and four fluted columns in front, was built in the Grecian Doric order of architecture. The public square, jail and courthouse were furnished by the citizens of West Rockford without the outlay of a dollar by the county. The stone building in which the county records were kept was built in

1851. All these buildings have been removed from the square.

The first term of court held in the new building was in August, 1844. The presiding judge was Thomas C. Brown; James Mitchell, clerk; G. A. Sanford, sheriff. Many bright stars in the legal firmament of that day practiced in Winnebago county. Belvidere, Freeport, Galena, and Chicago sent their best talent. The famous "Mat" Carpenter of Wisconsin came to Rockford on professional business half a century ago.

NOTABLE SECESSION MOVEMENT.

Sixty years ago Winnebago county figured prominently in a movement of secession from Illinois for the purpose of annexation to Wisconsin. This agitation covered the entire period between the admission of Illinois in 1818, and the admission of Wisconsin thirty years later. The story forms one of the most interesting chapters in the history of the commonwealth. The movement was widespread, and the feeling at times was intense and even bitter. The village of Rockford played quite a part in this struggle. There was brought to light in this city in 1809 a copy of the official proceedings of a mass meeting held in Rockford, July 6, 1840. This convention was composed of delegates from the northern fourteen counties of the state. Its purpose was secession from Illinois, and annexation to the proposed new state of Wisconsin.

History has never fully explained the causes of this movement. Tradition alone has interpreted its true animus. The apparent motive was a restoration of the boundary line as originally established between the two states that might be formed of the territory north of an east-and-west line running through the southerly bend of Lake Michigan. This line, it was claimed, had been arbitrarily and unfairly extended fifty miles north when Illinois became a state.

The real reasons for this movement were two: First, the settlers in the northern and southern portions of the state had little or no interest in common. The northern portion was settled principally by people who had come from New England and New York. They were industrious, thrifty and progressive. They built towns and cities as by magic. The southern part of Illinois was settled by emigrants from the slave-holding states. They were generally poor, as the well-to-do people did not emigrate. In those days the poor man in the south was scarcely above the negro in the social scale. This class came into southern Illinois from slave-holding states to escape the limitations of their former poverty. Between the people of the southern and the northern portions of the state was a great gulf fixed. Each misunderstood the other. The Illinois and

Michigan canal was opposed by the people of southern Illinois for fear it would flood the state with Yankees. This conflict of interest and opinion was a continuation of the struggle between the civilizations of Plymouth and Jamestown. The Puritan and the class distinctions of the cavalier had entered the western arena, where a few years later Lincoln and Douglas fought the historic battle of the century.

The second reason for this sectional divorcement was the desire of the northern people to escape the burden of the enormous state debt, which had been created by the gigantic scheme of internal improvements. In 1840, during Governor Carlin's administration, the total debt of the state, principal and interest, was fourteen million six hundred and sixty-six thousand five hundred and sixty-two dollars and forty-two cents. The treasury was bankrupt; the revenue was insufficient; the people were not able to pay high taxes, and the state had borrowed itself out of credit. The state never repudiated its debt, but it simply could not pay it at that time. Moreover, the state had little to show for this vast expenditure. Southern Illinois dominated the state, and the people in the sparsely settled northern counties were not responsible for the creation of the state debt.

Such was the condition of affairs when the mass convention was held in Rockford in the summer of 1840. In order to more fully understand the historic situation at that time, it will be necessary to briefly refer to the document which gave a plausible pretext to the separatist movement. This was the ordinance for the government of the Northwest Territory, adopted in 1787. This ordinance provided for the division of this vast area for territorial purposes, which of course had no bearing upon the present matter. It further provided that not more than two states should be formed from the territory north of an east-and-west line running through the southerly bend of Lake Michigan.

In 1818 Illinois territory petitioned congress for admission into the union on an equality with the original states. The petition defined the northern boundary of the state in accordance with the provisions of the ordinance of 1787. When the petition came before congress, Nathaniel Pope was instructed by the committee to report a bill in pursuance of the petition. Before the bill became a law it was amended by the extension of the boundary line from the southerly bend of Lake Michigan to forty-two degrees thirty minutes. Thus was added to Illinois a territory fifty miles from north to south, which now includes the northern fourteen counties of the state. These important and radical changes were proposed and carried through both houses of congress by Mr. Pope, entirely on his own personal

responsibility. The territorial legislature had not petitioned for them, but the great and lasting advantage was so apparent that the action of Mr. Pope received the unqualified endorsement of the people.

When Wisconsin began to aspire to statehood, it was upon the language of the ordinance of 1787, above quoted, which was declared a compact to remain forever unalterable, that our northern neighbor based her claim to the territory north of the original line.

This question of boundary became an issue in local politics, and it was not until 1848, when Wisconsin became a state, that all hope of the restoration of the original line was abandoned.

In accordance with this widespread movement, which is said to have begun at Galena, a mass meeting was held at the Rockford House, in Rockford, July 6, 1840. One hundred and twenty delegates, who represented the entire territory in dispute, were in attendance.

A committee was instructed to report resolutions declaratory of the right of Wisconsin to the territory in dispute. The preamble declared that it was the general, if not the universal, belief of the residents of the tract of territory in dispute, that the same by right and by law is a part of the Territory of Wisconsin; and that their interests would be advanced by the restoration of the original line, as defined by the ordinance of 1787.

The resolution declared first, that it was the opinion of the meeting that the intention of the framers of the ordinance of 1787 for the government of the Northwest Territory, was that if congress formed one or two states north of the east-and-west line above mentioned, that the states south of the line should not extend north and beyond it; second, that congress, in thus extending the northern boundary of Illinois, transcended its power and violated the provisions of the ordinance.

It was also resolved that if the governor of Wisconsin Territory should issue a proclamation for an election of delegates to a convention for the formation of a state government, under the resolutions relating to the southern boundary, approved January 13, 1840, the citizens of the territory in dispute should elect delegates to the convention, according to the ratio fixed by the resolution.

The sixth resolution provided that a central committee of five be appointed to carry into effect the resolutions of the convention, and to inform the executive of Wisconsin of the status of public opinion. It was finally resolved that a copy of the proceedings of the convention should be signed by the president and secretary and forwarded to the governor of the Territory of Wisconsin.

Other boundary conventions were held in various parts of the district. A convention at Oregon City, January 22, 1842, adopted resolutions similar to those approved at Rockford eighteen months earlier. The delegates even went to the point of declaring that the ordinance of 1787 should not be changed without the consent of the people of the original states, and of the Northwest Territory.

A meeting was held in Galena, March 18, 1842, of which Charles S. Hempstead was president. Strong resolutions were adopted. One declared that the annexation of the district to Illinois was an unlawful, arbitrary proceeding, and a dangerous precedent.

In June, 1842, the commissioners' court of Winnebago county submitted this question to a popular vote of the county at the August election. The returns were as follows: For annexation to Wisconsin, nine hundred and seventy-one; opposed to annexation, six.

A meeting of the citizens of Belvidere was held September 7, 1842, when it was decided to call a special election for the fourth Monday in September, in pursuance of the recommendation contained in the proclamation of Governor Doty, of the Territory of Wisconsin. Such an election was held, with a result similar to that in Winnebago county.

This prolonged agitation accomplished no result. The movement suddenly lost its momentum and became a spent force. The essential principle involved in the resolutions that were adopted at Oregon City was whether the congress of the United States under the constitution, had no power to amend a prior act of confederated states. In view of the subsequent evolution of the federal idea, under the splendid leadership of Webster and Marshall, it seems surprising that such a preposterous claim should have been seriously considered.

ROCKFORD OPPOSES REPUDIATION.

The history of the bonded indebtedness of the states begins with the period from 1830 to 1840. At the beginning of that decade the aggregate debt of the several states amounted to only thirteen million dollars. Then began an era of extravagance in which certain states made enormous expenditures for internal improvements, and for funding their debts, negotiated large loans on long time. Within the twelve years succeeding 1830 the aggregate debt of the states had arisen to more than two hundred millions, an increase of more than sixteen hundred per cent.

Illinois narrowly escaped the odium of repudiation. At this critical period Thomas Ford became governor. On this point he says in his History of Illinois: "It is my solemn belief that

when I came into office I had the power to make Illinois a repudiating state." After July, 1841, no effort was made to pay even the interest on the debt; and her bonds declined to fourteen cents on the dollar. Ford was elected governor in 1842; and his title to fame securely rests upon the fact that he stemmed the tide, so that the larger proportion of the debt was actually paid during his administration.

Notwithstanding the fact that the citizens of Winnebago county desired annexation to Wisconsin, in part by reason of this debt, there was no attempt made to repudiate the debt so long as they remained in the state. On the other hand, the citizens took an unequivocal position against such a ruinous policy. A call was issued for a meeting February 5, 1842, to consider the condition of the public credit. This call was signed by S. M. Church, S. D. Preston, George S. Haskell; Germanicus Kent, D. S. Haight, G. A. Sanford, Francis Burnap and others. It had been surmised that Illinois would refuse to pay its debt. This call was endorsed by a vigorous editorial in the Rockford Pilot, which closed with these words: "As this is a question of vital consideration to every citizen, we trust that a full attendance will be had on that occasion—that by your presence and your voices you may show to the world your opinion in regard to these surmises. Think not that your individual credit is independent of that of your state and nation. All power and all public acts emanate directly from the people, who are the sovereigns of the republic; and whatever honor or shame falls to your state, must be shared among you." The citizens' meeting was in sympathy with this editorial comment; and the moral influence of Winnebago county was thus placed on record against a repudiating policy that would have brought the state into everlasting disgrace.

SETTLERS OF THE EARLY FORTIES.

Orrin Miller came to Rockford in 1843 and engaged in the practice of law. He was a brilliant and able attorney. Mr. Miller married a daughter of Willard Wheeler. About 1871 he removed to the Pacific coast. His death occurred at Pomona, near Los Angeles, in February, 1891. He was about seventy years of age. His remains were brought to Rockford for interment.

Another early lawyer of the village was Grant B. Udell. His name is occasionally found on old legal documents; but he seems not to have been generally remembered.

Anson S. Miller was a prominent lawyer and politician half a century ago. He was elected state senator in 1846, was postmaster of Rockford under appointment of President Lincoln,

and probate judge from 1857 to 1865. Judge Miller was one of the presidential electors in 1864, and was chosen by the electoral college to carry the vote of Illinois to Washington. Judge Miller died January 7, 1891, at Santa Cruz, California. For twenty years preceding his death he had resided in California. Judge Miller was eighty-two years of age.

Cyrus F. Miller, a brother of Judge Miller, was born near Rome, New York. He came to Winnebago county in 1839 or '40 and was for many years a well known member of the local bar, and justice of the peace. Mr. Miller removed to Chicago in 1871, directly after the great fire. He practiced law in that city until 1876, when he returned to Rockford. His death occurred June 4, 1890, at Beatrice, Nebraska, and his remains were brought to Rockford for burial.

Daniel Dow came to Rockford in 1841, and opened a boot and shoe store, and later he carried a general stock of merchandise. He purchased goods at St. Louis, and his first trip to that city was made by team to Galena; thence by the Mississippi to his destination. Mr. Dow continued in business until 1859, when he retired and traveled extensively. Upon his return to Rockford he began dealing in grain. Mr. Dow served the Third ward as alderman for six years. He died November 8, 1903.

Lewis B. Gregory is a native of Seneca county, New York. He was born in 1820, of New England ancestry. His father was Rev. Harry Gregory, a Methodist minister. Mr. Gregory acquired a seminary education. He came to Rockford in 1843, and began teaching the same year. Mr. Gregory is probably the oldest living teacher in the county. After teaching several terms, he became interested in business on the old water-power on the east side of the river. He was a nephew of Samuel and Eliphalet Gregory, settlers of 1835.

George Tullock was a well known citizen of Scottish birth. He was born in 1815, and came to Rockford in 1841. At Chicago Mr. Tullock hired his passage with a teamster; but the roads were so bad that he started ahead on foot, and arrived in Rockford three days ahead of the team. Mr. Tullock was employed by Daniel Dow nearly four years as a shoemaker. He then became a farmer.

THE FIRST COUNTY FAIRS.

As early as August, 1840, a committee was appointed to draft a constitution and by-laws for the Winnebago County Agricultural Society. This committee deferred its report until the next March term of the county commissioners' court, in order to avail itself of the privilege of organizing the society under the statute "to incorporate

agricultural societies," which was passed March 28, 1830. The act required the county commissioners to give due notice of the intention to form such society at that special term only, and precluded a legal organization in this county at an earlier date, under the provisions of the statute.

The Agricultural Society was organized April 13, 1841. Dr. Haskell was elected president; Robert J. Cross, vice-president; George W. Lee, secretary; Charles I. Horsman, treasurer; Horace Miller, Richard Montague, P. M. Johnson, James S. Norton, Newton Crawford, I. N. Cunningham, Jonathan Weldon, directors. An adjourned meeting was held July 5th. September 8th a meeting of the officers was held to complete arrangements for the first cattle show. It was decided that the fair should be held annually in Rockford, alternating on the east and west sides of the river; that all the available funds of the society be distributed in premiums, and that the premiums be paid in agricultural publications.

The exhibition was held on the 13th of October. The stock was exhibited in the grove near the northeast corner of First and Oak streets which was known as the Oak Openings, where the ground was covered with a beautiful tuft. A few splendid specimens of the primitive oak trees remain in the vicinity. Cattle and horses were tied to the trees; the sheep and hogs were confined in rail pens. The display of domestic articles and garden produce was made in the hall of the Rockford House. Charles I. Horsman exhibited a squash weighing one hundred and twenty-eight pounds. There were several loads of grain standing in the street in front of the Rockford House.

At two o'clock the society and visitors formed a procession, under direction of Jason Marsh, the marshal of the day, and marched to the courthouse, on the East side. Rev. Joel B. Potter offered prayer, and Dr. Goodhue delivered an address. He was eloquent in his prophecy of the future which awaited the farmers of this fertile valley. After these exercises dinner was served at the Rockford House. At half past five the committee on awards made its report. The premium list was brief. There were seven premiums offered for horses, six for cattle, four for hogs, and two for sheep; one for the best cultivated ten acres of land, one for the best twenty-five pounds of butter, one for the best cheese weighing over fifteen pounds, one for the best ten yards of flannel manufactured in the county, one for the best fifty skeins of sewing silk manufactured in the county, and one for the best ten pounds of sugar manufactured in the county. Thus was held, in a single day, the first cattle show in northern Illinois.

This society kept up its organization and annual exhibits for some years, when it ceased to

exist. In 1852 another society was formed, out of which a larger organization was developed. The latter was organized under a general law, approved in 1855. Until 1858 the society held its exhibitions on leased ground. In that year, twelve acres of land were purchased of C. I. Horsman, for six hundred dollars per acre. Later purchases were made, which increased the grounds to twenty-two acres.

THE BANDITTI OF THE FRONTIER.

The frontier is always the prey of the banditti. From 1837 to 1845 the Rock river valley was infested with a notorious gang of outlaws. Among the leaders of this band were: John Driscoll, William and David Driscoll, his sons; John Brodie, and his three sons, John, Stephen and Hugh; Samuel Aikens, and his three sons, Richard, Charles and Thomas; William K. Bridge, Norton B. Royce, Charles Oliver, and Charles West. Besides these chiefs of the robber confederacy, there were a large number of subordinates scattered throughout the country.

The leaders of this gang were among the first settlers, and thus had the choice of locations. John Driscoll came from Ohio, and settled near Killbuck creek, Monroe township, Ogle county. William Driscoll settled at South Grove, in DeKalb county. David Driscoll resided a short distance east of the old village site of Lynnville, in Ogle county. John Brodie lived in a grove of timber in Dement township. Samuel Aikens and his son Charles and William K. Bridge settled in Washington Grove, and Thomas and Richard Aikens and Norton B. Royce at Lafayette Grove, scarcely half a mile distant. Charles Oliver settled at Rockford, and made his home at the Rockford House. He had a good address, and was given four thousand dollars by his father when he left the parental home. About 1837, while he was an unknown member of this band of outlaws, he came within a few votes of being elected a justice of the peace, over James B. Martyn. Charles West made his home at Inlet Grove, in Lee county.

The operations of this band extended through the western and northwestern states. Along the entire line there were convenient stations in charge of men who, to all appearance, were honest, hard-working settlers. Such was William McDole, a quiet, industrious resident of Rockford. Under this arrangement, a horse stolen at either end of the line or elsewhere could be passed from one station to another, and no agent be absent from his home or business for more than a few hours at a time; and thus for years they remained unsuspected. At that time few counties were sufficiently organized to enforce efficient police regulations. This section

was sparsely settled; the pioneers were poor, and money was scarce. There were few jails, and these were scarcely worthy of the name. For several years after the settlement of Winnebago county, the nearest jail was at Galena. There is a story to the effect that the sheriff of this county once took a culprit to Galena, and upon his return to Rockford his late prisoner was among the first to greet him.

This primitive condition of society was the opportunity of the border outlaw. Counterfeiting, horse-stealing, robbery and even murder were of such frequent occurrence that the settlers were driven to desperation. They resolved to adopt radical measures for relief; for if these outrages were continued property was insecure, and life itself was in constant jeopardy. In the spring of 1841, a delegation of reputable citizens of White Rock and Paine's Point, Ogle county, called upon Judge Ford, who was then holding circuit court at Oregon for consultation. Judge Ford was a fearless man, and naturally well equipped to meet the peculiar conditions of pioneer life. Judge Ford knew that the settlers were at the mercy of the banditti, and that it was useless to invoke the civil authorities. He therefore advised them to organize a company, which should call upon the men whom they knew to be lawless, take them by force from their homes, strip them to the waist, and lash them with a blacksnake. He recommended thirty-six lashes as the first chastisement, and sixty for a second offense; and that the leaders should be given ten days in which to leave the country.

Judge Ford's advice was followed to the letter. A decree from the bench could not have been more faithfully executed. In April about fifteen citizens met at a log schoolhouse at White Rock and organized a company known as the Ogle County Regulators. By-laws and rules were adopted and the membership increased to hundreds in Ogle and Winnebago counties. The late Ralph Chaney was an active member of this organization; and to him the writer is indebted for information of those stirring experiences.

John Earle was the first victim of this savage justice. It was proved that he had forced or induced a young man under twenty years of age to steal his neighbor's horse. Earle's coat and vest were removed, and his arms pinioned. Six or seven men were chosen from the company to administer five lashes apiece. Mr. Chaney relates that a deacon of the church inflicted the most vigorous strokes. The result was quite unexpected. At the next meeting of the Regulators, Earle applied for membership, was admitted, and became a good worker.

The second instance occurred in the afternoon of the same day. The culprit's name was Daggett. Before coming to the west he had been a

Baptist minister. He was not a shining example of the perseverance of the saints, a distinctive doctrine of that church; for he had fallen from grace with a dull, sickening thud. The Regulators were not agreed concerning his punishment; although his guilt was generally believed. A bare majority of one or two voted to release him. That night, however, the minority tied Daggett to a tree and gave him ninety-six lashes. Dr. Hobart examined him occasionally to prevent fatal injury. This chastisement was denounced by the more conservative Regulators.

Soon after their organization John Campbell was chosen captain of the Regulators. A short time after they had begun their work of extermination, Mr. Campbell received an epistle from William Driscoll, in which he offered battle. The Regulators were challenged to meet him Tuesday, June 22d, at his home in South Grove. Mr. Campbell was generally recognized as the right man to lead such an organization. He was a devout Scotch Presbyterian, who had come from Canada.

At the appointed time one hundred and ninety-six men, armed with rifles and muskets, responded to the challenge. They were mounted on good horses; with the stars and stripes unfurled to the breeze, and a bugle, they formed in line, two abreast, and began the march to the field of battle. When they arrived at South Grove they found seventeen members of the gang in a log house, barricaded for defense, armed with fifty-four guns of different kinds. The Regulators halted just outside of gunshot and held a council of war. Before making an attack it was resolved to send a messenger to the house to ascertain the plans of the inmates. Osborn Chaney volunteered to beard the lions in their den. When within forty rods of the house the men broke through the door and ran away; and Mr. Chaney did not get an opportunity to speak with any one of them. Soon after Mr. Chaney returned to the company he was followed by a man named Bowman, who said he had a message from John Driscoll to the effect that if the Regulators wished to confer with him he would receive the message from Bowman and from no one else. William Driscoll also sent word by the same messenger that he had three hundred allies at Sycamore, and that they would meet the Regulators on the prairie two hours later. The latter repaired to a level piece of ground, examined their guns, and waited developments. In due time Driscoll arrived, with the sheriff of DeKalb county and two other officials, who wished to know the meaning of the demonstration. Captain Campbell stood in a wagon, and in a vigorous speech gave them the desired information. Meanwhile Driscoll sat on his horse about four feet distant. He was silent, but in a terrible rage.

Mr. Chaney says he heard the grating of his teeth, and believes that then and there Campbell received his death sentence from Driscoll. The officials from DeKalb county expressed their sympathy with the Regulators, and the Driscolls promised to leave the state within twenty days. The Regulators disbanded for the day and went home. The Driscolls did not keep their word. On the contrary, a meeting of the desperadoes was held on the following Saturday night at the house of William Bridge, at Washington Grove, where the murder of Campbell was planned.

On Sunday, June 27th, David and Taylor Driscoll, who had been chosen to murder Campbell, accomplished their purpose. Mr. and Mrs. Campbell had just returned from church at the log schoolhouse at White Rock. While going from the house to the barn about twilight, he was shot through the heart by David Driscoll. Ralph Chaney was making his home with his brother Phineas about three-quarters of a mile distant. He heard the report of the gun and the cries of the family. He and Phineas immediately went to the assistance of the Campbell family. Mr. Campbell walked about forty feet and fell dead.

News of the tragedy spread quickly to Rockford and other towns. Mrs. Campbell was a witness of the murder, and there was no doubt about the identity of the assassins. On Monday the sheriff of Ogle county and a posse arrested John Driscoll at the home of his son, David, near Lynnville. Mr. Chaney gives this incident of the arrest: "When he was arrested he said: 'I always calculate to hold myself in subjection to the laws of my country.'" A daughter who was stopping there, a woman grown, large and strong, when the sheriff announced that he was a prisoner, turned and faced her father, and their eyes met, and there was that kind of a look I can hardly describe, passed between them, and as she held his eye she nodded her head to him. Nothing said, but such a look I never saw in the world."

The sheriff and his posse then went to South Grove in search of William Driscoll. The elder Driscoll was seated in a wagon between two guards. A company from Winnebago county had preceded them, and had arrested William and his younger brother Pierce. The sheriff took his prisoner to Oregon and lodged him in jail.

About nine o'clock Tuesday morning a party went to the rail, and with heavy timbers battered down the door. They took John Driscoll from his cell, put a rope around his neck and dragged him to the river as rapidly as possible. The sheriff pursued, but before he could overtake them they had entered a boat with their prisoner and were soon on the other side of the river. There they met a man from Washington Grove,

who told them there was a party at that place who had taken the two sons, William and Pierce. They then proceeded with John Driscoll to Washington Grove, where they met the Rockford division. By this time, about ten o'clock in the forenoon, the crowd had increased to about five hundred. Nearly every class of people was represented. The horsemen dismounted, secured their horses, and stacked their arms around a tree. They formed a hollow square around the tree, and brought the three Driscolls into the centre. Among the lawyers present was E. S. Leland, who acted as the leader, and conducted an examination of the prisoners. A mob court was instituted. The senior Driscoll was asked how many horses he had stolen in his time; to which he replied that he supposed he had taken as many as fifty. "Could you not say a hundred?" asked an inquisitor; and the old man, with a faint smile, said: "It might be." He confessed that he had paid young men fifteen to twenty-five dollars to steal a horse from a neighbor, simply to satisfy a grudge, when he received no pecuniary reward from the theft. William Driscoll was similarly interviewed. Pierce Driscoll was examined, but no evidence was found against him, and he was given his liberty.

John and William Driscoll were then told that David and Taylor had been identified as the murderers of Campbell; also that evidence had proved them to be accessories in the plot at Bridge's house on the preceding Saturday evening. After further deliberation, Mr. Leland called for an expression of opinion upon the guilt of the prisoners by the uplifted right hand. The decision was almost unanimous against them. The vote upon their punishment was equally decisive that they should be hung, then and there; and they were given one hour in which to prepare for death. The condemned men implored their executioners to change the method of death from hanging to shooting. This request was granted by a unanimous vote. The senior Driscoll had stood in the meantime with the rope around his neck, and he asked Mr. Chaney to remove it.

The arrangements for the execution occupied about an hour and a half. Jason Marsh, of Rockford, was present, and proposed to Charles Latimer, as an additional formality, to defend the prisoners, and present their case before the mob court. Mr. Marsh then made the opening plea for the prisoners. "And I must say," said Mr. Chaney, "he did himself credit, and full justice to the prisoners in his speech. Latimer followed in behalf of the people, and made a very able speech." There were several ministers of the gospel on the scene, who spent the time allowed the prisoners in praying and conversation with them. It was an occasion of great solemnity.

Righteous wrath was expressed in the resolute and orderly execution of mob justice.

When the hour of execution arrived, about one hundred and twenty men were drawn up in line, in single file. This line was divided in the center. John Driscoll was led out by Captain Pitcher, in full view of his executioners. He was made to kneel ten paces in front of the west half of the line. His eyes were blindfolded, and his arms pinioned behind him. At the signal all the guns, save one, were fired in a single volley. John Driscoll fell forward on his face without a struggle or groan, or the apparent movement of a muscle.

William Driscoll was then brought out and placed at the same distance before the center of the other half of the line. He was blindfolded, pinioned, and made to kneel upon the ground. As Judge Leland counted three, the volley of more than fifty guns was as the sound of one. William Driscoll was dead. The father and son fell about forty feet apart. A grave was dug between them, about two and one-half feet deep, and four feet wide. The old man was first taken and placed in the grave, without coffin or shroud; and then the son was laid by his side. Their caps were drawn over their faces, and thus they were buried, without the presence of a mourning friend. Mr. Chaney assisted in carrying the elder Driscoll to the grave, and discovered that the bones of his head were literally broken to pieces, and the region of the heart perforated with bullets. In William Driscoll's vest front were found forty bullet-holes. After their execution one of their guards stated that William Driscoll, in his prayer, confessed he had committed five murders and prayed to be forgiven. It is said that just before he was led out to die, William called his brother Pierce and said: "They are going to kill me, and I want you to take that money of mine that is hid and give my children a liberal education, and spend it for their support until they become men and women grown. There is plenty of it." Pierce expressed his willingness to do so, but said: "I don't know where your money is; you have never told me." William tried to tell him, but exclaimed: "O my God! I can't do it."

A strange sequel occurred many years later. The farm that had been owned by William Driscoll became the property of a man named Byers. One day in autumn, while he was threshing, three men came on horseback and entered the grove west of the house. After surveying the premises they located a spot and began digging. Byers ordered them to stop, but he was confronted by a revolver and an order to return and mind his own business. After their departure Byers went to the spot and found a hole which they had dug in the ground, and beside it

a small empty box, and at the bottom of the hole the mark and place from which the box had been dug. No explanation was ever found. A reward of five hundred dollars was offered in August, 1841, for the capture of David and Taylor Driscoll, by a committee of citizens of Ogle county. David Driscoll never returned. Taylor Driscoll was indicted for the murder of Campbell and kept in different jails nearly two years; and by changes of venue and confusion of witnesses he was at length given his liberty.

Throughout these strange proceedings the Regulators were sustained by the ablest lawyers and best citizens throughout the country. "Doctors and scholars, ministers and deacons" regarded this terrible example of lynch law as a public necessity.

Some months after the execution of the Driscolls the matter was brought before the attention of the grand jury in Ogle county. Judge Ford then resided at Oregon, and it is said this action was taken at his suggestion. At the September term of the circuit court, indictments were found against one hundred and twelve citizens. Among these were four Chaney brothers, Richard, Phineas, Osborn and Ralph, three of whom became residents of Rockford; and Horace Miller, Jason Marsh and Charles Latimer, of Winnebago county. The case was called for trial at the same term of court. Judge Ford presided, and Seth B. Farwell appeared for the people. Some of the jurors were under indictment for complicity in the affair. Several witnesses were called, and pleas made; and without leaving their seats the jury returned a verdict of "not guilty." No one expected a conviction, but it was considered desirable to have the matter settled according to the regular form of law. Thus closed the trial of the largest number of defendants ever indicted under one charge at one session of a grand jury known to the judicial history of this section.

ROBBERY OF MCKENNEY AND MULFORD.

The execution of the Driscolls was only the beginning of the work of extermination; although it was the sole instance where such desperate measures were considered necessary to accomplish their purpose. Robberies and murders continued, and the people lived for years under a literal reign of terror.

September 19, 1843, the store of William McKenney, near the site of 318 East State street, in Rockford, was robbed of a trunk containing nearly twelve hundred dollars. Bradford McKenney, his brother, who slept in the store at the time, gives a vivid account of the robbery in Mr. Thurston's reminiscences.

The narrative, in its use of adjectives and in-

terjections, requires some revision in order to make it conform to the canons of good literary style. The robber, in his hasty flight, left eight dollars in silver in the trunk. The next day several dollars were found at another place; and the next spring James Gilbert found sixty-two dollars only a few rods from where the trunk was rifled of its contents. A reward of two hundred dollars was offered for the apprehension of the thief and the recovery of the money; but he was an expert, and eluded capture.

The community was startled two weeks later by another bold depredation. Monday evening, October 2, one of the four-horse coaches belonging to Frink, Walker & Co. was robbed four miles from Rockford, while en route to Chicago. It is said the baggage of the passengers was stolen from the rear of the coach while in motion, and that the fact was not discovered until its arrival in Newburg. The next morning the trunks were found a few rods from the road. They had been broken open and all property of any value had been taken. A plan had been laid to secure a large amount of money which had been deposited in the land office at Dixon, and this was the object which it was intended to accomplish by the robbery of the stage coach at this time. It was known that a considerable sum of money, which had been received from the sales of public lands was on deposit at Dixon and was about to be removed. A leader of the banditti had asked the receiver when he intended to go to Chicago, where the deposit was to be made. The receiver was a prudent man, and his suspicions were aroused. He therefore replied that he would leave Dixon one week later than he really intended to start; he thus baffled the plot of the robbers. The Rockford Forum, in commenting on this affair, said: "What renders these transactions still more exciting is that they are performed by those who are perfect scholars in the business movements of the town." No immediate clue to this robbery was obtained.

In November, 1844, William Mulford, residing on his farm in Guilford, four and a half miles east of Rockford, on the Cherry Valley road, was robbed of five hundred dollars in money. It had been falsely reported that Mr. Mulford had received about fourteen thousand dollars a short time before; and this rumor had reached the robbers. October 28th a man who gave the name of Haines called on Mr. Mulford and professed to be in search of employment. His real purpose was to obtain money by other means than honest toil; and he had come to look over the premises. On Saturday, November 9th, about eight o'clock in the evening, three masked men, armed with pistols, knives and clubs, forced an entrance into the house. The leader ordered Mr. Mulford to sit down. He then took

the candle from the table, cut it into three pieces, lighted them, placed one in each of the two windows, and with the third he began his search of the house. With the most direful threats the family were forced to submission. The keys to the bureau drawers were demanded. They were told that they were in the stable behind the horses. This was a ruse to give Mr. Mulford an opportunity to reach his rifle in another part of the room. When the men went to the barn he attempted to reach the gun, but another man, who had been stationed at the door, held a pistol close to his head and ordered him to desist. The robbers could not find the keys in the barn, and returned in a rage to the house. They swore they would "chain the old devil," and set the house on fire, and by that time they would tell where the keys were. Mrs. Mulford imagined she heard the clanking of chains, and told the robbers where the key could be found. They unlocked the drawer and found the money in an envelope, just as it had been taken from the bank. One of the gang was identified as Haines, who had called in search of employment. It was subsequently learned that two men, armed with rifles, stood outside, and for their benefit the candles were placed at the windows.

Nemesis was on the trail of the outlaws, and in due time she will summon a cloud of witnesses to bring them to justice. In the spring of 1845 Charles West, of Lee county, was arrested for the robbery of a peddler named Miller, and a portion of the goods was found in his possession. West was committed to jail at Dixon, and during his confinement he proposed to turn state's evidence, and disclose all he knew concerning his confederates. It was an instance where "the devil sick, the devil a monk would be." His proposition was accepted, and West made what he professed to be a full confession, and declared that Charles Oliver and William McDole, of Rockford, were members of the band. He also gave the names of the outlaws who committed the robberies at McKenney's store and Mulford's farm-house.

This startling intelligence soon reached Rockford and created great excitement. Upon the strength of West's statements Oliver and McDole were immediately arrested and an officer was dispatched to bring West to Rockford to give his testimony at their examination. Oliver and McDole were given a hearing about the 7th of June. West testified that he was at Oliver's house about a year before, when the plans of the gang were discussed in detail. McDole and Sutton were also present at the same time. McDole and Oliver talked about a pal named Burch in connection with the McKenney robbery. McDole discovered where the money was kept, and Burch entered at the window and obtained the booty.

In the proposed raid upon Mr. Mulford, Oliver and McDole were to ascertain the situation of the house and Burch and one or two others were to get the money.

Such, in brief, was the testimony given by West. His story was generally believed. Oliver and McDole were required to give bail in the sum of fifteen hundred dollars each, for their appearance at the next term of court; in default of which they were committed to prison. A few days later Bridge, one of the leaders of the banditti residing in Ogle county, was arrested and placed in jail at Rockford. A guard was necessary for some time for their protection.

The trial of Oliver began in the circuit court August 26, 1845. His indictment was for receiving money stolen from William Mulford, in November, 1844. Hon. Thomas C. Brown was the presiding judge. The jurors were: Giles Mabie, Calvin Haskell, J. Heath, Jr., George Dixon, Phineas Howes, Ezra C. Tracy, Asa Farnsworth, Asa Crosby, Andrus Corbin, Harvey Higby.

There was an unusual display of legal talent. The district attorney was James L. Loop. He was assisted by Thomas D. Robertson, Jason Marsh, James M. Wight, and Miller & Miller. Martin P. Sweet, of Freeport, and M. Y. Johnson, of Galena, were the counsel for the defendant. Among the witnesses on the stand were: William Mulford, Charles H. Spafford, G. A. Sanford, D. Howell, E. S. Blackstone, William J. Mix, of Oregon, Charles West, of Lee, and S. C. Fuller, the jailer. The last named witness testified that the prisoners tried to bribe him to furnish them with brace and bits so that they might effect their escape. Each offered Mr. Fuller fifty dollars at first, and then increased the sum to five hundred. During the trial Oliver was defiant and confident of acquittal. But since his arrest retributive justice had been forging another chain of convicting evidence.

During the summer Jason Marsh had received a letter from the warden of the penitentiary at Jackson, Michigan, to the effect that a prisoner in his charge knew about the robbery and was willing to testify. Mr. Marsh went to Michigan and found the prisoner to be Irving A. Stearns, who had formerly resided in this county, and who had left the state soon after the robbery. He had been convicted of some crime in Michigan and sent to the penitentiary. Mr. Marsh pretended not to recognize Stearns; but told him that he wanted to know what he had to say upon the subject, and that he would know if he told the truth. Mr. Marsh found the testimony of the prisoner very important, and communicated the facts to the governor, who gave to Mr. Marsh a conditional pardon for Stearns. The prisoner's communications to Mr.

Marsh, however, were made without any promise of consideration whatever. Mr. Marsh returned to Rockford, and at the time for the court to convene, he sent for Stearns, and upon his arrival he was placed in close confinement until he was wanted in court. Oliver knew nothing of these facts. When the name of "Irving A. Stearns" was called as a witness for the people, Oliver was startled, and sat crestfallen by the side of his counsel. Courage and hope fled together. Stearns testified that the secrets of the Mulford robbery had been given by Oliver, and that Oliver had offered him some of the stolen money in exchange for a horse. His evidence was straightforward, and a rigid examination failed to weaken it at any point.

The case was given to the jury Saturday afternoon. The jury was out an hour and a half, when it returned with a verdict of guilty and a sentence of eight years' confinement in the penitentiary. Thus terminated the most exciting criminal case ever tried in Winnebago county. The case was managed with great ability on both sides. The argument of James Loop and the exploit of Jason Marsh have become familiar traditions of the local bar of the olden time.

Bridge took a change of venue on all his indictments to Ogle county. When his case was called he plead guilty, and was sentenced to the penitentiary for seven years. McDole's trial began November 26, 1845, and the case was given to the jury December 1st. After an all-night's session the jury brought in a verdict of guilty, with a sentence of seven years in the penitentiary. The attorneys for the state were Marsh & Wright, Miller & Miller, and T. D. Robertson. McDole was defended by John A. Holland, Grant B. Udell, of Rockford, and Martin P. Sweet, of Freeport. The court ordered that one month of the term of imprisonment be spent in solitary confinement.

John Long, Aaron Long, and Granville Young were executed at Rock Island in October, 1845, for the murder of Colonel Davenport, which occurred July 4, 1845. This execution practically completed the work of extermination which had been begun by the Ogle County Regulators on Tuesday, June 20, 1841.

Burch was indicted for the murder of Colonel Davenport. He took a change of venue to another county, and made his escape from jail. The three Aikens brothers died as they had lived, although they escaped the penitentiary. Bliss, Dewey, and Sawyer, confederates in Lee county, were sent to the penitentiary. Bliss died in prison. The way of the transgressor is hard.

The Prairie Bandits, written by Edward Bonney, is a stirring tale of those early days. Bonney was a newspaper man, who did some detective work. His book was first printed about fifty

years ago, and there have been several subsequent editions.

NEW ENGLAND UNITARIANISM.—FIRST CHURCH.

A number of early settlers from New England were Unitarians of the old school. An effort to organize this sentiment was made as early as 1841. The first meeting for this purpose was held February 3d. A subscription list of this date was found among the papers of the late Francis Burnap. It contained pledges amounting to one hundred and sixty dollars for the support of a Unitarian clergyman. At the same time a committee was appointed to promote their interest. An adjourned meeting was held on the 13th, at the West side schoolhouse, and an organization completed.

There is no record of any progress during the next two years, and it may be concluded that there was only an occasional preaching service. Early in March, 1843, Rev. Joseph Harrington, of Chicago, came to Rockford and preached every evening of one week on the distinctive doctrines of Unitarianism. The meetings were well attended, and a new interest awakened. On the following Sunday, March 9th, a church was organized. The constituent members of the church were: Joseph Harrington, Sarah F. Dennis, Isaac N. Cunningham, Nancy G. Cunningham, James Cunningham, Sarah M. Cunningham, Samuel Cunningham, Emily C. Cunningham, John Paul, R. B. Paul, W. D. Bradford, Catherine F. Goodhue, Ephraim Wyman, James M. Wight, John R. Kendall, Susan Goodrich.

In December, 1844, steps were taken to secure a place of worship. It was proposed to purchase the unfinished Universalist church, which had been abandoned. Several hundred dollars in subscriptions, conditional and otherwise, were raised, besides a sum for an organ. These subscription lists are still in existence. But the project was not successful. Another unsuccessful effort was made to build in 1846.

December 13, 1845, the Unitarian society was organized at the home of Ephraim Wyman. The trustees chosen were Ephraim Wyman, Thatcher Blake, and Richard Montague.

For a number of years little was done. The church had services whenever a traveling clergyman was available. This condition continued until 1849, when Rev. H. Snow volunteered to strengthen the waste places in this branch of Zion.

The church had hitherto held services in the courthouse; but now they felt the need of another place. The frame building which had been used by the First Baptist church was for sale. This old edifice may well be called a church cradle. It successively rocked the Baptists,

Episcopalians, Unitarians and Presbyterians. It was an illustration of the common origin of all believers who belonged to the true household of faith. At this time the Unitarians owned a lot on the northeast corner of Church and Elm streets. They had received two hundred and fifty dollars from the American Unitarian Association, and with this they purchased the old Baptist building, which they removed upon their lot. For about a year Mr. Snow preached two Sundays in the month, and the other Sundays at Belvidere. Mr. Snow invited Rev. A. A. Livermore, who was then at Keene, New Hampshire, to act the generous Christian part by presenting a communion service to the church. The ladies of Mr. Livermore's church complied with the request.

Mr. Snow's health failed in the spring of 1850, and he was obliged to resign from his pastorate. He was succeeded by Rev. John M. Windsor.

The church enjoyed a fair degree of prosperity for several years. In 1853 it was proposed to build a more comfortable place of worship. A lot was purchased on the corner of Chestnut and Church streets, and generous subscriptions were secured. Mr. Windsor was sent east to solicit contributions from the Unitarians of New York and Massachusetts. He went to New York early in the spring of 1854 to collect the promised money, and never returned. Mr. Windsor was succeeded by Rev. John Murray, whose pastorate continued until March, 1857.

The church was dedicated April 18, 1855. Friends came from Chicago, Geneva, and Belvidere. Rev. Rush R. Shippen, of Chicago, preached the dedicatory sermon. On Sunday, May 6th, a Sunday-school was organized, with twenty-five scholars, with Rev. H. Snow as superintendent.

June 8, 1857, a call to the pastorate was sent to Rev. Augustus H. Conant, of Geneva, Illinois. He accepted the call, at a salary of one thousand dollars, with certain privileges of vacation for missionary work Sunday afternoons during a part of the year. Rev. Conant began his pastoral work July 12, 1857. The congregation then numbered about seventy. He purchased a home of Mr. Cosper, on the corner of Green and West streets.

Mr. Conant enjoyed an extended personal acquaintance among distinguished representatives of the Unitarian faith, and other contemporaries. Among these were William Ellery Channing, Theodore Parker, James Freeman Clarke, Horace Greeley, O. B. Frothingham, Margaret Fuller, Fred Douglas, and Robert Collyer. Among Rev. Conant's guests at his Rockford home were Ralph Waldo Emerson, Prof. Youmans, Bayard Taylor, Tom Corwin, John Pierpont, and T. Starr King. James Freeman Clarke, in his Autobiography,

refers to Rev. Conant as a "saint and an apostle." The church prospered under Mr. Conant's ministry for a time. He was a man of high ideals and noble enthusiasm, and was filled with the missionary spirit. But there came a serious declension in the financial and numerical strength of the church. In July, 1861, the reliable income of the society had fallen to four hundred dollars a year, and six months' salary was due the pastor. Some of the former members had removed from the city, and others had been overtaken with financial reverses. Under these circumstances, Mr. Conant tendered his resignation to take effect the first Sunday in July, 1861.

The Civil war had now begun and Mr. Conant enlisted in his country's service immediately after his resignation. He went to the front as a chaplain in the Nineteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. At Nashville, February 8, 1863, Mr. Conant passed from earth to "bathe his weary soul in seas of heavenly rest." His death was due to exposure and over-exertion at the battle of Murfreesboro. His death was universally lamented. He was one of those rare souls whom every one loved, and who had never incurred an unkind feeling from any one. His remains were buried at Geneva, and Rev. Robert Collyer, then of Chicago, preached the funeral discourse. Dr. Collyer subsequently wrote a biography of Mr. Conant, with the title, "A Man in Earnest." Mrs. Conant died March 20, 1898, in her eightieth year.

After Mr. Conant's resignation, services were maintained with some regularity; but the church gradually declined. Fred May Holland began pastoral labors January 4, 1863. Differences arose. The conservative element became dissatisfied with the pastor on account of his radical or "Parkerite" tendencies. Mr. Holland was succeeded by William G. Nowell, who was ordained April 14, 1864. Mr. Nowell left the church in June, 1865. The last pastor was Rev. D. M. Reed, a very scholarly gentleman. Mr. Reed wished some recognition of his denomination in the name of the church. In accordance with his request, the name was changed to the United Unitarian and Universalist church. The name, however, in legal matters was simply Unitarian. The church was subsequently sold, and in 1890 the proceeds were divided pro rata among the original subscribers. Many of the members of the church united with the Church of the Christian Union, and others became identified with the Second Congregational church.

EARLY ELECTIONS — POLITICAL REMINISCENCES.

Under the first constitution of Illinois, the commissioners, sheriff and coroner were the only constitutional county officers. The latter was elected

every two years. The other county officers were created by statute. They were filled by appointment made either by the county commissioners' court or by the governor. Previous to 1835 a recorder for each county was appointed by the governor; and a surveyor was chosen by the commissioners' court. The statute of 1835 made these offices elective on the first Monday in August of that year, and every fourth year thereafter. Previous to 1837 county treasurers and clerks of the commissioners' court were appointed by said courts. An act approved February 7th of that year made these offices elective on the first Monday in the following August, on a corresponding day in 1839, and in every fourth year thereafter. Up to 1837 a judge of probate was appointed for each county by the legislature. An act of March 4th made this office elective, with the title of probate justice of the peace, on the first Monday in August of that year, on a corresponding date in 1839, and in every fourth year thereafter. Under an act approved February 27, 1845, the tenure of office of probate justice of the peace, recorder, clerk of the county commissioners' court, surveyor and treasurer was reduced to two years. This law took effect on the first Monday in August, 1847. Under the constitution of 1848 the term of office of the county and circuit clerks was extended to four years.

August 1, 1836, occurred the first general election in Winnebago county. The choice of the county officers was given in a preceding paragraph.

Under an early statute, presidential elections in Illinois were held on the first Monday in November. At the presidential election in 1836, only one hundred and fifty-eight votes were polled. This was an increase over the August election of thirty-eight votes. The Harrison electors received seventy votes, and the Van Buren electors, eighty-eight; a democratic majority of eighteen.

In 1837 Harvey W. Bundy was elected recorder, to succeed Daniel H. Whitney, of Belvidere, who had become a resident of the new county of Boone. Herman B. Potter was elected county commissioner to succeed Simon P. Doty, of Belvidere. Charles I. Horsman was elected probate justice of the peace. Milton Kilburn had served as judge of probate the preceding year, under appointment. Nathaniel Loomis was chosen clerk of the commissioners' court; Robert J. Cross was elected county treasurer.

Winnebago county forged so rapidly to the front that in 1838 it was conceded one of the representatives in the general assembly, and Germanicus Kent was elected. Hon. James Craig was re-elected. Isaac N. Cunningham was elected sheriff of the county; Cyrus C. Jenks, coroner; Don Alonzo Spaulding, surveyor; Elijah H. Brown, commissioner. In 1839 William E.

Dunbar was elected recorder, and John Emerson, surveyor.

The presidential campaign of 1840 was one of the most exciting in American political history. The hero of Tippecanoe was the idol of his party, and no leader ever received a more enthusiastic support. Winnebago county had now become a whig stronghold, and the party waged an aggressive campaign against the locofocos, as the democrats were then called. April 14th the whigs held a convention at Rockford, and nominated a full county ticket. Among the local leaders of this party were Selden M. Church, Jacob Miller, H. B. Potter, G. A. Sanford, Isaac N. Cunningham. Democratic principles were championed by Jason Marsh, Daniel S. Haight, Henry Thurston, P. Knappen, J. C. Goodhue, H. W. Loomis, C. I. Horsman. Boone county had been organized from the eastern portion of Winnebago, and the western two ranges had been transferred to Stephenson. In the August elections the whigs polled six hundred and thirty-seven votes, and the democrats, two hundred and eighty-five. The total vote was nine hundred and fifty-two. Thomas Drummond, of Jo Daviess, and Hiram Thornton, of Mercer, both whigs, carried the county by good majorities for representative, and were elected. E. N. Cunningham was elected sheriff; Alonzo Platt, coroner; and Ezra S. Cable, commissioner.

The presidential election occurred in November. The whigs cast seven hundred and sixty-eight votes in the county, and the democrats, three hundred and twenty-one; total, one thousand and eighty-nine; whig majority, four hundred and forty-seven. Abraham Lincoln was one of the five candidates for the presidential elector in Illinois. The facilities for communication were so meagre that the official vote of the state was not known in Rockford until late in December. A messenger from the capital, with the official vote of the state, passed through Rockford ten days in advance of its publication in the Chicago papers, and communicated, it is said, the news to the prominent men of the democratic party in each village for betting purposes. Illinois was one of the seven states that elected Van Buren electors. This vote may have been intentionally kept back by the democratic officials at Springfield. Through a technicality in an alleged non-compliance with the law, the legality of Mr. Cunningham's election to the office of sheriff in August was questioned; and he again appealed to the voters at the November election, and received an emphatic endorsement.

In 1812 Judge Thomas Ford was elected governor by the democrats. That party in Winnebago county nominated the following ticket: Senator for Winnebago and Ogle counties, James Mitchell; for representative, John A. Brown,

editor of the Rockford Pilot; sheriff, John Paul; commissioner, Spencer Post; coroner, Nathaniel Loomis. The whigs nominated Spooner Ruggles for senator; George W. Lee, representative; G. A. Sanford, sheriff; Isaac M. Johnson, commissioner; Harvey Gregory, coroner. Mr. Lee withdrew, and Darius Adams, of Pecatonica, was substituted. The official vote of the county for senator, representative and sheriff was as follows: Ruggles, four hundred and sixty-nine; Mitchell, four hundred and ninety; Adams, five hundred and forty; Brown, three hundred and seventy-six; Sanford, five hundred and fifty-nine; Paul, one hundred and twelve. Spooner Ruggles, Darius Adams, Spencer Post, G. A. Sanford and Nathaniel Loomis were elected to the respective offices.

LEWIS KENT: THE ONLY SLAVE IN THE COUNTY.

Only one man ever lived in Winnebago county as a slave. His name was Lewis Kent, although he was more familiarly known as Lewis Lemon. In 1829, when Germanicus Kent was a citizen of Alabama, he purchased of Orrin Lemon a colored boy named Lewis. He was born in North Carolina, and had been taken by his master to Alabama. He was about seventeen years old at the time he was sold to Mr. Kent for four hundred and fifty dollars in cash. When Mr. Kent decided to remove north, he proposed to sell Lewis; but the colored man preferred his old master. Mr. Kent made an agreement with Lewis when they arrived at St. Louis. It was in substance that Lewis should pay him for his freedom at the expiration of six years and seven months, the sum of eight hundred dollars, with ten per cent. interest. Lewis obtained his freedom, however, in four years and four months. On the 6th day of September, 1839, Mr. Kent executed and placed in the hands of Lewis a deed of manumission. At a session of the county commissioners' court held in March, 1842, Mr. Kent filed for record the instrument which officially proclaimed Lewis Kent a free man. The transcript of this document, which is on file in the county clerk's office, is the only evidence in Rockford of the existence of slavery, and that one of its victims here found freedom and a home.

After his manumission Lewis obtained some land, and earned his livelihood by the cultivation of garden produce. He died in September, 1877. His funeral was attended by members of the Old Settlers' Society.

THE POLISH CLAIMS DELAY LAND PATENTS.

Events of local interest occasionally have their historic background in national and even international affairs. A notable instance was the cele-

brated Polish claims made in 1836 to a portion of the territory which now comprises the townships of Rockford and Rockton. It is one of the most interesting chapters in the history of Winnebago county. Local histories have briefly referred to the incident, but only one complete statement of the affairs has previously been written.

The checkered career of Poland furnishes the historic background. The reader of history will recall the Polish rebellion of 1830-31. Previous to that time her territory had been partitioned between Russia and other powers. The impulse to this uprising of 1830 was given by the French, and was begun by a number of students, who proposed to seize the Grand Duke Constantine in the vicinity of Warsaw. The city and the troops enlisted in the movement, under the command of General Chlopicki, a veteran of the wars of Napoleon. Upon the suppression of this uprising in the following year, the leaders were sent into exile. They naturally sought refuge in this country.

The forlorn condition of these exiles enlisted the sympathy of the American people, and congress rendered them some assistance. An act was approved June 30, 1834, which granted to these Polish exiles, two hundred and thirty-five in number, who had been transported to this country by the order of the emperor of Austria, thirty-six sections of land. These sections were to be selected by them, under the direction of the secretary of the treasury, in any three adjacent townships of the public lands, surveyed or unsurveyed, in the state of Illinois or the territory of Michigan. After this land had been surveyed it became the duty of the secretary of the treasury to divide the thirty-six sections into equal parts, and to distribute them by lot among the exiles. They were to reside upon and cultivate these lands for ten years, and at the expiration of this time they were to obtain their patents upon the payment of the minimum price per acre.

The exiles arrived in America in 1835, and their committee, at the head of whom was Count Chlopicki, arrived in Rockford in the autumn of the following year. The count was an elderly gentleman, well informed, and apparently an excellent judge of land. Upon his arrival in the Rock river valley, he selected townships forty-four and forty-six, range one east. These are Rockford and Rockton. The intervening township of Owen was not taken, and thus was violated one of the provisions of the grant, which stipulated that the land should be selected in three adjacent townships.

Much of this land was already in the possession of American citizens when the count arrived upon the scene. They had only a squatter's title, inasmuch as there was then no pre-emption law

that would apply in this case, and the government had not placed the land upon the market. The settlers had enclosed their farms and made such improvements as they were able. Moreover, the several Indian "floats" in these townships might have precedence over the claims of settlers or exiles. But these facts did not disturb the plans of the doughty count. He disregarded the squatter rights of the settlers, and made a formal selection of their land, and reported his choice to the secretary of the treasury.

While in this section Count Chlopicki had been a guest of Germanicus Kent. That gentleman explained the situation to his visitor, and the latter declared that the settlers should not be disturbed. He thus set their fears at rest in a measure. But these assurances were not entirely satisfactory, and after the count's departure a sum of money was raised and Mr. Kent was sent to Washington to make further inquiry. The anxiety of the settlers was increased by the fact, as already stated, that they held no titles to the land upon which they had settled. Upon Mr. Kent's arrival in Washington he found that his apprehensions were well founded. The count had not kept his word; he had chosen the very townships he had promised Mr. Kent he would not select. Mr. Kent went directly to the land office and made his complaint before the commissioner; but he was told that every settler in the county was a trespasser, and that he had no legal right to a foot of the land which he had so unceremoniously taken. It is said facts are stubborn things. Mr. Kent and the settlers knew that the commissioner was correct, but they did not become alarmed. Perhaps they thought that in union there was strength. The secretary of the treasury did not, however, order the subdivision of the lands, because their selection by the Polish agent was not in compliance with the law, and thus the matter rested for some years.

The selection of these lands by the Polish agent, while squatters' possession was held by the settlers, complicated the whole question of titles. The settlers had certain rights in equity, but inasmuch as no pre-emption law was then in force that would bear upon the case, the government did not at that time formally recognize their claims. In view of this fact, it is not a matter of surprise that the Polish count, in his desire to select good lands for his exiled countrymen, should disregard claims that the government did not recognize. Moreover this section of the Rock river valley had been framed in the prodigality of nature. Its soil was good, its atmosphere invigorating, its scenery a perpetual delight. The possession of such land always promotes domestic happiness and commercial strength.

The lands in this vicinity belonged at that time to the Galena land district, and with the excep-

tion of Rockford and Rockton, were opened to sale and entry in the autumn of 1839. These townships, which included the thirty-six sections in controversy, were withheld from sale for nearly eight years after they had been surveyed.

Matters continued in this unsettled condition until 1843. In the meantime the land office had been removed to Dixon, through the influence of John Dixon, who settled there in 1830, and after whom the town was named. In 1840 Mr. Dixon went to Washington, and through the influence of General Scott and other army officers, who were his personal friends, he secured the removal of the government land office from Galena to Dixon. The settlers in Rockford could not procure patents of the lands which they had occupied for some years. The attention of congress was repeatedly called to the situation. The settlers addressed petitions to that body until their grievance received attention. The Polish agent had forfeited his claim in not selecting his lands in three adjacent townships. The exiles had also forfeited their rights in not making an actual settlement on the lands. Congress, therefore, April 14, 1842, passed another act, authorizing the entry and sale of these lands in these two townships. This relief was due in large measure to the efforts of Hon. O. H. Smith, of Indiana; Hon. Robert J. Walker, of Mississippi, and Hon. Richard M. Young, of this state, senators in congress.

When the settlers had been finally delivered from their dilemma by a special act of congress, they began to make preparations to perfect their titles to their lands. The inhabitants petitioned the president for a public sale. Fifteen months elapsed before their petition was granted, and October 30, 1843, the land in these townships was offered for sale, and was sold November 3d. It was the most notable land sale that ever occurred in the district. Rockford had been incorporated as a town four years before. Daniel S. Haight had platted the East side, north of State, as far east as Longwood, and south of State east to Kishwaukee. A portion of this had been platted as early as 1836; and Mr. Haight had sold the lots to the settlers and given them quit-claim deeds to the same several years before he had obtained his own patent from the government. When the land was finally offered for sale at the land office, Mr. Haight was authorized to go to Dixon and bid in the entire tract for the settlers. A committee, appointed for this purpose, prepared a list of names to whom the deeds should be given after the sale. This committee consisted of Willard Wheeler, David S. Penfield, E. H. Potter, of Rockford, and Nathaniel Crosby, of Belvidere. This committee was in session several days, passed upon every lot in the town on the East side, and decided quite a number of disputed claims. Mr. Crosby was

not present, but it was understood that a majority should have power to act. Thus a number of the first settlers of East Rockford purchased their land twice. The first purchase of town lots was from Mr. Haight; the second was made through Mr. Haight as agent, from the general government. Inasmuch, however, as the land office took no notice of the fact that the land had been platted, it was sold at the usual price of a dollar and a quarter per acre. The second purchase was therefore more of a formality than an additional burden. With the land sold in bulk, at a dollar and a quarter per acre, the second purchase of a town lot, from the government, was at a nominal price, merely its relative value to an unplatted acre of land. This second purchase, however, perfected the title.

At this point it may be necessary to state that Mr. Haight's first sales of land were perfectly legitimate transactions. The purchasers knew at the time that a second purchase would be necessary to procure a perfect title. There was recently found among some old papers of the late Francis Burnap a list of the town lots in East Rockford and the names of the persons to whom the deeds should be given after the land sale. The document comprises seventeen pages of legal cap, and is perfectly preserved. At the same sale at Dixon the land on the west side of the river was bid in for the settlers by Ephraim Wyman. The West side committee was composed of G. A. Sanford, Derastus Harper, and George Haskell. The certificates of title were turned over to Mr. Wyman by the committee. When Mr. Wyman went to California, about 1850, these certificates were left in a trunk, in charge of G. A. Sanford. During Mr. Wyman's absence they were totally destroyed by rodents; and these facts are set forth with grave precision by Mr. Wyman, in a certificate, duplicates of which are on file in the abstract offices of this city.

Thus for a period of nine years from Mr. Kent's settlement were the early residents of Rockford and Rockton unable to obtain titles to the lands which they had selected and improved, by reason of the illegal intrusion of an exiled Polish count. The sequel is one of those facts that is stranger than fiction. Only one of those exiles ever subsequently appeared in Rockford or Winnebago county. He was employed for a time as a cook, in 1837, by Henry Thurston, the landlord of the old Rockford House. The later history of the exiles is unknown.

Mr. Haight's plat of East Rockford was filed for record November 7, 1843, four days after the land sale. The east part of the original town of Rockford, west of Rock river, included all that part of the city lying south of a line drawn from the Beattie residence west to the property now occupied by the Ziock flats, and east of a

line drawn from the latter point to the west end of the Chicago & Northwestern railroad bridge. It was platted by Duncan Ferguson, November 9, 1843, and filed for record by Ephraim Wyman, November 28, 1843.

J. W. Leavitt's town plat included all that part of West Rockford situated between Wyman's plat on the east, and Kent's creek on the west and south. This plat was made August 17, 1844, and filed for record October 5, 1844.

THE FIRST DAM.

The attempt to utilize the water-power was the first step in the transition of Rockford from a hamlet to a manufacturing city. February 28, 1843, an act of the legislature was approved, to improve the navigation of the rapids in Rock river at Rockford, and to incorporate the Rockford Hydraulic and Manufacturing Company. The corporation was given power to construct a dam across the river, which should raise the water not more than seven feet. The company was also required to erect and maintain such locks as might be necessary for the passage of steamboats drawing three feet of water. At that time the navigation of Rock river was an open question, and the government might assert its control of the river as a navigable stream. A dam would obstruct navigation; hence the company was required to construct locks for the passage of boats, whenever they should become necessary. The law specified the rates of toll which the company should be entitled to collect for the passage of boats through the locks; and it was given power to detain such craft until the toll should be paid. Daniel S. Haight, Germanicus Kent, Samuel D. Preston, Laomi Peake, Charles I. Horsman, George Haskell and J. C. Goodhue were appointed commissioners to receive subscriptions to the stock. The capital stock was placed at fifty thousand dollars, divided into five hundred shares of one hundred dollars each. The corporation was given power to increase its capital stock to any sum not exceeding two hundred and fifty thousand dollars. The law expressly provided that the state might, at any time after the construction of the dam and locks, assume the ownership of the same; the state, however, was to keep them in good repair. All the hydraulic power was to remain absolutely the property of the company. July 22, 1843, books were opened for subscriptions to the capital stock. By an act of the legislature, approved February 11, 1845, the law of 1843 was amended.

In the spring of 1844 the Rockford Hydraulic Company was fully organized. The dam was located a few rods above the present water-works. Directly above, the main channel of the stream shifted abruptly from the east to the west shore.

On the east side, at the site of the dam, the water for two-thirds the width of the stream, was about three feet deep in summer, with eight or nine feet in the channel. This site for the dam was chosen because it was generally believed that if the dam were located at the head of the rapids, the town would be built there. Had the dam been built at the ford, on the rock bottom, it would have required a larger outlay of cash. This article was scarce, while timber, brush, stone and earth were abundant.

Edward S. Hanchett, of Freeport, had charge of the construction of the dam when it was commenced. He abandoned the work and was succeeded by C. C. Coburn. Eighty acres of the best timber land were stripped of material to build the dam and repair the breaks. This brush dam was built to a level with the banks. A frame-work was then raised on the brush, to which plank was spiked. The work of graveling then began. The rock and gravel were obtained along the bank of the river from sixty to eighty rods above the dam. There were head-gates at either end, built high above the comb of the dam, with gates which opened like the gates of a lock on a canal, wide enough for the passage of steamboats. At each side of these gates were openings to admit the water to the races, which carried it to the mills below. As the water raised on the brush, the fish, coming down the river, would lodge on the dam during the night; and in the morning the people would get sturgeon, pickerel, black bass and catfish. The dam was completed in the autumn of 1845. In its issue of September 24th the Forum said: "As we hear the roaring sound of the falling waters (which can now on a still morning be heard for several miles around) daily increasing in strength and power, as the sheet of water becomes thicker and heavier, as the dam is made closer and tighter, we cannot but realize more forcibly the immense influence which these hydraulic works are to exert upon our town and country if the dam remains firm and permanent."

The mill-race on the east side extended to Walnut street, and was twenty feet in width. At the end of the race Gregory, Phelps & Daniels had a sawmill. At the south side of State street was Nettleton's gristmill, the first in Rockford, which was started in 1846. Just below James B. Howell operated carding and fulling machinery. Wheeler & Lyon's sawmill was at Walnut street. The race on the west side was about fifteen rods in length. At the head Thomas D. Robertson and Charles I. Horsman built a sawmill. Just below, Orlando Clark had an iron foundry in a stone building. It is significant that three of these six plants were sawmills. Pine lumber had not come into general use, and the only available material for frame dwellings were the trees of the adjacent forests.

April 28, 1846, the west end of the dam went out. About two hundred feet, including the bulkhead, were swept away, and more than an acre of ground was washed out. The Hydraulic Company immediately decided to repair the dam, and the work was completed during the year.

March 20, 1847, the dam gave away at the east end, and carried away the sawmill of Gregory, Phelps & Daniels. About one hundred and fifty feet of the dam were washed out at this time. This break was repaired by Mr. Nettleton. Phelps and Daniels sold their interest in the wrecked sawmill to Lewis B. Gregory and A. C. Spafford, who rebuilt it. The mills then had good water-power until June 1, 1851, when the entire dam went out, breaking away at the west bulkhead. Several changes on the East side then followed. Mr. Howell removed his carding machine to New Milford, where he remained until the next year, when he returned to Rockford, to the West side, just below the Bartlett flouring mills. Wheeler & Lyon's mill was removed across the race near Joseph Rodd's mill, and became a part of his plant.

In February, 1849, the legislature provided for the improvement of the navigation of Rock river, and for the production of hydraulic power, under a general law. It appears by an entry on the county records, that under this law the company filed a certificate of incorporation April 13, 1849, before the abandonment of the enterprise. The organization of the present water-power company, two years later, will be considered in later paragraphs.

POSTMASTERS OF ROCKFORD.

The early official records of the postoffice department at Washington are very meagre. There are no local records, as these are supposed to be kept at Washington. In 1890 Hon. Robert R. Hitt addressed a letter to Hon. John Wanamaker, who was then postmaster-general, asking for information upon this subject. That official replied that the records were incomplete during the early history of the service, and he could only give the time of appointment and resignation of the first postmaster. The later information has been obtained from the files of the Rockford newspapers in the public library. This is the only source from which the facts given in these paragraphs could be secured. The research involved considerable time and labor, and it is impossible to give the exact date upon which the commissions were issued.

Daniel S. Haight was the first postmaster. His commission was dated August 31, 1837, and he served until May, 1841.

The first mail arrived about September 15th. Previous to this time the small packages of mail

had been brought from Chicago by parties who made trips to that city for supplies. An order for mail upon the postmaster at that office, to which each man attached his name, was left at Mr. Haight's house. The first mail was brought on horseback, the second by a carrier, and the third by open wagon with two horses. After the postoffice had been established, the contract for carrying the mail was made with John D. Winters. About this time Winters became associated with Frink, Walker & Co. Still later Winters was on the line west from Rockford, and finally Frink, Walker & Co. carried the mail on the through line. Previous to January, 1838, the mail arrived from Chicago once a week. In 1839-40 the mails arrived from the west and east each three times a week. The northern and the southern mails came once a week; the mail from Mineral Point arrived on Saturday, and the mail from Coltonville came on Wednesday.

The first mail, in September, arrived with no key, and it was returned unopened. When the second mail arrived a key had been provided, but the postmaster was not equal to the combination, and he turned it over to Giles C. Hard, who solved the problem. Its contents, about a hatful, were received with a general handshaking. The postage was twenty-five cents for each letter, and stamps were unknown. Mr. Haight erected a small building sixteen by twenty-six feet, one and a half story, in the summer of 1837, for a postoffice, near 107 South Madison street. There were about twenty-five boxes. This building was used until the following year when Mr. Haight erected a more commodious structure near 312 East State street with ante-room and boxes. This building was used for this purpose during several administrations.

Mr. Haight was succeeded by Edward Warren, a brother of Mrs. Charles H. Spafford. Mr. Warren served until August, 1841.

Selden M. Church was the third postmaster, and served two years, when he was removed. The announcement of this change was made in three lines by the Rockford Forum. In the entire history of Rockford there is nothing more marked than the evolution of its newspapers from the most primitive sort to the present daily of metropolitan proportions.

In August, 1843, Charles H. Spafford was appointed postmaster. There is a tradition that Mr. Church was quite active in obtaining the office; and, to balance the account, Mr. Warren, who was not lacking in influence, used it in securing the appointment for his brother-in-law. The late Mrs. Spafford recalled interesting reminiscences of those days. She says: "The postoffice business was not large at that time; there were no clerks. The mail came at night and required the postmaster to get out at midnight or very early

morning to change the mail. What seems more strange, the postoffice money was kept at the house in my dressing bureau. Mr. Spafford was accustomed to come home late in the evening, bringing a bag of money. In those times of burglaries all this occasioned me a good deal of anxiety, as I was alone so much of the time when Mr. Spafford was at the office; especially as houses were not securely built in those days. I was not sorry when the robber band that had been committing the burglaries around were secured and taken to Joliet."

In July, 1845, Charles I. Horsman received the appointment. Two years before, in 1843, Mr. Horsman erected a small structure at 306 West State street. It was occupied by Colonel James W. Taylor as a dry goods store, and was the first building erected on West State street for business purposes. In the following year he purchased the stock of Mr. Taylor, and sold dry goods himself. In 1845 he built a wing, No. 306½, and moved the postoffice into it from the East side. The jealousy between the two sides of the river was very acute, and Mr. Horsman was obliged to move his fixtures across the river in the night. This building with others adjoining was removed, in 1873, to make room for the present brick block, which is still owned by the Horsman estate. The postoffice remained at 306½ West State street during Mr. Horsman's term of office.

Buel G. Wheeler was appointed postmaster in May, 1840, and served four years. Mr. Wheeler removed the postoffice to the East Side, into the building which had been occupied by the first postmaster, and stood on the west side of South Madison street.

In June, 1853, C. I. Horsman received a second appointment, and served until 1857. He removed the office to the building on West State street, from which it had been taken by Mr. Wheeler four years previous. The postoffice has remained on the West side for the past forty-eight years.

G. F. Hambright succeeded Mr. Horsman in March, 1857, and held the office four years. He removed the office into the new Holland House block, which had been completed the year before. The office occupied the corner ground floor.

Melancthon Smith was commissioned by President Lincoln in 1861. Mr. Smith subsequently enlisted in the service of his country, and went to the front with the Forty-fifth Illinois regiment. June 25, 1863, Colonel Smith was mortally wounded at the storming of a fort at Vicksburg by General Logan's division. He lingered three days in a state of half-consciousness, and died Sunday morning, June 28th, in the thirty-sixth year of his age.

After Colonel Smith's death the local politicians supported David T. Dixon as the logi-

cal candidate for his successor in the postoffice. A petition, however, was numerously signed by the citizens, asking for the appointment of Mrs. Smith. Melancthon Starr, who was a cousin of Colonel Smith, went to Washington and presented the matter to President Lincoln. The president endorsed her application, and sent a letter to the postmaster-general, of which the following is a copy:

"Executive Mansion, Washington, July 24, 1863.—Hon. Postmaster-General: Yesterday little indorsements of mine went to you in two cases of postmasterships sought for widows whose husbands have fallen in the battles of this war. These cases occurring on the same day brought me to reflect more attentively than I have before done, as to what is fairly due from us here in the dispensing of patronage toward the men who, fighting our battles, bear the chief burden of saving our country. My conclusion is that other claims and qualifications being equal, they have the better right, and this is especially applicable to the disabled soldier and the deceased soldier's family.

"Your obedient servant,

A. LINCOLN."

Mrs. Smith accordingly received the appointment, and completed the term. Mrs. Smith became the wife of General A. L. Chetlain, of Chicago. She is a sister of Mrs. Julia A. Clemens, of Rockford.

Mrs. Smith was succeeded by the Hon. Anson S. Miller, who assumed the duties April 1, 1865. Judge Miller removed the postoffice from the Holland House to the Brown's hall block. He retained the office six years.

In 1871 Charles H. Spafford was appointed postmaster and served four years.

February 20, 1875, President Grant sent to the senate the name of Abraham E. Smith, editor of the Rockford Gazette, for postmaster at Rockford. Mr. Smith was confirmed February 24; received his commission March 23, and assumed the duties of the office April 1. In December, 1875, Mr. Smith removed the postoffice to that part of the block on the river bank now occupied by the Register-Gazette.

The choice of a successor to Mr. Smith was informally determined by a direct popular vote of the citizens. Mr. Smith was a candidate for re-appointment, but he refused to go before the people. Saturday, December 21, 1878, a special election was held. Israel Sovereign received 214 votes; Thomas G. Lawler, 1,680 votes; a majority for the latter of 1,475. The name of Colonel Lawler was sent to the senate by President Hayes, February 19, 1879. He was confirmed February 22, and began the duties of the office March 15. Colonel Lawler was reappointed by President Arthur.

October 5, 1885, considerably more than a

year before the expiration of Colonel Lawler's second term, President Cleveland appointed John D. Waterman as postmaster, and he began his duties November 2d. Mr. Waterman's term expired during the administration of President Harrison, and Colonel Lawler was reinstated. When Grover Cleveland was elected president a second time he again appointed Mr. Waterman. His name was sent to the senate December 10, 1893, and confirmed January 8, 1894. With the advent of William McKinley to the presidency, Colonel Lawler was again appointed and still holds the office. His nomination was sent to the senate by President McKinley, January 13, 1898. Colonel Lawler has the unique distinction of receiving commissions as postmaster of Rockford signed by five presidents of the United States: Rutherford B. Hayes, Chester A. Arthur, Benjamin Harrison, William McKinley and Theodore Roosevelt. Thus for a period of nearly twenty-six years the postmastership has seen-sawed between Thomas G. Lawler and John D. Waterman.

Fred Wheat is a veteran in the postal service. He first entered the local office in April, 1866. There was an interval of fourteen years when he was in the railway mail service. He then returned to the city office, where he has since remained. Mr. Wheat has been assistant postmaster since 1880.

The government building was authorized by act of congress approved February 9, 1891, and was appropriated for by act of March 3, 1891. It is located on the southwest corner of Main and Green streets. The land was secured by purchase February 2, 1892, for the sum of \$17,500. The building was completed and occupied October 1, 1895. The cost of construction was \$82,160.14. It is constructed of Portage red sandstone and contains a space of 186,000 cubic feet.

The Rockford postoffice now gives employment to sixty-three men. There are eleven rural free delivery routes. By the extension of this system the postoffices at Elida, Wempleton and Latham Park have been discontinued.

ORGANIZATION OF THE UNIVERSALIST CHURCH.

The Unitarian church did not at first include all the adherents of a liberal Christian faith. At a meeting held in the brick schoolhouse, in East Rockford, April 24, 1841, a Universalist church was organized by the election of Daniel S. Haight, Ezra Dorman and Thomas Thatcher as trustees. This election was recorded in the recorder's office, as provided by law. It is not probable that the official records of this church have been preserved. It is known, however, that preaching services were held at the courthouse on the East side, and at the schoolhouse a por-

tion of the time during the next ensuing few months.

In 1841 the Universalists were sufficiently strong to consider the erection of a house of worship. In those days the citizens regarded any church, of whatever name, as a factor in promoting the general welfare of the village. Hence the name of a generous, public-spirited citizen would be found among the contributors to the support of liberal and orthodox churches alike. The original subscription list for the Universalist church which is still extant, is an interesting document. Mr. Haight gave a lot which he valued at one hundred dollars; the same amount in carpenter's and joiner's work; "forty-two sleepers in my wood-lot near Rockford, seventeen feet long, at three cents per foot, twenty-one dollars and forty-two cents;" and fifty dollars in money. Almost the entire subscriptions are in work or material. William Worthington subscribed ten dollars in blacksmith's work; Charles Latimer, twenty dollars, how paid is not stated; A. M. Catlin, in produce or building material, twenty-five dollars; J. M. Wight, one thousand feet of lumber at Stokes & Jewett's mill, twelve dollars.

On Thursday, July 22, 1841, the corner-stone of the Universalist church was laid on a site near the East side public square. The large assemblage included people of other denominations. Prayer was offered by Rev. Mr. Van Alstine, and a discourse was delivered by Rev. Seth Barnes. This structure was never completed. A stranger, in passing the unfinished building, inquired of Dr. George Haskell concerning its purpose. The doctor replied that it was an "insurance policy against hell-fire." All the original supporters of this project are gone; and not even tradition has given the cause for its sudden abandonment. Thus the Unitarian church became the one liberal household of faith.

FIRST BRIDGE.

Ten years elapsed from the first settlement of the village before Rock river was spanned by a bridge at Rockford. A bill had passed the legislature, approved February 27, 1843, authorizing Daniel S. Haight, S. D. Preston, Charles I. Horsman, and their associates to build a bridge. When completed in a manner so as not to obstruct the navigation of the river, and accepted by the county commissioners' court, it was to be a public highway, and kept in repair by the county. But nothing was done until nearly one year later, when the construction of the county buildings on the West side emphasized this need to the citizens of the East side, where the courts had been held. The entire people felt that a bridge must be built, although few had means enough to conduct their own business successfully. Citizens of

the West side, including the country west of the village, had built the courthouse and jail without a dollar's expense to their neighbors on the east side of the river. But the progressive citizens were willing to assume another burden. At a meeting held in December, 1843, a committee consisting of E. H. Potter, D. Howell, Willard Wheeler, C. I. Horsman and G. A. Sanford, were appointed to solicit subscriptions. A persistent effort throughout the county secured pledges to warrant the construction of an oak lattice bridge. All the money raised at this time was by subscriptions. The most liberal contributors were Frink, Walker & Co., the stage proprietors. January 22, 1844, the committee let the contract to Derastus Harper. This gentleman was a competent workman. He subsequently went to Chicago, became the city engineer, and designed the first pivot bridge across the Chicago river. The lumber was cut from trees on government land on Pecatonica river, rafted down the Rock, and sawed at Mr. Kent's mill. The covering for the lattice was basswood boards, cut from logs in Mr. Blake's grove, and sawed at Kent's mill. C. I. Horsman and William G. Ferguson drew the logs. By August or September, Mr. Harper had sufficient material on hand to commence laying the bridge. This was done nearly in the rear of the Masonic Temple site, on the piece of level bottom. The bridge was of three strings of lattice-work, made from oak planks, fastened with oak pins. There was no iron in the structure, except the nails that held the half-inch basswood boards which covered the lattice when the structure was completed. There were stone abutments on either shore. Christmas night, 1844, the lattice was in place a distance of about seventy feet from the west shore, supported by temporary trestles. Ice formed about the trestles from the west shore. The water arose and lifted the entire structure, including the trestles, when it toppled over with a crash. The pride and fond anticipations of the village went out with it. Such discouragement is seldom depicted on the faces of the entire community. All shared in the disappointment; but the energies of the citizens were not easily foiled. A united effort was made in a short time, and promises were again secured. The abutments, piers and one section were left, and some of the material was saved which had floated down stream. The fallen lattice was taken from the water, and each plank numbered with red chalk; and excepting a few that were splintered, they were again placed in proper order. After the ice went out in March, 1845, the structure was again raised, without accident. Cheerfulness and hopefulness assumed full sway; and after many discouragements the bridge was open for travel, July 4, 1845. It was a time of great rejoicing. The public-spirited citizens

of Rockford felt that Independence Day had been properly celebrated. When the last plank had been laid E. H. Potter mounted a horse and was the first man to ride across the bridge. It was estimated that two thousand people crossed the bridge that day. There were two roadways, separated by the centre lattice, which projected about five feet above the planking.

Perhaps no other public improvement in Rockford ever so tested the courage and financial strength of the community. The burden fell heavily upon the committee. The contract with Mr. Harper was for five thousand and five hundred dollars. A financial statement, made July 15, 1845, showed that only two thousand eight hundred and forty-seven dollars and ninety cents had been collected. The committee had borrowed five hundred dollars on their personal credit, for which they were paying twelve per cent. There was also a balance due Mr. Harper of one thousand two hundred and ninety-seven dollars. The bridge served its day and generation very well, but it was subject to many calamities. The dam broke three times after the bridge was completed. When the west end broke in April, 1846, the pressure of the water on the upper side of the center and principal pier removed the foundation on that side and settled the bridge in the center of the up-stream side nearly to the water, and gave it the appearance of being twisted nearly one-fourth around. The bridge stood in this position for some months, when a contract was made with William Ward to raise it into position. The bridge sustained some injury when the eastern portion of the dam broke in April, 1847. On the 25th of February preceding a law of the legislature had been approved, providing for a special tax to be levied upon the taxable property of Rockford precinct, for the purpose of repairing and maintaining the bridge, and for the payment of the debt incurred in its construction. Newton Crawford, Bela Shaw, Ephraim Wyman and Daniel McKenney were appointed bridge commissioners by the act, and vested with power to declare the amount of tax to be levied, which was not to exceed fifty cents on one hundred dollars. These commissioners were appointed by the act, until their successors should be elected annually at the August election. When the dam went out the third time, in June, 1851, the bridge withstood the rush of waters, although it was wrenched from its position. It reminded one of a cow-path or a rail-fence, and had a very insecure look. Though twisted from end to end, it kept its place very tenaciously until it was replaced by the covered bridge in the winter of 1852-53. Its memory should be treated with respect. It enabled people to attend their own respective churches, for nearly everybody went in those days—Congregationalists on the West side,

and the Methodists on the East side. Postoffice and county buildings were accessible to all. It proved a bond of union between the two sides.

FIRST FOUNDRY AND MACHINE SHOP.

The first foundry and machine shop was built in the autumn of 1843, or early in the spring of the following year. It stood on the site of Jeremiah Davis' residence, on North Second street. The proprietors were Peter H. and William Watson. Their father's family came from Canada and settled on a farm in the Enoch neighborhood in Guilford. Peter Watson was at one time assistant secretary of war during the civil conflict, and at a later period was president of the New York and Erie railroad. The foundry was running in the spring of 1844. The proprietors obtained a contract for large pumps and pipes for raising water from the lead mines at Galena. March 11, 1845, William Watson sold his interest in the business to his brother and engaged in the manufacture of farming mills. Peter H. continued the foundry until August, 1845. His successors in the business at this stand were in turn: R. F. Reynolds, D. K. Lyon, John Stevens, H. H. Silsby, Laomi Peake, and James L. Fountain. The last named proprietor removed the material and patterns to New Milford about 1852. The last year Mr. Silsby conducted the business, in 1840, it was prosperous. People came a distance of forty miles to get their work done. Mr. Silsby was often required to work nights in order to keep up with his orders. James Worsley was the expert moulder during all these years, and he was master of his trade. He was afterward in the employ of Clark & Utter until his retirement from the business by reason of old age.

Orlando Clark, who has been erroneously credited with building the first foundry, came from Beloit in 1847, and established himself in business on the West side race, where he remained until 1851, when he went into business with Mr. Utter on the new water-power. Mr. Clark built the residence in South Rockford, which is now the home of Mrs. John C. Garver.

THE NEW ENGLAND TYPE.

Emerson observes that an institution is the lengthened shadow of one man; as, the Reformation of Luther; Methodism, of Wesley; and that all history resolved itself into the biography of a few stout and earnest persons. Thus, he says, "events grow on the same stem with persons; are sub-persons." The larger number of the early settlers of Rockford came from New England. Some emigrated from New York and other states, but the New England element predominated. These pioneers impressed their personality upon

this community, and it has remained until this day. The New Englanders, in their native home, were a homogeneous race; even the Chinese were scarcely more so. With the exception of a few Huguenot families, who came from the old world at the close of the seventeenth century, and who, from religious sympathy and other causes, were easily grafted on the primeval vine, they were all descendants of English stock.

Industry, thrift, and a high sense of personal honor are prominent traits in the typical son of New England. Soil and climate determine in some measure the character of a people. The rocky soil of New England required the husbandman to practice the virtue of industry. In a speech given at a dinner of the Pilgrim Society in Plymouth, in 1855, Wendell Phillips gave this unique characterization of the Puritans: "How true it is that the Puritans originated no new truth. How true it is, also, Mr. President, that it is not truth which agitates the world. Plato, in the groves of the Academy, sounded on and on to the utmost depth of philosophy, but Athens was quiet. Calling around him the choicest minds of Greece, he pointed out the worthlessness of their altars and the sham of public life, but Athens was quiet,—it was all speculation. When Socrates walked the streets of Athens, and, questioning everyday life, struck the altar till the faith of the passer-by faltered, it came close to action, and immediately they gave him hemlock, for the city was turned upside down. I might find a better illustration in the streets of Jerusalem. What the Puritans gave the world was not thought, but action. Europe had ideas, but she was letting 'I dare not wait upon I would, like the cat in the adage. The Puritans, with native pluck, launched out into the deep sea. Men, who called themselves thinkers, had been creeping along the Mediterranean, from headland to headland, in their timidity; the Pilgrims launched boldly out into the Atlantic and trusted God. That is the claim they have upon posterity. It was action that made them what they were."

That which is purchased at the greatest cost is usually the most highly treasured; and thus the industrious farmer and artisan became frugal. It was a point of honor with a true New Englander to maintain his family and pay his debts. This he could not do except by a persevering industry, and a methodical and prudent management of his affairs. He must be economical if he would be generous, or even just, for extravagance sooner or later weakens the sense of moral obligation. These traits of industry and thrift were pleasantly satirized many years ago by a southern writer in the following paragraph: "We of the south are mistaken in the character of these people, when we think of them only as

peddlers in horn flints and bark nutmegs. Their energy and enterprise are directed to all objects, great and small, within their reach. At the fall of a scanty rivulet, they set up their little manufactory of wooden buttons or combs; they plant a barren hillside with broomcorn, and make it into brooms at the bottom, and on its top they erect a windmill. Thus, at a single spot, you may set the air, the earth and the water all working for them. But, at the same time, the ocean is whitened to its extremities with the sails of their ship, and the land is covered with their works of art and usefulness."

The early New Englanders have been charged with coldness and severity of manner. For an austere people, however, they have been easily enkindled with noble enthusiasms. There are certain traits prominent in their type of character, such as their love of order and the habit of self-control, which hasty observers have mistaken for tokens of a want of earnestness. But seldom, if ever, has there been a more sublime rage than was shown near Boston, in April, 1775, and for eight years thereafter. The accusation most frequently repeated against those stalwart people is that of religious intolerance. Christian charity, however, has been a slow and painful evolution through the centuries; and the New Englander was but a sharer in the world-wide spirit of intolerance. Perhaps they held their spinal columns too rigidly erect, and carried their heads too high to view with tender sympathy the weak and sinful world about them. Nevertheless, they bore aloft the standard of righteousness before a lawless generation, and planted in the new world the seeds of patient, practical and self-denying morality. Their posterity have sold their birthright for the pottage of license and disregard of the moral law. Whatever of justice there may be in the strictures upon those ancient worthies, it may be observed that no Channing, nor Sumner, nor Garfield has ever been nurtured in the atmosphere of a Sunday beer-garden.

When Judah was in exile in Babylon, her prophet, Ezekiel, had a vision of a brighter day. "Afterward he brought me again unto the door of the house; and behold, waters issues out from under the threshold of the house eastward; for the forefront of the house stood toward the east, and the waters came down from under, from the right side of the house, at the south side of the altar." This river was primarily a symbol of the transformation that should be wrought in Canaan to make it a fit dwelling-place for the ransomed of the Lord who should return to Zion. A feature of Messianic prophecy is the promise of the renewal of nature and the reconstruction of society. In the prophet's vision the stream of blessing proceeded from the temple of Jehovah; and the virtue of its waters was received as they

flowed by the altar of sacrifice. In the mind of the devout Hebrew, Jehovah was always to be found in his visible sanctuary. The Lord was in his holy temple. So the institutions of an enlightened civilization have proceeded from the Christian church, through the sacrifice of the noble men and women of the past, who have served her with a lover's devotion. The early colleges of this land, with very few exceptions, were the offspring of the church, and consecrated by its prayers.

It could not be said that every settler of Rockford belonged to the highest class; but the determining force in the community came from those high ideals of culture and religion, and those habits of economy, industry, integrity and temperance which have made the true Englander a representative of the best elements of our civilization. It was ordained in the beginning that seed should bring forth fruit after its kind. It is none the less true in social and moral life. The moral status of a city or country as truly indicates the character of its pioneers as the rich, ripe fruit of the vineyard tells the secret of its seed and culture.

Hon. R. R. Hitt, in an address delivered in August, 1899, before the old settlers of Seward in this county, said the statement that the early settlers builded wiser than they knew, was a reflection upon their intelligence. He insisted that the pioneers knew what they were doing, and had some conception of the outcome. Certain it is that whatever Winnebago county is to-day is directly traceable to their agency. They have been the architects of her institutions. They laid broad and deep the foundation of her industrial, educational, moral and religious interests, and from time to time they have superintended the superstructure. The large majority of this vanguard have ceased from their labors, and their works do follow them. As the few who remain behold the institutions of learning that have been reared in every town, and the resources provided for the humblest as well as for the strongest; as they look over the prairies reclaimed from barrenness and barbarism through their toil and privations; as they consider the various religious influences that are quietly softening and humanizing the moral nature, they have the satisfaction of knowing that they have not lived in vain.

There is a tendency in this age to remove the ancient landmarks which the fathers have set. The Sabbath has lost much of its former sanctity. Parental authority has become a lost art, or a lost virtue; and there has been a widespread insubordination to constituted authority; and the mad chase for wealth has established false standards of worth, and weakened the moral fibre of the people. These are not the reflections of a pessimist, but the conclusions of the casual observer.

If this republic is to endure there must be a speedy return to the homely virtues and the high ideals of the fathers. "For wheresoever the carcass is there will the eagles be gathered together." In the Old Testament the eagle, or the bird of prey, represents a foreign army summoned by Jehovah to execute his chastisement upon a corrupt nation. The interpretation is this: Wherever there is corruption there will be inflicted the judgments of Him who rules in righteousness.

RIVER AND HARBOR CONVENTION.

Prior to 1846 Chicago was a port of delivery only and belonged to the district of Detroit. The former city was made a port of entry by act of congress in 1846. Some improvements had been made in the harbor previous to 1839, when the work was discontinued for want of funds. A bar had formed, which extended across the entrance of the channel, so that vessels could enter only in fair weather, and even then with considerable difficulty. It was only in response to the unremitting efforts of the citizens, by memorials and personal influence, during the years 1839-41, that congress, in 1843, appropriated twenty-five thousand dollars to continue the improvements. The next year thirty thousand additional were appropriated for the same purpose. Up to this time two hundred and forty-seven thousand dollars had been expended; yet the harbor was still incomplete, if not positively dangerous. John Wentworth, Chicago's able representative in congress, had secured the incorporation of another appropriation in the river and harbor bill of 1846 by a decisive majority; but President Polk interposed his veto.

The president and the minority in congress were thus committed against the policy of river and harbor improvement. This course provoked general criticism, and especially in the west; and resulted in the call for the famous river and harbor convention, which met in July, 1847. It was one of the most notable events of the period. Preliminary conferences had been held in Chicago, Detroit, Buffalo, and New York, and such encouragement had been received that a meeting was held in Chicago, November 13, 1846, to complete the arrangements for the convention. William Mosely Hall, who took the initiative in calling the convention, was, from 1845 to 1848, agent at St. Louis of the Lake Steamship Association, connecting by Frnk. Walker & Company's stage lines, and later by Illinois and Michigan canal packets, with Illinois river steamers to St. Louis.

The convention assembled in Chicago July 5, 1847. Delegates were present from eighteen out of the twenty nine states of the union. New York sent over three hundred; and still larger

numbers came from Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, Indiana and Illinois. The total attendance was estimated to be from six to ten thousand. Many of the leading men of the nation were present. Among them were Thomas Corwin, William Bebb, Stanly Mathews, Schuyler Colfax, David Dudley Field, Thurlow Weed, and Horace Greely. Thirty-five counties in Illinois sent delegates. Abraham Lincoln was one of the number. Mr. Lincoln was the only whig representative in congress from the state. He at this time made his first visit to its commercial metropolis. Chicago was then a city of fifteen thousand population.

The resolutions adopted enthusiastically asserted that it was the right and duty of the general government to facilitate commerce by improving harbors, and clearing out navigable rivers; and that theretofore appropriations made for the improvement of inter-oceanic rivers and lakes had not been in fair proportion to those made for the benefit of the Atlantic coast. A resolution in favor of a railroad from the states to the Pacific, introduced by William Moseley Hall, was adopted. The closing speech was delivered by the president, Edward Bates, which tradition has pronounced "a masterpiece of American oratory theretofore unexcelled." No report of this great oration has been preserved.

Winnebago county was represented at this convention by thirty delegates, as follows: Daniel S. Haight, Anson S. Miller, S. G. Armor, Thomas D. Robertson, William Hulin, Spencer Post, Charles H. Spafford, O. Jewett, J. A. Wilson, Jason Marsh, Newton Crawford, Cyrus F. Miller, Goodyear A. Sanford, W. A. Dickerman, R. R. Comstock, Jesse Blinn, J. B. Peterson, Austin Colton, Shepherd Leach, C. A. Huntington, J. M. Wight, J. B. Johnson, Samuel Cunningham, Horace Miller, E. M. Miller, W. P. Dennis, H. Barross, D. Corey, M. H. Regan, Dr. Carpenter.

The most complete report of this historic convention is published in Fergus' Historical Series, number eighteen, which devotes about two hundred pages to the subject. Several numbers of this work, which have now become rare and valuable, may be found in the Rockford public library.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION OF 1848.

In pursuance of an act of the general assembly, approved February 20, 1847, a constitutional convention assembled at Springfield, June 7th of the same year. The delegates from Winnebago county were Seldon M. Church and Robert J. Cross. The delegates from the neighboring county of Boone were Dr. Daniel H. Whitney and Stephen A. Hurlbut, both of whom were well known in Rockford at an early date. The journal of proceedings indicate that all of these gentlemen took part in the discussions. Upon the

organization of the convention Mr. Church was appointed a member of the standing committee on the organization of departments and offices connected with the executive department; Mr. Cross, a member of the committee on the bill of rights; Mr. Hurlbut, on the judiciary department, and Dr. Whitney on incorporations.

Early in the session Mr. Church introduced the following resolution: "Resolved, That the committee on the bill of rights be requested to inquire into the expediency of so amending the sixth article of the present constitution that it shall provide that there shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in this state, otherwise than for the punishment of crimes, whereof the parties shall have been duly convicted. Nor shall any person be deprived of liberty on account of color." June 26th Mr. Cross introduced the following resolution: "Resolved, That the committee on elections and the right of suffrage be instructed to inquire into the expediency of changing the time of holding the elections from the first Monday in August to the Tuesday next after the first Monday in November, and the manner of voting from vive voce to the ballot." Mr. Cross also led in an effort to secure in the new constitution a provision for a state superintendent of schools, with a liberal salary.

The convention continued in session until August 31st, when the new constitution was adopted. It was ratified by the people March 6, 1848, and in force from April 1st following. The adoption of this new constitution was a notable event in the transition from a primitive, pioneer state to a great commonwealth. Many changes were made. A section, introduced by Mr. Hurlbut, of Boone, provided for township organization in the counties wherever desired. The time of holding the general election was changed from August to November; the method of voting from vive voce to the ballot; the judiciary was made elective; and many improvements were made along other lines. This constitution remained in force until 1870. A new constitution was adopted in convention in 1862, but it was rejected by the people. The delegate from Winnebago county to this convention was Porter Sheldon, a brother of C. W. Sheldon, of Rockford.

THE GALENA AND CHICAGO UNION RAILROAD.

January 16, 1836, a charter was granted to the Galena & Chicago Union Railroad Company to construct a railroad with a single or double track from Galena to Chicago. The capital stock was to be one hundred thousand dollars, with the privilege of increase to a sum not exceeding one million dollars. William Bennett, Thomas Drummond, J. C. Goodhue, Peter Semple, J. M. Turner, E. D. Taylor and J. B. Thomas, Jr., were

made commissioners for receiving subscriptions to the capital stock. At that time Galena was the leading village of this western country. This fact explains the precedence given to that name in the title of the road. The company was given three years in which to commence operations. Either animal or steam power might be used. The charter was obtained mainly through the influence of Ebenezer Peck and T. W. Smith. The Galena & Chicago Union was the first railroad chartered to be built from Chicago, upon which work was immediately begun. The road became an important factor in the great transportation system of Chicago, as well as towns along the line.

Thirteen months after the charter was granted, the survey of the proposed route was begun by an engineer, James Seymour, and was extended from the foot of North Dearborn street as far as the Des Plaines river. Work was suspended in June, 1838, but resumed the following year, and piles were driven along the line of Madison street, and stringers placed upon them. It soon became evident, however, that Chicago's financial strength was not equal to her ambition, and the enterprise was temporarily abandoned. The suspension of operations was a source of profound regret to the citizens of the Rock River valley, who had made several attempts to obtain better connection with Chicago, first by means of the contemplated road, and later by canal. These schemes did not prove feasible, and other plans were substituted.

The agitation was continued in Winnebago county for several years. The first railroad meeting in Rockford was held November 28, 1845. Anson S. Miller was chosen chairman and Seldon M. Church, secretary. The meeting was addressed by Hon. Martin P. Sweet. It was resolved that those counties interested in the construction of a railroad from Galena to Chicago be recommended to send delegates to a convention to be held in Rockford, January 7, 1846, for the purpose of taking measures for the construction of the road at the earliest possible time. Jason Marsh, T. D. Robertson, and William Hulin were appointed a corresponding committee to carry out the object of the meeting. The following delegates were appointed to attend the convention from Winnebago county: Horace Miller, A. C. Gleason, Robert Barrett, Harvey Gregory, Robert J. Cross, Asa Farnsworth, Stephen Mack, Thomas B. Talcott, Lemah Pettibone, Guy Hulett, Snyder J. Fletcher, Alonzo Hall, Daniel B. Baker, E. S. Cable, Harvey Woodruff, Joseph Manchester, George Haskell, Willard Wheeler, E. H. Potter, Newton Crawford, J. C. Goodhue, S. M. Church, Anson Miller, Jason Marsh, and T. D. Robertson.

December 5, 1845, a meeting was held in Chicago to select delegates to the Rockford conven-

tion. Mayor A. Garrett presided, and Isaac N. Arnold was secretary. The meeting was addressed by J. Y. Scammon, of Chicago, and William Baldwin, of Boston. The following delegates were chosen to attend the convention at Rockford: Isaac N. Arnold, J. Y. Scammon, J. B. F. Russell, Mark Skinner, Thomas Dyer, E. W. Tracy, John Daulin, Stephen F. Gale, William H. Brown, Walter L. Newberry, William E. Jones, Bryan W. Raymond, F. C. Sherman, William Jones, Mayor A. Garrett. Meetings were held at Belvidere, December 20th, and at Freeport, December 25th, for the selection of delegates to the convention.

The convention was held at Rockford January 7, 1846. Delegates were present from the counties proposed to be traversed by the line. Cook county sent sixteen delegates; De Kalb, one; McHenry, fifteen; Rock, three; Ogle, eighty; Boone, forty-two; Lee, one; Kane, fifteen; Stephenson, forty; Winnebago, one hundred; Jo Daviess, six; a total of three hundred and nineteen delegates. It will be observed that Winnebago, and probably other counties, sent a larger delegation than had been authorized by the preliminary meeting. The convention was called to order at twelve o'clock by T. D. Robertson, who nominated I. N. Arnold for temporary chairman. Mr. Robertson was chosen secretary, pro tem. The committee appointed to nominate permanent officers presented the following report: Thomas Drummond, of Jo Daviess, president; William H. Brown, of Cook; Joel Walker, of Boone; Spooner Ruggles, of Ogle; Elijah Wileox, of Kane, vice-presidents; T. D. Robertson, of Winnebago; J. B. Russell, of Cook; S. P. Hyde, of McHenry, secretaries.

The president, on taking the chair, addressed the meeting on the great importance of the outcome to northern Illinois and the northwest, and expressed the hope that all their transactions might be characterized by an intelligent view of the situation. J. Y. Scammon, of Cook, offered a resolution that a committee of one from each county be appointed to report resolutions which would express the views of the convention. The chair appointed the following committee: J. Y. Scammon, of Cook; George T. Kasson, of McHenry; Charles S. Hempstead, of Jo Daviess; M. G. Dana, of Ogle; James S. Waterman, of DeKalb; William H. Gilman, of Boone; John A. Clark, of Stephenson; A. B. Wells, of Kane; S. M. Church, of Winnebago; L. G. Fisher, of Wisconsin Territory. Walter L. Newberry, of Chicago, offered the following: "Resolved, If a satisfactory arrangement can be made with the present holders of the stock of the Galena & Chicago Union Railroad Company, that the members of this convention will use all honorable measures to obtain subscriptions to the stock of said company."

An animated debate followed, and after a full discussion of the powers of the charter and possible benefits, the resolution was adopted by an overwhelming vote.

The following resolutions, presented by J. Young Scammon, in behalf of the committee appointed for that purpose, were adopted without a dissenting vote:

"Resolved, That the wants of the farmers and the business men of northern Illinois require the immediate construction of a railroad from Chicago to Galena. That the value of farms upon the route would be doubled by the construction of the road, and the convenience of the inhabitants immeasurably profited thereby.

"Resolved, That in order to accomplish the object of this convention, it is indispensably necessary that the inhabitants and owners of property between Galena and Chicago should come forward and subscribe to the stock of the proposed railroad to the extent of their ability; and that if each farmer upon the route shall take at least one share of the stock (one hundred dollars) the completion of the road would be placed beyond contingency."

This action enkindled enthusiasm along the entire line, but before the necessary subscriptions had been secured, Messrs. Townsend and Mather, who owned the original charter, offered the same, together with the land and such improvements as had already been made, to the citizens of Chicago, for the sum of twenty thousand dollars. The terms contemplated the payment of the entire sum in stock of the new company; ten thousand dollars immediately after the election and organization of the board of directors, and the remaining ten thousand dollars on the completion of the road to Rock river, or as soon as dividends of six per cent. had been earned. This proposition was accepted. The purchasers subscribed from their own means for the expense of the survey on December 6, 1846, and the following year the work was begun, under the supervision of Richard P. Morgan.

It was decided to open subscription books at Chicago and at Galena, as well as the several settlements through which the road was to pass. The task of canvassing among the farmers between the proposed termini was undertaken by William B. Ogden. J. Young Scammon solicited funds in Chicago, but the subscriptions came in slowly. Only twenty thousand dollars were obtained at the outset from all the real estate men and others who might have been supposed to have been especially interested. Certain business men in Chicago opposed the construction of the road on the ground that it might divert business from Chicago to other points along the line. Mr. Ogden met with better success in the rural districts. Even the women were willing to undergo many privations of a personal character, that they

might assist in the construction of an iron highway, which they believed would prove of great benefit to the succeeding generations. The citizens of Rockford and farmers in the adjoining districts made liberal subscriptions to stock. John A. Holland and T. D. Robertson were the most active local promoters of the enterprise.

The original plan was to secure as large a local subscription to the capital stock as possible, and then apply to eastern capitalists for such advances, either in the form of subscriptions to capital stock or loans, as might be found necessary. The interest in the enterprise, however, was such that by April 1, 1848, one hundred and twenty-six subscribers had taken three hundred and fifty-one thousand and eight hundred dollars' worth of stock. It was therefore concluded that the road should be constructed and owned by residents of the territory through which it was to pass. It was determined, however, to interview friends of the project in the east, to obtain such suggestions as their experience in railroad matters might enable them to give. Eastern capitalists advised the construction of the road as far as the subscription might be available; and later, if money were needed, it might be obtained in the east. There was another factor in the problem. Illinois was burdened with an enormous debt, and repudiation had been imminent. Eastern capitalists were therefore not prompt in response to calls for loans to be expended in internal improvements.

In September, 1847, a corps of engineers was engaged for surveys and work was begun. Unexpected obstacles were encountered, and it was impossible for the directors to make the first contract for construction until near the close of the year. Contracts for the grading and bridging of twenty-five additional miles were made in March, 1848. Meanwhile, in February, 1847, an amended charter had been secured, under the terms of which a new board of directors was elected April 5th of the following year. Changes were subsequently made as follows: Thomas D. Robertson, of Rockford, was elected director, vice Allen Robbins, resigned, April 5, 1849; Dexter A. Knowlton, of Freeport, vice J. Y. Scammon, resigned, in 1850.

The canvass for subscriptions made along the line by Mr. Ogden was subsequently supplemented by Charles Walker, Isaac N. Arnold, John Locke Scripps and John B. Turner. In 1848 B. W. Raymond and John B. Turner visited the seaboard to enlist eastern support in the project. The journey was not as successful as they had hoped; yet they reported to Chicago subscriptions for fifteen thousand dollars' worth of stock and the promise of a loan of seven thousand dollars additional. The financial success of the enterprise seemed to be so far assured by this time that the management purchased a limited amount of rolling-stock.

Mr. Ogden, the president of the company, and also a member of the city council of Chicago, endeavored in the latter capacity to secure the passage of an ordinance giving the company the right of way into the city, with other incidental privileges. The ordinance failed to pass, but the road was granted the privilege of constructing a temporary track, in order to facilitate the hauling of necessary material through the city. The first civil engineer of the reorganized company was John Van Nortwick, and in June, 1848, his assistant, George W. Waite, drove the first grading peg, at the corner of Kinsie and Halstead streets.

In September, 1848, the directors purchased two engines from eastern companies. The first, the Pioneer, arrived in Chicago, October 10th following. They were clumsy in appearance and workmanship; but they rendered efficient service. The Pioneer was unloaded from the brig Buffalo, on the Sunday following its arrival in Chicago. It proved to be a memorable purchase. At first it ran simply as a motor for hauling material for construction; but December 15, 1848, it started from Chicago at the head of the first train which left the city over the four miles of track. In the rear of the Pioneer were six freight cars, extemporized into passenger coaches. The engineer in charge was John Ebbert. As the road developed Mr. Ebbert was promoted until he became master mechanic of the road. His death occurred in Chicago, August 21, 1899, at the age of eighty-five years. The first engineer, however, who ran the Pioneer as far west as Rockford was I. D. Johnson. In 1854 Mr. Johnson was married to Miss Delia, a daughter of Samuel Gregory. To them were born six children, three of whom survived the father. Mr. Johnson died at his home in Chicago, February 24, 1899, and was buried in Rockford. He was a man of straightforward character, and as an engineer he was careful and courageous. The Pioneer was on exhibition at the world's Columbian exposition in 1893, under the charge of its former master Engineer Ebbert, and attracted great attention as an example of primitive ideas in locomotive construction. It is now on exhibit at the Field Columbian Museum.

The line was extended to Elgin, forty miles west, in January, 1850. Nearly one hundred and sixty-five thousand dollars had been expended for construction up to that time. The rolling-stock was then an object of admiration; but it is now only of interest as a relic of the day of small things. The track was laid as far west as Belvidere in the spring of 1852. On Monday, August 2, 1852, a train on the Galena & Chicago Union railroad arrived in East Rockford. Its advent was signalized by the ringing of bells and the firing of cannon. The iron horse was greeted by the populace as the successor of the

horse and wagon and oxen and driver and whip. From that day Rockford began to make rapid strides in wealth, population, and commercial importance; and the Forum took the flattering unction to its soul that Chicago and Galena might be soon "looking this way with a jealous eye lest they become eclipsed in greatness by the city of the Rock river valley."

By the year 1857 quite an extension of the line had been completed. A double track had been extended thirty miles west, as far as Turner Junction, and large additions to the rolling stock had been acquired. The expense thus incurred increased the total up to that time to nine million dollars. Before the close of 1853 the company had extended its main line to Freeport, one hundred and twenty miles from Chicago. Notwithstanding the fact that there was no little enthusiasm in Galena over the extension of the line to that point. Fate decreed that Galena should be connected with Chicago by another line. The Galena & Chicago Union sold its right of way to the Illinois Central. It has been said that had the great Central system made a connection with the Rockford at that early date the population of the city would have been materially increased. At the close of 1858 the Galena & Chicago Union Company was free from a floating debt; but it had a funded indebtedness of three million seven hundred and eighty-three thousand and fifteen dollars.

The system owned and operated by the Chicago & Northwestern Railway Company, as it exists at the present time, is a consolidation of not less than forty-five distinct roads. June 2, 1864, was effected a consolidation of the Galena & Chicago Union and the Chicago & Northwestern companies, under the name of the Chicago & Northwestern Railway Company. The old Galena & Chicago Union had been legitimately built, and was never bonded; and when it was purchased by the Chicago & Northwestern, the stock held by the old subscribers in the Galena road was exchanged for stock in the new company. The consolidation was effected by the late Samuel J. Tilden, one of the greatest railroad lawyers of his time. The Galena had been a profitable road; and its consolidation was one of the first in northern Illinois.

REPRESENTATIVE ROCKFORD CITIZENS: 1842-50.

Marshall H. Regan was born in Rochester, New York, and his early life was spent in his native state and in Canada. Mr. Regan came to Rockford in 1842. He engaged in the lumber trade, in which he spent his active business life. He was also a contractor and builder, did a large business, and accumulated a competence. Mr. Regan was the architect of the old First Congre-

gational church, on the corner of First and Walnut streets. He was a prominent citizen in early Rockford, and a Democrat in politics. He died in 1875.

James B. Howell settled in Rockford, November 8, 1843. His business was that of a wool-carder and cloth-dresser. When the first dam was completed, Mr. Howell operated a carding and fulling machine on the south side of State street. He erected a building in 1846, and began business in 1848, and continued therein until the dam went out in 1851. He then removed his machinery to New Milford. He returned to Rockford, and some years later he formed a partnership with his brother-in-law, M. H. Regan, in the lumber business. After Huntington & Barnes' book store was destroyed by fire, Mr. Howell engaged in the book trade. His stand was the east store in Metropolitan Hall block, which for many years was occupied by B. R. Waldo, in the same line of trade. Mr. Howell was a consistent member of the State Street Baptist church.

Benjamin A. Rose was born in Philadelphia in 1817. In early manhood he removed to Chemung county, New York, and in October, 1844, he came to Rockford. Mr. Rose was county clerk from 1847 to 1849. He was one of the clerical force in the banking house of Robertson & Holland, and remained in the bank one year after removing to his farm in 1855. Mr. and Mrs. Rose were charter members of the Second Congregational church. Mr. Rose died in 1883. Mrs. Rose died in December, 1896.

Dr. Lucius Clark became a resident of Rockford in 1845. Dr. Clark was born in Amherst, Massachusetts, June 10, 1813. He was the third in a family of seven sons, five of whom became physicians. Dr. Clark was a member of the American Medical Association, and of the Illinois State Medical Society. During the war he was in the field a short time as president of the board of examining surgeons for the state of Illinois. He was for many years a trustee of Rockford seminary. In 1836 Dr. Clark married Julia A. Adams, of Hinsdale, Massachusetts. She died in 1861. In 1864 Dr. Clark married Charlotte M. Townsend, of this city. His death occurred November 5, 1878. Dexter Clark, M. D., followed his brother Lucius to Rockford, where he resided until his death, except the time spent in California, where he went in 1850. Dr. Dexter Clark was for many years a prominent member of the Second Congregational church, and superintendent of its Sunday-school. Another brother, Dr. E. N. Clark, settled at Beloit; and a fourth brother, Dr. Asabel Clark, resided at Detroit, Michigan. Dr. Lucius Clark had two sons who succeeded him in the practice of medicine: Dexter Selwyn, and Lucius Armor. Dr. D. Sel-

wyn Clark died February 12, 1898. No citizen of Rockford had a higher sense of professional and personal honor, and his death was universally lamented. The death of Dr. L. A. Clark occurred July 23, 1899, in the house in which he was born fifty years before. He had a wide reputation as an expert surgeon. During his residence on the Pacific coast he was employed as a steamship surgeon for some years, and was a passenger on the first voyage of the Colema, which, after long service, foundered a few years ago. Dr. Clark was also surgeon for the Illinois Railroad Company, which position he held at the time of his death. For more than half a century the Clark family was represented in the medical profession of Rockford. In the death of Armor Clark there passed away the last of this historic family of practitioners.

C. A. Huntington came to Rockford in 1845. He had left his family in July at Racine, Wisconsin, until he could find a desirable place for settlement. November 5th of that year he began his first term of school in Rockford in a building owned by H. R. Maynard, which stood on the site of the Masonic Temple. In the following year L. B. Gregory retired from teaching, and Mr. Huntington succeeded him as teacher in the old courthouse building on North First street, where he remained until the fall of 1848. Mr. Huntington then taught in the old Baptist church on North Main street. In the autumn of 1849 Mr. Huntington was elected school commissioner, and served eight years. In that same year he also opened the first book store in Rockford, on the site of the Third National Bank. He subsequently removed to the corner store in Laomi Peake's block, where the Keeling's drug store now stands. There he and Robert Barnes conducted a book store, and a book bindery on the second floor. November 27, 1857, this block was destroyed by fire. Huntington & Barnes carried a stock of eleven thousand dollars. Mr. Huntington resided in Rockford until 1864, when he removed to California, where he died a few months ago.

Hon. William Brown was born in Cumberland, in the north of England, June 1, 1819. In 1846 he became a citizen of Rockford. During his first winter in the west he taught a district school. Judge Brown was honored with several public offices. He was chosen a justice of the peace in 1847. In 1852 he was elected state's attorney for the district comprising Stephenson, Winnebago and Jo Daviess counties, and served three years. At the expiration of that time he was elected mayor of Rockford. In 1857 Judge Brown formed a partnership with Wiliam Lathrop, which continued three years. He then became a partner with the late H. W. Taylor, with whom he was associated until 1870. In 1864 he

was elected a member of the legislature as a republican. Judge Brown was first elected judge to fill the vacancy caused by the promotion of Judge Sheldon to the supreme bench. He was subsequently elected for three full terms. His career on the bench covered twenty years. Judge Brown died January 15, 1891.

Hiram H. Waldo was born in Elba, Genesee county, New York, November 23, 1827. He came to Rockford in 1846, when he was nineteen years of age, and completed his early education in the district schools. He studied in summer, and taught in the winter, for several years, until 1851. Mr. Waldo taught in the Redington district, in the old First Baptist church, Cherry Valley, Guilford, Harlem, in the basement of the First Methodist church as assistant to Seely Perry, and as assistant to C. A. Huntington, on First street. Mr. Waldo subsequently spent two years in Chicago, where he secured a clerkship in the postoffice, under Postmaster Dole, and was promoted to the superintendency of western distribution. Mr. Waldo remained a short time under Postmaster Isaac Cook. He returned to Rockford when Charles I. Horsman became postmaster the second time. Mr. Horsman did not give his personal attention to the office, and Mr. Waldo assumed this responsibility. Mr. Waldo opened a book store in 1855, in a frame building which rested on poles, where the Grand Union Tea Store now stands. He remained there four years, and then removed into his present stand, in 1859, where for forty-six years he has done business without interruption. He is the only merchant now in business of all those engaged in trade when he began. Mr. Waldo, however, was not the only early book dealer on the west side. John M. Perry, a brother of Seely Perry, had a book store on the site now occupied by Wheelock's crockery store. Mr. Perry sold this stock to J. W. Seccomb. Mr. Waldo served as school commissioner of Winnebago county from 1857 to 1859, and again from 1863 to 1865. Upon the failure of the Second National Bank, Mr. Waldo was appointed receiver by Commissioner Eckles, and paid eighty-five per cent. of the indebtedness.

L. F. Warner was a native of Connecticut. He read law with Hon. Reuben Booth, who had been governor of the state. Mr. Warner came to Rockford in November, 1848. He was always a democrat, and was a delegate to the famous convention at Charleston, in 1860, which resulted in a breach in the party, and the nomination of Stephen A. Douglas for the presidency at a later convention. Mr. Warner served Rockford as city attorney several terms. He died in 1904.

Melancthon Starr is an honored name in Rockford history. Mr. Starr was born in Albany, New York, April 14, 1816. He removed to Rockford in 1850. He first conducted a dry goods

business on the old Second National Bank corner. He was assignee of Charles I. Horsman's bank when it failed. In 1855 Mr. Starr became interested in what was afterward called the Winnebago National Bank. This banking house was founded in 1848 by Thomas D. Robertson and John A. Holland. Later John S. Coleman became a partner, and the firm was Robertson, Coleman & Co. On the death of Mr. Holland, Mr. Starr was admitted to the firm; and after Mr. Coleman's death the firm was Robertson & Starr, which continued until the organization of the Winnebago National Bank, in 1865. Mr. Robertson was president, and Mr. Starr was vice-president until his death. A beautiful trait was his sympathy for his old friend, the late Ephraim Wyman, who in his old age was reduced to very moderate circumstances. Nearly every Sunday Mr. Starr visited his friend, and cheered his last years with his sympathy and purse. Mr. Starr was a Unitarian, and was a communicant of the local church until its membership disbanded, when he became a regular attendant at the church of the Christian Union. Mr. Starr died, universally esteemed, November 20, 1885.

John Edwards was born at Acton, Massachusetts, August 18, 1800. He was in business in Lowell before his removal to the west. Mr. Edwards was living at Alton, Illinois, during the excitement which resulted in the death of Rev. Elijah P. Lovejoy, America's martyr to free soil and free speech. On that occasion Mr. Edwards took an honorable and decided position in favor of the freedom of the press; and stood on guard at Mr. Lovejoy's bed, with a loaded musket in his hand, the night before that brave abolitionist was murdered by the pro-slavery mob. Mr. Edwards came to Rockford in 1850. He was the first dealer in pine lumber in the city. His first yard was near Peter Sames' wagon factory, near the Northwestern Railroad track. Mr. Edwards encouraged the development of the Rockford water-power; was interested in the work of the seminary, and during his last years he was its agent. His death occurred June 14, 1871.

DEPARTURE OF MR. HAIGHT.

Daniel S. Haight, the founder of East Rockford, like his west side rival, did not remain in Rockford to see the fruition of his early settlement. Mr. Haight removed from the village in the winter of 1847-48, and settled in Texas, near Shreveport, Louisiana. He revisited Rockford in 1857. The date of his death is unknown to his old friends in Rockford. There is a tradition, which is commonly accepted, that he was a soldier in the Confederate army, and that he died after the Civil war at Fort Worth, Texas. No

worthy record of his life and work has been preserved; but next to Mr. Kent, his name is most prominent in early history.

GOLD HUNTERS OF '49

The gold excitement drew many to California in 1849-50. Among those who went from Rockford was Giles C. Hard, A. C. Spafford, D. K. Lyon, H. B. Potter, Dexter Clark, William Hamilton, H. H. Silsby, Isaac Rowley, Obadiah E. Lamb, a Mr. Smith, a Mr. Lewis, Sylvester Robinson, and Henry L. Simpson. Mr. Robertson died at Mud Springs, forty-five miles east of Sacramento, a few days after his arrival. Mr. Robinson was a native of Connecticut, and came to Rockford in 1847. He was the father of Mrs. E. P. Catlin and H. H. and N. S. Robinson. Mr. Simpson died while on his return home, at Peru, Illinois, in March, 1851. His remains were brought to Rockford for burial. Mr. Simpson was the father of E. L. Simpson and Mrs. Z. B. Sturtevant. He came to Rockford about 1839. He built a brick house which still stands on Leonard Schmauss' lot on North Second street; and part of another brick house on the southwest corner of First and Market streets. Mr. Simpson was engaged in the business of blacksmithing. He owned a one-half interest in a gristmill at Cherry Valley, and property in Rockford. Mr. Lamb died in California. As in all similar ventures, some were successful; while others received no adequate returns for their journey into this far country.

EMMANUEL CHURCH.

The Rt. Rev. Philander Chase, D. D., first bishop of the diocese of Illinois, made his first episcopal visitation to Rockford, August 28, 1841. Prior to this time there had been no public services of the Episcopal church held in the county. There had been only a very few families of the faith who had settled in Rockford. Levi Moulthrop, M. D., was the first churchman who came into this county.

The first church family who settled in the county was that of Sampson George, who came from Yorkshire, England. They arrived in the settlement of Rockford, September 24, 1836. The family consisted of Mr. George, his wife, Ann, and five children, two daughters and three sons. The children had received baptism in England. Mr. George brought a letter from their parish priest, commending the family to the spiritual care of any clergyman of the American church into whose jurisdiction they might come. The death of Mr. George occurred five weeks after the arrival of the family in Rockford. There was no priest nearer than the missionary at Galena,

he could not be definitely located, owing to the extent of territory under his charge. Thus the first churchman was buried without the offices of church.

During the next few years several other families of the church settled in the county. Among these were Jonathan Weldon, Chauncey Ray and John W. Taylor. The former two settled on farms about six miles southwest of the town, and the latter remained in the village, and engaged in the dry goods business.

At the Bishop's first visitation the services were held in the old courthouse building on North First street, which served a similar purpose for other households of faith.

August 4, 1842, the bishop made a second visitation to Rockford. The services morning and afternoon were held in the same building as in the preceding year. The sacrament of the holy eucharist, baptism and confirmation were administered. The bishop preached two sermons. Aside from these yearly visitations by the bishop, the church families in and around Rockford were without the sacraments of the church, except an occasional visit by some missionary priest from a distant point.

In 1845, the Rev. Alfred Lauderback, of New York State, was appointed by the domestic board of missions to the missionary field of northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin, with Belvidere and Rockford as chief points of location. This fact meant more regular and frequent services for Rockford. The new missionary's service was held August 10, 1845. Father Lauderback ministered in this section two years, when he was sent to take charge of the parish which had been recently organized at Galena, Illinois. From this time for several years occasional services were held in the village by the Rev. Dudley Chase, a son of the bishop, and the Revs. Humphrey and Millett, of Beloit, Wisconsin; Pulford, of Belvidere; Johnston, of Pekin, and Miller, of Bonus, Illinois, the father of Orin Miller, an early Rockford attorney. Services were generally held in the new courthouse.

The present parish was organized May 1, 1849. A meeting of the parishioners, both men and women, was convened, at which the Rev. Dudley Chase presided; and the parochial organization was effected in accordance with the prescribed canonical form. The articles of association were signed by Chauncey Ray, Jonathan Weldon, Horace Starkey, Duncan J. Stewart, John Conrad, S. R. Weldon, and Spencer S. Weldon. Upon the organization of the parish the parishioners proceeded to the election of a vestry. Those elected were: senior warden, Horace Starkey; junior warden, Chauncey Ray; vestrymen, John Conrad, Duncan J. Stewart and S. R. Weldon.

The Rev. Dudley Chase was called to be the

first rector. He accepted the call but afterward declined, as he preferred to accept a charge in Chicago, where he organized the parish of the Atonement on the west side, which was afterward merged into the cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul.

November 15, 1852, the Rev. Charles Reighley, of Chicago, was called to the rectorship of the parish. With the consent of the new Bishop, Rt. Rev. Henry John Whitehouse, the call was accepted, and the first rector entered at once upon his work. Bishop Chase had died September 27, 1852, and had been succeeded by Bishop Whitehouse. A lot was purchased on the corner of North Church and North streets, for two hundred dollars, and a church building erected at a cost of nineteen hundred dollars. The new church was consecrated by Bishop Whitehouse, August 23, 1853, "by the name of Emmanuel Church Rockford."

Succeeding the Rev. Charles Reighley have been the following rectors in the order named: Revs. Anson Clark, Michael Schofield, William T. Smthett, Thomas Smith, S. B. Duffield, J. E. Walton, S. D. Day, C. S. Percival, F. W. Adams, A. W. Snyder, D. C. Peabody, Wyllys Rede and N. B. Clinch.

The Rev. D. C. Peabody became rector March 1, 1886. During his rectorship the present rectory was purchased, and the Fairfield Memorial Parish House erected, at a cost of forty thousand dollars. The latter was the gift of one parishioner, Mrs. Eleanor G. Fairfield, and was erected as a memorial to her husband. An additional thirty feet of land adjoining the church lot on the west was purchased at a cost of sixteen hundred dollars, and many other permanent improvements made in the parish.

ADOPTION OF TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATION.

The constitution of 1848 provided for a county court, as the successor of the county commissioner's court, and authorized the legislature to enact a general law, providing for township organization, under which counties might organize, by a majority vote of the people. In the early days of Illinois as a state, southern ideas and institutions dominated the commonwealth. The commissioner's form of local government originated in this country with the Virginia planters. The system of township organization had its origin in New England. But the root of this form of local government may be traced to the districting of England into tithings by King Alfred, in the ninth century, to curb the widespread social disorders which disturbed his realm. The change under the second constitution of Illinois was due to the influence of New England settlers in the northern portion of the state. The Illinois town-

ship system, however, is not closely modeled after that of the New England states.

The legislature, by two acts approved February 12, 1849, supplemented these two constitutional provisions by the necessary legislation. The first created a county court, the judges of which should be elected on the Tuesday after the first Monday in November, 1849, and quadrennially thereafter, and assume their duties on the first Monday in December following. There were also to be elected at the same time and places, two associate justices of the peace, who, with the judge, constituted the county court, which succeeded the county commissioners' court.

This county court was shortlived, so far as Winnebago county was concerned. The second statute, also approved February 12, 1849, provided that at the next general election in November, 1849, the voters in any county might vote for or against township organization. Consequently, at the same general election in November, 1849, the voters of this county elected both a county court to succeed the county commissioners' court; and voted to adopt township organization. Section four of the new law provided that if the voters so elected, the township organization should be in force the first Tuesday in April, 1850. At that time the associate justices ceased to be members of the county court, under the provision of section six of article seven of the new constitution. The associate justices, however, were elected for several years as justices of the peace for the county at large.

It may seem, at first thought, that two such laws would not have been passed by the legislature, as the second might nullify the first. But it will be observed that the township organization system did not become operative unless the people so voted; hence there was a possibility that they would not conflict.

From 1849 to 1855 the clerk of the county court was also clerk of the board of supervisors, under section eight of article sixteen of the township organization law. By virtue of an act of February 9, 1855, the clerk of the county court of Winnebago county ceased to be ex-officio clerk of the board of supervisors after the first Monday of the following April. Under this law Duncan Ferguson was appointed; and a separate clerk of the board was thereafter biennially appointed, until the law was repealed.

SECOND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

The Second Congregational church was organized in the autumn of 1849, with forty-seven members. Nearly all had taken letters from the first church under date of October 18th.

The first meeting preliminary to organization was held October 30, 1849, at the schoolhouse

in West Rockford. This building was standing on South Main street until about two years ago. A committee of three was chosen to present at a future meeting, the articles of faith, covenant and rules of the government for the proposed church. Benjamin A. Rose, Dexter G. Clark and Thomas D. Robertson constituted this committee. It was resolved that the public organization of the church should take place November 14th; and Samuel J. Russell, Worcester A. Dickerman and Robert Clow were chosen to make the necessary arrangements.

An adjourned meeting was held November 7th. A resolution was adopted, by which the following named persons who were present organized the church: Robert Clow, Burton P. Franklin, David D. Alling, Rebecca Alling, Alexander Patterson, Helen Patterson, Ellen Patterson, Jane Gordon, Thomas D. Robertson, Goodyear A. Sanford, Elizabeth H. Sanford, Worcester A. Dickerman, Caroline M. Dickerman, Michael Burns, Deborah Burns, Samuel J. Russell, Lucy Russell, Dexter G. Clark, Benjamin A. Rose, Antionette W. Rose, Eliza Hanford, Rebecca Spurr, Harriette W. Platt, Rial K. Town, Clarissa Town, Mary Bond, Emily G. Sanford, Susan G. Fuller, Elizabeth B. Field, Mary A. Frink, Lemira L. Meyers, Lucy C. Hyde, Sarah D. Hyde, Esther Ann Hyde, Henry C. Hyde, Gershom C. Hyde, Monzo Gorham, Hannah L. Gorham, Mercy A. Gorham, Ann Levings, Mrs. Elizabeth C. Porter, Anor Woodruff, Mrs. Eliza Woodruff, James Porter, Ebenezer Hyde, Mrs. Barbara Porter.

Thomas D. Robertson, from the committee appointed at the former meeting, presented a report of articles of faith, covenant and rules of government. This report was accepted and adopted. The articles of faith were thoroughly orthodox, according to the standard of the time.

This preliminary organization was completed by the election of officers. Rial K. Town and Monzo Gorham were chosen deacons; Thomas D. Robertson, clerk and treasurer; Benjamin A. Rose and Samuel J. Russell, prudential committee; Goodyear A. Sanford, Worcester A. Dickerman and Dexter G. Clark, assessment committee.

The public organization of this church occurred Wednesday, November 14, 1849. Previous to these formal exercises Mrs. Sarah J. Clark, Mrs. E. W. Spalding and Jane C. Houghton, who had been included in the original letter of dismission from the first church, but were not present at the first meeting, were received; also Mrs. Mary Haskell and Miss Eliza Holmes.

The congregational council was composed of the following gentlemen: Rev. Hutchins Taylor, moderator; Rev. Dexter Clary, Beloit; Rev. Lewis Benedict, Rockton; Rev. R. M. Pearson,

Grand DeTour; Rev. Lansing Porter, Rockford; Horace Hobart, delegate from Beloit. Rev. R. M. Pearson was chosen scribe of the council; prayer was offered by Rev. H. Taylor; and Rev. L. Benedict preached the sermon. The covenant and articles of faith were read by the clerk, and publicly approved by the church. An address to the church and deacons was delivered by Rev. Dexter Clary. The council then formally declared the Second Congregational church of Rockford to be duly and orderly organized.

Since the mother church had vacated its first house of worship on the corner of Church and Green streets for the new brick structure on the east side, the former had been unoccupied. The Second church now returned to the house which many of its members had abandoned less than four years previous. Messrs. Kent and Brinkerhoff had failed in business, and the old edifice was sold by their assignee to the Second church. It was placed on a rock foundation and refitted for worship.

The first pastor of the new church was Rev. Lansing Porter. This gentleman had served the First church as its pastor a little more than two years. The records of the Second church do not show that any formal call was extended to Rev. Porter. But he assumed this position as soon as the organization had been effected November 7, 1849, and served four years.

Mr. Porter pursued two years of his college course at Hamilton and two years at Wesleyan college, and was graduated from the latter in the class of 1839. He then took the full three years' course in Yale Theological seminary, and a year of post-graduate work at Auburn Theological seminary. Mr. Porter went to Chicago in 1843, and from there he came to Rockford, when he was less than thirty years of age. Mr. Porter's first pastorate was that of the First Congregational church, Rockford. He is now living at Hamburg, New York.

In 1851 the church was found to be too small, and its capacity was increased by the addition of forty feet to its length.

December 31, 1853, Rev. Porter severed his pastoral relation. At a meeting held December 16th of the same year, it was voted to extend a call to Rev. Joseph Emerson. This call was accepted. May 21, 1854, a congregational council convened in the church for the transaction of business incident to the settlement of the pastor. The installation services occurred on the following day.

Rev. Emerson was a son of Rev. Daniel Emerson; a cousin of Ralph Emerson, of Rockford, and a second cousin of the famous Ralph Waldo Emerson. Joseph Emerson was born in Dartmouth, Massachusetts, in 1806, and died at Andover, Massachusetts, in 1885. Mr. Emerson was grad-

uated from Yale college in 1830, and from Andover Theological seminary, in 1835. He received his ordination in 1836. His pastorate in Rockford was eminently successful. He built the house on North Church street, where Ralph Emerson now resides.

The pastorate of Rev. Emerson was signaled by the erection of the second house of worship on South Church street. July 19, 1855, the society voted that it was expedient to take action toward building a new church. A committee, consisting of D. G. Clark, G. A. Sanford, T. D. Robertson, John Edwards and John S. Coleman was appointed to carry out the same. In 1856 subscription papers were circulated. A building committee was composed of John Edwards, D. G. Clark, J. G. Manlove, G. A. Sanford, Ralph Emerson and T. D. Robertson. A correspondence was opened with Renwick & Auchmuty, a firm of architects in New York, and from them was received in the summer of 1856 plans and specifications for the structure. The committee invited proposals. The most favorable response was received from David and James Keyt, of Piqua, Ohio. The committee, before letting so large a contract, desired to obtain definite information concerning the character and standing of the bidders. John Edwards was sent to Piqua to make an inquiry. The result of his mission was so satisfactory that the contract was let to the Messrs. Keyt for the sum of twenty-three thousand four hundred and seventy-eight dollars and seventy-eight cents.

Work was begun on the building May 17, 1857, and was completed in the autumn of 1858. The plans provided for a stone porch in front, and a lecture room in the rear. Upon signing the contract, the rear extension was omitted, because the committee could not depend upon obtaining money to pay for the same; and still later the porch was also abandoned, which reduced the expense about fourteen hundred dollars. The building committee met great difficulty in prosecuting the work, and during its progress the financial panic of 1857 came upon the country. It was one of the most severe strains in the money market in the history of the country. October 13th, of that year, the New York banks suspended specie payment. The committee had fortunately negotiated a loan for six thousand dollars, with a gentleman in New Jersey, on the first of October. This loan was made, as were nearly all the loans on the personal notes of the building committee. The loan of four thousand dollars was also secured by a mortgage given by G. A. Sanford, T. D. Robertson and W. A. Dickerman, on their individual property. The document was preserved for many years as a memorial of the courage of the builders.

Farewell services were held in the old church

on Sunday, November 28th. After this little sanctuary had outlived its usefulness in a growing city, it was donated to the people in Owen township, where it was again used as a house of worship.

The new church was dedicated Thursday, December 2, 1858. The dedicatory sermon was preached by the pastor. This church continued to be the house of worship for nearly thirty-four years, until the spring of 1892. It has been said that P. P. Bliss, the famous gospel singer and composer, wrote his best known song, "Hold the Fort," in this church. Among the distinguished persons who have entertained Rockford audiences from this pulpit are Rev. Lyman Abbott, D. D., and Mrs. Julia Ward Howe.

July 30, 1859, Rev. Emerson tendered his resignation; and on August 23d an ecclesiastical council convened at the church, and dissolved the pastoral relation. The church did not long remain without an under-shepherd. At a regular meeting of the church December 7, 1859, a call was extended to Rev. Jeremiah E. Walton. This call was accepted, although there is no record of his installation. This pastorate continued until December, 1863.

Mr. Walton graduated from Williams college in 1853, and from Hartford seminary in 1856. He came to Rockford from Troy, New York, when a young man, full of hope and enthusiasm. Mr. Walton entertained religious views similar to those held by the late Horace Bushnell, and especially those concerning Christian nurture. After his removal from Rockford Rev. Walton took orders as a priest in the Episcopal church. He subsequently returned to Rockford, and became the rector of Emmanuel church.

The pipe organ was constructed in 1863, at a cost of about two thousand five hundred dollars. Rev. M. P. Kinney was called to the pastorate August 10, 1864; and an ecclesiastical council was convened November 29th. Rev. Frank B. Woodbury, D. D., was called November 23, 1870. He was succeeded in 1888 by the late Rev. Walter Manning Barrows, D. D. His successors have been Rev. Wesley P. Haskell and Rev. Peter M. Snyder.

A magnificent new temple of worship on North Church street was dedicated May 8, 1892. February 20, 1894, this church was destroyed by fire. Only the bare walls remained. There were valiant Nehemiahs ready to build a second temple, which was dedicated December 2, 1895.

The longest pastorate was that of the Rev. Frank P. Woodbury, who served eighteen years, from 1870 to 1888. Only two resident charter members are now living; Mrs. Caroline M. Dickerman and Mrs. Emily G. Sanford-Dodd.

The church property is valued at \$100,000. Its membership is about 730.

INCORPORATION OF ROCKFORD AS A CITY.

Three nearly contemporary events contributed to the progress of Rockford from the simple village to its more commanding position as a city. The advent of the railroad, the first in importance, has already been noted. The organization of the new water-power company is reserved for later paragraphs. The third factor was the incorporation of Rockford as a city.

As early as 1851 the citizens realized that the local government was no longer adequate to meet the needs of the rapidly increasing population. In the autumn of that year steps were taken for the organization of a city government. In pursuance of a call, signed by Jason Marsh, G. A. Sanford, Willard Wheeler, Isaiah Lyon, George Wyatt, Newton Crawford, C. I. Horsman, W. A. Dickerman, W. P. Dennis, Jesse Blinn and William Hulin, a meeting was held at the court house November 29th. It was deemed advisable at this conference to submit the question of city organization to a vote of the citizens. The trustees of the town thereupon ordered an election for this purpose to be held January 3, 1852. There was no excitement to call out the voters, as the prospective change was generally accepted as a matter of course. One hundred and nine votes were cast for organizing under the general law of 1849. The city government of Springfield, Illinois, was adopted as a basis of organization.

The first election under the new order was held April 19, 1852. The candidates for mayor were Willard Wheeler and E. H. Potter. The election resulted in the choice of Mr. Wheeler. The aldermen elected were: Sumner Damon, First ward; E. H. Potter, Second ward; H. N. Spalding, Third ward; C. N. Andrews, Fourth ward. The first meeting of the city council was held on Monday, April 26th, at the counting room of Eleazer H. Potter. William Lathrop was appointed city clerk. An ordinance was passed creating the following city officers: Clerk of the council, attorney, treasurer, marshal, assessor, collector, engineer and two street commissioners. These officers were to be appointed annually by the city council at its first regular meeting after the annual municipal election. At the second session of the council, held May 1st, the following city officers were appointed: William Lathrop, attorney; Hiram R. Maynard, treasurer; Duncan Ferguson, assessor; K. H. Milliken, collector; Duncan Ferguson, city engineer; Thatcher Blake and William McKenney, street commissioners.

An act of the legislature of June 18, 1852, authorized the city of Rockford to borrow money, not exceeding ten thousand dollars, for the purpose of constructing a bridge. Bonds were to be issued, in the sum of one hundred dollars each,

bearing interest not exceeding ten per cent., and were to be redeemed within twenty years from issue. The sum was evidently insufficient for the purpose; and an act of the legislature of February 3, 1853, authorized the city to borrow a maximum sum of fifteen thousand dollars. Bonds were to be issued in sums not exceeding one thousand dollars each, payable within twenty years, and to draw interest not exceeding ten per cent. The act of 1852 was repealed. There is a tradition that Jason Marsh was sent east to negotiate the sale of the bonds, for which he charged a commission of ten per cent. This fee was very reluctantly paid. To-day Rockford can borrow money at a very low rate of interest, and command a liberal premium on her bonds. The second or covered bridge was built in 1854, with the funds derived from the sale of bonds the preceding year. This bridge stood until December, 1871, when it was torn down and succeeded by the first iron bridge.

There was some technical irregularity in the incorporation of the city; and an act of the legislature approved February 8, 1853, legalized the previous official acts of the mayor and council. Section two of this law provided: "That all official acts of the council and of the mayor or either of them, of said city, done or performed since their election as such, and prior to the period this act shall take effect, and which would have been valid in case the original incorporation as a city had been legal, be and the same is hereby legalized."

A special charter was granted to the city by the legislature March 4, 1854. By this act the general law of 1849 was declared to be no longer in force, so far as Rockford was concerned, except for the purpose of supplementing proceedings had or commenced, so as not to impair the legal consequences of any past transaction. This charter was amended February 4, 1855, April 26, 1859, and February 22, 1861. "An act to reduce the charter of the city of Rockford, and the several acts amendatory thereof into one act and to revise and amend the same" was approved February 15, 1865. Rockford was governed by this charter until the city was reorganized under the general law. This general law, enacted in 1872, repealed the general law of 1849, and abolished the system of special charters. Between these dates there appear to have been two methods for the incorporation of cities in force at the same time; by a general law, and by a special charter. It may be presumed that a city generally obtained greater powers under a special charter than by a general law; and the former method of incorporation was more generally adopted by the cities of the State.

In 1855 steps were taken for the organization of a fire department. Its need had daily become

apparent. A committee, appointed by the city council, purchased four small engines, named Constantine, Alexander, Sevastopol and Nicholas. The Sevastopol was received in the latter part of October, and February 21, 1856, a public trial was made of the engines, all of which had arrived. The result was not altogether satisfactory, and the "machines" with Russian names were discarded. In May and June, Winnebago Engine Company Number One, and Washington Number Two were organized, and nearly a year later the efficient engines bearing those names were received. Subsequently Union Engine Company Number Three was formed, and an engine procured. These three engines constituted the fire apparatus of the city as late as 1860. The first six chief engineers were Edward F. W. Ellis, Samuel I. Church, M. A. Bartlett, Howard D. Frost, A. G. Springsteen, Gardner S. Allen. The first four assistant engineers were Gardner S. Allen, James E. L. Southgate, Charles T. Jellerson, Hiram H. Waldo.

The tax levies for the first few years under the new regime were as follows: 1854, seven and one-half mills on each dollar of taxable property, both real and personal; 1855, ten mills on each dollar; 1856, one and three-quarters per cent. on each dollar; 1857, one and one-half per cent.; 1858, one and five-eighths per cent.; 1859, two and one-half per cent.; 1860, two per cent.; 1861, two per cent. It will be observed that the rate increased each year up to 1859.

ELECTIONS OF 1852-53.

In the presidential election of 1852 Winnebago county maintained its position as a whig stronghold. The presidential electors received 1,023 votes; the Democratic electors, 820; Free Soil electors, 725.

Under the apportionment of August 22, 1852, the legislature divided the state into nine congressional districts. The first district comprised the counties of Lake, McHenry, Boone, Winnebago, Stephenson, Jo Daviess, Carroll and Ogle.

The campaign of 1852 was signalized by the election of E. B. Washburne as a member of congress from the First district. Mr. Washburne received 1,102 votes in Winnebago county; Thompson Campbell, his democratic opponent, 851; and Newman Campbell, 610 votes.

Abraham I. Enoch was elected a member of the legislature from the Forty-seventh senatorial district. His vote in Winnebago county was 1,063; Lyman F. Warner, democrat, 840; Ezra S. Cable, 659. Mr. Enoch was born in Dayton, Ohio, July 24, 1819. He came to this county with his father's family in 1835, and settled in Guilford township. Mr. Enoch was honored by several public offices, and in 1866 he was again

elected a member of the legislature. Mr. Enoch removed to Rockford in 1867, and began the manufacture of plows. He died in 1883.

William Brown was elected state's attorney for the Fourteenth judicial circuit. His majorities in the several counties were: Winnebago, 650; Stephenson, 480; Jo Daviess, 87; total, 1,217. His opponents were Francis Burnap, John C. Kean and Francis S. W. Bradley.

Charles H. Spafford was elected circuit clerk by an even one thousand votes; King H. Milliken was elected sheriff; Alfred A. Chamberlain, coroner.

At the county election in 1853 the entire whig ticket was successful. Selden M. Church was elected county judge; Asher Beach and Alfred E. Hale, associate justices; William Hulin, county clerk; C. A. Huntington, school commissioner; Duncan Ferguson, county treasurer; Duncan Ferguson, surveyor.

EARLY DAYS ON THE WATER POWER.

July 15, 1851, many of the leading public-spirited citizens of the town associated themselves together under the name of the Rockford Water Power Company. These gentlemen were: Thomas D. Robertson, John A. Holland, R. P. Lane, G. A. Sanford, W. A. Dickerman, S. M. Church, Orlando Clark, C. I. Horsman, John Edwards, John S. Coleman, John Fisher, William Hulin, Isaiah Lyon, Melanethon Starr, C. H. Spafford, Lucius Clark, J. J. Town, Henry Potwin, H. R. Maynard, James H. Rogers, B. McKenny, John Platt, Albert Sanford, Chas. C. Hope, H. P. Kimball, Robert Clow, ———— Vanduzer and ———— McCoy. This organization was effected in pursuance of the general law enacted by the legislature in 1849, for the improvement of Rock river and the production of hydraulic power. In September, 1851, the owners of the water and land under the old company entered into an agreement with the new company, whereby the two interests were consolidated, and steps were immediately taken for the construction of a permanent dam on the rock bottom of the old ford, from which the city derives its name. In the spring of 1853 the dam and race were completed and accepted by the company. The length of the dam is between seven hundred and eight hundred feet. The water power is divided into twenty thousand parts, and is held and sold in this proportion.

The first great impetus given to the manufacturing interests of Rockford was the advent of John H. Manny, in 1853, to whom further reference is made in later paragraphs. There were however, other firms doing a general manufacturing business in the city.

About 1848 James B. Skinner began business, which developed into the firm of Skinner, Briggs

& Enoch. He was a son of Deacon Stephen Skinner, who had a blacksmith shop on North Main street, about where Louck's restaurant now stands. James B. worked with his father some years in the shop, and then began business for himself. In 1850 he erected a larger building and operated eleven forges. This blacksmith shop was said to be the largest in the west at that time. To this business he later added the manufacture of wagons. Mr. Skinner was the inventor of the first riding cultivator, rolling coulter, single riding plow and gang plow. In 1867 a Mr. Mead and C. C. Briggs were taken in as partners. In January, 1868, Mr. Mead retired and was succeeded by A. I. Enoch, under the firm name of Skinner, Briggs & Enoch. Plows and cultivators formed a large part of their output. The company outgrew its limited plant and removed to the water-power. Mr. Skinner died in 1872, and C. C. Briggs and A. I. Enoch purchased the interest of the Skinner estate.

W. D. Trahern came to Rockford in 1848, and soon after began the manufacture of threshing machines and horse-powers, under the firm name of Trahern & Stuart. Mr. Stuart retired in 1856, and was succeeded by William Dales. He withdrew from the firm in 1862, and from that time Mr. Trahern conducted the business alone until his death in 1883. In later years Mr. Trahern devoted his exclusive attention to the manufacture of iron pumps. Mr. Dales subsequently engaged in the manufacture of the wood portions of grain separators, and did general job work in hard wood and sheet metal.

In 1851 Orlando Clark began the erection of a foundry on the water-power. He came to Rockford in 1847, and established a foundry on the west side race, where he remained until the old dam went out in 1851. He was one of the incorporators of the new water-power company a few months later.

In 1852 Isaac Uter came from Warsaw, N. Y., and formed a partnership with Mr. Clark, under the firm name of Clark & Uter. In the spring of 1853 this firm manufactured one hundred and fifty combined reapers and mowers for John H. Manny. In 1860 the firm manufactured one thousand Gorham seeders. Their output also included sugar mills, evaporators and steam engines.

D. Forbes & Son established an iron foundry in 1854, and in 1864 the malleable iron works were added to the business.

N. C. Thompson came to Rockford in 1857, and built up one of the largest plants on the water-power, which at one time covered several acres. A capital of a quarter of a million dollars was required to carry on the business. The John P. Manny reaper and mower was manufactured exclusively by Mr. Thompson.

Frederick H. Manny came to Rockford in 1859 and built a large plant. He manufactured the John H. Manny combined reaper and mower, and the Rockford broadcast seed sower and cultivators combined.

Flouring mills were an important factor in Rockford industries. Moses Bartlett built a stone mill on the east side in 1854, with four stories. Joseph Rodd came to Rockford from Canada in the autumn of 1853, and a few years later he embarked in the milling business on the east side of the river. The Troxell mill was built on the east side in 1853, and was purchased by Mr. Bartlett in 1865. Mr. Bartlett also owned a large mill on the west side. E. Derwent completed a mill on the east side in 1863. T. Derwent & Sons began milling business in Rockford in 1859. This plant is now owned by A. L. Bartlett & Co.

There were also several planing mills. La-pointe & Derwent began business on the water-power in 1866. In the same year J. F. Lander erected a three-story structure, which was subsequently occupied by Blakeman & Dobson as a sash and blind factory, and now owned by the Rockford Bolt Works.

Nelson & Co. began business in 1865. Campbell & Wood commenced business in 1866 in a building which partially covered a large foundation for a planing mill, laid by Thomas Garrison, at the west end of the dam, but never completed. George Bradley & Co. opened the first steam planing mill in 1868, in a building now occupied by C. J. Weldon as a carriage shop.

Among the other manufacturers were Bertrand & Sames, who began business in the middle fifties; Graham cotton mill, 1865; Rhoades, Utter & Co., paper mill, 1865; Rockford Woolen Mills, J. & W. Dyson, 1865; Northwestern Bolt Works, G. Sunsaul & Co., 1866.

FAMOUS MANNY-M'CORMICK SUIT.

This story has often been told, but it will never cease to be of interest to Rockford readers. The interest is more than local. John H. Manny, the defendant in the suit, was the inventive genius whose patents laid the foundations for the great Emerson manufacturing plant on the water-power. Cyrus H. McCormick, the plaintiff, was the inventor of the reaper, and the founder of the theological seminary in Chicago which bears his name. It was during the progress of this suit that Abraham Lincoln made his only visit to Rockford. Several of the leading attorneys of the country were retained. Among them were Reverdy Johnson, Peter H. Watson, George Harding and Edward M. Stanton. The outcome of the decision involved many millions of dollars, and vitally affected Rockford as a manufacturing

center. The suit was one of the most notable chapters in the industrial development of the country.

John H. Manny was born in Amsterdam, New York, November 28, 1825. His father, Pells Manny, settled at Waddams Grove, in Stephenson county. The younger Manny's attention was called to the need of a reaper by his father's purchase of a heading machine, which proved unsatisfactory. The father and son thereupon so constructed the header as to practically make a new machine. They obtained a patent on the header, and began its manufacture on a small scale. It proved to be too expensive and was abandoned. Mr. Manny then directed his attention toward a reaper, and after many vicissitudes, which brought him to serious financial embarrassment, his inventive genius and indomitable energy were crowned with success. Mr. Manny built eighty-four machines in 1852.

In July, 1852, a reaper trial was held in Geneva, New York, in which Mr. Manny's reaper came into competition with eleven others. The excellence of Mr. Manny's machine was established.

In the spring of 1853 Mr. Manny was urged to come to Rockford by Orlando Clark. The preceding year Isaac Utter came from the east and formed a partnership with Mr. Clark, under the firm name of Clark & Utter. In the spring of 1853 there were manufactured one hundred and fifty of Mr. Manny's combined reapers and mowers in Clark & Utter's factory. It is also said that John A. Holland told Blinn & Emerson, who were then in the hardware business, that it would be desirable to have Mr. Manny come to Rockford for two reasons: First, there was better water-power; second, the firm was extending liberal credit to Mr. Manny for stock.

The popularity of the Manny reaper demanded larger capital. In the spring of 1854 Wait and Sylvester Talcott became associated with Mr. Manny as partners, under the firm name of J. H. Manny & Co., and during the year eleven hundred machines were made. In the autumn of 1854 Jesse Blinn and Ralph Emerson were added to the firm and the name was changed to Manny & Company. In 1855 the famous trials of the Manny reaper were made in Europe, which gave to his invention a reputation abroad. Mr. Manny continued to improve his reaper, and obtained twenty-three patents upon new devices.

In September, 1855, Cyrus H. McCormick, of Chicago, began suit in the federal court to enjoin the Manny company from using a certain device upon the grounds of infringement of patent. The case was heard before Justice McLean and Judge Drummond at Cincinnati, although the court records were kept in Chicago, which belonged to the same circuit. Attorneys of na-

tional reputation were retained. Mr. McCormick's counsel were Reverdy Johnson and E. N. Dickinson. Peter H. Watson, who had obtained Mr. Manny's patents, was given entire charge of the defendants' case.

Peter H. Watson was an early resident of Rockford. He and his brother William were proprietors of the first foundry and machine shop, which stood on the site of Jeremiah Davis' residence on North Second street. Mr. Watson continued his interest in the foundry until August, 1845. After leaving Rockford Mr. Watson became one of the best known attorneys of the country. He was assistant secretary of war under Edwin M. Stanton; was later president of the Erie railway, and one of the organizers of what is now the Standard Oil Company.

Mr. Watson employed George Harding, Edwin M. Stanton and Abraham Lincoln. It is said E. B. Washburne had recommended Mr. Lincoln to Mr. Manny. When all the parties had arrived at Cincinnati Mr. Lincoln was informed by Mr. Watson that Mr. Stanton would close the case for the defendants. This was a great humiliation to Mr. Lincoln. Although he had prepared his argument Mr. Lincoln did not argue the case.

Mr. Lincoln first met Mr. Stanton at Cincinnati. Mr. Stanton treated him with great discourtesy during the trial and referred to him as a rail splitter from the wild west. Notwithstanding these indignities Mr. Lincoln was impressed with Mr. Stanton's force of character; and when six years later a man of iron was needed, President Lincoln made Stanton his secretary of war. No other incident in the life of Mr. Lincoln better illustrates his moral greatness.

The trial resulted in a victory for the Manny Company. The decision was announced January 10, 1856. The defendants' expenses of the suit were sixty thousand dollars, and this large sum was paid from the business in a short time. Mr. McCormick appealed the case to the United States supreme court, of which Roger B. Taney, who rendered the famous Dred Scott decision, was chief justice. The decision of the lower court was affirmed, and Mr. Manny's rights as an inventor were fully sustained.

Ida M. Tarbell's *Life of Lincoln*, republished from her serial in *McClure's Magazine*, gives an incident of this trial, which the author obtained from Ralph Emerson, who says:

"Mr. Stanton closed his speech in a flight of impassioned eloquence. Then the court adjourned for the day, and Mr. Lincoln invited me to take a long walk with him. For block after block he walked rapidly forward, not saying a word, evidently deeply dejected.

"At last he turned suddenly to me, exclaiming, 'Emerson, I am going home.' A pause. 'I am going home to study law.'

"'Why, I exclaimed, 'Mr. Lincoln, you stand at the head of the bar in Illinois now! What are you talking about?'

"'Ah, yes,' he said, 'I do occupy a good position there, and I think that I can get along with the way things are done there now. But these college trained men, who have devoted their whole lives to study, are coming west, don't you see? And they study their cases as we never do. They have got as far as Cincinnati now. They will soon be in Illinois.' Another long pause; then stopping and turning toward me, his countenance suddenly assuming that look of strong determination which those who knew him best sometimes saw upon his face, he exclaimed, 'I am going home to study law! I am as good as any of them, and when they get out to Illinois I will be ready for them.'"

Mr. Lincoln's only visit to Rockford was on a hot summer afternoon. He came on professional business in connection with his suit. Mr. Lincoln and one of the clients sat on an old log on the bank of the river and discussed the matter. Mr. Lincoln wore a long linen coat, and presented that picture of ungainliness with which the world is familiar. Mr. Lincoln was a guest at Mr. Manny's home, which was a small frame building that stood on the site of the Milwaukee depot. The company paid Mr. Lincoln a fee of one thousand dollars, which was the largest retainer he had received up to that time.

The prolonged mental strain incident to perfecting his inventions and the trial of the suit undermined Mr. Manny's health. He fell a prey to consumption, and January 31, 1856, he passed away, in his little modest home on South Main street, when he had just passed his thirtieth birthday. He never realized the wealth which his inventions would bring to others, nor the prestige which they would give to the Reaper City, nor the great name which he had made for himself.

Mrs. Manny received a royalty of twenty-five dollars on every machine manufactured. This amount was subsequently reduced. Financial reverses overtook the company in 1857, but it weathered the storm and built an extensive plant.

During the summer of 1903 the *Milwaukee Sentinel* published a notable article, written by a special Washington correspondent, which purported to be an expose of the "Inside story of the great fraud perpetrated on Cyrus Hall McCormick, which robbed him of his patent rights and barred his face from Uncle Sam's currency." The article professed to reveal the manner by which Colonel William Wood purchased every McCormick reaper known to exist in the country, one of which was examined by a patent commissioner, and subsequently so tampered with and changed by Colonel Wood as to deceive the United States supreme court into rendering a decision against

Mr. McCormick. Col. Wood died in 1903. He was superintendent of the old Capitol and Carrol prisons during the war and was at the head of the United States secret service during the reconstruction period.

Mr. McCormick had other troubles. In 1895 an effort was made to have the portrait of Mr. McCormick placed on the silver certificates of the government currency. But there had been a prolonged controversy between the rival claims of Mr. McCormick and Obed Hussey as to who was the real inventor of the reaper. Mr. McCormick's old rivals and enemies came forward with such vigorous protests and so clouded his title to an invention that the government abandoned the idea of placing his name upon its currency.

There are several small volumes in the Rockford public library bearing upon the various phases of this historic controversy.

EMERSON, LOWELL AND GREELEY VISIT ROCKFORD.

There has been one movement in the history of the American mind which gave to literature a group of writers entitled to the name of a school. This was the great humanitarian movement, or series of movements, in New England, which began with the elder Channing, ran through its later phase in transcendentalism, and spent its force in the anti-slavery agitation and the enthusiasms of the civil war. This intellectual and moral awakening found its expression in the lecture platform. The daily newspaper had not assumed its present blanket-sheet proportions; and the leaders of these various phases of new thought carried their message to the people in person.

In the autumn of 1853 the Young Men's Association was organized, for the purpose of bringing to Rockford the most popular lecturers of the day. Among its members were Rev. H. M. Goodwin, C. H. Spafford, H. H. Waldo, H. P. Holland, E. W. Blaisdell, J. E. L. Southgate, William Lathrop, R. A. Sanford, E. H. Baker, Rev. J. Murray, E. C. Daugherty, A. S. Miller.

The first course was provided for the winter of 1853-54. It began with two lectures, November 29th and 30th, by E. P. Whipple, in the First Baptist church. It is almost incredible that one of the local newspapers should not have even given the subject of his lecture. From the other, however, it is learned that Mr. Whipple's theme for the first lecture was "Heroic Character," and that he "delineated graphically and beautifully, the hero-soldier, led on by his love of glory; the hero-patriot, actuated by his love of country; the hero-reformer, moved by his love of humanity; and the hero-saint, animated by his love of God." The subject of his second lecture was "Eccentric Character." The Forum's criticism was not very appreciative.

The third lecture was given December 10th, at the Baptist church, by Horace Mann. His subject was "Young Men." The Democrat, in "reporting" the lecture, took this flattering unctious to its soul: "As we looked around over the large assemblage of youth, beauty, intellect and fashion, and noted with what anxiety the sea of heads were turned toward the speaker, as if to catch the words ere they left his lips, we experienced a deep feeling of pride, and thought to ourselves, few places in any land, of equal age, population, etc., can boast of a more highly refined intellectual community than is to be found in our own little embryo city."

The fourth lecture was given in the City Hall, by George William Curtis, December 12th. His subject was "Young America," and for an hour and a half the speaker entranced his audience with his noble thought and pure diction.

Horace Greeley followed Mr. Curtis. His theme was "The Reforms of the Age." He spoke of the abolition and temperance movements, woman's rights, and the abolition of the death penalty. Mr. Greeley wrote his impressions of the Rock River valley at some length for the New York Tribune, from which his characteristic paragraph is taken: "I have traversed the Roman Campagna (which is only a great wet prairie surcharged with malaria and ruins), glanced at the great pastures of Belgium, and ridden across the prairies of central and northern Indiana by daylight, lamplight and moonlight; but still I was nowhere in a discussion of the value and attractiveness of prairies—for I had never been on Rock river. But now, gentlemen! I give you fair warning that I take a back seat no longer when the felicities of western life and the genial fertility and Eden-like character of the prairies is under discussion, for I have been on Rock river! . . . I should like more springs, more running streams, and less lime in the water; but then Paradise is beyond Jordan, or some other stream, and is not wisely sought even on Rock river."

The next speaker was Prof. Joseph Emerson, of Beloit, who spoke of Greek civilization. W. H. Channing was announced for January 27th, but no reference to the lecture is found.

Ralph Waldo Emerson delivered the seventh lecture in the course February 3, 1854, in Warner's Hall. "Emerson's lecture," says H. H. Waldo, "was not without its comical features. His subject was 'History.' I believe it was the same as his essay with that title. One scintillation was this: 'Time vanishes to shining ether the solid angularity of facts. Carthage was, but is not.' This was only saying there was nothing permanent. He gave this thought in a matter-of-fact style. The hall was packed, but half the audience was sleepy. The lecture was pronounced by some to be a failure."

Lectures were given during the season by Bishop Potter, Chancellor Lathrop, Judge Doolittle, of Wisconsin, on "The Character of Washington;" Bayard Taylor, two lectures, on "The Arabs," and "Japan and the Japanese." March 27th, 1854. Ole Bull and Patti were in Rockford.

The course for 1854-1855 included Rev. E. H. Chapin, Josiah Quincy, John G. Saxe, John Pierpont, James Russell Lowell, and Bayard Taylor. Dr. Chapin spoke on "Modern Chivalry;" Mr. Saxe gave a poem-lecture on "Yankee Land;" John Pierpont's theme was "The Golden Calf;" Lowell spoke on "English Ballads," and Taylor on "India."

The course of 1855-56 was opened by Henry Ward Beecher, who spoke on "Patriotism." He was followed by Wendell Phillips. T. Sarr King and Dr. Chapin were engaged for this course.

During the next few years Rockford was favored with P. A. Shillaber, Parke E. Godwin, John B. Gough and Prof. Youmans.

A FRAGMENT OF POLITICAL HISTORY.

Rockford has claimed the honor of the birth-place of the Republican party, so far as a congressional nomination under the name is concerned. "Seven cities fought for Homer dead;" likewise many places have contended for the honor of the first party organization. Rockford's claim to the first congressional nomination is certainly not unreasonably; and even if it can not be sustained, it will at least call attention to a notable political event.

When the Kansas-Nebraska bill was passed by congress in May, 1854, there was a general feeling in the old whig and democratic parties that the encroachments of the slave-power demanded more vigorous resistance. With this end in view, a call was issued August 8th, to the voters of the first congressional district, for a mass meeting to be held in Rockford on the 30th instant. This call was signed by forty-six citizens of Rockford, only two of whom are now known. The meeting was called to order in the courthouse, and from there adjourned to the grove west of the Baptist church, between Court and Winnebago streets. E. B. Washburne had been elected a member of congress as a whig two years before, and was of course a candidate for re-election. There were other Richmonds in the field; Turner and Sweet, of Freeport; Loop, of Rockford, and Hulbut of Belvidere. None of these were openly avowed candidates; but each was anxious for the prize. A committee on resolutions of one from each county was nominated. There was ambition mixed with patriotism. It was a time of breaking up of old parties, and the future was uncertain. How far would it be safe to declare against the action of congress?

This was a serious question. The leaders were against Washburne, but the people were with him. There is a tradition that the committee on resolutions was directed somewhat by the suggestions of Stephen A. Hurlbut, in preparing anti-slavery resolutions so radical that Mr. Washburne, it was thought, could not accept a nomination upon them. But Mr. Washburne was equal to the occasion. He declared that the resolutions met his most hearty approval; whereupon James Loop remarked, in language more emphatic than pious, that Washburne would swallow anything. Mr. Washburne was thereupon nominated as a Republican by this mass convention.

The regular whig convention for the district was held September 6th, and Mr. Washburne was also made the nominee. His nomination was opposed by Mr. Hurlbut, who on the day of the convention is reported to have said: "When you say that E. B. Washburne is a good man, I agree with you. But when you say that he is a wise man and a statesman, there is a chance for an argument. It has been said Mr. Washburne is a man of learning, but I say that as a man of learning, E. B. Washburne, of Fever river, Galena, possesses frightful limitations." Mr. Hurlbut was a consummate master of sarcasm, which he often used without mercy. But it has been said that while Hurlbut could make the better speech, Washburne won the votes; and on the whole, he was the more successful politician.

In the evening Mr. Washburne entertained his friends at a banquet at the City Hotel. Sometime after this whig convention, Mr. Hurlbut met H. H. Waldo, who had supported Mr. Washburne, and complimented him on his splendid fight, and said that, considering the material at hand, he had done well.

Thus was made one of the first, if not the very first, republican nomination for member of congress. The strong anti-slavery sentiment of both parties had been intensified by the repeal of the Missouri compromise, under the leadership of Stephen A. Douglas, and the passage of the Illinois Black Laws, through the influence of John A. Logan. Like Saul of Tarsus before he saw a great light, Logan was dominated by prejudice; and, like Paul after his change, he bravely defended those he formerly oppressed. General Logan always had the courage of his convictions; and his political change was sincere.

ROCKFORD SETTLERS 1851-54.

Seeley Perry was born at Stockbridge, Massachusetts, August 22, 1822, and was graduated from Union College at Schenectady in 1845. Mr. Perry came to Rockton in 1840, and in 1851 he settled in Rockford. After teaching one year he engaged in the lumber trade, in which he contin-

ued for nearly half a century. Mr. Perry was elected mayor of Rockford in 1858, and served one term. He also served the city as alderman, member of the board of education, and a director of the public library. Mr. Perry died in 1900.

Jesse Blinn was born in 1809 in Vermont, and from there he removed to Conneaut, Ohio. He came to Rockton in 1838; in 1850 he settled in Rockford, and his family a year later. He opened the first exclusive hardware store in the city. He subsequently became a manufacturer on the water-power, to which reference has been made. Mr. Blinn died in 1879. Mrs. Blinn died in 1905.

Ralph Emerson was the son of Rev. Ralph Emerson, a Congregational clergyman, and a professor in Andover theological seminary, the oldest Congregational divinity school in the country. Another son was Professor Joseph Emerson, of Beloit. Mr. Emerson was born in Andover, Massachusetts, in 1831. He came to Rockford in 1852, and was later a partner with Jesse Blinn in the hardware business until they became interested in the water-power. The Emerson Company has proved one of the most successful manufacturers in the west. This result may be attributed to Mr. Emerson's unusual executive ability. He has made a generous use of his large wealth in contributions to various religious enterprises. Mr. Emerson married Adaline Talcott, a daughter of Hon. Wait Talcott.

Hon. Wait Talcott was a son of William Talcott, and was born at Hebron, Connecticut, October 17, 1807. He came to Rockton in the autumn of 1838. He was one of the incorporators of Beloit college and Rockford seminary. In 1854 he came to Rockford and began his career as a manufacturer on the water-power with his brother Sylvester. In 1854 he was elected state senator from the district, comprising Winnebago, Carroll, Boone and Ogle counties. Upon the passage of the internal revenue act, President Lincoln appointed Mr. Talcott commissioner of internal revenue for the Second congressional district. This appointment was dated August 27, 1862, and Mr. Talcott served five years. Mr. Talcott preserved files of Chicago and Rockford newspapers, and upon his death, which occurred November 7, 1890, his son, William A. Talcott, presented them in excellent bound condition to the Rockford public library.

John S. Coleman was a native of Delaware county, New York. In 1851 he removed with his family to Rockford and became a member of the banking firm of Robertson, Coleman & Company. He built the stone house on North Main street, now owned by William Nelson. Mr. Coleman was a trustee of Rockford seminary and treasurer of the board, and a member of the city council. He died April 6, 1864, in his fifty-eighth year.

James L. Loop was born in Steuben county, New York, in 1815. He settled in Belvidere in 1838, and some years later he formed a partnership with his brother-in-law, Stephen A. Hurlbut, in the practice of law. He was prosecuting attorney for the northern district of Illinois in 1843-5. From 1846 to 1850 Mr. Loop was secretary of the Illinois and Michigan canal, which office he resigned. In 1852 Mr. Loop removed to Rockford and formed law partnership with William Lathrop. In 1856 he was elected mayor of Rockford, and served one term. Mr. Loop's death occurred February 8, 1865, when he was fifty years of age. The remains were taken to Belvidere for burial. By the common consent of the Rockford bar, James L. Loop possessed the finest legal ability of any man who ever practiced in this city. His intellect was strong and his resources were at his instant command. His grasp of legal principles was due to his acute, intuitive sense of what was right between man and man, which was a gift from nature. Mr. Loop was always the genial gentleman. Like so many other gifted men, he was his own worst enemy, and his sad, untimely death was an impressive object lesson that strong drink is no respecter of persons.

William Lathrop is a native of Genesee county, New York. He came to Rockford in January, 1851. He was partner with James L. Loop from 1853 to 1857. In 1856 Mr. Lathrop was elected a member of the legislature, and served one term. In 1876 he succeeded Stephen A. Hurlbut as member of congress from the Fourth district, and served one term. During his long residence in Rockford Mr. Lathrop has enjoyed a large and lucrative legal practice. The author takes pleasure in acknowledging his obligations to Mr. Lathrop for the free use of his library and for information personally given.

Hon. John Early was born in Middlesex county, Canada West, March 17, 1828. In 1846 he removed with his parents to Boone county, and in 1852 he settled in Rockford. He served three terms as assessor of Rockford. In 1869 he was appointed one of the first board of trustees of the reform school at Pontiac. In 1870 Mr. Early was elected state senator from the Twenty-third district, composed of Winnebago, Boone, McHenry and Lake counties. His senatorial colleague was General Allen C. Fuller, of Belvidere. After the state had been re-districted he was elected senator in 1872, from the Ninth district, which included Winnebago and Boone counties, and again in 1874, for the full term of four years. By the election of Governor Oglesby to the United States senate, and Lieutenant-Governor Beveridge becoming governor, Mr. Early became acting lieutenant-governor of the state. Mr. Early died September 2, 1877.

Lieutenant-Colonel Edward F. W. Ellis was

born in Milton, Maine, April 15, 1810. He came to Rockford in 1854 and became a member of the banking firm of Spafford, Clark & Ellis. Upon the outbreak of the civil war Colonel Ellis raised a company for the Fifteenth regiment, called the Ellis Rifles. He was chosen lieutenant-colonel, but was acting colonel at the time of his death. At the battle of Shiloh he was in command of the Fifteenth, which belonged to General Hurlbut's division. On Monday morning his regiment was exposed to a terrible fire and Colonel Ellis was struck in the breast by a ball, and instantly expired. Col. Ellis' home was the historic homestead lately owned by Dr. W. H. Fitch, on West State street. In 1856 the property was transferred to Colonel Ellis, and there he lived with his wife and children.

Henry P. Kimball was a native of New Hampshire, and was graduated from Rochester university. Mr. Kimball came to Rockford in 1852, and taught school for some time. He had a local reputation as a horticulturist. As secretary of the Agricultural Society, Mr. Kimball achieved a unique distinction as a successful fair advertiser. Upon his invitation many of the most distinguished men of the last generation visited Rockford and made addresses. Mr. Kimball died May 10, 1880.

John Nelson was a native of West Gothland, Sweden, born April 5, 1830. He came to Rockford in 1852. His life was uneventful until a short time before his death, when he perfected the Nelson knitting machine, which revolutionized the knitting of hosiery. After General Grant had returned from his tour around the world, he visited Mr. Nelson's factory, and declared that he had never seen such perfect machinery for this purpose. Mr. Nelson died April 15, 1883. The Hotel Nelson is named in his honor.

A. E. Goodwin, M. D., was born August 11, 1827, at Chelsea, Vermont. He was graduated from Berkshire medical college at Pittsfield, Massachusetts. Dr. Goodwin came to Rockford in 1854. During the civil war he was a surgeon in the Eleventh Illinois Infantry and in the One Hundred and Eighth. He was wounded at Vicksburg. Dr. Goodwin was a member of the city board of education, and of the public library board. He died May 14, 1880.

Chester C. Briggs was a native of Vermont. He was born in Dover, September 6, 1817. He was graduated from Dartmouth college, and in 1853 he came to Rockford and became the senior member of the banking firm of Briggs, Spafford & Penfield. He was subsequently financial manager of the Kenosha Railroad Company. In 1868 he became associated with the firm of Briggs, Mead & Skinner, in the manufacture of agricultural implements. The firm name was

later changed to Briggs & Enoch. Mr. Briggs died January 24, 1892.

James G. Manlove was a native of Dover, Delaware, where he was born December 15, 1812. He was admitted to the bar in Wisconsin, and settled in Rockford in 1851, and began the practice of law. He held the offices of police magistrate, justice of the peace, town clerk and alderman, and the confidence which the people reposed in him is attested by his repeated elections as town clerk and justice of the peace. Mr. Manlove died November 6, 1890.

Robert P. Lane, M. D., was born in Hopewell, Bedford county, Pennsylvania, in 1818. He came to Rockford in 1851. He was a leader in the organization of the water-power company, and gave his personal attention to the construction of the dam. He was a member of the banking firm of Lane, Sanford & Company; one of the organizers of the Second National Bank, and continuously served as its president from 1864 to 1881, when he resigned to accept the presidency of the Rockford Insurance Company. He served as a member of the library board, and was senior warden of the Episcopal church for forty years. Dr. Lane died March 7, 1891.

Anthony Haines was a native of Marietta, Pennsylvania, born April 21, 1829. He came to Rockford in 1854, and formed a partnership with Elisha A. Kirk for buying and shipping grain over the Kenosha railroad. In 1880 he, with other gentlemen, organized the Rockford Street Railway Company, of which he was elected president and general manager. Mr. Haines, at the time of his death in 1898, was vice-president of the Manufacturers' National Bank.

Charles O. Upton was born in North Reading, Massachusetts, in 1832, and came to Rockford in 1854. Mr. Upton has been prominent in the banking business of the city. He was a director of the Second National Bank twenty years, and the last two years was its vice-president. In 1889 he led in the organization of the Manufacturers' National Bank and was its president ten years. Mr. Upton has served the public in the city council, on the county board, and as treasurer of Rockford one term.

Carlton W. Sheldon is a native of New York, born in Victor, March 14, 1828. He came to Rockford in 1852, entered the law office of Jason Marsh, and was admitted to the bar in the autumn of the same year. In 1869 he entered the employ of the Rockford Insurance Company as adjuster and remained five years, and in 1874 he was elected secretary of the Forest City Insurance Company, and held this position five years, when he resumed the practice of law.

Isaac Utter was a native of New York. He came to Rockford in 1852, and formed a partner-

ship with Orlando Clark, on the water-power. For twenty-one years he was associated with Levi Rhoades, in the manufacture of paper. He was a man of energy, and good judgement in business affairs. Mr. Utter died May 7, 1888.

Alexander D. Forbes was born in Perthshire, Scotland, December 13, 1831. He came to Rockford in 1854, and in partnership with his father, Duncan Forbes, began business on the water-power. In 1864 they established the first malleable iron works west of Cincinnati. The father died in 1871. Mr. Forbes died March 30, 1902.

Major Elias Cosper was born in Wooster, Ohio, in 1824. He came to Rockford in 1854, and entered the banking house of Robertson, Coleman & Company, as teller, and in 1857 he became its cashier. Upon the outbreak of the Civil war Mr. Cosper sold his interest in the bank and entered the service with Company E, Seventy-fourth Regiment. After the battle of Chickamauga he was promoted to the rank of major and paymaster of the army. Upon his return to civil life, Mr. Cosper, in company with T. D. Robertson, Melancthon Starr, and John P. Manny, organized the John P. Manny Reaper Company and was its manager. From 1874 Mr. Cosper was connected with the Rockford Tack Company, and was its secretary and treasurer. He died in 1900.

John G. Penfield is a native of Vermont and settled in Rockford in 1854. Since that time he has been continuously in business as a broker and dealer in real estate and insurance. Mrs. Penfield gave the lot to the First Congregational church on which the parsonage now stands.

William A. Knowlton was a native of Chautauqua county, New York, and removed to the west when a young man. He came to Rockford in 1853 from Freeport, Illinois. After the death of J. H. Manny, Mr. Knowlton became business agent for Mrs. Manny. He retained this position for several years, and was eminently successful. Mr. Knowlton was subsequently engaged in various manufacturing enterprises. He sustained financial reverses, and in the autumn of 1891 he removed to Chicago, where he died September 17th of the following year.

John P. Manny was born in Amsterdam, New York, March 8, 1823. He settled at Waddam's Grove, Stephenson county, in 1842. He came to Rockford in 1852, and for several years he manufactured knife sections for J. H. Manny's machines. Early in the sixties he perfected several inventions, which were handled by N. C. Thompson. After the war Mr. Manny became interested with the John P. Manny Company, in which he was associated with Elias Cosper, T. D. Robertson and Melancthon Starr. This company and Mr. Thompson paid him royalties upon his inventions, and the Mississippi river was the divid-

ing line between their respective territories. Mr. Manny's income from this source was at one time forty thousand dollars a year. He purchased the John S. Coleman estate on North Main street, which was his home for many years. This property is now owned by William Nelson. Mr. Manny died November 16, 1897.

Among other well-known citizens who came to Rockford during this period were: Horace Brown, T. J. L. Remington, 1850; J. M. Southgate, Andrew G. Lowry, Horace Buker, 1852; Jacob Hazlett, D. A. Barnard, Samuel Ferguson, 1853; Henry Fisher, Melancthon Smith, T. W. Carrico, William and George R. Forbes, 1854.

THE FIRST PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The agitation for a public library began in 1852. Several years elapsed, however, before a library was established, and information concerning these early efforts are very meagre.

The Sinissippi Division No. 134 of the Sons of Temperance of Rockford surrendered its charter to the grand division April 15, 1852. Its former members resolved to reorganize under the name of the Rockford Library Association. All members of the division who had paid their quarterly dues to the close of the preceding quarter, were to be equal sharers in the library. A request was made in the Forum of April 21st, for the return of all books belonging to the library. Thus, so far as known, the first circulating library was the small number of books owned by the Sons of Temperance. The Forum of October 27th published a call for a meeting of the trustees of the Library Association for October 30th, and for the annual meeting of the stockholders on the first Saturday of November. No other reference to the library is found immediately thereafter.

At the annual meeting of the Young Men's Association, September 11, 1855, it was proposed to extend its sphere of usefulness by providing a library and reading-room. A committee of three was appointed to confer with the old Library Association with a view of obtaining its books. As far as can be learned, this effort to establish a library and reading-room was not successful.

It was not until March, 1857, that the first successful effort to establish a library was made. In that month a subscription paper was circulated, with the following statement of its object:

"We, the undersigned, agree to take the number of shares set opposite our names, in an association to be incorporated under the general law of this state, for the purpose of the establishment of a public library in the city of Rockford. Said library to be under the management and control of a board of trustees, to be elected by the stockholders.

Shares to be fifty dollars each. Ten dollars per share payable upon the foundation of the association, and ten dollars per share per annum thereafter, in such amounts and at such times as shall be determined by the said board of trustees. Shares subject to forfeiture by the trustees, for non-payment of installments."

The first four names upon the list pledged twelve hundred dollars, and by the autumn of 1858 six thousand dollars had been pledged. William L. Rowland collected a considerable portion of this amount, and a schedule of cash payments was preserved by him, which is still in existence. The library was duly organized October 14, 1858. Rooms were secured on the third floor of Robertson, Coleman & Company's bank. James M. Wight, Seeley Perry, Selden M. Church, Elias Cosper, and Thomas D. Robertson constituted the first board of trustees; Elias Cosper was chairman; Spencer Rising, treasurer; F. H. Bradley, librarian. The original board was composed of gentlemen of exceptional literary equipment. Others rendered efficient aid in the selection of books. Among them was William L. Rowland, who was subsequently appointed librarian of the public library. The books, although few in number, possessed very high merit.

The number of volumes at this time was about one thousand; number of magazines and newspapers, thirty-eight. During the next few years the library steadily received accessions. According to the annual report of the stockholders, made October 11, 1860, there were 1,134 volumes. There had been drawn during the year ending October 4th, 1,660 volumes. This was an increase of 306 over the preceding year. Several gentlemen acted as librarian for short terms, and received a nominal compensation. Among those who rendered this service were John F. Squier and Hosmer P. Holland.

The library served its purpose several years but during the war popular interest began to decline. The library was finally closed, and 1867 the books were sold at public auction in a building on North Main street, directly north of Mr. Ashton's block. Some of these books are now in the public library, and quite a number, in excellent condition, are in the private library of Robert H. Tinker.

WESLEYAN SEMINARY.

In the summer of 1856 a movement was begun for the founding of a co-educational seminary in Rockford, under the control of the Methodist Episcopal church. February 14, 1857, an act of the legislature was approved to incorporate the Rockford Wesleyan seminary. The incorporators were E. F. W. Ellis, T. D. Robertson, D. W. Hicknor, and W. F. Stewart. There were to be twelve trustees, appointed by the stock-

holders, eight of whom should be members of the Methodist Episcopal church. A board of three visitors was to be appointed by the annual Rock River conference. The company was to have a capital stock of one hundred thousand dollars, divided into shares of one hundred dollars each.

A farm of about two hundred and sixteen acres was purchased of William M. Rowland. It adjoined Judge Church's farm on the west and extended north to the State road. The purchase price and accrued interest amounted to nearly twenty thousand dollars. A large portion of this tract was platted into town lots, and it was proposed to build a college suburban town. The sale of lots occurred April 29, 1857. The subscribers to stock purchased lots. Rev. W. F. Stewart had been transferred from the Ohio to the Rock River conference, and had been assigned to the Second or Court Street church. Rev. Stewart was made purchasing agent for the seminary by the annual conference.

August 31, 1857, the ceremony of breaking ground for the seminary building took place under the direction of Rev. T. M. Eddy, who was in attendance upon Rock River conference, which was then in session in Rockford. Several hundred people were in attendance. An address was made by Rev. J. C. Stoughton, agent of Clark seminary; and Rev. W. F. Stewart gave a brief history of the origin of the seminary movement.

When the ground was broken, fifty-seven thousand dollars had been subscribed. The enterprise, however, was unsuccessful. Quite a number of houses were built, but in time several of them migrated into town on rollers, and the land reverted to farming purposes.

In October, 1857, Rev. Stewart began the publication of the Rockford Wesleyan Seminary Reporter, in the interest of the seminary. Only four numbers were published. Both Rev. Stewart and Rev. Stoughton have died within the past few years.

BAYARD TAYLOR'S TRIBUTE.

Bayard Taylor, in a letter to the Tribune, published the spring of 1855, paid Rockford this generous tribute: "I last wrote to you from Rockford, the most beautiful town in northern Illinois. It has the advantage of an admirable water-power, furnished by Rock river; of a rich, rolling prairie, which is fast being settled and farmed on all sides, of a fine building material in its quarries, of soft yellow limestone, resembling the Roman travertine; and of an unusually enterprising and intelligent population. Knowing all these advantages, I was not surprised at the evidence of growth since my first

visit a year ago. People are flocking in faster than room can be furnished, and the foundations of two new hotels, on a large scale, show the equipments of the place. I was pleased to note that taste keeps pace with prosperity here, as elsewhere in the northwest. The new Unitarian church is a simple but very neat Gothic edifice, and the residences of Mr. Holland and Mr. Starr are very fine specimens of home architecture. The grounds of the former are admirably laid out; there is nothing better of the kind on the Hudson."

FIRST FRATERNAL ORDERS.

The charter of Winnebago Lodge, No. 31, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, was issued by Geo. W. Woodward, grandmaster of Illinois, in 1847, to the following named charter members: Selden M. Bronson, Ansel Kenfield, Dewitt Clinton Briggs, Frederick H. Maxwell, and Rev. Nathaniel P. Heath. The lodge was instituted August 11, 1847. The place of meeting was Horsman's block, on the West side.

Rockford Lodge, No. 102, Masons, was organized February 13, 1851, under a dispensation from C. G. Y. Taylor, the grand master. The following named citizens constituted its first membership: Alfred E. Ames, William Lyman, Henry Carpenter, C. H. Spafford, William Hulin, E. H. Baker, Ansel Kenfield, John Fraley, James P. Burns, W. F. Ward, Jesse Blinn, and Buel G. Wheeler. E. H. Baker was the last survivor of this original membership.

Social Lodge, No. 140, Odd Fellows, was instituted February 6, 1854.

Winnebago Chapter, No. 24, Masons, was organized December 12, 1854, under a dispensation from Louis Watson, grand high priest. The following constituted its first membership: A. Clark, Chauncy Ray, W. F. Parish, H. Miltimore, John A. Holland, L. P. Pettibone, R. H. Cotton, Abriam Morgan, G. D. Palmer, and Ansel Kenfield. This chapter was constituted under another charter in December, 1855.

Star in the East Lodge, No. 166, Masons, was organized February 12, 1855, under a dispensation from James L. Anderson, grand master. The charter members were: E. F. W. Ellis, R. H. Cotton, W. M. Bowdoin, William Hulin, S. G. Chellis, Jos. K. Smith, Joseph Burns, C. I. Horsman, B. G. Wheeler, G. W. Reynolds, John A. Holland, C. H. Richings, D. G. Clark, Adam McClure, Holder Brownell.

The dispensation for Rockford Encampment, No. 44, Odd Fellows, was granted August 5, 1857, to the following patriarchs as charter members: James Fleming, J. H. Clark, Hugh Strickland, Enos C. Clark, G. A. Stiles, Joseph Schloss, and Robert Smith. The encampment was instituted by Deputy Grand Patriarch A. E. Jenner, August 26, 1857.

The Rockford Burns Club was organized November 5, 1858. It is an association of Scottish-Americans, who meet annually on the birthday of Robert Burns.

DEATH OF JOHN A. HOLLAND.

The death of John A. Holland occurred September 29, 1855, at Mount Vernon, Ohio, while he was on a visit to his father-in-law, who resided there, in company with his family. The remains were brought to Rockford for burial. Resolutions of respect were adopted by the Masonic bodies and by the bar of the city. The funeral was held at the Unitarian church on Sunday. John A. Holland was born in what is now West Virginia. He came to Rockford in 1845, from Wooster, Ohio, where he had practiced law. He formed a partnership with T. D. Robertson in the practice of his profession. He was the attorney for the Galena & Chicago Union Railroad, and assisted the Illinois Central in securing the right of way from Chicago to Cairo. Mr. Holland was an attendant at the Unitarian church, but was not a member. He was a man of comprehensive mind, great energy and sagacity, and always operated upon a large scale. He was a leading spirit in every public enterprise. The Holland House was named in his honor. Mr. Holland was father of Hosmer P. Holland. His second wife was a daughter of Dr. J. C. Goodhue.

MURDER OF SHERIFF TAYLOR.

Tuesday, November 11, 1856, John F. Taylor, sheriff of Winnebago county, was instantly killed by Alfred Countryman. On that day Alfred and John Countryman came to Rockford from Ogle county with some cattle, which they offered for sale at such low prices as to arouse suspicion. The cattle were sold for a sum below their market value. The purchasers delayed payment until notice had been given the sheriff, and papers made out for the apprehension of the brothers which occurred about nine o'clock in the morning. They were then arrested on suspicion; and before they were taken to jail Sheriff Taylor searched them for concealed weapons. He found pistol balls in Alfred's pockets, and upon inquiring for his revolver the prisoner replied that he had none. Sheriff Taylor, assisted by Constable Thompson, then started with the prisoners for the jail. Just as they reached the steps Alfred Countryman broke away from the sheriff, leaped over the fence on Elm street, and ran down that street, with the sheriff in pursuit. At the next corner, near the livery stable of Hall & Reynolds, the sheriff had nearly overtaken Countryman, and was about to seize him, when the latter drew a pistol which he had concealed, and fired. The

sheriff staggered a few paces and fell. His only words were: "I'm shot; catch him."

Countryman ran to the woods north of Kent's creek, with hundreds of infuriated citizens in pursuit. John Platt was the first to overtake him. He took his pistol from him, and, with assistance, secured his arrest. Amid threats of lynching, the prisoner was placed in jail and securely ironed. Samuel I. Church, the sheriff-elect, briefly addressed the crowd and assured them that the prisoner was secure.

Sheriff Taylor was thirty-one years of age, and left a wife, and a son a year and a half old. He was an excellent officer, and was held in high respect by the community. The funeral was held Thursday on the public square adjoining the jail, under the charge of the Masonic fraternity. The board of supervisors were in attendance in a body. The discourse was preached by Rev. W. F. Stewart.

EXECUTION OF COUNTRYMAN.

Countryman was indicted and tried for the murder of Sheriff Taylor at the February term of the circuit court in 1857. The prosecution was conducted by U. D. Meacham, the state's attorney, assisted by William Brown. The counsel for the defense was Orrin Miller and T. J. Turner. The following gentlemen constituted the jury: Levi Tunks, Philo C. Watson, Anthony M. Felmly, Silas G. Tyler, Jacob B. Place, G. R. Ames, Allen Rice, Charles Works, J. W. Jenks, Edward Peppers, J. W. Knapp, S. P. Collier. The trial began on Monday, February 23d. The case was given to the jury on Thursday, and Friday morning they returned a verdict of guilty. Judge Sheldon pronounced the sentence of death upon Countryman. One of his counsel, Mr. Miller, tried to obtain a stay of proceedings, so as to bring the case before the supreme court. But Judge Caton refused to grant a writ of error.

On Friday, March 27th, Countryman was executed on the farm of Sheriff Church, a short distance from the city. The execution was witnessed by eight thousand people. In the absence of a military company, the two fire companies, armed with sabres and carbines, formed a hollow square at the jail, into the center of which the carriages which were to form the procession, were driven, and as the procession moved to the place of execution the fire companies formed a strong guard. Upon arriving at the scaffold, Rev. Hooper Crews offered an earnest prayer. The prisoner made a short speech and professed repentance and forgiveness for his crime. At seventeen minutes past two the bolt was withdrawn, and Countryman was swung into eternity. His father, sister and one brother witnessed the execution. Before the body was

taken down, Sheriff Church addressed the crowd as follows: "These painful proceedings being now concluded, and the sword of justice about to be returned to its sheath, I hope never again to be drawn into so much severity. I would thank you all for the good order you have maintained. Your conduct does credit to the city, and I hope you will observe the same decorum in retiring."

KENOSHA AND ROCKFORD RAILROAD.

In 1850 was projected a railroad to connect Kenosha on Lake Michigan with Rockford. It was a part of the original plan that this line should extend from Rockford to Rock Island. January 20, 1857, a charter was granted John M. Capron, Egbert Ayer, Thomas Paul, John Cornell, W. B. Ogden, John Bradley, Jason Marsh, George Haskell, David S. Penfield, Robert P. Lane, C. C. Briggs, C. H. Spafford, A. S. Miller, Jesse Blinn, and Seely Perry. The company was to have a capital stock of eight hundred thousand dollars, to be divided into shares of one hundred dollars each, and was authorized to construct a road from a point near the state line in McHenry county to Rockford. This road was built as a means of relieving Rockford from burdens imposed by the high freight and passenger rates of the Galena & Chicago Union.

Books for subscriptions to the stock of the road were opened early in November, 1856, and on the 25th of the same month the company was organized by the election of the following officers: President, C. H. Spafford; vice-president, R. P. Lane; secretary, E. H. Baker; treasurer, A. C. Spafford; executive committee, J. Bond, J. M. Capron, R. P. Lane, D. S. Penfield and Seely Perry. The subscriptions were made largely by farmers along the line, who gave mortgages on their real estate to secure their payments. The company negotiated these mortgages in payment for iron, labor and other expenses in the building of the road. When these obligations matured many of the subscribers could not redeem them, and the holders of the mortgages foreclosed them.

The contract for the construction of the road to Harvard was made in March, 1857, and the work was begun shortly afterwards. The eastern division of the road was under the control of another company, organized under a charter from the Wisconsin legislature. The progress of construction was impeded by financial embarrassments, arising from the great depression which spread over the country in 1857, and the enterprise languished. In August, 1858, the company applied to the council of Rockford for a loan of the city credit to the amount of \$50,000 to aid in the completion of the road. An election was held September 2, and the measure was carried by

a majority of more than five hundred. This is the only instance in the history of Rockford of the loan of the credit of the corporation to a railroad.

November 21, 1859, the road was completed between Rockford and Harvard, and the event was celebrated by a banquet at the Holland House the same evening. In 1864 the Galena & Chicago Union Railroad Company was absorbed by the Chicago & Northwestern, and the Kenosha & Rockford road, as a matter of course, soon came under the same control.

AN EARLY ROCKFORD MANSION.

The most beautiful home in early Rockford was that of Mrs. J. H. Manny, on South Main street. The "Manny mansion" was built in 1854, by John A. Holland. The grounds had a frontage of three hundred and twenty-five feet, and extended from the northern limit of G. N. Safford & Company's lumber yard to a point below Kent's creek, and were fronted by a stone fence. The beauty of these grounds was due, in large measure, to John Blair, a Scottish landscape gardener who came from Canada at Mr. Holland's solicitation. He laid out the grounds, and set the standard for landscape gardening in Rockford, and in this way he left his impress on the city. Mr. Blair subsequently laid out the grounds of the Elgin insane asylum. After the death of Mr. Holland, in 1855, financial reverses overtook his family, and about 1860 this splendid estate passed into the ownership of Mrs. J. H. Manny.

WINNEBAGO SUPPORTS FREMONT.

At the presidential election in November, 1856, Winnebago county gave John C. Fremont a magnificent vote. Every town in the county was carried for the Pathfinder. The total vote of the county was 4,154. The county gave a majority of 3,179 for Fremont over Buchanan. The First Congressional district gave majorities for Fremont and Washburne of more than twelve thousand. William Lathrop was elected representative; Samuel I. Church, sheriff; H. T. Mesler, coroner; Morris B. Derwent, circuit clerk. Mr. Church was a brother of Judge Church, and came to Rockford in 1848. He purchased a quarter of the school section; later he made it his home, where he died in 1886.

ROCKFORD CITY GREYS.

In 1856 a military company was organized, under the name of the Rockford City Greys, which enkindled the enthusiasm of a large number of the young men of the city. In the summer of 1858 Colonel E. E. Ellsworth was en-

gaged as drillmaster, and under his instruction the company attained a high degree of proficiency. In September, 1858, an encampment was held on the fairgrounds, which continued four days. Companies from Freeport, Elgin and Chicago were in attendance. This company continued in excellent condition until the outbreak of the Civil war, when under the name of Rockford Zouaves, many of the company volunteered in the three months' service, under the call of the president for seventy-five thousand men; and as a part of the Eleventh Illinois Volunteers, were detailed to garrison duty at Cairo and at Bird's Point.

IN HONOR OF ATLANTIC CABLE.

August 17, 1858, the completion of the Atlantic cable was celebrated by the citizens of Rockford with great demonstrations of enthusiasm. On that day the queen of England and the president of the United States exchanged messages. The event was celebrated in Rockford by a salute of fifty guns, fired by the City Greys, and the church bells were rung. Public exercises were held in the evening at the courthouse. Addresses were made by James L. Loop, Judge Miller, E. W. Blaisdell, Judge Church, William Hulin, and Dr. Lyman. The speech of Mr. Loop was exceptionally brilliant, and replete with noble thought. One paragraph from this address is quoted: "Great Britain and the United States—the two great maritime nations of the globe, have met in mortal combat upon that briny deep; they have fought for the sea's supremacy, they have maintained on either side with all their prowess and power their respective country's glory, and well and gloriously have their names resounded through the world—but no victory ever won by either upon the ocean can compare with this joint victory we have met to celebrate."

CENSUS OF 1860.

In 1860 the census of the city of Rockford, taken by Thos. Boyd, showed a population of 7,046, and 8,117 in the township. In 1836 there were 350 white inhabitants in the county, which included Boone, and the eastern half of Stephenson. In June, 1837, after Winnebago had been reduced to its present size, the county had a population of 1,086. In 1839 the village of Rockford had 235 inhabitants, and in December, 1845, there were 1,278. In 1840 there were 2,563 in Rockford township, and in 1855 there were 6,620.

TRIAL OF GOVERNOR BEBB.

On Tuesday evening, May 19, 1857, a charivari resulted in the instant death of one of the party. Hon. William Bebb, Ex-Governor of

Ohio, was residing in Seward township. His son, M. S. Bebb, had just returned from the east with his bride. Twelve young men of the neighborhood proposed to charivari the bridal party. They assembled at the governor's house about eleven o'clock at night, and began their performance with cowbells, tin pans, three guns, and other articles which could contribute to the hideous din. The governor at length appeared with a shot-gun and ordered them to retire. They paid no heed and Mr. Bebb fired one barrel, which took effect in the face of William Hogan. The party then approached nearer the house, as for an assault, when the governor discharged the second barrel at the leader, Lemuel Clemens, and instantly killed him. The crowd then speedily dispersed.

The trial of Governor Bebb, for manslaughter, began February 4, 1858, in the circuit court, Judge Sheldon presiding. The prosecution was conducted by U. D. Meacham, the state's attorney, who was assisted by T. J. Turner. The counsel for the defense was the famous Tom Corwin, of Ohio, assisted by Judge William Johnson, James L. Loop, and Judge Anson S. Miller. The trial began in the courthouse, and in order to secure more room, an adjournment was taken to Metropolitan Hall.

The greatest interest was manifested in the trial by reason of the reputation of the defendant and the celebrity of Mr. Corwin. A large number of ladies were daily in attendance. The jury consisted of the following named gentlemen: John Spafford, Putnam Perley, William A. Phelps, Joel W. Thompson, Horace Hitchcock, L. D. Waldo, Baltus Heagle, Benjamin F. Long, John Morse, S. M. Preston, B. K. Town, Isaac Manes.

Both sides of the case were argued with great ability. The central figure was, of course, Mr. Corwin. The Register, in reporting his address to the jury, said: "It was just such a speech as Tom Corwin alone can make, and was listened to with breathless attention. It lasted some four hours, during which time he went over every particular of the case, applying the law to each point, and showing under what circumstances a man may kill another, and also detailing in great beauty of language the manner in which the people had become possessed of the inalienable right to enjoy their homes in peace, and undisturbed."

The case was given to the jury at five o'clock Monday afternoon, and at nine o'clock they returned with a verdict of not guilty. The Register concluded quite a full report of the trial with a commendation of the jury for their righteous decision.

M. S. Bebb, whose marriage was the occasion of this disturbance, became a well known citi-

zen of Rockford. He had quite an extended reputation in the scientific world, and was recognized as the highest authority upon some species of the willow. Mr. Bebb was for some years a member of the public library board.

THE LINCOLN-DOUGLAS DEBATE.

The famous Lincoln-Douglas debate was an event of local interest as well as national significance. In April, 1858, the Illinois State Democratic convention endorsed Stephen A. Douglas for the United States senate. Abraham Lincoln was nominated by the republican party at Springfield, June 17th. July 24th Mr. Lincoln sent a challenge to Judge Douglas to discuss the political issues of the day in a series of joint debates. The latter accepted a challenge, and named one city in each congressional district, except the second and sixth, where they had already spoken. Ottawa, Freeport, Galesburg, Quincy, Alton, Jonesboro and Charleston were the points chosen for these discussions.

The second and most famous debate was held at Freeport, August 27th. It was the greatest political event ever held in this congressional district. Thousands were in attendance from the northern counties, and the excitement was intense. A special train was made up at Marengo, and run over the Galena & Chicago Union road. It consisted of eighteen coaches, eight of which were filled with Rockford citizens.

It was at this debate that Mr. Lincoln propounded the four celebrated questions to Judge Douglas, the answers to which swept away his last chance for securing the presidency in 1860. Previous to this debate, a conference was held at the Brewster House, at which E. B. Washburne and Joseph Medill urged Mr. Lincoln to refrain from such interrogations. But Lincoln was insistent. He said that if Judge Douglas answered them one way he would lose his prestige with the south; and if he answered them the other way, he could not retain the leadership of the northern wing of his party.

The result justified Mr. Lincoln's prophecy. "Of that answer at Freeport," as Mr. Herndon puts it, Douglas "instantly died. The red-gleaming southern tomahawk flashed high and keen. Douglas was removed out of Lincoln's way. The wind was taken out of Seward's sails (by the house-divided speech), and Lincoln stood out prominent."

The election occurred on the 2d of November. Mr. Lincoln received a majority of over four thousand of the popular vote, yet the returns from the legislative districts foreshadowed his defeat. At the senatorial election in the legislature, Judge Douglas received fifty-four votes, and Mr. Lincoln forty-six—one of the results of the unfair apportionment law then in operation.

ROCKFORD SETTLERS IN 1855-59.

Charles Williams was a native of Massachusetts. He came to Rockford in 1855, and with his son Lewis, was engaged in the hardware business. Mr. Williams was the war mayor of Rockford, serving from 1859 to 1864. His home was the residence now owned by John Barnes. Mr. Williams died in 1876.

William M. Rowland came to Rockford in 1855. He was a native of Connecticut, and when a young man he removed to Augusta, Georgia, where he was interested in the Iron Steamboat Company. Soon after the repeal of the Missouri compromise, Hon. Alexander H. Stephens, member of congress, informally received the prominent citizens of Augusta. Mr. Rowland is said to have been the only gentleman present who did not offer congratulations to Mr. Stephens upon the repeal of that law, but assured him that it would prove a calamity to the south.

William L. Rowland was graduated from Yale college in the class of 1852, and removed to Rockford with his father's family in 1855. When the public library was founded in 1872, Mr. Rowland was appointed librarian, and he retained this position until his death in 1900.

Benjamin Blakeman was a native of Stratford, Connecticut. He came to Rockford in 1856, and carried on the lumber business, first on South Court, and later on South Main street. About 1871 he formed a partnership with William Dobson, in manufacturing. Mr. Blakeman is now retired from business.

Colonel Garret Nevius, a native of New York, came to Rockford in 1858. He was a member of the Rockford City Greys, and in 1861 he enlisted with the Eleventh Illinois Volunteers, and arose to the rank of colonel. He was killed in the charge of Ransom's brigade on the enemy's works at Vicksburg, May 22, 1863. Memorial services were held on the courthouse square, in Rockford, where the remains lay in state, and an address was delivered by Dr. Kerr. His body was then sent to New York for burial. Colonel Nevius was only twenty-six years of age. Nevius Post, G. A. R., was named in his honor.

Robert H. Tinker was born at Honolulu, Sandwich Islands, in 1837, where his father, Rev. Reuben Tinker, was a missionary, sent out by the Presbyterian church. Mr. Tinker came to Rockford in 1856. He built the Swiss cottage on Kent creek, the most picturesque home in the city. The plan of his unique library, on two floors, with winding stairway, was suggested to Mr. Tinker by his visit to Sir Walter Scott's library, more than forty years ago. He was elected Mayor of Rockford in 1875, and served one term. Mr. Tinker has been interested in various manufacturing enterprises.

John H. Hall came to Rockford in 1855, and engaged in the grocery trade. He served the city as alderman, and as a member of the school board. The Hall school is named in his honor. His death occurred in 1882.

Lucius M. West was born at Vernon Centre, New York, June 19, 1820. He was united in marriage to Miss Sarah A. Sturtevant, of his native county. In 1858 Mr. and Mrs. West and their three sons came to Rockford. In 1862 Mr. West built the store now occupied by Peer's jewelry store, where he carried on trade in rubber goods and boots and shoes. About 1874 he engaged in the manufacture and jobbing of enamel carriage top dressing, which has attained a world-wide reputation. Mr. West was actively identified with the religious interests of the city. In 1875 he appointed a religious service for Woodruff's Addition, and for three years and a half conducted a mission school there, and furnished the building at his own expense. He died August 20, 1893.

Charles L. Williams was born in Sherburne, Chenango county, New York, October 20, 1828. He was graduated from Hamilton college in 1847, and in 1851 he received the degree of M. A. from his alma mater. Mr. Williams came to Rockford in 1859 and engaged in mercantile business. He married a daughter of Mayor Charles Williams and subsequently purchased his father-in-law's house on North Main street, which included the lots now belonging to John Barnes and Mrs. Julia P. Warren. Mr. Williams took an active interest in organizing the public library, and from 1872 to 1878 he was a member of the board of directors.

Daniel N. Hood was born in Salem, Massachusetts, September 25, 1834, and came to Rockford in 1858. Prof. Hood was for many years at the head of the musical department of Rockford seminary, and for more than ten years of this period he was organist of the Second Presbyterian church in Chicago. Prof. Hood now resides in Boston.

Gilbert Woodruff was born near Watertown, New York, November 20, 1817. He came to Rockford in 1857, and soon after he purchased and platted a farm which is now known as Woodruff's Addition. Easy terms of payment were given purchasers of lots. Mr. Woodruff was therefore in a real sense one of the builders of Rockford. He had been president of the Rockford National Bank since its organization; president of the Forest City Insurance Company since its organization in 1873; and president of the Forest City Furniture Factory since 1875. Mr. Woodruff was mayor of Rockford from 1873 to 1875. He died in Rockford in October, 1903.

Horace W. Taylor was born in Granby, Mas-

sachusetts, February 1, 1823. He was graduated from Amherst in 1848. In 1857 he came to Rockford and was admitted to the bar in the autumn of the same year. For forty years Mr. Taylor was a well known member of the legal profession of this city. In 1866 he began his work as master-in-chancery under appointment of Judge Sheldon. This position he held until his death, except an interim from 1872 to 1876. Mr. Taylor was elected a member of the legislature in 1878, and served one term. His death occurred at a sanitarium at Kenosha, August 20, 1898.

Marquis L. Gorham was a native of Vermont, and came to Rockford in 1857. He obtained a patent for a seeder manufactured by Clark & Utter, and for a corn cultivator made by N. C. Thompson. He was also the inventor of the first twine binder, the patent for which was sold to C. H. McCormick. Mr. Gorham died at Philadelphia in 1876, while attending the Centennial exposition, when he was only about forty-five years of age.

Norman Cornelius Thompson was born in Knoxville, Georgia, May 25, 1828. He came to Rockford in 1857. He built one of the largest manufacturing plants on the water-power, and his immense output contributed in no small degree to the prestige of Rockford as a manufacturing city. Mr. Thompson was a public-spirited citizen, and a generous supporter of the First Presbyterian church. Financial reverses overtook him in 1884, which resulted in the suspension of his bank in East Rockford, and his retirement from his manufacturing industry. Mr. Thompson died July 4, 1898.

Thomas Butterworth was born in Manchester, England, September 6, 1827. In his twentieth year he came to America, and landed at New Orleans. On account of yellow fever, he immediately went to Cincinnati. He entered the employ of Stacy & Company, the proprietors of the Cincinnati gas works, and in their interest he was sent to repair the works in Rockford about 1856. The latter plant was then owned by Lane, Sanford & Co. He remained in Rockford and assumed the management of the works. He also continued the business of contractor, and built Brown's Hall, the old People's Bank Building on State street, and other buildings. He subsequently sold his contracting business, and in time became the sole owner of the gas plant. In 1878 Mr. Butterworth was elected a member of the legislature, as a democrat, and served one term. His death occurred at Asheville, North Carolina, April 5, 1885.

William H. Townsend came to Rockford in 1857, from Springfield, Pennsylvania. He was in affluent circumstances. His home was on

South Third street, well known in later years as the residence of Dr. D. S. Clark. Mr. Townsend was a stockholder and director of the Rock River Mutual Fire Insurance Company, and the later reverses of the company were a source of such anxiety to him that he became deranged. June 2, 1869, his body was found in Rock river, about four and a half miles south of the city. Mr. Townsend was about sixty years of age, and had been a member of the board of education. He was held in high esteem, and his death was a great shock to the community.

F. H. Manny came to Rockford in 1859. He was a cousin of John P. and John H. Manny. For some years he was engaged in manufacturing on the water-power. His home was the residence owned later by W. F. Hudler, on the South side. He met with reverses in 1875, went to Waukegan, and from there to Chicago. Mr. Manny died in Chicago, April 15, 1899, at the age of eighty-two years. The remains were brought to Rockford for interment.

Among other well known citizens who came to Rockford during this period are the following: George Trufant, George H. Dennett, Wm. McKinley, 1855; A. C. Burpee, 1856; David Keyt, S. F. Penfield, D. S. Hough, H. B. Hale, W. H. Smith, C. A. Shaw, 1857; John R. Porter, 1859.

Other citizens engaged in active business during the fifties were: L. H. Todd, dealer in boots and shoes; Thomas Emmett, contractor; D. Miller, boots and shoes; J. W. Seecomb, books; C. T. Sackett, painter; W. G. Johnson, painter; Robert Smith, hatter; J. B. Agard, grain buyer; Joseph Burns, dry goods; Wm. Lyman, physician; John Fraley, druggist; Israel Sovereign, hardware dealer.

Several early settlers should have been mentioned in their proper chronological order. Among these was Levi Rhoades, born at Hinsdale, New York, June 25, 1830. In 1847 he came to Rockford. He learned the cooper's trade, and during the war he laid the foundation of a large estate in supplying the demand for barrels. He continued in this business until 1884. Mr. Rhoades was interested in many manufacturing enterprises, and was a man of great force and executive ability. He was elected mayor of Rockford in 1876, and served one year. His death occurred November 19, 1891.

W. D. Trahern was born in Loudoun county, Virginia, March 24, 1824. In 1848 he came to Rockford, and the following year he began the manufacture of threshing-machines. In 1862 Mr. Trahern engaged in the manufacture of iron pumps. Mr. Trahern was successful in business, a considerate employer, and was highly esteemed. He died November 2, 1883.

OMINOUS WAR CLOUDS.

The presidential election of 1860 marked an epoch in American history. The nation had come to the parting of the ways. Mr. Lincoln's prophecy that the government could not permanently endure half slave and half free, was about to be demonstrated before the world. Mr. Lincoln, by reason of his profound insight into the political situation, which he had shown in his debates with Judge Douglas, was the logical candidate of his party.

The nomination of Mr. Lincoln was received with great enthusiasm by the citizens of Rockford. In August the Rockford Wide Awake Club was organized. Its object was co-operation for the success of republican principles and the election of Mr. Lincoln.

Saturday, September 1st, was a republican rally day. The Wide Awake Clubs from neighboring towns were present. The special attraction was Cassius M. Clay, the celebrated orator of Kentucky. The exercises were held on the courthouse square, and it was estimated that fully twelve thousand people were in attendance. The first speech was made by Hon. James H. Baker, secretary of state of Minnesota. Mr. Clay was introduced by Judge S. M. Church. "His oratory," said the Register, "is not of the fervid kind, but he is a calm, cool, deliberate speaker, laying out his ideas into square blocks of solid argument and building up an edifice supported by facts and figures which it is absolutely impossible to undermine or batter down."

During September and October, a series of joint discussions was held by Judge Allen C. Fuller, of Belvidere, and John A. Rawlins, of Galena, on the political issues of the day. One joint debate was held in each county of the First congressional district. Judge Fuller was the republican candidate for presidential elector, and Mr. Rawlins was the candidate of the Douglas democracy. One discussion was held in Rockford, September 29th. These debates have a historic interest by reason of the subsequent prominence of the participants. Judge Fuller became the war adjutant of the state, and in this capacity he displayed great executive ability, and was the able supporter of Governor Yates, in the organization of the military forces of the state. Judge Fuller died in Belvidere in December, 1901. Upon the outbreak of the war in 1861, Mr. Rawlins came promptly to the support of the union cause; he was the confidential friend and adviser of General Grant during his campaigns, and in 1869 he became his secretary of war.

Among other gentlemen who made addresses in Rockford during the campaign were Judge Lyman Trumbull, Stephen A. Hurlbut, Governor

Bebb, Melancthon Smith, Colonel Ellis, James L. Loop and Judge Church. Richard Yates and Owen Lovejoy made speeches at Belvidere, October 9th.

The presidential election was held November 6th. Winnebago county cast 3,985 votes for Abraham Lincoln and 817 for Judge Douglas; Richard Yates received 3,986 votes for governor, and Mr. Allen 826.

The election of Mr. Lincoln was perhaps the most notable event in the life of the nation. The shouts of victory had scarcely died away when one southern state after another openly revolted from the authority of the union. The election of Mr. Lincoln brought the sword, rather than peace. But the sword was drawn in a holy cause. For two hundred and fifty years the irrepressible conflict between freedom and slavery had continued. The "land of the free" had made iniquity her law. Millions of bondsmen wet the soil with their tears and blood. Cause and effect, the chancellors of God, had come to enforce the truth that there were rights that states must keep or they shall suffer for their sins. Victor Hugo says of Napoleon at Waterloo: "For Bonaparte to be conqueror at Waterloo was not in the law of the nineteenth century. * * * When earth is suffering from a surcharge there are mysterious moanings from the deeps that the heavens hear. Napoleon had been impeached before the Infinite and his fall was decreed. He vexed God. Waterloo is not a battle; it is the change of front of the universe." So the slave-power had overleaped itself, and could no longer resist the advance of a more enlightened Christian civilization.

Abraham Lincoln was the divinely appointed man for the hour. There seem to be certain superhuman adjustments that philosophy does not explain, that work out righteous results. Human wisdom does not foresee them; they do not destroy human freedom, but they do achieve their results with infallible certainty. The leaders of such events are like Aeneas in the fable; they are often covered with a cloud woven by divine fingers, and men do not see them. But when they are needed the cloud breaks away, and they stand before the world prepared to do their work. Such a man was Abraham Lincoln. He was called to lead in a war made holy by the quickened moral conscience of the nation. Poets, and reformers and statesmen had cast up the highway for the King, who should visit the nation with chastening. This judgment day was at hand, because Phillips and Garrison and Sumner had come; because Whittier and Lowell and Harriet Beecher Stowe had come; because Lincoln and Seward and Chase had come; because Grant and Sherman and Sheridan had come; because the great and terrible day of the Lord had come.

THE STORY OF THE CIVIL WAR.

As soon as the election of Abraham Lincoln was definitely ascertained, the legislature of South Carolina summoned a sovereign convention of the people of that state, which met December 17, 1860. Three days later this convention adopted an ordinance of secession, which declared the state no longer a member of the union. Mississippi seceded January 9, 1861; Florida, January 10; Alabama, January 11; Georgia, January 19; Louisiana, January 26; Texas, February 1. The forts, arsenals and other federal property within the limits of these states were seized by the authorities thereof, with the exceptions of Forts Moultrie and Sumter.

Delegates from the seceding states met at Montgomery, Alabama, February 4, 1861, and proceeded at once to organize a new republic, with the name of the Confederate States of America. February 8th a provisional government was declared, with Jefferson Davis as president. April 8th Governor Pickens, of South Carolina, was notified by the general government of its intention to relieve Fort Sumter at all hazards. Governor Pickens at once informed General Beauregard of this official notification, and the news was sent by him to the Confederate government at Montgomery. Its secretary of war thereupon ordered General Beauregard to demand the immediate surrender of Fort Sumter.

On Friday morning, April 12th, the Confederate batteries opened fire upon the fort. The bombardment lasted thirty-two hours. Late in the afternoon of the 13th Major Anderson, in command of the fort, agreed to capitulate, and the firing ceased. On the morning of Sunday, April 14th, Fort Sumter was surrendered to the Confederate forces, and Major Anderson and his garrison sailed at once for New York. Treason had struck the decisive blow; war was inevitable.

THE FIRST WAR SERMON.

To the late Dr. Thomas Kerr belongs the honor of preaching the first war sermon in Rockford. He was then pastor of the First Baptist church. Sunday morning, April 14th, the startling news was received that Sumter had fallen. It was one of the critical moments in the nation's life. Under its solemn inspiration Dr. Kerr preached an impressive, patriotic discourse Sunday afternoon in the Baptist church. For the first time in the history of Rockford, the American flag graced the sanctuary of the God of battles. It was a symbol of the true union of church and state. But it was then an innovation. Public worship was then of the "churchly" sort. Questions of the day had not been discussed in the pulpit. The Civil war made the services of the church more

practical and less theological. The pendulum has never swung back.

Sunday afternoon, April 28, 1861, Dr. Kerr preached another stirring war sermon in the Baptist church. The auditorium was crowded and the pastor preached a sermon of great power. Several times during its delivery his noble sentiments were greeted with outbursts of applause. None of Dr. Kerr's local contemporaries in the ministry are now living. The hearts moved by the eloquence of that hour have ceased to beat. The aged preacher himself was almost the last survivor of that historic day.

Dr. Kerr was asked to repeat this discourse to a larger audience. He responded in Metropolitan Hall Sunday evening, May 5.

Monday morning, April 15th, President Lincoln issued a proclamation calling for 75,000 volunteers to "subdue combinations too powerful to be suppressed by the ordinary course of judicial proceedings, and to cause the laws to be duly executed." On the same day a dispatch was received at Springfield, stating that the quota of Illinois under the president's call was six regiments of militia. Governor Yates therefore issued a proclamation, convening the legislature in special session, April 23d, for the purpose of putting the state upon a more effective war footing.

The attack upon Sumter obliterated all party lines in Winnebago county, and friends and opponents of the administration sprang to arms to defend the government from the assaults of traitors. It is said that when Cadmus of old needed men he sowed dragons' teeth, and forthwith from the ground came warriors armed for battle. So when Treason threw down the gauntlet, loyal legions of freedom accepted the gage of battle.

THE ROCKFORD ZOUAVES.

The war record of Winnebago county has never been fully written, and no complete history can be assured in the future. Owing to failures to make proper returns at Springfield, even the adjutant-general's reports are only approximately correct. The late General Fuller did much to complete the records, but he could not achieve the impossible. Some enlisted in regiments organized in other states, and in many instances credit was not properly given. The scope of this work does not admit a full treatment of even the available sources of information, but the brief outline is believed to be correct.

Ten days after the fall of Sumter the first company of Rockford volunteers marched to the front to the "wild, grand music of war." They bore the name of the Rockford Zouaves. The story of their origin may be briefly noted. During the Lincoln campaign a "Wide-Awake"

marching club was organized, in command of Captain Garrett L. Nevius. When the presidential campaign was over they were reluctant to abandon the organization, and when Captain Nevius proposed a military company, it met with general favor. A meeting was held December 26, 1860, at the photograph gallery of Barnes, Nevius & Company, when preliminary steps were taken, and January 3, 1861, the Rockford Zouaves were formally organized. They had, of course, no idea of the future before them.

Garrett L. Nevius was chosen captain; R. A. Bird, first lieutenant; W. D. E. Andrus, second lieutenant; R. S. Norman, ensign; F. F. Peats, orderly sergeant; H. H. Dean, second sergeant; J. H. Manny, third sergeant; C. B. Hull, fourth sergeant; Randolph D. Hobart, first corporal; E. Lugin, second corporal; Thomas Anyon, third corporal; O. C. Towne, fourth corporal; I. S. Hyatt, secretary, and C. T. Jellerson, treasurer.

Meetings for drill were held during the winter. January 17, 1861, resolutions were adopted to the effect that they should hold themselves in readiness to respond to any possible call for troops.

At a meeting held February 2d the South Rockford band was admitted to membership. This band consisted of F. M. Needham and J. A. Hobart, drummers, and C. H. Marsh, fifer. They entered with the understanding that they were to have no more privileges than any of the other members. Needham and Hobart entered the service as drummers, and Needham is now drumming for Nevius post.

April 13th there was an impressive meeting of the Zouaves. Captain Nevius made a stirring speech. The last meeting noted in the record book was held April 16th. By that time the company had received orders to report at Springfield. A subscription paper had been circulated to raise money to furnish uniforms for the Zouaves, and by April 20th \$1,200 had been pledged, with the promise of more if it should be needed. Men, women and children bent their efforts toward getting the Zouaves in shape for service. The women sent their sewing machines up to concert hall, and gathered there to make the uniforms out of bolts of blue flannel secured as donations from the merchants and with money subscribed by the men. Those were busy days in concert hall. Women worked as they had never worked before, willingly, yet reluctantly; tearfully, and yet cheerfully, as each tried to encourage the other and remove the fears that they were preparing for a final parting from their loved ones. There was much to do, and a discussion arose on the subject of working on Sunday, April 21st. The citizens were a Sunday-keeping people then, perhaps more so than now, but it was resolved that the work

justified it, and the women labored all that bright and beautiful day in early spring.

Wednesday, April 24, 1861, the Rockford Zouaves left Rockford for the capital of the state. Business was generally suspended, and between four and five thousand people were at the train to bid them farewell.

The Zouaves first enlisted for three months' service, and became Company D, of the Eleventh Illinois Infantry, of which W. H. L. Wallace was colonel.

This company, with two recruits in the following June, and one member of the noncommissioned regimental staff, numbered exactly one hundred men. They were the vanguard of the army furnished by Winnebago county. They belong to the first roll of honor, and for this reason their names are given in full as follows:

Captain, Garrett L. Nevius; first lieutenant, Rhenodyne A. Bird; second lieutenant, William D. E. Andrus; first sergeant, Henry H. Dean; sergeants, Randolph D. Hobart, James H. Manny, Charles B. Hull; corporals, Edward F. Lugin, Thomas Anyon, Orin C. Towne, Frederick Brown; musicians, John A. Hobart, Mills F. Needham; privates, Charles E. Arnold, William Atkins, Leander Bauder, Alfred Barker, Thomas J. Bryan, David O. Butolph, Henry L. Brown, John Beatson, Alpheus D. Brown, Alpheus M. Blakesley, George C. Brown, Benjamin Bentson, Thomas Beddoes, Thomas W. Cole, Orin W. Cram, Andrew Clark, Bradford A. Champlain, Henry W. Cooling, Ervin E. Clark, William W. Clark, Richard A. Compton, Philip Crooker, Charles D. Clark, George W. Darling, George E. Dolphin, Elisha S. Daggett, Charles L. Dunham, John L. Davis, Alexander N. Davis, Charles B. Eaton, Jud A. Ellison, John E. Elliott, Peter Engalls, William D. Frost, Almond Gifford, Harvey Hemenway, Derastus Holmes, Simon Homer, Charles Hawkinson, Iereon R. Hest, Frederick I. Horsman, George J. Hitchcock, Herrington Love, Daniel E. Lee, Neri R. Mosher, George W. Maguire, John McGuire, Edward E. Magee, J. George Manlove, George H. Manchester, William L. Mesick, Charles Pittinger, Charles N. Price, Levi Pitney, Frederick L. Posson, Luman G. Pierce, Floyd B. Penoyer, Rudolph W. Peake, William M. Putman, Charles N. Roberts, Walter Reckard, Shepard P. Strunk, Louis Schlunt, Joseph R. Shields, Erastus T. Stevens, William H. Skeed, Henry P. Strong, Ambrose Stearns, J. Murray Southgate, Christopher C. Shank, James M. Stevens, Thomas A. Stevens, Edward S. Smith, Edwin Swift, Edward P. Thomas, Riley Van Patten, John Wagner, Rufus L. Whitney, John W. Warfield, John W. Warner, William Winter, George Wilkin, William G. D. Weed, Francis B. Wakeman; recruits, Marion E. Delany, Louis Houston.

Twenty members of the Zouaves were subsequently sent home from Springfield, under an army regulation that companies must not exceed ninety-seven men, including officers. Some of these promptly enlisted in other companies.

The first soldier from Rockford to die for his country in the Civil war was Neri R. Mosher, one of the first Zouave volunteers. He died June 5th of typhoid fever, at Camp Hardin, near Villa Ridge, Illinois, and his remains were sent to Rockford for interment.

August 8th, after three months of service, the Zouaves returned to Rockford. Many of them promptly re-enlisted, and eight days later, August 16th, they again went to the front. Captain W. D. E. Andrus was detailed as recruiting officer, and it was not until November 13th that the ranks were filled, when the recruits joined the company at Bird's Point. The Rockford City band entered service with the Zouaves and became a part of the Eleventh regiment. The following named musicians constituted the regimental band:

Leader, M. H. Baldwin; musicians, Robert Alchin, Rufus B. Artz, Profia Artz, Charles B. Eaton (No. 1), Charles B. Eaton (No. 2), James Eaton, Augustus Dedrickson, Thomas Gray, Charles W. Halcum, Charles P. Henrick, Daniel Kipp, Isaac Larue, Horace Nettleton, John P. Nettleton, Henry C. Sullivan.

The total number of men enrolled in Company D, of the Eleventh Regiment, including recruits for the three years, was one hundred and four. With the field and staff, non-commissioned staff, musicians and nine unassigned recruits in Company K, the total enlistments for this county in the Eleventh Regiment were one hundred and thirty-three.

THE FIRST WAR MEETING.

In following the early history of the Zouaves, the reader has been taken out of the strict chronological order of events. The narrative may now be resumed at another point.

An impromptu meeting of citizens was called in Rockford, and a committee appointed to prepare and issue a call for a mass meeting. This committee consisted of E. F. W. Ellis, Selden M. Church and L. F. Warner.

Pursuant to a call issued by the committee, a mass meeting was held at the courthouse Wednesday afternoon, April 24th, for the purpose of considering the state of the country. Judge Church was called to the chair. Messrs. E. F. W. Ellis, Hall, Dr. William Lyman, D. J. Stewart and Dr. R. P. Lane were appointed a committee on resolutions, which were unanimously adopted, with great enthusiasm. Speeches were made by Dr. William Lyman, E. F. W. Ellis,

James L. Loop, E. W. Blaisdell, L. F. Warner, Seely Perry, John Abrahamson, T. A. C. Beard, Jason Marsh and B. McKenney.

THE ELLIS RIFLES.

E. F. W. Ellis was one of the first citizens to become inspired with an ardent military spirit, which found its expression in the organization of a company, the Ellis Rifles, which he tendered to the governor. The enrollment began Wednesday, April 24th, and the ranks were filled in less than one week. Mr. Ellis was chosen captain; Holder Brownell, first lieutenant; Cyrenius C. Clark, second lieutenant. On Saturday, May 11, the Rifles went into camp at Freeport, and were subsequently known as Company C, of the Fifteenth Infantry, under command of Colonel Thomas J. Turner. The total enrollment of Company C, including veterans and recruits, was ninety-three men. Volunteers from Winnebago enlisted in other companies of the Fifteenth. The total enrollment of this regiment from Winnebago county, including field and staff, non-commissioned staff, privates, veterans, recruits and unclassified recruits, was one hundred and twenty-five men. The adjutant's report also gives the names of fifteen volunteers from this county in the reorganized Fifteenth Regiment.

CAPTAIN KETCHESON'S COMPANY.

Daniel O. Ketcheson was also among the first to respond to the call of his country. He organized a company called the Rockford Rifles. By reason of some confusion and embarrassment, however, at Springfield, he failed to get into the service of his own state, and the company at once disbanded. A new muster roll was immediately opened and another company formed. It went into camp at the fair grounds, where it took a full course of drill. Friday, May 31, Captain Ketcheson's company left Rockford for St. Louis, where it was accepted as Company I, of the Sixth Missouri Regiment, under command of Frank Blair. Captain Ketcheson died in Rockford April 28, 1864. He fought bravely at Corinth, Vicksburg, Champion Hills, Arkansas Post, Mission Ridge and Chattanooga. At Vicksburg and Arkansas Post Captain Ketcheson led charges and cheered his men to the very muzzles of the guns of the enemy.

DEATH OF COLONEL ELLSWORTH.

Colonel Ephraim Elmer Ellsworth is one of the most historic figures of the early war period. He was a national character, yet there were reasons why local interest attaches to his memory, and to the older residents who had known him he still seems as one of their own heroic boys.

Colonel Ellsworth was born in Mechanicsville, New York, April 23, 1837. After a brief mercantile career in Troy and New York, he removed to Chicago at an early age, where he became a solicitor of patents.

In 1858 Colonel Ellsworth was engaged as drillmaster for the old Rockford City Greys, an independent military company, which had been organized two years before. Under his instructions the company attained a high degree of proficiency. In September, 1858, an encampment was held on the fair grounds, which continued four days.

The Rockford Register of June 1, 1861, in editorially commenting upon his death, said of this brilliant military leader: "Although young, he had proven himself to be surpassed by no man in the land as a teacher of military rules and drill, and, in fact, was the father of the Zouave drill in this country. No one has forgotten his splendid tour through the northern states last summer, stopping for drill in every large city of the north, received with acclamations of joy at every point, and taking his command through that trying military ordeal, crowned with honors, and the reputation of being the best drilled corps of men in the United States."

Colonel Ellsworth was a splendid type of young manhood. He was received as a social lion by the young people of Rockford. He was frequently a guest at the home of Charles H. Spafford, and at the time of his death he was betrothed to his elder daughter, now Mrs. Carrie S. Brett.

In 1860 Colonel Ellsworth organized a company of Zouaves in Chicago, and the following year he accompanied President Lincoln to Washington. May 24, 1861, upon seeing a Confederate flag floating from a hotel in Alexandria, Virginia, he rushed to the roof and tore it down. On his return from the roof he was met and shot dead by Jackson, the owner, who, in turn, was killed by one of Ellsworth's men, Frank E. Brownell. Colonel Ellsworth's blood was the first shed in the civil conflict.

The nation mourned his loss as of the fairest of the flower of her chivalry. The New York World paid him this noble tribute: "He was a hero in the fairest and most captivating sense of the word. He was as handsome as Murat and as brave as Ney. He possessed to a degree that winning power over men by which, through all history, great captains and leaders have been distinguished. He was a commander by the imperial right of birth. Quick, alert, exclusive, intuitive in his perception of the qualities of men; rigorous in discipline, yet submitting himself to the rigors which he imposed."

Colonel Ellsworth's funeral was held in the east room of the White House. Among the mourners was General Winfield Scott, dressed in

the full uniform of his high position. Before him lay the dead body of one, almost a boy in years, who had died in the service of his country, and around him were gathered the great ones of the land. There were President Lincoln, Simon Cameron, William H. Seward, Commander Paulding, of the Navy, Nathaniel P. Banks, and other men high in the councils of the nation.

Sunday afternoon, June 2d, Rev. H. M. Goodwin preached a memorial service on the death of Colonel Ellsworth in the Second Congregational church. The day and hour were the same that similar services were held in Chicago.

DEATH OF STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS.

Stephen A. Douglas died at the old Tremont House, in Chicago, June 3, 1861, at the age of forty-eight years. With the single exception of Abraham Lincoln, no personality in the history of Illinois possesses more elements of intense interest than that of Senator Douglas. His life was a notable example of the perils and possibilities of genius. Douglas was ambition's child and king. With the single exception of Henry Clay, he was the greatest parliamentary leader in American history.

Rockford shared the nation's grief in the death of Senator Douglas. Memorial services were held on the courthouse square, Saturday afternoon, June 7th. Three thousand people were in attendance. The orator of the day was the Rev. John P. Donelan, priest of St. James' Roman Catholic church. Flags were at half mast, public buildings were draped in emblems of mourning, and from two o'clock until five business was entirely suspended.

On the following Sunday a second memorial service was held. Rev. M. Schofield, rector of Emmanuel Episcopal church, preached in the Second Congregational church, and by request of citizens his discourse was published in the city papers.

WAR SERMONS BY BISHOP SIMPSON.

Bishop Simpson was one of the greatest American preachers. His war sermons in Rockford are, therefore, a matter of historic interest. Sunday, June 30, 1861, the three Methodist churches of the city united in a service in Metropolitan Hall. The bishop's sermon was of great power.

In the afternoon a union Methodist meeting was held in the Second church, later known as the Court Street church, when Bishop Simpson addressed the children. In the evening, upon the request of citizens, he preached an eloquent discourse in the Second Congregational church, on "The Present Crisis."

REV. A. H. CONANT BECOMES CHAPLAIN.

In July, 1861, Rev. A. H. Conant, pastor of the Unitarian church, resigned, and a few weeks later he enlisted as a chaplain in the Nineteenth Illinois Infantry. Only one other citizen of Winnebago county is known to have entered the service with this regiment—Colonel Thomas G. Lawder. Both these names, however, in the adjutant-general's report, are credited to Chicago. Chaplain Conant died at Nashville, February 8, 1863. His death was due to exposure and exertion at the battle of Murfreesboro.

THE ROCKFORD RIFLES.

In August Melanethon Smith issued a stirring appeal for volunteers, quoting the last words of General Lyon, "Come on, brave men!" Mr. Smith had only a few months before received the appointment of postmaster of Rockford, and it required not a little patriotism to leave this position for the hardships of war. Mr. Smith had been a member of the old Rockford City Greys, which had been drilled by Colonel Ellsworth, and he was thus not entirely without military experience.

September 17th, after the ranks had been filled, an election of officers was held, with the following result:

Captain, Melanethon Smith; first lieutenant, Robert P. Sealy; second lieutenant, D. W. Grippen.

September 22d the company left Rockford for Camp Washburne, at Galena. They were mustered into the service as Company G, of the Forty-fifth Regiment, known as the Washburne Lead-Mine Regiment, in command of Colonel John E. Smith. The total number of enlistments in Company G from Winnebago county, including veterans, recruits and drafted and substitute recruits, was one hundred and twenty-four. There were on the field and staff and in other companies eighty-seven volunteers, making the total number of enlistments in the Forty-fifth Regiment from Winnebago county two hundred and thirty-one.

John Travis, a member of the Rifles, was the first soldier from Winnebago county killed in battle. He lost his life at the battle of Fort Donelson, in February, 1862. There were four companies from this county on that field of carnage—the Rockford Rifles and the Cherry Valley company, in the Forty-fifth; the Zouaves, in the Eleventh, and Captain Boyd's company, in the Fifty-second.

WASHBURNE RIFLES.

In September Rhendolyn A. Bird organized a company with about eighty members, and Sep-

tember 9th they left for camp at Chicago, where they became a part of the Douglas brigade. The Rifles were known as Company C, of the Fifty-fifth Illinois Volunteers. The total number of enlistments in this company from Winnebago county, including veterans and recruits, was one hundred and seven. There was one volunteer in Company D.

WINNEBAGO SHARPSHOOTERS.

In September, 1861, Wesley Boyd organized a company, called the Winnebago Sharpshooters, of which he became captain. In October the company went into camp at Camp Geneva, and became Company E, of the Fifty-second Infantry. The total number of enlistments in this company from this county, including veterans and recruits, was ninety-eight. There was only one volunteer in Company F. The regiment was organized at Geneva, Kane county, by the Hon. Isaac G. Wilson, who was for many years a judge upon the circuit bench.

CAVALRY COMPANY.

A splendid cavalry company was organized in September. John Austin, of Rockford, was chosen captain; A. J. Martin, first lieutenant; John Austin, of Ogle county, second lieutenant. It was known as Company M, of the Eighth Illinois cavalry.

Winnebago county contributed to this company, during the entire war period, one hundred and thirteen volunteers. Enlistments in other companies of this regiment, with unassigned recruits, brought the total number of enlistments in this county to two hundred and thirteen.

September 16th the company went into camp at St. Charles. The regiment was organized by the Hon. John F. Farnsworth, who represented the Rockford district in congress from 1863 to 1873.

J. T. Hobart raised a company in August, which became Company G, of the Forty-fourth Infantry, known as the Northwestern Rifles regiment. The number of enlistments in this company from Winnebago county for the entire war period, including recruits, was one hundred and twenty-four. There were also in this regiment, on its field and staff, non-commissioned staff, and recruits in Company F, ten volunteers from this county. This regiment was mustered into the service in September.

OTHER VOLUNTEERS OF '61.

In response to appeals made at war meetings, many attempts were made, more or less successful, to raise companies in the various townships

of the county. Captain S. Whitmeyer organized the Durand Guards, and a company was enrolled in Cherry Valley, which, for some reason, was not accepted. These volunteers found their way into the service as members of other companies.

Recruiting officers also secured volunteers in the interest of various regiments. Among these were Lieutenants E. H. Brown and D. H. Gile, of Chicago, who were in Rockford in the interest of Company A, of the Yates Phalanx.

SOLDIERS' AID SOCIETY.

The Soldiers' Aid Society was organized August 27, 1861. It represented the different religious organizations in the city, united on the broad ground of Christian patriotism, to labor with one mind and heart for those who had enlisted in the service of their country. The officers were: Mrs. Thomas Kerr, president; Mrs. Jane Smith, vice-president; Miss Juliette Wheat, secretary; Miss Melissa Moffat, treasurer; Miss Anna P. Sill, corresponding secretary. A statement published January 4, 1862, showed that a great work had been done during the first year of the war.

COUNTY WAR APPROPRIATIONS.

January 4, 1862, H. R. Enoch, the county treasurer, made a public statement of county money expended for the relief of the families of volunteers. The total sum for the preceding eight months, from May to December, inclusive, was \$4,259.

THE FIFTEENTH AT THE BATTLE OF SHILOH.

The Fifteenth Regiment of Illinois Volunteer Infantry was raised under the "ten regiment act," in the First congressional district. Company A was from McHenry county; Company B, Boone county; Company C, Winnebago county; Company D, McHenry county; Company G, Stephenson county; Company H, Ogle county; Company I, Lake county, and Company K, from Carroll county. The regiment was organized at Freeport, Illinois, and mustered into the United States service on the 24th day of May, 1861, being one of the first regiments from the state sworn into the United States service, for the three years' service. After electing officers, organizing and drilling for some time, the regiment proceeded to Alton, Illinois, remaining there six weeks for instruction. In July the regiment left Alton by steamboat for St. Charles, Missouri, thence by rail to Mexico, Missouri, where it remained for a time in company with the Twenty-first Illinois Infantry, commanded by Colonel U. S. Grant. A part of the regiment marched from Mexico to

Fulton, and thence to the Missouri river, and thence by steamer to Jefferson Barracks; the other part of the regiment marched to Hannibal, Missouri, and thence by steamer to Jefferson Barracks. The regiment then moved by rail to Rolla, Missouri, where it arrived in time to cover General Sigel's retreat from Wilson's Creek. After building one or two forts, the regiment was ordered to Tipton, Missouri, and thence became attached to General Fremont's army, and marched under General Hunter to Springfield, Missouri; after remaining there a short time the regiment returned to Tipton, then went to Sedalia. It assisted in the capture of 1,300 rebels a few miles from the latter place. The regiment then marched to Otterville, Missouri, and went into winter quarters December 26, 1861. The winter was cold and the snow deep, and the first winter's experience in tents was a very severe one.

February 1, 1861, the regiment marched to Jefferson City, thence by rail to St. Louis, where it embarked on transports for Fort Donelson, and arrived to take part in the surrender. The regiment was then assigned to General S. A. Hurlbut's "Fighting Fourth Division," and marched to Fort Henry, then went by boat to Pittsburg Landing, it being one of the first regiments that landed on that historic battle-ground. At the battle of Shiloh, on the 6th of April, the regiment was in the first line of battle, formed by Hurlbut's division, and was in the brigade commanded by General C. Veach. Hardly had the brigade taken position, when a Confederate column, massed three lines deep, deployed from the woods on the left front, and with rebel yell that echoed through the surrounding forest, charged on in double-quick. The Fifteenth was flanked by the Fifty-third Ohio, on the right. At the first fire of the enemy the Buckeyes broke and ran, and the enemy were not only in front of the Fifteenth Regiment, but on both flanks in a very short time. For more than one hour the regiment held its position, and fought as gallantly as any troops could fight in the terrible struggle, called by the Confederates the "Hornet's Nest," and disputed inch by inch the advance and the incessant attacks of the best troops in the Confederate service. Owing to the want of support, the regiment was compelled to withdraw and take up a new position. In five minutes after the regiment formed its first line, the field officers, Lieutenant-Colonel E. F. W. Ellis and Major William R. Goddard, Captains Holden Brownell and Harley Wayne and Lieutenant John W. Peterbaugh, were killed, and Captain Adam Nase lost a leg and was taken prisoner. Captain Thomas J. Turner was absent, and the command of the regiment devolved upon Captain L. D. Kelly and George C. Rogers, assisted by Adjutant Charles F. Barber. As soon as a new line was formed (the Fourteenth Illi-

nois on the left of the Fifteenth), when the enemy had approached sufficiently near, these two regiments, acting as one man, rose and delivered a rapid, well aimed and awfully destructive fire full into the massed ranks of the enemy. The enemy was soon convinced that this was not the way to the landing. At the second attack these two regiments received the first shock, and for three hours were in that awful gap, without giving ground, where the Confederates sacrificed more than two thousand as brave men as ever trod the battle-field, in the unavailing effort to drive them from their position. This baptism of blood cemented the two regiments, and they were always afterward brigaded and served together during the remainder of the war, and discharged at the same time and place. The Fifteenth Regiment was in the hottest of the fight both days of the bloody battle, and not a man faltered in his duty or failed to perform all that was required of him. The two regiments that were in the final charge on the 7th, led by General Grant in person, were the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Illinois; the Fourteenth commanded by Colonel Cyrus Hall, and the Fifteenth by Captain George C. Rogers. This detachment moved forward, and when within range delivered their fire, and with fixed bayonets charged at double-quick. The raking fire, however, had done its work. The Confederate army had fled. The Fifteenth Regiment lost in this engagement two hundred and fifty men killed and wounded, and there are more of the "known dead" of this regiment buried in the national cemetery at Pittsburg Landing than of any other regiment, and many died of wounds in hospitals at home.

FUNERAL OF COLONEL ELLIS.

Rockford's sorrow over the death of Colonel Ellis was expressed in an imposing demonstration. His remains were brought to the city on Sunday, April 20th, on a special train. On Monday they lay in state at the court house. The room was draped in the national colors, and underneath lay all that was mortal of the patriot hero, inclosed in a metallic burial case, upon which was placed his sword and belt.

The funeral was held on Tuesday in the Second Congregational church, the largest auditorium then in the city. Two thousand people were in attendance. Rev. J. H. Vincent, pastor of the Court Street church, now Bishop Vincent, preached the funeral sermon. His text was Zachariah, XIII: 8-9: "And it shall come to pass that in all the land, saith the Lord, two parts therein shall be cut off and die; but the third shall be left therein. And I will bring the third part through the fire, and I will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is

tried; they shall call on my name, and I will hear them; I will say, It is my people; and they shall say, the Lord is my God." Masonic services at the grave were in charge of L. F. Warner, master of Star in the East lodge.

Winnebago county had six companies in the battle of Shiloh. Company C lost, besides Colonel Ellis, Captain H. Brownell, W. H. Brown, William Caughey, J. E. Vance and Asabel Douglas; Company D, of the Eleventh, lost Charles Hawkinson and Dennis Manchester. Those killed in Company G, of the Forty-fifth, were Corporal McNeilage, James Watterson, Conrad La Grange, George Henry. The killed in Company E, of the Fifty-second, were Patrick Cunningham and Charles P. Roeh. The company was in six engagements during the first day's fight. Company C, of the Fifty-fifth, lost Lieutenant Theo. Hodges, Corporal Daniel Sullivan, Sergeant Miron Ganoung, Bragella Crowell, Nathan Knapp and O. Helgerson. All of these companies suffered losses in wounded. J. C. Manlove, Jr., and Andrew Clark, who had entered Waterhouse's Battery, after three months' service with the Zouaves, were both wounded in the shoulder.

VOLUNTEERS FOR THREE MONTHS' SERVICE.

In June, 1862, in response to calls for volunteers for three months, two additional companies were organized and immediately entered the service at Camp Douglas in guarding Confederate prisoners. One of these companies, the Winnebago County Guards, was largely composed of volunteers from the country towns, of which H. R. Enoch was chosen captain, and James B. Kerr first lieutenant. There were one hundred and four volunteers in this company, including recruits, of whom eighty-three were from Winnebago county. They were known as Company C, of the Sixty-seventh Infantry.

The Rockford City Guards entered this service, with Charles B. Hull as captain. The Guards were known as Company A, of the Sixty-seventh Regiment. They are credited with exactly one hundred men, of whom sixty-three were from this county. There were four soldiers from Winnebago on the field and staff, and the non-commissioned staff, and one private each in Companies B and H. Winnebago county contributed to this regiment in the two companies a total of one hundred and fifty-three men.

These accessions made nine full companies which Winnebago county had sent into the service, besides many enlisted in other companies and batteries.

CAMP FULLER.

July 16, 1862, Adjutant-General Fuller issued an order establishing camps for temporary ren-

dezdvous in several cities of the state. In the latter part of the month General Fuller visited Rockford and personally selected a site north of the city. Jason Marsh was placed in command, who named the camp in honor of the man who did more than any other citizen in making a glorious military record for the commonwealth of Illinois. General Fuller was the central figure of the war power of Illinois; the forger of her thunderbolts, the splendid defender of her sons. General John C. Black once said to the writer that General Fuller was a greater man than Edwin M. Stanton, President Lincoln's great war secretary; that he had Stanton's executive ability without his brutality.

Camp Fuller was a camp of rendezvous for Lake, McHenry, Boone, Winnebago, Ogle, Carroll, Stephenson and Jo Daviess counties. Four regiments were in camp at Camp Fuller—the Seventy-fourth, Ninety-second, Ninety-fifth and Ninety-sixth. The activity at this camp was short-lived. All the regiments soon entered the service, and January 31, 1863, the barracks were sold at auction.

THE SEVENTY-FOURTH REGIMENT.

In July, 1862, President Lincoln issued a call for 300,000 volunteers. In response to war meetings held in every township in Winnebago county the military spirit became the ruling passion of the people. July 31st the board of supervisors met in special session and offered a bounty of \$60 to each volunteer enlisting before the 25th of August, and \$40 for all subsequent enlistments previous to September 15th, next following.

Winnebago county again promptly did her duty, and raised eight of the ten companies of the Seventy-fourth Regiment. Company G was organized in Ogle county, and Company I in Stephenson county. The regiment was mustered into the service September 4th.

The first field officers were: Jason Marsh, of Rockford, colonel; James E. Kerr, of Roscoe, lieutenant-colonel, and Edward F. Dutcher, of Oregon, major. Anton Nieman, of Chicago, an officer of military education, was its first adjutant. On September 30, 1862, the regiment reported for duty at Louisville, Ky., where the Army of the Ohio, afterward known as the Army of the Cumberland, was then being organized under General Don Carlos Buell. On October 1 a brigade organization was effected, and the Seventy-fourth, with the Seventy-fifth and Fifty-ninth Illinois, the Twenty-second Indiana, and the Fifth (Pinney's) Wisconsin Battery, formed the Thirtieth Brigade, Ninth division, Fourteenth Corps. Colonel Philip Sidney Post, of the Fifty-ninth Illinois, had command of the brigade, General O. M. Mitchell of the division, and General Gilbert of the corps, the

whole comprising, with other troops, a command under General A. McD. McCook, designated the right wing.

On October 24, 1862, the army, then at Bowling Green, was reorganized, under General W. S. Rosecrans, and was afterward known as the Army of the Cumberland.

The regiment participated in the following battles: Perryville, October 8, 1862; Stone River, December 31, 1862; Mission Ridge, November 24-25, 1863; Rocky Face, May 9, 1864; Resaca, May 14, 1864; Calhoun, May 17, 1864; Adairsville, May 18, 1864; Dallas, May 25 to June 25, 1864; Lost Mountain, June 16, 1864; Kenesaw Mountain, June 27, 1864; Peach Tree Creek, July 20, 1864; Atlanta, July 22, 1864; Jonesboro, September 1, 1864; Lovejoy, September 2, 1864; Spring Hill, November 29, 1864; Franklin, November 30, 1864; Nashville, December 15-16, 1864.

Winnebago county contributed 793 volunteers to the Seventy-fourth. This was almost exactly one-quarter of the whole number of recruits raised by the county during the four years of the war. This fact made the regiment in a sense the special pride of the citizens. June 10, 1865, the Seventy-fourth, then numbering 343 officers and men, was mustered out of the service at Nashville, Tennessee, and arrived in Rockford June 29. The veterans hold annual reunions, but time has thinned their ranks. In 1903 an excellent history of the Seventy-fourth Regiment was published by a committee consisting of John H. Sherratt, Hosmer P. Holland and John W. Beatson.

DEATH OF COLONEL NEVIUS.

The Eleventh Infantry took an active part in the Vicksburg campaign. Garrett L. Nevius had entered the service as captain of Company D, but he rose rapidly. He was promoted major, lieutenant-colonel and finally the colonel of his regiment.

Colonel Nevius was killed in the charge of Ransom's brigade on the enemy's works at Vicksburg, May 22, 1863, while on foot at the head of his regiment, within ten rods of the line of entrenchments. He was in the act of waving his sword and urging his men forward, when the fatal bullet struck him in the head, crashing through his brain, killing him instantly. His dying words were: "Forward, my brave Eleventh!"

The colonel's body was recovered and placed in charge of Captain W. D. E. Andrus, who, with a guard of ten men, immediately started to convey it to Rockford. The funeral guard was met at the Illinois Central depot in Chicago by a delegation from Rockford, with Mavor Wil-

liams, and escorted to the Galena depot. The remains arrived in Rockford Wednesday, June 3, 1863.

The body lay in state at the courthouse, where memorial services were held on Thursday. All business in the city was suspended. The meeting was called to order by the war mayor, Charles Williams. Dr. Thomas Kerr pronounced an eloquent eulogy. The remains were taken, with military escort, to the Northwestern depot, and forwarded to the home of his mother at Lodi, Seneca county, New York.

As a military man Colonel Nevius had won an enviable reputation. He possessed superior abilities. He was careful of his men, cool, well posted, sound in judgment, and brave almost to the point of recklessness. He led his men where duty called, and they were quick to follow. Colonel Nevius was naturally retiring and unassuming in private life, and was not thus, perhaps, so widely known as others of less ability for leadership.

Those who knew him best learned to respect him for his high moral character and social worth and all who enjoyed his acquaintance will remember him with the liveliest emotions. His character was one which all will love to dwell upon, and his memory will be fresh in the hearts of our citizens for long years to come.

Colonel Nevius was only twenty-six years of age. He lived in deeds, and not in years. Nevius post, No. 1, G. A. R., is named after him.

THE MULLIGAN GUARDS.

Major Patrick Flynn was a representative son of Erin, who espoused the cause of his adopted country with a lover's devotion. He fought her battles with the characteristic ardor of his race. He was born in Mayo, Ireland, May 11, 1831. He came to Rockford in 1858, and was engaged in mercantile business until 1862, when President Lincoln issued a call for 300,000 volunteers.

Major Flynn enlisted about 300 men in Winnebago, Boone and Stephenson counties. He organized the Mulligan Guards, named in honor of the famous Colonel James Mulligan, of the Twenty-third Illinois, known as the Irish brigade. The late Dean Butler, priest of St. James' Catholic church, of Rockford, was chaplain of Mulligan's brigade. Later the major's company dropped the name of Mulligan Guards and was designated as Company A, Nineteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and assigned to the Fifteenth Army Corps. There were in this company ninety-three volunteers from Winnebago county. There were also six enlistments from the county in other companies of the regiment.

Many years after those stirring scenes, in November, 1900, Major Flynn related his experience in securing enlistments in the well-known Mulli-

gan Guards. These were given in a paper read before a campfire of Nevius post. The major said:

"On July 14, 1862, Charles L. Williams, then mayor of Rockford; Rev. J. P. Donelan, pastor of St. James' Catholic church; W. G. King, Judge Church, Hon. William Lathrop, Hon. Wait Talcott, Dr. R. P. Lane and Laurence McDonald called on me and suggested that I assist in raising an Irish company of volunteers. The idea was not displeasing to me, but, having a wife, I deemed it proper to first consult her in reference to the suggestion. She shared my patriotic feelings, or, rather, I shared hers, and the result was that I soon entered heartily into the undertaking. Only a few remain of those young men who signed the muster roll at that time. They are Andrew Phinney, and Hugh McMahon, of Burr-ritt, who was said to be the youngest sergeant in the brigade. The young Irishmen of Rockford became enthusiastic in the defense of their country, and in the remarkably short period of sixteen days 140 men enlisted. One more name which I was anxious to add to the list of these young heroes is that of Joseph P. Whalen, of Argyle township, who especially distinguished himself at the battle of Missionary Ridge on November 25, 1863. He deserves special mention, being struck by rebel bullets no less than three times, and so disabled in his limbs to this day that his effort to move about is extremely painful. We expected to be attached to the Twenty-third Illinois, which had achieved a brilliant reputation in the west and in Virginia, and whose young commander was James A. Mulligan. The company was named the Mulligan Guards in his honor. On August 31st we were mustered into the service of the United States at Camp Douglas, Chicago, and became Company A, of the Ninetieth Illinois, of which Colonel O'Meara became the commanding officer. There were also volunteers which I recruited in Company I. The regiment was then detailed for a time to guard prisoners at Camp Douglas. Rumors were rife for a time that the Knights of the Golden Circle were planning an attempt to liberate the rebel prisoners under our care. The rumors were not without foundation, though the attempt was not made at that time. Had it been, the Ninetieth would have proven itself loyal to the country that sheltered its members in their exile. In those days domestic enemies, which were known as copperheads, were a source of much annoyance."

In the same paper Major Flynn vividly described the battle of Missionary Ridge. His allusion to the death of Lieutenant James Conway, of Company A, breathes the fervor and eloquence of his race. Rare indeed is a soldier's death more impressively told than in these words:

"The next morning the Fifteenth Corps moved along the valley under the Lookout mountain range toward Chattanooga. On the morning of the 25th it was in line for the desperate struggle that day commemorates as the battle of Mission Ridge. The regiment lost its colonel, the brave O'Meara; its lieutenant-colonel was shot through the body, and Lieutenant James Conway, of Company A, of this city, was shot through the heart. When found after the sun went down, he was in a kneeling position, his sabre in his right hand, his revolver in his left, his face to the enemy and his virtuous eyes turned to heaven, as though fully satisfied of the sacred justness of the cause for which he was yielding up his life, he was anxious to meet the benignant glance of his Creator. Impressed with a knowledge of a duty nobly done, this brave young officer knelt at the shrine of infinite mercy, and while the words of hope were yet warm upon his quivering lips, his soul went forth into the presence of the Almighty Father. There 160 out of 370 heroes were beaten down in the bloody rain of rebel bullets. Being ranking officer, I took command of the Nineteenth that day."

Major Flynn served his company as captain from August, 1862, until March, 1863, when he was promoted to major and continued with his regiment until he was wounded, August 28, 1863, at the battle of Mission Ridge. He was mustered out of service in June, 1865.

During the early part of the war there were also eight enlistments in the Eighth Infantry, twenty in the Forty-sixth, one in the consolidated Forty-seventh, one in the Forty-eighth, one in the Forty-ninth, thirteen in the Fifty-first, three in the Fifty-fourth, two in the Sixty-ninth, and eight in the Seventy-first.

There were fifty-six volunteers in Batteries A, B, E, H and I of the First Regiment of light artillery, and twenty-one in the Second artillery.

DEATH OF COLONEL SMITH.

In the month of February, 1863, the Forty-fifth Regiment moved with Grant's army on transports down the river from Memphis to take part in the Vicksburg campaign. Stops were made at Lake Providence, Vista plantation and Milliken's Bend. At Milliken's Bend volunteers were called for to run the batteries with transports at Vicksburg. The entire regiment, officers and men, volunteered for this duty. The matter was decided by making a detail of the quota assigned to the Forty-fifth. The detail comprised the crew which manned the steamer Anglo-Saxon, and took her safely through, loaded with a full cargo of commissary stores.

May 1, 1863, found the Forty-fifth on the east bend of the Mississippi at Bruinsburg, below

Vicksburg, and the same day started with General Grant's army on the famous campaign which ended in the capture of Vicksburg. The regiment participated in all the battles of the campaign, forming part of Logan's division.

The position of the Forty-fifth during the siege of Vicksburg was immediately at the White House, on the Jackson road, in front of the rebel Fort Hill, regarded as the key to the fortress.

The Forty-fifth took part in three charges against the rebel works, on the 19th and 22d of May and the 25th of June. On the 22d Major Luther H. Cowan was instantly killed. About a month was occupied in running a gap and digging a mine under Fort Hill. June 25th, the mine having been charged, the match was applied. The Forty-fifth was selected as the storming party after the breach should be made. Immediately after the explosion the regiment rushed into the crater, but was met with a murderous fire by the enemy, who was still protected by an embankment of about three feet in width, which had been thrown up by the rebels as an inner line in case the outer works should be demolished. The loss to the Forty-fifth in this charge was eighty-three officers and men killed and wounded. Among the number were Melancthon Smith, lieutenant-colonel; Leander B. Fisk, major, and a number of non-commissioned officers and men. Among the wounded was Jasper A. Maltby, colonel of the regiment. It was a bloody affair, indeed. When the city surrendered, on account of its conspicuous service during the siege, by order of General Grant, the Forty-fifth was given the advance of the Union army when it entered that stronghold, and its flag was raised upon the courthouse by Colonel William F. Strong, of General McPherson's staff, to denote the possession of the city by the Federal army.

June 25, 1863, Colonel Smith was mortally wounded at the storming of a fort at Vicksburg by General Logan's division. He lingered three days in a state of half-consciousness and died Sunday morning, June 28, in the thirty-sixth year of his age. His remains were brought to Rockford for burial. Funeral services were held June 11th at the home of his father-in-law, John Edwards. His remains lay in state in front of the house. The discourse was delivered by Rev. F. M. Holland, pastor of the Unitarian church, of which Colonel Smith was a member.

Sunday afternoon Dr. H. M. Goodwin preached a memorial sermon in the Second Congregational church. Concerning Colonel Smith's patriotism, Dr. Goodwin said: "Before deciding to enter the army, he made the question a subject of devout and earnest prayer, and the decision, when made, was a religious consecration to the service of his country, expecting never to return, but to die on the field of battle."

RESUME OF RECORD OF VOLUNTEERS.

November 14, 1863. Robert Ogilby made an abstract of the record of Winnebago county volunteers to that date. The total number of enlistments was 2,127. Of these 47 had been killed, 100 died, 86 wounded, 24 wounded and died, 49 wounded and discharged, 14 discharged and died, 6 mustered out and died. The total deaths to that date were 254.

SUPERVISORS RAISE WAR BOUNTY.

At the regular session of the supervisors in December, 1863, the board of supervisors raised the bounty to \$100 for all who would enlist between December 1st and January 5th. This bounty was in the form of a county bond drawing seven per cent. interest and transferable at pleasure.

The last year of the war drained the loyal states of its available militia. President Lincoln's call for 500,000 men in the summer of 1864 was a severe test of loyalty, but all demands were met by Winnebago county. September 15th the board of supervisors passed a resolution offering a bounty of \$300 to volunteers in the county who had enlisted since September 5th, or who might thereafter enlist. October 1st it was officially announced that Winnebago county was out of the draft, and that under the last call for volunteers, more than three hundred had been raised.

Winnebago county contributed 3,187 soldiers to the volunteer service of the Union during the Civil war. This was twenty-five more than its quota.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

The adjutant-general's report devotes fifteen full pages to the list of Illinois soldiers who died in Andersonville prison. Among those who survived the horrors of that prison pen from this county were Captain Lewis F. Lake, a member of Taylor's Battery, who had been captured at the battle of Atlanta; Lieutenant Andrew Phinney and Roger Brown. The late Dr. Selwyn Clark and Dr. Clinton Helm were confined in Libby prison. H. C. Scovill, the present city clerk, was a prisoner ten months at Macon, Georgia. He enlisted in an Ogle county company. William L. Mesick, of Company E, First Illinois Light Artillery, a Rockford boy, was left on the field of Guntown, Mississippi, for dead, and afterward turned up at Andersonville prison. His funeral sermon was preached in Rockford. He recovered his health in a measure, and lived more than thirty years.

MRS. MARY BRAINARD, ARMY NURSE.

Mrs. Mary Brainard saw the hard side of the war life, and worked many a long night over

the dying soldiers, and writing the last letters home for those who were too weak to do it for themselves. Mrs. Brainard left Rockford in September of 1862, going with the Seventy-fourth Illinois volunteers as a nurse under Colonel Marsh. In a short time she was made nurse and head matron of the hospital at Lebanon, Kentucky, where she spent the winter, and then going to the hospital at Lewisville as head nurse and matron. She spent the summer there in charge of the officers' hospital, but during the fall she was taken seriously sick with malarial fever and was sent north. During the time of her nursing she was not under sanitary commission, as were most of the nurses, but was in the government employ. Because of her faithful work she was awarded a pension by a special act of congress. Mrs. Brainard died suddenly October 7, 1905.

CHRISTIAN COMMISSION.

The late Dr. Thomas Kerr was for a time a member of the Christian commission, under appointment of President Lincoln. After his return from the field he delivered a number of lectures, the proceeds of which were devoted to the war relief fund.

THE NAVAL SERVICE.

The county contributed a few volunteers to the naval service. Volney D. Woodruff, John L. Clark, George Potter, and John A. Ferguson were members of the West Gulf Blockading squadron. John McDermaid, now a resident of Rockford, but who enlisted in an eastern state, enjoys the distinction of having been a participant in the engagement in which the Confederate ram *Albatross* was destroyed. This unique historic event occurred October 27, 1864, on Roanoke river, in North Carolina, by a detail of twelve men, under command of Col. Cushing.

SENT ELEVEN SONS TO WAR.

The story of Mrs. H. B. Merchant's devotion to her country is probably without parallel. Her husband had died several years before and she was dependent for support upon her eleven sons. When the war broke out she bade the elder ones farewell and they went away. As the need for men grew greater the younger ones enlisted until finally all of the eleven were fighting for the stars and stripes. The brothers in the war and the commands in which they enlisted were: G. W. Merchant, Co. C, 74th Ill. Vol.; A. L. Merchant, Co. C, 15th Ill. Vol.; Enoch Merchant, Co. F, 156th Ill. Vol.; D. O. Merchant, Co. C, 74th Ill. Vol.; S. B. Merchant, Co. G, 44th Ill. Vol.; A.

J. Merchant, Co. G, 44th Ill. Vol.; L. E. Merchant, Co. G, 45th Ill. Vol.; Aaron Merchant, Co. G, 15th Wis. Vol.; N. W. Merchant, United States Cavalry; J. C. Merchant, teamster in quarter-master's department. Each of the brothers who survived received an honorable discharge.

THE COST OF THE WAR.

January 1, 1866, Adjutant-General Haynie issued a circular letter to the authorities of each county in the state, requesting a statement of the amount of money paid by counties, cities and villages. Winnebago county contributed \$434,038.25. The several townships and the city of Rockford raised \$65,964.13. These sums make a grand total of \$500,002.38. This amount was expended for bounties, transportation, subsistence, general expenses, soldiers' families and interest.

END OF WAR STORY.

The writer is deeply conscious of the fact that this sketch is not an adequate history of the part borne by Winnebago county in the great civil conflict. Such an undertaking would require a volume in itself. After the admission has been made, however, this history may still modestly claim to be the most complete that has appeared to date. It is hoped that in time to come some historian may tell the story in full as it is worthy to be told.

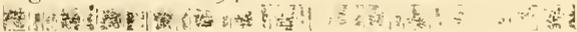
NEVIUS POST G. A. R.

Nevius post, G. A. R., is one of the oldest posts in the United States. For some years there was much discussion over the question of priority of organization of the Wisconsin and the Illinois departments, and this honor has finally been decided in favor of the latter. The Rockford post was mustered into the order June 1, 1866, by General Stephen A. Hurlbut, as No. 124, although the charter bears the date of October 3d, following. All previously organized posts in Illinois were disbanded, so that the Rockford post succeeded to priority. The present membership is about four hundred, in round numbers.

Nevius post has been able to secure, during the thirty-nine years of its history, some of the best orators in the country, for Memorial day occasions. Among these are: Gen. John A. Logan, Gen. John L. Beveridge, Gen. Smith D. Atkins, Gen. Allen C. Fuller, Gen. A. L. Chetlain, Ex-Secretary of War Belknap, Bishop Samuel Fallows, Col. James A. Sexton, Col. Frank A. Riddle, Col. W. P. Hepburn, Commander-in-Chief John R. Rea, Gov. Chamberlain of Vermont, W. J. Calhoun.

The post was named in honor of Colonel Garrett L. Nevius, who was killed during the siege of Vicksburg. Only two charter members are known to be living: J. G. Manlove and Evans Blake. The annual encampment of the Department of Illinois has been held four times in Rockford. The last two dates were 1894 and 1905.

Col. Thomas G. Lawler has served the post the greater part of its history as commander. Beginning with July, 1868, he served five terms of six months each. In 1872 he was elected for the term of one year and has held the office thirty-three consecutive years. Col. Lawler was elected commander-in-chief of the national Grand Army organization in 1894.


FAMOUS INVITATION TO JEFFERSON DAVIS.

July 1, 1875, Mr. Henry P. Kimball, the secretary of the Winnebago County Agricultural society for seventeen years, by the authority of the board of directors, extended an invitation to Jefferson Davis to be present at the annual exhibition in September, and deliver an address. This invitation and its acceptance stirred up such a furore of excitement among the people of northern Illinois as to induce Mr. Davis to withdraw his acceptance. The correspondence thus necessitated became a matter of national notoriety.

In the time of the Indian troubles through this section of the country Jefferson Davis, with others, helped subdue them. Later, however, he became the representative man and leader in the attempt to establish an independent confederacy out of the slave states, and, although unsuccessful, the horrors of the war that followed were not forgotten.

When his promised attendance was announced, the memories of war times were kindled anew in the loyal heart, and a cry of opposition was raised that was soon borne to the ears of the Confederate chieftain, giving him to understand that his presence would be offensive almost beyond toleration. In giving shape to this opposition the G. L. Nevius post, G. A. R., of Rockford, was the first to move, and caused to be issued the following protest:

"Whereas: We learn, with regret, that Jefferson Davis has been invited by the board of directors of the Winnebago Agricultural society to deliver the annual address at our county fair; and whereas, we look upon it as an insult to the loyal citizens of Winnebago county to invite the arch-traitor, Jefferson Davis, to address the relatives and surviving friends of thirteen thousand men murdered at Andersonville alone, by his orders.

"Resolved, That while as an organization we have nothing to do with politics, yet, as loyal citizens and former soldiers, we feel it our duty

to speak in behalf of the memory of our fellow comrades, who are no longer able to speak for themselves.

"Second. That we protest against the action of the board of directors, and pledge ourselves that we will not attend the fair, nor contribute anything toward making it a success, if the board of directors persist in bringing forward this arch-traitor and coward.

"Third. That these resolutions be signed by the members of this post, and published in the county papers."

This protest was signed by one hundred and twenty-six members of the post, and a printed copy thereof forwarded to Mr. Davis, upon the receipt of which he addressed to Mr. Kimball his letter of declination, under date of August 15th.

THE FALL OF THE COURTHOUSE.

In 1875 the board of supervisors took preliminary steps toward the erection of a new courthouse. Henry L. Gay was the architect, and W. D. Richardson the contractor. The corner-stone was laid June 23, 1876. May 11, 1877, occurred the greatest disaster in the history of the city, known as the "fall of the courthouse." All but a portion of the front pediment of the main central tower, or dome, had fallen straight through the middle of the building, crushing in its descent much of the inside work of the structure. Seven men were killed outright, and several others severely wounded, two of whom died before the coroner's jury had completed its inquest.

Those who were killed outright were Fred Haug, A. Hollenbeck, John Warren, A. Haug, John Pipe, George Gloss, Timothy Flannigan.

The wounded were August Lucas, Thomas Hayes, William Melnis, John Peck, George Smith, Hugh Eldredge, Cicero Dickerson, Hendrez Beldahl, Isaac Donnelly, John Donaldson, Frank Harris, and a man named Lindholm. John Peck and Lindholm died from their injuries.

A coroner's jury made careful examination into the cause of the disaster. The jury was composed of Selden M. Church, H. W. Carpenter, George S. Haskell, John R. Porter, G. A. Sanford, J. B. Howell, Thomas Butterworth, George Wilson, J. W. Secomb, D. L. Emerson, Wm. H. Smith, A. G. Lowry.

The jury found that the disaster was caused first by the neglect of Henry L. Gay, the architect, to provide for the great amount of weight called for to complete the building according to the plans designed by him; second, want of care on the part of said architect in not giving special specifications and plans for the parts of the general plan required to carry the extra weight, in proportion to their superficies; third, the board of

supervisors failed to use due caution in examining the plans and specifications, and in not employing a competent architect.

Work was at once resumed, and the courthouse was completed in 1878, at a total cost of \$211,000.

THE RIFLES AND THE GREYS.

During the interval between the Civil and the Spanish wars there were two local militia companies which brought much fame to the Forest City. They were the Rifles and the Greys. The former, Company K, was organized in 1876, and the latter, Company H, six years afterwards. The Rifles early in their career, through their proficiency in drill and military standing, achieved a fame by no means confined to Illinois alone.

One year after their organization the Rifles saw their first military service. This was during the Braidwood riot. In 1893 with the Greys it served in a similar capacity.

The history of Company K dates from July, 1876, when the governor's guard of Springfield visited Rockford, on the occasion of the laying of the courthouse corner-stone. So favorable was the impression made by the visitors that a call for a similar independent military organization was issued at once. The first meeting for organization was held July 22d, in G. A. R. hall. John C. Garver was chairman, C. M. Braze was elected captain; George A. Silsby, first lieutenant; and H. N. Starr, second lieutenant. Thomas G. Lawler was elected drill-master and at the third meeting there were 114 men in line.

In the following year the state legislature passed a law providing for an enlisted militia. The Rifles promptly enlisted, and became Company B, of the Third regiment. After a brief service in the Braidwood riots the company decided to give attention to competitive drills, and in the autumn of that year defeated the Aurora Light Guard.

In 1879 the company participated in the great military encampment and prize contest at St. Louis in the month of October. On the way it stopped at Springfield and participated in a drill, in which it was defeated by the Moline troops, the decision of the judges creating dissatisfaction among the spectators. At St. Louis the Rifles secured fourth honors among sixteen entries, the Chickasaw Guards being first, Company B, First infantry, Chicago, second; and a St. Louis company third.

In the month of October the company made its famous southern trip to participate in the military encampment at Atlanta. Its journey going and returning was marked by ovations. The Forest City band played "Dixie" and the warm-hearted southerners immediately took the Rockford boys to their hearts.

The Greys were mustered into service December 28, 1882, by Major Henry N. Starr. George F. Adams was the original captain; Fred C. Pierce, first lieutenant and Donald Tolmie, second lieutenant. Captain Adams resigned the following year, and was succeeded by Fred Pierce. He in turn was succeeded by William G. Dustin. William C. Wildt was elected captain in 1886. When the latter moved up to the major's position Fred N. Drake was elected captain. He resigned March 27, 1893, and was succeeded by First Lieutenant William C. Brogunier.

Both companies have made history that has reflected credit upon Winnebago county.

ROCKFORD'S REPRESENTATIVES IN CONGRESS.

The several congressional districts, of which Winnebago county has successively formed a part, have been represented in congress by able gentlemen. Several were statesmen and specialists of national and even international reputation. In order to make the record complete a paragraph must be devoted to the territorial organization of Illinois.

Previous to 1818, when Illinois became a state, the territory was represented in congress successively by three delegates. Shadrach Bond served from December 3, 1812, until October 3, 1814. Benjamin Stephenson succeeded Bond, and served from November 14, 1814, until April 29, 1816. Nathaniel Pope entered congress December 2, 1816, as the last territorial delegate, and remained until Illinois became a state in March, 1818.

From 1818 until 1832, the state of Illinois constituted one congressional district. Daniel P. Cook was its first representative in congress, and served from 1818 to 1827. Joseph Duncan succeeded and held his seat until 1833.

The first apportionment proper was made in 1831. The state was divided into three districts. The Third included the northern half of the state, and was represented successively by three congressmen. Joseph Duncan was elected in 1832. He resigned and Wm. L. May, of Springfield, was elected to complete the term. May was re-elected as a democrat in 1834 and 1836. The latter year was the first in which Winnebago county voted at a congressional election. John T. Stuart, subsequently a law partner of Abraham Lincoln, was elected in 1838 over Stephen A. Douglas, and was re-elected in 1840. Under the apportionment of 1843, Joseph P. Hogue, of Galena, was elected as a democrat for the new Rockford district, and re-elected in 1844, defeating Martin P. Sweet, of Freeport. In 1846 Thomas J. Turner, of Freeport, was elected and served one term as a democrat. By the year 1848 the whigs had again come into power, and the famous Colonel Edward D. Baker was elected.

Colonel Baker was born in London, England, February 24, 1811. He came to the United States at the age of five years, with his father, who died in Philadelphia. The son removed to Springfield, Illinois. He rose rapidly to distinction, and in 1844 he was elected a member of congress. He served his adopted country with signal ability in the Mexican war; and upon his return to Illinois he settled at Galena. After serving one term in congress he settled in San Francisco, California, in 1852. Colonel Baker was a brilliant orator. His speech on the death of Senator Broderick, of California, who fell in a duel with Judge Terry, in 1859, is one of the masterpieces of American oratory. For an hour the homage of tears was paid to Baker's genius and to Broderick's memory. His closing words are remarkable for their pathos: "The last word must be spoken, and the imperious mandate of death must be fulfilled. Thus, O brave heart! we lay thee to thy rest. Thus, surrounded by tens of thousands, we leave thee to thy equal grave. As in life no other voice among us so rang its trumpet blast upon the ears of freeman, so in death its echoes will reverberate amidst our mountains and our valleys until truth and valor cease to appeal to the human heart. Good friend! true hero! hail and farewell!"

Colonel Baker was subsequently elected United States senator from Oregon. His debate with Breckenridge in the senate in 1861 attracted national attention. "In the history of the senate," says Mr. Blaine, "no more thrilling speech was ever delivered. The striking appearance of the speaker, in the uniform of a soldier, his superb voice, his graceful manner, all united to give to the occasion an extraordinary interest, and attraction." Colonel Baker left his seat in the senate and entered military service. He was killed while commanding a brigade at the battle of Ball's Bluff, October 21, 1861.

Col. Baker was succeeded in 1850 by Thompson Campbell, of Galena, as a democrat, who served one term.

Under the apportionment of 1852 the state was divided into nine districts. Elihu B. Washburne served the entire period of ten years during which this apportionment continued. Mr. Washburne was first elected as a whig; his subsequent elections were as a republican.

Elihu Benjamin Washburne was a member of the celebrated Washburne family. He was born in Livermore, Maine, September 23, 1816. In 1839 he entered the Harvard law school. Among his classmates were Richard H. Dana and William M. Evarts. He was admitted to the bar in 1840, and at once settled at Galena, Illinois, and entered into partnership in the practice of law with Charles S. Hempstead, one of the incorporators of Rockford female seminary. Mr. Wash-

burne remained in congress from 1853 until March 6, 1869. From this long and honorable service he was familiarly known as the "Father of the House," and in that capacity he administered the oath as speaker to Schuyler Colfax three times, and once to James G. Blaine. By reason of his insistence that the finances of the government should be administered with the strictest economy, Mr. Washburne was called the "Watch-dog of the Treasury." Mr. Washburne called the attention of Governor Yates to his townsman, Ulysses S. Grant, who wished to enter military service. When the hero of the Civil war became president, he honored his old friend with the appointment of secretary of state, and later made him minister to France. This position he held during the Franco-Prussian war. At the request of Bismarck, and with the permission of the French minister of foreign affairs, Mr. Washburne exercised his official influence for the protection of the Germans in Paris. When the empire was overthrown, Mr. Washburne was the first foreign representative to recognize the new republic. He remained in Paris during the siege, and was at his post when the commune ruled the city. The emperor of Germany recognized his services by conferring upon him the Order of the Red Eagle. He declined this honor because a provision of the constitution of the United States prohibited it. Upon Mr. Washburne's resignation in 1877, the emperor sent him his life-size portrait; and he was similarly honored by Bismarck, Thiers and Gambetta. Mr. Washburne died in Chicago October 22, 1887.

The apportionment of 1861 divided the state into thirteen districts. Winnebago county formed a part of the Second district, and General John F. Farnsworth represented the district during the full ten years.

In 1872 the state was divided into nineteen districts, and Winnebago formed a part of the Fourth. General Stephen A. Hurlbut, of Belvidere, was elected, over Hon. S. G. Bronson, then of Rockford. Gen. Hurlbut was re-elected over Gen. Farnsworth in 1874.

Stephen A. Hurlbut was born in Charleston, South Carolina, in 1815, and settled in Belvidere in 1845. He was the son of a Unitarian clergyman, and a brother of William Henry Hurlbut, for many years editor-in-chief of the New York World. He was commissioned a brigadier-general in 1861, commanded the Fourth division at the battle of Shiloh, and for that service he was promoted to the rank of major-general, and assigned to the command of the department of the gulf. General Hurlbut was the first commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic; was appointed minister-resident to the United States of Colombia by President Grant. In 1881 General Hurlbut

was appointed United States minister to Peru, and died at Lima in the spring of the following year. Abraham Lincoln once said that Stephen A. Hurlbut was the ablest orator on the stump that Illinois had ever produced.

Hon. William Lathrop was elected in 1876, and served one term. He is the only citizen of Rockford who ever held a seat in congress.

John C. Sherwin, of Aurora, was elected in 1878, and re-elected in 1880.

By the apportionment of 1882 Winnebago was attached to the Sixth district and Hon. Robert R. Hitt was its representative for ten years. In 1893 Winnebago became a part of the Ninth district, and Mr. Hitt also served this district ten years.

Congressman Hitt was born at Urbana, Ohio, January 16, 1834, and moved to Ogle county, Illinois, in 1837. His first public work of note was the stenographic report of the famous Lincoln and Douglas debates in 1858. He was first United States secretary of legation and charge d'affaires ad interim, at Paris, from 1874 to 1881. Mr. Hitt was assistant secretary of state of the United States in 1881, when James G. Blaine was at the head of the state department.

Mr. Hitt's continuous service of twenty-three years in the house has given him a national reputation. He has for several years been chairman of the committee on foreign affairs, and is considered one of the best authorities in this country on international law. In July, 1898, he was appointed by President McKinley, a member of the commission to establish a government for Hawaii, upon its annexation to the United States.

Edward D. Baker, E. B. Washburne, John F. Farnsworth, Stephen A. Hurlbut and Robert R. Hitt were men of national reputation who have served the several districts in which Rockford has from time to time been located. This record is scarcely less notable than that of the old Western Reserve district in Ohio, which was represented by Elisha Whittlesey, Joshua R. Giddings and James A. Garfield, whose terms aggregated fifty-one years.

The apportionment of 1901 made Winnebago county a part of the Twelfth district. Judge Charles E. Fuller, of Belvidere, was nominated in 1902, without opposition, and elected. He was also renominated in 1904 by acclamation, and re-elected.

Rockford has not been represented in congress by a democrat in fifty-one years, since the retirement of Thompson Campbell in 1853.

WINNEBAGO COUNTY IN STATE LEGISLATURE.

A complete roster of the senators and representatives who have represented Winnebago county in the state legislature is given herewith.

There have been many apportionments, and the county has had quite a number of political neighbors. Among these since the pioneer days have been Ogle, Boone, McHenry and Lake.

When Germanicus Kent and Thatcher Blake settled in Rockford in 1834, what is now Winnebago county was a part of senatorial and representative districts which covered a large portion of northern Illinois.

Under the apportionment of 1831 the counties of Peoria, Jo Daviess, Putnam, La Salle and Cook were united in one district, and had one senator and one representative. Winnebago county, having been organized from attached portions of La Salle and Jo Daviess, was included in this territory.

At the election of 1832, James M. Strode was elected senator, and Benjamin Mills, representative. In 1834 James W. Stephenson was chosen senator, but he resigned and James M. Strode was chosen his successor. John Hamlin was elected representative.

Winnebago county was organized in 1836, and continued to be attached to Jo Daviess county in all general elections until the apportionment of 1841. At the general election in 1836, A. G. S. Wright, of Jo Daviess, was elected senator, and Elijah Charles and James Craig were elected representatives. In 1838 George W. Harrison was chosen senator, and served the district until a new apportionment was made. Germanicus Kent, of Winnebago, and James Craig, of Jo Daviess, were elected representatives. In 1840 Thomas Drummond, of Galena, and Hiram W. Thornton, of Jo Daviess, were elected representatives.

The apportionment of February 26, 1841, provided that the county of Winnebago should have one representative, Ogle one representative, "and the two together one senator." The first election under this apportionment was held in 1842. Spooner Ruggles, of Ogle county, was elected senator, and served four years. Before his term had expired, however, Mr. Ruggles had become a citizen of Winnebago county. In 1846 Anson S. Miller was elected senator and served two years.

In 1842 Darius Adams was elected representative from Winnebago county, and served one term. In 1844 Anson S. Miller was elected, and served one term; and in 1846 Robert J. Cross was elected and served one term.

The constitution of 1848 divided the state into twenty-five senatorial districts, with one member each, and fifty-four representative districts, with a total of seventy-five members.

Under this apportionment, McHenry, Boone and Winnebago counties constituted the Twenty-fourth senatorial district. At the first election Alfred E. Ames, of Winnebago county, was elected senator. The senators, at their first session

under the new constitution, were divided by lots into two classes. The seats of the first class were vacated at the expiration of the second year, and those of the second class at the expiration of the fourth year, so that one-half of the members were elected biennially. Mr. Ames drew the short term and served two years. In 1850 Thomas B. Talcott was elected senator, and served four years.

Under this constitutional apportionment, Winnebago county constituted the Forty-seventh representative district, with one member. Wilson H. Crandall was elected in 1848, and served one term. Horace Miller was elected in 1850, and served one term. In 1852 Abraham I. Enoch was elected and served two years.

The act of February 27, 1854, apportioned the representation in the general assembly at twenty-five senators and seventy-five members of the house, with fifty-eight representative districts. Boone, Winnebago, Ogle and Carroll comprised the Third senatorial district.

At the election in November, 1854, Wait Talcott, of Winnebago, was elected senator for the Third district, and served the full term of four years. In 1858 Zenas Applington, of Ogle, was elected, and served four years.

The apportionment of 1854 made Winnebago county the Fifty-third representative district, with one member. In November of that year William Lyman, of Rockford, was elected, and served two years. In 1856 William Lathrop was elected and served one term. Elijah W. Blaisdell, Jr., was elected in 1858, the year of the famous Lincoln and Douglas debate. Mr. Blaisdell voted for Abraham Lincoln for United States senator. In 1860 Alfred A. Hale was elected and served one term.

By the act of January 31, 1861, the representation was fixed at twenty-five senators and eighty-five members. The state was divided into twenty-five senatorial and sixty-one representative districts. Winnebago, Boone, McHenry and Lake constituted the Twenty-third senatorial district.

At the first election on this basis, in 1862, Cornelius Lansing, of McHenry, was elected senator, and served three years. Senator Lansing died August 26, 1865. In 1866 General Allen C. Fuller, of Belvidere, was elected senator, and was re-elected in 1870.

Under the apportionment of 1861, Winnebago county was made the Fifty-fifth representative district, with one member. In 1862 Selden M. Church, of Rockford, was elected, and served one term. In 1864 William Brown, of Rockford, was elected, and served one term. Abraham I. Enoch was elected in 1866, and served one term. Ephraim Sumner was elected in 1868.

The representation in the Twenty-seventh general assembly, which convened January 4,

1871, was the first under the constitution of 1870, and was apportioned by the governor and secretary of state. There were fifty senators and 177 representatives. The state was divided into twenty-five senatorial districts, and ninety-seven representative districts. Winnebago, Boone, McHenry and Lake counties constituted the Twenty-third senatorial district. At the election of 1870 General Allen C. Fuller, of Belvidere, and John Early, of Rockford, were elected senators.

Winnebago county was made the Ninety-first representative district, and at the election of 1870 James M. Wight and D. Emmons Adams were elected members of the house.

By the act of March 1, 1872, the state was divided into fifty-one senatorial districts, as provided by the constitution. Each district was entitled to one senator. Winnebago and Boone counties comprised the Ninth senatorial district. At the general election in 1872 John Early, of Rockford, was elected senator for the Ninth district. The constitution of 1870 provided that senators elected in 1872 should vacate their offices at the expiration of two years. Mr. Early was re-elected in 1874 for the full term of four years, but died while in office, in September, 1877.

In 1878 Charles E. Fuller, of Belvidere, was elected senator, after a notable triangular contest.

Under the new constitution senatorial and representative districts became identical for the first time in the history of the state. Each district was entitled to three representatives.

In 1872 Robert J. Cross and Duncan J. Stewart, of Winnebago county, and Jesse S. Hildrup, of Boone county, were elected representatives for the Ninth senatorial district. Mr. Cross died in office, February 15, 1873, and Richard F. Crawford was chosen to complete his term. In 1874 Andrew Ashton and Richard F. Crawford, of Winnebago, and Myron K. Avery, of Boone, were elected. George H. Hollister, John Budlong, and Andrew Ashton, all of Winnebago county, were elected in 1876. In 1878 Omar H. Wright, of Boone, and Thomas Butterworth and Horace W. Taylor, of Winnebago, were elected. In 1880 Edward B. Sumner, of Winnebago, and Omar H. Wright, of Belvidere, were elected as republicans, and Laurence McDonald, of Winnebago, was the democratic minority representative.

By the apportionment act of May, 1882, Winnebago and Ogle counties were united in the Tenth senatorial district.

The first election under this apportionment was held in 1882. Isaac Rice, of Ogle county, the hold-over senator from the old Twelfth district, had two years to serve, as it is a principle of our present constitutional law that no man can be legislated out of office. There was therefore no election of senator until 1884, when Edward B. Sumner was elected for the full term of four

years. Benjamin F. Sheets, of Ogle county, succeeded Mr. Sumner in 1888, and served four years. In 1892 David Hunter, of Winnebago, was elected and served four years.

In 1882 Albert F. Brown and John Seyster, of Ogle, and Edward B. Sumner, of Winnebago, were elected representatives for the Tenth district. Albert F. Brown, republican, of Ogle, David Hunter, republican, of Winnebago, and Edward M. Winslow, democrat, of Ogle, were elected in 1884. In 1886 David Hunter, of Winnebago, James Lamont, of Winnebago, prohibitionist, and James P. Wilson, republican, of Ogle, were elected representatives. From 1888 to 1890 David Hunter and Robert Simpson, of Winnebago, and Wm. H. Cox, of Ogle, represented the district. In 1890 James P. Wilson and Prescott Talbot, of Ogle, and David Hunter, of Winnebago, were elected. In 1892 James P. Wilson and Prescott H. Talbot, of Ogle county, and Lars M. Noling, of Winnebago, were elected representatives.

By the apportionment act of June 15, 1893, Winnebago and Ogle counties were continued as the Tenth district.

The first election for senator under this apportionment was held in 1896, when Delos W. Baxter, of Rochelle, was elected senator for the full term. In 1900 Henry Andrus, of Winnebago, was elected senator, and his term expired January 1, 1905.

The first election for representatives under this apportionment was in 1894, when Lars M. Noling and C. Harry Woolsey, of Winnebago, and Victor H. Bovey, of Ogle, were elected for this district. In 1896 Lars M. Noling and Henry Andrus, of Winnebago, and Victor H. Bovey, of Ogle, all republicans, were elected. In 1898 Henry Andrus and Frank S. Regan, of Winnebago, and James A. Countryman, of Ogle, were elected. In 1900 James A. Countryman and James P. Wilson, of Ogle, and David Hunter, of Winnebago, were elected.

By the act of May 10, 1901, Winnebago and Ogle counties were for a third time made the Tenth senatorial district.

At the election in 1902 Frederick Haines, republican, of Winnebago, Johnson Lawrence, republican, of Ogle, and James P. Wilson, democrat, of Ogle, were elected representatives. B. McHenry, of Ogle, were elected representatives.

At the general election in November, 1904, A. J. Anderson was elected senator, and Frederick Haines and C. E. Martin, of Winnebago, and W. B. McHenry, of Ogle, were elected representatives.

JUDICIAL HISTORY—CIRCUIT BENCH.

The first circuit court held in Winnebago county convened October 6, 1837, at the house of

Daniel S. Haight. This was the frame building which stood on the northeast corner of Madison and State streets, a part of which is now on the northeast corner of Second and Walnut streets. Hon. Daniel Stone, of Galena, was the presiding judge. Seth B. Farwell was appointed state's attorney pro tem; and James Mitchell, then of Jo Daviess county, was made clerk.

Under the first constitution of Illinois, the justices of the supreme court and the judges of the inferior courts were elected by joint ballot of the legislature. This made the courts in a sense, the creatures of the legislature, rather than a co-ordinate branch of the government. The legislature is always governed more or less by partisan expediency, and the reflex action upon the judiciary compromised its independence.

The first judicial apportionment which affected Winnebago county was the act of the legislature of January 17, 1835, by which the state was divided into six judicial circuits.

Under this first apportionment, what is now Winnebago county formed a part of the Sixth circuit. Thomas Ford was commissioned January 19, 1835, but he never presided over a court within the present limits of Winnebago county. Judge Ford resigned in March, 1837, and was elected governor in 1842. He was the author of Ford's History of Illinois, an historical classic. Judge Ford was succeeded by Judge Stone, who was commissioned March 4, 1837.

Judge Stone, a native of Vermont, became a member of the Springfield bar in 1833. Upon his elevation to the bench, he was assigned to the northwestern part of the state, and removed to Galena. Judge Stone was legislated out of office in 1841. He removed a few years later from the state, and died in New Jersey.

The Seventh judicial circuit was created February 4, 1837, and February 23, 1839, the Eighth and Ninth circuits were created. Judges were appointed for these additional circuits.

The judiciary of the state was reorganized in 1841 by a statute which repealed all former laws authorizing the election of circuit judges, who were legislated out of office. The state was divided into nine circuits. Additional justices of the supreme court were appointed, who were required to do circuit duty. The judiciary, as thus organized, was continued until the entire system of an appointive judiciary was swept away by the new constitution of 1848.

Under this new system the first judge assigned to circuit duty in Rockford was Hon. Thomas C. Browne, who presided at the first term of court in the courthouse completed in 1844. James Mitchell was clerk, and G. A. Sanford, sheriff. Judge Browne was a native of Kentucky, and came to Illinois before its organization as a state. Upon the adoption of the first constitution, he

was elevated to the supreme bench, and served continuously thirty years, until the reorganization of the judiciary under the constitution of 1848. An attempt was made before the legislature in 1843 to impeach his ability as a judge. Nearly every attorney of the Winnebago county bar signed a petition for his removal, but the attempt resulted in failure. Judge Browne died in San Francisco, California, about 1857.

Hon. Jesse B. Thomas succeeded Judge Browne in 1847 as presiding judge of Winnebago county, and served until the judiciary system was changed in 1848. Judge Thomas first held the position of circuit judge from 1837 to 1839. In 1843 he became associate judge of the supreme court by appointment of the governor, as successor to Stephen A. Douglas, and was subsequently elected by the legislature to the same office. He died in Chicago February 21, 1850.

Hon. Hugh T. Dickey was the first judge to preside in Rockford after the adoption of the second constitution. Hugh Thompson Dickey came to Illinois from New York in 1840, and settled in Chicago. In September, 1848, he was elected judge of the Seventh judicial circuit. He died in New York, his native city, June 2, 1892.

Hon. Hugh Henderson, of Joliet, succeeded Judge Dickey, and presided in 1848 and 1849. He died soon afterward, and little is known of him.

Judge Benjamin R. Sheldon succeeded Judge Henderson. Judge Sheldon was a native of Massachusetts. He came to Illinois at an early day, and resided first at Hennepin, and later at Galena. He was elected in 1848 judge of the Sixth circuit, which was afterward divided, and he was assigned to the Fourteenth circuit. He remained on the circuit bench until 1870, when he was elected a justice of the supreme bench, presiding as chief justice in 1877. He was re-elected in 1879, and retired in 1888. Judge Sheldon then became a resident of Rockford, where he died April 13, 1897. He left an estate valued at \$2,000,000. He bequeathed \$10,000 to the Young Men's Christian Association of Rockford, and \$10,000 to Rockford College.

Hon. William Brown was the first citizen of Rockford to be elected to the circuit bench. Judge Brown was a native of England, born in Cumberland, June 1, 1810. His father's family came to America in 1827, and settled in New York. The son read law in Rome, and, after being admitted to the bar, came to Rockford in 1846. In 1852 Mr. Brown was elected by a large majority state's attorney for the Fourteenth judicial circuit, comprising Winnebago, Stephenson and Jo Daviess counties, serving for four years. Mr. Brown was elected mayor of Rockford in 1857, and in 1864 he was chosen member of the legislature. In 1870 Mr. Brown was elected a judge

of the circuit court, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the promotion of Judge Sheldon to the supreme bench. Under the judicial apportionment of March 28, 1873, Jo Daviess, Stephenson and Winnebago counties formed the First circuit. In the following June Judge Brown was elected for the full term of six years. He was subsequently elected for two full terms, making a total period of over twenty years on the bench. Judge Brown died January 15, 1891.

By the apportionment of 1873 the legislature, in accordance with the provisions of the constitution of 1870, divided the state, exclusive of Cook county, into twenty-six judicial circuits. In 1877 the legislature, in order to increase the number of circuit judges, and to provide for the organization of appellate courts, divided the state, outside of Cook county, into thirteen districts, and provided for the election of one additional judge in each district. In August, 1877, one additional judge for each circuit was elected for two years, making three judges in each district.

Under this act, in force July 1, 1877, the First judicial circuit, of which Winnebago county formed a part, was consolidated with the Third circuit, and made the Thirteenth. By this apportionment Judge Heaton, formerly of the Third circuit, and Judge Bailey became judges of the circuit court of Winnebago county, in addition to Judge Brown.

Hon. William W. Heaton was a native of New York, and settled at Dixon, Illinois, in 1840. In 1861 he was elected judge of the Twenty-second circuit, and occupied a seat upon the bench, through repeated re-elections, until his death, December 26, 1877, while serving as a member of the appellate court for the First district.

Judge Joseph M. Bailey, a native of New York, settled in Freeport, Illinois, in 1856, and began the practice of law. His first election to the bench in 1877 was for two years, but he was re-elected in 1879 and 1885. He was several times assigned to duty on the appellate bench, and in 1888 he was elected to the bench of the supreme court. Judge Bailey died in office October 16, 1895.

Hon. John V. Eustace came to Illinois in 1842 from Philadelphia, his native city. He settled in Dixon, where he resided until his death. He was first elected circuit judge in 1857, and served one term. In March, 1878, he was again elevated to the bench to succeed Judge Heaton. He was re-elected in 1879, and again in 1885. Judge Eustace died in Dixon in 1888.

Judge John D. Crabtree was a native of England, and emigrated to America in the early '40s. He went from Chicago to Pecatonica, where he worked on a farm for the late Ephraim Sumner. He then made his home in Lee county, where his entire subsequent life was spent. He was state

senator for the Nineteenth district in the thirty-fifth general assembly, where he was a colleague of Hon. E. B. Sumner. June 4, 1888, he was elected judge of the Thirteenth circuit, to succeed Judge Bailey. June 1, 1891, he was re-elected for the full term. Judge Crabtree died suddenly at Ottawa, May 22, 1902, while attending a session of the appellate court.

Judge James H. Cartwright is a son of Rev. Peter Cartwright, the famous pioneer Methodist preacher. He began the practice of law at Oregon, in Ogle county, in 1870. In 1888 he was elected circuit judge to succeed Judge Eustace, and in 1891 he was assigned to appellate duty. In 1895 he was elected justice of the supreme court to succeed Judge Bailey, and re-elected in 1897.

Hon. James Shaw is a native of Ireland. His career as an attorney began at Mount Carroll, Illinois. He served eight years in the Illinois house of representatives, and was speaker of that body in 1877. In 1891 he was elected judge for the Thirteenth circuit, and in 1897 he was re-elected for the Fifteenth circuit, under the last apportionment.

John C. Garver was a native of Winnebago county. He was born on a farm near Pecatonica. He took a full collegiate course at Wittenburg College, Springfield, Ohio, and studied law under the tutorship of General Keifer, at one time speaker of the lower house of congress. In 1871 Mr. Garver was admitted to the bar, and began the practice of his profession in Rockford. In 1872 he was elected state's attorney of Winnebago county, and re-elected in 1876. In 1896 Mr. Garver was elected to the circuit bench, to succeed Judge James Cartwright, upon the elevation of the latter to the supreme bench. Judge Garver was elected judge of the Seventeenth circuit, under the apportionment of 1897. Judge Garver died November 27, 1901.

Under the apportionment of 1897, McHenry, Boone, Lake and Winnebago counties constituted the Seventeenth circuit. In June of that year Hon. Charles H. Donnelly, of Wankegan, and Hon. Charles E. Fuller were elected with Judge Garver, already noted.

Hon. Charles E. Fuller is a native of Boone county, where his entire life has been spent. He was born in Flora township in 1849. After his admission to the bar in 1870 his rise to political prominence was very rapid. His first office was that of city attorney of Belvidere. In 1876 he was elected state's attorney of Boone county. Two years later he was elected state senator after a bitter contest that has become historic. Judge Fullers' legislative experience covers eight years in the state senate, and six in the house. In the memorable struggle over the United State senatorship in 1885, Mr. Fuller was the recognized leader of the "Famous 103," which stood 10-

getier until the re-election of General John A. Logan was accomplished, after a contest of four months. In 1897 Mr. Fuller was elected judge of the Seventeenth circuit for the full term of six years. In 1902 Judge Fuller was nominated member of congress for the Twelfth district without opposition, and in 1904 he was renominated with the same unique distinction. While Judge Fuller's temper is pre-eminently that of a parliamentary leader, yet he achieved the reputation as one of the fairest judges upon the local bench.

Upon the death of Judge Garver, Hon. A. H. Frost was elected in 1902 to fill the unexpired term. Judge Frost was born in Vermont, May 12, 1856. In 1861 he came to Rockford, where he has since resided. Judge Frost read law in the office of the late Major N. C. Warner, and was admitted to the bar January 19, 1879. For some years thereafter he served Rockford as police magistrate. He was elected state's attorney of Winnebago county in 1892, and re-elected in 1896 and 1900. This office he resigned February 24, 1902.

The election of Judge Fuller as member of congress involved his retirement from the bench, and at the judicial election held in June, 1903, Hon. A. H. Frost, Charles H. Donnelly and Hon. Robert W. Wright were elected judges of the Seventeenth circuit for the full term of six years.

Judge Wright is the youngest judge who ever sat upon the circuit bench in Rockford. He is the elder son of the late Hon. O. H. Wright, of Belvidere, who once represented Rockford district in the state legislature. Judge Wright was born July 1, 1862. He read law in his father's office, and was admitted to the bar at the age of twenty-one. In 1884 he was elected state's attorney of Boone county, and was re-elected in 1888, 1892 and 1896, serving sixteen years.

Judge Charles H. Donnelly is a native of Woodstock, Illinois, where he was born August 22, 1855. He received his collegiate education at Notre Dame University, and was admitted to the bar in January, 1877. From 1883 to 1891 he was city attorney of Woodstock. In 1886 he was elected captain of Company G, Third Regiment, Illinois National Guard, which position he held until 1892. In 1890 he was elected county judge, and served until June, 1897, when he resigned and was elected a judge of the Seventeenth circuit. Judge Donnelly was re-elected in 1903. In July, 1902, Judge Donnelly heard the arguments in the locally famous library site case, in chambers at Woodstock.

PROBATE AND COUNTY JUDGES.

Previous to 1837 a judge of probate was appointed for each county by the legislature. In 1837 the office was made elective, with the title of probate justice of the peace, to be filled by a

vote of the people. The constitution of 1848 brought this court to an end, and transferred its powers to the judge of the county court.

Milton Kilburn was the first judge of probate, and served from 1836 to 1837. Mr. Kilburn was a settler of 1835.

Charles I. Horsman was the second judge of probate, and held the office from 1837 to 1838. Mr. Horsman came to Rockford in 1836, with his bride, the only daughter of Abiram Morgan. Mr. Horsman was one of the best known citizens of Winnebago county.

Anson Barnum was the third probate judge, and held the office from 1838 to 1841. He was a son of Ezra Barnum, the first shoemaker of the village. The family settled in Rockford in 1835.

John W. Taylor held the office from 1841 to 1843. He was a prominent citizen of early Rockford, and a brother-in-law of the late T. D. Robertson.

Bela Shaw was probate justice of the peace from 1843 to 1849. Judge Shaw came to Rockford in the later '30s. He died suddenly, May 31, 1865.

Selden M. Church was the first county judge under the constitution of 1848, and held the office from 1849 to 1857. Judge Church was a member of the constitutional convention of 1847, and later was a member of the legislature.

Anson S. Miller succeeded Judge Church, and served from 1857 to 1865. Judge Miller also served at various times as senator, representative and postmaster. He was a brother of Cyrus F. and Asher Miller.

Abram S. Van Dyke, of Pecatonica, was elected in 1865, and served until 1873, when he resigned, just before the expiration of his term.

Judge R. C. Bailey was first chosen in 1873 to fill the unexpired term of Judge Van Dyke. At the county election in that year he was elected, and has held the office thirty-two years. This long service on the bench is without parallel in the history of Winnebago county, and, so far as known to the writer, is without precedent in Illinois. Judge Bailey was born in Auburn, Maine, July 28, 1833, and was graduated from the scientific department of Amherst College, Massachusetts, in 1855. He came to Rockford and entered the profession of civil engineer, which he followed until 1858, when he took up the study of law, and was admitted to the bar August 18, 1860. He practiced in this city until he was elected to his present position. His pleasant bearing and judicial fairness have made him an ideal official, and the honor bestowed upon him is a partial demonstration of the esteem in which he is held.

ROSTER OF COUNTY CLERKS.

Under the first constitution this officer was clerk of the county commissioners' court. From

1849 to 1855 he was the clerk of the county court and of the board of supervisors. In the latter year a separate clerk was appointed by the board, under a special act of the legislature. These officers were subsequently united. The following named citizens have served as county clerk:

Don Alonzo Spaulding, 1830 to 1837; Nathaniel Loomis, 1837 to 1838; Anson Barnum, 1838 to 1840; Selden M. Church, 1840 to 1847; Benjamin A. Rose, 1847 to 1849; William Hulin, 1849 to April 2, 1855; Duncan Ferguson, 1855 to 1856; E. S. Gaylord, 1856 to 1867; I. S. Hyatt, 1867 to 1869; T. J. Lamont, 1869 to 1873; B. F. Lee, 1873 to 1877; Thomas Bell, 1877 to 1886; Marcus A. Norton, to date, a period of nineteen years.

BOOKS WRITTEN BY ROCKFORD PEOPLE.

Rockford has never assumed the role of political dictator outside of its own area of local interests. Perhaps, however, there are compensations and balances in communal as well as individual life. Certain it is that our city has produced a goodly number of what the late Senator Zach Chandler called "literary fellers." The general reader will doubtless be surprised to learn that not less than eighty books have been written by persons who have been, for a greater or lesser period, actual residents of Rockford. Only a small number, however, have been written while the authors claimed Rockford as their home. The majority attained this distinction after removal to other fields. It is, therefore, in no invidious sense that it may be said that Rockford is a good place from which to emigrate. It is the purpose of this chapter to present as complete a list as possible of these authors.

David G. Croly and his famous wife, "Jennie June," edited the Rockford Daily News from February 1859, to April, 1860. Mr. Croly subsequently became city editor of the New York World, and later its managing editor. He wrote "Lives of Seymour and Blair," "A History of Reconstruction," and "A Primer of Positivism."

"Jennie June" is best known to the world as the editor of Demorest's Magazine. Mrs. Croly's pen name of "Jennie June" was derived from a little poem written by Benjamin F. Taylor, sent to her when she was about twelve years old, by her pastor, with the name underlined, because, he said, "You are the Juniest little girl I know." Mrs. Croly's books are: "Talks on Women's Topics," "For Better or Worse," "Thrown Upon her Own Resources," "Knitters and Crochet," "Letters and Monograms," "Cookery Book for Young Beginners," "History of the Woman's Club Movement."

Bishop John H. Vincent, who has achieved world-wide fame as the founder of the Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle, was pastor of the

Court Street M. E. church from 1861 to 1864. During this pastorate he took a trip to Europe in company with Hon. R. H. Tinker. Bishop Vincent's published works are: "The Modern Sunday School," "Studies in Young Life," "Little Footprints in Bible Lands," "The Church, School and Sunday School Institutes," "Earthly Footprints of the Man of Galilee," "Better Not," "The Chautauqua Movement," "To Old Bethlehem," "Outline Histories of England, Greece and Rome," "Our Own Church."

Rev. E. C. Mitchell, the first pastor of the State Street Baptist church, was subsequently professor of Biblical literature at Shurtleff College, professor of Hebrew in Regent's Park College, London, and held similar positions at Nashville, New Orleans and Paris, France. Mr. Mitchell revised and edited Davies' Hebrew and Chaldee Lexicon. With this he issued "The Principles of Hebrew Grammar." In 1880 he issued a new translation of Gesenius' Hebrew Grammar.

Dr. Henry M. Goodwin, for twenty-one years pastor of the First Congregational church, was a gentleman of scholarly tastes. In 1875 he published his work, "Christ and Humanity," which was dedicated "To Horace Bushnell, my revered friend and teacher, whose profound and sanctified genius has made the world his debtor, and whose eminent services to Christianity in the reconciliation of faith and reason await the verdict of the future ages."

In 1864 Rev. Mead Holmes published a memoir of his only son, Mead Holmes, Jr., with the title, "A Soldier of the Cumberland." This young soldier fell at Murfreesboro, Tennessee, April 12, 1863, at the age of twenty-one years.

Mary E. Holmes, Ph. D., published in 1887 "The Morphology of the Carinae Upon the Septa of Rugose Corals." The book, finely illustrated, bears the imprint of a Boston publishing house. The work was presented as a thesis for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, in the University of Michigan, and is signed by Professor Alexander Winchell, the well-known scientist and author of "Preadamites."

Mrs. S. M. I. Henry was one of the first women to devote her life to gospel temperance work in a public manner. Her writings are: "After the Truth Series," "Victoria," "Pledge and Cross," "Voice of the Home," "Mabel's Work," "One More Chance," "Beforehand," "Marble Cross," "Unanswered Prayer," "Frances Raymond's Investment."

The late Elijah W. Blaisdell was a man of versatile talents. About twenty-five years ago he wrote "The Hidden Record," a novel, the scene of which was laid in the war of 1812. The book was published by the Lippincotts, of Philadelphia. A short time before his death Mr. Blais-

dell completed "The Rajah," a political burlesque, and "Eva, the General's Daughter," founded on incidents of the Black Hawk war.

Rev. Henry C. Mabie, D. D., formerly pastor of the State Street Baptist church, was in 1890 chosen home secretary of the American Baptist Missionary Union. Previous to entering upon his duties, he made a tour of the mission fields, which were to come under his supervision. His observations were published under the title "In Brightest Asia."

The late Mrs. Mary Brainard, an old resident of Rockford, was a hospital nurse during the Civil war. She published three volumes of verse: "Esther Gray and Other Poems," "Memorial Pictures of War and Peace," "Heart Offerings."

Robert P. Porter, superintendent of the eleventh census, and widely known as a writer on economic subjects, began his newspaper career as city editor of the Rockford Gazette. His books are: "The West in 1880," "Life of William McKinley," "Municipal Ownership at Home and Abroad," "Industrial Cuba."

The later Frederick C. Pierce, another city editor of the Gazette, made a specialty of compiling genealogies. His last achievement was a "Genealogy of the Field Family," for Marshall Field, the merchant prince of Chicago. This work is in two large volumes, and a copy has been presented to the public library. While in Rockford Mr. Pierce published "Picturesque and Descriptive History of the City of Rockford," and "The Life of Hon. Robert M. A. Hawk," member of congress.

Professor J. D. S. Riggs, late of Ottawa University, Kansas, spent many years of his early life in Rockford. His father was a charter member of the State Street Baptist church. Professor Riggs has published "In Latinum," a Latin textbook founded on Caesar, which was formerly used in the Rockford high school.

Professor Henry Freeman published in 1873 a book entitled "Wonders of the World." It is a work both of compilation and original work. It bears the imprint of a Boston publisher.

Dr. George W. Brown's "Researches in Oriental History" has had four editions. It is an inquiry into the origin of Judaism, Zoroastrianism and Christianity. Dr. Brown founded the first free state paper in Kansas. It was called the Herald of Freedom, published at Lawrence. The doctor has bound files of this paper in his office. Dr. Brown claims the distinction of furnishing a truthful statement of the alleged adoption of the Lecompton constitution to Stephen A. Douglas, upon which the senator repudiated that measure and broke with the Buchanan wing of the democracy.

Rev. Frank P. Woodbury published in 1883 "Luther and the Annals of the Reformation,"

as the outcome of a series of historical sermons delivered in the Second Congregational church.

Rev. R. F. Y. Pierce was the third pastor of the State Street Baptist church to enter the field of book-writing. During his Rockford pastorate he wrote and published "Pictured Truth."

Mrs. Ralph Emerson published in 1891 the life and letters of her son, Ralph Emerson, Jr., who was killed in August, 1889. It is a beautiful tribute to a worthy son, who gave promise of great usefulness in later years. Mrs. Emerson has also published a volume of verse, "Love-Bound, and Other Poems," which is dedicated to her husband and children.

The late John H. Thurston made a valuable contribution to local history in his "Reminiscences," published in 1891. In this little volume the author graphically portrayed that pioneer social life in which he moved.

Mrs. Harriott Wight Sherratt published in 1899 a delightful volume of travel, with the title, "Mexican Vistas." The local demand for this book has been great, and the sale in the general trade has been most gratifying.

Harry M. Johnson is the author of a small volume, entitled "Edith: A Story of Chinatown," the scene of which is laid in the Chinese district in Los Angeles, California.

Rev. J. B. Robinson, D. D., formerly pastor of Grace M. E. church, has written a volume of verse, "The New Woman, and Other Poems."

Alexander McCleneghan, formerly a well-known local newspaper writer, has written "Six Years in Heaven," founded upon the strange career of George Jacob Schweinfurth.

Mrs. H. Houghton Chapel, M. D., published a small volume of poems in 1901. She now resides in Palmetto, Florida.

Eugene Brown and Ford Rowe, formerly connected with the Register-Gazette, compiled a work, "Industrial and Picturesque Rockford."

Charles Eugene Banks, formerly city editor of the Register-Gazette, has published a volume of verse, "Sword and Cross, and Other Poems." Mr. Banks was also associated with George Cram Cook in writing "In Hampton Roads," a dramatic romance, which was once quite popular with local readers. Mr. Banks' most popular work is "The Child of the Sun," a beautifully illustrated work of juvenile fiction.

Mrs. C. C. Jones' book, "Humanities," is an interesting series of meditations upon life, duty and manners. She presents her father as the highest ideal of the manly virtues. The book was dedicated to the late Dr. Thomas Kerr.

Mrs. Carrie Grout's volume, "By the Way," is a collection of sketches, written in popular newspaper style.

Mrs. Eliza Roe Shannon, who recently died in the west, a music teacher of Rockford in the

early '60s, wrote the life of her father, the venerable Charles Hill Roe, for fifteen years pastor of the First Baptist church of Belvidere. Dr. Roe performed a unique service to his country, similar to that of Henry Ward Beecher, in delivering addresses in England and creating northern sentiment during the Civil war.

Daniel Fish, formerly a student in the Rockford schools, has compiled the most complete Lincoln bibliography.

Charles A. Church's "History of Rockford" was issued in 1900. This is believed to be the largest volume of exclusively original work undertaken by a Rockford writer. Mr. Church has also written the life of General Allen C. Fuller, the war adjutant of Illinois. He has also edited several pamphlets.

The autobiography of Elder Jacob Knapp was published in 1867. It is an interesting volume, revealing the inner life and notable experiences of one of the remarkable men of his time.

William Hulin edited a work on school law, with forms, which was of value to teachers.

Miss Julia Gulliver, president of Rockford College, collaborated with Edward Bradford Titchener, sage professor of psychology in Cornell University, in translating the first volume of "Facts of the Moral Life." This is a work in three volumes, by William Wundt, professor of philosophy in the University of Leipzig. The translation was published in 1897 in New York and London. The second and third volumes were translated by Margaret Floy Washburn, professor of psychology and ethics in Wells College.

Charles J. Woodbury, a half-brother of Rev. Frank P. Woodbury, formerly pastor of the Second Congregational church, published a volume in 1890 entitled "Talks With Ralph Waldo Emerson."

Alfred H. Henry has written a story of Mormon life in Utah, "By Order of the Prophet." Mr. Henry is a son of the late Mrs. S. M. I. Henry, and lived in Rockford when a boy.

"Annals of a Quiet Country Town" is a volume of sketches written by Mrs. Julia Katherine Barnes, and illustrated by E. Warde Blaisdell. It is a series of local character sketches. Among the portraits are those of the late Dr. Thomas Kerr and H. H. Waldo.

Fay Lewis has edited and compiled a small volume, "The City Jail." It is a plea for more enlightened views and humane practices toward those who have been guilty of offenses against good order. A number of local writers contributed to the symposium.

General A. L. Chetlain's "Recollections of Seventy Years" is an interesting volume of reminiscences, and contains valuable information concerning men and events in northern Illinois.

"Rockford Today" is an attractive volume issued in 1904 by the Rockford Morning Star Com-

pany. It is historical, descriptive and biographical. It is printed on calendered paper, and the illustrations are most excellent.

ROCKFORD FURNITURE INDUSTRY.

Rockford ranks third among the cities of the United States in the manufacturing of furniture. It is surpassed only in this respect by Chicago and Grand Rapids. This industry has been entirely developed since the Civil war. There were, however, individuals who made furniture in a small way at a much earlier period.

Thomas Johnson, an English cabinet-maker, came to Rockford in 1837. He is the first man of whom there is any record who depended entirely for a livelihood on the manufacture of furniture in this city. He occupied a basement room in the old Rockford House, which was kept by Henry Thurston. Mr. Johnson had no machinery. All his work was done by hand, and his specialties were ottomans, chairs and tables. He later removed from the city.

From that time there was no regular manufacturer of furniture in Rockford until 1853. In that year the first factory for this purpose was erected between Sixth and Seventh streets, near Fourth avenue, by William Silsbe and Abraham Deyo. The building was called a factory, although it had very little machinery. It was a two-story structure, located in a section then known as "the woods." The timber used in making the furniture was obtained by hewing down large native trees which surrounded it. The firm had an office and salesroom on South First street, between State and Walnut, in the frame structure now occupied by E. J. Welch as a livery stable. About a dozen men were employed. The enterprise was not very successful, and the firm dissolved.

Charles Burpee, a brother of the late A. C. Burpee, who lived in a building called the "Pepperbox" on South First street, made a small amount of furniture in the office rooms of Silsbe & Deyo, after the dissolution of that firm.

A. C. Burpee was one of the pioneer furniture men of Rockford, although he was not a manufacturer. He came to Rockford in 1853, and was for a time a salesman in Silsbe & Deyo's store. He opened a furniture store in a frame building which stood on or near the site of Harry B. Burpee's store on West State street. In 1857 William Werner became a partner, and the firm continued until about 1860, when the firm name was changed to Burpee & Groneman. Mr. Groneman retired in 1871, and the business has since been conducted by the Burpee family.

In 1854 Peter Marshall made walnut tables in his carpenter's shop on the northwest corner of State and Wyman streets, where he was in business for many years.

R. Cook & Co., the predecessors of J. B. Marsh & Co., in 1854 began on a small scale the manufacture of tables, mattresses and upholstered goods. The firm occupied the second floor of a building which stood on the site of F. J. Leonard's block on East State street. All the goods were sold in the city, and the firm is reported to have succeeded fairly well.

John Nelson, a native of Sweden, came to Rockford in 1852. He was an inventive genius, and in early life had paid especial attention to designing and model-making. He worked for a time for William Ghent, who had a shop on the water-power. In 1865 he formed a partnership with Andrew C. Johnson and Gust Hollem in the manufacturing of sash, doors and blinds. Mr. Johnson learned the cabinet-maker's trade in Rockford, and after Mr. Nelson and Mr. Hollem had retired from the firm in 1869, he conducted the business as sole proprietor on the water-power and began in a small way the manufacture of furniture. In 1872 he formed a partnership with J. P. Anderson. It was during the existence of this firm that the late Jonas Peters, then a traveling salesman, induced the firm to extend its business by the manufacture of new lines of goods, and to Mr. Peters is due in no small degree the honor of first promoting the furniture industry outside of the local market. Mr. Peters had been engaged in the retail furniture trade in Belvidere before coming to Rockford.

In 1873 L. D. Upson was admitted as a third member of the firm, and a factory on the site of the Central furniture plant was erected. Mr. Johnson retired, and E. L. Herrick became a member of the firm, which was known as Upson & Herrick. The factory of Upson & Herrick was destroyed by fire January 21, 1877. William N. Upson, a watchman, and a brother of the senior member of the firm, lost his life.

Ellsworth & Parker began the manufacture of furniture on a small scale in Bartlett's stone feed house on the water-power in 1873. The firm had some machinery, but the enterprise did not last more than a year or two, when the firm went to Chicago.

A. C. Johnson, upon leaving the water-power, in company with J. P. Anderson, established an independent business in a building at the corner of Railroad avenue and Seventh street. In 1874 the late Gilbert Woodruff became interested in this industry, and in that year the Forest City Furniture Company was organized. It is, therefore, the real pioneer in the manufacture of furniture on a large scale in Rockford. A four-story brick building was erected on Railroad avenue. Gilbert Woodruff was president of the company; Charles H. Keith, secretary and treasurer, and A. C. Johnson, superintendent. Mr. Keith died in December, 1877, and was succeeded as secretary by Lyon P. Ross. He invented the Ross folding

bed, Ross perfection desk and the Ross combination wash-stand, which proved good sellers. His close attention to business affairs weakened his nervous system and hastened his death. While attending a national convention of furniture manufacturers in Grand Rapids, February 16, 1889, he was taken suddenly ill, and in one week from that time passed away. Mr. Ross was succeeded by R. W. Emerson. W. F. Woodruff succeeded his father, Gilbert Woodruff, as president; V. D. Woodruff is vice-president; C. A. Clark, secretary and treasurer. J. P. Anderson died a short time ago in Beatrice, Nebraska.

The success of the Forest City quickened the ambition of other practical men. The Union Furniture company was organized in 1876. The promoters were Jonas Peters, John Erlander, John Pehrson and James Sundquist. P. A. Peterson, who was then about to graduate from a local business college, was chosen secretary. This was the beginning of the business career of one of the most remarkable men who ever resided in this city, and who is to-day the great organizing genius of the furniture industry in Rockford. The Union factory was situated where the Emerson company's blacksmith shop now stands. In 1889 this building was destroyed by fire. A new plant was erected on Eighteenth avenue.

The Central Furniture company was organized in January, 1879. The promoters were S. A. Johnson, L. M. Noling, August Peterson, August P. Floberg, A. G. Johnson, Peter Parson, H. F. Peterson, A. N. Noling, J. R. Anderson, P. J. Friberg and Samuel Lundin. The original capital stock was \$22,500. The company purchased the stone structure on the water-power owned by Upson & Herrick.

The Rockford Co-Operative Furniture company was organized in July, 1880. Its original capital stock was \$25,000, divided into shares of \$100 each. The company was prosperous until the great financial depression of 1893, and for some years thereafter the plant was practically closed. Charles J. Lundberg subsequently purchased the interest of the company, and again placed it on a money-making basis.

The Rockford Chair and Furniture company was organized in 1880. Its officers are: C. A. Newman, president; Andrew Shelgren, vice-president; Robert C. Lind, secretary and treasurer. The company really operates two establishments, known as plant A and plant B. These are separated by a distance of about two miles. The floor space occupied by plant A is about 125,000 square feet. Plant B has a floor area of 150,000 square feet. The firm does an annual business of half a million dollars, and its territory includes the entire United States, Canada and Mexico.

The Mechanics' Furniture company was organized in 1890. L. M. Noling is president; Emil Engberg, vice-president; A. P. Floberg, treas-

urer; J. August Johnson, secretary. The company's plant covers two acres of ground, at the corner of Seminary and Keith streets. The foreign trade takes a fair proportion of its annual output. The sales reach about \$180,000 annually.

The Standard Furniture company was organized in 1887. The officers are: P. A. Peterson, president; F. E. Lundgren, vice-president; J. E. Swanson, secretary and treasurer, and Oscar Warner, superintendent. The plant has a floor space of over 100,000 square feet.

The West End Furniture company was organized July 7, 1860, with a capital stock of \$50,000. C. R. Mower is president; Oscar Day, vice-president; J. H. Lynn, secretary and treasurer. Mr. Lynn is also manager, and gives his entire attention to the supervision of the plant. The annual output is about \$225,000. The line of manufacture includes both medium and fine grades of desks, buffets, bookcases, folding beds and tables.

The Rockford Mantel company was organized in 1902. P. A. Peterson is president; O. L. Huey, vice-president; C. A. Hult, secretary and treasurer; F. O. Lind, superintendent. The factory is a four-story brick building, with basement, and has a floor space of 57,000 square feet. The firm employs about one hundred operators, and manufactures wood mantels and furniture of various designs. A market is found in the United States, Mexico and Canada.

Other furniture companies now doing business are:

Rockford Palace Furniture company.
 Rockford Frame and Fixture company.
 East Rockford Mantel company.
 Royal Mantel company.
 Skandia Furniture company.
 Rockford Desk company.

These make a total of sixteen plants now in operation in the city.

Of this list the Skandia has the largest single plant, but the Rockford Chair and Furniture company, with its two separate plants, is probably able to put out more than any other one concern in the city.

Several other factories have been built from time to time that are not now in operation. The Excelsior, Phoenix, Rockford Cabinet and Diamond were burned and never rebuilt. The American Star and Palace Folding Bed company failed and did not resume. The financial panic of 1893 was a terrible disaster to the Rockford industry, but the larger number of them finally weathered the storm.

In the sixteen factories now in operation, nearly four thousand men earn their daily bread. Nearly one-fourth of Rockford's great colony of workmen find their employment within these sixteen plants. This fact gives to some extent an idea of the great value of the industry to the city.

The payroll is something enormous. From one million to one million five hundred thousand dollars is paid annually to these workmen, the amount depending largely upon the extent of business during the season.

To run these sixteen plants about \$3,275,000 of Rockford capital is utilized. Practically every cent of this amount was furnished by the humble workingman, who, by his frugality and good business sense, has been enabled to lay by enough to purchase a few shares of stock, and at the present time he is enjoying the full benefits of his investments.

No out-of-town capitalist holds sway over this industry; no trust has the reins to close or open the factories at its will; but all is done by Rockford men, who have demonstrated that they can cope with the world when it comes to finding a market for the goods that they produce.

Closely allied to the furniture business of the city are a number of concerns only organized within the past few years.

There are the National Mirror Plate works, and the Rockford Glass Bending works, both owned by men who are backing the furniture plants, and which concerns supply much of the mirrors and glass used in them. The Rockford Art Glass company also bears a close relation to the furniture industry.

The Union Furniture company was the first to organize on the co-operative plan. The employes were urged to save their earnings and invest in the company. Other factories adopted this plan, but it was not altogether successful, and it has to a large extent been abandoned. The capital has become more centralized, but it has never passed from the control of the Rockford men. This vast industry is capitalized and operated almost entirely by Swedish-American citizens.

THE PIANO INDUSTRY.

During the Civil war John Wigell, father of O. J. Wigell, and Charles Marske conducted a melodeon factory on East State street in a frame building across the alley from the Schmauss meat market. May 30, 1865, this building and contents were destroyed by fire. Mr. Wigell, however, resumed business, and from 1865 to 1871 he manufactured over 200 melodeons and reed instruments. Quite a number of these old instruments are still in the city, and three of the number are now owned by the son. Mr. Wigell also completed two pianos to show that he could accomplish this work. In 1871 Mr. Wigell completed a contract with Walter Trumbull for the erection of a piano factory. These plans were abandoned by the death of Mr. Wigell, which occurred in the autumn of 1871.

In 1880 John Loven, residing on First avenue, opposite the Henry Freeman school, made two pianos, which he sold at large prices.

In 1891 Peter Nelson came to Rockford from Chicago and organized the Rockford Piano company. Its plant was in what was then known as the Union Shoe company's building, now occupied by the Union Dairy company. The firm was short-lived, and failed in less than a year.

In the autumn of 1891 John Anderson, of Erie, Pennsylvania, came to Rockford and organized the Anderson Piano company, which occupied a part of the Cream City mirror plate building. The company failed in 1892, and H. N. Starr was appointed assignee. He removed the finished instruments to the Hale building, on Walnut street, where they were sold. The Anderson piano was subsequently manufactured at Minneapolis.

The Haddorff Piano company was organized in 1901 by P. A. Peterson. It is capitalized at \$500,000, and is entirely financed by Rockford citizens. The instrument is named in honor of C. A. Haddorff, a native of Sweden. He is an expert in this line of business, and is now the general superintendent of the factory. The company employs about 300 men, and the average daily output is from fifteen to twenty instruments.

In 1899 the Smith & Barnes Piano company, of Chicago, purchased the plant of the Illinois Chair company in the north end, which was afterward sold to George K. Barnes, of Rockford, who established the Barnes & Son Piano company in 1901, and manufactured pianos under that name until February, 1904, when he sold the plant to the Schumann Piano company, which removed its manufacturing interests to Rockford, retaining a Chicago office at the Republic building. The Schumann Piano company is incorporated for \$300,000, and has a daily output of six pianos. Its officers are: W. N. Van Matre, president; C. S. Hockett, vice-president; J. W. Van Matre, treasurer; C. S. Marsh, secretary, E. K. Barnes, mechanical superintendent.

The Kurtz-Seeburg company is one of the late accessions to the manufacturers of Rockford. Fred K. Kurtz, a native of New York city, came to Rockford in 1903, and October 15th of that year he began the manufacture of piano actions in the Union Shoe company building at Sixth street and Eleventh avenue. The business was small at first, but it steadily grew, until a stock company was organized, with P. A. Peterson as president; Fred K. Kurtz, vice-president and superintendent; John Anderson, secretary and treasurer. In April, 1905, the company purchased a plat of ground on Eighteenth avenue and erected a commodious factory.

The latest local firm to contribute in any way to the manufacture of pianos is the Billings company, on the water-power. This firm came to Rockford in 1905, and manufactures a metal flange.

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

ROCKFORD COLLEGE FOR WOMEN.

As early as 1843 there was some discussion of the need of a college for the upper Rock River valley. A general convention of the churches of the northwest was held at Cleveland, Ohio, in June, 1844, at which education received much attention. It was decided that a college and a female seminary should be founded in southern Wisconsin and northern Illinois, respectively. A resolution was adopted that the "exigencies of Wisconsin and northern Illinois require that those sections should unite in establishing a college and a female seminary of the highest order—one in Wisconsin, near to Illinois, and the other in Illinois, near to Wisconsin." The delegates, upon their return, called a convention at Beloit in August, 1844. Three subsequent conventions were held at Beloit, because it was believed from the first that the college should be located at that place. The resolution of the first convention, affirming the need of both college and seminary, was reaffirmed in these subsequent conventions, representing especially the Presbyterian and Congregational ministry and churches in all the region. The union of these two churches in this movement may be attributed to the fact that each was weak as it stood alone, and only in union was there strength. At the fourth convention, held at Beloit in October, 1845, Beloit was selected as the seat of the college, and a board of trustees was elected, to whom was committed the development of both institutions. The first meeting of the trustees was held the same month. Upon the original board were Rev. Aratus Kent and Hon. Wait Talcott. The charter for Beloit College was approved by the governor of the territory of Wisconsin, February 2, 1846. Middle College, the first building, was begun in the autumn of that year.

Then began the discussion of a site for the seminary. Rockford and Rockton were rivals. But Beloit had been selected for the college; and from the Puritanical point of view of those days, Rockton was considered not a desirable distance for a college for young ladies. Thus Rockford was given the preference. The Rockford Forum of October 29, 1845, published a call for a meeting at the Methodist church on Monday evening, November 3d, to consider the location of the seminary. This call was signed by thirty-four citizens, led by T. D. Robertson. At this meeting it was resolved to attempt to raise the sum prescribed by the Beloit trustees as necessary, about \$3,500. A committee was appointed to solicit subscriptions, consisting of Jason Marsh, George Haskell, Willard Wheeler, Asa Crosby,

Anson S. Miller, P. B. Johnson and Horace Foote. The Forum of November 5, 1845, contains a full report of this meeting, also a lengthy editorial. Citizens pledged the required amount. The Forum of December 3d mentions, in a sketch of the city, that the trustees of Beloit College have located the seminary at Rockford. A charter was granted February 25, 1847, to the following gentlemen as incorporators: Aratus Kent, D. Clary, S. Peet, F. Bascom, C. Waterbury, S. D. Stevens, A. L. Chapin, R. M. Pearson, G. W. Wilcox, A. Raymond, C. M. Goodsell, E. H. Potter, L. G. Fisher, Wait Talcott, Charles S. Hempstead and Samuel Hinman. These same gentlemen were the incorporators of Beloit College. The board of trustees was to consist of sixteen members, with power to increase the number to twenty-four. But disasters affecting the business interests of the village prevented the fulfillment of the pledges which had been made, and delayed the enterprise for a time; but it was never abandoned.

Meanwhile, June 11, 1849, Miss Anna P. Sill began a preparatory school, under the name of the Rockford Female Seminary. The recitations were held in the old courthouse building on North First street. Miss Sill came to Rockford from the east, with the expectation that her school would develop into the seminary which had been planned by the trustees of Beloit. This preparatory school was not the seminary proper, but rather its forerunner, and entirely under local management. Miss Sill was assisted by Misses Hannah and Eliza Richards. The number of pupils the first term was seventy, most of whom were under ten years of age. The opening of this school apparently gave an impetus to the consummation of the former plans for a seminary. The trustees were Rev. L. H. Loss, Jason Marsh, Anson S. Miller, C. A. Huntington, S. M. Church, Rev. J. C. Parks, Bela Shaw, T. D. Robertson, E. H. Potter, Dr. George Haskell, Asa Crosby. The academic year was divided into four terms of eleven weeks each.

In 1850 the citizens again made pledges aggregating more than five thousand dollars, for buildings, and the ladies pledged one thousand dollars for the beautiful grounds. This original subscription list is still in existence, though eaten away in places. It was found among the papers of the late Charles H. Spafford. The word original is here used because the subscriptions of 1845-46 were apparently never redeemed. The list is probably the only one in existence. Thus by September 18, 1850, the seminary proper was assured as a permanent institution of Rockford, for the higher education of young women.

During the first two years of Miss Sill's residence in Rockford she continued independently her preparatory school. But in 1851 the school was formally recognized by the board of trustees

of Beloit college as the preparatory department of Rockford female seminary, under the charter which they had already obtained. Full preparatory and collegiate courses of study were defined, and, upon examination, fifteen were admitted to the first collegiate class in September of that year. The year 1851 is thus regarded as the date of the founding of the seminary, according to the original design. The recitations were conducted in the old courthouse building already noted. The seminary had been granted full collegiate powers by its charter, but it was called a seminary, as was customary for such institutions at that time. Seven of this first class of 1851 graduated in 1854. Only one, Mrs. William Lathrop, is now a resident of the city. The course then covered three years, and was later changed to four years.

The present college grounds were purchased from Buell G. Wheeler. The land originally extended to the river, but a portion was taken by the Chicago & Iowa railroad. The property was not condemned, as the trustees preferred to sell rather than enter into any controversy. The grounds never extended farther east or north. They were never enlarged, and were reduced only on the west. The deed to this property was also found among Mr. Spafford's papers, and apparently had never left his possession. The reason therefor may be explained. Mr. Spafford was county recorder at the time; he was also a trustee of the seminary and the treasurer of the board. The document would thus naturally remain in his possession. This deed and the original subscription list, previously noted, were presented to the college at the last commencement season by Mr. Spafford's family, and are now among its permanent records. The city of Rockford owes a debt of gratitude to three of its early citizens for the very existence of this institution. At a critical moment in the formative period, Charles H. Spafford, Eleazer H. Potter and Dr. Lucius Clark mortgaged their homes and raised several thousand dollars to insure the success of the seminary. This self-sacrifice by these gentlemen, who had faith in the future of Rockford, and who appreciated the value of higher education, has never been properly recognized, for the apparent reason that their course has not been generally known.

After the purchase of the grounds Mr. Wheeler said they were sold for much less than their real value. Mrs. Wheeler was deeply interested in the success of the seminary, and thus the property was obtained at a low price. Mr. Spafford also preserved a transcript of an itemized estimate of the cost of the first building, made by John Beattie. This document called for an outlay of seven thousand nine hundred and twenty-seven dollars and thirty-five cents.

July 15, 1852, the corner-stone of the first building was laid by Rev. Aratus Kent, president

of the board of trustees. He spoke from the words: "That our daughters may be as corner-stones, polished after the similitude of a palace."

After the acceptance by the board of trustees of the financial pledges of the citizens of Rockford in 1850, it was deemed best that each institution should manage its own affairs. A provisional local board appears to have been created at this time, and in 1852 the seminary passed into the control of a separate board of trustees. The principle of co-operation, however, continued to prevail, and certain gentlemen were on the official boards of the college and the seminary. In the lapse of years this number gradually diminished. The first formal appointment to the permanent faculty of the seminary was made in July, 1852, when Miss Sill was elected principal. In July, 1854, the collegiate course was divided into four departments: Mental and moral philosophy, mathematics and natural science, history and English literature, ancient languages. The department of mental and moral philosophy was assigned to the principal. Miss Mary White was chosen teacher in mathematics and natural science.

In 1854 work was begun on Linden hall, the western wing. It received its name from the residence of one of its New England friends. From this place and from New York the larger part of the fund was obtained for its construction. In the 50s Miss Sill raised a large sum of money among her eastern friends, especially in Boston, for the seminary, apparently to raise a deficit. Up to September 8, 1854, Miss Sill had secured in subscriptions the sum of three thousand six hundred and fifty-nine dollars and sixty-seven cents. This fact appears from a financial statement made by Charles H. Spafford. According to the Rockford Democrat of August 1, 1854, Mr. Milwain was the architect of Linden hall, and the plans and specifications called for an addition forty-one by sixty-four feet, and four stories. Linden hall was first separate from Middle hall, and then connected by a frame passageway.

In 1866 a second addition, Chapel hall, with its connecting corridors, was begun, and completed two years later. In 1871 Linden hall and Middle hall were connected by a corridor.

Of the first collegiate class admitted in 1851, seven were graduated in 1854, eight in 1855, sixteen in 1856, ten in 1857, eleven in 1858, ten in 1859, eleven in 1860, and nine in 1861, a total of eighty-two in eight years. There were then three departments—collegiate, normal and academic. During that time there were eighty-five others who entered the seminary, but did not complete the course. Forty-one were in the junior class in 1861. The whole number who shared in the instruction of the collegiate course during the first ten years was two hundred and six. One hundred and eighty-three had received instruc-

tion in the normal course, and the whole number of pupils for a longer or shorter time connected with the institution, including the preparatory courses, from the beginning in 1849 to July, 1861, was fifteen hundred and thirty. During this time there was contributed to the seminary from all sources the sum of thirty-nine thousand two hundred and twenty-eight dollars.

In the winter of 1886 Sill hall was completed. This building, erected at a cost of \$15,000, with funds almost entirely provided by the citizens of Rockford, contains the gymnasium on the second floor and the music rooms on the first floor.

This completes the number of edifices erected during Miss Sill's lifetime. For the sake of clearness and completeness in this connection, it is to be noted that in the fall of 1892 Adams hall was opened. This is a fine, modern edifice, costing about \$35,000. Of this sum Mr. J. L. Adams, of Chicago, contributed a large portion, and the remainder was chiefly given by the citizens of Rockford. It contains all the laboratories and a number of large, well-lighted recitation rooms. The upper floor is occupied by the studio.

In 1891 Memorial hall, a residence for students, was given as a memorial to Ralph Emerson, Jr. This completes the list of structures used for the institution.

Having become the first principal of the seminary in 1849, Miss Sill filled that position until the summer of 1884, when she resigned, but as principal emerita she retained her connection with the school, when she died under the roof that her own strength and devotion had reared.

Miss Sill was followed by Miss Martha Hillard (now Mrs. Martha Hillard MacLeish), who was principal of Rockford seminary from 1884 to 1888. Her genial personality did much to increase the social power of the school, both at home and abroad, and the regret felt when her marriage caused her resignation was universal and very sincere.

Miss Anna Gelston was the next in the succession, 1888-1890; but her fragile health compelled her to relinquish the task in two years.

Miss Sarah F. Anderson (now Mrs. Sarah Anderson Ainsworth) became acting principal in 1890, and principal in 1891, a position she continued to occupy until 1896. Miss Anderson graduated from the normal department of the seminary in 1869, and for many years acted as financial secretary before she became principal, and her wise financial management forms one of the striking features of her administration. The whole body of alumnae knew her well, and were deeply attached to her. Through her efforts and those of Miss Jane Addams, who accompanied her in a trip abroad, an unusually fine collection of photographs was secured for the art department.

When Miss Anderson resigned to be married in

1896, Miss Phebe T. Sutliff was made president of Rockford college, and continued in that office until 1901. Miss Sutliff bent all her energies toward raising the standard of scholarship, and, as a result of her efforts, the whole tone of the institution changed for the better in this respect.

For some time previous to Miss Sutliff's administration, the trustees had been working steadily to make Rockford a woman's college of the first rank. In 1882 a collegiate course of study was added to the seminary curriculum, and since then all students who have done the requisite amount of work have received the degree of A. B.

In June, 1891, the board of trustees decided to discontinue the seminary course, and in June, 1892, the name of the institution was legally changed from Rockford seminary to Rockford college, in order that the title might represent the work done. The last seminary graduates belong to the class of 1895. Beginning with the class of 1896, all graduates have been college graduates.

On Miss Sutliff's resignation in 1901, Miss Emily K. Reynolds was elected president. Unfortunately, Miss Reynold's health broke down before she had scarcely begun her work, and she was obliged to leave Rockford after only two or three months of residence. Even during this short space of time, however, she made her influence felt in establishing a system of self-government at the college and in helping to beautify the college home. On Miss Reynold's resignation, in 1902, Miss Julia Gulliver was elected president, and she now holds that position.

In 1903-4 there were 155 students and a faculty of twenty. The number of the faculty in proportion to the number of students is so unusually large that it will at once attract attention as guaranteeing an amount of personal care for the individual students that is impossible, save under just these conditions. The heads of the different departments are all trained specialists, and in general the instructors have done advanced work above their college degrees. It may be added that the relation of genial and sympathetic companionship between the faculty and students is one of Rockford's distinguished characteristics.

All through its history Rockford college has been blessed in its trustees. They have been broad-minded men and women, who have counted not life itself dear unto them in their devoted labors for the best interests of the institution. Progressive, clear-sighted, courageous, they have laid its foundation in heroic self-sacrifice; they have reared its walls in honor. The present board worthily represents a long line of illustrious predecessors. Whatever can be contributed in the way of money, time, professional knowledge, business sagacity and vital interest is given freely.

The marked musical pre-eminence of the city also had its origin and inspiration in the musical

department of the college, notably during the years when Professor D. N. Hood had it in charge (1858-1895).

The commencement of 1904 marked the fiftieth anniversary of the class of 1854, the first graduating class. There were seven of them, and all were living, and all were present to celebrate the occasion. An almost unprecedented event in the annals of any college this—that a graduating class should reach the half-century mark with its number unbroken, and for all those connected with Rockford college the commencement of 1904 will always be hallowed by the presence of these noble souls who had for many years fought the good fight and kept the faith.

THE ROCKFORD FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The Rockford public library is believed to be the first one established in the state, outside of Chicago, under the present library law. In May, 1872, a petition was presented to the city council, signed by prominent citizens of Rockford, representing all classes of its inhabitants, praying for the organization of a free public library and reading room. The council promptly passed an ordinance, which was approved June 17, 1872. It provided, however, that "no indebtedness or liability shall be allowed, or contracted against the said city, or the 'library fund' of said city, for any of the contingent or running expenses of said library and reading room, until after the first day of March, A. D. 1873."

On the very day the library ordinance was approved, Mayor Seymour G. Bronson appointed the following named gentlemen, the first board of directors of the public library: Melancthon Starr, Elias Cosper, S. C. Withrow, D. S. Clark, Rev. F. P. Woodbury, Rev. H. C. Mabie, N. C. Thompson, J. G. Knapp and Charles L. Williams. The board was organized with the election of N. C. Thompson as president and Major Cosper as secretary. Of this original board only Mr. Withrow and Mr. Williams are now residents of the city. Dr. Mabie resides in Boston, and Dr. Woodbury has headquarters in New York.

Under the restrictions of the ordinance there were no public funds available for the founding and maintenance of the library. Its immediate support must therefore come from individual subscriptions. The board of directors issued a general invitation for a public reception to be held July 30th. Its purpose was to afford the directors an opportunity to make a report of what had already been done, and to consult with reference to future action. At that meeting it was resolved to raise by private subscription a fund of \$5,000, to supplement the limited sum to be raised by the tax levy, which would not be available for some

time. Subscriptions exceeding \$2,000 were made. Among the most liberal contributors were: Thomas D. Robertson, \$500; Emerson & Talcott, \$500; Melancthon Starr, \$200; Elias Cospere, \$40; N. C. Thompson, \$200; Selden M. Church, \$50; S. C. Withrow, \$50; Wm. Lathrop, \$100.

The outlook was not promising, but the citizens were determined to have a library, and according to their faith, so it was given unto them. Dr. Woodbury and Melancthon Starr had been appointed a committee to prepare an address to the citizens. It is no disparagement of the work of others to say that the most zealous supporter of the project was the late Major Elias Cospere. He solicited funds and books, and many of the valuable works of reference in the early library came from his private collection. Major Cospere earned the distinction of "Father of the library," a title given him by the late W. L. Rowland. Major Cospere served on the board twenty years. The official records of June 27, 1892, show a resolution of thanks, introduced by A. D. Early, for his long and distinguished service.

Three rooms were leased on the second floor of the Wallach block, which stood on the site of the present Ashton block. The annual rental was \$350. July 30 Miss Mary E. Rankin was engaged temporarily as librarian. The reading rooms were open to the public August 1, 1872, with a goodly number of daily and weekly newspapers, magazines and reviews.

September 2d, Thomas M. Martin was tendered the appointment of permanent librarian. A few days later Mr. Martin reported that he could not accept the position, and September 17, 1872, the board engaged William L. Rowland to fill the place.

On the first day of February, 1873, the library was open to the public for the issue of books for home use. The first catalogue of eighty-six pages was printed a few months later.

Miss Frank I. Edson entered the library as an assistant in March, 1873. In September following she was succeeded by Miss Elizabeth J. Williamson, who remained eighteen years, until the autumn of 1891. Miss Nellie Rose was then appointed assistant librarian, and served several years.

The first annual report of the board of directors, made June 1, 1873, showed that \$1,773.11 had been received on private subscriptions up to that date, with \$2,160.50 still unpaid; making a total of \$3,933.61. There were on that date 2,815 volumes in the library. Of this number 1,603 were donations. There were ninety-one periodicals in the reading room.

The librarian's report showed that for the first four months, ending May 31, 1,252 cards had been issued to borrowers. The total circulation for the same period was 8,777.

The first tax levy for library purposes was approved September 16, 1872, and was fixed at one mill on the dollar, which was the statutory maximum. This tax yielded a library fund of only \$2,164, a sum quite inadequate to the needs of the institution. The second tax levy, approved November 3, 1873, was only three-tenths of a mill on the dollar. The modest sum of \$2,849.79 was realized. The levy for 1874 was \$3,500; and for 1875, \$3,411.33.

The library remained in the Wallach block until June, 1876, when the books were removed to a part of the second floor of the block just completed by Church, Robertson & Emerson. This block is now occupied in part by the Register-Gazette company. The rental was \$500 per annum.

In 1890 it was decided that it would be wise to open the reading room three hours Sunday afternoon, for the accommodation of those who were without homes, or who were unable to visit the library during the week. The first response was not very general, but time has vindicated the wisdom of such action.

In 1892 Mayor Starr made an innovation by the appointment of three ladies on the board of directors. These were Mrs. Marie T. Perry, Mrs. Clara G. Sanford, and Miss Sarah Anderson, then president of Rockford College.

For twenty-seven years the library remained in these quarters. Its growth and educational importance kept pace with the rapid advance of the city in population and commercial importance. In 1896 the library board leased the entire second story of the building, which nearly doubled the floor area.

The card catalogue for public use was placed in the delivery room in September, 1897. In it were entered all books received since the publication of the printed supplement to the catalogue in 1894. This was superseded in 1902 by a complete directory catalogue of the entire contents of the library.

During the autumn of 1898 the library board voted to spend a portion of the annual appropriation in the purchase of books to be placed in certain schools of the city. The Rockford library was one of the first in Illinois to place libraries in the public schools. The inauguration of this plan of reaching the youth of the city came from an address by Mrs. Marie T. Perry, then a member of the board of directors, before the Rockford Federation of Women's clubs. Mrs. Perry's address so well incorporated the salient features of the proposed work that from her ideas a resolution was drafted and presented to the board by Henry S. Whipple. A committee was appointed composed of Mrs. Perry, Librarian Rowland, H. S. Whipple and Prof. O. F. Barbour, who were authorized to select a suitable list of books. January 5, 1899, libraries were placed in nine-

teen school rooms, and January 19th four more schools were supplied. The total circulation of these books for the four and one-half months of the fiscal year ending May 31, 1899, was 9,808. The report of the librarian for the year ending May 31, 1903, showed that forty-four school libraries had been in use during the year, with a total of 1,726 volumes, and a circulation of 25,398. On account of delay in placing the books in that year, occasioned by removal to the new Carnegie building, the circulation for 1903 was only 16,929.

Another effort to reach the youth of the city was the publication in June, 1899, of a catalogue of juvenile literature. Copies were distributed to the scholars in grades four to eight. They were also given to other children over ten years of age. This carefully selected list largely increased the use of books by children.

In August, 1900, by the death of Andrew M. Potter, of Philadelphia, a native of Rockford, and a veteran of the Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry, the library was enriched by the accession of 446 volumes of history pertaining to the Civil war. The Rockford library now has one of the most complete collections of works in Illinois on the Civil war, outside of Chicago.

September 27, 1900, Mr. Rowland passed away after a brief illness. For twenty-eight years he had been the efficient librarian and his death was mourned as a great loss to the public.

In January, 1901, the board of directors advanced Miss Jane P. Hubbell to the position of librarian. She had been first assistant for several years.

One of the notable events of the years 1901-02 was the reorganization of the library according to more modern methods. September 16, 1901, Miss Mary E. Gale, an experienced cataloguer, began the work of reclassifying and cataloguing the books, according to the decimal classification. Miss Gale completed her work in November, 1902, after fourteen months of the most exacting labor.

For many years the friends of the public library recognized that a commodious, fire-proof building was an urgent necessity. The city, however, could not build it, for it had been for many years up to the statutory limit of its bonded indebtedness. When it became known that Mr. Andrew Carnegie proposed to distribute a portion of his wealth in public library buildings, an effort was made to enlist his interest in Rockford. Correspondence began in 1899. In March, 1901, Mr. Carnegie made a gift of \$60,000. The text of his letter is given in full:

"March 6, 1901.

"O. F. Barbour, Esq., Rockford, Ill.

"Dear Sir: If the city of Rockford will furnish a suitable site and agree to maintain the

library at a cost of not less than \$8,000 a year, Mr. Carnegie will be glad to give \$60,000 for a free library building.

"Respectfully yours,

"JAMES P. BERTRAM, Secretary."

The prolonged controversy over a site is familiar recent history, and no further mention need be made of it. A desirable site was finally selected. The property was owned by the Rockford Gas Light and Coke company, and was valued at \$11,000, of which a gift of \$2,000 was made by the company. The balance was paid by citizens. The plans submitted by Bradley & Carpenter were approved, and the contract for the structure was made with W. H. Cook.

In the spring of 1903, when funds were greatly reduced, Mayor Amasa Hutchins asked Mr. Carnegie for an addition to his gift, and he promptly received \$10,000. A portion of this sum was expended in the completion of the building, and the balance was used in the furnishings. The work of beautifying the grounds was in charge of Hon. Robert H. Tinker.

The completed Carnegie library building was opened to the public November 21, 1903. The total value of the property, including building, furnishings and grounds, is conservatively placed at \$90,000. This does not include the books nor the museum. The opening of the new library immediately resulted in an increase of twenty-five per cent. in circulation.

In 1895 the library was made a depository for government publications. A large room has been set apart for them, and when the work of cataloguing is complete, they will be official sources of information of great value.

One of the most interesting features of the library is the children's room in the basement, in charge of Miss Mabel Snyder. During a busy season of the year nearly one hundred little ones have been seen there at one time.

In 1904 the Misses Anna and Mary Beattie and brothers Edward W. and Geo. D., presented to the city of Rockford a rare museum of natural history, conservatively valued at \$9,000. The collection was the life-work of Dr. Velie, and he personally supervised its installation. The gift is a memorial to the parents of the donors of the gift, Mr. and Mrs. John Beattie, early residents and highly esteemed citizens of Rockford.

The city authorities referred the acceptance of the gift to the library board, who gave it a place on the second floor of the Carnegie building.

In January, 1904, the city council made an appropriation of \$2,000 for the purpose of establishing a branch library on Seventh street. The furniture was generously furnished by the factories in which P. A. Peterson has large interests. The library, in charge of Miss Blanche Oaks, was opened in June, with about 2,000 volumes.

The following is a complete roster of directors from the beginning: Melancthon Starr, Elias Cosper, S. C. Withrow, Dr. D. S. Clark, Rev. F. P. Woodbury, Rev. H. C. Mabie, N. C. Thompson, J. G. Knapp, Charles L. Williams, Dr. A. L. McArthur, Dr. A. E. Goodwin, R. F. Crawford, W. A. Talcott, H. P. Holland, J. Herva Jones, Prof. O. F. Barbour, Rev. Wilder Smith, Dr. R. P. Lane, Geo. S. Haskell, Rev. T. J. Butler, D. S. Doig, John H. Sherratt, Prof. M. S. Bebb, W. W. Bennett, James Lamont, Rev. J. J. Flaherty, Hon. E. H. Baker, Hon. Seely Perry, August Lind, Mrs. Marie T. Perry, Mrs. Clara Goodall Sanford, Miss Sarah Anderson, Hon. C. A. Works, P. O. N. Wall, Mrs. Harriott Wight Sherratt, Robert Rew, A. D. Early, H. S. Whipple, J. V. Riley, A. P. Floberg, C. L. Miller, Fred Haines, A. G. Larson, J. E. Goembel, J. E. Swanson, J. L. Clark, J. A. Alden, W. A. Brofin. Of this number Prof. Barbour is the senior member, in length of service. He was first appointed in 1876 by Mayor Levi Rhoades, to succeed H. P. Holland, resigned. With the exception of a brief interim in 1878, during the administration of Mayor Watson, he has served twenty-nine years.

The present library staff is as follows: Jane P. Hubbell, librarian; Mrs. Anna C. Vincent, assistant librarian; assistants, Eliza A. Kaye, Mary E. Lowry, Lelia P. King, Mabel L. Snyder; evening assistant, Charles A. Church; Saturday assistant, Katherine E. Dickerman; substitute, Edith M. Hess. In continuous service Mr. Church out-ranks any other person on the present library staff, having served eighteen years.

Miss Blanche Oaks is librarian of the Seventh street branch, with Miss Alma Freeberg as assistant.

May 31, 1905, the number of volumes in the main library was 41,320, and 2,063 volumes in the branch. The total circulation for home use for the fiscal year ending on that date, at the main library, was 86,946; circulation at the branch, 18,360; school libraries, 13,828; reference works in main library, 15,403; total circulation of main library and branch, 134,537.

In April, 1905, the tenth annual meeting of the Illinois Library association was held in Rockford.

EARLY ROCKFORD SCHOOLS.

The first school in Winnebago county was taught by Miss Eunice Brown, who afterward became Mrs. J. G. Lyon. This school was on the site of 110 South Second street, in the rear of what is known as the John Early residence, and taught in a log house. This was about July, 1837. In the spring of 1838 Miss Brown taught on the west side, in a building on what is now the court house square. Mrs. Lyon died at her home in Rockton, December 7, 1880.

In 1837 Miss Frances Bradford taught school in a log cabin which belonged to William E. Dunbar. In 1869 the late Mrs. John H. Thurston prepared a list of early Rockford schools and teachers, which, with some amplification, is substantially reproduced. Israel Morrill and Miss Sarah E. Danforth taught in 1838 on the west side; Miss Wood in 1839, on the west side; James M. Wight, in the winter of 1838-39, in the building on the corner of Madison and Market streets, on the site of the American house; Miss Hyde, in 1839, in the same place; Andrus Corbin, in 1839, in a house owned by himself on the west side; Mr. Jackson, in the winter of 1839-40, in the house on the corner of Madison and Market streets; Miss Hepsabeth Hutchinson and Miss Maria Baker, in 1840, on the east side; Mrs. Mary Jackson, in 1838-39, on the west side; Miss Wealthy Bradford, in 1841-42, on the west side; Lewis S. Sweezy, in 1841-42, in the brick school house on the southeast corner of the public square, east side; Miss Harriet Barnum, in 1841, in a private house, east side; Miss Minerva C. Fletcher, in 1842, in a log house that stood opposite the First Congregational church, east side; Elijah Holt, in 1841-42, in the brick schoolhouse, east side; John Paul, in 1841, in the first house south of the railroad, Main street, west side; Lewis B. Gregory, in the brick schoolhouse, east side, 1843-44; Miss Fronia Foote and George Waterman, in 1843-44; Miss Julia Barnum, in 1844, in private house, east side; Miss Adeline Warren, private house, east side; Miss Augusta Kemfield in 1845, east side; C. A. Huntington, 1845 to 1849, in the old courthouse on North First street, and on the west side; Miss Elizabeth Weldon was assistant to Mr. Huntington; H. H. Waldo, in 1848, in Baptist church, west side; D. W. Tieknor, from 1846 to 1849, in the brick schoolhouse, east side; assisted in turn by Miss Elizabeth Weldon, Anson Barnum, John W. Andrews, and D. Dubois; H. H. Waldo, in 1849-50, Miss Hannah Morrill, 1848, east side; Robert A. Sanford, 1848, west side.

In 1850 Mr. Bowles taught in the brick schoolhouse on the east side; Mrs. Squires, in 1850, on what is now 111 South Madison street, east side, and afterward on west side; Mrs. King H. Miliken, in 1850, east side; Miss Mary Dow, Miss Delia Hyde and George E. Kimball, 1850-53, in the basement of the present First Baptist church building, west side; Miss Sarah A. Stewart and Miss Mary Joslin, in 1850, in a building where the Masonic temple now stands; Seely Perry, in the basement of the First Methodist church, on Second street; B. Rush Catlin, in 1852, in basement of First Methodist church; Misses Charlotte and Harriet Leonard, in 1851-52; Miss Stowell and T. J. L. Remington, in 1851, in the brick schoolhouse, west side; Rev. C. Reighley,

in 1852, on the east side; Miss Fanny Avery, in 1852, on the east side; Mr. Stevens, in 1853, in the brick schoolhouse, east side; Miss Lizzie Fern, in 1853, on the east side; Mrs. Carpenter, in 1853, west side; Rev. L. Porter, 1852; Mr. Stowell, in 1853; Rev. Addison Brown and Miss Frances A. Brown on the west side; Miss Elia Galloway, in 1854, in the lobby of the First Congregational church, east side; Darwin Dubois, in 1854, in the First Methodist church; Mrs. Julia and Miss Chapman, in 1854, on the west side; Miss Belle Burpee and Miss Ethalinda Thompson, in 1855, on the east side; Halsey G. Clark, in 1855, in old courthouse, east side, with Miss Lizzie Giffen as assistant; Miss Emma Brown, in 1857, east side; A. W. Freeman, in the basement of First Baptist church, west side; Wesley Sovereign, in First Methodist church, east side; Mrs. Jones, on west side; Miss Elizabeth Fisher, west side; Miss Gunsolus, east side; Mr. Johnson and Mr. Gifford, west side.

Nearly all these schools were private. The teachers were paid mainly by the parents. The teacher made out his own bills and collected them. There was then no regular state or local tax, and the only public school money was derived from the interest on the several state school funds, and the township fund obtained from the sale of the sixteenth section. Private teachers, who conformed to certain requirements of the law, received some compensation from the public money, in proportion to the number of pupils under their instruction.

The early public school records of Rockford township have been lost. It is therefore impossible to obtain exact information. There appears, however, to have been a school district, with a schoolhouse, on each side of the river. The east side public school was in the brick building on the southeast corner of the public square. This schoolhouse was erected at an early date, by private subscription. L. B. Gregory taught there soon after his arrival in Rockford. His examination for certificate was quite brief, and was held in E. H. Potter's store. The directors were E. H. Potter, William E. Dunbar, Willard Wheeler and Dr. A. M. Catlin. Mr. Gregory was asked to spell biker. He replied that he could not; but the certificate was granted.

In the classical institute, in the basement of the First Baptist church, from 1855 to 1856, of which H. P. Kimball was principal, one class pursued the regular studies of the freshman year in college, and entered one year in advance. A score of students left this institution and entered eastern colleges. Two years' study was considered sufficient to advance scholars through a full preparatory course of mathematics and the usual books in Latin and Greek, giving them a sufficient preparation.

Seely Perry taught a preparatory school for young men about a year and a half, in the First Methodist church. At this school quite a number of students prepared for college. Among these were the late Dr. Selwyn Clark; Alexander Kerr, who became professor of Greek in the University of Wisconsin; Rev. John Edwards, brother of Mrs. Clemens. On account of ill health, Mr. Perry turned over the school to a brother of Dr. E. P. Catlin.

Besides the houses used for schools on the east side already noted, were: one on Kishwaukee street, near bridge; one on lot in rear of engine house on South First street; one on South Madison street. Not less than eight buildings were used for school purposes on the east side. A sum of money was once raised to build a second public school house on the east side; but it was never erected. The money was finally paid into the municipal treasury, upon the order of the city council.

John A. Holland and others built a school house for private pupils on South West street. It was occupied exclusively by the children of those who erected it. It was therefore not a large school, but somewhat exclusive. The contract was made with Seely Perry for furnishing building material.

An old schoolhouse stood on South Main street, and later used as a blacksmith shop, near Mrs. Brett's block. The Second Congregational church was organized in this building. There was also a small schoolhouse on the south side of Green street, between Church and Court. It was a white frame building. Abbie Parker, a sister of the late G. W. Parker, taught there at one time.

FREE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM.

The development of the public school system is an excellent illustration of the growth of paternalism: first, on the part of the general government; and second, in the gradual advance of the state toward the present standard.

The free public school system of Illinois dates from 1855. In December, 1853, a large common school convention met at Jerseyville, composed of delegates from many adjoining counties, and one at Bloomington, for the whole state. These movements produced results. The general assembly, which met the following February, separated the office of state superintendent of public instruction from that of secretary of state, and made it a distinct department of the state government. The state superintendent was required to draft a bill embodying a system of free education for all the children of the state, and report to the next general assembly. March 15, 1854, Governor Matteson appointed Hon. Ninian

Edwards as state superintendent. In the following January Mr. Edwards presented a bill which became a law February 15, 1855. For state purposes the school tax was fixed at two mills on the one hundred dollars. To this was added the interest from the permanent school fund. A free school was required to be maintained for at least six months in each year, and it was made imperative upon the directors of every school district to levy the necessary tax. Thus the free school system of Illinois began when the taxing power of the state was invoked in its behalf.

The school law was bitterly opposed, and narrowly escaped repeal. Sir William Berkeley, the royal governor of Virginia, said in 1670: "I thank God there are no free schools nor printing presses in Virginia and I hope we shall not have these hundred years." The spirit of this pious wish prevailed in southern Illinois; and there was a repetition of the old conflict between the two distinct classes of people in the two portions of the state. The southern portion was poor, while the northern portion was well-to-do; and it was only as it was made to appear to the southern part that it was receiving more from the state school fund than it was contributing, that the people acquiesced in the law.

The charter of 1854 had conferred upon the city council of Rockford full power over its schools. June 20, 1855, the council passed its first school ordinance under the new school law. The city was divided into school districts; East side, number one; West side, number two. A board of school inspectors was appointed, consisting of George Haskell, A. S. Miller and Jason Marsh. In December the board voted to purchase of A. W. Freeman his lease of the basement of the First Baptist church for a school in district number two. Mr. Freeman was employed to teach at \$800 per year. At the same time Henry Sabin was engaged for the First district, and the old courthouse on the east side was leased. Mr. Sabin is a brother of Charles Sabin, of North Church street. He is a graduate of Amherst College, and has made a record for distinguished service. He has been superintendent of schools at Clinton, Iowa, and has served several terms as state superintendent of that state. He now lives at Des Moines.

The council had provided by ordinance for a school agent for each district, whose acts were to be approved by the council. July 27, 1855, the agent for the First district was authorized to purchase from Solomon Wheeler, the tract on which the Henry Freeman school now stands. September 10th a contract was made for the construction of the building. April 28, 1856, a contract was made for a schoolhouse in the Second district, on the site of the Lincoln school; the

contractors were E. N. House, M. H. Regan, and James B. Howell. The progress of the buildings was delayed by unfavorable weather, and the late arrival of school furniture.

August 14, 1857, in the afternoon and evening, occurred the formal dedication of the two union school buildings. Previous to this time Rockford as a city had no schoolhouse of its own.

The First district school had three principals from 1857 to 1884. The first was Orlando C. Blackmer, who was appointed March 10, 1857. His assistant was S. F. Penfield. Mr. Blackmer remained but a short time, when he began the publication of school records in Chicago. Mr. Blackmer is a brother of Mrs. N. C. Thompson. He is now living at Oak Park.

Prof. Henry Freeman, Mr. Blackmer's successor, was a native of Massachusetts, born within twenty miles of Plymouth Rock. He was graduated from Teacher's Seminary, Andover, Massachusetts, in 1839, and taught for one year in the preparatory department. Prof. Freeman began his life-work as principal of the high school at Bridgeton, New York, in 1840. In 1845 he was offered the principalship of Salem academy, at Salem, New Jersey, where he remained five years until he was elected principal of Walkkill Academy, at Middleton, New York. In 1855 he was called to the position of principal of the high school and superintendent of schools at Freeport, Illinois. In 1859 the board of school inspectors invited Prof. Freeman to take the position of principal and superintendent of schools of East Rockford at a salary of one thousand dollars a year. This position he filled twenty-one years, until he resigned in 1880. During this long service hundreds of pupils came under the influence of the principal. Prof. Freeman had high ideals of life, and his strong character was a potent factor in promoting that which was for the best interest of the pupils. His conscientious efforts were appreciated, and occasionally his former pupils gathered informally at his home and recalled reminiscences of those formative years.

The third and last principal was Prof. A. W. McPherson, who remained until 1884.

George G. Lyon was chosen principal of the Second school district March 10, 1857. April 22, 1904, the old pupils of Prof. Lyon had the pleasure of honoring his memory by planting the Lyon elm on the Lincoln school grounds.

Prof. Lyon was succeeded by E. M. Fernal, E. N. Miller, James H. Blodgett and W. W. Stetson. Prof. Blodgett became principal of the West side school in September, 1865, and held this position fifteen years. He had served his country in the Civil war as captain of Company E, Seventy-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Prof. Blodgett has for many years been an official in the interior department at Washington.

Prof. W. W. Stetson, the last principal of the West side high school before the consolidation, is now state superintendent of Maine.

By 1857 a small frame structure had been erected in South Rockford as a schoolhouse. This was soon enlarged and was later superseded by a stone structure, now known as Kent school. Thomas Sherratt and a Mr. Munson were early principals. Mr. Sweet, another early principal, went to California and there died.

Prof. O. F. Barbour succeeded Mr. Sweet in September, 1866, and has retained this position thirty-nine consecutive years. Prof. Barbour's continuous service in the same school is without a parallel in the state of Illinois. "To his inspiration," says Prof. James H. Blodgett, "is largely due the unusual prominence of boys among the graduates of the West high school. At a time when girl graduates monopolized the diplomas in many schools, one-third of the graduates of West Rockford high school were boys, and occasionally a graduating class had more boys than girls, and South Rockford furnished a conspicuous share."

October 21, 1861, the number of school inspectors was increased from three to five.

In 1884 the public school system was thoroughly reorganized, and the city was made one school district, with one high school, in pursuance of an ordinance drawn by Hon. Alfred Taggart. Prof. P. R. Walker was made general superintendent of all the city schools, and he has held this position twenty-one years. Prof. Walker did service during the Civil war with the Ninety-second Illinois Volunteers. He graduated from the Illinois State Normal School and was for many years a teacher. He came to Rockford from Rochelle.

A central high school was created. Temporary quarters were secured in the second story of a building on West State street. The first principal was Prof. A. W. McPherson, who served one year. The second principal was Prof. Charles A. Smith, a graduate of Amherst. The present high school building was erected in 1885, and an addition was completed in 1900. Prof. Smith was succeeded by Walter A. Edwards, a son of Prof. Edwards, at one time superintendent of public instruction of Illinois. Mr. Edwards resigned in 1895, and was succeeded by Prof. B. D. Parker, who remained nine years. The present principal is Ellis U. Graff, who began his duties in September, 1904.

Previous to the reorganization of the Rockford schools in 1884, the schoolhouses were simply designated by the wards in which they were severally located. Prof. Walker, as he became acquainted with the history of the city, advised the naming of the several schools, and, with three exceptions, they were named in honor of Rockford citizens.

The West side high school, built in 1857, was called the Lincoln school, in honor of Abraham Lincoln. It was rebuilt in 1892 at a cost of \$35,000.

The East Rockford high school, also built in 1857, was named Adams, in honor of President John Adams. In 1893 the old stone structure was razed to the ground and a two-story brick building erected, at a cost of \$40,000. In 1904 about \$5,000 was expended in a steam heating plant and a system of fan-ventilation. This building has been re-christened the Henry Freeman school, in honor of Prof. Freeman, who taught twenty-one years in the old East side high school.

The South Rockford school building, erected in 1858, was named the Kent, in honor of Germanicus Kent, the first settler of Rockford, who came here in 1834.

The Hall school, built in 1866, and rebuilt in 1892, was named in honor of John Hall, an early member of the board of education.

The Ellis school, built in 1868, bears the name of Col. E. F. W. Ellis, an early banker of Rockford, who was killed in the battle of Shiloh in April, 1862.

The Blake school, erected in an early day, and rebuilt in 1890, received its name from Thatcher Blake, who came to Rockford with Germanicus Kent, in 1834.

The Marsh school, built in 1872, bears the name of Col. Jason Marsh, a pioneer of 1839, and a representative lawyer and public-spirited citizen.

The Nelson school, built in 1881, is named for John Nelson, the famous Rockford inventor of the knitting machine. The Hotel Nelson also bears his name.

The Haskell school was built in 1874, and perpetuates the memory of Dr. George Haskell, who came to Rockford in 1838. He has been immortalized by the poet Whittier in Snow-bound.

The Montague school was built in 1883, and enlarged in 1892. It bears the name of Richard Montague, a pioneer of 1835.

The Wight school, built in 1889, is named in honor of James M. Wight, a prominent barrister, member of the constitutional convention of 1870, and a representative in the legislature.

The Brown school, erected in 1892, derives its name from Judge William Brown, who held many offices of public trust and was for twenty years judge of the circuit court.

The Garrison school, built in 1887, and enlarged in 1892, is named for Thomas Garrison, who came to Rockford from New Jersey in 1853, and purchased a large tract of land north of the city. Mr. Garrison died October 6, 1871. An addition has been made to the school building during the present year.

The Church school was built in 1894, and per-

petuates the memory of Judge Selden M. Church, an early settler, postmaster, member of the legislature, and judge of the county court.

The Kishwaukee school was built in 1896, and derives its name from the street on which it stands, which, in turn, is derived from Kishwaukee river. Kishwaukee is an Indian name.

The Turner school was built in 1898, and derives its name from J. M. Turner, a supervisor and alderman. Mr. Turner, in recognition of this honor, gave the school a bell.

A site at the corner of Summit and Crosby streets, consisting of one-half of a block, was purchased in 1904, and a ten-room building erected. It is called the Jackson school, in honor of Charles E. Jackson, the present mayor. It is pleasing to know that the idea of more extensive school grounds has at last been adopted, and that this new building is heated by steam, and well ventilated with a fan to drive the pure, warm or cold air through the building. The plans provide large rooms, well lighted, and large halls that are easily accessible, with stairs easy to ascend and descend. The light comes in at the left and rear of the pupils in each room. The site is on an elevation well drained and supplied with ample sewerage, a very important item in the location of a school building.

With the completion of the Jackson school, the entire school property of Rockford, including buildings, grounds and furnishings is not less than half a million dollars.

The following table indicates the cost of the completed buildings as they now stand:

High School, 1885-1900.....	\$ 92,145.97
Lincoln, 1892.....	35,000.00
Henry Freeman, 1893.....	45,000.00
Hall, 1892.....	30,000.00
Wight, 1889.....	20,000.00
Brown, 1892.....	18,000.00
Kent, 1858.....	20,000.00
Montague, 1883-1892.....	20,700.00
Garrison, 1887-1892.....	18,000.00
Church, 1894.....	20,000.00
Kishwaukee, 1896.....	30,000.00
Nelson, 1881.....	4,000.00
Marsh, 1872.....	5,000.00
Blake, 1899.....	28,385.49
Haskell, 1874.....	6,000.00
Ellis, 1868.....	4,000.00
Turner, 1898.....	25,588.74
Jackson, 1904.....	35,000.00
Total.....	\$456,820.20

The following is the total enrollment of the city schools by years, since 1884:

1884.....	2,772	1894.....	4,723
1885.....	2,818	1895.....	4,781
1886.....	2,875	1896.....	4,945
1887.....	2,950	1897.....	5,138

1888.....	3,206	1898.....	5,193
1889.....	3,306	1899.....	5,645
1890.....	3,563	1900.....	5,877
1891.....	3,851	1901.....	6,011
1892.....	4,195	1902.....	6,116
1893.....	4,531	1903.....	6,251
Opening day, September 5, 1904.....	5,627		
Enrollment for September, 1905.....	6,441		

The work of the Rockford high school is to a limited extent elective, and is based upon an election of subjects rather than of courses. The unit of the plan is a "credit," which means five hours of work per week for a period of thirty-nine weeks. Sixteen such credits are necessary for graduation, of which seven and a half are required, and the remainder elective. The plan may be seen by reference to the course of study.

Below is a report of the number in the entering classes, and the number graduated since 1886:

WHEN ENTERED.		NO.	WHEN GRADUATED.		NO.
1886.....	109		1890.....	32	
1887.....	79		1891.....	37	
1888.....	89		1892.....	28	
1889.....	115		1893.....	49	
1890.....	132		1894.....	52	
1891.....	116		1895.....	48	
1892.....	138		1896.....	67	
1893.....	176		1897.....	88	
1894.....	163		1898.....	58	
1895.....	146		1899.....	55	
1896.....	154		1900.....	68	
1897.....	152		1901.....	48	
1898.....	169		1902.....	56	
1899.....	159		1903.....	64	
1900.....	—		1904.....	77	
1901.....	—		1905.....	87	

The present board of education consists of Dr. Culhane, A. G. Everett, E. D. Reynolds, L. M. Noling, and Miss Pearl Biller.

FIRST CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL IN ILLINOIS.

Seward township has the first consolidated school in Illinois. In the spring of 1903, on petition to the school trustees, Districts 90, 91, 93, of Seward township, were consolidated. The electors of the consolidated district, by a vote of thirty-eight for and fifteen against, bonded the district for \$7,000, ten years' time at four per cent. to purchase a site and erect a union school building. By a vote of forty-seven for, and one against, the directors were authorized to purchase a certain site for the new school grounds. This consists of three and six-tenths acres of some of the finest farming land in northern Illinois. The amount paid for it was \$1,000.

Prof. Blair, chief of horticulture of the Illinois College of Agriculture, designed the landscape arrangement of this ground. It provides for the

tiful groupings and massing of numerous varieties of shrubs and flowers; a boys' athletic field; a girls' athletic field; little folks' play ground; and experimental gardens for all the children. The new building was erected at a cost of about \$6,000. The credit of this innovation belongs to Superintendent O. J. Kern, who labored four years and a half to accomplish this result. This school promises to be the connecting link between the farm and the college of agriculture.

DISTRICT SCHOOL TRAVELING LIBRARIES.

The Winnebago County District School Traveling Libraries were organized in 1901. The object was to supply valuable helps for school work and good literature in a way that would be possible to reach every district school, every child and indirectly every home in the county outside of the City of Rockford. This was the first attempt of its kind in Illinois. These traveling libraries are the property of the county, and are in charge of the county superintendent of schools.

The money with which to purchase the books was acquired in two ways. First, an appropriation by the county board of supervisors; second, by the net proceeds of annual township school exercises.

The districts over the county are grouped into circuits of six districts each, with two or three exceptions. A box of books stays at a school one month and then is taken to another school in the circuit. The fractional township of Laona has exactly six school districts. The teachers of this circuit are over twenty miles from Rockford. The traveling library is the only way to reach them, for the distance is too great for teachers to go to the county superintendent's office and take books to their schools. With the traveling libraries all schools are on an equal footing as far as opportunity to use books is concerned. Three boxes of books are placed in each circuit, with the exception of the graded school circuit of ten schools, which has five boxes.

The library movement is helping to create a new educational ideal in Winnebago county. It is no small factor in the improvement of the teaching force. And the library, if rightly used in the school room, can not fail to strengthen the work of the pupils. Pupils and teachers are brought into contact with good books during the year. Slowly, but surely, the reading habit will be formed, the desire to read good books. This is of great importance to the boy or girl after school days are over.

DISTRICT SCHOOL LIBRARIES.

There has been a great increase in the local district school libraries during the past three years, total number of admissions having been nearly 90,000.

These books are the property of the various districts, and are secured by socials, purchased by directors from school funds, etc.

TOWNSHIP GRADUATION EXERCISES.

This innovation began in 1901. These annual exercises are helpful in creating a new educational ideal with reference to the country school. It gives an opportunity for all the children and parents of a township to get together in the interests of better schools. No attempt is made to create a great display. The aim has always been to have the children render the program of a simple educational character, and thus keep alive a growing interest. If the children are interested, the parents will be. The county superintendent attends every one of them. Ten cents admission is charged, and the net proceeds go toward the traveling library fund.

Eighth grade certificates for admission to high school, pupils' reading circle diplomas and teachers' professional attainment certificates are given at these union township exercises. A subject is selected each year by the county superintendent, which is the central theme of the program. The aim is to make the program a unit all over the county, and thus make the exercises truly educational and at the same time entertaining.

The subject for 1901 was: The History of Winnebago County; 1902, Louisiana Purchase Exposition; 1903, Out Door Art for Home and School.

ROCKFORD CHAUTAUQUA ASSEMBLY.

It has fallen to the lot of few Rockford institutions to meet with such success in a comparatively short time as to the Rockford Chautauqua, now known the breadth and width of the Chautauqua world as one of the largest and most influential in the entire country.

The Rockford Chautauqua assembly was organized in the year 1902. The promoters felt there was a need of such an institution in this city and believed that their efforts would be strongly aided by the Rockford public.

A stock company of 100 shares was organized with a capital of \$5,000, and the work was taken up with a will. The Rockford and Interurban Company erected the handsome and capacious auditorium at Harlem Park, seating 5,000 people, and made other improvements upon the grounds.

The 1902 assembly was a record-breaker for a first-year gathering. A program such as has not been arranged but for few gatherings of the sort sufficed to attract thousands and the reputation of the assembly was established.

The season of 1903 broke all records in point of attendance for short-term Chautauquas, the artistic arrangement of many kinds of trees; beau-

These enormous figures were a surprise even to the management itself and other Chautauquas in the country saw they had a powerful rival in the point of popularity. These attendance figures have only been surpassed by the mother assembly at Jamestown, New York.

The season of 1904 was as highly successful in every respect as that of the previous year, the attendance figures being about the same.

With a confidence born of this unprecedented attendance the management looks forward to the season of 1906 with hope, and does not hesitate to say that the program will be unquestionably the strongest ever presented by any assembly in the west.

No expense has been spared in past years to gratify every desire of the public for pleasing, as well as educating, programs, and the Chautauqua association will continue on this same broad plan in the years to come.

The officers of the association are:

President—D. Lichty.

Vice President—George Stansbury.

Secretary—Frank S. Regan.

Treasurer—Miss Mary I. Beattie.

Superintendent—A. C. Folsom.

Directors—A. E. Elmore, J. B. Whitehead, August Peterson, H. S. Whipple, L. A. Williams, W. W. Bennett, C. H. Knapp, J. H. King, E. M. Breckenridge.

ROCKFORD STREET RAILWAY AND INTERURBAN LINES.

ROCKFORD STREET RAILWAY COMPANY.

The story of the growth of the city railway and interurban systems of Rockford forms an interesting chapter in the commercial development of the city. From very humble beginnings these lines have become a great factor in the municipal life to-day. They bring thousands of people to the city every week, and make Rockford the business, educational and amusement center for the great Rock river valley.

The Rockford Street Railway company was organized in the latter part of 1880, with a capital of \$20,000. January 21, 1881, the secretary of state authorized Anthony Haines, Charles O. Upton and James Ferguson, as commissioners, to open books for subscriptions to stock. The original stockholders were: Anthony Haines, H. H. Robinson, James Ferguson, C. O. Upton, C. M. Brazee, R. F. Crawford, Levi Rhoades, N. E. Lyman, George H. Trufant, J. S. Ticknor, A. D. Forbes, E. L. Woodruff, John Barnes and John Lake. The first directorate was chosen February 9, 1881, at the office of Holland, Ferguson & Co., and consisted of the following named gentlemen: C. M. Brazee, A. D. Forbes, Levi Rhoades, C. O.

Upton, R. F. Crawford, A. Haines and John Barnes. On the following day the directors elected A. Haines, president; Levi Rhoades, vice-president; H. H. Robinson, secretary; G. H. Trufant, treasurer.

The company was organized under the general corporation act of April 18, 1872, and a charter was obtained for ninety-nine years. June 27, 1881, a franchise was granted by the city council, and the promoters had no difficulty in securing the right of way.

The records of the company, now in possession of H. H. Robinson, contain this modest paragraph, under date of July 6, 1881:

"Moved by A. D. Forbes that the company proceed to make necessary arrangements to build a street railway from or near the corner of Montague and South Main streets, in South Rockford, to a point at or near where South Fourth street crosses the Chicago & Northwestern railway, in East Rockford, Illinois. Motion seconded and carried."

The original track began on Fourth avenue, at its intersection with Fourth street, running to Kishwaukee, thence to State, from State to South Main, extending on the latter to its intersection with Montague.

September 26, 1881, the capital stock was raised to \$40,000, and December 27, 1883, the capital was increased to \$80,000. With a large fund at its disposal, the company extended its track to the north gate of the fair ground. This line, however, was authorized by the original franchise. The east side line was also extended on Fourth avenue to Seventh street, thence to the Northwestern railroad crossing. The company operated a double track on State street.

When the first line was nearly completed an amusing question arose whether horses or mules should be used to draw the cars. The directorate was a tie, and President Haines gave the casting vote in favor of the horse. The company employed no conductors. Passengers were supposed to drop their nickel or ticket in the box. Washers, buttons and old coins also came to fill the coffers of the company. The latter often proved of value, and were sold at good prices to coin collectors. Sometimes a five-dollar gold piece would be dropped in by mistake. On one occasion a lady left her false teeth on the seat.

The company made some money during the first six years. The enterprise, however, failed to pay when the lines were extended to the sparsely settled portions of the city. In 1886 H. W. Price, who had become a director, and one of the greatest of our city builders, negotiated a sale whereby the property of the old company passed into the hands of a syndicate at sixty cents on the dollar. "Judge" R. N. Baylies became president, and the name of the corporation was changed to the Rock-

ford City Railway company. Electricity supplanted the slow, but faithful, horse, and a metropolitan street railway system was rapidly developed.

WEST END STREET RAILWAY.

It will be a matter of regret to the future historian of Rockford that the records of the West End Street Railway company have been lost. F. A. Ticknor, the secretary and superintendent of the company, has kindly furnished interesting facts concerning the enterprise.

During the winter of 1890 a number of gentlemen became actively interested in the expansion of the city in what is now known as the "West End." It was proposed to construct a street railway, in the belief that it would increase the demand for lots and eventually build up a prosperous suburb.

The leader in this movement was the late James S. Ticknor, who became president and secretary of the company. His son, Frank A., was secretary and superintendent.

The West End Street Railway company was organized in 1890, with a capital of \$50,000, which sum was subsequently increased. A franchise was obtained without serious opposition, although there was an animated controversy over the kind of rail to be used, which finally resulted in the choice of the girder type, which the company advocated.

The first line was the West End loop, which started from the intersection of Elm and South Main streets, west on Elm to Cleveland avenue, north on Cleveland avenue to School street, west on School to Johnson avenue, south on Johnson avenue to Anderson street, east on Anderson and Preston streets to South Avon, and north on South Avon to Elm.

The South Rockford line began on Elm street, running west to Church, south on Church to Cedar, west on Cedar to Winnebago, south on Winnebago to Montague.

The third line was begun at the intersection of Chestnut Wyman streets, running north on Wyman to Mulberry, west on Mulberry to Horsman, north on Horsman to Locust, west on Locust to Kilburn avenue, north on Kilburn avenue to School street. Later the line was extended on Mulberry to Avon, north on Avon to School, and east on School to connect with the first line terminus.

In 1892 the east side line was built. It began at the intersection of Church and Chestnut streets, running east on Chestnut and Walnut streets to Third, north on Third to Market, east on Market to North Fourth, north on North Fourth to Benton, east on Benton to Longwood, north on Longwood to Rural street.

The East side line was subsequently extended on Market to the intersection of Charles and East State, and east on Charles to Eleventh street.

When all its lines were completed the West End company had a greater mileage than the City Railway, but many of them were not on the main thoroughfares. The road was supplied with electric power throughout. The west end loop and south side lines paid well. The enterprise, however, was not successful, and lost a fortune for its president and his family. The financial stringency of 1893 was especially severe in Rockford, and the West End company could not stem the adverse tide. In 1895 the property of the company passed into the hands of a receiver. The mortgage was foreclosed, and the property was bid in by John Farson, who represented the bondholders.

CONSOLIDATED SYSTEMS.

The Rockford City Railway company was organized in 1890. Upon the foreclosure of the West End Street Railway company in 1895, the line was owned and operated by the Rockford Traction company. The Rockford Railway, Light and Power company was organized in 1898, by the consolidation of the Rockford City Railway company and the Rockford Traction company. The Rockford & Belvidere Electric Railway company was organized in 1900. The Rockford and Interurban Railway company was incorporated in the fall of 1902, as a consolidation of the Rockford & Belvidere Electric Railway company and the Rockford Railway, Light and Power company. It is capitalized at \$1,000,000, with the following officers: R. N. Baylies, president; John Farson, vice-president; G. G. Olmstead, secretary; F. W. Woodruff, treasurer; T. M. Ellis, general manager; F. W. McAssey, auditor; C. C. Lines, superintendent of tracks.

There are two interurban divisions—one extending from Rockford to Belvidere, a distance of fifteen miles; the other running to Freeport, thirty miles west, was completed in 1904. The latter line is operated by a separate organization, called the Rockford & Freeport Electric Railway company. The territory traversed by these lines is one of the garden spots of Illinois, and is as fertile and prosperous a region as exists in the state. It is drained by the Rock, Kishwaukee and Pecatonica rivers. Between this city and Belvidere lies Cherry valley. Between Freeport and Rockford there are three towns—Ridott, Pecatonica and Winnebago. The highest grade is two per cent. for two thousand feet.

Cars leave for Belvidere or Freeport at 6 a. m. and each succeeding hour until 11 p. m. The schedule time to Belvidere is forty-five minutes, with a record run of thirty-two minutes for the distance. Over the Freeport line the regular time is one hour and twenty minutes, a special having made the run in forty-five minutes.

The Rockford, Beloit & Janesville railroad, operating between Rockford, Illinois, and Janesville,

Wisconsin, a distance of thirty-four miles, passing through Roscoe and Rockton, Illinois, and Beloit, Wisconsin, by a traffic arrangement, enters Rockford over the tracks of the Rockford & Interurban Railway company, giving an hourly service to the above named points.

The local service is very complete, a network of tracks intersecting the entire city and suburbs. Over one thousand cars pass the waiting station during the eighteen hours. The power used for interurban lines requires a 13,200-volt alternating current, carried to the substations located at Winnebago, Pecatonica, Ridott and Cherry Valley, respectively, making them about seven miles apart.

The advent of the interurban has increased the value of farm property in the vicinity of the right-of-way fully twenty per cent. Electric lines are projected and under way connecting various cities and towns in this section with Rockford, and complete connection with Chicago will soon be realized, when Rockford will be one of the greatest centers of electric lines in the northwest. At the present time one can reach Chicago via electric roads, with a slight gap from Belvidere to Elgin, and a line is now being constructed between those cities. The prejudice existing a few years ago among merchants in smaller towns against electric lines entering their territory has given way to a great enthusiasm in favor of the same.

In addition to the passenger service the Rockford & Interurban Railway company has modern express and freight runs, and since its inauguration, July 16, 1902, this department has been very successful.

Harlem Park was purchased in 1898, and as a pleasure resort and Chautauqua grounds has proven a valuable adjunct to the interurban system.

Substantial stations have been erected in all the small towns along the lines. These have comfortable waiting rooms and a department for handling express business. In a separate part of the building are the electric transformers used in supplying power for the road.

MEMORIAL HALL.

Winnebago county began the agitation of a memorial hall for its soldier and sailor dead almost a quarter of a century ago, but it was not until 1903 that a monument was dedicated. On June 3d of that year President Theodore Roosevelt unfurled the stars and stripes over the beautiful building on North Main street. The structure is of Bedford stone. In the basement are kitchens and storage rooms; on the second floor the post rooms, memorial tablets and club rooms, while on the third floor is a large auditorium and

balcony with a seating capacity of eight hundred.

In 1885 a resolution was introduced at a meeting of the board of supervisors, providing for an appropriation of twenty-five thousand dollars for a memorial hall. There was some question about the legality of the appropriation, and the resolution failed of passage.

Again in 1898 the matter was taken up by the board. Attorney A. D. Early spoke before that body, and everything seemed bright for an appropriation. But once again the plan failed because the state's attorney held that the board could not legally appropriate money for this purpose.

Repeated failures did not dampen the ardor of the friends of the memorial movement, and it was finally determined to appeal to the legislature for assistance.

A. D. Early drew up a bill permitting the board of supervisors to appropriate the money for a memorial, after the matter had been passed on by the voters of the county at a general election.

Hon. Henry Andrus was entrusted with the charge of the measure, and he succeeded in securing its passage by both branches of the legislature, and the governor affixed his signature thereto without delay.

All that then remained to be done was the circulation of petitions to the supervisors for the submission of the proposition to the voters at the November election of 1900.

The members of Nevius post and the Woman's Relief Corps took charge of this feature and went to work with a will circulating the petitions. The requisite number of names were readily secured, and the petition duly presented.

The question went to the people, was heartily indorsed, and the last obstacle in the way of the desired memorial was removed. The vote of the county stood, 6,021 yeas, 2,757 nays.

The board of supervisors went to work with a will. Bradley & Carpenter were given the contract to draw plans, and W. H. Cook was awarded the contract for the construction of the building. President Roosevelt's visit was made the occasion of great celebration. It is estimated that Rockford entertained twenty thousand visitors on the third day of June, and entertained them royally. The day was perfect, and immense crowds lined the sidewalks to see the nation's executive. All-day exercises were held, and far into the night the campfires of Nevius post burned brightly.

SPANISH WAR VETERANS.

When the call for troops came to right the wrongs of Cuba and to punish Spain for her treachery and the destruction of the Maine, Winnebago county responded with more than its quota of men.

Rockford first heard that actual hostilities had begun on the afternoon of Thursday, April 21, 1867. Prolonged whistles from the factories announced the declaration of war, and all classes of people were instantly charged with the military spirit.

President McKinley issued a call for 100,000 men, and congress made liberal appropriations without a dissenting vote in either house. The quota of Illinois under this call was 6,430 men. Two days later Companies H and K of Rockford were on their way to Springfield. The towns along the way turned out to cheer them. At Elgin they were joined by Company M, and in Chicago the Rochelle and Woodstock companies were added. At Joliet, Colonel Bennett and staff and the company from that city were accessions. The regiment arrived at Camp Tanner April 27th. After two weeks at Camp Tanner the boys left, May 14th, for Chattanooga.

Rockford was made more fully aware of the reality of the war on the afternoon of May 27th, when a telegram came from Chattanooga announcing the death of First Lieutenant C. E. Almond. The remains arrived in Rockford on Memorial day, and were buried with military honors. He was the first soldier from Winnebago county to die during this war.

After weeks of waiting, the Rockford boys received word to move from Camp Thomas in the latter part of July, and Sunday, July 24th, found them on their way to Newport News, where they took the transport for Porto Rico. Their record in the island campaign was one of which they have reason to be proud.

One of the sad incidents of the war was the death of Lieutenant W. A. Talcott, Jr., which occurred at Watch Hill, Rhode Island, August 31st, as the result of illness contracted in the service. He enlisted with the Seventy-first New York Volunteers, and was promoted for bravery. Mr. Talcott had recently been admitted to the bar, and a bright future was apparently before him.

Another Winnebago boy who went to war and death was Harry Potter. He was a member of Company H.

A few days later came word of the death of Corporal Lillie. A comrade at the time said: "He was a good soldier and never shirked his duty."

Another Rockford soldier who died from disease instead of bullets was Private Remus Nelson, who was a member of the First Wisconsin Regiment. He died from fever at the city hospital.

After the hostilities had ceased, the Rockford soldiers were kept on the island for several weeks, and finally sailed for home October 16th.

The Third Regiment reached Rockford on its return Friday, November 11th. The return was a great event in the history of Rockford. It was

estimated that twenty thousand persons stood in the cold around the Illinois Central depot and watched the trains bearing the soldiers. It was 10 o'clock before they arrived. There was a big display of fireworks and a deafening discharge of artillery in welcome to the men.

A few days later there was a pageant of peace. A banquet was served the returned soldiers, and there was an immense parade. It was a night of red fire and patriotism.

A sad touch was given the general atmosphere of rejoicing by the news of Jeremiah Hooley's death in Chicago.

A few days later the Rockford boys received their discharges and had settled down to the pursuits of peace.

The following is a list of the members of Companies H and K:

COMPANY H.

Captain—William H. Brogunier.
 First Lieutenant—Charles E. Almond.
 Second Lieutenant—William H. Sarver.
 First Sergeant—George Searle.
 Quartermaster-Sergeant—Harry E. Brogunier.
 Sergeants—Axel L. Hulten, Herbert L. Backus, Fred L. Aechter, Harry T. Potter.
 Corporals—Peter Lindberg, Frank E. Osborn, Fritz Johnson, Ed C. Johnson, W. C. King, Anton Johnson, C. Roy Speake, Fred W. Farmiloe, John W. Petrie, Henry Sanders, George H. Baker, Gilmore Grant.
 Musicians—William H. Stuckey, Stillman Valley; Louis W. Miles.
 Artificer—George H. Allen.
 Wagoner—Charles E. Richardson.
 Privates—Charles E. Adamson, Roy Archer, August L. Applegren, Leon M. Baldwin, Streator; James L. Basford, Frank B. Basford, Clarence C. Boyer, Richard Boyer, Joseph Boyer, George L. Baxter, Louis M. Barker, Isaac W. Breckenridge, London, Pa.; Swan Carlson, Charles E. Carlson, Arthur B. Carr, Sullivan L. Clark, Joseph Caldwell, James Coyne, Edward E. Cowles, Edgar E. Campbell, Henry J. Dillon, Charles J. Dillon, H. J. Dickerman, Hiram R. Drake, Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin; John Garry, John J. Hooley, Joseph A. Hunter, Edward Houseman, Fred Johnson, Louis W. Jones, John R. Johnson, David E. King, Andrew J. Lawler, Albert E. Lamb, John W. Lindell, Bert J. Lindell, Richard H. Ljungberg, Otto Lundin, Frank E. Mahon, Peter J. McGrath, William F. Murphy, Richard Noreen, Oscar G. Olson, Albert O'Garr, Harry E. Osgood, Frank G. Parker, James W. Paxton, Rudolph L. Peterson, Rudolph A. Perterson, Charles Sederstrom, Charles Seaulander, Gustav Schmidt, George H. Shepard, John Smith, John A. Taylor, Lawrence Taylor,

Edward Taylor, Eugene Tunison, Emil Van Holsbeke, Frank H. Welch, Abe L. Yingling. Recruits—Gustave G. Boetcher, Milwaukee; Mark M. Butler, Belvidere; Joseph Bath, Thomas Blachford, Belvidere; Arthur R. Davis, Joliet; Albert L. Ferree, Coldwater, Mich.; Richard Flynn, Belvidere; Joseph Flannery, Belvidere; Louis Gastman, Jerry F. Holey, Robert A. Hunter, Clarence Humeston, Henry S. Hensel, Oscar A. Jackson, William S. Lawman, Belvidere; John J. McGrath, Andrew F. Maloney, Belvidere; Oron McConel, William Outcalt, Verma Outcalt, Edward C. Osmus, Roy M. Phelps, Belvidere; John W. Roderick, Belvidere; Edward W. Roderick, Belvidere; John E. Randolph, Garden Prairie; Henry Schmitz, Peoria; Fred B. Stockwell.

COMPANY K.

Captain—Edwin E. Leonard.
 First Lieutenant—James A. Ruggles.
 Second Lieutenant—Ernest L. Hess.
 First Sergeant—Lee Lemaire.
 Quartermaster-Sergeant—Eric Swenberg.
 Sergeants—Edward A. Quinn, Frank M. Hull, Frank Smith, Will McDermid.
 Corporals—Walter B. Taylor, Eric Kjellgren, Walter Wall, Samuel C. Hull, Fred J. Corey, Luman B. Lillie, William M. Danner, Fred H. Wheeler, George A. Trumbo, Will J. Barbour, John B. Chaney.
 Musicians—Charles E. Frank, Knutt O. Juhlin.
 Artificer—Richard Anderson.
 Privates—Charles E. Anderson, Fred C. Barbour, Charles G. Bowman, Joseph H. Bryden, Thatcher B. Bean, Frank Betts, Williams Buske, Oscar N. Danielson, Bert Dindon, Richard M. Eylward, Edward H. Engquist, Emil Flood, Wilgot Flood, Fred Fellows, Joseph Frost, Gust T. Gustafson, Robert K. Gustafson, Charles G. Gustafson, Harold R. Gaston, James H. Galloway, Charles O. Harper, Lycurgus A. Hall, Joseph B. Hoffman, Clinton S. Holmes, Benjamin A. Hunter, John Hagenson, Harry Hunter, Jason B. Isbell, Eric S. Johnson, Louis H. Johnson, Frank A. Jordan, Chicago; Elmer R. Johnson, Axel Kjellgren, Paul R. Klentz, Victor Lilydahl, Paul C. Loveland, Peter A. Larson, Robert S. Lane, William H. McIntosh, Israel N. Mutimer, George Matthews, Harry Nelson, Fred R. Olson, Victor C. Olson, Henry Odenahl, Ed Ostness, Edwin Oberg, Floyd Osmus, George Pitney, Harry M. Putnam, Harry A. Parson, Frank R. Ridgley, Matthew Ryan, Wilbur P. Raymond, Charles F. Strong, Linus Selin, Bruce W. Savage, Grant Shields, Otto Stohlgren, Carl R. Savage, Charles A. Thorne, George Whitmore. Recruits—Lewis Ahlberg, Belvidere; Charles G. Barnes, Byron; Frank Blank, Belvidere; John F. Clayton, Belvi-

dere; Louis J. Caswell, Claus Ekstedt, Cherry Valley; William Fallon, Evert J. Garlock, Byron; Israel J. Ferris, Robert B. Hart, Byron; Charles E. Gooman, Guy Holland, Herman Huffman, Adolph Johnson, John E. Jones, Ernest Kilgore, Byron; Otto Koch, Belvidere; Henry C. Lane, Byron; George Monroe, Belvidere; Martin F. Nally, Byron; Clarence C. Nelson, George Patterson, Steven Powell, Joseph H. Underwood, Byron; Frans A. Titus, Clarence G. Tetlow, Belvidere; Ernest D. Wallace.

Other Rockford boys who enlisted for the Spanish-American war were:

Third Illinois Regiment—Company A: Charles R. Gipe, Axel L. Kjellgren.

Company D: Howard C. Carpenter, James McConnell.

Company F: Selwyn L. Clark, Charles Jenkins, Charles Sederstorm.

Company G: Richard Anderson, Ray T. Barnes, Robert S. Farrar.

Company M: Frank W. Adams, Ernest V. Johnson, William J. Myers, C. A. George Sahlin.

Sixth Regiment, Infantry—Company L: John M. Keefe.

Seventh Regiment, Infantry—Company L: Guy L. Harvey.

Company M: Dennis Owens.

Eighth Regiment, Infantry—Harry S. McCord.

Third Nebraska, Infantry—Warren H. Ray.

First U. S. Engineers—Company F: W. D. Kewish.

First U. S. Vol. Infantry—Company B: P. W. Doolittle.

Fortieth Wisconsin Infantry—Company B: William H. Fitch.

First Regiment, Fifth Wisconsin Artillery—Josiah C. Forbes.

Third Missouri Cavalry—Company G: George H. Forbes.

Second U. S. V. Engineers, Second Battalion—C. Kingley Ray.

Fifty-first Iowa Infantry—Company B: Elmer G. Stockberger.

Arthur E. Fisher went to the front with the Third Regiment as lieutenant-colonel. In 1899 he was elected colonel of the Third Regiment, and served the full term of five years. He was re-elected in 1904, and resigned in the spring of 1905, after having rendered nineteen years of military service to the state.

INSTITUTIONS OF PHILANTHROPY.

ROCKFORD HOSPITALS.

During the year 1883 the subject of organizing a hospital for the city of Rockford became an object of much interest, both to the medical pro-

fession and to the community at large. Among the physicians especially interested in the movement were the late T. G. Vincent, W. H. Fitch and F. H. Kimball. The subject elicited much attention at the meetings of the medical society of the county, and in the autumn of 1883 resulted in the appointment of a committee to secure a corporate existence under the laws of the state. The committee so appointed made application and received from the secretary of state a certificate of organization, under date of December 15, 1883. The incorporators were Drs. A. E. Goodwin, Silas A. Austin, Frank H. Kimball, Frank K. Hill, Lemuel Tibbets, Thomas G. Vincent.

It was the desire of the promoters to secure the co-operation of the churches, and the selection of trustees was made with this end in view. The original board consisted of the following citizens: William A. Talcott, William Lathrop, Norman C. Thompson, William Brown, Jeremiah Davis, H. W. Carpenter, John Z. Rydberg, Thour Munthe, R. P. Lane, B. F. Whipple, Thomas Butterworth, Frances I. Price, Mary H. Penfield, Jane G. Wilkins, Adeline E. Emerson.

Upon the completion of the organization the physicians, by choice, were no longer officially identified with the hospital association. A number of the original board have been called by death, and in several instances their sons have been chosen to succeed them.

At a meeting held January 20, 1884, a temporary organization was effected by the election of William Brown as chairman and William A. Talcott as secretary of the board of trustees. At a meeting held April 8, 1884, a constitution and by-laws were adopted. A permanent organization was effected by the election of the following officers: President, William Brown; vice-president, Mrs. Jane G. Wilkins; secretary and treasurer, William A. Talcott.

Shares were placed at \$10 each, and were taken by a large number of the citizens. Selden M. Church took thirty shares; Dr. Fitch, thirty shares; Dr. R. P. Lane, fifty shares; Emerson, Talcott & Co., fifty shares; Thomas D. Robertson, fifty shares; Horatio Stone, fifty shares.

June 21, 1884, the board of trustees met to consider the question of the selection and purchase of suitable hospital grounds. At this meeting several propositions for location were canvassed. Among these was the proposition of Dr. W. H. Fitch for the sale to the association of his property, consisting of a plat of about 125 feet frontage on South Court street by 156 feet deep, and having a south and east exposure, at the price of \$6,800—\$300 payable in certificates of membership. The trustees, as a body, examined the property, and thereafter passed the following resolution, viz.:

"Resolved, That we deem it wise that the association shall at once take necessary steps to procure hospital grounds."

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, That the president and secretary be and hereby are authorized to accept the proposition of Dr. W. H. Fitch for the sale of his property of 125 front on Court street, West Rockford, for the use of the association, and make the necessary papers therefor, unless more favorable terms can be obtained."

By subsequent arrangement with Dr. Fitch, the association purchased the property, paying therefor \$6,200 cash and \$300 in certificates of membership. The property was fully paid for, and the deed made and delivered on July 1, 1885, at which time the association received possession.

When the property was paid for and the title obtained, the association immediately proceeded to make such repairs and changes as were required to adapt the building, as far as practicable, to hospital uses. The hospital opened October 1, 1885. Dr. S. A. Austin and Dr. F. H. Kimball were the first attending physician and surgeon, respectively. Drs. R. P. Lane and D. S. Clark were the first consulting physicians, and Drs. W. H. Fitch and Henry Richings the first consulting surgeons. The first patient was received October 10th.

Mrs. Martia J. Smith, more familiarly known as "Aunt Jane," was the first matron. She assumed this responsibility October 1, 1885, and faithfully administered its duties nearly fifteen years, until April, 1900. Miss Lizzie C. Glenn was appointed matron March 28, 1900. She resigned April 6, 1901, and Miss Flora B. Patch (now Mrs. A. D. Early) was appointed. Miss Patch resigned November 1, 1902, and Miss Alma M. Barter received the appointment, which position she now holds. Miss Loring is assistant.

Hospital Sunday was established in the churches October 10, 1885, by a resolution of the hospital trustees, which has since been maintained with a very liberal spirit.

In 1888 steps were taken to provide a permanent fund for the maintenance of the hospital. The amount of this fund in round numbers is about fifty thousand dollars.

In 1887 a new hospital building was erected, fronting on Chestnut street. In 1901 Mrs. Adeline E. Emerson, in memory of her deceased son, Ralph Emerson, Jr., contributed the funds for an addition to the hospital for an operating room and office. In 1904 a splendid addition was erected on the site of the first hospital building, at a cost of about fifty thousand dollars.

William Brown served as president from 1884 to 1886, William Lathrop from 1886 to 1887, Horatio Stone from 1887 to January 29, 1896, when

his death occurred. William Lathrop was elected to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Stone, which office he has since continuously held.

W. A. Talcott served as secretary and treasurer of the hospital from its inception to the time of his death, which occurred in Palestine, December 19, 1900. The success of the institution is in large measure due to his liberality and untiring effort. His son, Wait Talcott, was elected to the position so ably filled by his father, April 6, 1901, which position he now holds.

The largest gift to the hospital fund was from the estate of Horatio Stone, which was \$27,000; the next largest is from W. A. Talcott and family, \$12,000, and A. D. Forbes and family, \$10,500. Several others have contributed from \$2,400 to \$5,000.

During the fiscal year ending April 1, 1904, 482 patients were received for treatment.

The present board of trustees are John Barnes, H. H. Robinson, Mrs. E. P. Lathrop, Walter A. Forbes, P. A. Peterson, L. L. Morrison, William C. Butterworth, Wait Talcott, B. F. Whipple, Katherine M. Keeler, Frank R. Brown, Antes S. Ruhl, John H. Sherratt, William Lathrop, Kate F. O'Connor.

ST. ANTHONY HOSPITAL.

Although but six years old, St. Anthony hospital has become one of the substantial institutions of our progressive city.

Some seven or eight years ago about a half dozen physicians associated themselves together with the object in view of establishing a hospital for East Rockford—"A hospital," said one of the staff, "whose advantages might be enjoyed by any physician or surgeon entitled to practice his art in the state of Illinois." The maintenance of this liberal policy in the conduct of its affairs has been one of the most potent features in the success of the hospital. Early in its history the late William Crotty became interested in the project, and gave of his time, money and strength to raise means to purchase a site.

The Sisters of St. Francis, whose headquarters are at Peoria, were invited to visit Rockford and select a location. They accepted the invitation and selected the present site at 1401 East State street. The purchasing price of this property was \$12,000, one-half of which was furnished by the Sisters. Three thousand dollars was the personal contribution of physicians who are members of the staff. The remaining three thousand dollars necessary for the purchasing price was given by friends of Rockford and Winnebago county.

The property, title and entire management of the hospital is vested in the Sisters' society—a plan desired even by those most intimately associated in its origin, as it made it possible for all

physicians to pursue their work there upon an even footing.

The large brick residence which stood upon the property was fitted up by the Sisters, and in August, 1899, the hospital was opened for the reception of patients. The patronage given was so liberal that within two years accommodations could not be afforded all the patients seeking admission. To provide for this, an addition was erected at the cost of \$60,000. The corner-stone was laid May 22, 1902, and in March, 1903, the new building was formally opened. This improvement enables the hospital to accommodate sixty patients.

This order of Sisters maintains seven other hospitals in various cities of Illinois, Iowa and Michigan, and they must be accorded great praise for their tact, thrift and industry, which have made the success of these enterprises possible. On the other hand, the Sisters are keenly appreciative of the help and sympathy given their work from the city and county and from the many kind friends everywhere.

St. Anthony hospital is thoroughly equipped for scientific work, and with its new building and beautiful, spacious grounds, is one of the most attractive spots in Rockford.

The following physicians are members of the hospital staff:

Attending surgeons, Drs. J. E. Allaben, P. L. Markley, Frank K. Hill.

Consulting surgeons, Drs. J. Murphy, Weller Van Hook, T. J. Watkins, all of Chicago.

Attending physicians, Drs. S. C. Andrus, A. J. Markley, Belvidere.

Oculists, Drs. L. Tibbets, Grant Hatch.

WINNEBAGO COUNTY HOME FOR THE AGED.

For many years observant people had recognized the need of a comfortable home in which the aged poor could receive proper care. No existing organization fully met this demand. In recognition of this fact, and in response to a public call, a number of citizens of Rockford and vicinity convened at the Nelson House, July 7, 1904, to discuss the project of establishing a home for the aged of Winnebago county. Among those present at this first meeting were Mesdames B. R. Waldo, Chandler Starr, M. B. St. John, M. R. Harned, J. M. Fraley, Hervey, of Dubuque; Misses Kate F. O'Connor, Anna Taylor, Rev. R. C. Bryant, Messrs. Charles Sabin, G. Nordstrom and B. R. Waldo.

Mr. Nordstrom started a fund with a gift of \$500. A temporary organization was effected, with Rev. R. C. Bryant as chairman and Miss Kate F. O'Connor secretary. A committee of five on constitution and by-laws was appointed by the chair. An adjourned session was held July

14th, at which time the committee on constitution and by-laws submitted its report, which, after a few slight amendments, was adopted. The following names were subscribed, which form the charter membership of the association: G. Nordstrom, Charles Sabin, Ama Taylor, Kate F. O'Connor, Susan H. Rogers, P. M. Snyder, F. H. Bodman, B. R. Waldo, Mary M. Burchfield, Fannie B. Waldo, Stella R. Rieker, Annetta G. Mariner, Blanche Ellis Starr, Ellen M. St. John, Mrs. H. H. Robinson, Mrs. George Manny, Mrs. M. H. Lane and Mrs. L. A. Weyburn.

Charles Sabin became a life member by subscribing \$100. A committee on nominations was appointed, which reported at an adjourned meeting, held July 21st. On that date a full board of managers were elected, as follows: For one year, Mesdames Jeanette C. Robinson, Adeline E. Thompson, Alice Shoults, Messrs. Charles E. Jackson, G. Nordstrom, George W. Collins; for two years, Mesdames Anna R. Page, M. R. Harned, Kate F. O'Connor, Messrs. Robert C. Lind, D. B. Redington, A. S. T. Ogilby; for three years, Mesdames Blanche Ellis Starr, May Brown Buckbee, Byron Graham, Fannie B. Waldo, H. Helena Weyburn, S. A. Johnson. The following officers for the year were elected: H. Helena Weyburn, president; Mrs. Fannie B. Waldo, vice-president; Kate F. O'Connor, secretary; Robert C. Lind, treasurer. The board was instructed to incorporate under the laws of Illinois. At a subsequent meeting rules for the matron and government of the home and a set of application blanks were adopted. The officers were constituted a committee to select a site. This committee recommended the leasing of the Crawford homestead, 408 North Horsman street, at a rental of \$25 per month. This proposition met the approval of the board, and the committee was instructed to close negotiations for the same. Maria G. Hobart was elected matron for one year from October 1, 1904.

The home was formally opened October 2, 1904. It proved a veritable shower day. Furniture, provisions, clothing, checks and cash were received, and the tables were laden with gifts from the generous people of Rockford and vicinity. The home is now filled. There have been thirteen inmates, two of whom have died. These were Mrs. Caroline Wynman and Nancy Holden Brown.

Through the efforts of Mrs. Chandler Starr and Mrs. M. R. Harned, of the ways and means committee, the board of supervisors made an appropriation of \$500 for the home.

Mrs. May Brown Buckbee and Mrs. Adeline E. Thompson have resigned from the board, and Mrs. E. P. Catlin and Miss Anna Beattie have been chosen to succeed them.

At a meeting held in July, 1905, the board voted to invest in a permanent home. The present home known as the Crawford property seemed most available and reasonable, and it was therefore selected, at a consideration of \$6,500. As the society had \$5,000 on hand, a loan was negotiated at a bank for the balance, and the amount of the purchase price was paid in full.

ROSTER OF ROCKFORD MAYORS.

Rockford was incorporated as a city in 1852. Under its original charter, the mayor was elected annually.

Willard Wheeler was the first mayor of Rockford. He came from St. Thomas, Upper Canada, in September, 1839. He was the second tinner in the town. Mr. Wheeler was a brother of the late Solomon Wheeler.

The second mayor was Hiram R. Maynard. He came to Rockford in 1837 with his brother-in-law, Benjamin Kilburn. Mr. Maynard conducted a general store in a one-story frame building on the Masonic temple site. It was subsequently used by the late C. A. Huntington as an academy. The Second Congregational church was organized in this building. A daughter of Mr. Maynard is a local Salvation Army worker.

Ulysses M. Warner was the third mayor, elected in 1854. He carried on a general store on West State street with Hiram R. Maynard, and later was in business alone. Mr. Warner built the C. F. Henry block, and Warner's hall was the popular lecture and concert hall for many years. Ralph Waldo Emerson and other celebrities lectured there. H. S. and the late Charles F. Warner were sons.

Edward Vaughn was elected in 1855, and served one term. He was in partnership with his brother-in-law, Charles F. Lewis, father of Fay, Harry W. and C. Herbert Lewis. They conducted a general store on the site of Armstrong's clothing store.

James L. Loop was elected in 1856. Especial mention has been made of Mr. Loop in another part of this history. Further reference is made to him in the article on The Bench and Bar.

William Brown was elected in 1857. Mr. Brown is mentioned more fully in the article on The Bench and Bar.

Seely Perry was elected in 1858. He was a prominent lumber merchant of Rockford for more than half a century. He was a native of Stockbridge, Massachusetts, where he was born in 1822. He was graduated from Union College and came to Rockford in 1851. Mr. Perry also served the city as alderman, member of the board of education and a director of the public library.

Charles Williams was elected in 1859, and served five years. He is known as the "war mayor," and has the distinction of having been elected more consecutive terms than any other citizen who has held that office. He would have been chosen again, but positively declined. Mr. Williams was a native of Massachusetts and came to Rockford in 1855. He died in 1876. Miss Elizabeth Williams is a daughter.

Albert Fowler was elected in 1864, and served two years. He possessed a competence when he came to the city, and lived a retired life. He subsequently suffered some reverses. He was father-in-law of E. H. Griggs, at one time editor of the Rockford Register.

Edward H. Baker was elected in 1866. Further mention is made of him in the chapter on The Bench and Bar.

Mr. Fowler was elected for a second term in 1867, and Mr. Baker again succeeded Mr. Fowler in 1868.

Seymour G. Bronson was elected in 1869, and served four years. In 1872 Mr. Bronson was the democratic nominee for member of congress, and was defeated by General Stephen A. Hurlbut, of Belvidere. Mrs. Calista J. Smith, of Rockford, is a sister of Mr. Bronson.

Gilbert Woodruff was elected in 1873, and served two years. He came to Rockford in 1857, and soon after he purchased and platted a farm, which is now known as Woodruff's addition. He was therefore one of the real builders of Rockford. Mr. Woodruff died in October, 1903. He was president of the Rockford National bank from its organization to his death, president of the Forest City Furniture company from 1875, and president of the Forest City Insurance company from its organization in 1873.

Robert H. Tinker was elected in 1875. He was born in Honolulu, Sandwich Islands, where his father, Rev. Reuben Tinker, was a missionary, sent out by the Presbyterian church. Mr. Tinker came to Rockford in 1856, and built the Swiss cottage, the most picturesque home in the city. In 1870 he married the widow of John H. Manny. She died in 1901. In 1904 he married Mrs. Jessie Dorr Hurd. Mr. Tinker has been interested in various manufacturing enterprises on the water-power.

Levi Rhoades was elected in 1876. Few citizens of Rockford have been identified with as many interests as Mr. Rhoades. He was a large stockholder in the Rockford paper mills, president of the Rockford Watch company, and one of the original promoters of the old city railway. He also had investments in other enterprises.

Duncan Ferguson was mayor from 1877 to 1878. He was a native of Glasgow, Scotland, came to America in 1837, and settled in Rockford two years later. In 1862 he was appointed as-

essor of internal revenue, and retained this office eight years. He also held the positions of city engineer, assessor and county treasurer.

William Watson was elected in 1878. He was the founder of the Rockford Insurance company and was its secretary up to the time of his death.

Sylvester B. Wilkins succeeded Mr. Watson in 1879, and served two years. He is a native of New York, and came to Rockford in 1870. He was president of the Rockford bolt works, and later of the Wilkins Knitting company.

Samuel P. Crawford was elected in 1881, and served two years. It was during his term that important steps were taken toward establishing a waterworks system. Upon the failure of the N. C. Thompson Manufacturing company, Mr. Crawford was appointed assignee, and administered the affairs very successfully.

Alfred Taggart was elected in 1883, and served four years. The distinctive feature of his administration was the reorganization of the public schools of the city. The city council was a tie on the selection of a high school site, and it was Mr. Taggart's casting vote that decided the controversy in favor of the east side.

H. C. Scovill has served the city in more important official capacities than any other citizen. Mr. Scovill came to Rockford in 1865 and engaged in the lumber business. He was a member of the board of supervisors five years, and alderman in the city council eight years, from 1878 to 1886. In 1887 he was elected mayor, and served one term. In 1897 he was elected city clerk, and still holds the office.

John H. Sherratt was chosen mayor in 1889, and served one term. He is a native of Winnebago county. In 1862 he enlisted as a private in the Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry, and was mustered out with the rank of captain. For many years after the war he was associated with the Rockford Insurance company, and subsequently became secretary of the Forest City Insurance company. Mr. Sherratt succeeded the late A. C. Spafford as president of the Third National bank.

Henry N. Starr was elected mayor in 1891, and served two years. Mayor Starr was the first to appoint ladies on the board of education and the public library board. Mr. Starr was for some years proprietor of the old Holland House.

Amasa Hutchins was elected in 1893. He was born in Guilford, Winnebago county, in 1843. He enlisted in the Union army and served through the Civil war. In 1880 he was elected sheriff of Winnebago county, and served six years. He has been engaged in the monument business, and is one of the owners of the steamer Illinois.

Edward W. Brown has the honor of holding the office of mayor longer than any other one citizen. He was elected in 1895, and re-elected in 1897 and 1899, serving six years. He was born

in Rockford in 1857, and is a son of the late Judge Brown, one of the early mayors. It is the only instance in Rockford history where father and son have held the office of mayor. In 1884 Mr. Brown was appointed the first local agent of the Illinois Central Railroad company, which position he still holds. In 1885 he was elected alderman from the old Second ward, and served seven years. During his administration as mayor, many of the most notable public improvements were made.

In 1901 Amasa Hutchins was again elected mayor, and served one term.

Charles E. Jackson is the last, as well as the youngest, mayor of Rockford. He was elected in 1903. Mr. Jackson is a native of Boone county, born November 30, 1867. In 1891 he established a wholesale portrait and frame business, which he has conducted most successfully, extending his sales into every state in the Union and into foreign countries. Mayor Jackson's administration has been efficient, and meets the approval of the people.

ROCKFORD BANKS AND BANKERS.

The first bank in Rockford was opened in 1848 by the late Thomas D. Robertson and John A. Holland. Their place of business was a low frame building adjoining the European hotel site on West State street. In 1851 J. S. Coleman removed from New York to Rockford, and became a member of the firm, the name of which was changed to Robertson, Coleman & Co. Mr. Coleman built the stone mansion on North Main street, now the home of Colonel William Nelson. The firm continued in business in its small quarters until 1855, when the present Winnebago National bank block was completed. Until the death of Mr. Holland in 1855, Melancthon Starr was admitted to the firm, and after Mr. Coleman's death in 1864 the firm name was changed to Robertson & Starr, which continued until the organization of the Winnebago National bank in 1865.

In October, 1852, the Bank of Rockford was organized under the general banking law of the state. Charles I. Horsman was president and Charles C. Wilcox was cashier. A sworn statement of its condition on the first Monday in July, 1853, reported a circulation of \$49,995. The late Levi Moulthrop began his business career as a clerk in this bank, when he was twelve years of age, and remained five years. The bank suspended in 1857.

The banking house of Spafford, Clark & Ellis was founded in November, 1854. The firm consisted of C. H. Spafford, Dr. D. G. Clark and E. F. W. Ellis. Dr. Clark came to Rockford in 1848. Two years later he went to California, and returned in 1853. Dr. Clark died October 4, 1861. Spafford, Clark & Ellis did business in the old stone building on the alley on the south

side of State, between Main and Church. This building has been torn down and replaced by a modern structure by Hon. E. B. Sumner. This bank went into liquidation, and Mr. Spafford is said to have paid its obligations in full.

In 1854 was also established the banking house of Briggs, Spafford & Penfield, in East Rockford, which became the Third National bank. The members of the firm were C. C. Briggs, A. C. Spafford and David Penfield.

January, 1855, the banking firm of Dickerman, Wheeler & Co. began business on West State street. The firm consisted of W. A. Dickerman, Buel G. Wheeler, G. A. Sanford and R. P. Lane. This house became the Second National bank.

Fuller & Tomkins began banking business in the Worthington block, East Rockford, in 1853. The firm consisted of Allen C. and E. L. Fuller and Enos and N. C. Tomkins, all of Belvidere. The firm was later called E. L. Fuller & Co.

E. H. Potter & Co. and Edward N. Kitchel were also in the banking business on the East side.

These banks complete the list for Rockford to 1861. It was a day of unstable currency, when "wildcat" money was abundant, but worthless. This fact made banking a precarious business, as compared with the splendid system of today.

The private bank of N. C. Thompson was opened about 1860 in the building now occupied by the Manufacturers' National bank. It is said Mr. Thompson had \$150,000 on deposit in Chicago banks at the time of the great fire in 1871. This bank closed its doors in 1884.

The First National bank of Rockford began business June 15, 1864, with Alonzo Wood as president, and E. H. Griggs, cashier. It occupied the second floor of the C. F. Henry block. Mr. Wood conducted a large general store, approaching the modern department store, and had the four stores now occupied by C. F. Henry and A. C. Deming. The First National was popularly called "Wood's bank." His son, W. W. Wood, succeeded to the management, with George Stratton as cashier. The bank and the store tumbled into a common ruin. The first currency issued in Rockford under the national banking law was put in circulation by the First National bank, August 5, 1864.

The Second National bank was organized in 1865 as the successor of the banking firm of Lane, Sanford & Co. The principal stockholders were Dr. R. P. Lane, G. A. Sanford and W. A. Dickerman. In its prime it was the largest banking house in the city, but reverses came, and the institution finally closed its doors. H. H. Waldo was appointed receiver.

A bank started on Seventh street by John Budlong in the early nineties completes the list of houses which have passed out of business. This bank succumbed to the financial crash of 1893.

The Winnebago National bank is the oldest in the city, representing an unbroken line since 1848, when Robertson & Holland began business in a small and primitive way. The Winnebago opened its doors April 3, 1855, with T. D. Robertson, president; Melancthon Starr, vice-president; Spencer Rising, cashier.

The Third National bank was organized in 1864, to succeed the banking firm of Briggs, Spafford & Penfield. A. C. Spafford was president until his death in 1897. W. T. Wallis was the first cashier. His successors have been L. A. Trowbridge and George C. Spafford. Captain John H. Sherratt succeeded A. C. Spafford as president.

The People's bank was incorporated in 1869, under a special act of the general assembly of Illinois. The presidents have been N. E. Lyman, A. D. Forbes and Harry F. Forbes. The bank is capitalized at \$125,000.

The Rockford National bank began business in May, 1871. Gilbert Woodruff was president until his death in 1903. Horace Brown is the present incumbent. The capital stock is \$100,000.

The Manufacturers' National bank began business January 2, 1889, and its growth has been phenomenal. Its presidents have been Charles O. Upton, W. F. Barnes and Norman F. Thompson.

The Forest City is the youngest bank in the city and opened its doors June 7, 1890. John D. Waterman has been president from the first, and Paul F. Schuster was its cashier fifteen years. The bank has a capital of \$100,000.

Three of these banks increased their capital stock in 1904. The Winnebago now has a capital stock of \$250,000. The Manufacturers' increased from \$125,000 to \$200,000; while the Third National increased from \$100,000 to \$250,000.

The total capitalization of the Rockford banks is now \$1,025,000.

NEWSPAPERS OF ROCKFORD.

One of the greatest institutions in this day of great things is the daily newspaper. Its evolution has been most rapid. Even Horace Greeley, the Nestor of American journalism, if he were permitted to come back to earth, would be ill at ease in his old profession. The fast presses, printing many thousands an hour, the linotype and other inventions that work almost with the precision of the human mind, have produced results far beyond the wildest dreams of half a century ago. Jules Verne's fantastic stories are scarcely more wonderful. Indeed, Verne was something of a prophet, for in other lines of progress some of his fancies have been realized in fact.

The scope of the daily newspaper has become greatly enlarged. By the constantly increased use

of illustrations, and the introduction of "features," the newspaper has encroached upon the domain of the magazine. The religious journal has also felt the growing prestige of the daily. As in ancient Rome, the Pantheon was dedicated to the worship of all the gods, so the newspaper of today meets the needs of all the people. Interurban lines of railway and the rural route have brought the morning and evening news to the door of the farmer. The special correspondent has traversed all parts of the globe, and is now sighing for other worlds to conquer.

It was said in the olden time, "Despise not the day of small things." The story of the newspapers of Rockford, daily, weekly and monthly, is replete with interest, and will now be told in full.

The first newspaper published in Winnebago county was the Rock River Express. Its publication began in Rockford May 5, 1840, by B. J. Gray. In politics it was whig of the most radical type. In a village of perhaps three hundred inhabitants there was very little of a local nature that could be published. The primary purpose of the paper's existence seems to have been to promote the election of William Henry Harrison to the presidency. Its ambition was satisfied, but after it had been published one year the press and printing material were sold and removed from the village. A file of this paper, nearly complete, has been preserved in the public library.

The Rockford Star was founded in the autumn of 1840, as a democratic paper. The printing material was owned by Daniel S. Haight, Daniel Howell and Adam Keith. The office was located on the southeast corner of Madison and Market streets, in the building erected by Mr. Haight for religious, court, and other purposes. This old building still shelters one of the craft, William G. Conick, on North First street. The editor, Philander Knappen, was simply a tenant. J. H. Thurston was the "devil" in the office, a role which, according to his own statement, he was eminently qualified to fill. He also became quite an expert compositor. Mr. Thurston subsequently obtained employment on John Wentworth's paper, the Chicago Democrat, on the strength of a letter of Mr. Knappen, to the effect that he was a rapid compositor, could set a clean proof, and could sometimes make sense from Knappen's own manuscript.

April 28, 1841, the editor of the Star was married to Miss Eliza Simons, of Harlem. Mr. Knappen sent a special invitation to "Long John" Wentworth, of Chicago. Mr. Wentworth had already started on one of his frequent trips to Rockford, and he expressed his congratulations by following the bride and groom all the evening with a tallow dip in his extended hand, which reached nearly to the ceiling.

Mr. Knappen had been in Rockford but a short time when the Driscoll tragedy occurred as a climax to the career of the "bandits of the prairie" in northern Illinois. Mr. Knappen did not understand the temper of the people; and his strong denunciation of the summary execution of the outlaws aroused intense indignation. The citizens proposed to punish the editor. Soon after the issue of the paper, the office of the Star was entered in the night and the type reduced to pi. When the editor beheld this "wreck of matter" he stirred the pi with a stove shovel, and mixed the fonts of type in every case in the office. Mr. Knappen turned over the subscription list to Mr. Howell, of the Rockford House, where the office force boarded, and abandoned journalism in this unappreciative village. Mr. Howell did not realize anything from the assets placed in his hands. Thirty years later Mr. Thurston divulged the fact that D. S. Haight, Charles Latimer and Adam Keith were the perpetrators of the mischief. The democratic luminary had been side-tracked in its orbit.

The Rockford Pilot began its brief career July 22, 1841. Mr. Thurston says he helped distribute the Star pi, and with this material assisted in issuing the first four numbers of its successor. The Pilot was published as a democratic paper until October, 1842. It could no longer steer clear of the rocks. The editor, John A. Brown, had been defeated for representative; the democrats had sustained a local defeat of their entire ticket, and on the 30th of October the last number of the Pilot was issued.

The Better Covenant, a Universalist paper, was printed at the Pilot office during a portion of this period. Its editor was William Rounseville.

February 17, 1843, J. Ambrose Wight began the publication of the Winnebago Forum, a whig paper, with material which had been used in printing the Rockford Star. Mr. Wight was a graduate of Williams college, and first came to Winnebago county in 1836. He was a brother of James M. Wight, with whom he read law for a time. Mr. Wight retired from the Forum August 18, 1843, when he sold the paper to Austin M. Colton. The terms were easy. Mr. Wight said: "He asked me my price. I told him if he would take it off my hands, we would be square." Mr. Colton was more successful than any of his predecessors in the local newspaper field, and his place in local history is that of the best known "country editor" of the old school. Mr. Colton continued the paper under the old name until the close of the first volume, in February, 1844, when it was rechristened the Rockford Forum. After Mr. Colton had "written for glory and printed on trust" for ten years, he sold the paper to E. W. Blaisdell, Jr., who came to Rockford in the latter part of 1853. In January of 1854 the new

proprietor changed the name of the Forum to the Republican, and took his brother, Richard P. Blaisdell, into partnership. The Republican was published until 1862, when it was purchased by Elias C. Daugherty, and merged into the Rockford Register, of which he was proprietor.

In September, 1848, Henry W. De Puy established the Rockford Free Press, as a Free Soil or Barnburner organ. The paper was published until February, 1850, when it was discontinued for want of patronage.

The Rock River Democrat was founded in June, 1852, as a democratic paper, by Benjamin Holt. David T. Dickson afterward purchased an interest. In 1855 Rhenodyne A. Bird became Mr. Holt's successor. The paper was published by Dickson & Bird until May 1, 1864. It was then purchased by Isaiah S. Hyatt, who continued its publication until June 12, 1865, when the plant was sold to the Register company.

The Rockford Register was founded by E. C. Daugherty in February, 1855. There were already two weekly papers in the field, the Republican and the Democrat. But Mr. Daugherty was confident there was always room at the top. In his prospectus Mr. Daugherty said he had "selected the flourishing and beautiful city of Rockford as his future home, believing the field ample for a new aspirant to public favor."

Mr. Daugherty had in him the elements of the reformer, and he founded the Register as a strong opponent of the extension of slavery. He made a declaration of his principles in the following paragraph of his prospectus:

"In the present confused state of political parties and issues we need not promise further as to the political course of the Register than that, while our sympathies are, as ever, with the cardinal doctrines and faith of the whig party, we shall also earnestly lend our humble efforts and influence to check the aggressive encroachments of southern dictation and overthrow the monopoly of slave power—endeavoring by all honorable means to advance the interests and sustain the true issues of freedom. We are not among those, however, who believe all the honesty and intelligence belong to either of the great political parties, and shall be as free to commend a political opponent when right as to condemn one of our faith when wrong—according the right of free opinion to all. We may also say here, the Register will be the organ of no clique or club, but will be independently its own exponent."

Concerning the business side of the enterprise, the prospectus continued:

"The paper will be styled the 'Rockford Register' and will be printed weekly, upon new type and good quality of paper, seven columns to the page, at \$1.50 per annum in advance, or \$2.00 at the end of the year. City subscribers, whose

papers are delivered by the carrier, will be charged fifty cents additional."

Commencing with a limited capital, and contending against strong opposition, Mr. Daugherty lived to see both the original rival papers, and others, merged into the Register, which became a strong and influential paper. The Register absorbed other papers representing an almost unbroken line since 1840. June 1, 1859, Mr. Daugherty began the publication of the Daily Register; but it was discontinued at the end of three months. In June, 1865, the Rock River Democrat was merged with the Register, which passed into the hands of a joint stock company. The impaired health of Mr. Daugherty compelled him to retire from active business life. I. S. Hyatt, who had at two previous periods been connected with the paper, as assistant editor, and later the proprietor of the Rock River Democrat, became, under the new management, the principal editor with E. H. Griggs as associate.

By reason of breaks in the files, the record of changes in the management of the Register may not be absolutely complete. The possible omissions, however, do not cover more than one or two years.

June 30, 1866, Mr. Hyatt resigned his position as editor, and was succeeded by E. C. Daugherty, who retained the editorial charge of the paper until February 23, 1867, when the condition of his health forced him to retire. Abraham E. and William E. Smith, former proprietors of the Indianapolis Gazette, became associated with E. H. Griggs in the management of the Register. These gentlemen retired June 29, 1867. Mr. Griggs became editor and manager, with J. E. Fox as associate. This management continued until October 7, 1871, when the name of S. M. Daugherty, widow of the founder of the paper, appeared as proprietor. The following week the Register announced that P. S. Martin was business manager.

January 6, 1873, Geo. E. Wright & Co. began the publication of the Daily Register. It was a morning paper, with no Sunday edition. March 13, 1873, Charles J. Woodbury & Co. assumed the management. Mr. Woodbury was a half-brother of Rev. Frank P. Woodbury, D. D., pastor of the Second Congregational church. Dr. Woodbury had the editorial instinct, and rendered some assistance in an editorial way. November 8, 1873, the Register was changed from a morning to an evening paper. But the time had not come for the success of such a venture, and on February 10, 1874, the daily was discontinued.

April 16, 1875, the names of N. D. Wright and M. Collaton appear as members of the Register company. In January of the following year Mr. Wright was editor-in-chief.

July 27, 1877, the Register was issued under

the management of N. D. Wright and C. L. Miller. The latter had come to Rockford from Rochelle, where he had been connected with a weekly paper.

October 1, 1877, the Rockford Daily Register was started upon a permanent basis by Messrs. Wright and Miller, with E. C. Chandler as city editor. A few months later E. M. Botsford accepted a reportorial position, and in 1881 he purchased an interest. W. P. Lamb subsequently became a third partner.

The firm of Miller, Botsford & Co., continued in the management until January 1, 1891, when Edgar E. Bartlett, W. L. Eaton and Eugene McSweeney, all of Kalamazoo, Michigan, purchased the good will of the Daily Register and Daily Gazette, and consolidated them under the firm name of the Register-Gazette.

In 1898 Mr. Bartlett purchased the interest of Mr. McSweeney, and in 1901 he purchased Mr. Eaton's interest. In the autumn of that year Mr. Bartlett sold a part interest to Archibald S. Leckie, of Chicago, who became managing editor.

Two years later, in October, 1903, Fred E. Sterling purchased Mr. Leckie's interest, and became manager of the editorial department.

The Rockford Wesleyan Seminary Reporter was begun as a monthly publication in October, 1857. Only four numbers were issued. It was published by Rev. W. F. Stewart in the interest of the proposed Wesleyan seminary.

The first number of the Cudgel was issued January 17, 1857. It bore this legend on its title-page: "Published somewhere, circulates everywhere, edited nowhere." It was published semi-monthly, but only seven numbers were printed.

Dr. George Haskell began the publication of the Spirit Advocate April 15, 1854. It was an able propagandist of spiritualism. Twenty-three numbers were published when it was consolidated with the Orient, with headquarters at Waukegan. The last number of the Advocate appeared March 15, 1856. A complete file of this paper has been preserved in the Rockford public library.

The Democratic Standard was founded October 30, 1858, by Springsteen & Parks, as a democratic organ. After about a month, the Standard was published by Parks alone, until February 5, 1859, when David G. Croly became proprietor. On the 18th of May following the proprietorship was changed to D. G. Croly & Co. The company was John H. Grove. On the suspension of the News April 30, 1860, and the retirement of Mr. Croly the publication of the Standard was continued by John H. Grove and James S. Ticknor for a few months. The paper was then sold to James E. and Joseph H. Fox, who established the Daily News. It was a republican paper, and the first number was issued in December, 1860. A few weeks later they began the publication of the

Weekly News, which was continued until September 21, 1861. The plant was then sold to E. C. Daugherty, and its publication was discontinued.

An earlier paper, also called the Daily News, was established by David G. Croly, February 8, 1859. The paper was neutral in politics. Its publication was continued until April 30, 1860, when it was suspended for want of patronage.

Mr. and Mrs. Croly won national reputation in journalism and letters after their departure from Rockford. Mr. Croly became city editor of the New York World and later was its managing editor. He was the author of biographies of Horatio Seymour and Francis P. Blair, a History of Reconstruction and a Primer of Positivism. He died in 1889.

The Crescent Age was founded in 1859. Its editors were Dr. George Haskell and H. P. Kimball. It was a Spiritualist publication, and lived only a short time.

The Rock River Mirror was established September 6, 1859, by Allen Gibson. It was neutral in politics and was printed at the Register office. Later the name of N. C. Thompson appeared as associate editor, and still later the proprietors were Allen Gibson and E. D. Marsh.

The People's Press was established July 25, 1865, by W. P. Furey, who published it until May, 1866, when a joint stock company was organized, which continued its publication until September 1, 1866, when it was suspended from lack of patronage.

Words for Jesus, a monthly religious publication, was started in October, 1867, by Thomas J. and Hugh Lamont.

Leaves from Forest Hill, a monthly, was published for some time during the school year, by the young ladies of Rockford Seminary.

The Rockford Gazette was founded November 22, 1866, by I. S. Hyatt, as a small advertising sheet. It prospered to such an extent that in the following April it was greatly enlarged. April 25, 1867, the name of Benjamin Foltz appeared as editor. August 29, 1867, the Gazette was issued with the names of Abraham E. and William E. Smith as proprietors. This partnership continued for some years. In 1878 the publishers began a semi-weekly edition, and August 4, 1879, the Gazette was issued as a daily, and became valuable newspaper property. In 1882 Mr. Smith admitted Col. F. A. Eastman, of Chicago, as a partner. This partnership was dissolved the following year, and Mr. Smith continued as sole proprietor until January, 1891, when the paper was merged into the Register-Gazette.

The Winnebago Chief was started November 21, 1866, by J. P. Irvine as editor and proprietor. July 3, 1867, Hiram R. Enoch was admitted as a partner, and the name of the paper was changed

to the Winnebago County Chief. Mr. Irvine subsequently retired, and Mr. Enoch remained sole proprietor until December, 1882, when the journal passed into the hands of Foote & Kimball. In March, 1883, the paper was sold to D. Miller & Co., who published it three years. In March, 1886, a Mr. Gardner, from the southern part of the state, purchased a half interest. This partnership was dissolved, Mr. Gardner taking the job department, and D. Miller & Co. retaining the subscription list and business of the paper. In August, 1887, the journal was sold to Hon. J. Stanley Browne, by whom its publication was continued until the good will and subscription list became the property of the Rockford Morning Star company.

The Golden Censer was founded May 1, 1868, by John Lemley. It was an undenominational religious and family paper. It was first issued semi-monthly, and subsequently changed to a weekly. November 1, 1877, the paper passed into the hands of a stock company. The principal stockholders were O. R. Brouse, Rev. C. E. Mandeville, and N. E. Lyman, who was then president of the People's bank. The Censer, under this management, attained a circulation of eighteen thousand, the largest ever reached by a Rockford paper. In time, however, the circulation was greatly reduced, until August, 1896, when the Censer, with barely two thousand subscribers, was indefinitely suspended. In March, 1897, the Calvert Brothers purchased the good will and material and resumed publication, with Charles A. Church as editor. The policy of the Censer was greatly changed, and an able corps of local contributors was secured. In less than one year the circulation advanced to six thousand. But this number did not make the paper self-sustaining. In April, 1898, Charles A. Church became sole proprietor. June 1st of the same year the good will of the paper was sold to the Ram's Horn of Chicago.

The Christian Gleaner, a monthly, was published at the Censer office for some years. It was made up of selections from the Censer, and contained very little original matter. The subscription list was absorbed by the Censer about 1891.

The Rockford Daily Journal was started in August, 1870, by Lumley & Carpenter. It lived two days.

Andrus' Illustrated Monthly was founded in January, 1872, by D. A. K. and W. D. E. Andrus. It was discontinued in September, 1873.

The Methodist Free Press was started by John Lemley in September, 1872, and was continued until January, 1875.

Vol. 1, No. 1, of the Curiosity Hunter was issued in September, 1872, as a monthly by D. A. K. Andrus, and was continued until July, 1874. In 1876 it was resumed at Belvidere.

Nowadays was launched by E. C. Chandler & Co., January 1, 1874. Only one number was issued.

The Rockford Sunday Herald was started May 11, 1879, by E. C. Chandler. It was discontinued December 21, 1879.

The People's Champion was launched by E. W. Blaisdell, September 29, 1880. Only five numbers were issued.

Our Home and Science Gossip was started by D. A. K. Andrus in March, 1881, and was continued about two years.

The Rockford Seminary Magazine was founded in January, 1873, with the name of Caroline A. Potter, class of 1855, as editor. The first number contained forty pages. In later years the magazine was edited by the senior class. After the seminary was raised to the rank of a college, in 1891 the name of the paper was changed to the Rockford Collegian. Its publication was discontinued in 1895.

One number of the Stamp News was issued in 1873 by D. A. K. Andrus.

The Rockford Industrial Times began a brief career in February, 1874, with W. F. Barrows as editor. A few months later the name was changed to the Hornet. The second volume began with a second change in name, the Rockford Times. John R. Coursen and Fred Dayton were the proprietors. The issue of August 4, 1875, announced that Mr. Coursen had sold his interest to Louis A. Manlove. There is a complete file of the Times in the public library for two years ending February 16, 1876.

The first number of the Rockford Daily News was issued January 26, 1878, by D. A. K. Andrus, Geo. W. Sherer and F. O. Bennett. Sunday morning, June 3, 1878, the Daily News created a great sensation by publishing a harrowing story of a communist attack upon the government. When it was learned that the story had no foundation in fact, Mayor Watson ordered the office closed by the city marshal. After many changes the Daily News suspended publication in October, 1880.

The Western Banner was established as a temperance paper in 1878, by J. E. Hampton, F. Wilson and H. S. Wilbur. The paper was printed on a hand press in the office of the Rockford Journal. It died December 19, 1878.

The Morning Herald was started June 11, 1881, by Miller & Welch. It was published until October, 1882.

The Rockford Furniture Journal was founded in 1888. A leading spirit in the agitation for a trade paper was the late Lyon P. Ross, who was then secretary of the Forest City furniture factory. The Furniture Journal company was organized, in which A. F. Judd and George W. Sherer were the principal stockholders. The

Journal was published monthly nearly two years, when the subscription list and good will of the paper were sold to Abraham E. Smith. About 1894 Mr. Smith sold an interest to P. D. Francis, and a year or two later, he sold his remaining interest to J. Newton Nind. Messrs. Francis and Nind continued its publication for some years in Rockford. In the meantime other trade papers were purchased and consolidated. The publication office was removed to Chicago, and the Journal, now a semi-monthly, is one of the most prosperous trade papers in the west.

The Monitor, a weekly publication in the interest of the prohibition party, issued its first number in May, 1885. It was published by the Prohibition company, with James Lamont as secretary and editor. In 1890 the Monitor was sold to James Lamont and Charles M. Whipple. Its publication was continued by the Monitor Publishing company until July, 1897, when, owing to business troubles the Monitor suspended.

The Chicago Lever was purchased in 1892 by the Monitor Publishing company and brought to Rockford. It was published each Thursday and was a national organ of the prohibition party. James Lamont was editor. In July, 1897, the Lever was sold to James Lamont and Liberty Walkup, who in February, 1899, sold it to Dickie & Woolley, and the office of publication was transferred to Chicago. In September, 1899, it was merged with the New Voice of Chicago.

The Rockford Morning Star is the first successful morning newspaper published in the city. Hon. J. Stanley Browne, the editor-in-chief, came to Rockford in 1887. He had served two terms as democratic member of the New York legislature from Otsego county, and for five years was secretary to Lieutenant Governor Dorscheimer, when Samuel J. Tilden was governor. Mr. Browne's first newspaper work in Rockford was in 1887, when he became editor and publisher of the Rockford Journal. In the following spring a stock company was organized for the publication of the Morning Star, and March 20th the first number was issued. Many changes have been made in the business and reportorial staff, but, with a brief interim, Mr. Browne has been the managing editor from the first.

The Farmer's Monthly was started by A. E. Smith, and sold to Messrs. Bartlett, Eaton and McSweeney, and was published by them for several years.

In the spring of 1890 the Republican company was organized with a capital of \$10,000, of which about \$7,000 was paid in. The first board of directors was as follows: W. H. Worthington, H. H. Robinson, H. C. Scovill, W. G. Conick, H. O. Hilton, W. J. Johnson, Harry Marean, C. H. Godfrey, J. A. Johnson. The first number of the Republican was issued April 10, 1890, with H.

O. Hilton as editor; Harry Marean, business manager, and Will J. Johnson, city editor. The Republican was a morning daily, without a Sunday edition. In politics the paper was radical republican. In 1803 C. D. Allyn, who had been on the staff of the old Daily Gazette, purchased an interest, and the company issued an evening edition. There were several changes in the business management, Mr. Marean being succeeded in turn by Will J. Johnson, W. H. Worthington and C. D. Allyn. In 1806 Charles L. Miller, Harry M. Johnson and John E. Warfield purchased a controlling interest in the plant, and these gentlemen are still the owners of the paper. The name was changed to the Republic.

The Sunday Mercury, started in December, 1890, by C. H. Seiders and Alex Majors, was a creditable weekly paper, but only a few numbers were published.

In 1802 Charles A. Church organized a stock company, with a capital of \$5,000, for the publication of the Spectator. Abraham E. Smith was business manager, and the paper was printed in the office of the Smith Publishing company. The first number was issued May 21, 1802. The Spectator was strictly a literary and family paper of sixteen pages, with an able corps of contributors. Among the latter were the late Mrs. Eva T. Clark, Mrs. Marie T. Perry, Mrs. Caroline A. P. Brazee, Mrs. Mary Urquhart Lee, Mrs. H. M. Johnson, Hon. Chas. E. Fuller, of Belvidere, and the Rev. C. H. Moscrip, of Rockford. From a literary point of view, the Spectator was eminently successful, but the expense of maintaining it was far beyond the receipts that a new paper of its kind was able to command. After one year the distinctive features of the Spectator were abandoned and the paper was issued as a daily. The first number appeared May 15, 1803. The financial stringency which came so suddenly upon the country during the summer seriously embarrassed the principal stockholders of the Smith Publishing company, which had absorbed the Spectator company, and in August, 1803, the daily was suspended. The following autumn the publication of the Spectator was resumed as a local weekly, and continued until the spring of 1805, when the subscription list was sold to the Monitor company.

The Weekly Recorder was started in May, 1806, by Will J. Johnson. It kept up a spirited existence until October, 1809, when the paper was sold to H. O. Hilton, who issued a few numbers, and about January 1st the paper was discontinued.

The Owl has been published nearly every year since 1885 as the paper of the Rockford high school. The editor, business manager and staff have been chosen each year from the senior class.

The Rockford Review was issued in June, 1801, by the Forest City Publishing company. It was later merged with the Furniture Journal.

Winnebago County Schools was started by Supt. C. J. Kimmie in 1886, and was continued for a short time.

The Agricultural West launched by Don. Needham in March, 1884, but was soon discontinued.

Vol. 1, No. 1, of the Rockford Labor Journal was issued July 9, 1808. It had a brief career.

One number of the Constitution was issued August 25, 1890.

Journal of Practical Nursing was started in 1888. It was edited by L. C. Brown, M. D.

The Rockford Air Brush was started in 1891, in the interest of the company of that name.

The Union Printer made its first appearance April 25, 1898.

The People's Journal made its first appearance September 21, 1894. It was published by the Calvert Brothers.

The Advocate was launched in December, 1884, by W. G. Dustin, in the interest of real estate.

The Rockford Chief was published for a time by Mrs. E. Hertherington, beginning October 22, 1892.

The Rockford Union Record was started October 31, 1903, by John W. Aspegren. It is published in the interest of organized labor.

The Forest City was published for a time in 1895-96 by Tomblin Brothers.

The Hammer, published by Dr. E. S. Tebbets in the interest of socialism, has ceased to exist.

The large Swedish population of Rockford has created a demand for a newspaper published in the language of the fatherland. Several attempts have been made to supply this need.

Nya Sverige was started in March, 1872, by A. W. Schalin. It lived but a short time.

Rockford's Allehanda was established June 18, 1884, by Otto Pallin. The name was changed to Svenska Fria-Pressen. It was published by C. Ebbesen, about four years.

January 4, 1889, Mr. Ebbesen launched another paper, the Posten. It was published in the Crotty block on East State street. Subsequently the publication office was removed to the Union block, on Kishwaukee street, where it has since been published. Mr. Ebbesen was succeeded in turn by C. J. Sjoström, Fred Swenson, and Prof. C. A. Wendell. The present editor is Mr. Linden.

Joltomten, by C. Ebbesen, was published Saturdays, 1st, 8th, 15th and 22d of December, 1888.

Rockford's Harold was established by Magnus Larson, April 12, 1902. One number was issued.

Frantiden was first issued April 13, 1892, by the Frantiden Publishing company. It was published three or four years.

Forskaren was started September 4, 1893, by E. Fjellander and F. Malmquist.

Folkets Rost was issued by Charles Henry, March 18, 1895. Four numbers were published.

Framat was started by Swenson & Bjork, September 15, 1903.

The German population of Rockford has never been large, yet it has for many years supported a church and a newspaper. The Germania was founded as a four-page weekly by John Pingle in 1885. The present proprietor is Herr Ferd Stedinger, who for many years has been instructor in German at the Rockford high school.

The foregoing is believed to be the first complete story of Rockford newspapers ever published. The list might be continued by the mention of various monthly bulletins issued by the churches from time to time, the Y. M. C. A., the Business college, and similar organizations. While these performed a legitimate function in their way, they scarcely have a place in the chronicle of Rockford newspapers.

The press of Rockford has not been the exclusive purveyor of local news. Several newspapers have been started in the other towns of the county.

The Rockton Gazette was established at Rockton in 1857, by Funk & Phelps. Mr. Funk retired and the paper was continued about one year by H. W. Phelps. The office and fixtures were removed to Burlington, Wisconsin.

The Pecatonica Independent was established in May, 1859, by J. E. Duncan. It was published about one year, when the office was removed to Darlington, Wisconsin.

The Pecatonica News was started as a weekly newspaper December 1, 1872. W. A. and Nate L. Colby were editors and proprietors. January 1, 1881, W. A. Colby sold his interest to his brother, who continued its publication up to the time of his death, July 11, 1904. Gilbert F., a son of N. L. Colby, is now editor and manager for the estate.

The Winnebago Reflector was established February 11, 1887, published by the Winnebago C. L. S. C. C. F. Trittle is the present publisher.

The Rockton Weekly Echo was established December 15, 1887. L. H. Cook was editor and publisher. There was only one issue.

The Cherry Valley Courier was established in July, 1869, by Dr. L. Foote, editor and publisher. It was published three months.

The newspaper enterprises of Durand are as follows:

Winnebago County Advertiser, established in 1869 by M. G. Sheldon.

Durand Argus, established December 29, 1883, by E. E. Pettingill.

Durand Free Press, established March 24, 1888, by Johnson Potter.

Durand Weekly Echo, established June 30, 1887, by L. H. Cook, editor and publisher; thirty numbers issued.

Durand Weekly Times, established February

7, 1890, by E. E. Pettingill, publisher; seven numbers issued.

Durand Record, established April 30, 1890, by John R. Bertsch. Discontinued August 1, 1890.

Durand Weekly Clipper, established April 17, 1891, by E. I. Schoolcraft; still published by W. H. Tousley.

ILLINOIS, IOWA & MINNESOTA RAILWAY.

The Illinois, Iowa & Minnesota Railway company was incorporated under the laws of Illinois in December, 1902. The line was completed from Momence to Rockford about October 1, 1905. A line has been projected for 1906 from Peotone, Illinois, to Michigan City, Indiana, a distance of seventy-five miles; from Rockford to Janesville, thirty miles; and from Kirkland, Illinois, to Milwaukee, a distance of eighty miles.

The mileage operated October 1, 1905, was as follows: Rockford to Aurora, sixty-six miles; Joliet to Momence, thirty-five miles. The company has trackage rights over the E. J. & E., Aurora to Joliet, twenty-four miles; total mileage, one hundred and twenty-five miles. The gauge is four feet and eight and one-half inches. Seventy-pound street rails have been used in construction.

The following is a statement of finances: October 1, 1905, the capital stock, \$5,000,000 in \$100 shares had all been paid in. A mortgage has been executed to the Illinois Trust and Savings bank, Chicago, as trustee, securing an issue of \$5,000,000 first mortgage, five per cent, forty-year gold \$1,000 bonds, due March 1, 1944, with interest maturing March 1st and September 1st at the office of the trustee. Of this amount \$3,000,000 has already been issued. The bonds are limited in issue to \$30,000 per mile of main track, and are secured by first mortgage on all lines constructed or to be constructed, now owned or hereafter to be acquired within the counties in Illinois named in its charter; also any line or lines of railroad which may be constructed under any amendment of the charter, together with all branches and auxiliary lines, all charters, franchises, etc., and all other property of the company except telegraph and telephone lines. Of this amount it is provided that \$4,000,000 may be issued at once under the terms of the deed of trust, the remaining \$1,000,000 being reserved for the purpose of construction of additional lines. The entire issue of those bonds is subject to redemption at \$1.07 and accrued interest on any first day of September or March after March 1, 1909, provided that notice of such intention to redeem be given at least six months before the date selected for such payment by publication at least once in each week for three months, beginning not less than six nor more than seven

months before the day of redemption in one Chicago and one New York daily newspaper.

The directors of the road are H. W. Seaman, J. C. Duffin, W. F. McSwiney, Chicago; J. C. Van Riper, Edwards Whitaker and S. W. Fordyce, of St. Louis.

The road was christened the "Rockford Route" in October, 1904, at which time the trademark was adopted.

There was a rumor current at the time this manuscript was prepared for the press that the Chicago Great Western Railway company would run through passenger trains over the new line of the I. I. & M., between Chicago and Rockford through Sycamore, via Wilkinson Crossing, five miles west of Sycamore.

LATER ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.

COURT STREET METHODIST.

The Court Street Methodist church was organized January 1, 1852. Its first house of worship on North Court street was dedicated in November, 1854, at a cost of \$7,000. The first pastor was Rev. Chatfield. His successors have been Revs. W. F. Stewart, Luman A. Sanford, Wm. P. Gray, James R. Goodrich, Wm. E. Daniels, T. B. Taylor, J. H. Vincent, F. P. Cleveland, T. C. Clendenning, L. Meredith, W. Aug. Smith, C. E. Mandeville, T. P. Marsh, T. R. Strobridge, P. H. Swift, W. A. Phillips, W. O. Shepard, Fred H. Sheets, Robert H. Pooley, and Frank D. Sheets. The present house of worship was dedicated in May, 1887. The site for the parsonage was purchased from the Horsman estate in 1884, and the house was completed in October of the same year. The total value of the church property is \$65,000. The membership reported to the annual conference in October, 1904, was 957.

ST. JAMES CATHOLIC.

Information concerning the early history of St. James Catholic church is very meager. The records are said to have been destroyed in the Chicago fire of 1871. Mass was celebrated in the homes of Catholic settlers in Rockford by priests located at New Dublin and Freeport previous to 1850. Father Gueguen said mass and baptized children in 1840. The permanent organization dates from 1850. After purchasing lots Father Hampston was appointed priest of the parish in 1851, by Bishop Van de Velle. He was the first resident pastor, and built the first church in 1852. Father Hampston died while in charge of the parish, and is buried under the present church. The present St. James church was begun in 1866, and dedicated the following year under the pastorate of Rev. J. S. O'Neill. The pastors of St. James' church have been as

follows: Revs. John Hampston, George Hamilton, William Lambert, J. Bulger, John P. Donegan, J. S. O'Neill, Joseph McMahon, T. J. Butler, and James J. Flaherty. Father Flaherty has been in charge of the parish twenty years, and is thus the oldest pastor in the city in continuous service. He started the parochial school in 1886, and in 1891 completed the present brick structure at a cost of \$17,000. The deanery was erected in 1878 by Dean Butler and cost \$8,000. St. James church has expended \$68,000 in church property. The present membership is about 1,300.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN.

The Presbyterians of early Rockford worshiped with the Congregationalists for several years. After holding services in various places the little company of Presbyterians was formally organized July 8, 1854. Rev. Hugh A. Brown was the first stated supply, and served until January 1, 1858, when Rev. John M. Faris was called. Rev. Faris' pastorate continued until October, 1862. His successors have been Revs. Faunt Leroy Senour, J. S. Grimes, A. J. Leyenberger (now shortened to Berger), James Cruickshanks, J. K. Fowler, J. R. Sutherland, George Harkness, B. E. S. Ely. The latter has now been upon the field eleven years. In September following the organization, the congregation worshiped in the old Unitarian church, on the northeast corner of Elm and Church streets, and in 1855 the Unitarian property was purchased. The society used it for a time on the old site, and then removed it to the northeast corner of State and Winnebago streets, where the church continued to worship until December 20, 1868, when it took possession of its present house of worship. In 1904 the church purchased the property on the corner of North Main and North streets, owned by Dr. Rohr, and is now erecting a handsome house of worship, which will probably be dedicated in February, 1906. The society also owns a parsonage and upon the completion of the new church will have property worth \$60,000. Its membership in round numbers is 600.

FIRST LUTHERAN.

The First Lutheran church was organized January 15, 1854, with seventy-seven communicants and thirty-two children. The first house of worship was built on the corner of North First street and Lafayette avenue. The dedication occurred November 23, 1856, and the sermon was preached by Dr. Hasselquist. This building is still standing and forms a part of Mrs. J. Friedman's double house. The first pastor was called in 1856, and his pastorate continued until 1860. In that year the church withdrew from the synod of northern Illinois and joined the Augustana

synod. The present church was built in 1883, at a cost of about \$60,000. It is the largest auditorium in the city, with a seating capacity of 2,500. The church owns Luther hall, a parochial school on Kishwaukee street, and another on Fourteenth avenue. It also owns a parsonage on South Third street. The pastors of the church have been Revs. Andreen, A. W. Dahlsten, G. Peters, L. A. Johnston, E. C. Jessup, assistant; Joel Haaf, J. F. Seedoff. In January, 1904, the church celebrated the golden jubilee of its organization. The communicant membership is 1540, the largest of any Swedish Lutheran church in America. The total membership, including children, is 2,250. The church owns property to the value of \$85,000.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN.

Westminster Presbyterian church was organized January 3, 1856, with 22 members, many of whom had taken letters from the First Congregational church. It was first called the Second Presbyterian church, and the name was subsequently changed to Westminster. Rev. Morrison Huggins was the first pastor, who served until 1859. The first place of worship was the historic courthouse on North First street. In the summer of 1856 a chapel was completed on the ground now occupied by the lecture room. This chapel soon proved too small, and public worship was conducted in Metropolitan hall, pending the erection of the present church, which was dedicated in 1858. The following have served the church as pastors or stated supplies: Revs. Morrison Huggins, L. H. Johnson, Charles Mattoon, Charles A. Williams, W. S. Curtis, J. H. Ritchie, T. S. Scott, S. L. Conde, W. M. Campbell, W. T. Wilcox, and John Henry Boose. The present pastor has been on the field three years, coming directly from McCormick seminary. The value of the church property is \$25,000. Its membership is 325. A parsonage was erected in the summer of 1905 on the lot adjoining the church on the north, at a cost of about \$3,700.

WINNEBAGO STREET METHODIST.

Winnebago Street Methodist church had its origin in a Sunday-school, which was started May 20, 1856, and which held its sessions in a grove on the river bank. The church was organized March 4, 1864, at the home of Israel Sovereign. The roll of members numbered twenty-eight. Ground was broken for a church August 8, 1864, and the corner-stone was laid August 24. The address was made by the Rev. Thomas M. Eddy, author of a work in two volumes, *The Patriotism of Illinois*. The cost of the church was \$8,000, and was dedicated February 12, 1865, by Dr. Eddy. The parsonage

was built in 1867, at a cost of \$1,250. The following named pastors have served the church: Revs. Robert Bentley, Wm. D. Skelton, Henry L. Martin, John M. Caldwell, F. A. Reed, R. S. Cantine, Wm. S. Harrington, W. H. Smith, J. M. Clendenning, Wm. H. Haight, Henry Lea, J. W. Richards, F. F. Farniloe, M. L. Norris, and F. B. Hardin. A fine brick structure was erected in 1904, and was dedicated Sunday, November 27th. The church has property worth \$25,000. The membership is about 300.

STATE STREET BAPTIST.

The State Street Baptist church was formally organized in the vestry of Westminster Presbyterian church, August 17, 1858. Three of the original members are now living in the city: Mrs. Jane Hazlett, Catherine Hazlett, Mrs. J. P. Largent. Rev. Edward C. Mitchell was called to the pastorate August 31st. The first organist was Prof. D. N. Hood. A chapel was erected at the juncture of Market, State and North Fifth streets, which is still standing. This chapel was dedicated February 2, 1860. The organization was first called the Second Baptist church, but on the choice of a permanent location, the name was changed October 26, 1858, to the State Street Baptist church. The present house of worship was dedicated November 18, 1868. The cost was \$34,000. Dr. Mitchell's successors in the pastorate have been: Revs. Spencer Holt, Henry C. Mabie, E. K. Chandler, A. R. Medbury, C. R. Lathrop, J. T. Burhoe, R. F. Y. Pierce, Langley B. Sears, J. T. Burhoe, R. R. Perkins. Rev. J. T. Burhoe's first pastorate was the longest in the history of the church. It began in September, 1883, and closed in February, 1892. His second pastorate began in November, 1898. Rev. Burhoe died March 14, 1905, and his funeral was the occasion of an unusual demonstration of sorrow which was felt by all classes of people. His two pastorates thus cover a little more than fourteen years. In March a call was extended to Rev. Richard Roy Perkins, Ph., D., and he entered upon his full pastoral duties in July. The present membership is about 440. The value of its property is \$29,000.

SWEDISH METHODIST.

The Swedish Methodist church was organized January 30, 1861, at the home of P. A. Peterson, on Charles street, with twelve members. The society purchased the old Westminster chapel for \$600, and removed it to First avenue. The present brick edifice was erected in 1877, and was dedicated by Rev. C. E. Mandeville. The parsonage was built in 1888. The following pastors have served the society: Revs. V. Whitting, Albert Erickson, Peter Newberg, August Westergren, Oscar Shorgren, Olof Gunderson, John

Lind, A. Y. Westergren, S. B. Newman, John Weagren, S. D. Sorleine, Herman Lindskog, N. G. Nelson, J. M. Objerholm, A. Kahlin, A. Dahlberg, M. Hess, O. F. Lindstrom, Richard Cederberg, N. M. Liljegren, S. A. Sorleine, J. A. Peterson and P. M. Alvin. The value of the church property is \$12,500. There are 200 members in full connection besides probationers. P. A. Peterson is the only charter member of the society now living. He resides in the same house in which the church organized, and is over eighty years of age. The church is out of debt, and the Sunday-school has a membership of about 250.

CHURCH OF THE CHRISTIAN UNION.

The Church of the Christian Union had its origin in the expulsion of Dr. Kerr from the pastorate of the First Baptist church. He had become a convert to a more liberal faith, and he and forty-eight sympathizers were obliged to seek other affiliations. In September, 1870, a religious society was organized by the engagement of Rev. Dr. Kerr as preacher, and the election of temporary executive and finance committees. Public preaching services were immediately begun in Brown's hall. On Sunday, October 9, the executive committee presented a report which offered a plan of Christian fellowship. All persons who desired to form a church upon this basis were requested to send in their names on the succeeding Sabbath. The church was formally organized Wednesday, October 26, 1870. The meeting was held in Haskell's hall. Duncan Ferguson presided, and James S. Ticknor was secretary. The executive committee again presented its basis of church fellowship, which was read and unanimously adopted. The names received in reply to the public notice of October 9th were called, and 104 persons responded. These constituted the charter members of the church.

It was resolved that "Those who have responded to the call of their names, as accepting the basis of Christian fellowship which has now been adopted, shall constitute the membership of the church, together with those not personally present, whose names have been received on their subscribing to this basis of fellowship." A plan was adopted for the order of the church. On motion of Melanethon Starr, it was unanimously resolved to call Dr. Thomas Kerr, at a salary of \$2,000 a year. H. N. Starr was elected clerk of the church, and Duncan Ferguson, treasurer. The first board of trustees was composed of David G. Sears, William Peters, Seymour Bronson, J. E. Lander, and C. I. Horsman. Regular Sunday services were first held in Brown's hall. Upon the completion of the new courthouse, public worship was conducted for a time in the circuit court room, and later in the opera house. After

eighteen years of successful work the church decided to erect its own house of worship. The corner-stone was laid September 17, 1888. Addresses were made by Rev. Jenkin Lloyd Jones, Dr. H. W. Thomas and Dr. Kerr. Mrs. John H. Sherratt read an original poem. Congratulatory letters were sent by distinguished representatives of liberal Christianity. After thirty years of faithful service Dr. Kerr tendered his resignation in the autumn of 1900. He continued as pastor emeritus until his death, January 3, 1904. Dr. Kerr was succeeded by Rev. Robert C. Bryant, who began his duties in the autumn of 1901. Mr. Bryant came to Rockford from Lisbon, New Hampshire. He studied two years at Union Theological Seminary, and one year at Auburn Seminary, a Presbyterian school. The membership of the church is about 350.

SWEDISH EVANGELICAL MISSION.

The Swedish Evangelical Mission society was organized June 1, 1875. Its faith is that of the Swedish Mission covenant and its form of government is congregational. The church has a large brick structure, known as Mission tabernacle, on Kishwaukee street, with a seating capacity of 1,100. There is a membership of about 500. The Sunday school is the largest in Winnebago county, with over 700 members. The church owns property worth \$12,500. The pastors have been Revs. Palmquist Lindell, John Gustafson, Wenstrand, Alired Karlen, F. M. Johnson, who served eleven years, S. W. Sundberg, who served seven years, and O. P. Peterson, who came in the spring of 1905.

CENTENNIAL METHODIST EPISCOPAL.

This society was formed by the union of the old First and Third street Methodist Episcopal churches on May 10, 1876, during the pastorate of Rev. Hooper Crews, a man of God whose memory is as ointment poured forth. The board of trustees elected May 10th was Hon. William Brown, George Troxell, Clark Miller, Harmon B. Soper, John Budlong, Joseph Rodd, Thomas G. Lawler, Reuben Sovereign and John C. Gregory. It was agreed that a new and suitable church building should be erected as soon as possible, which task was consummated during the pastorate of Rev. G. R. Vanhorne. This building which now stands at South Second and Oak streets, was completed in 1883 and dedicated by Dr. (now Bishop) Fowler, Sunday, September 9, 1883. This church building occupies one of the most beautiful sites in the city and, together with the parsonage, is valued at \$50,000. The pastors appointed to this church since its organization have been: 1877-78, Hooper Crews; 1878-81,

William A. Spencer; 1881-84, Garret R. Vanhorne; 1884-87, William Aug. Smith; 1887-90, Martin E. Cady; 1890-91, Fred Porter and J. R. Hamilton; 1891-93, J. S. Bell; 1893-96, John N. Hall; 1896-1901, W. W. Painter; 1901-02, John Thompson; 1902-1905, Harlow V. Holt. Rev. F. W. Barnum was assigned by the conference of 1905. The church membership now numbers 620 people, with a Sunday school enrollment of 450.

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN (GERMAN).

A German Lutheran congregation was organized in the '70s by Rev. F. N. Richman, of Elgin, with the name of Emmanuel Lutheran. This church is now extinct.

About 1882 dissensions arose and a number withdrew and organized the Evangelical Lutheran St. Paul's church, U. A. C., which means the Unaltered Augsburg Confession, as contained in the Book of Concord of 1580. Services were conducted by supplies until 1888, when Rev. L. Dorn was called. The present faithful pastor is Rev. Otto Gruner. He has been in charge since 1895, and the church is in a prosperous condition. There are about 450 members. The church is erecting a new house of worship on Horsman street.

EPWORTH METHODIST.

Epworth M. E. church was organized as the Ninth Street church in the spring of 1876, by Rev. G. L. Wiley, who was then pastor of the First church. The society was designed to be a feeder for the First church, and began with fifteen charter members. The Swedish Methodist church building was purchased for \$300, and removed to Ninth street, at a cost of \$300. The first year the society was under the care of the First church. The second year the pastor was sent by conference, and since that time the church has maintained an independent existence. In 1891 the old church was sold for \$75, and a new edifice erected on the old site. The new church was later removed to its present location at the corner of Parmele street and Fourteenth avenue, and the name changed to Epworth church. The pastors have been Revs. G. L. Wiley, Joseph Odgers, W. A. Spencer, W. H. Barrett, A. J. Brill, E. J. Rose, Joseph Wardell, H. L. Martin, F. R. Hall, J. L. Gardner, J. W. Irish, J. L. Chase, Frank Milne, Charles Wentworth, C. F. Kleihauer, C. A. Briggs. The membership is about 75.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC.

St. Mary's church was organized in 1885 by the Rev. E. A. Murphy, who subsequently removed to Chicago, and there died in September, 1903. The parish was originally a part of St.

James' church. The corner-stone was laid in the summer of 1885, with an imposing ceremony, in which a large number of priests from Chicago officiated. The following pastors have succeeded Rev. Murphy; Rev. M. E. McLaughlin, now deceased; and Rev. P. A. McMann. The following priests have served as assistants: Revs. John Dorsey, Green, A. Carr, Stephen Woulfe, S. P. Byrne, James A. Solon, John P. Harrington, Paul Burke. The church has a membership of about 2,500, and the parish is one of the most important in the diocese. The church has property worth not less than \$70,000.

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH.

This church was organized as a Swedish congregation in the general synod July 20, 1882, with eighty-five members. A lot was purchased on the corner of Third avenue and Sixth street. The church was dedicated October 14, 1883. The general synod pastors have been: C. Anderson, 1882-84; C. Hansen, 1884-88; C. Ross, 1888-90. The church withdrew from the general synod and entered Augustana synod in 1890. While yet a Swedish congregation it employed the following Augustana pastors: A. P. Fors, 1890-91; G. Juhlin, 1892-95. On the 22d of April, 1895, a bold step was taken; the mother tongue was abandoned and the language of the land adopted. Those unable to understand the latter quietly withdrew and others soon began to take their places. As an English-speaking congregation it has employed the following laymen and pastors: Mr. Edwin Stenholm, 1895; Mr. C. A. Wendell, 1895-97; Rev. Oscar Nelson, 1897-00; Rev. O. M. Anderson, 1900-01; Rev. C. O. Solberg, 1901-03; Prof. C. J. Sodergren, 1903 (summer months); Rev. C. A. Wendell since January 1, 1904. The change of language has proven wise and timely, and the work has been highly successful.

GRACE M. E.

Grace M. E. church was organized in the autumn of 1891 to meet the needs of a growing population on the west side of Kent's creek. There were thirty-nine charter members. Some of these came from other churches, but the society was not an offshot from any other body. The church was organized under the administration of Presiding Elder Haight. The first pastor was Rev. Frank D. Sheets, who served five years. His successors have been Revs. Frank McNamer, J. B. Robinson, T. E. Ream, E. K. D. Hester, and T. R. Strobridge.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE.

This church was organized several years ago, and has maintained regular services. Its present

place of meeting is Mendelssohn hall. A reading room is maintained in the Lathrop block, on North Church street. The membership is gaining steadily.

AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL.

The African Methodist church was the outgrowth of a Sunday school held for some years in the First Congregational church. It was organized in 1891, with only seven members. The church owns property on the corner of Elm and Winnebago streets, worth \$6,000. The little society has been burdened for many years with a mortgage, which has been assumed, pro rata, by the stronger churches of the city. The church has been served by the following pastors: Revs. F. B. Jones, J. C. Anderson, Richmond Taylor, Lewis Dixon, Sandy McDowell, P. P. Taylor, S. B. Moore and C. H. Thomas. Mr. Moore came upon the field in October, 1900, and has faithfully labored for the uplifting of his people. The church has a membership of forty-five. The congregation, however, is much larger.

SWEDISH FREE CHURCH.

The Swedish Free church, on Fourth avenue, has a membership of 325, a gain of 100 per cent. in three years. The value of the church property is \$6,000. Besides this a lot, worth \$2,700 has been purchased on the corner of Fourth avenue and Sixth street, on which a church is now in process of construction.

TRINITY LUTHERAN.

The Trinity English Lutheran church is one of the latest additions to the long list of Rockford churches. The society was organized by Rev. W. H. Manss, March 10, 1895, with forty members. Services were held in the Y. M. C. A. building and later in the brick building owned by the old Christian church. In 1898 the society purchased this property for \$3,400. The growth of the membership was rapid and soon outgrew the edifice, which was torn down to make room for a more commodious structure. This house of worship was dedicated December 16, 1900. Rev. Manss was succeeded by Rev. H. M. Bannen, to whom the church is indebted for its unusual growth. He is an eloquent preacher and an indefatigable worker, and his magnetic personality has been the inspiration of his people. In the spring of 1894, while the pastor was in Palestine, the church purchased the Trowbridge homestead, on Lafayette avenue, for a parsonage. The church now has a membership of over 600.

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN.

The present Central Christian church is the result of an heroic effort to succeed an older so-

ciety which had disbanded. It was organized November 20, 1898, with twenty-three members, after holding a series of revival meetings.

In 1899 Rev. D. R. Lucas, national chaplain of the G. A. R., was called to the pastorate and meetings were held in Y. M. C. A. hall. In August, 1900, Rev. O. F. Jordan, the present pastor, began his labors. The society dedicated its first house of worship April 14, 1901. This was the property on South Church street originally owned by the old Unitarian Society, but which had passed into other hands. The church has one hundred and sixty members.

SWEDISH BAPTIST.

The Swedish Baptist church owns a brick house of worship at the corner of Fourth avenue and Seventh street valued at \$16,400. The church affiliates with the Rock River Baptist Association, and in June last reported a membership to that body of 254.

ZION LUTHERAN.

Zion Lutheran church is one of the largest and most prosperous Swedish churches in Rockford. It is located on Sixth street.

SALVATION ARMY AND VOLUNTEERS.

The Salvation Army and the Volunteers of America have covered the local field with varying degrees of success for some years.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

The Young Men's Christian Association was first organized in 1858. A few men are still living in Rockford who were members of the early organization. This association held its meetings the first year in the different churches, but the second year it rented commodious rooms in the Buxton building at the corner of Wyman and State street, now occupied by the street railway company as offices and transfer station. With the breaking out of the great Civil war it, like many others, was forced to suspend, the last meeting recorded being January 6, 1862.

The present Y. M. C. A. was organized in 1876. The call for the first meeting was signed by W. H. Worthington, Charles E. Sheldon, T. G. Lawler, F. J. Leonard, H. H. West, S. J. Caswell, E. P. Thomas, G. L. Wiley, L. A. Trowbridge, C. L. Williams and others.

The first meeting was held April 17th in the lecture room of the State-street Baptist church. It was called to order by L. A. Trowbridge, who stated the object of the meeting. May 1, 1876, the organization was completed, constitution

adopted and officers elected, in Congregational hall, 319 West State street. E. P. Thomas was elected president; L. A. Trowbridge, first vice-president; W. H. Worthington, second vice-president; Charles E. Sheldon, secretary, and D. J. Waddell, treasurer.

Rooms known as the "library rooms" in the old Ashton store building, corner of Main and State streets, were occupied by the association from 1876 to 1890. Reading and social rooms were maintained from the first. Religious meetings were held Sunday afternoons and Monday evenings, many conversions resulting. For a time meetings were held at noon each day. A gymnasium was started in 1885. Practical talks and lectures were maintained each winter; evening educational classes were a regular feature in the early '80s. A work for boys was started in 1886.

July 6, 1884, at the close of the Sunday meeting, a special meeting was held. Agitation for a building was begun and a fund of \$921 was pledged to start the movement. W. H. Worthington took the initiative.

In 1886 Mrs. D. S. Penfield gave impetus to the movement by a gift of a lot on East State street as a site. In October of the same year the State Y. M. C. A. convention was held here, the sessions being held in the Second Congregational church. This created great interest in the building movement.

On the 17th of October, 1886, a special meeting of a few leading business men was held at the residence of the late W. A. Talcott on North Main street, at which \$5,000 was pledged toward the building fund. Henry W. Price and Mr. Talcott each pledged \$1,000 to start it. They prepared subscription lists and launched the canvass for \$25,000.

The fund steadily grew until in the autumn of 1888 the association appointed a building committee consisting of Prof. P. R. Walker, W. H. Worthington, P. R. Wood and H. H. Robinson, secured plans for the building and received bids for its erection.

The corner-stone was laid April 18, 1889. The building was completed near the close of 1890 at a total expense of \$42,000. The building contained adequate reception rooms, parlors, game rooms, gymnasium, offices, dining room and kitchen, social rooms, baths, auditorium and sleeping apartments.

The first meeting in the new building was held by the board of directors December 30, 1889. E. M. Aiken was the first general secretary after the new building was occupied. B. F. Pierce and E. E. Lockwood were general secretaries and S. F. Weyburn and Prof. P. R. Walker were presidents during the building period.

Ever since the erection of the building an all-

around work similar to that now carried on has been maintained.

The following men have been presidents of the association during its history: E. P. Thomas, H. S. Tupper, G. D. Smith, O. R. Brouse, L. A. Trowbridge, W. H. Worthington, C. H. C. Burlingame, S. F. Weyburn, P. R. Walker, H. H. Robinson, William Pond, F. S. Regan and L. L. Morrison. Judge Morrison having been president since 1896.

The general secretaries have been: J. G. Johnson, 1879 to 1881; George S. Avery, 1881 to 1883; B. F. True, 1883 to 1885; B. F. Pierce, 1885 to 1889; E. E. Lockwood, 1889 to 1890; E. M. Aiken, 1890 to 1894; J. P. Bailey, 1894 to 1895; T. H. Hansen, 1896 to 1898; E. L. Tucker, 1898 to 1900; A. W. Beckner, 1900 to date.

The association has had two important bequests; one of \$10,000 from Judge Benjamin R. Sheldon, and \$500 from Giles R. Goss.

Educationally, there are many features. The reading room, supplied with the best magazines, is in constant use. Two series of practical talks are maintained on Monday and Friday nights, the speakers being mostly local business and professional men. A night school is conducted, with an enrollment of 150 students; special classes in English for Swedes are very popular. Classes in chemistry, mechanical drawing, penmanship, arithmetic and other common branches are conducted. The Star Course has been a feature of the association during the past ten years. Many notable lecturers and musicians have been brought to the city by it, including such men and women as Gen. Lew Wallace, T. DeWitt Talmage, B. K. Bruce, Sam Jones, Lieut. Schwatka, Jahu DeWitt Miller, Hedley, Dr. Henson, George Kennau, R. H. Conwell, Jacob A. Riis, Katherine Ridgeway, Thomas Dixon, Jr.; Frank Dixon, Bob Taylor, Senator Dolliver, Landis, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Brook's Band, Temple Quartet, Leland T. Powers, Mockridge, Banda Rossa, George Hamlin, Ernest Gamble, Benfey, Susanne Adams and Campanari.

The gymnasium was started in 1885 in the old Ashton block. When the present building was erected the plans included an additional gymnasium building. In 1891 a number of prominent business men in close touch with the association formed a syndicate and purchased the property adjoining on the north to carry out the original purpose. But when the hard times came the property was lost, the men themselves losing the amounts invested and the association the needed site for such a building.

YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

In the spring of 1876 at the close of a revival meeting, a prayer circle of young women was

formed, composed of those from the various East Side churches. This circle met in the Westminster church parlor the hour before the Sunday evening service, which proved a great blessing to those attending.

In December, 1877, they decided to organize for better and wider work, but with no thought of taking up the usual work of a Y. W. C. A. A constitution was adopted, officers elected and thirty-six gave their names as charter members.

Miss Ella F. Brainard was elected president, Miss Helen Penfield (now Mrs. Revell) recording secretary. Meetings were held in Westminster parlors, the sick were visited, cottage prayer meetings held, many poor families were assisted and the young women helped the Y. M. C. A. on social occasions.

In June, 1880, it was decided to disband because so many young people's societies had been organized in the different churches. The young women on the East Side had been drawn closely together, and led to feel the need of work among the young women of the city, and had been trained for religious work by this first Y. W. C. A. so that eleven years later many of them became charter members and are still faithful workers in the present association.

In May, 1891, Miss Mary McElroy, state secretary for Illinois, came to Rockford and after conference with prominent ladies the present Young Women's Christian Association was organized in the parlors of the Second Congregational church, May 28. Mrs. Anna Williams was elected president; Mrs. C. R. Wise, vice-president; Miss Kate Rising, recording secretary; Miss Ida Allen, treasurer. Mrs. Williams served only a short term and was succeeded by Mrs. W. L. Eaton, and Mrs. Selwyn Clark was elected to take the place of Mrs. C. R. Wise. The board of directors was as follows: Mrs. E. M. Revell, Mrs. S. L. Kennedy, Mrs. M. S. Parmele, Mrs. S. N. Jones, Miss Mary Sherratt, Mrs. C. H. C. Burlingame, Mrs. Frank Brown, Mrs. Charles Herrick, Mrs. Oscar Hall, Mrs. M. L. Baird, Mrs. Arthur Berridge. Following Mrs. Eaton, Mrs. S. L. Kennedy, Mrs. E. L. Herrick, Mrs. Harriet Peuse and Mrs. G. R. Vanhorne have served as president. Mrs. E. S. Gregory is serving in that office at present.

Miss Caroline Griffith was the first general secretary. She was here only one year. Then Miss May McGranahan came for a year. In January, 1894, Miss Gratia Norton was asked to take the position until a permanent secretary could be secured. In June, 1905, she was called to the secretaryship and has remained. Miss Mildred Graves was until recently associated with her in the work.

The present property of the association was rented and furnished and later on, in June, 1892,

was purchased for \$5,500. A large part of the money was raised by a soliciting committee that year by great effort. In 1899 another effort was put forth and the final payment on the building was made.

At the beginning of the work a noon lunch was started; also an employment bureau, evening classes, a gospel service on Sunday afternoon and a boarding department. These lines of work are still carried on.

For three years an assistant secretary has been employed and the work has been enlarged. Regular work has been carried on during the noon hour in the Nelson knitting mills, the Ziock box factory, the Union Overall Company and visitation in other factories. Many girls have been brought into the association from this work during the noon hour.

The association will dedicate a building in December, 1905, at a cost of \$18,000, free of debt.

MUSICAL CLUBS AND MUSICIANS OF ROCKFORD.

The musical life of Rockford is so interwoven in its history, even from its earliest days, that one would be incomplete without the other.

The grandfathers tell of the singing schools of the early days when a tiny village marked the place where a city now flourishes, and one of the old singing masters, David Merrill, who taught singing school here in 1841, is still living. Mr. Merrill is ninety-three years old and resides in the neighboring town of Cherry Valley.

A program nearly a half-hundred years old advertises in glowing terms the "fourth grand entertainment" of the Rockford Musical Association, at Concert hall, March 26, 1857. The program itself contains scarcely a number familiar to the present-day concert-goer, and among the many participants not more than two or three names are known to the present generation.

About this time there came to Rockford from the East a young man, who was soon recognized as the leader of all musical affairs. This young man was Daniel N. Hood. For thirty-seven years he was actively identified with the musical interests of the city, and to him perhaps more than to any other one person belongs the credit of the city's great musical growth. A musician of high ideals, Prof. Hood would tolerate nothing but the best in the art to which he has devoted a lifetime, and patiently but persistently labored to elevate the musical taste of the community.

A series of musical festivals were given in the early '60s and '70s, first under the direction of Prof. J. F. Fargo and later under Prof. Hood, lasting two or three days and overshadowing all other events of those times.

In 1858-59 Prof. Hood assumed charge of the

Musical Conservatory of Rockford College, then known as the Rockford Female Seminary. Many prominent musicians to-day owe their success to the early training received from Prof. Hood at Rockford College. For thirty-seven years he was identified with the college, part of the time teaching both vocal and instrumental, and for sixteen years of this time also held the position of organist in the Second Presbyterian church of Chicago, then the wealthiest church in that city. He was later identified with the First and Second Congregational churches in Rockford as organist and choir director for many years, and at present he is organist of a Congregational church in Woburn, Mass., the largest church in New England outside of Boston.

Eleven years ago Prof. Hood left Rockford to spend the rest of his days in the East, and with his going the city lost one of its most talented musicians, whose life has made a lasting impress in its history.

L. B. Starkweather, who came to Rockford in 1863 and organized the Harmonic Society, was the first vocal teacher in the town who had fitted himself for that profession, and for many years he taught both voice and piano. He was an organist in the First Congregational church, whose organ was dedicated by Dudley Buck. Mr. Starkweather also successfully conducted several musical festivals in Rockford and other towns.

In 1884 Prof. L. A. Torrens came to Rockford to become director of the Rockford Choral Union, a society with which nearly all the musicians of the city were identified.

Some noteworthy concerts were given, among the number being the historical choral concert, held in the First Lutheran Church, and participated in by Rockford, Freeport and Janesville choruses; "The Messiah," given with the Chicago Orchestra and soloists from Chicago and Rockford; two performances of Haydn's "Creation," given with the Chicago Orchestra, a chorus of 350 voices; and three performances of Haydn's "Seasons," with Bach's Orchestra, of Milwaukee. The last-named concerts were the first events ever held in Court Street church.

Prof. Torrens returned to Rockford about six years ago and organized a choral society, which has sponsored a number of fine musical events, including two annual festivals that brought to the city such well-known artists as Herbert Wither- spoon, Mme. Charlotte Maconda, Genevieve Clark Wilson, Jeanette Durno-Collins, Glenn Hall, Herbert Butler, Theodore Spiering, George Hamlin, Dan T. Boddoe and a number of others.

To Prof. Torrens is due great credit for undertaking to give to Rockford an annual musical festival of such worth and so deserving of the city's support. Prof. Torrens has for many years successfully conducted large choral societies in vari-

ous parts of the country, aside from his teaching and has long been prominent in musical affairs.

Far and near Rockford is known as a city of musical clubs, and more than a dozen organizations of a distinctly musical character are in existence at the present time.

At the head of these stands the Mendelssohn Club, which is recognized from Maine to California as one of the strongest musical clubs in the country.

Twenty-one years ago last October a small company of ladies met at the home of Mrs. Chandler Starr and formed a little club, the object of which was "the permanent establishment of an organization for the musical culture of the members and the uplifting of the standard of music in the city of Rockford." Mendelssohn was chosen as their patron saint.

The club now has a number of departments, including active, passive, honorary, associate and student members, and an auxiliary chorus of sixty ladies, under the direction of Harrison M. Wild, of Chicago.

There are between thirty-five and forty active members, who are responsible for the regular concerts given every other Thursday. Almost without exception these musicians are constantly studying, and each year finds a number in the great art centers of the world, gaining new ideas and fresh inspiration for future club work. At present the club has representatives in Paris, Berlin, Dresden and New York, while a number make weekly trips to Chicago for instruction under the best teachers there.

Each season a number of artists' recitals are given under the auspices of the club, and some of the best artists in the country have been brought here. Among the number that may be mentioned are Mme. Fannie Bloomfield-Zeisler, Mme. Carreno, Mme. Schumann-Heink, the Mendelssohn Quintet Club, David Bispham, Jeannette Durno-Collins, Mme. Blauvelt, E. A. MacDowell and many others.

Last year the famous Pittsburg Orchestra, under the direction of Emil Paur, was one of the attractions.

The present officers of the club are: President, Mrs. Chandler Starr; vice-president, Mrs. Fred H. Moffatt; recording secretary, Mrs. O. R. Brouse; corresponding secretary, Miss Ethel L. Van Wie; treasurer, Mrs. T. V. Engstrom.

Following the example of the Mendelssohn Club, a score of young girls organized the St. Cecilia Club fourteen years ago. For several seasons the club met at the homes of the members, but, like the mother club, soon outgrew the small quarters and rented a hall for its regular meetings.

As the members of the St. Cecilia Club grew older several of the younger girls formed another

club at the home of their teacher, Mrs. John Oberg. This club was named the Schumann, and with Mrs. Oberg for a guide, worked with a will to accomplish creditable results.

The Liebling Club is another of the younger clubs that is well known, and that has sponsored many pretty concerts. The club was named for Emil Liebling, of Chicago, and this popular pianist has taken a personal interest in the club's welfare, making visits to Rockford to hear and participate in the annual concerts.

Rockford has had its share of musical celebrities and several who call this city "home" have won fame on two continents. Mrs. Katherine Tanner Fisk, the celebrated contralto, is a graduate of Rockford College, and pays frequent visits to this city, where her mother resided until her death in October, 1905. Wilhelm Heinrich, the noted blind tenor, who makes his home in Boston, is another artist whom we are proud to own, and whose mother still lives here.

No young woman pianist has won more fame than Jeanette Durno-Collins, who is known in this country and Europe as a wonderfully gifted musician. Frank C. LaForge, who at the present time is in Berlin, is fast gaining recognition as a young pianist and composer, who will be famous in this country and Europe before many years. Howard Wells, now of Chicago, is also known as a pianist of undoubted talent.

Two Rockford ladies are filling important choir positions in New York City. Miss Alice Sovereign's beautiful contralto voice is popular in the great metropolis, and Mrs. Corinne Ryder Kelsey filled fine engagements last season in the East, including two appearances with Walter Damrosch in Wagnerian lectures. Mr. and Mrs. George Nelson Holt, both well-known musicians, are at present studying in Paris.

For half a century the musical conservatory of Rockford College has played an important part in the musical life of the city, and among the graduates each year are young women from all parts of the country.

Under Prof. Hood the conservatory gained a wide reputation that has strengthened with the years. Prof. Hood was the head of the department from 1858 until 1895, and was succeeded by Mrs. George Nelson Holt, who was connected with the piano department for seven years. Mrs. Helen Sabin Brown and Howard Wells and Josephine Phinney also taught in this department.

One of the popular vocal teachers connected with the college was Mrs. Addie St. John Farnum, who was at the head of the department for seven years and was at that time a favorite soprano here. Frank T. Baird, of Chicago, taught the vocal classes for five years and Miss Caroline Radecke for eight years. Miss Radecke was succeeded by Mrs. Daisy Force Scott, who taught for two seasons. At the present time the piano department is in charge of Miss Emily Parsons.

Among the male quartets that have traveled over the country none has won more fame than the old Weber quartet, of Rockford, which was organized in 1886. During the campaign of 1888 the quartet was a prominent feature of all important political meetings, and the fame of the young men spread until they were twice called to Washington to sing. The members of the quartet at this time were Myron E. Barnes, Charles Rogers, L. J. West and Henry D. Andrew, and under the management of the Slayton Lyceum Bureau they toured the country from Washington to California, and from British Columbia to Texas, winning ovations everywhere. The quartet was in existence until 1891. Others identified with the quartet were Frank Andrew and Frank D. Emerson.

Since the days of the civil war Rockford has had a band organization. In the early days of the war the old Rockford Band accompanied the home regiment to battle, among the members being August Dedrickson, who from that time until his death a few years ago was the most prominent figure in the city's bands and orchestras.

In 1867 the Forest City Band was organized, with Mr. Dedrickson as leader, and for thirty years he served in that capacity. He was succeeded by Frank Fitzgerald, when the name of the band was changed to Watch Factory Band, and later to Rockford Military Band, under which name it was known throughout the state.

After four years Mr. Fitzgerald was succeeded by E. F. Blakeley, under whose efficient leadership the band has continued until to-day. In the year 1903 the name of the band was changed to the Schumann Military.

Albert Barker and Allen Crandall were charter members of the band and have been connected with the organization during its entire existence. The late Marcus C. Thayer, who for many years had an active part in local musical affairs, was also a charter member.

Dedrickson's Orchestra, later known as the Opera House Orchestra, was an outgrowth of the Forest City Band, and for thirty years prospered under the leadership of August Dedrickson.

Ten years ago, to supply the demand for a dance orchestra, the Benedict Orchestra was organized by Albert Barker. This orchestra, under the leadership of Mr. Dedrickson, sprang into instant favor and since that time has held first place among similar organizations of the city. Mr. Barker is still manager and Mr. George Gieske is the present leader.

The Haddorff Band, though comparatively new, is doing excellent work and gaining an enviable reputation.

A band known as Camp 51 Band, M. W. A., is an outgrowth of the old S. M. and S. F. Band.

Among other local orchestras are the Metropole, now known as Collin's Orchestra; the Epworth and Rockford orchestras.



Yours Sincerely
G. W. Sanborn

Biographical

GOODYEAR ASA SANFORD.

Among the men of the past and present who have contributed to the progress and development of Rockford and Winnebago county, Good-year Asa Sanford was prominent. He left the impress of his individuality upon the public life of the city and his labors promoted its material, intellectual and moral development. He won the success that comes from consecutive and well directed effort, and at the same time his methods were so honorable, his principles so elevating, that even the most malevolent had naught to say against his career. Such a life history is indeed well worthy of emulation and should serve as an example to the young and an inspiration to the aged. Mr. Sanford was a native of Hamden, Connecticut, born August 28, 1814. The ancestry of the family can be traced back to Thomas Sanford, of Gloucestershire, England, who came to this country with the John Winthrop colony in the period from 1631 to 1633. He was one of the four appointed to "make diligent search" for Colonels Whaley and Goffe and like a true patriot, "declares and testifies" that he failed to find them. The family history, however, is obtainable even at a more remote period. Sanford Manor in England is one of the few Shropshire estates which can be said to be held by the lineal descendants of its earliest feoffee. Thomas de Sanford, a Norman follower of William the Conqueror, is mentioned on the roll of battle Abbey, having been one of the Norman followers of William, duke of Normandy, by whom he was knighted for bravery at the battle of Hastings. His son, Sir Thomas de Sanford, held under King Henry I the manor of Sanford and Rothal and the former is still in possession of his descendants. The origin of the name is quite evident—sandy ford—but in many branches of the name the first letter "d" is omitted.

Thomas Sanford, son of Anthony and Jane Sanford, of Stowe, county Gloucester, England, came to Boston with the John Winthrop colony. We find record of him in Dorchester, Massachusetts, where with others he received land in 1634 and also in 1635. He became a freeman of the colony, March 9, 1637, and in 1639 removed with a colony from Dorchester and Waretown to Connecticut, settling in Milford, where his name appears in the earliest records. He was the leader in organizing the town, and was intimately associated with Governor Treat, Leete, Buckingham, Law and other leading men of the times.

Stephen Sanford, grandfather of G. A. Sanford, of Rockford, was born at Milford, Connecticut, August 13, 1740, and died on the fifty-fifth anniversary of his birth. He was married while living at Woodbridge, Connecticut, to Sybil White, who was probably born at New Haven, her natal day being October 15, 1745, while her death occurred December 5, 1808. She was a daughter of Deacon John White, and a granddaughter of Captain John and Mary (Dickerman) White, and a great-granddaughter of Isaac and Mary (Atwater) Dickerman. Her father settled on a farm in Woodbridge, Connecticut, but afterward removed to New Haven, where he died November 24, 1797, at the age of seventy-five years. He wedded Mary Dickerman, of New Haven, December 27, 1744. Sallie White was a daughter of Lieutenant John White, a son of Deacon John and Mary (Dickerman) White. Lieutenant John White was married May 25, 1778, to Anna Bostwick, of Derby, and their daughter Sallie was born April 5, 1785. She married David Sanford, of Bethany, her death occurring in February, 1836, at the age of fifty years.

Unto Stephen and Sybil (White) Sanford were born nine children: Esther, who was born February 4, 1768, and died May 21, 1768: Es-

ther, the second of the name, who was born July 20, 1760, and married Jared Sperry; Rachel, who was born December 1, 1771, and married Zeri Downes; Hulda, who was born May 17, 1774, and died July 1, 1794; Elisha, who was born July 1, 1776, and married Margaret Tolles; Stephen Elisha, who was born March 30, 1779; Sybil, who was born July 27, 1782, and married a Mr. Sperry; Amos White, who was born December 20, 1785, and married Obedience Atwater; and Lucretia, who was born October 27, 1780, and became Mrs. Beecher. After losing her first husband Sybil White Sanford married Deacon Asa Goodyear, of Hamden, Connecticut.

The will of Stephen Sanford is still in existence and reads as follows: "In the name of God, Amen: I, Stephen Sanford, of New Haven county, and state of Connecticut, in New England, being weak in body but of sound mind and memory, thanks be to God therefor; do make this my last will and testament in manner and form following, namely: Principally and first of all, I give and recommend my soul to God that gave it, and my body to the earth in a decent and Christian burial at the discretion of my executor hereafter mentioned, in hopes of a glorious resurrection through Jesus Christ my Lord, and the worldly estate which God hath been pleased to bless me withal after my just debts and funeral charges, and charge of executing this my will are duly paid and satisfied, I dispose of in the following manner, namely: Item—To my dear and loving wife, Esther Sanford, I give and bequeath all my movable estate whatsoever, excepting the legacies hereafter in this my will mentioned, and to her, her heirs and assigns forever. I also give to my said wife the use and improvements of all my real estate for the space of one year after my decease. I also give her during her natural life the use and improvement of the real estate hereafter mentioned, two-thirds of my new house and barn and all my old house, all standing on my homestead, also two-thirds of all my land adjoining my house, and two-thirds of all my lands in the Fort (last?) Rock, so called; also all my lands called Grindum farm and the barn standing thereon; also two lots of land lying at the southeast corner of a lot called Sherman lot, by estimation about seven acres as the fence now stands. Item—I also give to the society of Amety in the town of New Haven, for the support of a Presbyterian or Congregational minister in said society, he being a friend to this and the United States of America, after my wife's estate therein shall be ended, the Carington lot so called, containing about twenty-three acres. I also give to the church of Christ in said society a silver christening basin of the size of that in the church in White Haven so-

ciety, to be procured and purchased by my executor hereafter mentioned within one year after my decease, and delivered to said church. I also give to said society eighty pounds lawful money to be paid by my executor, ten pounds yearly until the whole of said sum be paid. I also give and bequeath to Charles Sanford, who now lives with me, my new house and barn standing on my homestead and all my lands adjoining to my house and all my lands lying in the Fort Rocks, so called, and one acre and a quarter of Salt Meadow, he not disturbing my said wife, Esther, in her improvements as before mentioned, to be to him, the said Charles and to his heirs on the following conditions, namely: That he, the said Charles, shall find and provide my said wife with fire wood, cut fit for the fire, as long as she lives, and also shall take care of my said wife's stock summer and winter and keep her fences in good repair; but if said Charles shall fail to perform said conditions, then my will is that said real estate given to him above shall go, and I hereby give it to said society of Amety to support a minister as aforesaid. My will further is that if said Charles shall die, leaving no issue of his body lawfully begotten, the said real estate given to him as above shall go to the said society of Amety for their use aforesaid. My will also is that said Charles shall bring no family into my house during the lifetime of my said wife but his own. I also give to said Charles Sanford my year mare. Item—To Stephen Sanford, Jr., of Bethany, my nephew, I give and bequeath the use and improvements of the following pieces of land after my wife's term and estate therein shall be ended, namely: All my land lying at a place called Grindum, excepting thirty acres on the south of said land, said thirty acres to be fifteen rods wider on the east line than on the west, and the barn standing thereon, also all my land called Sherman lot. My will further is that at the death of said Stephen, said two pieces of land shall go, and I do give it to his eldest male heir and to his heirs forever; but if the said Stephen shall leave no male heir, then to his female heirs equally and their heirs forever. Item—To Zadock Sanford, of Bethany, I give and bequeath all my right called mine lot, lying at a place called Mad Mars Hill, to him and his heirs forever, he not disturbing my said wife's improvements as before expressed. Item—To my negro servant, Jesse, I give and bequeath and to his heirs and assigns forever, thirty acres of land on the south side of the Grindum farm, which is to be fifteen rods wider on the east line than on the west, after my wife's term and estate therein shall be ended, and I do hereby manumit my said servant, Jesse, and give him his freedom after the death

of my said wife. I also give him liberty to live in my old house during his natural life. Item—My will further is that my Bradley lot, so called, shall be sold by my executor to pay my just debts and legacies and charges of settling my estate, and if there be any overplus it shall go to my said wife, Esther, and to her heirs and assigns forever. Item—I give to Ebenezer Sanford, of Newton, for the love and good will which I have to him, twenty pounds lawful money. Item—I give and bequeath to Hannah Hainson, Oliver Sanford, Jonah Sanford and Joseph Sanford, children and heirs of my brother, Joseph Sanford, late of Litchfield, deceased; my sister, Esther Bristol, and Abigail Pierson and to Joseph Sanford, Oliver Sanford, Aaron Sanford, Elihu Sanford and Eunice Stoddard, children and heirs of my brother, David Sanford, late of Milford, deceased, and to Isaac Sanford, to each of them one great Bible, to be purchased by my executor within one year after my decease, or so much lawful money as is sufficient to purchase a great Bible for each of them. Lastly I do hereby nominate, constitute and appoint my said wife, Esther Sanford and Deacon Amos Perkins, of said New Haven, executors of this my last will and testament, and my will is that Deacon Perkins have a handsome reward for his trouble therein in confirmation of all that is before written, revoking and disannulling all former wills and testaments by me made, I hereunto set my hand and seal this 8th day of January, A. D., 1779, signed, sealed, published, pronounced and delivered by the said Stephen Sanford as and for his last will and testament in presence of us witnesses signing in his presence and in the presence of each other.

(Signed) STEPHEN SANFORD [Seal.]
 JOHN HORTON,
 PHINEAS BRADLEY,
 DANIEL PERKINS.

Amos White Sanford, son of Stephen Sanford, was born in Connecticut and throughout his entire life followed farming in that state. He married Obedience Atwater, who was also of English lineage, and was a direct descendant of David Atwater, one of the original planters of New Haven, Connecticut. David Atwater, the English ancestor, was also a follower of William the Conqueror, and fought with distinction in the battle of Hastings. Both Mr. and Mrs. Sanford died at Hamden, Connecticut.

G. A. Sanford acquired his education in the public schools of New Haven and Hamden, Connecticut, and was reared upon his father's farm, early becoming familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist, but his ambition for a business career led in another

direction. Believing that he might enjoy better business opportunities in the west, he came to Illinois, in December, 1836, making his way to Alton, and the following year came to Rockford and established a dry-goods store at the southeast corner of Main and State streets. He continued in business there for several years, his patronage steadily increasing, making possible the erection of a large building in order to have space for his constantly increasing stock. He conducted that business for some time, its growth being attributable to his enterprising efforts, earnest desire to please his patrons and his conformity to a high standard of commercial ethics. In 1838 he was appointed deputy sheriff and served in that capacity for four years, while in 1842 he was elected sheriff and served until 1844. While acting as deputy sheriff he rode on horseback over the country to a great extent, and one day while riding north of the river several miles above the town he looked across the stream and saw a dark object in the tree. Forging the river, he climbed the tree and found a canoe containing the mummy of a Pottawatomie squaw. Unfortunately no effort was made to preserve this mute testimonial of the wild life that preceded white settlement. From 1838 until 1844 he collected all the taxes of Winnebago county. No public trust reposed in him was ever betrayed in the slightest degree, for he was prompt and efficient in discharge of his duties. Mr. Sanford was one of the organizers and trustees of the Rockford Insurance Company. One of the many services of Mr. Sanford for the city of Rockford was securing the postoffice for Rockford. A town had been started on the low land where the Kishwaukee joins Rock river—supposedly called Kishwaukee—and at this time it was proving a formidable rival to Rockford, in that it bade fair to get the postoffice instead of Rockford. Government was sending out an agent to make decision in this weighty matter and he was coming to Kishwaukee instead of Rockford. It was in the early spring just as winter was loosening its icy grip. With a horse and cutter, and John Platt as a companion, Mr. Sanford started for the settlement at the north of the Kishwaukee, but for some reason they took the road down the west side of the river. The day was warm and the fears of the two men were aroused lest the ice go out before they reach their destination and leave them on the wrong side of the river. Sure enough with a prolonged cracking the river began to break. Putting their horse to a run they soon covered the remaining distance, and while one hitched the horse to the fence the other ripped off a board, and with this board they bridged the chasms between the floating cakes of ice that were too wide to jump and

so made their way safely to Kishwaukee and the postoffice commissioner. The facts and logic won the day, and they returned to Rockford with a hired team up the east side of the river, with the postoffice in their pockets and sent a boy down to bring back their horse and cutter. Perhaps nothing has been a greater factor in the prosperity of the city than the Water Power Company, which was organized July 15, 1851, and of which Mr. Sanford was an active member. It was Mr. Sanford's help that made it possible for Thomas Butterworth to successfully organize and carry on the Rockford Gas Company.

In 1838 Mr. Sanford built the first flatboat at this place and loaded it with potatoes and merchandise for the St. Louis market and twenty-four years later he was connected with the sending of the first carload of grain that was shipped from Cherry Valley. He was likewise interested in the building of some of the railroads, and the newspapers of that day give account of his co-operation in these enterprises, showing that he took large contracts for the construction of the lines. From 1844 until 1847 he was engaged in general merchandising at the corner of State and Main streets, where the Second National Bank was afterward located.

It was during the early days of his residence in Rockford that he also became a leading factor in financial circles. On the 1st of January, 1855, the banking firm of Dickerman, Wheeler & Company was organized with Mr. Sanford as one of its members. In 1856 the firm was changed to Lane, Sanford & Company, so continuing until August 1, 1864, when the business was reorganized under the name of the Second National Bank of Rockford. Mr. Sanford at that time was chosen cashier, and soon afterward was elected president, acting in the latter capacity up to the time of his death.

Mr. Sanford was three times married. In February, 1837, he married Elizabeth H. Bassett, who was born in the state of New York in 1813. He returned east for his bride, and on the 2d of April, 1838, they arrived in Rockford. In 1844 they united with the First Congregational church, and were very active in its work, Mrs. Sanford being one of the original members of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society formed in the First church in 1838. She was one of the forty-seven charter members of the Second church, sang in the choir for several years and took a most active and helpful part in the church work until failing health prevented her further co-operation in its activities. She died in October, 1857. They had one son, who died in infancy.

In 1858 Mr. Sanford married Harriet Austin,

of Skaneateles, New York, who came from a New York family of sterling worth. She was a woman of rare native ability, and exercised a wide influence in both the religious and the social life of Rockford. She was one of the most helpful workers in the Second Congregational church and missionary society. She founded the Monday Club, the oldest literary club in Rockford, and was most hospitable in entertaining her friends. After a prolonged and painful illness, which she bore with great Christian fortitude, she died in 1879.

For his third wife Mr. Sanford chose Miss Clara Goodall, a daughter of David G. and Maia Dearborn (French) Goodall. Her father was a native of Bath, New Hampshire, and her mother of Landaff, New Hampshire. He is descended in the paternal line from John Whitney, who emigrated from London, in 1635, and settled at Watertown, Massachusetts. All of this descent "can claim the blood of some of those whose names are most familiar in English history—the Saxon king, Alfred the Great, and Edmund Ironside; the Normans, William the Conqueror and Henry I; the Plantagnets, Henry II, John, Henry III and Edward I; to say nothing of the royal houses of Scotland, France and Spain, with whom these were allied." On her mother's side, Mrs. Sanford is descended from Godfrey Dearborn, the founder of the family of American Dearborns of military fame, and also from Edward Gilman, who came to this country in 1638. His genealogy runs through the famous knight, Gilman Troed-dhu, back to Coel Godeboe, king of Britain, ancestor of Henry VII and grandfather of Constantine the Great. Mr. Goodall was a lawyer by profession in his early days, and was a son of Ira Goodall, a very prominent attorney of the state of New Hampshire. David Goodall engaged in the operation of flour and starch mills and in the lumber business. He also conducted a woolen factory, and was owner of several stores in Lisbon, Bath and Swiftwater, New Hampshire. His chief interest was his lumber business, however, and this he carried on successfully, developing a large trade. He likewise practiced law to some extent and was one of the most prominent and influent residents of his community, contributing in substantial measure to its material growth and progress. He and his father were the builders of the White Mountain Railway of New England, the latter being president, while David G. Goodall was vice president of the company that constructed this line. At a later day Ira and David Goodall removed to the west and both died in Beloit, Wisconsin, where Mrs. David G. Goodall also passed away. In their family were five children, who are yet living: Mrs. Sanford; Blanche, who

makes her home in Rockford with her sister, Mrs. Sanford; Nellie F., who is residing in Victoria, British Columbia; Mrs. A. J. Morley, also of Victoria; and Karl D., a druggist of Las Vegas, New Mexico.

Rockford had no truer friend or more active co-operant in its interests for the general welfare than G. A. Sanford. He kept well informed on political questions and issues of the day, but did not seek office as a reward for party fealty. He served as alderman and in other city and county offices, but these came to him in recognition of his ability on the part of his fellow-townsmen. He was deeply interested in the educational progress of the city, and on the 6th of July, 1864, was elected a trustee of Rockford Seminary, now Rockford College, serving thus until the time of his death. On the 6th of June, 1893, he was chosen vice president of the board, and would have been honored with the presidency had he consented to accept. He became a charter member of the Second Congregational church, in which Mrs. Sanford is still a most active and earnest worker. His name was the second found on the subscription list for building the first stone church, and owing to the financial condition of the country at that time the necessary expense of building and equipping the new church became so burdensome upon the subscribers and members of the society that Mr. Sanford mortgaged his home in order that the work might go forward. For twenty-one years he served as a trustee of the church, and on the expiration of that period was presented by his co-workers with an elegant gold chain and tablet. January 3, 1887, after a service of thirty years as trustee, he was again re-elected, but resigned. On that occasion the following record was adopted: "Resolved, That the society of the Second Congregational church desires to recognize the faithful and efficient services of Trustee G. A. Sanford, who today completes thirty years of continuous service as a trustee of said society, and we wish to extend to our friend and brother this expression of our sincere thanks and high appreciation of his labors in its behalf, and that it be placed upon the records of the society." The records of the church show that he was the first delegate sent out by that organization and in 1849, 51, 55, 56 and 57 he was also a member of the assessment committee. In 1855 he was elected on a committee of five to take action for building a new church. He read the report recommending the site of the stone church and was made chairman of the committee to raise the necessary funds for the building. He was one of the trustees and usually auctioned the church sittings. In 1860 he was appointed on the committee to liquidate the church debt. His name

heads the list and the money he gave he was obliged to borrow at two per cent. interest a month. In 1871 he stated to a called meeting of the church the need for internal improvements of the house of worship and in 1872 was made chairman of a committee to raise the necessary money. In 1882 he was again chairman of a special meeting to consider interior changes of the church. He could always be relied upon to help struggling churches of other denominations and up to the time of his death there was hardly a church in the city or in the neighboring towns that had not received help from him. He was always a regular attendant at the various church services and he assisted in building four Second Congregational churches in Rockford. Although Mr. Sanford took a keen interest in politics, beyond serving as alderman, sheriff and school commissioner, he never took any official position. He was a whig and republican. One side of Mr. Sanford's character, that would not be noticed by the public, was his intense love for flowers and animals. Flowers were almost like living things to him and his comradeship with all animals was often amusing—the cat and all her kittens following in his wake wherever he moved and the canary bird perching on his finger or head.

He died very suddenly, March 16, 1894, at three o'clock in the afternoon just as the bank, of which he was president, was closing its doors after the business of the day was over. The influence of such a man, however, will long be felt. It remains as a blessed benediction to those who knew him and as a potent force in the lives of many with whom he was associated. His life proved that an honorable name and success may be won simultaneously. In his business affairs he prospered year by year but he never selfishly hoarded his gains. He believed that he was merely the steward into whose hands the worldly possessions had been given and he was free and generous in his donations to help worthy charity. In his later years, when crowned with honors and wealth, he stood just where he did in his early life—as the champion of character rather than of competence, and is an advocate of right living in every relation. "An honest man is the noblest work of God" and G. A. Sanford was an honest man.

FREDERICK CHAMP.

Frederick Champ, to whom there has come success as the direct result of well directed effort in the active affairs of life, so that he is now enabled to live retired, is a resident of Rockford and a native of England. His birth occurred in

London, February 23, 1829, his parents being Thomas and Hannah (Peak) Champ, in whose family were two daughters and four sons. The father was a carver and gilder.

Frederick Champ acquired only a common-school education, and in his native land he remained until 1854, when, with the hope of enjoying better business advantages in the new world, he crossed the Atlantic, landing at New York city on the 6th of July. From the latter place he went direct to Rockford, Illinois, and for many years was identified with its business interests. He was first employed by the firm of Clark & Uter, with whom he continued for some years as a molder, afterward receiving promotion to the position of foreman and later of superintendent, in recognition of his capability and long continued and faithful service. He remained with that firm until 1883, when he retired from the active management of the business and retired to private life, since which time he has enjoyed a well earned rest. In the meantime, as his financial resources had increased, he purchased property and is now the owner of desirable realty, from which he derives a good income, and the supervision of his property interests is the only business that claims his attention.

Before coming to Rockford Mr. Champ was united in marriage in England to Miss Frances Lucas, of Stoke, England, and they had two children, Edwin F. and George H., the latter now a member of the Loan and Investment Company of Logan, Cash county, Utah. After traveling life's journey together for about half a century Mr. and Mrs. Champ were separated by the death of the wife, June 19, 1903. Mr. Champ is an intelligent man, devoting considerable time to reading, so that he is well versed on all subjects of general interest. He began life with small means, but early manifested the traits of character which are always the basis of success—earnest purpose, laudable ambition and a willingness to work—and in this way he has accumulated a competency for old age.

HARLOW O. BANKS.

Harlow O. Banks, who was well known in business circles of Rockford, being general agent here for the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York, and also active and prominent in community affairs, serving as county surveyor of Winnebago county, took up his abode in this city in 1886, removing from Detroit, Michigan. He was, however, a native of the Empire state, his birth having occurred in Chenango county, in 1833. His father was born in New Baltimore, New York, August 17, 1792, while

the mother's birth occurred in Greenfield, New York, July 16, 1796. They spent their entire lives in the state of their nativity and Mr. Banks was a surveyor, always following that pursuit as a life vocation.

Harlow O. Banks acquired a liberal and practical education in his native state, where he afterward taught school, following that profession for several years, or until the time of his first marriage. While attending and teaching school in the east he also studied surveying and subsequent to his marriage he entered the employ of the Grand Trunk Railway Company and before the construction of its line in the east he executed the survey work all over the state of New York. Subsequently he removed to Detroit, Michigan, where he accepted a general agency for the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York, and with characteristic energy he began the building up of the business in the west and for seventeen years was connected with insurance business in Detroit. In 1886 he removed to Rockford and was again made general agent for the Mutual Life Insurance Company, thus continuing in the insurance business until his death. Through the management of his department he largely increased the business of the company in this section of the country.

Mr. Banks was twice married. His first wife died in Detroit, in 1888. They were the parents of four children: Angela, who now resides in Des Moines, Iowa; Archie W., a resident of Rockford, who is now agent for the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York; Willie, a dentist of Detroit; and Martin Adelbert, who is one of the leading and prominent dentists of Rockford, with offices in the Brown building. After losing his first wife, Mr. Banks was married to Mrs. Addie E. (Beardsley) Corey, a native of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and a daughter of John and Experience (Patterson) Beardsley, both of whom were natives of Nova Scotia, where the father was engaged in the lumber business. He afterward removed to Port Huron, Michigan, where he continued in the same line until his death. Mrs. Beardsley is now living with her son in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Addie E. Beardsley was first married to John Corey, who died in Port Huron, Michigan, leaving two children: Georgiana, now in Chicago; and Frederick J., who is agent for the Adams Express Company, in LaCrosse, Wisconsin.

Subsequent to his removal to Rockford, Mr. Banks was elected county surveyor of Winnebago county and acted in that capacity for two years. He was a staunch republican in his political views, took an active and helpful part in political work and did everything in his power to promote the growth and insure the success of



H. O. BANKS.

his party. His religious faith was indicated by his membership in the Court Street Methodist Episcopal church, to which his widow also belongs. He died in Rockford, December 8, 1903, respected by all who knew him. He had gained many friends during his residence here and was recognized as a reliable business man, whose character was such as commanded uniform esteem and confidence. He was loyal in citizenship, faithful in friendship and unfaltering in his devotion to his family. In 1893 he erected a nice residence at No. 1008 Franklin avenue, which is now owned and occupied by his widow, Mrs. Banks is well known in social circles in Rockford and the hospitality of the best homes is freely accorded her.

ALFRED HALL.

Alfred Hall, deceased, was a farmer of Winnebago township, who died in February, 1900. He is yet remembered, however, by many friends, who appreciate his sterling worth and many good qualities and entertained for him warm regard. A native of Canada, he was born in London township, Middlesex county, in 1833, his parents being Alonzo and Malinda (Owen) Hall, both of whom were natives of Canada, whence they came to Winnebago county during the pioneer epoch in its history, arriving here in January, 1844. The father secured a large tract of land and, making investment from time to time in property, ultimately became the owner of about fifteen hundred acres. Later, however, he sold much of his property and went to California in 1850, being accompanied by his son Alfred, then about sixteen years of age. The father, however, became ill in the Golden state, dying within three or four months and the son afterward returned to the farm in Illinois. His mother continued to reside here until 1893, when she passed away at the age of eighty-four years. In their family were four children. The eldest, Mrs. Sophia Hartwell, was for twenty-five or thirty years a resident of Mason City, Iowa, subsequent to which time she made her home in Winnebago township until her death, which occurred several years ago. Alfred is the second of the family. Joshua left this section of the country a number of years ago. Charlotte, the widow of George Hudson, is now residing in Belvidere, Boone county, Illinois.

Alfred Hall was but a boy when he came with his family to Winnebago county, and here he was reared amid pioneer environments. Following his father's death he returned home, but three years later he again went to California, where he engaged in mining for several years. He arrived once more in Winnebago county, in 1869, and

then turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, which he carried on extensively up to the time of his death. He was the owner of one hundred and eighty-one acres, which tract is now in possession of Mrs. Hall, who still resides upon the farm and their sons operate the land. In his business pursuits Mr. Hall was energetic, systematic and diligent, and his labors were crowned with a gratifying measure of prosperity. Moreover, he was strictly reliable in all business transactions, so that his name was regarded as a synonym of business integrity.

In Canada Mr. Hall was married to Miss Emily McFarlane, who was born in Middlesex county, in 1844, a daughter of Archibald and Jeanette (Bryce) McFarlane, who were also natives of Canada, where they spent their entire lives, the father passing away in 1865, while the mother survived until 1894. In their family were twelve children, of whom four are now deceased, and Mrs. Hall is the only one residing in Winnebago county. By her marriage she became the mother of four children—Frank, residing at Westfield Corners, is married and has one son, Elmer. Fred C. is married and is a farmer, residing in Winnebago township, but at present he is in Colorado. He has three children, Hazel B., Helen V. and Archie B. James O. and Alonzo K. are at home and are engaged in the operation of the farm for their mother.

Mr. Hall was a republican in his political views, staunch in his advocacy of the party, and his sons have followed in his political footsteps. He was called to several public offices, serving as road commissioner for thirteen years, and no trust reposed in him was ever betrayed in the slightest degree. He was always true to his duties, whether of a public or private nature, and was thus one of the valued citizens of his community, whose worth was widely acknowledged, and he gained thereby the friendship and regard of many with whom he came in contact.

PATTEN H. ATWOOD.

Patten H. Atwood, at one time an enterprising and respected farmer of Winnebago county, gave up his life when in the military service of his country in the last year of the Civil war, but he is yet remembered by many of the older citizens of this part of the state. He belonged to a family long well known and prominent in Rockford and the county. He was born in Canada, April 15, 1842, and was a son of Joseph Atwood. His mother died during the early boyhood of her son and the father afterward married again. Later he brought his family from Canada—his native country—to Illinois and purchased a farm in the Stillman valley, in Winnebago county, where he

gave his undivided attention to general agricultural pursuits until his death.

In the common schools Patten H. Atwood acquired his education and in his youth he assisted his father in the operation of the farm, giving to him the benefit of his services until he reached the age of twenty-one years, when he was married and started out in life on his own account. He wedded Miss Hannah H. McPherson, a native of Canada, born February 21, 1842, her parents being Charles B. and Fideha F. McPherson, who also came to Winnebago county at an early period in its settlement and improvement. Her father engaged in farming here for several years and then removed to Wisconsin, where he died. Mr. and Mrs. Atwood became the parents of three sons—Tra A., who resides in Jewell county, Kansas, where he is engaged in farming; Cyrus Homer, who married Clara McAllister and resides in Sterling, Illinois, where he is engaged in the grocery business, and Edward H., who married Lillian Pierce, and is dealing in real estate in Rockford, being one of the prominent and prosperous business men of this city.

After his marriage Mr. Atwood settled upon a farm in the Stillman valley and energetically began the cultivation of the soil and the improvement of the place, which soon gave evidence of his careful supervision and diligence. He had carried on farming but a few years, however, when the Civil war broke out. His sympathies were with the Union cause and in 1864 he enlisted and with his regiment went to Buffalo, New York, where he was taken ill with measles and after an illness of several months, his death there occurred April 15, 1865, his remains being interred in Buffalo.

Mrs. Atwood continued to reside upon the home farm in the Stillman valley until 1880, and there reared her sons, but in the year mentioned she removed to Rockford, where she has since made her home, now residing at No. 1125 Ninth street. She belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church, of which her husband was also a member, and her religious faith has been a permeating influence in her life, developing traits of character that have won her many friends.

DAVID SAMPLE

David Sample, well known as a representative agriculturist in Owen township, was born in Shaler township, Allegheny county, Pennsylvania, July 5, 1843, and represents one of the old families of that state. His paternal grandfather, James Sample, was a native of Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, born October 28, 1750, and was of Scotch descent. He served his country as a

soldier in the Revolutionary war under General Washington and after the establishment of the new republic he located in Allegheny county, Pennsylvania, taking up government land in Shaler township. He became captain of a company of militia and while he was on military duty his wife and children were carried off by the Indians, but the same night a squaw returned the family by canoe while the braves of the tribe were having a dance. James Sample built the first grist mill in Allegheny county, in 1796, and was otherwise actively identified with the agricultural and industrial development of the state.

William Sample, father of David Sample, was born in Pennsylvania, July 28, 1800, and pursued his education in the public schools. He worked for his father up to the time of his marriage, which occurred August 28, 1828, Miss Jane Anderson becoming his wife. She was born January 16, 1807. At that time William Sample received from his father a gift of about four hundred acres of land, and he continued to engage in farming and also conducted a milling business, which was established by his father, until 1871, in which year he sold the remaining one hundred and forty acres of the old home place which his father had given him, having in the meantime disposed of the rest of the farm. He received for this tract of one hundred and forty acres one hundred and ninety thousand dollars from a land company that subdivided it into lots, and it is now the borough of Millvale. William Sample then removed to Sharpsburg, Pennsylvania, where he spent his remaining days, and several times he visited his son David in Winnebago county. For forty-five years he served as a member of the school board in his district and was always actively and helpfully interested in public affairs. He passed away August 15, 1891, and his wife died in April, 1882. They were the parents of eight children—Robert A., James, John, Martha, William H., Margaret J., David and Elizabeth A.

David Sample pursued his education in the public schools and was reared upon his father's farm, receiving there the training that fitted him for carrying on a similar business enterprise in later years. Two days before the eighteenth anniversary of his birth he responded to his country's call for troops, enlisting in the Union army on the 4th of July, 1861, as a member of Company A, Sixty second Pennsylvania Infantry. He was mustered into service at Pittsburg and afterwards went to Harrisburg, where he remained for two weeks. Subsequently he went to Baltimore, and later with his command to Washington, D. C., where the regiment remained for a month, and was then ordered to Arlington Heights, going into winter quarters near Falls church. In the spring of 1862 the Sixty second marched to

Fairfax Court House and was soon afterward sent to Alexandria, where they took transports for Fortress Monroe. After a short time they marched to Big Bethel, and later to Yorktown, and Mr. Sample participated in the siege at that place and in the engagements at Hanover Court House, Mechanicsville, Gainesville and Malvern Hill. In the last named he was shot in the right arm and hip and was taken to the hospital on Bedloe's Island. As soon as possible he started to rejoin his regiment, but instead of being allowed to do so he was placed on detached duty at Fort Hamilton. Later, however, he was with his command in the battle of Mine Run, and after that guarded the railroad from Manassas to Bealton Station until starting with General Grant on the Wilderness campaigns. Mr. Sample received an honorable discharge in July, 1864, having for three years valiantly defended his country, during which time he never faltered in the performance of any duty. He was often where the leaden hail fell thickest and again on the lonely picket line and at all times he displayed the loyalty and valor of many a veteran of twice his years.

Following his return home, Mr. Sample assisted in the operation of his father's farm until 1871, when the property was sold. He spent the succeeding five years in travel, after which he came to Winnebago county and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he has since improved, devoting his attention untiringly to agricultural interests in what is one of the richest farming districts of this great state. It was in the year of his removal to Winnebago county that Mr. Sample was married, on the 3d of May, 1876, to Miss Melinda Steward, a daughter of James and Mary (Smith) Steward, who are mentioned on another page of this work. Their children are as follows: Steward, who married Miss Lula May Julian, is living in Waterloo, Iowa, and they have two children, Ross, who joined the United States navy as an apprentice and remained in the service for five years and two months, being with the Atlantic squadron on the Kearsarge and also on others as coxswain, is now at home, Leota, the youngest, is also at home.

In his political views Mr. Sample is a staunch republican and belongs to Nevius post, No. 1, G. A. R., of Rockford. He is also a member of the Farmers' Mutual Benevolent Association and is interested in all that pertains to public improvement and advancement, giving his co-operation to many measures for the general welfare. He now has in his possession his grandfather's old clock, which is more than one hundred years old, and keeps correct time. It was recently repaired by a clock maker, who said that it would run for another century. Mr. Sample has gained a wide acquaintance during the thirty years of his resi-

dence in this county and is known as a man of firm convictions and sterling worth, who may well be classed among the representative citizens of Owen township.

WILLIAM J. DE LA MATER.

William J. De La Mater, serving as supervisor of Pecatonica township, is engaged in business as a blacksmith, dealer in buggies and farm machinery. He was born February 23, 1854, in Fuscarawas county, Ohio, and when only seven months old was taken to Indiana by his parents, Ralph and Susanna (Zublin) De La Mater. The father was born in Otsego county, New York, and following his removal to Ohio, was married in Marietta, that state. A dentist by profession, he practiced for thirty five years in southern Indiana, and he died in Petersburg, that state, at the age of seventy-three years, while his wife passed away in Bedford, Indiana, in 1856. They were the parents of seven children—R. L., who lost his life in the battle of Champion Hill, while serving in the Twenty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry; Anna A., who became the wife of George D. Bateman, and died in Huntington, Indiana; Ellen, the wife of H. N. Merchant, of Portland, Oregon, and the mother of two sons and a daughter; Frances, who became the wife of R. H. Moses and died in Sedalia, Missouri, in 1860; Walter, who married Martha Laswell, by whom he had seven children, and died in Jonesboro, Arkansas; Ida M., the wife of Michael Sweeney, who is superintendent of the Minneapolis & St. Louis Railroad, living at Minneapolis, Minnesota, by whom she has nine children; and William J., of this review.

William J. De La Mater was reared in Indiana, acquiring his education in the public schools, and in 1871 he came to Winnebago county, Illinois, being at that time about seventeen years of age. He first worked as a farm hand for about three years and then entered the employ of E. D. Pettibone, a blacksmith, with whom he remained for three years in Pecatonica, and then removed to Minneapolis, where he worked in the shops of the street railway company. After an absence of about five years he returned to Pecatonica and purchased the shop of E. D. Pettibone. He has been in business here continuously since, and is not only an expert horseshoer and general blacksmith, having built up a reputation in this line second to none, but is also a dealer in fine buggies and vehicles of all descriptions, in bicycles and in farm implements. He has ever been a lover of fine horses and he now owns five head of registered stock. His favorite horse is one which he purchased in the south in the spring of 1905—

Hal Spy—a fine type of the light harness horse. Mr. De La Mater has a liberal patronage in both branches of his business and is regarded as one of the representative merchants of his town.

On the 4th of November, 1875, was celebrated the marriage of William J. De La Mater and Miss Edie Hitchcock, a daughter of Horace and Henrietta (Wells) Hitchcock. Her father came from New York state to Illinois at an early day and cast his lot with the pioneer settlers of Seward township, Winnebago county. He entered land from the government and broke the raw prairie, transforming it into cultivable fields. He was here before there had been a railroad built and hauled his wheat to Chicago and Galena. His death occurred when he was only thirty-five years of age. His brother William is the only one left of a large family and he is now living on the old home farm of his father, at the age of almost ninety years. Mrs. De La Mater was the eldest of four children. Her brother John married Miss Jennie Stockburger, by whom he has two children, Homer R. and Edna L., and they reside upon the old Hitchcock homestead in Seward township. Laura is the wife of Moses Mitchell, residing at Bingham Lake, Minnesota, and they have three sons, Wallace, Horace and John. Al married Charles Stockburger and died in Pecatonica township.

Mr. De La Mater, prominent and influential in community affairs, has been president of the town board and is now supervisor, having served four terms. He is a member of Rawson lodge, No. 145, A. F. & A. M.; Winnebago chapter, No. 24, R. A. M., and Crusader commandery, No. 17, of Rockford. He has always voted with the republican party and has firm faith in its principles. Unto him and his wife has been born a daughter, whose birth occurred September 7, 1892, and the family is well known in Pecatonica, where they have many warm friends, and where the business record of Mr. De La Mater has been such as to win for him the unqualified regard and trust of his fellow townsmen.

RUSSELL BROUGHTON, M. D.

Dr. Russell Broughton, neurologist and also specialist in the treatment of opium and other drug addictions and founder of the Dr. Broughton Sanitarium at Rockford, Illinois, was born in Racine, Wisconsin, May 16, 1842, his parents being John and Amanda Broughton, who, in 1841, started for the middle west, traveling by team to Albany township, Green county, Wisconsin. The father entered a quarter section of land from the government and at once began to clear and cultivate it, transforming the raw,

undeveloped tract into rich and productive fields. There he continued to engage in farming until his death, which occurred in 1896. He is still survived by his widow.

Reared to farm life, Dr. Broughton pursued his early education in the public schools and later entered Milton College, at Milton, Wisconsin. He also studied in Bryant & Stratton Business College, in Milwaukee, and, preparatory to entering upon the practice of medicine and surgery, he matriculated in Rush Medical College, of Chicago, in which he completed the full course and was graduated with the class of 1869. He located for practice in Broadhead, Wisconsin, where he remained for twenty-one years, and as a general practitioner he enjoyed an extensive patronage. His first exclusive work in the lines of his specialty was in connection with the Keely Institute, at Dwight, Illinois, where he remained for nine and a half years, in charge of all opium and other drug patients. He then came to Rockford and established the Dr. Broughton Sanitarium.

This institution, constantly widening the field of its beneficent work, has accomplished great good during the four years of its existence. Coming to Rockford, Dr. Broughton leased Dr. Ransom's sanitarium, a property located on Rock river, opposite Harlem Park. He had already earned a high reputation as a specialist in the treatment of nervous diseases and those attributable to drug and alcohol addictions and was most cordially assisted by his fellow physicians having patients requiring such treatments. He had a very wide acquaintance and his patronage increased so rapidly that his accommodations proved inadequate and he purchased the Keely residence on Rock river, just south of the city, there opening his new sanitarium in June, 1902. He took possession of a building, beautiful and spacious, which had been originally erected at a cost of thirty thousand dollars, while later much more had been expended in improvements. Dr. Broughton continued the work of improvement, while refitting it for sanitarium purposes. The large ballroom on the third floor was divided into sleeping rooms, finished differently and furnished in homelike fashion. The first and second floors were also decorated throughout and the basement was entirely remodeled and divided into a large dining room, club rooms, kitchen and other rooms. A complete system of plumbing, hot water, heating and electric lighting appliances was installed. The ground, covering twelve acres, displays the greatest skill of the landscape gardener, and the trees and shrubbery secure a seclusion like that found in a remote woodland, although the sanitarium is less than two miles from the center of Rockford.



R. Broughton

The management of the sanitarium is perfect. The strictest discipline is maintained in so kindly a way that the place has no air of restraint and yet all are under the rules governing the institution. Patients have been received from every state in the Union and already the commodious quarters have been taxed to the utmost to accommodate the patients. Dr. Broughton's methods of treatment are confined to purely medical lines. He is not exploiting any proprietary medicine or remedy. His is a home for the treatment of habitual diseases along the lines that any other specialist would follow and the good that he has wrought is immeasurable. Rockford may well be proud of this institution and its founder and many have reason to bless him for the aid received through his professional services. He has been a member of the Wisconsin Medical Society since 1877 and also belongs to the American Medical Association, the Winnebago County and Illinois State Medical Societies.

In manner Dr. Broughton is most genial and kindly and is popular and prominent socially as well as professionally. In May, 1864, during the Civil war, he enlisted at Milton, Wisconsin, in Company C, Fortieth Wisconsin Infantry, and saw considerable active service. He married in 1869 to Miss Julia A. Smiley, a daughter of Hon. Daniel Smiley, of Albany, Wisconsin, now deceased, and they have two sons: William S., formerly a medical student, but now auditor in the navy office at Washington, D. C.; and James E., an employe in a large electrical plant at Niagara Falls. Dr. Broughton is a member of Bicknell lodge, No. 91, A. F. & A. M., at Broadhead, Wisconsin; Evansville chapter, No. 35, R. A. M., at Evansville, Wisconsin; and a charter member of W. W. Patton post, No. 90, G. A. R., of Broadhead. He stands today a foremost representative of his line of practice, his labors proving of philanthropic worth in the world.

FRANCIS KEELING.

Francis Keeling, for many years closely identified with the industrial interests of Winnebago county, is now living in Rockford, where for almost a half century he has made his home. 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, and his name is inscribed high on the roll of fame, his honorable and brilliant career adding luster to the history of Winnebago county.

He was born in West Allum, Devonshire, England, August 27, 1827, his parents being Clark

and Helen (Coolshaw) Keeling. The father was a stocking manufacturer, which business he followed for many years in Nottingham, England, in which country both he and his wife were born and spent their entire lives. Francis Keeling began his education in the common schools and pursued his studies until his eleventh year, when he put aside his text-books in order to enter business life, it being necessary that he assist in the work of the stocking factory. There he operated a machine until thirteen years of age, when he left the factory and was employed on a farm. Later he became driver of a coach and care-taker of horses, continuing in that position for eighteen months, when he was promoted to the position of coach-driver, acting in the latter capacity for three years. He also was employed in brewing ale and beer and subsequently secured employment in wine cellars, taking his position in the vault, but working his way steadily upward until he became a bottler of wines, his attention being concentrated upon that work for three years. He next turned his attention to carpentering, was afterward employed by a railroad company and later engaged in preparing timbers for vessels in the employ of Isaac Wright, a noted vessel contractor. Completing his agreement with Mr. Wright, he then sailed for America, attracted by the better business opportunities of the new world. Landing at New York city in 1848, he soon found employment at carpentering in Brooklyn, where he remained for six months, after which he removed to Rochester, New York, where he worked at his trade for one year. Again locating in Brooklyn, he was once more identified with its building interests until 1857, when on the 9th of April of that year he arrived in Rockford.

Mr. Keeling's entrance into business life of this state was as a representative of the builder's trade. He worked at carpentering for different contractors and was employed on many of the principal buildings of the city, including residences, churches, school houses and many of the manufacturing establishments on Main street. He also worked on the construction of St. Mary's Catholic church and the old Methodist Episcopal church. His next business connection was with N. C. Thompson, manufacturing plows, cultivators, planters and self-binders, in whose employ he remained for two years. He was also in the employ of the J. P. Manny Company, manufacturers of binders, and subsequently he embarked in business on his own account as a dealer in flour and feed at the corner of State and Madison streets, where he built up an extensive business, continuing there in trade for twenty-one years, when he closed out his store and retired to private life. In the meantime he had made judicious investment in city property and now devotes his

leisure hours to the supervision of his realty interests, which return him a gratifying annual income.

On the 3d of July, 1853, Mr. Keeling was united in marriage to Miss Mary A. Morgan, of Brooklyn, New York, a daughter of Thomas and Mary (Starr) Morgan. She was born May 25, 1834, in Wales, and in her early girlhood days accompanied her parents on their emigration to New York, in which city she grew to womanhood and was married. Five children have been born of this union—Francis, who is now engaged in the drug business in Chicago; Thomas Morgan, who is with his brother in Chicago; James H., of Rockford; William B., also a druggist of Chicago, and Fred C., who is engaged in the manufacture of perfume on Clark street in Chicago.

In 1891 Mr. Keeling built his home, which is an attractive residence, noted for the generous hospitality extended to the many friends of the family. Mr. Keeling has been a subscriber of the Register since 1859. He belongs to that class of men who owe their prosperity entirely to their own efforts. The invariable law of destiny accords to tireless energy, industry and ability a successful career, and the truth of this assertion is abundantly verified in his life history. He had but meager advantages in his youth and although he has met many difficulties and obstacles, he has overcome these by determined purpose and laudable endeavor, working his way steadily upward until now he is enabled to enjoy an honorable retirement from further business cares and labors.

WILLIAM WORTH BURSON.

William Worth Burson, inventor and manufacturer, has attained a position of distinction among those whose genius has given to the world products that have advanced the material welfare and prosperity of the nation. In connection with his business interests Mr. Burson has in substantial measure contributed to the welfare of Rockford along the lines of industrial activity. The history of many men is but a succession of failures, but the life record of Mr. Burson is a succession of successes. Discouragements have hindered his progress, obstacles have blocked his pathway, yet through a persistency of purpose born of a knowledge of his own power, he has continued his labors until his fame as an inventor has spread abroad.

Mr. Burson is a native of Pennsylvania and in 1842 was taken by his parents to McDonough county, Illinois, and the following year to Fulton, where his boyhood and early manhood were passed, thus sharing the experiences of pioneer

life. Reared to the occupation of farming, he was always interested and much used to the work of the fields and soon brought to bear his natural mechanical ingenuity upon the improvement of the farm machinery. His first work in this direction of any note was the invention and construction of a self-rake reaper in 1858, this being the first machine to regulate the size of favel by weight. Continued experimenting, study and investigation made him a pioneer in the invention of grain binders and he obtained a patent on a twine binder in 1860. These machines were attached to the reaper and operated by hand, being first brought into prominence by being operated in the great reaper trial at Dixon, Illinois, held during the harvest season of 1862. Emerson & Company contracted to make one thousand machines for Mr. Burson for the harvest of 1863, these being the first thousand grain binders ever manufactured. Mr. Burson came to Rockford for the purpose of carrying out the contract and resided in this city until 1881, when he removed to Chicago. On account of imperfect workmanship, lack of field experts and other adverse circumstances the business of manufacturing and placing upon the market the grain binders proved a disastrous venture financially and left him with a large indebtedness, which was not entirely liquidated until 1901. In the meantime his thoughts and efforts were concentrated along other lines of invention and mechanical improvement, and in 1866, associated with the late John Nelson, under the firm name of Burson & Nelson, the invention of the family knitting machine was undertaken. Mr. Nelson was obliged to give his attention largely to the operation of a sash, door and blind factory for some time, but Mr. Burson applied himself closely to the work which he had undertaken and after much tedious labor on the part of both gentlemen a power machine was perfected. Upon these machines patents were issued to Burson & Nelson in 1868, 1870 and 1875, and in 1874 they also secured a patent on hose. On the 25th of December, 1869, a part now known as the presser hook was developed and on the 23d of July, 1870, the first sock was knit by an automatic machine at Rockford. The socks came from the machine joined together and were separated by hand and the toes were also thus closed. This was the first practical automatic knitting machine. In 1872-3 the parallel row machine was developed, this being the beginning of Rockford's great knitting industry. These machines were automatic and closed both toe and heel, producing a stocking ready to wear without hand work.

Rockford seamless socks were pioneers in seamless hosiery and superseded the old line of goods which before had held the market. Mr. Burson continued as a member of the firm of

Burson & Nelson until 1878, when he withdrew from that business and independently continued the work of experiment and invention. He has continuously studied out new devices, which, put to the practical test, have resulted in the building of an automatic grain-binding harvester; a knitting machine with a mitten pattern, having a double wrist, with the letters, "pat'd," knit therein, also a patent office model, knitting a stocking with a narrow ankle and fancy top, containing the letter "B," a ribbed scarf with letters at each end, and a shirt sleeve with fancy cuff and widening to the body, all of these articles knit with change of yarn and on a single pattern upon the same needles. Between the years of 1879 and 1892 Mr. Burson developed a number of important harvesting inventions which were purchased by Whitely, Deering, McCormick, Walter A. Wood and the Milwaukee and Plano Harvesting Companies. In 1891 he undertook the perfection of knitting machinery and in 1892 brought one of these machines to Rockford. These machines were modeled after his invention of 1878, and their product is now being shipped from Rockford to all parts of the United States, an extensive factory being kept in constant operation.

Mr. Burson has been allowed more than fifty United States and foreign patents on grain binders, harvesters, automatic knitting machines, knit fabrics and other lines upon which he has worked, and on which he is still actively engaged. "There is nothing extemporaneous," said one of Chicago's eminent divines, "Everything results from some previous condition of labor." This truth is especially manifest in the life of the inventor, who may perfect in a few weeks or perhaps days an invention which is the outcome of years of thought, study and experiment, and all that Mr. Burson has given to the world in the way of improved machinery represents years of close application, earnest investigation and untiring effort. He is a man of enterprise, positive character, indomitable energy, strong integrity and liberal views and has been fully identified with the growth and prosperity of the city of his adoption. He has, moreover, concentrated his efforts in pursuit of a persistent purpose until he has gained a most satisfactory reward.

HUGH FERGUSON.

Hugh Ferguson, living on section 25, Harlem township, is the owner of a farm of two hundred and eight acres of arable land, the productiveness of which is demonstrated in the fine harvests which he annually garners. He was born on the 2d of November, 1854, in the village of Argyle, Harlem township. His parents were William

and Helen (Picken) Ferguson. The father was born in Campbellstown, Scotland, in 1813 and there resided until 1836, when he came to the United States, making his way to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he lived for four years. On the expiration of that period he took up his abode at Argyle, Winnebago county, and purchased the farm whereon he resided for twenty-two years. He then sold that property and bought the farm now occupied by his son Hugh, continuing it as his place of residence until his death, which occurred in January, 1884. He learned the carpenter's trade in Scotland, but in this country his energies and attention were concentrated upon his agricultural pursuits. His wife was also a native of Scotland, having been born in the vicinity of Campbellstown about 1817, and with her parents she came to Winnebago county, Illinois, in 1836. Her death occurred here in October, 1883. The members of the family are as follows: James, born in 1840, died in Rockford in 1895, leaving a widow and one son. Alexander, born in Harlem township and now living in Rockford, married Margaret Ralston, of Caledonia, Illinois, and has two children. W. J., a resident of Harlem township, wedded Cora E. Ferguson and is living at Rockford. W. D., whose home is in Los Angeles, California, married Ada Smith, by whom he has two daughters and a son, and their home is in Rockford. Thomas, living in Rockford, married Alice Smith, of Byron, Illinois. Charles P., of Lake City, Iowa, married Jennie Turner, of Argyle, and has one son and two daughters. Ellen, born in 1844, became the wife of Charles Greenlee, of Belvidere, Illinois, and died in 1882, leaving a husband and two sons and two daughters. Mary J., born in 1846, became the wife of James Brysen, of Chicago, Illinois, and died in 1869.

Hugh Ferguson was seven years of age when his parents removed from the farm at Argyle to the farm in Harlem township, on which he yet resides. He was reared to agricultural pursuits and has always followed that occupation, being now successfully engaged in general farming and also in the raising and feeding of cattle. His early education was acquired in the common schools and subsequently he continued his studies in Lounsberry Academy, in Rockford.

Hugh Ferguson was married March 30, 1897, to Cora Belle Bryden and they have a daughter, Minnie Helen, born March 7, 1899. Mrs. Ferguson is a daughter of James W. and Olive (Halsted) Bryden and was born December 9, 1864, in Harrison township. She has been twice married, her first husband being Henry Barkley, who died in 1892, leaving three children—Earl H., Fred L. and Olive F. Her father, James W. Bryden, was born in Argyleshire, Scotland, July 22, 1830, and came to America when eighteen years of age.

landing at New York city. He lived in the state of New York and in Pennsylvania until 1850, when he came to Winnebago county. In 1861 he joined the Union army and served for four years, being for two years in the commissary department, while for two years he was a member of Company G, Eleventh Illinois Cavalry. He married Olive Halsted, who was born in Pennsylvania, and was brought to Harrison township, this county, in her early girlhood days. Her death occurred in Rockford in 1893. Mrs. Ferguson has one brother, William J. Bryden, a resident of Shirland township, who is married and has a son and daughter. Her sisters are: Mrs. Fred Gilmore, of Owen township, who has one son; Mrs. Fred Schoonmaker, of Harlen township, who has two sons; and Mrs. Frank Buchanan, of Rockford, who has one daughter.

Mr. Ferguson, since attaining his majority, has exercised his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party and has done everything in his power to promote its growth and extend its influence, being recognized as a local leader in party ranks. He has served as justice of the peace and retired in the present year, 1905, from the office of assessor, in which he had been the incumbent for eight years. At the present time he is a member of the school board. Fraternaly he is connected with Camp No. 661, M. W. A., and with Harmony Grange, of which he is treasurer, and he belongs to the Presbyterian church. His entire life has been spent in this county and he has lived always upon two farms, the one upon which he was born and the one which is now his place of residence. He has here a valuable property and its splendid appearance indicates his careful supervision and practical methods.

MARCUS A. NORTON.

Marcus A. Norton, who during the last twenty years has been honored by being made the recipient of various offices of public trust, and is now filling the position of county clerk in Winnebago county, was born in the town of Bridgewater, Michigan, January 16, 1841. Three years later his parents took up their abode in Ann Arbor, Michigan, so the children might enjoy the excellent educational opportunities there offered. In 1852 they removed to Rockford, the family home being established on the south side in what was then the fifth ward.

Marcus A. Norton attended the Ann Arbor and the Rockford schools, and the latent force of his character was developed by the incidents and early scenes of the Civil war. He became a staunch advocate of the Union cause, and feeling

that his aid was needed at the front, he enlisted as a private in Company G, Forty-fourth Illinois Infantry, for a term of three years. With his command he went to the south and took part in a number of important engagements. At the battle of Chickamauga, on the 20th of September, 1863, he was severely wounded, and when the regiment retreated, was left on the field, where he was later found by the rebels and claimed as a prisoner of war. He was paroled, however, with others who were severely injured, and on the 1st of October, 1863, was taken to Chickamauga. Following an exchange of prisoners, he rejoined his regiment, and again active service fell to his lot, for he participated in the Atlanta campaign under General Sherman, being present at the time of the surrender of the city. When his three years' term had expired he was mustered out at Atlanta, September 17, 1864, and with a most creditable military record returned to his home. He gave his service freely and willingly to his country. The important military duties which devolved upon him are indicated by the fact that he participated in the engagements at Perryville, Stone River, Chickamauga, Lost Mountain, Kenesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek and Jonesboro, together with many of the skirmishes and engagements in the vicinity of Atlanta. The story of the great sanguinary conflict which to many is a matter of history is to him a matter of experience, and indelibly impressed upon his mind are many of the scenes and incidents which occurred in connection with the preservation of the Union.

Mr. Norton has rendered to his country equally loyal and creditable service as a public official, for no trust reposed in him in connection with his official duties in Winnebago county has ever been betrayed in the slightest degree. In 1883 he was elected supervisor from the fifth ward of Rockford, and continued in office for three terms, when he declined to again become a nominee, from the fact that he was a candidate for the office of county clerk in 1886. When the republican county convention met at Rockford in June of that year he was nominated by acclamation for the office which he sought, and the election in the following November showed that he was a successful candidate. At each recurring convention he has been renominated by acclamation, and is now serving his fifth term. He takes no special credit to himself for the capable manner which has marked the discharge of his official work, regarding it merely as his duty, but the general public is free to accord him praise for what he has done, and the testimonial of the public trust is his frequent reelection. Abraham Lincoln said, "You can fool some of the American people all of the time, and all of the American people some of the time, but you can't fool all of the American people all of



MARCUS A. NORTON.

the time." It is in this that the safety of American politics lies, and a continuation in an elective office is virtual proof of prompt, capable and honorable service on the part of the incumbent.

Mr. Norton was married, in May, 1866, to Miss Henrietta Gardner, the wedding ceremony being performed by the Rev. Dr. Thomas Kerr. They lost their only child in infancy. Their home is at No. 610 North street, and the social entertainment there afforded is greatly enjoyed by their many friends who are constantly increasing in number as the circle of their acquaintance widens.

RUGGLES W. CRUMB.

Ruggles W. Crumb, now deceased, was well known in business circles in Rockford as the president of the R. W. Crumb Lumber & Fuel Company. He was born in Otsego county, New York, January 27, 1828, his parents being Varnum and Sophronia Crumb. The father spent his entire life in that county and passed away there, while Mrs. Crumb came west to Rockford and died here, aged ninety-six years.

Ruggles W. Crumb was a student in the common schools in his early boyhood days and afterward attended the academy in Otsego county, thus acquiring a good education and being well equipped for the practical and responsible duties which came to him in later life. At the age of eighteen years he secured a situation in the employ of a manufacturing company in Otsego county, manufacturers of all kinds of garden implements, and there his capability and fidelity won ready recognition in promotion which eventually made him a partner in the enterprise. He was engaged in the manufacture of implements at that place until 1868, when, thinking that the west offered a still broader field of labor, he took up his abode in Chicago, where he formed a partnership with two brothers, establishing a lumber business. There he remained until 1877, when he removed to Marengo, Illinois, where he continued in the lumber trade for three years. He afterward spent nine years in a similar enterprise in Belvidere, Boone county, Illinois, and in 1889 came to Rockford, where he and his two children opened up a lumber yard under the firm style of the R. W. Crumb Lumber & Fuel Company, at No. 709 Seventh street. Mr. Crumb was active in the management of this enterprise until his death, which occurred January 25, 1902.

In Otsego county, New York, occurred the marriage of Ruggles W. Crumb and Miss Caroline M. Robinson, a native of Otsego county, and a daughter of Dr. Plinney Robinson, who was a prominent physician of that county, where he and

his wife spent their entire lives. Five children were born unto Mr. and Mrs. Crumb, of whom three are living, namely: Haskell A., who married Mary M. Crandall, and resides in Rockford, where he is president and treasurer of the R. W. Crumb Lumber & Fuel Company; Grace K., who is principal of the Garrison School of Rockford, and resides with her mother; and Ward C., who married Nellie Bennett and is secretary of the R. W. Crumb Lumber & Fuel Company. The other children, Josephine and Arthur, died while in Chicago.

Mr. Crumb voted with the democratic party in early life and afterward became a republican, but never cared for political preferment. He was a staunch advocate of the temperance cause and devoted much time to furthering temperance principles, while both he and his wife were consistent and active members of the State Street Baptist church. His life was at all times honorable and upright, being in consistent harmony with his professions, and his religion formed a part of his daily existence, prompting him to honorable dealings in all his business transactions and to justice and uprightness in all life's relations. His name became a synonym for business integrity as well as industry, and he left his family an untarnished life record, as well as a substantial competence. His widow now owns a nice home at No. 1013 Harlem avenue, where she and her daughter reside.

G. A. STEVENS.

G. A. Stevens, starting out in life for himself at the age of ten years, is to-day one of the prosperous farmers of Winnebago county, located on section 9, Guilford township. He has been a resident of this county since 1877 and in earlier years was identified with building operations, but for some time has been connected with agricultural interests. He was born in New Brunswick, New Jersey, in 1858, his parents being John and Anna Stevens, but the mother died during the infancy of her son. The father was a native of England and came to the United States when a young man. In his youth he went upon the sea and remained a sailor throughout much of his life, but in his later years became a merchant tailor, conducting business in New York city. He died there in July, 1894, when almost eighty-six years of age. In his family were the following named: G. A., of this review; Mrs. Lydia Kennedy, of Spottswood, New Jersey; Jule, who resides near Brockport, New York; and Alfred, who is living in Norwich, New York.

G. A. Stevens, leaving home when ten years of age, worked his way alone among strangers, trav-

eling westward to Wisconsin, and reaching Jefferson county, that state, in April, 1869. He made his home there for about eight years, or until 1879, when he came to Winnebago county, Illinois, settling in Rockford, where he began working at the carpenter's trade. He was thus engaged for about fifteen years and during that period he located on his present farm. This is a good tract of land, which is well improved, and indicates his careful supervision in its splendid appearance and excellent equipment. He also owns a fine farm in South Dakota.

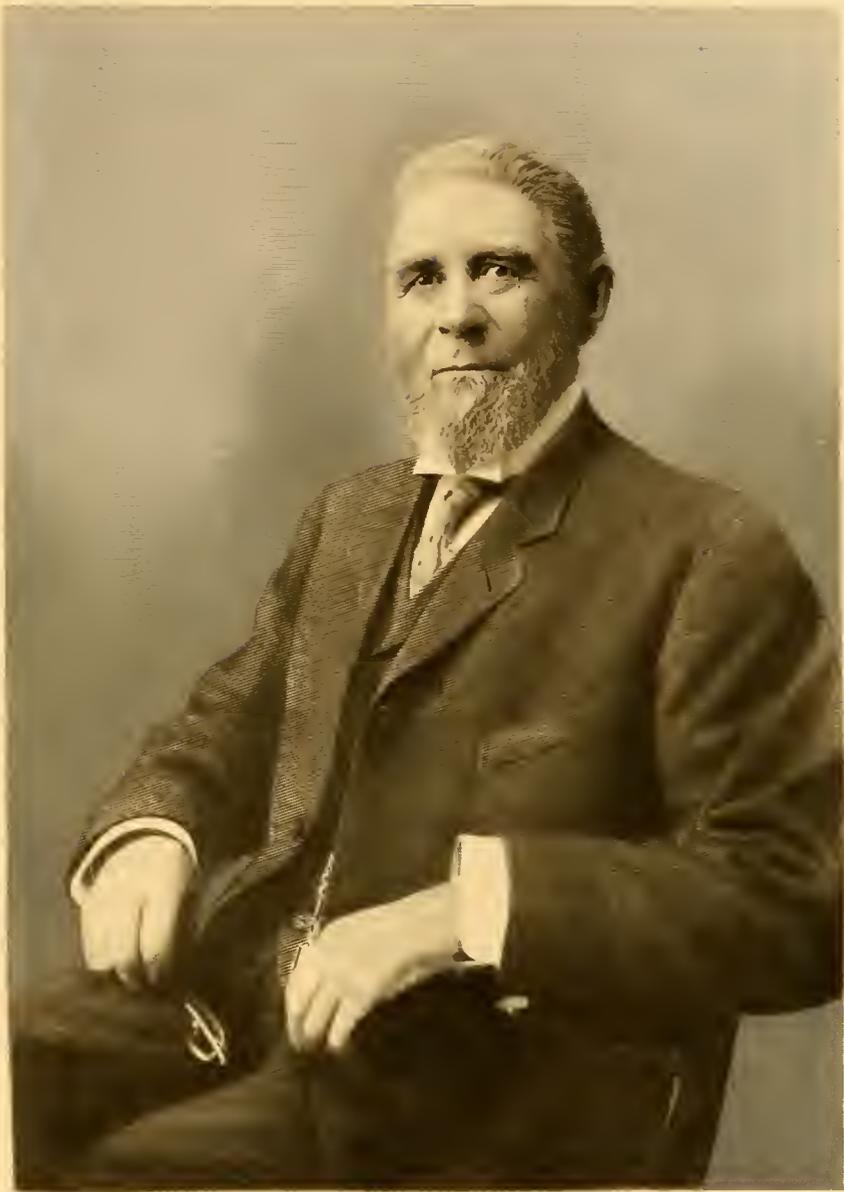
In 1887, in Rockford, Mr. Stevens was united in marriage to Miss Amelia Whittle, who was born in Guilford township, in 1853, her parents being Frederick and Matilda (Beers) Whittle. Her father was born in Canada, September 5, 1818, and was of French lineage. He was reared in the place of his nativity and on coming to Illinois, located on the state road in Guilford township. He was then a young man and began life here as an agriculturist. About 1888 he purchased a farm in section 22, Guilford township. As a companion and helpmate on life's journey he chose Miss Beers, to whom he was married March 25, 1849, and they located upon his farm, which continued to be their home until his death, which occurred April 26, 1854. In his political views he was a republican and in religious faith a Baptist. His wife was born in Somerset, Orleans county, New York, January 22, 1831, and was a daughter of Daniel and Mary (Herrick) Beers, who came to this county in June, 1836, locating in Guilford township on the state road. The father was a farmer and both he and his wife died in this county. Daniel Beers was born August 11, 1806, in Moore township, Northampton county, Pennsylvania, and was married in the state of New York, February 11, 1830. In 1834 he united with the Methodist Episcopal church, and in June, 1836, he removed with his family to Rockford, reaching his destination on the 13th of June of that year. Not long afterward he took up his abode in Guilford township, where he remained until the fall of 1855, when he removed to Monroe, Wisconsin, making his home there until 1865. At that date he returned to Rockford, and in the spring of 1868 removed from the city to Harlem township, where the succeeding three years were passed, when he again took up his abode in the county seat, there spending his remaining days, his death occurring April 3, 1880. He and his wife were among the five charter members of the Methodist church. Mrs. Beers was born November 30, 1812, in the Empire State and was a daughter of Luther and Mary (Johnson) Herrick, who were also natives of that state. Mrs. Beers died in Rockford, November 18, 1896, having for about sixteen years survived her husband.

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Whittle were the parents of two daughters—Emily J., who was born in Guilford township, February 20, 1850, was married to Leonard Marsh, December 15, 1868, and died September 17, 1885. Mr. Marsh now resides at Topeka, Kansas. Mrs. Whittle was married August 23, 1855, to Willard Convers, who was born January 20, 1822, in Litchfield township, Bradford county, Pennsylvania, and was a son of Henry Convers, whose birth occurred April 7, 1779, and he removed westward to Guilford township, Winnebago county, where he resided until his death, January 3, 1853. Willard Convers came as a boy to this county in 1839 and resided on section 16, Guilford township, this being the farm now occupied by Mrs. Convers and by Mr. and Mrs. Stevens. Mr. Convers took up land on section 16, the patent of which is still in possession of the family. Mrs. Convers will be seventy-five years of age in January, 1906, and having been a resident of Guilford township since June 13, 1836, has lived longer in this county than any other woman now living.

Mr. Stevens is a staunch republican, believing firmly in the principles of his party, and has acceptably filled various township offices. Socially he is a member of Rockford lodge, No. 102, A. F. & A. M., and his religious views are somewhat in harmony with the doctrines of the Universalist church.

HORACE BROWN.

Horace Brown, banker and capitalist, whose intense and well directed activity has gained him a foremost position in financial circles of Rockford, was born in Springfield, Windsor county, Vermont, June 24, 1824. His ancestry, both lineal and collateral, has through many generations been distinctively American, but still farther back the record leads to Edward Brown, who was born in Horton, County Kent, England, in 1591, and became one of the early colonists of Ipswich, Massachusetts, sailing from London, England, on the ship Hopewell. Representatives of the family lived there down to the time of Elisha Brown, grandfather of Horace Brown, who was born in Ipswich, Massachusetts, January 7, 1748. Following his removal to Hingham, Massachusetts, he was married there to Merriell Bates, and in 1773 removed to Winchendon, Massachusetts. He studied closely the attitude of the mother country as she encroached more and more closely upon the liberty of the colonists and when the attempt was made to throw off the yoke of British oppression he joined the American army and participated in the battle of Bunker Hill and other important engagements. In 1778 he took up his abode in Springfield, Vermont.



Horace Brown

Jonathan Brown, father of Horace Brown, was born in Springfield, October 5, 1796, and wedded Hannah Stocker, who was of English and Scotch lineage. Her father, Elijah Stocker, also a patriot of the Revolutionary army, participated in the battle of Bunker Hill and also in the engagement at Yorktown, where Cornwallis surrendered.

In his native county Horace Brown acquired a public school education and when not engaged with his text-books assisted in the operation of his father's farm, remaining at home until twenty years of age, when he entered the employ of the Hon. William Thayer, a farmer of the neighborhood. In 1845, however, he turned his attention to the manufacture of oil cloth in Lansingburg, New York, where he remained until 1850, when he started for the middle west, reaching Rockford on the 12th of May. He made investment in a farm in New Milford township, then containing a population of only eighteen hundred, and after leasing the property he returned to the east for his bride.

Mr. Brown was married, September 12, 1850, to Miss Mary A. Thayer, a daughter of the Hon. William Thayer, his first employer. Her father, better known as Captain Thayer, was a man of prominence in his community, where he served as justice of the peace and was also a member of the state legislature for several terms. He was engaged in the tanning business and the manufacture of shoes. Mrs. Brown was born February 16, 1827, and with her husband returned to his western home, but in the following spring they again went east and Mr. Brown accepted a position in the oil cloth factory, where he remained until June, 1853.

On that date they arrived in Rockford, where they located, Mr. Brown trading his farm for property on the west side of the city, while he turned his attention to the livery business, forming a partnership with G. W. Reynolds. The new enterprise proved profitable, but after two years Mr. Brown sold out and again returned to his native town, where he was connected with the conduct of several business interests. He took up his abode permanently in Rockford in 1859 and his home has since been on Park Ridge, one of the most beautifully located districts of the city. He has long figured prominently in financial circles. He assisted in the organization of the Rockford National Bank in 1871, with Gilbert Woodruff as president; Mr. Brown, vice president; and D. H. Ferguson, cashier. Later M. S. Parmelle was made cashier and was succeeded by W. F. Woodruff, who became vice president after the death of his father in 1875, at which time Mr. Brown succeeded to the presidency, and H. S. Burpee was made cashier. The bank was organized with a capital of one

hundred thousand dollars and now has a surplus of the same amount. The safe conservative policy inaugurated by the bank at the outset has always been maintained and the bank almost immediately took rank with the leading moneyed institutions of the state and has been accorded a patronage which makes its volume of business of a proportion that would be creditable to the banks of much larger cities. To other fields of business activity Mr. Brown has extended his efforts. In 1892 he was one of the promoters of the Forest City Insurance Company, of which he has served as treasurer and vice-president and also as a member of the board of directors, being the only original director now left, and he was president of the Insurance Company of the State of Illinois during the first years of its existence. He has been a factor in public progress in community interests and as the champion of beneficial public measures his labors have proved far-reaching.

Mr. and Mrs. Brown had one son and one daughter. William Thayer Brown, born in Rockford, March 2, 1854, is a member of the firm of A. G. Spaulding & Brothers. He resides in East Orange, New Jersey, and has his office at No. 126 Nassau street, New York city. He wedded Miss Mary L. Spaulding on the 24th of August, 1875. She was born October 23, 1854, and they have four children: Horace S., Harriet Irene, William Thayer and Elizabeth. Alice C. Brown, born March 26, 1856, was the wife of D. H. Ferguson, of Denver, Colorado, and died March 23, 1890, leaving a son, Donald Brown Ferguson. Carrie A. Brown, born July 27, 1860, died April 10, 1885. Mr. and Mrs. Brown have ever occupied in social circles the prominent position accorded in recognition of culture, intelligence and long residence, and in business circles, where he has been known for more than half a century, his judgment is regarded as of great value and his name is honored.

JOHN HIBBARD.

John Hibbard, a retired wagonmaker, residing at No. 1443 School street, was born in England in 1821. His father, John H. Hibbard, a native of the same country, was a wagonmaker by trade. John Hibbard spent the days of his youth in his native country and was about twenty-nine years of age when he crossed the Atlantic to America, settling first in Canada, whence he made his way to Buffalo, New York. He afterward took up his abode in Pike county, Illinois, where he lived for two years, and later removed to Louisiana, Missouri, where he spent the succeeding ten years.

On the expiration of that period he settled in Nebraska, where for twenty years he made his home, and then again went to Canada, spending five years in the Dominion. When he returned to Illinois he took up his abode in Rockford, where he is now living retired, having for fourteen years made his home in this city. In early life he learned the wagonmaker's trade and throughout the greater part of his active business career he has followed that pursuit, his industry, perseverance and indefatigable energy being the strong elements in his success. By the careful husbanding of his resources as the years passed he accumulated a handsome competence that now enables him to live retired.

Mr. Hibbard was married in Dorsetshire, England, to Miss Ann Martin, who was born in that country in 1831. She is a lady of culture, fond of reading, and is seldom found without a book in her hands. Mr. Hibbard has also kept well informed with the progress of the world and the questions of the day through his reading and observation. He has twice visited England since taking up his abode in the new world, thus renewing acquaintances of his youth and looking again upon the scenes amid which his boyhood days and early manhood were passed. He now has a nice home where he resides at No. 1443 School street, and he owns a tract with forty feet frontage adjoining his lot, his land covering an area of one hundred and four by one hundred and fifty-two feet. He also has a good bank account and his prosperity is the reward of his efforts. Both Mr. and Mrs. Hibbard are members of the Episcopal church. They have now traveled far on life's journey, he having passed the eighty-fourth milestone.

E. J. VENESS.

There are many men of worth who for lack of certain of the essential elements of a successful business career have to strive year after year for a competence and then fail of its attainment. There are others who by reason of energy, strong purpose and laudable ambition, guided by sound business judgment and practical common sense, gain the goal of prosperity and are enabled, in their later years, to enjoy merited rest from labor. To the latter class Mr. Veness belongs. He is a representative of a colony of New York citizens who have been prominent and active in the upbuilding of Rockton township and the utilization of its natural resources. He was born in Rome, New York, January 31, 1836, and his parents, James and Charlotte (Gerrish) Veness, were both natives of England, in which country they were reared and married. Four of their children were born in that land and in 1833 Mr. Veness

came with his family to the new world. They had altogether five children, of whom three are living: Mrs. Charlotte H. Douglas, E. J., of this review, and Mrs. Keziah Waite. Having crossed the Atlantic, the father took up his abode in Vernon, New York, where he remained for six years, following the occupation of farming. He later became a Baptist minister and preached the first sermon in behalf of that denomination in Belvidere, Boone county, Illinois, the services being held in the courthouse before its completion. He preached at various points in the county as a pioneer minister, making the journey on foot from one place to another, for the horse which he owned was needed in the farm work. He planted the seeds of gospel truth in many a settlement and did much to promote the moral development of Winnebago county in an early day. He arrived here in 1839, having made the journey by way of the lakes to Chicago and thence by team to Rockford, after which he drove to Rockton, where he remained for six months. On the expiration of that period he removed to Boone county, where he lived upon a farm and in connection with the cultivation of his land he also divided his attention with gospel work. After twelve years he returned to Rockton, where he engaged in merchandizing from 1851 until 1862, being one of the representative pioneer merchants there. While in Boone county he served as postmaster for several years, the mail being brought from Chicago on horseback at that time. His early political support was given to the whig party and he became a staunch advocate of the abolition cause, so that when the republican party was formed to prevent the further extension of slavery, he joined its ranks, continuing one of its stalwart advocates until his death. He was born in September, 1800, and died at the age of eighty-two years. He had lived a life of usefulness and his memory remains as a blessed benediction to many who knew him. His wife passed away when sixty-two years of age.

E. J. Veness spent the greater part of his youth in Rockton and upon attaining his majority entered his father's store, thus becoming a factor in commercial circles in the village. He became a partner with his father in the store in 1856 and so continued until 1862, when he purchased his father's interest in the business, which he carried on alone for some time, and eventually admitted his son to a partnership. He was active in the management and ownership of the store until 1904, when his son became his successor and he retired to private life. The business interests of the firm had always been carefully managed and every step was thoughtfully taken by Mr. Veness, who closely watched the indications pointing to success, and in his mercantile career followed a definite plan of action.

In 1862 occurred the marriage of E. J. Veness and Miss Mary Stearns, who was born in Bloomington, Illinois, forty-one years ago, a daughter of Lloyd Stearns. Mr. and Mrs. Veness have a son and daughter. Lloyd E., who succeeded his father in business in Rockton, and is now one of the representative merchants of the town, was born in that place and married Jessie Smith, of Kansas, by whom he has one child, Joce C., who was born in Rockton. The daughter, Mary Evelyn, is now the wife of Guy M. Hopkins, of Rockton. Mr. Veness is a member of the Baptist church. His wife has served as organist for a number of years, but is not a member of the church. He votes with the republican party and has been prominent and influential in affairs of his township and county. During his early residence here he served as school director, was highway commissioner in 1862, has been supervisor of the township for nine years and was chairman of the same board for seven years. In all of these offices he has been true to the general welfare, placing the public good before personal aggrandizement. He is indeed one of the leading citizens of his community, having been successful in a business career, while in his private life he has won the highest esteem of all. His efforts have promoted progress along material, social, intellectual and moral lines and his life history forms an important factor in the annals of Rockton.

JOHN ANDREWS.

John Andrews, practically living retired, after many years of active connection with agricultural interests, makes his home at 1723 School street. He is a native of southern Indiana, his birth having occurred in Posey county, April 1, 1831, his parents being Anson S. and Elizabeth (Butler) Andrews. The father was born in Connecticut in 1787 and the mother was a native of Massachusetts. After leaving the Charter Oak state Anson S. Andrews went to New York city and later came to the middle west, settling in Indiana, where he followed general agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred in 1854. In his family were two sons and a daughter, all of whom are now living, namely: Seth, a resident of Wisconsin; Mrs. Harriet Hinkley, a resident of Rockford; and John, of this review.

John Andrews spent the first twenty-seven years of his life in the county of his nativity and acquired his early education in the common schools and also studied mathematics and the dead languages. He remained on the farm after his father's death and he became interested in a flour mill and a general store in Indiana, thus having

varied business affairs which claimed his time and attention and made him one of the enterprising citizens of that locality. In 1858, however, he sold his property in that state and removed to southern Illinois, becoming interested in a large orchard there and carrying on horticultural pursuits for about three years. He first made his way to Rockford in September, 1861, and has spent the greater part of the time here since. His attention has been given largely to agricultural pursuits and he yet owns a valuable tract of land of one hundred and fifty acres adjoining the city limits. He is now practically living retired, doing only a little gardening, while the remainder of his land is rented. His farm is worth three hundred dollars per acre and it is the visible evidence of his life of well directed labor and enterprise. He has made the most of his opportunities as the years have gone by and has ever been found honest and reliable in his business dealings.

In 1858 Mr. Andrews was married at Lincoln, Illinois, to Miss Mirinda Piper, who was born in Charleston, Illinois, in 1840, and is a daughter of B. B. Piper, a minister of that denomination formerly known as the Hardshell Baptists. Mr. and Mrs. Andrews became the parents of three sons—Charles N., who died in 1900; Harry B., a practicing attorney of Rockford, and Ernest E. J., a teacher in one of the high schools of Chicago. Our subject and his wife now reside at No. 1723 School street, where they have a beautiful home. They are both interested in religious work, being members of the Christian church. Mr. Andrews has never given evidence but once upon the witness stand, has never served on a petit jury nor sued or been sued by any man. He has lived peacefully with his fellowman, true to principles of honorable manhood and in his business career he has won very desirable success. Having resided in this county almost continuously for a period of forty-four years, he is well known here and is one of the leading and representative citizens of the community.

BRUCE H. GARRETT.

Bruce H. Garrett, practicing at the Rockford bar, was born on a farm in Guilford township, Winnebago county, November 1, 1865. His father, Benjamin F. Garrett, was a native of Geauga county, Ohio, born in 1835, and in 1838 came to Winnebago county with his parents, Thomas and Margaret P. Garrett, locating here when this was a frontier district and Rockford contained only a few houses. In 1864 Benjamin F. Garrett enlisted in Company B, One Hundred and Forty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and remained in the service until the close of the war. In 1861

he was united in marriage to Miss Esther A. Hayes, who was a native of Illinois and a daughter of William Hayes. She became a resident of Winnebago county in 1839. Benjamin F. Garrett died April 3, 1900.

Bruce H. Garrett began his education in the district schools while upon his father's farm and later he continued his studies in the public schools of Rockford. He began preparation for the bar under the direction of Albert D. Early, a prominent attorney of this city, and in 1887 he was admitted to practice, successfully passing an examination before the appellate court at Mount Vernon. Mr. Garrett began practice in Rockford immediately afterward, but was soon appointed a clerk in the general delivery department of the postoffice and occupied that position for ten years. He then resumed the practice of law and has gained a creditable clientage.

On the 25th of February, 1891, Mr. Garrett was married to Miss Anna Donaldson, of Rockford, a daughter of Mrs. Sarah Jane Donaldson, and they now have two children—Grace E. and Donald B., aged fourteen and twelve years, respectively. In politics Mr. Garrett is a republican, and he has attained a high degree in Masonry, belonging to Ellis lodge, No. 116, A. F. & A. M.; Winnebago chapter, No. 24, R. A. M.; Crusader commandery, No. 17, K. T., and Tebala Temple of the Mystic Shrine. He resides on National avenue, where in 1904 he erected an attractive residence, modern in all of its appointments. He is possessed of a considerable property, the supervision of which claims his personal attention.

PASCHAL COLVIN.

Paschal Colvin, the mayor of Pecatonica, who has conducted various business enterprises in different parts of the country and is now the owner of a stone quarry and lime kiln in this locality, conducting a profitable business as a dealer in both commodities, was born at Hamburg, Erie county, New York, November 17, 1832. His father died when the son was very young and the latter went to live with Alvin Salisbury in New York, remaining with him until eighteen years of age, when he came to Illinois. He located first in Stephenson county, his mother having removed there after her second marriage. In the middle west he began farming and later went to Iowa, where he purchased two hundred and forty acres of government land in Clayton county. On selling that property he purchased five hundred and sixty acres in Chickasaw county from the government and when he had disposed of it became the owner of eight hundred and thirty acres in Webster and Humboldt counties.

He also secured this as government claims and in each case carried on the work of cultivation and improvement to some extent upon the land which he acquired. His possessions in Webster and Humboldt counties were later sold to good advantage, so that he realized a very desirable profit on his investment.

Mr. Colvin was next found in the copper mines in Ontonogan county, Michigan, to which place he went by way of the lakes, as there were no railroads at that time. After working in the mines for a period he returned by the water route and invested his earnings in eighty acres of land in Stephenson county, Illinois, whereon he erected a house, making it his home for four or five years, during which time his labors largely transformed the appearance of the farm, the productive fields bringing to him a good financial return. He then sold out and established his home in Pecatonica, where he purchased a residence. In the meantime he had invented and secured a patent on a water tank heater, which he began to manufacture in Pecatonica. He also sold the state and county rights and had various representatives upon the road selling his manufacture. He also traded some of his patent rights for four hundred and eighty acres of land in Winnebago and Worth counties, Iowa, but afterward sold that property and removed to Orange City, Florida, where he purchased three hundred acres of fruit land. Before the memorable hard winter there in which most of the fruit was killed he sold all of his land except one hundred and sixty acres, which he still retains. He traded some of his Florida land for a house and eight acres of land near Pecatonica and also bought forty-two acres, so that he now has fifty acres in this locality. It is upon this land that he has a stone quarry and lime kiln and he makes large sales annually of both lime and stone. In all of his business operations he has been successful, being seldom, if ever, at fault in matters of business judgment, so that his investments bring him an excellent financial return. In addition to his farm property he owns a number of brick store buildings in Pecatonica and a good home in the town together with some vacant lots and two hundred and twenty-five acres of rich farming land near the town.

Mr. Colvin and his mother lived together in her last years and he took excellent care of her when her health failed, thus repaying her in part for the care which she gave to him in his early boyhood days. She lived to be more than ninety-nine years of age. There were three sons and one daughter in her family: Alvin; Richard, who died in childhood; Arilla, who married Mr. Kiby and after his death became the wife of Garrett Lloyd but is again a widow and is now living in Pecatonica.



Paschal Colvin

Paschal Colvin, the other member of the family, became a Mason on the 20th of April, 1863, and has always been loyal to the teachings of the craft. He belongs to A. W. Rawson lodge, No. 145, A. F. & A. M., being one of its oldest representatives. In former years his political allegiance was given to the democracy but he became convinced that the republican platform contained the best elements of good government and is now allied with the latter party. He is serving his second term as mayor of Pecatonica and his re-election as an indication that his administration was marked by qualities that work for good citizenship, for public progress and substantial improvement. He has the interests of the town deep at heart and his labors have been effective in promoting business welfare. Mr. Colvin has been known in this section of the state for many years and as a business man and citizen has made a record that well entitles him to representation in this volume.

HON. E. W. BROWN.

Hon. E. W. Brown, whose intense and well directed activity has been of material benefit to the city of Rockford as well as the source of his business success, was born August 8, 1857, and throughout his entire life has resided in Rockford. His efforts have been so practical, his discernment so keen, and his labors so effective that it would be difficult to find one who has contributed in larger or more effective measure toward the upbuilding and improvement of this place. His patriotic citizenship and his interest in community affairs has taken tangible form in his zealous labors for the improvements instituted through aldermanic measures, and through the reforms and progressive movements which he has fathered during his six years' service as mayor.

Mr. Brown was born in Rockford, August 8, 1857, and was a student in the public schools. Later he attended school in Mount Morris, Illinois, but the strain placed upon his eyes forced him to lay aside his text-books. At that time he entered upon an active business career, which in its scope and result has broadened until few men have exerted the influence upon material progress in Rockford that Mr. Brown has done. For five years he was a member of the Brown & Eckstine Drug Company, the sales of which constantly increased until they were represented by an annual figure of sixty thousand dollars. On the expiration of that period Mr. Brown sold his interest in the drug store and became a wholesale dealer in oil, securing a contract with the Standard Oil Company which enabled him to secure the product at excellent terms and to supply

many surrounding towns. He built the first oil tank in Rockford and secured equipment for conducting an extensive trade. He began with a capital of three thousand dollars and within six months his business had reached the sum of thirty thousand dollars. He then sold out to John P. Porter & Company, for other interests claimed his attention.

Perhaps the work that has contributed most largely to the improvement of Rockford was his labor in securing the building of the Illinois Central Railroad to this point. In 1884 the company was making plans for the construction of an air line between Chicago and Freeport. Their survey had been completed and it was decided to leave Rockford out and build the road east of New Milford, crossing the river at Hoisington Rocks below this city. Judge Brown, the father, realizing the detriment this would be to Rockford, at once entered upon active measures to secure the construction of the road through this city. He was personally acquainted with E. T. Jefferies, general manager of the Illinois Central, and with Stuyvesant Fish, president of the road. He sought an interview with the former and induced him to come to Rockford and look over the city before determining upon a final settlement for the location of the line. Mr. Jefferies, accompanied by Isaiah Randolph, chief engineer of the road, visited Rockford and was entertained at the home of Judge Brown. They met with a number of prominent manufacturers including Ralph Emerson, W. A. Talcott, John P. Manny, H. W. Price and Gilbert Woodruff, and that night Mr. Jefferies decided to build into Rockford. He secured the services of Mr. Brown to obtain a right of way for the new line and active operations in promoting this valuable enterprise were instituted on the 1st day of November, 1884. E. W. Brown was made the first agent for the company in this city and still holds that position. His thorough business ability is recognized by the corporation and his advice is frequently sought on important matters, his judgment being regarded as safe and reliable. During his connection with the company the business at this point has grown in an astonishing measure until it exceeds that of any other railway interest in the city in its property investments and volume of business. The company now owns a frontage of eight hundred feet on South Main street, while its yard, extending for three quarters of a mile, is free from grade crossings. Its passenger and freight buildings are the finest in the city and in both is handled an immense amount of business, the freight output now averaging eighty cars per day. Employment is furnished to forty people in the various departments of the company's service in this city, and at the head remains Mr. Brown, who has perfected a system

of work here that has produced excellent results and made this one of the important stations on the line.

In political affairs in Rockford Mr. Brown has been equally prominent, and in 1885 was chosen alderman from the second ward, which position he filled for seven years. Those who had watched his public service recognized his fitness for leadership in affairs of the municipality, and in 1895 he was elected mayor. Again he was called to the office in 1897 and for a third term in 1899, and he could undoubtedly have won election again had he not declined further service. In 1903 representative citizens of Rockford endeavored to induce him to again accept the office but the extent and importance of his private business affairs prevented. His administration was business-like and progressive. He worked along the practical lines that have ever been manifest in the conduct of his private interests. He regards a public office as a public trust—and no trust reposed in him has ever been betrayed in the slightest degree. He was the champion of all progressive measures that he believed would benefit the city without proving an extravagance, and he studied closely its needs and possibilities, carefully weighing every question which came up for consideration. It was through his efforts and recommendation that the present system of water supply was instituted in 1897 and was put into effective operation by D. W. Mead at a cost of fifty thousand dollars, affording a supply of seven million gallons of water daily. The water works park was a product of the general improvements instituted. The present system of macadamizing was instituted and is doubtless the most efficient means for doing effective work that could have been planned. He appointed to different city positions men well qualified by experience or capability for duties which would devolve upon them. A review of his several annual messages to the council demonstrates a determination to adhere to a rigid economy in the expenditure of the city funds; a just and exact enforcement of the laws; and together with the co-operation of the council to so administer the city government as to insure stable progress and permanent good.

Mr. Brown was married to Miss Lizzie A. White, a daughter of Joshua White, who is well known in Rockford as a prominent citizen and has extensive realty holdings in Stillman Valley. Mr. and Mrs. Brown have three children, and the family home is at 312 South Third street. Such in brief is the history of one of the best known citizens of Rockford. The consensus of public opinion regarding his political and business life is most favorable. He has ever discharged his duties with marked ability and fairness, for he is a most loyal public-spirited citizen.

As a business man he has been conspicuous among his associates not only for his success but for his fairness, probity and honorable methods. In everything he has been manifestly practical, and this has been manifest not only in his business undertakings but also in his private and social life.

HON. JOHN C. GARVER.

Hon. John C. Garver, to whom there came a distinguished position in connection with the legal profession of Rockford and whose championship of progressive public measures constituted him one of its most valued citizens, was born on a farm near Pecatonica, November 16, 1843. He was a son of John Garver, who came from Pennsylvania to Illinois at an early day and located upon a tract of land that became the old farm homestead. The boyhood and youth of Judge Garver were passed in the usual manner of farmer lads of the period and his elementary education was obtained in the public schools. Ambitious to enjoy better opportunities he secured permission to attend Wittenburg college in Springfield, Ohio, where he completed a full course. He began preparations for the bar with General Keifer, of Springfield, Ohio, as his preceptor and following his admission to the bar in 1871 he entered upon the practice of his chosen profession in Rockford. The favorable judgment which the world passed upon his at the outset of his career was in no degree set aside or modified as the years passed by, but on the contrary was strengthened as he gave evidence of high legal talent. His preparation of cases was most thorough and exhaustive and he seemed almost intuitively to grasp the strong points of law and fact, while in his briefs and arguments the authorities are cited as extensively and the facts and reasoning therein were presented so cogently and unanswerably as to leave no doubt as to the correctness of his views or his conclusions. He rose rapidly in his profession, soon gained the confidence of the people and he was accorded a clientage of the distinctively representative character.

Elected to the office of state's attorney, he served in that position for two terms with marked ability. Other official preferment was accorded him. In 1882 he was a candidate for congress and would have been nominated and elected but for the sudden death of Major Hawk, which occurred shortly before the meeting of the convention and occasioned its adjournment without action. At the next meeting Robert Hitt and Colonel B. F. Sheets both entered the race and Mr. Hitt was nominated although Judge Garver's home



John C. Gawver.

county stood unanimously for him. In 1886 he was elected judge of the circuit court to succeed Judge James Cartwright, who had been elevated to the supreme bench as successor of Judge Bailey, deceased, and when he had filled out the unexpired term of his predecessor, Judge Garver was elected to the office for the full term. He frequently served in most capable manner upon the bench in Chicago. The profession of law was his real life work and at the bar and on the the bench he won distinction. A man of unimpeachable character, unusual intellectual endowments, with a thorough understanding of the law, patience, urbanity and industry, Judge Garver took to the bench the very highest qualifications for this responsible position of the state government and his record as a judge was ever in harmony with his record as a man and lawyer—distinguished by unswerving integrity and a masterful grasp of every problem which was presented for solution.

In his social relations the Judge was affiliated with E. F. W. Ellis lodge of Masons, in which he served as master, and he was likewise past commander of Crusader commandery, K. T., a member of the consistory and shrine, a member of the Knights of the Globe, Forest City lodge, United Workmen, Odd Fellows society and the Woodmen camp. A man of domestic tastes, his interest centered in his family and he accounted no personal sacrifice on his part too great if it would promote the happiness or advance the welfare of his wife and children. He was married in Rockford, November 25, 1875, to Miss Sarah A. Segur, of this city, a daughter of John Segur, who is yet living in Rockford. Of the six children born unto Judge and Mrs. Garver, five are yet living: Laura M., Lewis C., Earl, Eva and Howell, and the family occupy an attractive residence at No. 1103 South Main street.

It was on the 27th of November, 1901, that Judge Garver departed this life, being at that time about fifty-eight years of age. Perhaps no better indication of his character and his standing in the profession could be given than in quoting from the action of the bar taken concerning his death. After a few preliminary remarks the report read as follows: "In 1896 he was chosen circuit judge and held that office until his death. How he won his large clientage and how well he filled the high offices the records of our court show. They are the most fitting eulogies of his work. Under his administration our court preserved that lofty standard of justice for which it was ever noted under his illustrious predecessors. He was a lawyer of high attainments, conscientiously doing his full duty to his clients. With an accurate knowledge of law he had the forensic skill to present a case to the jury with an eloquence rarely surpassed. He was a pa-

triot, keenly interested in his country's welfare and ever willing to sacrifice self-interest in its behalf. He never elevated himself above his fellow citizens, his heart beating in unison with toiling humanity. Judge Garver was trained in early piety and was a quiet, sincere Christian. He was a genial companion, a true friend, a loving husband and father and an honest man. With feelings of deep sorrow we mourn his end. We deplore the loss of one faithful to every trust. We sorrow for him as a member of our bar whose life in a large measure exemplified the teachings of the law.

"Therefore, in order that this short record of his life and our appreciation of his character may be known to those who shall come after us: Be it resolved that these resolutions be written in the records of this court:

"Resolved further, that we extend to his sorrowing family our heartfelt sympathy in this their great loss."

Robert Rew spoke of Judge Garver as follows: "It was in 1870 while attending the East side high school that I first became acquainted with Judge C. Garver. It was told that Judge Garver and some others were to indulge in a debate at the old courthouse standing on the site of the present structure, and with A. H. Frost I attended. My acquaintance with Judge Garver began then. My acquaintance with him as a lawyer began in 1882. He was then one of the gatling guns of the Winnebago county bar.

"Judge C. Garver was born in the land of splendid opportunities—a land in which citizens born of the humblest origin may become equal to any king. A descendant of a pioneer and one of the founders of the community, Judge Garver belonged to a class of men who represent the highest type of manhood. They were educated in country schools—the foundation to the great commonwealth of to-day, inured to high work and form a class of men to be found nowhere except in this blessed country of ours. They represent the very flower of Christianity and democracy. Kindly and genial, capable of meeting the greatest problems, in the main righteous, they tread the straight and narrow path, never craving favor, fearing the hate of none. To this class of men Judge Garver belonged. He was an impassioned orator. He possessed the skill to select from a mass of evidence just the part which would impress and sway court and jury and he would present it in a most convincing manner. His eloquence in his prime swept all before him. It was a dovetailing of all facts in a convincing manner, rather than the presentation of the maxims of law. He was classed with the sort of lawyers, who, like flowers, are bloom to blush unseen. He had the knack of getting business and keeping it after he got it. He had the knack

of remembering faces and names and throughout the northern part of the state had an extensive acquaintance among all classes. It was always a pleasure to meet Judge Garver for he was always the same genial, kind gentleman. I think Judge Garver died without realizing his ambition, for he had hopes of congressional rather than judicial honors. But with his dream unrealized, as with most of us, he rests. He displayed an accurate knowledge of the law. I think the public does not realize the responsibility resting with the lawyers of the community, upon whom devolves the maintenance of the rights of the citizens and they must be the guardians for the rights of both parties. With such a record he need have no fear. To dust returneth no fear of the sable shore. We all must obey the warrant of death. Out of darkness we come, into darkness we go."

Judge Garver left an indelible impression upon the legal history of the state and his memory remains enshrined in the hearts of those who knew him as one who was honored because of his talents and his genuine worth.

WILLIAM CRILL.

William Crill, deceased, belongs to one of the pioneer families of Winnebago county, being only three years of age when his parents came to Illinois. Throughout the greater part of his life he carried on farming here and he was known as a reliable and trustworthy business man. He was born in Herkimer county, New York, May 19, 1840, his parents being Henry and Betsy (Brooks) Crill, both of whom were born in 1799. The father was also a native of Herkimer county, where he resided on a farm until his removal to Illinois in 1843. He settled in New Milford township, Winnebago county, and was there engaged in farming for a year, after which he removed to Monroe township, Ogle county, just across the line from Winnebago county. There he purchased fifteen hundred acres of land from the government, and the deeds, which were signed by James K. Polk, then president of the United States, are now in possession of Mrs. William Crill. He at once began to cultivate and improve his land and was actively engaged in farm work until 1864, meeting with excellent success in his labors. He then decided to retire to private life and divided his property among his children. Removing to Rockford he enjoyed a well earned rest here for nearly twenty years, and in 1882 he returned to the village of Monroe in Ogle county, where he and his wife spent their remaining days. He died September 19, 1885, and his wife's death occurred April 2, 1883.

Of the nine children in that family William Crill was the youngest. He obtained his education in the district schools of Ogle county and spent his youth upon his father's farm working in the fields and meadows. When his father died he took charge of the old home place and for nearly forty years resided upon that farm. He worked earnestly and persistently and made his place a well improved property. He continued to engage in farm work there until his death. Mr. Crill was married to Miss Lucy D. Crawford, a native of Pennsylvania, in which state her father died during her early girlhood and the mother passed away in Rochelle. Five children were born unto our subject and his wife; Henry, who married Alta Campbell, and is engaged in agricultural pursuits in Monroe, Illinois; Grace, the wife of Fred Tyler, a farmer of Monroe; George Herman, who married Florence Jeanette Hunter and is a retired farmer of the village of Monroe; Harriett Gertrude, the wife of Frank A. Hildebrand, cashier of the Monroe Center State Bank of Monroe; and John Wilson, who resides with his mother and is studying law.

Mr. Crill was elected to many township offices and always gave an unfaltering support to the republican party. He was a very enterprising man, who prospered in all that he undertook because he knew no such word as fail. His life was a busy, active and useful one, crowned by success. He passed away December 19, 1885. He was well known in both Ogle and Winnebago counties and had a very large circle of friends. For ten years after her husband's death Mrs. Crill resided upon the old home farm in Ogle county now occupied by her son, and in 1894 she came to Rockford, where she purchased a nice home at No. 133 East street, where she and her youngest son reside. She is a consistent member of the Centennial Methodist Episcopal church.

BRITTAN JEWETT.

Brittan Jewett, interested in general farming, resides in the village of Harrison and is one of the extensive landowners of the northern part of the county, having nine hundred acres in Harrison and Shirland townships. He is one of the native sons of the county, his birth having occurred in Harrison township on the 23d of August, 1854. His father, David Jewett, became an early resident of this part of the state and the son was reared and educated here, pursuing his education in the district schools in Rockford and Durand. When not busy with his text-books he worked in the fields and meadows, becoming familiar with the best methods of cultivating the soil and caring for stock. He thus had a good



WILLIAM CRILL.

fund of practical experience and knowledge when he started out in business on his own account.

It was in June, 1896, that Mr. Jewett was united in marriage to Miss Helen M. Miller, a native of Winnebago county, where her father, Alexander Miller, settled in pioneer times. He was born in Newbury, Vermont, March 18, 1808, and died in Winnebago county on the 22d of January, 1889. He wedded Miss Mary Mackie, who was born at Markwich, Scotland, on the 5th of March, 1810, and departed this life on the 30th of January, 1901. They were farming people and resided in Winnebago county for many years, living a quiet life, yet enjoying the respect and esteem of all who knew them. In their family were the following children: Henry W., who died at the age of twenty-two months; William M., who died when twenty-eight years of age; Frank P., who passed away in California in 1898; Mrs. Mary A. Lloyd, of Roscoe; J. D., who is living in Rockford; A. B., of Shirland township; Mrs. Fidelia Harley, of Rockton; Mrs. Margaret Reckhow, of Rockford; Roger, who is living in Michigan; William, deceased; Mrs. Henrietta Robinson, of Beloit; E. S., who resides in Owen township; F. P., who died in California; and Helen M., the wife of Brittan Jewett.

Mr. and Mrs. Jewett began their domestic life upon a farm and although they now reside in the village of Harrison, Mr. Jewett is one of the most extensive, capable and successful agriculturists of his part of the county, owning and operating nine hundred acres of land, lying in Harrison and Shirland townships, from which he annually harvests large crops. He also has much stock upon his place, including horses and cattle, and from his purchases and sales he realizes a good financial return. In business affairs he is capable, prompt, energetic and reliable, carefully watching every indication pointing to success, and at the same time making a record for reliability that any man might well envy. His interest in political questions has led him to give his support to the republican party and he has served as commissioner and in other local offices, and socially he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Royal Neighbors.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM L. EATON.

Professor William L. Eaton, whose family are living in Rockford, where they are well known, was a native of East Ware, New Hampshire, born March 26, 1814. His father, Washington Eaton, spent his entire life in the old Granite state. Professor Eaton was educated in the east, completing his studies by a course in Dartmouth College and

thus equipped by superior educational advantages for life's practical duties he entered upon his business career. He resided in the east until the time of his marriage, in Windsor, Vermont, to Miss Anna S. Maine, a native of Hartland, Vermont, and a daughter of Stephen Maine, who followed farming in the Green Mountain state throughout his entire life, both he and his wife passing away in Hartland.

In 1843 Professor Eaton brought his bride to the west, settling at Schoolcraft, Michigan, but after a short time he removed from that place to Kalamazoo, Michigan, where he became a professor in the Kalamazoo College, having charge of the Latin classes. There he remained until his death. He was regarded as one of the most capable educators of the state, for added to his comprehensive learning was an ability to impart clearly and readily to others the knowledge that he had acquired. Of scholarly attainments and strong intellectuality, his mind was continually reaching out for new thought. While conducting his classes in college he acted as minister of the Baptist church for a part of the time but never relinquished his work of teaching in the schoolroom. The profession of teaching, whether it be from the pulpit, the schoolroom or the lecture platform, is undoubtedly one of the most important callings to which man can devote his energy. He has influence over the minds and lives of his pupils at the most impressionable period in their entire existence and he qualifies them—good or ill according to his ability—for the responsibilities which come to them in later life. Professor Eaton, with a full realization of what devolved upon him in this connection, was a conscientious, earnest and progressive teacher. He died in Kalamazoo, December 25, 1853, his loss being deeply deplored by a large circle of friends.

Professor and Mrs. Eaton were the parents of a daughter and son: Adeline became the wife of W. H. David, of Chicago, and died in that city at the age of forty-seven years. The son, William L. Eaton, Jr., was born in Kalamazoo, December 15, 1850, and married Helen Colman, of that place. They have four children: Helen, William, Anna and Colman. William L. Eaton and his mother remained in Kalamazoo and, following the completion of his education, he engaged in newspaper work there for several years. He then came with his family and his mother to Rockford, recognizing a good opening in the newspaper field of this city. Here he assisted in organizing the company that began the publication of the Register Gazette, which is now the leading daily newspaper of Rockford. He was connected with that paper until 1891, when he left that field of activity and became manager of

the Rock River Oil and Transportation Company. He has since been engaged in this business, in which connection he controls extensive interests, and in addition he has valuable agricultural interests in the south. He travels much of his time but he and his family make their home with his mother. Mrs. Eaton, her son and his wife are all members of the State Street Baptist church of this city and take great interest in its work, doing all in their power to extend its influence and promote its growth. They own a beautiful home at No. 809 Seminary street and the family are prominent here, their circle of friends and acquaintances being extensive.

CASSIUS M. GARDNER.

Cassius M. Gardner, a farmer living on section 22, Winnebago township, is numbered among the citizens of this county that have been furnished to Illinois by the Empire state. He was born in Oneida county, New York, in 1852, his parents being James and Margaret J. (Groat) Gardner, who came to Winnebago county about 1868, locating on a farm in Rockford township near the county seat. The father was a native of England but the mother was born near Schenectady, New York. James Gardner's birth, however, occurred in Cheshire, England, and with his parents came to America when only three years of age, the family home being established in Oneida county, New York, where he was reared and educated. He afterward engaged in merchandizing in the Empire state, but following his removal to Winnebago county, he settled upon the farm and carried on the work of the fields for many years. At the present time, however, he is living retired and makes his home about twelve miles from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, at the age of seventy-six or seventy-seven years. He is a staunch democrat in politics and in his social relations is a Mason. While living in Winnebago county he was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died on the home farm in 1892 when about sixty years of age. In their family were five children, all of whom are yet living: J. E., a resident of Rockford, where he is employed as a pattern-maker in the factory of Savage & Love; J. S., who carries on farming in Winnebago township; Mrs. Emma Shoudy, whose husband is engaged in the real estate business in Chicago; and Phil C., who was born in Illinois and is now living in Rockford.

Cassius M. Gardner, the other member of the family, spent the first sixteen years of his life in the state of New York and during that time was a public school student. He then came with his parents to Winnebago county and remained

at home till about twenty years of age. The greater part of his life has been devoted to agricultural pursuits and he now has a finely improved farm on section 22, Winnebago township, comprising one hundred and sixty acres of land, devoted to general agricultural pursuits. He has erected commodious and attractive buildings in modern style of architecture and the grounds about his home are in splendid condition. The building site is an ideal one, his residence standing upon the highest point of ground in this part of the county, so that an excellent view of the surrounding country is afforded. In all of his work Mr. Gardner has been very successful because his methods have been practical and his industry indefatigable.

In Winnebago county, December 31, 1874, Mr. Gardner married Miss Clara Simpson, who died January 23, 1898, leaving two daughters: Clara Ruby, who taught in the public schools previous to her marriage to Frank Lander, February 22, 1902; and Myrtle E. Both are residing in Boone county at present. On June 19, 1905, for his second wife Mr. Gardner chose Jessie A. Falconer, of this county, a daughter of Robert and Anna (Ross) Falconer. Her father settled in this part of the state at a very early day and died here about six years ago.

Politically Mr. Gardner is a democrat, having usually given his support to the men and measures of the party, and he has served as school director and in other local offices. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp at Winnebago, and his wife is a member of the Congregational church. Working persistently and earnestly, with a definite plan of action, he has attained the success which is the goal of all business endeavor.

MRS. MARGARET L. FRESSE.

Mrs. Margaret L. Fresse, living on section 26, Burritt township, is well known in this part of the county. She was born December 25, 1850, in England, and when only three years of age was brought to the United States by her parents. Her father, Moses Whalen, was born in County Wexford, Ireland, on the 6th of January, 1812, and after spending some time in England he crossed the Atlantic to the new world, arriving on the 20th of September, 1854. He did not tarry on the coast, but made his way at once to the interior of the country, settling in Rockford, where his remaining days were passed. In early manhood he wedded Miss Ann Crulleton, who was born in County Wexford, Ireland, February 24, 1814, and after establishing their home in Rockford they continued residents of the county seat until called to their final rest. Mr. Whalen

passed away on the 6th of December, 1894, while his wife died on the 12th of March, 1892.

Mrs. Fresse was reared in Rockford, attended its public schools and remained in her parents' home until at the age of twenty-two years she gave her hand in marriage to Patrick Murphy. They began their domestic life at her present place of residence and here she has since lived. Mr. Murphy devoted his energies to the improvement of the farm and was an enterprising, industrious agriculturist, whose labors wrought a transformation in the appearance of the place, making it a well developed property. He died upon this farm May 31, 1890. The children born of that marriage were as follows: Margaret and May, who died in infancy; Joseph, who was born December 13, 1877, and is now living in Rockford; Mary, who was born on the 11th of May, 1879, and is at home with her mother; John, who was born May 4, 1882, and is living in Rockford; Thomas and Ella, who were born July 23, 1888, and are at home; and Henry, the youngest.

Having lost her first husband in 1892, Mrs. Murphy gave her hand in marriage to Louis Fresse, who was born in October, 1863, at Saukville, Wisconsin, where the first fourteen years of his life were passed. He then came to Winnebago county, Illinois, and since 1892 has lived upon the farm where he and his wife now make their home. His father, Louis Fresse, was born in France and when twenty-three years of age emigrated to the United States, spending his remaining days in Wisconsin, his death occurring in Saukville when he was fifty-three years of age. His wife, who was born in Germany, came to this country in her girlhood days and in 1858 gave her hand in marriage to Louis Fresse, Sr. Her death occurred in Saukville in 1885.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Fresse of this review have been born two sons—George, born April 13, 1893, and Charles, born August 5, 1895. The family home is an excellent farm on section 26, Burritt township, constituting a well developed property improved with modern equipments and accessories. Everything about the place is neat and thrifty in appearance, indicating careful and practical supervision. Mr. and Mrs. Fresse and all of the family are well known in this locality and the circle of their friends is extensive. They are members of St. Mary's Catholic church of Rockford.

C. E. AUSTIN.

C. E. Austin, the present supervisor of Shirland township and a prosperous farmer actively engaged in operating three hundred and thirty-five acres of land, was born upon this farm Feb-

ruary 23, 1857, his parents being H. S. and Eliza (Packard) Austin, who came to Winnebago county in 1838. The father was a native of Buckfield, Maine, and was of New England ancestry, the family coming originally from England. His wife was also a native of the same locality and was of English descent. They arrived in this county on the 18th of May, 1838, settling first in Rockton township. They spent the summer there and then removed to the village of Rockton, where Mr. Austin erected a house, after which he followed the shoemaker's trade at that place for five or six years. On the expiration of that period he took up a claim of one hundred and sixty acres on sections 17 and 18, half of the farm lying in Rockford and one-half in Shirland township. He improved the claim and continued to carry on general agricultural pursuits up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1892, when he was almost eighty years of age. He had for several years survived his wife, who died in 1886, when about seventy years of age. In their family were five sons and two daughters, of whom one is deceased—H. S. Austin, Jr., who died in California, where he was then making his home, in 1879, at the age of forty years. Those who still survive are: A. M., a mining engineer residing in Los Angeles, California, where he has lived since 1861; S. A., a practicing physician of Los Angeles, California, for the past eighteen years but who was formerly of Rockford and was one of the founders of the hospital in that city; Mrs. Mary E. Evans, who is living in Los Angeles, California; W. W., who is engaged in the real estate business in Rockford; and Mrs. L. N. Leflingwell, whose husband is a farmer of Glidden, Iowa.

C. E. Austin, the other member of the family, was reared upon the old homestead farm, where he has spent his entire life. His education was acquired in the district schools and in Beloit, Wisconsin, and when not busy with his text-books he aided in the labors of the fields. He has added to his farm from time to time until he is now the owner of three hundred and thirty-five acres of rich and valuable land in the home place on section 18, Shirland township, and he also has eighty acres of land in Rockford township. He is actively engaged in the cultivation of his fields and has made excellent improvements upon his farm, which is now one of the valuable properties of the locality. In all that he does he is eminently practical and his earnest labor has been the resultant factor in his success.

Mr. Austin was married to Miss Nellie F. Richardson, of this county, a daughter of C. B. Richardson, of Rockford. Four children grace this marriage: Gray R., nineteen years of age; Merton H., fifteen years of age; Sewall E., a little

lad of four summers; and Lillian, who is two years old. All are yet with their parents.

Politically Mr. Austin is an earnest republican, having given unfaltering support to the party since attaining his majority. His father served as supervisor of Shirland township for fifteen years during his residence in the county and Mr. Austin of this review was elected to the same office in 1904 and is now capably serving in that position. Socially he is connected with the Masonic lodge and chapter at Rockford and is a member of the Modern Woodmen camp and Royal Neighbors lodge at Shirland, while his religious views are those of the Congregational church. His entire life having been passed in this locality, his history is well known to his fellow townsmen, and the fact that many of his staunchest friends are those who have known him from his youth to the present is an indication that his has been an honorable career.

JOHN NELSON.

Rockford, as a manufacturing center, offered an excellent field for the inventor and among the men prominent in the world because they have contributed to the utilitarian devices which have lessened labor and have also decreased the cost of production John Nelson should be mentioned. He became widely known in manufacturing circles throughout the country as the inventor of the Nelson knitting machine, and in Rockford, where he was best known, he was regarded as a man of strong purpose, superior capability and genuine worth.

He was born in West Gothland, Sweden, April 5, 1830, and when a young lad lost his father. The widowed mother was left with little of this world's goods, but she was a woman of superior intelligence and had a natural insight into the workings of machinery, a trait which was inherited by her son. When quite young John Nelson became a spinning-wheel maker. He remained a resident of his native land until twenty-two years of age, when thinking that he might have better business opportunities in the new world, he bade goodbye to his old home and sailed from Gottenburg for New York city, where he arrived after a voyage of six weeks. He did not tarry long on the Atlantic coast, however, but at once made his way into the interior, locating first at Chicago and Elgin.

On the 4th of November, 1854, he was united in marriage to Miss Eva Christina Person, whose acquaintance he had formed when they were passengers together on the ship that sailed from Gottenburg. She, too, was a native of West Gothland, Sweden, born May 6, 1834, and

she is a sister of Mrs. Andrew Long, of Rockford.

The year 1852 witnessed the arrival of Mr. Nelson in Rockford, and for a time he was in business as a designer and pattern and model maker. In this labor he was associated with Mr. Ghent, and afterward formed a partnership with A. C. Johnson and Gust Hollem in the manufacture of sash and doors. Throughout his residence here he was closely identified with industrial and manufacturing interests and contributed in substantial measure toward the business progress and development of the city. Following the close of the Civil war he went to the south and in company with Gustaf Burgland, of Water Valley, Mississippi, he began business at that place. His environment, however, was not congenial, and accordingly he returned to Rockford after a brief period. He was always studying machinery and continually working out new plans to accomplish the same results. He also studied along the line of improvement and for many years was revolving in his mind plans for the manufacture of a knitting machine. As the result of all his years of work and investigation and experiment he finally produced the Nelson knitting machine, which has entirely revolutionized the business of knitting machinery. His completed product was so perfect that hose are now knit for about two cents per dozen pair. Just about the time that he had completed his great work he was called from this life, passing away April 15, 1883. Such was his concentration of thought that he found it impossible to sleep at night and his constitution, never very strong, was thus undermined. He was a natural born mechanic and from his early boyhood his mind was filled with ideas that gave promise of the rich fulfillment of his mature years. The perfection of the machine which he produced is indicated by a remark that was made by President Grant, who came to Rockford on the completion of his tour around the world. Here he inspected the shops of the Nelson Knitting Company and after looking over the machinery and seeing the wonderful work, declared enthusiastically that after all his tour around the globe, including visits to the large cities and factories, he had never seen anything to equal this. Then picking up a pair of the hose as they dropped from the machine he walked away.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Nelson were born seven children, but two have departed this life. Alfred, whose death occurred when he was thirty-three years of age, inherited his father's genius and invented some necessary improvements, especially the device for widening the leg of a hose as it is being knitted. He gave promise of a successful career which would prove of value to the world



John Nelson

as well as a source of individual profit. He left a widow who is now living in Colorado. Frithiof died in childhood. William and Oscar are residents of Rockford, and Frithiof, the second of the name, is associated with his brothers in many of the enterprises with which they are connected. John Franklin is also interested in business with his brothers. Anna C., the only daughter, resides with her mother. Mrs. Nelson, still surviving her husband, was to him ever a true helpmate and a faithful and loving wife. She has since his death, with the aid of her children, developed a splendid business from the industry established by her husband.

It was not alone the great inventive genius of John Nelson, however, that made him a valued citizen of Rockford, for he possessed the personal traits of character that endeared him to many friends. He was a sincere and earnest Christian, kind in his treatment of others, considerate at all times of those with whom he came in contact, and he left to his family an untarnished name. What he accomplished in the line of invention entitled him to rank with Whitney, Arkwright and other great inventors whose fame has become world wide.

HENRY J. MILLER.

Henry J. Miller, successfully conducting business as proprietor of the marble and granite works located on North Main street just outside the city of Rockford, arrived in Winnebago county in 1880 and has since been a factor in industrial circles here. He was born in Sweden, was a student in its public schools in his early youth and when seventeen years of age crossed the Atlantic to America, arriving in the new world in 1880. He made his way direct to Rockford and learned the marble-cutter's trade under the direction of his father, John H. Moeller, who has followed the marble business for many years and is still engaged in that enterprise at the age of seventy-one years. He was united in marriage in early manhood to Miss Edna Eklund, who died about three years ago. One sister of Mr. Miller, Mrs. Mary Linwall, resides near Belvidere, Illinois, while a brother, John E., who came to America in 1891, returned to Sweden about two years later.

Following his arrival in the United States Henry J. Miller worked for various firms engaged in marble-cutting, being for fifteen years in the employ of Mayor Hutchins, the former owner of the plant that is now in possession of our subject. Mr. Miller has conducted the business on his own account for about five years and has a well equipped marble and granite yard on North Main street, just outside the corporation

limits of Rockford and directly opposite the west side cemetery. He employs two men here and also has a traveling salesman on the road, covering the territory of northern Illinois and Wisconsin. Mr. Miller now has a very gratifying patronage and enjoys an enviable reputation for fair dealing and for satisfaction given to his customers.

Mr. Miller was married to Miss Emma C. Kindberg, who came to Winnebago county in her girlhood days and was here reared. Mr. and Mrs. Miller are now the parents of four daughters and one son, all born in Rockford, namely: Mabel V., May Ethel, Effie, Viola, Clifford Dwight and Beatrice. The family home is at No. 1416 North Main street and with the exception of two years spent in Kansas and Nebraska, during which time he followed his trade, located largely in Concordia, Kansas. Mr. Miller has resided continuously in Rockford since 1880. He soon gave evidence of excellent workmanship and since embarking in business on his own account he has built up a very good trade. In politics he has always been a republican since the right of franchise was conferred upon him. Socially he is connected with M. W. A. camp, No. 51. His religious views accord with the teachings of the Lutheran church. Mr. Miller has never had occasion to regret his determination to seek a home in America, for here he has found good business opportunities unhampered by caste or class. His faithfulness and reliability in business brings to mind the statement of a well known writer and lecturer that "Sweden is the home of the honest man."

GEORGE F. SEAVERNS.

George F. Seaverns, who owns and operates an excellent farm in Owen township, was born in this locality, July 25, 1861. His father, Isaac Seaverns, was a native of Jamaica Plains, now a part of Boston, Massachusetts, his natal day being June 29, 1814. He was educated in the public schools and lived with his parents until twenty years of age, when he entered business as a partner of Joseph Merriam, opening a market on Milk street in Boston. They conducted the business until 1836, after which Mr. Seaverns removed to Richmond, Ohio, and in 1840 became a resident of Cleveland, Ohio. There he conducted a mercantile enterprise but after six years went to Wisconsin and located on land about eight miles north of Racine, where he carried on agricultural pursuits for two years, when he sold his property and came to Winnebago county, Illinois, settling in Rockford township, where he purchased seven hundred and fifty acres of land which he improved. He resided thereon for ten

years, after which he sold out. The county poor farm is now located upon a part of this land. Mr. Seaverns then purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Owen township, making his home thereon until his death, which occurred on the 24th of October, 1879. He was a democrat in his political views and favored the Christian Union church, although he did not hold membership relations with any denomination. He was first married to Abbie Eliza Winslow, a native of New York, who died in Cleveland, Ohio, leaving one son, Isaac W., who was born in Cleveland, September 30, 1840, and is now living in Chicago. For his second wife Isaac Seaverns chose Anna E. Titus, whom he wedded May 15, 1842. She was born in 1822, and died in 1903. There are four sons and four daughters by this marriage, of whom three are now living; Frank, who was born at Rockford, December 13, 1850, and is now married and lives in that city; Eleanor, who was born December 26, 1853, is the wife of C. S. Taylor, and resides in California; and George F.

In taking up the personal history of George F. Seaverns we present to our readers the life record of one widely known in Winnebago county. He attended the public schools here and was also for two years a student in the Skinner school in Chicago. He early became familiar with the best methods of carrying on the farm and worked upon the old homestead with his father until the latter death, after which he rented the property from his mother until her death. He then purchased the interest of the other heirs in the farm, which is now carefully and successfully conducted.

On the 10th of January, 1887, Mr. Seaverns was married to Miss Esther A. Kinsley, a daughter of Edwin and Jennie A. (Glover) Kinsley. Her father was born in Newark New Jersey, May 10, 1838, and his wife's birth occurred in Manchester, England, July 8, 1841. Mr. Kinsley left Newark at the age of twelve years and with his parents went to Janesville, Wisconsin, where he worked at the carriage building trade until 1858. He then removed his business to Rockton, Winnebago county, Illinois, and for twenty-six years was an active factor in the industrial life of that place, but in 1884 took up his abode in Beloit, Wisconsin, where he is now conducting business, having throughout his entire active life carried on the manufacture of wagons and carriages. He was married in Rockton, in 1860, and for almost a third of a century he and his wife traveled life's journey together but were separated by the death of Mrs. Kinsley, September 15, 1892. Unto them were born four children: Mrs. Seaverns, whose birth occurred in Rockton, September 8, 1862; Frances E., who was born September 9, 1864, and is the wife of

C. O. Smith, of Beloit, Wisconsin; Edwin A., of Chicago, who was born October 26, 1874, and married Miss Ellen B. Vivian; and Grace A., who was born February 15, 1882. Mr. Kinsley has always given his political allegiance to the democracy. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Seaverns, which was celebrated at Beloit, Wisconsin, has been blessed with three children: Isaac Wyman, who was born in Beloit, December 25, 1889; Harold Kinsley, who was born March 7, 1891, and died on the 21st of May, following; and Jennie Grace, born February 29, 1892.

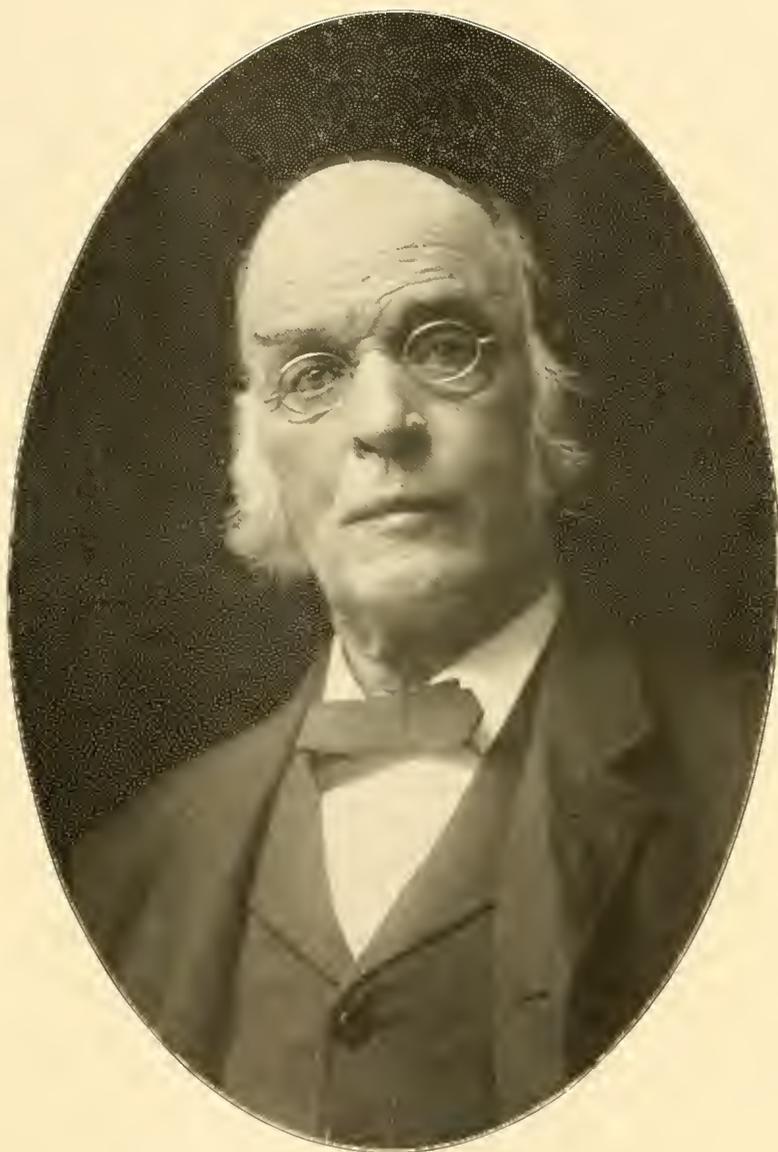
Mr. Seaverns is a democrat in his political views where national questions and issues are involved but at local elections votes independently, supporting the candidates whom he thinks best qualified for office. He is a charter member of Owen camp, No. 616, M. W. A., and also of the Knights of Pythias lodge at Rockford.

LEMUEL FULLER.

Lemuel Fuller, who follows farming on section 19, Rockford township, owing about five hundred and seventy-six acres of land in Winnebago county in addition to which he has about two hundred acres lying just across the line in Ogle county, has been a resident of this section of the state since 1830, coming to the west with his parents, John and Lucy (Wilder) Fuller, who removed from Genesee county, New York. The father entered land, purchasing claims each and west of the home farm and afterwards securing the tract in between. There he successfully and energetically carried on general farming until his death, which occurred in 1858, when he was fifty-eight years of age. His widow long survived him and died in December, 1896, at the advanced age of eighty-six years. They were the parents of eight children; Lemuel; L. B.; Charles; John; Mrs. Nancy Ingalls, who died several years ago; Eliza, who married David Hartwell; Lucy Ellen, who married T. G. Levings and died October 14, 1903; and Mary Ellen who died in infancy.

Lemuel Fuller was born in Genesee county New York, in 1832 and was therefore a young lad when brought by his parents to Illinois in 1830. His educational privileges were somewhat limited but he attended a private school held in a farm house. His father afterward employed a teacher, a Mr. Felton, at ten dollars a month to instruct his children.

Upon the old family homestead Mr. Fuller was reared and has resided here throughout his entire life with the exception of the three years which he spent in the army. He enlisted August 9, 1862, at Rockford, in defense of the Union cause, as a member of Company F, Seventy-fourth



LEMUEL FULLER.

Illinois Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Barker, and was mustered in at Camp Fuller. Going to the front he served until the close of hostilities and was then mustered out with his regiment near Nashville, Tennessee. He was never wounded, although he participated in a number of hotly contested engagements. He also spent about eighteen months in the hospital suffering from an attack of smallpox. He was captured at Jonesboro and was then sent to Andersonville, where he remained for some time, after which he was taken to Savannah and later to Florence, South Carolina, being exchanged at Charleston. He participated in the battle of Perryville and of Stone River and it was soon after this that he became ill and was sent to the field hospital.

Following the close of the war Lemuel Fuller returned to his home, where for many years he was actively engaged in farming but during the past few years he has rented all three of his farms. His home place is a finely improved property, supplied with good buildings and all modern equipments, and he ranks with the leading, influential and prosperous agriculturists of the community. In his political views he has always been a republican and he served as school director, while fraternally he is connected with Nevius post, No. 1, G. A. R., at Rockford.

CAPTAIN LEWIS F. LAKE.

Captain Lewis F. Lake, who is now serving for the fourth term as circuit clerk and recorder of Winnebago county, was born in Owen township, this county, in 1846, his parents being Adam S. and Elizabeth Lake, who became residents of this part of the state in 1843. The son obtained his education in the public schools and his boyhood days were passed without event of special importance, his time being divided between the pleasures of the playground, the duties of the schoolroom and the labors of the home farm. He watched with interest, however, the progress of events in the Civil war, and though but a boy his patriotic nature was aroused by the thrilling incidents which occurred as the great contending armies met and battled, the one for the Union and the other for the privilege of secession. Accordingly when still in his teens he offered his services to the government and donned the blue uniform. Going to the south he was in active service up to the time of the siege of Atlanta, when he was captured in July, 1864. He was then sent to Andersonville prison, where he remained until released by a special exchange of prisoners in the following September. During a portion of his service he was with Taylor's Battery of the First Illinois Light Artillery and participated in a number of the important engagements of the

war. He never faltered in the performance of any soldierly duty. He took his place on the lonely picket line or on the firing line, went on long, hard marches and met the rigors of war uncomplainingly. His interest in military affairs was further evidenced by his fifteen years' of service in the Illinois National Guard, during eight years of which time he was a member of the famous Rockford Rifles, and for seven years he was regimental adjutant with the rank of captain. He has never ceased to feel the deepest interest in military organizations of state and nation, and is justly proud of the accomplishments of our standing and volunteer armies.

Following the close of the Civil war Captain Lake returned to his home in Winnebago county and began working at the carpenter's trade. Soon, however, he accepted a position in the shops of the Emerson Manufacturing Company, where he was employed for thirteen years. Since that time he has largely been occupied with public duties, his fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, having frequently called him to office. In 1881 he was a candidate for the position of collector and received a good majority, and on the expiration of his term of service in that office he was made deputy county clerk, in which capacity he served for six years. His experience and his familiarity with all the duties of the position well qualified him for the further official honors which were accorded him by his election to the office of circuit clerk. For the fifth term he is the incumbent in that capacity, and no higher testimonial of his efficiency, fidelity and promptness could be given than the fact that he has been four times re-elected.

Captain Lake was married to Miss Martha A. Allen, on the 20th of June, 1866, and they have had three children, but only one, a daughter, Gertrude, is now living. The family home is at No. 229 North Church street. Socially Captain Lake is connected with the Grand Army of the Republic, with the Masons, the Royal League, the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Knights of Pythias, together with other beneficiary organizations. In political thought and action he has always been a republican, carrying out his honest convictions without fear or favor, and as a public servant he has been true to the trust reposed in him, while in private life he has gained that warm personal regard which arises from true nobility of character, deference for the opinion of others, kindness and geniality.

JUDGE WILLIAM BROWN.

No citizen of Winnebago county was ever more respected and no man ever more fully enjoyed the confidence of the people or more richly de-

served the esteem in which he was held than did Judge William Brown. In his life time the people of his state, recognizing his merit, rejoiced in his advancement and in the honors to which he attained, and since his death they have cherished his memory. Honorable in business, loyal in citizenship, charitable in thought, kindly in action, true to every trust confided to his care, his life was of the highest type of American manhood. He was for many years in active practice at the Winnebago county bar, and comparatively few men endear themselves to so great an extent to their professional associates and to those with whom they come in contact in the discharge of public duties.

His life record began in Cumberland county, England, where occurred his birth on the 16th of June, 1819. He possessed a very retentive memory and recalled vividly all of the circumstances of his trip across the ocean to the new world when he was eight years of age. He had, too, a strong mental picture of his native town and the schoolhouse in which he began his education, and he frequently told of his surprise at first seeing the negro, meeting that colored individual in Liverpool when on his way to America. It was in 1827 that he was brought to the United States, and his boyhood days were passed on a farm in Oneida county, New York. His educational privileges were somewhat limited because it was necessary that he should assist in the labors of the fields from the time of early spring planting until crops were harvested in the late autumn; but during the winter months he applied himself diligently to the mastery of such branches of learning as were taught in the public schools. He entered college but was obliged to leave before completing the course. His ambition was in the direction of a professional career, and determining upon the practice of law as a life work, by indomitable energy and close application he prepared himself for practice, and was admitted to the bar in New York state.

Attracted by the opportunities of the great and growing west he started for Illinois in 1846. His cash capital was very limited but he possessed strong and determined purpose. He arrived in Rockford on the 10th of November, finding a little town of less than one thousand inhabitants, and where now are some of Rockford's busy streets there were forests and thickets. He cast in his lot with the early settlers, being at that time a young man of twenty-seven years and having a capital of forty-eight dollars and fifty cents. His entrance into business life in the west was as a teacher of a country school about ten miles from Rockford, but he soon became ill and was unable to pursue his labors for several months. He recovered to face debts and discouragement brought on by his long continued illness. Friends

advised him to go to Wisconsin, and he visited Beloit, after which he returned to Rockford. At the time that he was endeavoring to decide whether to maintain his residence in this place or seek a home elsewhere he was elected justice of the peace, and though the office did not pay him a very liberal salary it proved the turning point and he decided to remain in Winnebago county.

In 1850 Judge Brown was united in marriage to Miss Caroline H. Miller, and ever afterward he said, "This was the wisest move I ever made." They began their domestic life in a little cottage on the present site of the Carpenter home of Rockford, and Judge Brown continued a member of the bar, doing his best to secure clientage and to so conduct his cases as to win the confidence of the public. After six years' service as justice of the peace he was elected state attorney in 1852. Already he was demonstrating his ability to handle involved litigated interests, and he rendered capable service in the second position to which he was elected, a fact which also did much to win him public confidence and support. He was also called to other public offices, being one of the township trustees prior to the incorporation of the city, and in 1857 he was honored by election to the mayoralty, in which office he gave to the young city a business-like and progressive administration, carefully guarding its financial interests and at the same time using his influence and official prerogatives for the upbuilding and promotion of its welfare. In 1864 he was elected to the state legislature, and for a term of two years was active in framing the laws of the commonwealth. For six years he served by appointment as master in chancery, and in 1870 he was elected to the circuit bench, serving for twenty years with conspicuous ability in that position. He had great respect for the dignity of judicial place and power, and no man ever presided in a court with more respect for his environments than did Judge Brown. As the result of this personal characteristic the proceedings were always orderly upon the part of every one—audience, bar, and the officers from the highest to the lowest. The court records are the best proof of his capability. His opinions are fine specimens of judicial thought, always clear, logical and as brief as the character of the case will permit. His life during the entire period of his course at the bar and on the bench was directed in the line of his profession and his duty. He was exceptionally free from all judicial bias, his varied legal learning and wide experience in the courts, the patient care with which he ascertained all the facts bearing upon every case which came before him, gave his decisions a solidity and an exhaustiveness from which no member of the bar could take exceptions.

The home life of Judge Brown was largely ideal. Unto him and his wife, who still survives him, were born two sons, Edward W. and Frank R. Brown, of the Nelson Knitting Company; and a daughter, May, now the wife of H. W. Buckbee. His interests centered in his family and he counted no personal sacrifice on his part too great if it would promote the welfare or happiness of his wife and children. No better indication of his love for his family and the desire for the best development of his sons and daughters can be given than to print a letter which he wrote to them after his elevation to the bench, which read as follows:

Galena, Ill., June 8, 1873.

To Eddie, Frankie and May:

My Dear Children:

Your pa was unanimously elected judge of the First Judicial Circuit of the State of Illinois last Monday, for the term of six years.

If we live to the close of my term in office, Eddie will be twenty-two, Frankie nineteen and little May fourteen years of age. The boys will be young men and May will be almost a young lady. As to you, boys, there is no more important period in your lives than the next six years. Your characters ought then to be formed for good or for evil. It will be developed by that time, whether you will make noble, useful men in the world, or whether you will be worthless loafers, respected by none and despised by all. It will be a terrible affliction to your pa and ma to raise up a worthless boy. What will be of more value to you than anything else is a fixedness of purpose, a determination and a will to do right—let others do as they may. You want a fixed principle so that you can not under any circumstances be influenced to do wrong. When you go out (as you will soon have to go) from home and home influences, you want your habits so firmly established that you will not drink, that you will not use tobacco, that you will not use profane or vulgar language, and that you will not associate with the wicked or the vile.

Boys, you have ability enough to make talented men, and a noble future awaits you, if you only dare to do right.

Another thing that I want to particularly impress upon you is this: always be kind, respectful and obedient to your dear mother. I never knew a boy to make a good man who was unkind to his mother. Your mother will mostly have charge of you for the next six years. If you will under all circumstances obey her, and kindly do her bidding, I will have no fears of your future; but if on the other hand you disobey her and treat her unkindly, you will become worthless, cruel and wicked. In the Bible chil-

dren are commanded to obey their parents, for this is right.

I trust that little May will always be a bright, twinkling little star, shedding her light upon a sin-cursed and darkened world. May you all grow up to be a blessing in the world, and a comfort and joy to your parents.

From Your Loving Pa.

Only those who knew Judge Brown best appreciated to the full extent his ability, his character and the depths of his kindly nature. The local press at the time of his demise, which occurred January 15, 1891, said:

Judge Brown was a high type of American manhood. He was earnest, honest and self-reliant. From a poor boy he made his way up to a position which any man might envy, and in doing so pushed no other man down, nor was there ever a suspicion of trickery or dishonesty in any way attached to him. None ever knew him but to respect him. He possessed strong opinions which he held tenaciously but never obtruded them upon others. He acquired a considerable by strict business principles and shrewd speculations. It was ever a pleasure to meet him. He possessed a large fund of information which he could impart with rare ability, and was a whole-souled, genial and companionable gentleman.

As a jurist, Judge Brown bore the highest reputation. For twenty years he sat on the circuit bench, and rarely did he have a decision reversed in the higher courts. He was deeply learned in legal lore, and was so eminently fair that all litigants and attorneys were glad to have him try their cases. Strong temperance man as he was, the saloonists themselves were glad to have him on the bench at their trials. His reputation as a jurist was not local, but extended far and wide, and it would be well inscribed on his tomb, "He was a righteous judge." He was deeply interested in his duties on the bench, and sought only to raise the standard of American jurisprudence, make decisions which would stand the test of time, and leave an honorable reputation—all of which he accomplished. He knew no way to administer the law but on the great principles of the science, and with painstaking conscientiousness worked out the problems presented by each suit tried before him. His reward was in the consciousness of duty well performed, and the universal honor and respect of the legal profession.

As a citizen, Judge Brown was a noble type. He fully appreciated the responsibilities of American citizenship, and earnestly sought to meet them. Never a politician, and far removed in nature and vocation from affinity with the noisy strife of partisanship, he fairly faced every issue

of the day, decided which course was the better for his country and the people in his estimation, and then by voice and vote forwarded the cause which his clear head had caused him to espouse. He was an earnest republican, a republican from deeply rooted principle and no minor mistake which the party could make, no abuse of the party by individuals, could swerve him from his principles. Right was right with him, and his attention could not be distracted by minor issues. He did loyal work for the party in a quiet way, and his time, his energy and his purse was always at its command. He was a strong temperance man and worked with a will for the cause. The old residents will remember with how firm a hand he enforced the liquor laws during his term as mayor. Careful as he was as judge, not to allow his personal opinion to interfere with his interpretation of the law, as an executive officer he was as firm as adamant and enforced the temperance laws with a hand of iron. Once convinced of his duty naught could swerve him. The liquor men girdled his fruit and ornamental trees, and otherwise injured the grounds, out of anger at his firmness, but he never wavered. They threatened him, but he knew not fear, and went about his business as openly as ever and entirely unattended. Nearly all his life long occupying public positions, no man ever charged that he did not in every case do his duty, and no man ever suggested a word against his absolute honesty. He was a good citizen. If all were such as he government would be a simple matter, and the community would be an Elysium indeed.

The judge was an honest and consistent Christian and has ever been devoted to the church. He has been closely identified with the Centennial Methodist Episcopal church for many years, and was one of the principal movers in erecting the new church. He held all the affairs of Methodism close to his heart, and was interested in the church at large as well as local organizations. There was no Christian movement but appealed to his heart and interest. He was always to be found in the front rank of workers for the cause of Christ and of right. He filled various lay offices in the Methodist church and will be greatly missed by his fellow workers in the field. He possessed to an eminent degree the Christian virtues of forgiveness and benevolence, and did what he could to lighten the loads of others.

In his family Judge Brown was a king, enthroned in the love and honor of his children. He was a great home man and loved the joys of his fireside. Nothing was too good for his family that he could get. Their happiness was the apple of his eye and the life inside of the charmed home circle was most beautiful. He was the idol of his wife and children. The latter have ever

regarded his opinion as beyond debate or doubt, and what he said they were willing to stake their lives on. It has been a beautiful example of faith to all who knew them. The sons, grown men of strong opinions themselves, and ready to combat their opinions in the world, have ever bowed before his wider experience and riper judgment. During the past year since failing health compelled him to give up the active duties of life, he has especially enjoyed his home and the sunny smiles of his granddaughters growing up about him. During the last hours when naught else could arouse him from the lethargy into which he was sinking, the presence of the little girls in his room would summon the scattered faculties like a gleam of sunshine and he would notice them pleasantly. It is in this circle where the loss falls most heavily. The state loses a good citizen, the people a good neighbor, the church a good member, humanity a good man, and a thousand hearts bow in sadness at his death; but one circle about the deserted fireside lose something more tangible. They lose a guide ever ready with advice and encouragement; a father and husband whom they loved with passionate tenderness.

THOMAS LAKE.

Thomas Lake, deceased, was a representative farmer of Winnebago county, born on the 4th of July, 1806, at Blackford, in the parish of Selworth, Somersetshire, England, his parents being William and Elizabeth Lake. The father was a farmer by occupation and carried on a milling business in connection with the tilling of the soil. The Lake homestead belonged to the estate of Sir. T. D. Ackland.

Thomas Lake, reared to the occupation of farming, followed that pursuit during the greater part of the time until his father's death. Soon afterwards he sailed for America. He had previously married Miss Lavinia Atkins, a daughter of John Atkins, a farmer residing at Whitcomb in the parish of Minchhead. It was in May, 1832, that Mr. Lake sailed from Bristol on board the bark Charlotte, bound for New York. The voyage was a long and tedious one as compared with the rapid transportation of the present times, but at length anchor was dropped in the American port. A few days later Mr. Lake proceeded to Troy, New York, where he was employed for a short time, but owing to a cholera epidemic he deemed it wise to proceed on his westward way. They stopped for a short time in Ohio and there Mr. Lake worked at the carpenter's trade, which he had learned in his native land. Subsequently he started with his family



THOMAS LAKE

for Chicago, where he arrived on the 1st of October, 1835. It was not until about two years later that the city was incorporated. There he was employed by a Mr. Steel, who was later elected sheriff of Cook county. In March, 1836, accompanied by Mr. Twogood and his family, Mr. Lake and his family completed the trip to Rockford. At that time the land office had not been opened, the entire county being in a primitive condition. The Lake family remained at the home of Daniel S. Haight until a log house could be erected by Mr. Lake on his claim near Rockford. He secured a considerable tract of land in Guilford township and there he began the development of his farm, aiding in large measure in the substantial improvement of the county at an early day. He was one of the worthy pioneer settlers and assisted in laying broad and deep the foundation upon which has been reared the superstructure of the present prosperity and progress of Winnebago county.

Before leaving England one son, Robert W., had been born unto Mr. and Mrs. Lake. Their daughter, Mrs. E. J. Lake, now owns a fine farm on section 2, Guilford township, and from pioneer days down to the present the family has been prominent in this county, its members being respected and worthy citizens.

IRVIN S. SUMNER.

Irvin S. Sumner, filling the position of postmaster at Pecatonica, is one of the leading citizens of his part of the county, his labors proving effective in advancing the welfare of the town, while his efforts in his business interests have brought him a gratifying measure of success. He was born in Pecatonica, November 8, 1844, his parents being William and Cynthia (Farrell) Sumner, both of whom were natives of the Empire state. The father came to Winnebago county in 1835, casting in his lot with the pioneer settlers of Pecatonica township, where he entered land from the government. He was one of the first to locate on the banks of the Pecatonica river and throughout his entire business life he carried on general farming and stock-raising. In 1858 he made a business trip to Iowa and there dropped dead from heart failure. His wife had departed this life in 1856. They were the parents of two sons and a daughter: Irvin S.; Louise, who married William Marsh and is now living in California; and Eugene, whose death was occasioned by a tree falling on him when he was twenty-one years of age. After losing his first wife William Sumner married Miss Ellen Leonard, and they had one child, Flora, who is

now the wife of William Giltrap, of Anamosa, Iowa.

Irvin S. Sumner pursued his education in the public schools and remained at home until the age of fourteen years, when he went to Kansas, where he spent two years working as a farm hand. He then returned home and in 1861 worked upon the farm, attending school through the winter months. In the year 1862, however, he offered his services to the government, being then but seventeen years of age. He enlisted in Company B, Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and on the 4th of September was mustered in at Rockford. He served for more than two years and was then honorably discharged on account of disability at Chicago, January 6, 1865. He went from Rockford with his regiment to Louisville, Kentucky, and on to Perryville, where he was first under fire, participating in the battle at that place. Subsequently he went to Nashville, Tennessee, where the first winter was spent, and being on the sick list he was in the hospital most of the time. Later he rejoined his regiment at Murfreesboro, Tennessee, and with his company moved on to Winchester and to Chattanooga. He participated in the battle of Missionary Ridge, thence went to Knoxville, where the winter of 1863 was passed, after which his command followed General Bragg through to Kenesaw Mountain, and in the notable engagement which occurred at that place Mr. Sumner was wounded on the 27th of June, 1863. He was struck by a ball which entered the right side above the hip and came out just below the breast-bone, passing through the large lobe of the liver. Mr. Sumner is the only man in this state with the exception of ex-Governor Joseph Fifer that ever sustained such a wound and lived. He was wounded in the morning and lay on the field until the following day, when he was found in the grass, which was covered with blood. He was discovered by his company commander, Captain Thompson. The doctors had done nothing for him, as they thought he could not live, but the captain ordered them to dress his wound, which they did, and later he was removed to Big Shanty, about six miles from the battle-field. Care had been given him so late that the microbes had done their work before the wound was dressed. He was sent to Chattanooga, Tennessee, on the 2d of July, remaining in the hospital there for some time, and afterward was in the hospitals of Nashville and of Louisville, Kentucky, being transferred from the last named to Jeffersonville, Indiana. Because of the delay in attending his injuries gangrene set in and in burning out the poison the surgeon also burned off an artery and he came very nearly losing his life from bleeding to death. After being transferred to Chicago he

was in the Marine Hospital under Dr. Isham until discharged from the service, and after his return home was under the care of Drs. Butler and Newell, but more than a year passed before he could stand erect, and he has always suffered from his wound, having never recovered his general health. For months at a time he has been under the care of an attendant, and in fact has never enjoyed a well day since the fatal battle of Kenesaw Mountain. He made a great sacrifice for his country and belongs to that class of brave and noble men to whom the country owes a debt of gratitude that can never be repaid.

As soon as possible after somewhat regaining his health Mr. Sumner resumed business in connection with farming interests in this state. In 1880 he rented a farm belonging to his uncle and thus superintended between twelve and fourteen hundred acres of land, continuing in the conduct and operation of that place until about four years ago. He now owns a valuable farm of one hundred and thirty-five acres, which he purchased a number of years ago, and which he rents, while he is living in a good home in Pecatonica and filling the position of postmaster here. He has done much to advance business interests in the village, promoting public progress along commercial and industrial lines. He was one of the first men to aid in starting the creamery and was also one of the founders of the Milk Condensing Company. He himself became a stockholder and induced others to invest, and these enterprises have proved of much value in business circles here.

Mr. Sumner has been married three times. He wedded Miss Sarah Green, a daughter of Elbridge and Mary (Brewer) Green, and they became the parents of two sons, William and George. The former married Florence Christman and they reside in Pecatonica. George, also of Pecatonica, wedded Miss Betsey Doty and has two sons, Harold and Eugene. For his second wife Mr. Sumner chose Ellen Kerr, a daughter of Peter and Margaret (Winchester) Kerr, and they have two daughters, Alice A. and Anna L., who are attending to the duties of the postoffice. For his third wife he chose Minnie Hamlin, a daughter of Jeremiah and Mary (Madden) Hamlin. Her father was born at Bleeding Hill, Massachusetts, a brother of Vice President Hamlin, and the mother was born at Rochester, New York. She died in 1866, while Mr. Hamlin passed away in 1875, both dying in Rockford. They had come to the west about 1853, settling in the county seat, where Mr. Hamlin lived retired. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity. Unto him and his wife were born two daughters, Mrs. Sumner and Hattie, the deceased wife of J. S. Tutthill, a lumber merchant of Sioux

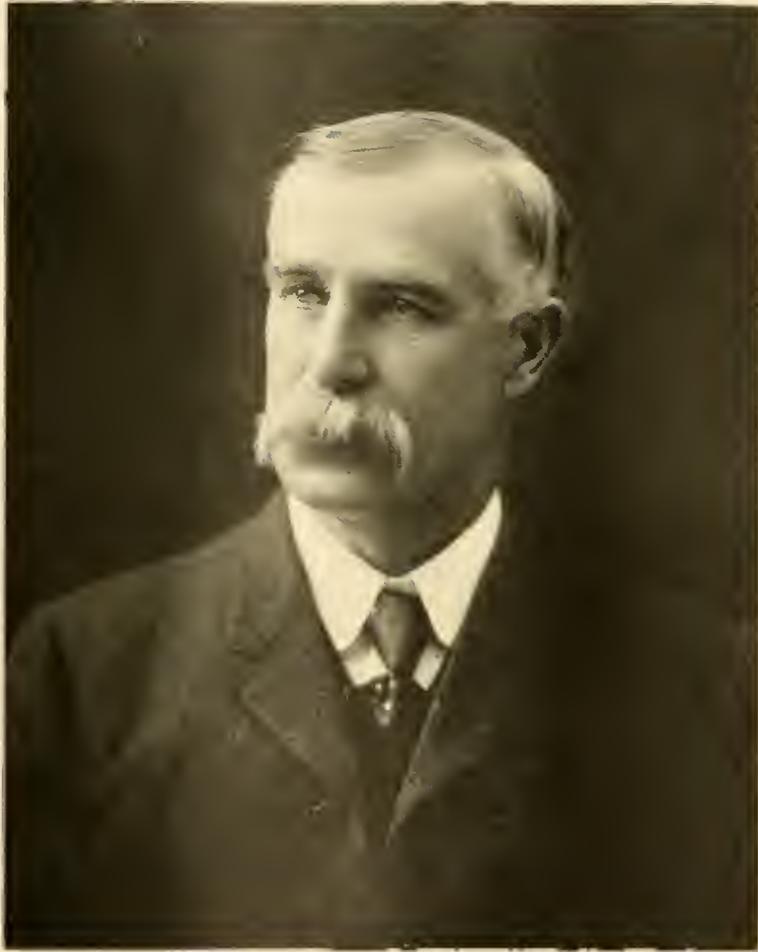
Falls, South Dakota. She died in Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 1902, leaving one child.

Mr. Sumner is an earnest advocate of republican principles, his first vote being cast for Abraham Lincoln on the 8th of November, 1865. He was challenged by Charles Stephens, a democrat, but Mr. Sumner swore in his vote, just the same, for it was his twenty-first birthday and he was, therefore, entitled to exercise his right of franchise and supported the republican candidate, who in the light of history is regarded as one of the greatest men the nation has ever produced. He was commissioner of highways for twelve years and was school commissioner for three years, but has never cared to hold office in Pecatonica save that which he is now filling—the position of postmaster. He is a member of Ellis post, No. 20, G. A. R., and thus maintains pleasant relations with his old army comrades. In days of peace and days of war he has been equally loyal to his country, and stands to-day as one of the representative citizens of Winnebago county, honored and respected by all who know him.

THOMAS WINCHESTER.

Thomas Winchester, a general contractor, devoting his attention mainly to cut stone work, is a native of Northumberland county, England. He was born in the year 1846 and remained in his native country until ten years of age. In 1857 he crossed the Atlantic to America and became a resident of Pecatonica, Winnebago county, Illinois. His parents resided at that place until called to their final rest and the father, William Winchester, was also engaged in the stone-cutting trade.

Thomas Winchester of this review was a young man of twenty years when, in 1866, he left home and took up his abode in Rockford, where he has since resided. In early life he learned the stone-cutter's trade and after working as a journeyman for a number of years, during which time he gained a thorough and accurate knowledge of the business, he embarked in business for himself and for the past sixteen years has been well known as a contractor of this city. He has a yard located at the Kenosha division depot and employs on an average throughout the year from fifteen to twenty men, while oftentimes he has in his service as many as fifty men, all skilled mechanics. He has erected under contract numerous fine buildings in the city and in fact has worked for most of the leading stone contractors of Rockford. He is now engaged in the erection of the First Prebyterian church at Main and Worth streets, associated with John P. Cullen. He has now fol-



THOMAS WINCHESTER.

lowed the stone-cutting business for forty years and as time has advanced his patronage has gained until he is now a leading representative of this line of activity in his adopted city.

Mr. Winchester was married in Pecatonica to Miss Esther J. Corwin, of that place, a daughter of Squire Corwin, who was an early resident of the city and is now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Winchester have five children, all of whom were born in Rockford: Edith, now the wife of W. F. Pitney, who is engaged in the grocery business in Rockford; Thomas R., a stone-cutter, who is married and makes his home in this city; Nellie, the wife of J. H. Tole, who is chief money order clerk in the postoffice, and has two children, Arthur T. and Dorothy; and Mabel and Maud, both at home. The family residence is at No. 720 Fifth avenue.

In his political allegiance Mr. Winchester is a democrat. In his social relations he is an Odd Fellow, belonging to both the lodge and encampment of Rockford, and he has filled all of the chairs in the order. He likewise holds membership relations with the Tribe of Ben Hur. Strong purpose and unfaltering industry constituted the success of his rise in the business world and from a humble position as an apprentice Mr. Winchester has worked his way upward until as a contractor he is prominent, controlling important business enterprises.

ISRAEL SOVEREIGN.

Israel Sovereign, now in the seventy-eighth year of his age and living retired at No. 313 North Church street, in Rockford, was born in Canada, November 6, 1827. His parents, John and Miriam (Mabee) Sovereign, were residents of Canada. The father was born in New Jersey and went to the Dominion with his parents when but four years of age, so that he was reared in that country. He took up land in the province of Ontario and followed farming in the township of Malihide until the fall of 1840, when he removed to Winnebago county, making the journey overland to Rockford by way of Chicago, and at that time the latter city contained but three houses on the west side of the river. While living in Canada he had been called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died in 1839, when thirty-nine years of age. She left ten children, nearly all of whom reached mature years, and one is a resident of California, one of Missouri and two of Illinois. With his family Mr. Sovereign started for this state, making the journey with teams and wagons and reaching his destination on the 10th of November. Being left with a large family, he married again, Mrs. Mary Mason, a na-

tive of Illinois, becoming his wife. Their marriage occurred in Boone county, and Mrs. Sovereign also had a number of children by her first marriage. Arriving at his destination, Mr. Sovereign purchased a house on Third street, in East Rockford, south of the park, and there made his home for a time, after which he bought a farm on section 31, Guilford township, this property being now partly owned by Reuben Sovereign. The father became the owner of a half section on Fourteenth avenue road and also the northeast quarter of section 31, which is now the property of Reuben Sovereign, and the northwest quarter of section 32, which has since passed out of possession of the family. Israel Sovereign owned the west half of the northwest quarter of section 32, which he afterward traded for a store in Rockford, while the remaining eighty acres was owned by Ruth Sovereign, who married Reuben Havenson, and is now deceased. John Sovereign operated his large farm for a time, but afterward divided it among his children. He resided, however, upon that place until about 1870, when he went to California on a visit to a son, George, who removed there in the early '50s, and in the Golden state John Sovereign passed away on the 20th of August, 1870, when seventy-three years of age. His early political support was given to the whig party and when the question of slavery was the dominant issue before the people he espoused the cause of abolition. He never sought or desired office for himself, however. He and both of his wives were devoted members of the Methodist Episcopal church and he was a local minister of Winnebago county, known far and wide as an earnest and faithful Christian man. His second wife reached an advanced age. He was one of the leading pioneers of Guilford township, active in business, charitable and benevolent in his relations to those who needed aid and loyal in his friendships.

Israel Sovereign was reared in Canada and Guilford township, Winnebago county, and in 1857, when thirty years of age, he took up his abode in Rockford, where he became connected with the hardware business, following that pursuit until 1883. He was one of the leading merchants in that line of trade on the west side and he yet owns a business block at No. 116 South Main street. He was one of the promoters of the Rockford Watch company, became a director and also represented the company on the road as a traveling salesman for five years. He met with almost phenomenal success in that work in the northwestern states and parts of Canada.

Israel Sovereign was married in Winnebago county to Miss Laura Judd, who came from Ohio to Illinois in her early girlhood with her parents, Jason and Rebecca (Shaw) Judd, who

settled upon a farm in Durand township and there passed their remaining days, dying about thirty years ago. They were natives of Vermont and Massachusetts respectively and were representative people of their community, enjoying in high degree the regard of all with whom they came in contact. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Sovereign have been born three children—C. Eugene, a prominent business man of Rockford, who married Miss Elsie Irvine; Fred J., who is proprietor of the City Ice Company, and married Luella Rhodes; and Alice. The family are members of the Methodist church and Mr. Sovereign is a republican in politics. He never sought or desired office, however, preferring to devote his attention to his business interests, and for many years he was prominent in commercial circles in Rockford, making for himself a reputation which any man might be proud to possess.

He not only worked his way steadily upward, but was prompt in meeting obligations and never made engagements that he did not fulfill. He placed his reliance in such old and time-tried maxims as "honesty is the best policy," and "there is no excellence without labor," and these proved the basis of his prosperity.

HOMER W. KNOWLTON.

Homer W. Knowlton, cashier of the Pecatonica Bank since 1873, was born in Freeport, Illinois, April 9, 1839. His parents were Dexter A. and Eveline (Arnold) Knowlton, both of whom were natives of Herkimer county, New York. His paternal grandfather, David Knowlton, was born May 7, 1783, and in 1804 was united in marriage to Achsah Barnes. He removed from Herkimer county, New York, to Stockton township, Chautauqua county, about 1813. He followed farming and the trade of boot and shoemaking, which he had learned in early life. He was also active and influential in matters relating to the public welfare, and was one of the deacons of the Baptist church at old Town Line. This church was organized in 1814 and known as the First Baptist church of Stockton.

Unto David and Achsah (Barnes) Knowlton were born seven children: Sophronia, born March 5, 1806, married Isaac Andrus May 29, 1823, removed to Rockford in 1849 and died here June 10, 1888. Achsah, born March 23, 1809, died in childhood. David, born February 15, 1810, also died in childhood. Dexter A., born March 3, 1812, was married January 15, 1834, to Eveline Arnold, who died August 19, 1874, while his death occurred March 10, 1876. Betsey A., born March 3, 1820, became the wife of Lewis Morgan and died November 16, 1882. Dyer, born May 11, 1822, died in childhood. Wil-

liam Alfred, born August 4, 1831, was married January 21, 1857, to Matilda Hitchcock, made his home in Rockford and died in 1892.

Dexter A. Knowlton, father of Homer W. Knowlton, was born March 3, 1812, in Herkimer county, New York, and the following year accompanied his parents on their removal to Chautauqua county, where he resided until 1839. He then went to Freeport, Illinois, where he embarked in business as a general merchant. He was one of the principal promoters and builders of the first railroad out of Chicago, the old Galena & Chicago Union Railroad, now owned and operated as a part of the Chicago & Northwestern Railway system. Of this line he was one of the directors. In 1855 he returned to Westfield, Chautauqua county, New York, and after a residence of six years there he went to Saratoga, New York, where he purchased the Empire Spring and organized the Congress and Empire Spring Company. While in Freeport in 1869 he established the bank of D. A. Knowlton & Sons and continued in the banking business up to the time of his death. In religious faith he was a Presbyterian and in politics he was one of the early advocates of the abolition party, becoming the first candidate of that party in this state for governor. He was married in early manhood to Miss Eveline Arnold, who was born in Herkimer county, New York, and when about seventeen or eighteen years of age went with her parents to Chautauqua county, the marriage being celebrated there at what was called the Town Line, between Jamestown and Fredonia, New York.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Dexter A. Knowlton were born eight children, four sons and four daughters, the first three being natives of the Empire state. The family record is as follows: Arminda, born December 29, 1834, died May 10, 1891. Dexter W., born July 28, 1836, died in 1840. Eveline A., born August 17, 1837, is the wife of Charles Currier and is now living in Berkeley, California. Homer W., is the next of the family. Dexter A., the second of the name, born August 26, 1843, married Mary L. Myers and lived in Freeport until his death, which occurred October 19, 1903. Born in Freeport, he acquired his early education there and was graduated with honors from Williams College in 1866. He became a member of the Phi Beta Kappa fraternity. His entire business career connected him with interests in his native town, for after the death of his father in 1876 he and his brother established the banking house of Knowlton Brothers and he was identified with that institution up to the time of his demise. He was for twenty-six years or more a ruling elder in the Presbyterian church and was also a trustee and treasurer

of Beloit College, Wisconsin, and a member of the Presbyterian board of aid for colleges and academies. In his family were seven children: Florence, Maria, Mabel, Clara M., Mary L., who died June 16, 1888; Jean and Dorothy. Julianna A., born July 2, 1845, died July 4, 1882; Charles D., was successor of Knowlton Brothers at the death of Dexter A. Knowlton, banker, of Freeport and Pecatonica, born January 27, 1848, married Ida A. Mann and has three children—Edith, now living in Freeport; Charles D., Jr., who has recently gone to North Dakota to establish a bank; and Kenneth. Charles D. Knowlton was born in Freeport and was a member of the firm of D. A. Knowlton & Sons. He is one of the prominent citizens of his native town, to whose prosperity he has steadily contributed by his business activity and upright citizenship. Ophelia A., the youngest member of the family of Dexter A. and Eveline (Arnold) Knowlton, was born January 30, 1852, and died in infancy.

Dexter A. Knowlton, the father of the foregoing children, died March 10, 1876, at the age of sixty-four years and seven days. He and his wife were making a pleasure trip through the south and arrived at New Orleans on the 9th of March of that year. The following morning Mr. Knowlton left the hotel to call upon friends, bidding his wife a most cheerful adieu, expecting soon to return to her, but he was found dead sitting on the steps of a public building. He stood fearless in defense of whatever he believed to be right and was a champion of the abolition cause when it required personal courage to announce one's advocacy of those principles.

Another member of the Knowlton family who figured prominently in business circles for many years was William Alfred Knowlton, who died at Rockford in 1892. His history forms an integral chapter in the records of the city. He married Miss Matilda Hitchcock and they became the parents of six children—William A., Jr.; Eveline, Helen, who is the wife of Charles E. Gibson, of Boston, Massachusetts; David, who died in childhood; Matilda, who is the wife of T. H. Hardy, of Boston, Massachusetts; and Mary T.

Homer W. Knowlton acquired his early education in the public schools and in Canandaigua Academy, of New York. He also attended Bryant & Stratton's Business College at Buffalo, New York, and in 1858 he entered the employ of the J. H. Manny Manufacturing Company, manufacturers of reapers, at Rockford. He traveled for that house, making collections, continuing in that service for about a year. His uncle, William A. Knowlton, was in full charge of the business and the estate Mr. Manny, the founder, being deceased. Later Mr. Knowlton secured a position in the Westfield Bank at Westfield,

New York, now the First National Bank there, and in 1861 he went to Saratoga, New York, where he entered the employ of his father, who at that time was the owner of the Empire Spring. He then organized the Congress and Empire Spring Company and Homer W. Knowlton was associated with the conduct of the business for four or five years. In 1871 he began traveling for the American Insurance Company of Chicago, making collections for that corporation until 1873, when he came to Pecatonica, where he has since been engaged in the banking business, the bank having been established by his father and his brothers. He has continuously acted as cashier and the success of the institution is largely attributable to his determined efforts and sound business judgment. The institution is thoroughly reliable carrying on a general banking business, and the patronage is now extensive.

Homer W. Knowlton has been married twice. He first wedded Miss Kate Alton, in May, 1862. She was born at Dunkirk, New York, December 3, 1844, and died July 4, 1897. Her parents were Luther and Mary Ann (Weaver) Alton, also natives of the Empire state. On the 29th of April, 1903, Mr. Knowlton wedded Miss Marsha J. Langtry, a daughter of Dr. William and Jane (Hill) Langtry. She was born at Westville, Franklin county, New York.

In community affairs Mr. Knowlton has been active and influential. He has served as president of the town board, but has never cared for office, preferring to contribute to public progress in other ways rather than as an official. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and both he and his wife are members of the Congregational church. He represents one of the honored pioneer families of northern Illinois and in his business career has so directed his labors that his personal worth has made him a representative citizen of Winnebago county.

JAMES H. CARSON.

On the roster of county officials in Winnebago county appears the name of James H. Carson, who is now filling the position of treasurer, and his public service has won him high encomiums because of his fidelity to duty and his promptness and efficiency in dispatching the business relating to his office. A native of Ireland, he was born in the city of Belfast, March 10, 1846, and is of Scotch-Irish parentage. His father, Robert Carson, was also a native of Belfast and was united in marriage to Jane McVey, a native of Greenock, Scotland, in which place they were married. Soon afterward they removed to Belfast, where their son James H. was born, but subsequently they returned to Greenock, where they resided

for about six years. In 1853 they came to America, settling on a farm near Rochester, New York. They were the parents of eight children, five of whom are still living. The family is noted for longevity and both parents still survive, the father having now reached the age of eighty-eight years, while the mother is eighty-five years of age. They reside on the old homestead in Monroe county, New York, and are venerable and respected citizens of that locality.

James H. Carson, the eldest of his father's family, is indebted to the public-school system of the Empire State for the educational privileges he enjoyed. In 1865, when about nineteen years of age, he came to Illinois, and in Winnebago county engaged in farming. For many years, however, he has been identified with industrial interests in Rockford, having at different times been employed in the works of Emerson Talcott & Company, in the N. C. Thompson manufacturing plant, in the Briggs & Enoch works and in the Trahern Pump Company's factory. Diligence, industry and perseverance have ever been characteristic of his business life and have secured him some excellent positions.

When twenty-three years of age Mr. Carson was united in marriage to Miss Ella M. Thompson, a daughter of Hiram Thompson, one of the early settlers of Winnebago county. Three children have blessed this union: Robert D., who died when twenty-six years of age; Frank A., who is now twenty-eight years of age, and is serving as deputy county treasurer; and Mrs. Mabel F. Wetherell, who also resides here. The family have a pleasant home in South Rockford at No. 1129 Ferguson street, and have made their home in this city since 1873. Socially Mr. Carson is a Mason and has served as secretary of the E. F. W. Ellis lodge, No. 633, A. F. & A. M., for a number of years. He is also connected with the Knights of Pythias, the Tribe of Ben Hur and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and his wife is affiliated with the ladies' auxiliaries of these societies. She is now a past matron of the Order of the Eastern Star and past grand of the Rebekah lodge of the Odd Fellows society.

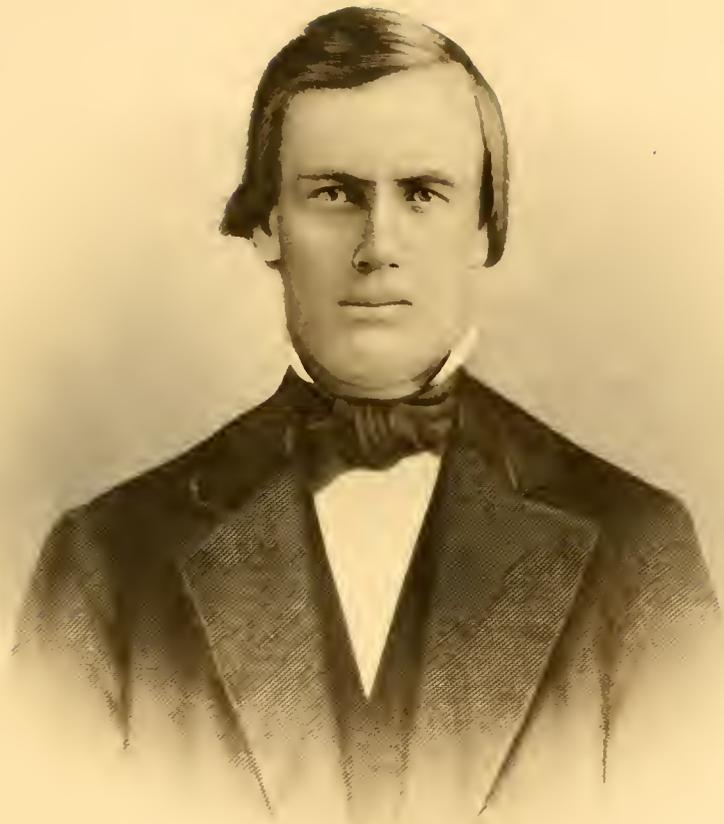
Politically Mr. Carson has ever been a staunch republican, but in local matters he is conservative and will support the candidate who in his judgment is best qualified to fill the office regardless of party lines. His deep and sincere interest in the public welfare has been manifest by the capable service which he has rendered when called by his fellow townsmen to positions of public trust and responsibility. The first office he held was that of supervisor, representing Rockford on the board in 1861, and by re-election he was continued in the position for ten years. He served on a number of important committees and was

chairman of the committee on fees and salaries. He was appointed by the board of health of the city of Rockford as water and plumbing inspector and again he did practical and signal service for the community. From the board of supervisors he received appointment to the office of overseer of the poor, in which position he remained for six years, and at the election held in November, 1902, he was chosen by popular ballot to the office of county treasurer, receiving the unanimous vote of every town in the county and precinct in the city. He is now in charge of the funds of the county and in this office, as in all others which he has been called upon to fill, he has studied closely the best methods to pursue in order to render to his fellow townsmen a service that will promote the public welfare. He has a wide and favorable acquaintance in Rockford and his official career has been characterized by all that marks the exemplary citizen.

ALBERT SANFORD.

Albert Sanford was a descendant of one of the old and prominent New England families and in the history of Rockford the name figures conspicuously, the subject of this review being for a number of years an old and representative business man here. He was born in New Haven, Connecticut, May 1, 1818. The ancestry of the family can be traced back to Thomas Sanford, of Gloucestershire, England, who came to this country with the John Winthrop colony in the period from 1631 to 1633. The family history, however, is obtainable even at a more remote period. Sanford Manor in England is one of the few Shropshire estates which can be said to be held by the lineal descendants of its earliest feoffee. Thomas de Sanford, a Norman follower of William the Conqueror, is mentioned on the roll of battle Abbey. His son, Sir Thomas de Sandford, held under King Henry I that manor of Sandford and Tothal and the former is still in possession of his descendants. The origin of the name is quite evident—a sandy ford—but in many branches of the name the first letter "d" is omitted.

Thomas Sanford, son of Anthony and Jane Sanford, of Stowe, County Gloucester, England, came to Boston with the John Winthrop colony. We find record of him in Dorchestershire, Massachusetts, where with others he received land in 1634 and also in 1635. He became a freeman of the colony, March 9, 1637, and in 1639 removed with a colony from Dorchester and Watertown to Connecticut, settling in Milford, where his name appears in the earliest records. He was the leader in organizing the town and was in-



ALBERT SAIFORD

timately associated with Governor Treat, Leete, Buckingham, Law and other leading men of the times.

Stephen Sanford, grandfather of Albert Sanford, of Rockford, was born at Milford, Connecticut, August 13, 1740, and died on the fifty-fifth anniversary of his birth. He was married while living at Woodbridge, Connecticut, to Sybil White, who was probably born at New Haven, her natal day being October 15, 1745, while her death occurred December 5, 1808. She was a daughter of Deacon John White, a granddaughter of Captain John and Mary (Dickerman) White, and a great-granddaughter of Isaac and Mary (Atwater) Dickerman. Her father settled on a farm in Woodbridge, Connecticut, but afterward removed to New Haven, where he died November 24, 1797, at the age of seventy-five years. He wedded Mary Dickerman, of New Haven, December 27, 1744. Sallie White was a daughter of Lieutenant John White, a son of Deacon John and Mary (Dickerman) White. Lieutenant John White was married May 25, 1778, to Anna Bostwick, of Derby, and their daughter Sallie was born April 5, 1785. She married David Sanford, of Bethany, her death occurring in February, 1836, at the age of fifty years.

Unto Stephen and Sybil (White) Sanford were born nine children: Esther, who was born February 4, 1768, and died May 21, 1768; Esther, the second of the name, who was born July 26, 1769, and married Jared Sperry; Rachel, who was born December 1, 1771, and married Zeri Downes; Hulda, who was born May 17, 1774, and died July 1, 1794; Elisha, who was born July 1, 1776, and married Margaret Tolles; Stephen Elisha, who was born March 30, 1779; Sybil, who was born July 27, 1782, and married a Mr. Sperry; Amos White, who was born December 29, 1785, and married Obedience Atwater; and Lucretia, who was born October 27, 1789, and became Mrs. Beecher. After losing her first husband Sybil White Sanford married Deacon Asa Goodyear, of Hamden, Connecticut.

Albert Sanford, son of Amos White and Obedience (Atwater) Sanford, having acquired his education in the public schools of the east came to the west two years after the arrival of his brother, G. A. Sanford, one of Rockford's most prominent citizens. He located here but after a short time took up land near Pecatonica and began the development of a farm.

In 1844 Mr. Sanford returned to Rochester, New York, and was there married to Miss Emily Gould Bond, who was born near that city on the 4th of June, 1818, her parents being Abner and Mary (Gould) Bond, both of whom were natives of New Jersey, born near Caldwell, that state.

They were of English and German descent respectively and removed from New Jersey to Rochester, New York, her father purchasing a farm at Mendon Center near the city. There he engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred on the 3d of April, 1840, when he was seventy-four years of age. He lived an upright, honorable life in harmony with his profession as a member of the Presbyterian church, in which he long served as deacon. Mrs. Bond came to Rockford in 1844 with her daughter, Mrs. Sanford, and here resided until her death, which occurred, February 6, 1868, at which time she lacked but a month of being ninety-five years of age. She, too, was a devoted member of the Presbyterian church, and she retained her mental faculties unimpaired to the last. They were the parents of thirteen children, of whom two died in infancy, while eleven reached mature years. Mrs. Dodd's grandfather, General Gould, served as private secretary to General Washington, President of the United States, and she distinctly remembers his visiting the family in New York. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Sanford were born two children: One who died in infancy, and Edgar, deceased.

Following his marriage Mr. Sanford brought his bride to Rockford, where he began business as a grain merchant, buying and shipping all kinds of grain. He also conducted a storage warehouse here, and was very successful in both lines, securing as the years passed by a handsome competence. He died September 23, 1854, at the age of thirty-six years, but he is yet remembered by many of the early settlers of the city. He held membership in the Congregational church of Rockford and gave his political support to the whig party. All who knew him esteemed him for his many excellent traits of character, and he was a worthy representative of the family whose name has been an honored one, both in New England and Illinois.

On the 22d of November, 1877, Mrs. Sanford was again married, becoming the wife of Jacob S. Dodd on that day. He was born in Newark, New Jersey, November 17, 1811, and died near that city on the 2d of April, 1884. He entered his business career as an employe in a leather manufactory, and after mastering the business he was connected with the trade either directly or indirectly for a number of years. Later, however, he took up his abode on a small farm just outside of the city, and was largely engaged in dairying until the time of his death. His place was known as the Lyon farm. He was also a stockholder in the Bank of Newark. Active and prominent in church work, he served as an elder in the Presbyterian church of Newark for a long period. He was a director of the Newark Ever-

green cemetery, and was influential and active in public affairs, especially giving his support to all measures that he deemed would prove of general good. A short time prior to his death he was elected justice of the peace.

Mr. Dodd was twice married. He first wedded Rhoda Brown, who died in New Jersey, leaving two children: William B., a retired capitalist, living in Newark, New Jersey; and Phoebe, the wife of Fred Crane, who lives upon her father's old farm near Newark. Mr. and Mrs. Dodd had one daughter, Mabel E., who has always resided with her mother and is quite prominent in society circles in Rockford. Mr. Dodd was a great lover of fine horses, and owned many superior specimens of the noble steed. Both Mr. Dodd and Mr. Sanford were republicans in their political views.

In the fall of 1884, following the death of her second husband, Mrs. Dodd returned to Rockford, in which city she first located in 1844. She is the owner of much valuable property here, and she and her daughter now reside at No. 114 North Winnebago street, where they occupy a beautiful home. She is one of two surviving charter members of the Second Congregational church of Rockford, living in the city, of which her daughter is also a member. Mr. Sanford likewise belonged to this church, while Mr. Dodd was an elder in the Presbyterian church of Lyon Farm, near Newark, New Jersey. Mrs. Dodd gave to that church its first pipe organ. She and her daughter are well known in Rockford, and, although she has not been a continuous resident here she came to the city more than sixty years ago and has ever been an interested witness of its growth and development. She has now reached the eighty-seventh milestone on life's journey, and is remarkably well preserved.

LEWIS SHIRLEY.

Lewis Shirley, whose life span covered more than the allotted three score years and ten, and who in passing away left behind him the memory of an honored name and an upright career, was born March 1, 1820, in Ohio. His parents were Joseph S. and Elizabeth (Keith) Shirley, both of whom were natives of Huntingdon county, Pennsylvania. The father was born March 25, 1793, and about 1810 accompanied his parents on their removal to Ohio, where he formed the acquaintance of Miss Keith, whom he married in Morgan county, Ohio, in 1814.

Lewis Shirley spent his early boyhood days in the Buckeye state and in 1837 accompanied his parents on their removal to Laporte county, Indiana, where the family home was maintained

for three years. They then again started westward with teams, driving across the prairies in the fall of 1840 until they reached Winnebago county, where the father purchased a farm of one hundred and twenty acres. This was a pioneer region, in which much of the land was wild and unimproved, and when most of the houses were little pioneer cabins. The nearest market of any importance was Chicago, and at one time Lewis Shirley drove to that place with a load of pork and a load of wheat, and for the two received only forty dollars. Hardships and privations fell to the lot of the family, but as the years passed they triumphed over these and developed a good farm.

Lewis Shirley was reared under the parental roof and throughout his entire business career followed farming. He opened and improved several hundred acres of land and was a very prosperous agriculturist. As his financial resources increased he invested in property, becoming the owner of fifteen hundred acres in different farms. The old homestead property comprises five hundred acres of highly improved land and he erected there a commodious residence in 1878. He also built good barns and other outbuildings for the shelter of his grain and stock. In all of his farm work he was progressive, practical and reliable and he certainly deserved great credit for the success he achieved. When he came to Winnebago county he did not have a dollar and yet as the years passed, through his industry, frugality and judicious investment, he became one of the extensive landowners of the county, having fifteen hundred acres. About 1880 he sold most of his land and removed to the village of Cherry Valley, where he lived retired until his death.

Mr. Shirley was married twice. On the 6th of January, 1843, he wedded Miss Lucinda Keith, a daughter of Balser and Lucy (Smith) Keith. They became the parents of eight children, but lost two in infancy. The others, three sons and three daughters, are as follows: Elizabeth A., who was born October 31, 1844, and is now the wife of Captain William Van Wert, of De Kalb county, Illinois; Silas W., who was born June 26, 1848, and is living in Cherry Valley; Lucretia E., born January 6, 1850, of Cherry Valley; Phoebe Jane, who was born April 2, 1852, and is the wife of William Thompson, of De Kalb county; Benjamin, who was born November 28, 1855, and is living in Cherry Valley township, and Lewis E., who was born March 13, 1861, and is living in Iowa. After losing his first wife Mr. Shirley was again married in 1863, his second union being with Mrs. Nichols, a native of Canada; and a daughter of Alexander and Orpha (Smith) Black. Her father was born in New Brunswick in 1810 and



LEWIS SHIRLEY.

her mother in Canada in 1809. Mr. Black removed to Winnebago county in 1852 and purchased a large farm in Guilford township, but previous to his arrival here he went to California in 1849 and spent one year on the Pacific coast. He then made his way to Australia, where he engaged in mining for a year, being very successful in his search for the precious metal there. Taking up his abode in this county in 1852, he was extensively engaged in farming and stock-raising, and became widely known as an importer of fine horses. He was once the owner of Prince George, a very fine stallion. He continued to reside upon his farm until 1877, when he removed to the city of Rockford, where he lived retired until his death in 1883. His wife survived him about four years, passing away in 1887. In their family were six children, all of whom are residents of Rockford, namely: Hannah B., the wife of John Hutchins, who is now living retired; Alexander; Rachel, the wife of James Falconer, living with Mrs. Shirley; Margaret C., who is the widow of Ira Stafford, and has been an invalid for many years, living with Mrs. Shirley; Orpha Black, who is also with her sister; and Mrs. Mary Shirley.

In his political views Mr. Shirley was a stalwart republican, interested in his party and doing all in his power to promote its growth and insure its upbuilding. He was active in the work of the Methodist church and favored every movement that tended to promote public progress. He was a large man, weighing two hundred and sixty pounds. He displayed many sterling traits of character, and his genial manner and kindly disposition won him warm friendships. His wife was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church of Cherry Valley. Since her husband's death she has removed to Rockford, where she owns a beautiful residence, at No. 229 North Second street, where she is living with her three sisters. She also owns other property in this city and a farm of four hundred acres in Cherry Valley township. Because of the ill health of her sisters, however, she expects soon to remove to California, hoping that the climate will prove beneficial to them. Both the Shirley and Black families were established here in pioneer days and have borne an important part in the agricultural development of the county.

CAPTAIN AUGUSTUS W. THOMPSON.

Captain Augustus W. Thompson, a veteran of the Civil war, now living retired in Pecatonica, was born in Twinsburg, Ohio, March 8, 1823. His parents were Joel W. and Emily (Mills)

Thompson, both of whom were natives of Goshen, New York. The mother was only three years old when taken by her parents to Ohio and the father, who was born in 1791, was a lad of six years when the Thompson family removed to the Buckeye state. When eighteen years of age he enlisted for service in the war of 1812. He was married in Ohio and both Mr. and Mrs. Thompson spent their last days in Pecatonica township, Winnebago county, the father passing away at the advanced age of ninety-one years, while his wife reached the age of ninety. Joel W. Thompson, accompanied by his son, Augustus W., first came to Winnebago county in 1839, after which they returned to Ohio and in the spring of 1840 the father brought his family to this state, traveling with a two-horse team and covered wagon, as there was no railroad at that time. The journey was a difficult one and the teams became mired in the Maumee swamps, but finally they reached their destination in safety and Mr. Thompson purchased two tracts of land, an eighty and forty acres, respectively, in the timber at Irish Grove. He afterward bought a claim of one hundred and sixty acres at Lysander, now Pecatonica. He was a millwright by trade and in 1830 he built a sawmill. His first home was a log cabin, with a puncheon floor, and in true pioneer style the family began life in Winnebago county, meeting the usual experiences and hardships of those who live upon the frontier. In 1852 he went to California, where he superintended the construction of a mill, receiving one thousand dollars for his services. He was away from home at that time for about fourteen or fifteen months. Upon his return he again took up his abode on the farm and was identified with agricultural development here for a long period. He served as justice of the peace for fifteen or twenty years, retiring from the office in the '70s. While in Ohio he became a member of the Masonic fraternity and in his life exemplified its beneficent spirit. Both he and his wife were consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church and they lent their aid and influence to the intellectual and moral, as well as the material, development of Winnebago county in its pioneer days. Mr. Thompson gave his political allegiance to the whig party until its dissolution, when he joined the ranks of the republican party. In the family of this worthy couple were twelve children, eight sons and four daughters, and three sons and three daughters are yet living.

Captain Augustus W. Thompson pursued his early education in the public schools of his native town and when twenty years of age or more he returned to Ohio, where he completed his education by attending a select school. He was sixteen years of age when he came with his father to this county and began working for a Mr.

Cable as a farm hand for eight dollars per month. He did much teaming, hauling rails and performing other service such as was necessary in the development of a farm in pioneer times. He afterward secured employment with Mr. Hicox, who paid him fifteen dollars per month for his labor as a farm hand. He also assisted in building a mill and later went down the Mississippi river and bought buffalo hides, Indian robes and other such commodities, which he took to St. Louis. In that city he worked at loading and unloading boats which carried cargoes of lead. These boats could not pass the rapids unless the load was taken off and conveyed by team to the other side of the rapids, where the ore was again loaded. On leaving St. Louis Captain Thompson went up the Ohio river to Wellsville and thence drove to Twinsburg, where he sold his buffalo robes and bought a horse. Then, in 1839, he returned to Winnebago county.

On the 10th of October, 1844, Captain Thompson was married to Miss Mariah E. Wells, a daughter of Reuben and Jane (Cole) Wells. Her father was a native of St. Lawrence county, New York, and died in his fiftieth year, while his wife passed away at the age of seventy years. They became residents of Pecatonica township in 1842, the father entering eighty acres of land from the government. He at first lived in a blockhouse and later he improved his farm, making it his home up to the time of his demise. In his family were ten children, but only two are now living, Alfred and John.

At the time of his marriage Captain Thompson built a frame house, which he occupied until 1850, when he went to New York city, traveling by team to Michigan City, thence by rail to Detroit, by stage to Niagara Falls and by rail to his destination. At New York city he took passage on the mail steamship Ohio for Havana, Cuba, with the intention of taking a steamer there, but because of yellow fever instead to New Orleans, where he remained for eight days, after which he returned to Havana, from which point he sailed for the Isthmus of Panama. Crossing the isthmus, he took passage on a sailing vessel, which, sixty-five days later, reached San Francisco harbor. He borrowed three hundred and fifty dollars, on which he paid fifty per cent. interest, so exorbitant were the prices charged in the Golden state in early mining days. He spent two years in mining in California and then returned to his home by way of the route that he had taken to the far west. Here he purchased eighty acres of land and began farming on his own account. Going to Ohio, he purchased horses, which he brought to Illinois, paying two hundred dollars for a team, which he here sold for three hundred and sixty dollars. It was in 1853 that he made the trip. After farming for a

time Captain Thompson embarked in the dry goods business in connection with Robert Coleman, but sold out in 1857 and went to New York. By boat he made a trip to California and on to Nevada, where he engaged in teaming, making as high as one hundred dollars per day with his team. He lived in Carson City for about a year and a half, after which he turned his attention to the logging business, in which he continued for a year, when the Civil war broke out, and he returned to his home by way of the pony express route.

In the meantime Captain Thompson had made a trip to Pike's Peak at the time of the gold excitement there. He left his home in April, 1858, going by team to Burlington, thence by boat to St. Louis, where he purchased a team of horses and company outfit. There were six men in the party, including his twin brothers, Edward and Edwin Thompson, Jefferson Southard, L. Henderson and Wilson Johnson. The party proceeded by boat up the Missouri river, but left the boat at Leavenworth and went through to Fort Riley. They crossed the Blue river and joined the government train. Major Russell in command, traveling with the train to the vicinity of Cherry Creek. About forty miles south of Denver Captain Thompson's horse was bitten by a rattlesnake and the party remained for two weeks until the horse had recovered. They camped by the side of the mountain stream, and there were antelope and rabbits for game. They then proceeded to Cherry Creek along the Santa Fe trail, on the Denver and to Boulder, where they went into camp in an old log shanty. They took their wagons down the ravine, covered them with pine boughs and then turned the horses loose on the ranch. Leaving their outfit at that place, they went up the mountains to the snow ridge and Captain Thompson found rock which contained gold. He thought he could obtain the metal by panning, but they got only about ten cents per pan. They took up six claims and made sluices, sawing the lumber with a pit saw. A party passed by en route to California and Captain Thompson sold them one of his wagons. He afterward returned to Denver, where he shod one of his horses, having brought the nails with him from the east. This horse he then rode to Gregory Diggings to see his brother but in the meantime the brother had started to Denver to find the captain. He returned to what is now the beautiful capital of Colorado and then started home along the Platte river, which the party followed to Omaha, striking thence eastward through Iowa and crossing the Mississippi river at Bellevue on a ferry. They arrived in Pecatonica in August, 1858, and later Captain Thompson began buying grain, which pursuit he followed through the succeeding sum-

mer. He next purchased a drug store, which he sold in 1862. In July of that year he wrote to the war governor, Richard Yates, for a commission to raise a company of volunteers, receiving the official paper on the 1st of August. Within five days he had enrolled sixty-five men, and when he had secured an enrollment of one hundred and ten men the governor commissioned him a lieutenant. The troops went into camp for a month and on the 4th of September, 1862, were mustered in by General Fuller as Company B, Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry.

The regiment proceeded southward to Louisville, Kentucky, thence to Perryville, on to Nashville and to Camp Johnson, where the winter was spent. Their first engagement was at Perryville, and they also participated in the battles of Stone River and Murfreesboro. In February, 1863, they were ordered to Chattanooga in command of a company of prisoners. It was about this time that Captain Thompson was commissioned ranking officer of the company. With his command he assisted in putting up breastworks and went on to Atlanta, Georgia, where he was granted a leave of absence, spending twenty-two days at home. He then returned to his regiment at Atlanta, and when his troops were at Spring Hill they were nearly surrounded. Captain Thompson, while participating in the battle there, was shot in the right eye. His brigade drove the rebels out but no attention was paid to the captain, for the doctor said that he had no chance to live. He was put under a tent at night and the rebels surrounded the tent and in an ambulance Captain Thompson was taken to Franklin, Tennessee, ten miles from Spring Hill. He was afterward taken to Nashville, where he was placed in a hospital, remaining there for twenty days. Later he returned home, where he spent six weeks, after which he rejoined his command at Columbus, Georgia, although his wound still caused him serious trouble. He afterward went to Chattanooga and later to Nashville, where he served as officer of the day. He was then ordered to headquarters and at the close of the war he received an honorable discharge. Captain Thompson made up his books himself and was the first officer to report. He now has the bullet which he carried in his head for three and a half years. It is flattened where it hit the frontal bone and its weight is one ounce.

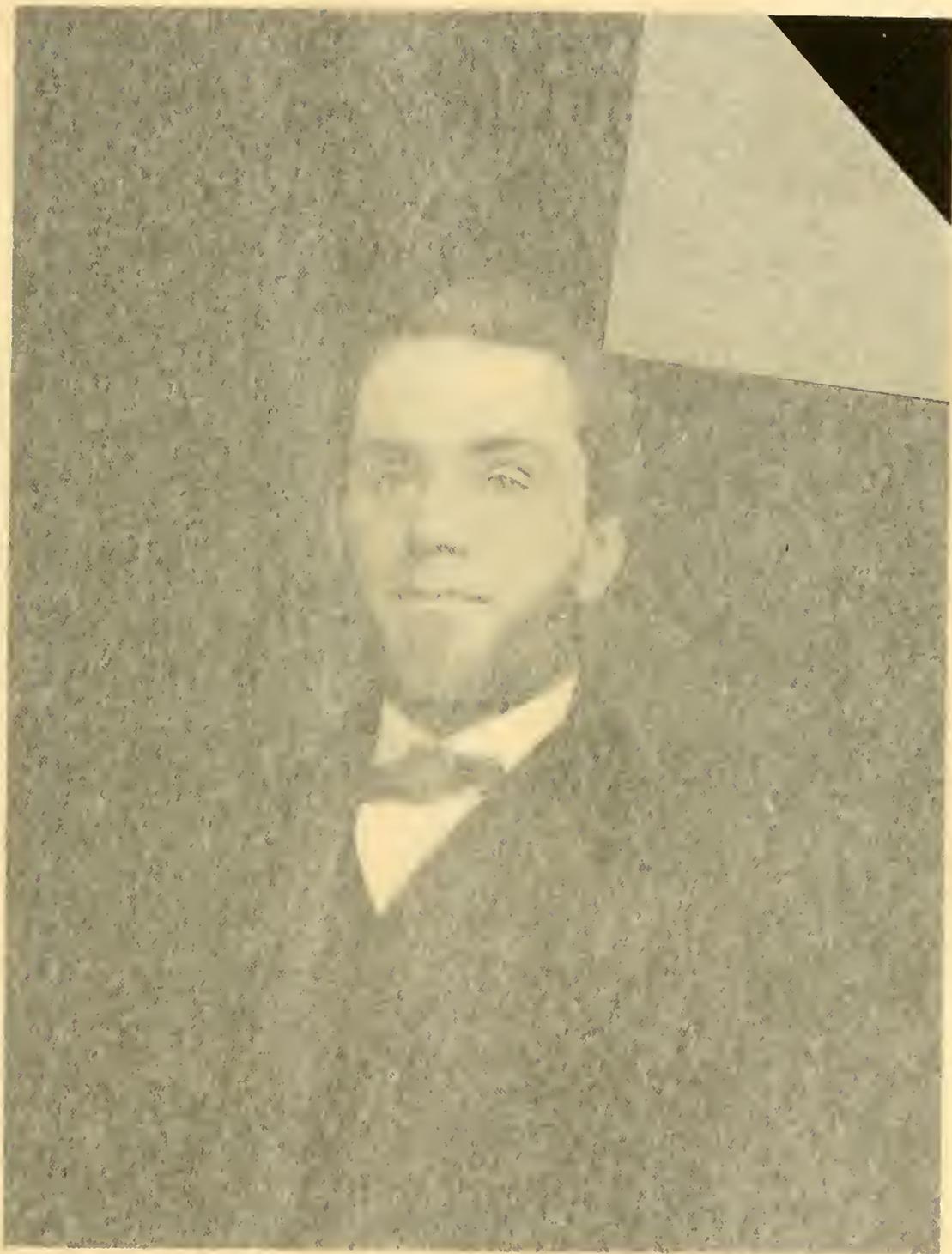
Captain Thompson is a member of Ellis post, No. 320, G. A. R., and at this writing is officer of the day. He made a splendid military record, being distinguished by unswerving loyalty and by marked valor in times of danger. He also belongs to A. W. Rowson lodge, No. 145, A. F. & A. M., and he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

In 1877 Captain Thompson was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife. They had become the parents of the following named: Andrew M., who was a member of the One Hundred and Thirty-sixth Volunteer Infantry, serving as drum major, died at home. Ann is also deceased. John died in infancy. George M. is living in Chicago. Augusta is the wife of H. G. Tisdale and they make their home with her father. Captain Thompson is now living a retired life in Pocatonia. His has been an eventful career. At times he has faced dangers and hardships through pioneer experience in the wild west and again on the field of battle. There have also been periods in which he has quietly followed business pursuits and through his well directed efforts has accumulated a competence. His life history if written in detail would furnish many a thrilling chapter but this brief outline will serve to give to his many friends an account of his activity and shows forth many elements that are worthy of emulation.

S. W. WALLACE.

S. W. Wallace, who is now living retired from active business life, his investments being represented by considerable valuable property in Rockford, was born in Canada near the Vermont state line in 1834, his parents being Robert and Jane Wallace. In 1836 the father removed with his family from Canada to Illinois, settling in the vicinity of Chicago. He took up a large tract of land in Cook county, known later as Bloom township. At that time Chicago was but a small village and had not been incorporated as a city. Much of the land in the county was considered worthless because of its swampy condition and the sale price was very low. Robert Wallace, however, secured his claim and began farming, which occupation he followed for the remainder of his life. He became the owner of an extensive tract of land and as the county became more thickly settled this rose in value. He served as postmaster for a number of years of the town of Bloom, now a part of Chicago Heights, and there he died in 1885, when more than seventy-five years of age. In his family were ten children, but S. W. Wallace and one sister are the only ones now living.

S. W. Wallace, spending his boyhood days under the parental roof, pursued his education in the public schools and in his boyhood aided in the work of the farm, gaining a practical knowledge of all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. He was engaged in farming until twenty years of age, when he learned the trade of wagon-making, which he



Mr. Charles



M. L. Gorham

with Mr. Utter, who manufactured the seeders invented by Mr. Gorham. The latter continued his study of agricultural implements in order to give to the world better farm machinery and invented the corn cultivator, which was manufactured by Mr. Thompson, of Rockford, and also netted to both gentlemen a good financial return. His next invention was the binder, to which he devoted two years of study, investigation and experiment, and in fact he applied himself so assiduously to this work that his health became very seriously impaired and the doctors advised him to travel. He then went abroad, remaining in Europe for a few years, after which he returned and located in New York city, where he received medical attendance from the best physicians. His health was little improved, however, and while he was visiting the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia he became ill with typhoid fever and died in that city, November 17, 1876. His illness was caused by worry and study over his inventions and he has left a splendid monument to his memory in the useful devices which he gave to the world. His name is inseparably associated with the machinery constantly in use upon the farms of the country, and the binder, cultivator and seeder now manufactured by the McCormick Company of Chicago are made after patents produced by Mr. Gorham and which were sold by his widow to that company. Following her husband's death Mrs. Gorham returned to Rockford. Mr. Gorham was very successful with all of the patents which he produced, and his inventive genius made his life one of great benefit to his fellowmen, the influence of which will be felt for years to come. He was very prominent among the pioneer settlers of Rockford and Winnebago county, and for one year served as township supervisor, although he never sought or desired office. In politics he was a democrat and while in Vermont he was a member of the Sons of Temperance.

Mrs. Gorham is prominent in society circles in Rockford, and in this city owns a beautiful home at No. 603 Mulberry street where she and her nephew reside. She has made many modern improvements here and in addition she owns other valuable property in the city which returns to her a splendid rental. Her husband left her in exceedingly comfortable financial circumstances, so that she is now enabled to enjoy all of the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

DAVID W. EVANS.

David W. Evans, who is engaged in general farming and stock-raising, having a very fine herd of Jersey cows upon his farm of one hundred and forty-five acres on section 31, Harlem

township, was born in Grenville, Argenteuil county, Canada, November 30, 1840, and is of English descent in the paternal line. His grandparents, John and Jane Evans, were natives of Hull, England, and the latter died in that country. The grandfather married again and later came to America, settling in Canada in 1820. He died there at a ripe old age.

James Evans, father of our subject, was born in Hull, England, in 1799 and was quite young when he lost his mother. In early life he was apprenticed to the wagonmaker's trade, serving a term of indenture of six and a half years. When he had attained his majority he emigrated to Canada, where he engaged in farming until 1856, when he came to Illinois. He purchased a tract of land in Cherry Valley township, Winnebago county, whereon he followed farming until his death in September, 1870. In 1827 he was married to Ann Campbell, who was born in Inniskillen in 1802, and was a daughter of Robert Campbell, who was of Scotch-Irish parentage. She became a resident of Canada when a young lady, her home being in the vicinity of Grenville, and she died in Guilford township, this county, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Thomas Turner, November 30, 1900. Through much of their residence in this county, however, Mr. and Mrs. James Evans resided in Cherry Valley township, removing there after a year's residence in Rockford.

David W. Evans spent the first sixteen years of his life in the place of his nativity and then came with his parents to Rockford and a year later removed with them to the home farm in Cherry Valley township. He remained under the parental roof until the spring of 1861, when he began farming on his own account, but in the fall he responded to the call of his adopted country for troops to preserve the Union and on the 18th of September enlisted in Company L, Eighth Illinois Volunteer Cavalry as a private. He was mustered out as sergeant in August, 1865. His regiment began its service with the Army of the Potomac and continued in the south until the close of the war. Mr. Evans participated in all the battles with the Army of the Potomac, its marches and campaigns, with the exception of the battle of Fort Stevens, where he was in the hospital. He served under Generals McClellan, Burnside, Hooker, Meade and Grant and also under the cavalry Generals Pleasanton, Buford and Sheridan. Mr. Evans did his full duty as a soldier and at the close of the war participated in the grand review in Washington, D. C. He had two brothers who died in the army, both enlisting from Cherry Valley. James, becoming a member of the Eighth Illinois Volunteer Cavalry, was killed at Beverly Ford, Virginia, June 9, 1863; and Joseph

Evans, a member of the Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry, died in the hospital at Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

During his army service David W. Evans purchased a farm in Cherry Valley township and carried on general agricultural pursuits there until 1883, when he sold that property and purchased his present home, whereon he has since resided. He carried on general farming and has a well improved place. He has every reason to be proud of his fine herd of Jersey cattle—certainly among the finest stock of the county.

On the 27th of April, 1868, Mr. Evans was united in marriage to Miss Emma J. Conklin, a native of Oneida county, New York, and a daughter of James S. and Theresa J. (Martin) Conklin, who at the time of their daughter's marriage were living in Cherry Valley township. Her father was born near Sand Lake, New York, in 1824 and died near Sutherland, Iowa, in 1899. His wife, born in Oneida county, New York, in 1829, died in Cherry Valley, this county, in 1898. Mrs. Evans' birth occurred March 20, 1849. Her sisters are: Mrs. Helen A. Baxter, of Rockford, who has one son and four daughters; Mrs. Laura Baxter, of New Milford township, who died in 1893, leaving four sons and six daughters; Mrs. Melva Tierney, of Sutherland, Iowa, who has two sons and three daughters; Mrs. Cora Cameron, of Cherry Valley township, who has two sons and three daughters; Mrs. Kate Dennison, of Sugar Grove, Pennsylvania, who has three daughters; Mrs. Capitola Baxter, of New Milford township, who has three sons and two daughters; and Miss Lulu Conklin, of Cherry Valley. The brothers of this family are: Fred Conklin, of Sutherland, Iowa, who has eight sons and one daughter; and Oscar Conklin, of Cherry Valley township, who has five sons and two daughters.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Evans were born the following children: Olive G., born March 25, 1873, is the wife of L. L. Burritt, living near Williamsburg, Virginia, and they have three sons, George E., Lewis E. and Jesse D. Jeanette M., born September 16, 1875, is the wife of Charles R. Edwards, of Chicago, and they have two children, Robert L. and Evans. Ruby E., born August 31, 1877, is the wife of James A. Watterson, of Arcdale, Iowa, and has one daughter, Fay. Alice J., born June 23, 1881, Harry G., born December 9, 1885, and Florence C., born May 30, 1890, are at home. They also lost three children—Leroy, at the age of five years and six months; Jesse R., who died at Union, Oregon, April 14, 1896, at the age of twenty-seven years; and Willie.

Mr. Evans has led a busy and useful life and has become a well informed man through reading the daily papers and good literature, thus keeping

in touch with the progress of the world. He is a republican in politics, but not an office seeker, serving in no public positions save that of town school trustee one year and school director for twenty years, the cause of education finding in him a warm champion, who believes in raising high the standard of the schools and in providing good opportunities for the intellectual development of the young. He belongs to Nevius post, No. 1, G. A. R., of Rockford, and to Harlem camp, No. 661, M. W. A., and is an active member of Harmony Grange, No. 957. The family attend the Methodist church.

WILLIAM J. CLEVELAND.

Among the residents of worth in Seward township William J. Cleveland is always prominently mentioned. He was born July 21, 1829, in Hebron, Washington county, New York, his parents being Job W. and Almira Cleveland, the former born in Washington county, August 7, 1796. His father was Job Cleveland, born in New York in 1757, while his death occurred in Washington county when he was well advanced in years. He too was a farmer and reared a family of eleven children. Job W. Cleveland, the father of our subject, died in Wethersfield, New York, July 7, 1870. His wife bore the maiden name of Almira Fenton and was a native of Dorset, Vermont, born November 12, 1799, while her death occurred in Wethersfield, New York, on the eighty-seventh anniversary of her birth. Her parents were also natives of the Green Mountain state and at an advanced age departed this life in Genesee county, New York. The Fentons were mechanics and were pioneers of Vermont, where they were recognized as honorable and upright citizens. The grandfather Fenton was a soldier of the war of 1812 and was granted a pension in recognition of his services. The father of our subject was also a pensioner of the war of 1812, having espoused the American cause during the second conflict with England.

William J. Cleveland was a lad of seven years when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Wyoming county, New York, where he was educated in the public and select schools. He worked upon his father's farm until eighteen years of age and during three winter terms engaged in teaching school. When twenty-two years of age he was married and two years later he came to Illinois, making the journey by rail to Buffalo, where he arrived on the 14th of December, 1853. He then boarded a steamer bound for Detroit, Michigan, and over the Chicago & Galena Railroad, now a part of the Chicago &



MR. AND MRS. W. J. CLEVELAND.

Northwestern Railroad system, he continued his journey to Rockford. Soon after he located in Pecatonica township, where he built a "shack" in a stone quarry. He then chopped wood that winter and the following spring removed to Seward township, having in 1854 purchased eighty acres of land here, he and his brother buying one hundred and sixty acres together. Mr. Cleveland then drove a breaking team of five yoke of oxen through the first summer and has assisted materially in the pioneer development of this section of the state. He lived upon this land for about four or five years, after which he sold his eighty-acre tract and came to his present farm in Seward township, at first purchasing eighty acres, which was the nucleus of his present home. He built a house upon this tract and afterward extended the boundaries of the farm by the purchase of an additional one hundred and twenty acres. In 1885 he erected a fine residence and he has put extensive and substantial improvements upon the place, which is now one of the finest farms of the county, lacking in none of the accessories and conveniences which indicate the progressive farmer. He has tilled the soil and raised stock, making a specialty of short-horn cattle and Chester White hogs and he always keeps first class farm horses.

Mr. Cleveland was married, July 3, 1851, to Elvira J. Curtis, a daughter of Waterman and Sylvia Curtis, both natives of the Empire state. Her father, who was born May 7, 1804, died August 2, 1861, while his wife passed away December 16, 1894, in Seward township, at the age of eighty-eight years, having been born November 6, 1806. Their remains were interred in Gratiot county, Michigan. In their family were eleven children. Francis, born February 12, 1829, and now living in Michigan, married Miss Luceba Rugg and has two sons and three daughters. Sylvia A., born February 2, 1830, died September 22, 1852. Mrs. Cleveland is the next member. Laura, born November 24, 1833, is the wife of William Hall, of Wyoming county, New York, and has four children; Seneca M., born October 6, 1835, and now living in Michigan, married Sophia Barnard and has one child; Helen M., born June 14, 1837, is the wife of John Hall, of Wyoming county, New York, and has one child; Albro, born October 17, 1837, married Lucy Woodard and with their three children they reside in Michigan; Waldo, born July 30, 1841, married and has five children, now living; Martha B., born September 10, 1845, is the wife of Theodore Muscott, of Gratiot county, Michigan, by whom she has four children. Mary E., born July 31, 1848, is living in Michigan; William M., born January 8, 1853, married Kate Chisam and has four children. The father of

this family was a farmer of Wyoming county, New York, until 1859, when he removed to Michigan, where he died two years later. Both he and his wife were members of the Baptist church from early youth and in politics he was a whig and later a republican.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Cleveland have been born seven children. Albert W., born August 27, 1852, married Frankie A. Rugg and has four children, their home being in Rockford. Maria R., born August 26, 1854, died July 14, 1893; Adella E., born June 10, 1857, is the wife of Frank Conger, of Seward, and has four children. Herbert W., born August 8, 1860, married Nanie Moon and with their five children they reside in Rockford; Lillie C., born August 6, 1862, died August 25, 1862. Clara R., born May 22, 1867, is the wife of Frank Holenbeck, of Seward, and has two children. Wilson S., born July 3, 1876, and living on the old homestead with his parents, married Mabel Grady and has three children.

In recent years Mr. Cleveland has left the care of his farm to his son and is now practically living retired. He has returned to his native state to visit the old homestead and the friends of his youth. He has acted as town clerk and collector, as road commissioner and for many years has been a member of the school board and his political support is given to the republican party. He was one of the organizers and is the president of the Old Settlers' Association and for forty-five years he has been a deacon in the Congregational church. His long connection with the church and his fidelity to its interests and its teachings indicate the upright life that he has led, making him one of the most highly esteemed and valued residents of his community. He has now passed the seventy-sixth milestone on life's journey and is one of the venerable pioneer settlers of Winnebago county.

MAJOR GEORGE S. ROPER.

Major George S. Roper figured prominently through many years in business circles in Rockford, and his life record in all its relations was characterized by fidelity to principle. In citizenship he manifested the same progressive spirit and patriotism which characterized his service in behalf of his country during the Civil war. He was born in Rutland, Worcester county, Massachusetts, January 28, 1832, his parents being Joseph and Maria L. (Mendell) Roper, who were likewise natives of Massachusetts, where they remained until 1839. In that year they removed with their family to a farm near Ligonier, Pennsylvania, where the father carried on general agri-

cultural pursuits until his death. His widow afterward lived with her children and departed this life at the home of her son John in Alton, Illinois.

Major Roper spent his boyhood days on the old farm homestead and supplemented his early educational advantages by study in the academy at Ligonier, Pennsylvania, where he acquired a good education. He afterward engaged in teaching school for a few years and subsequently went to Zanesville, Ohio, where he secured a situation as clerk in a china store. He had spent about two years in that way, when because of a cholera epidemic in Zanesville he returned to Ligonier and while residing there he was married to Miss Louisa B. George, a native of Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, who died in Springfield, Illinois, in 1856.

It was in the year 1854 that Major Roper accompanied by his family came to the west, settling in Springfield, where for a year he acted as salesman in a dry-goods store. He was also book-keeper for S. M. Tinsley for about ten months and then became a partner of Edward R. Ulrick & Company, lumber dealers of Springfield. His active connection with that business was maintained for five years, on the expiration of which period he removed to Alton, Illinois, where he also engaged in the lumber and lime business. In the latter city the business was carried on under the firm style of Ulrick & Roper. He continued operations in Alton for two years or until the floods caused him to return to Springfield, where he purchased a shoe store and was thus connected with the mercantile interests of the city until after the inauguration of the Civil war.

Major Roper, deeply interested in the questions and issues of the day, gave his political allegiance to the newly organized republican party and in 1860 he formed the first Republican Glee Club that sang the first glee songs in central Illinois. He watched with interest the progress of events that culminated in hostilities between the north and the south and at the commencement of the war he entered the commissary department under Colonel John Williams and when the government relieved his superior officer he was assigned to the quartermaster's department under General Wood. About that time General Grant took command of the Twenty-first Illinois Infantry and Major Roper accompanied him to the old fair-grounds of Springfield, thereby forming a friendship, which continued throughout their remaining days. It was at the special request of General Grant that Major Roper was given a position in the commissary department with the rank of captain, after which he was ordered to join General W. T. Sherman at Louisville, Kentucky.

Later he was assigned to the staff department of General George H. Thomas, with whom he continued until after the battle of Stone River. Immediately following the engagement at Mill Spring he was promoted to the rank of major and received decidedly complimentary commendation from General Thomas, for while that commander gave all the officers and men credit for doing their duty he said "If any one was entitled to credit more than another for the success of the northern troops it was Captain Roper." The newly appointed major continued on the staff of General Thomas until he became connected with the First Division of the Fourteenth Army Corps under the command of General Fry, of Kentucky. In the reorganization of the army after the battle of Chickamauga considerable change was made and the three divisions of the Fourteenth Army Corps opened the charge, it being the duty of Major Roper to manage the divisions. November 24, 1863, he was sent to Nashville to inspect the horses and subsequently was appointed overseer and inspector of the military roads of the northwest. On the 24th of May, 1864, he received appointment to a position on the staff of General McCullom, with headquarters at Washington, serving in that capacity until February 6, 1866, when he was mustered out with the rank of brevet colonel. He continued to be known, however, as Major Roper, by which title he was always addressed in his home city.

The war having ended Major Roper removed to St. Louis, Missouri, in 1866, and was there engaged in the commission business for a short time, but soon afterward he went to Jersey Landing, Illinois, where he purchased a large flouring mill and distillery, conducting business there for a year. He next took up his abode again in Alton, Illinois, where he was engaged in the fire insurance and real-estate business for sixteen years and in 1881 he removed to Rockford, where he assisted in organizing the Merchants' Mutual Fire Insurance Company, of which he was made secretary. He also became the president of the Van Wie Gas Stove Company and the treasurer of the Eclipse Gas Stove Company, of which his son is now president. He was always engaged in the insurance business until his death and between these interests he divided his attention, his sound judgment, wise counsel and indefatigable energy contributing substantially to the success of both.

It was during his residence in Springfield that Major Roper lost his first wife. He afterward married Miss Alvira S. Bangs, who was principal of the schools of Springfield and died in Alton, Illinois, about five months after her marriage. In 1857 he wedded Miss Roxie G. Conklin, a native of New York, and a daughter of

Philander K. Conklin, who removed to the west and settled in Spring Arbor, Michigan, where he worked at the blacksmith's trade until his death. There were three children born to Major Roper by his first marriage: Mabin F., who died in St. Louis, Missouri, where he was engaged in the drug business; George D., who married Kate Butterworth and resides near his mother on Franklin place in Rockford, where he is a leading and enterprising physician, and also president of the Eclipse Gas Stove Company and the American Foundry Company; and Edward U., who married Martha J. Lowden and resides in Logansport, Indiana, where he is engaged in the printing business. There was also one child by the third marriage, Charles S., who died at the age of five months.

Major Roper was prominent in social and political circles. He was a Knight Templar Mason, belonging to Crusader commandery, No. 17, K. T. and he held membership in the Freeport consistency and the Medinah Temple of the Mystic Shrine at Chicago. He also held membership relations with the Illinois commandery of the Loyal Legion and attended many of its national assemblies. He was an active and influential worker in Nevius post, No. 1, G. A. R., at Rockford, and delighted in the social relations with his old army comrades. He held membership in the Christian Union church, to which his wife also belongs, and he ever took a great interest in its work, always serving on its reception committees and doing everything in his power to promote its growth. His political views accorded with republican principles and he never wavered in his allegiance to the party. For years he was closely connected with local and state politics and his opinions carried weight in the councils of his party. He was chairman of the republican county central committee in 1888, and was a member of the state central committee and for more than a quarter of a century attended each state convention except those held while he was at the front during the Civil war. He was also frequently seen in the national conventions of his party. He died February 3, 1897, and thus passed away one whose business, political and military career reflected credit and honor upon the city of his adoption. He was a man of pleasing address, courteous manner, unfaltering truth and unquestioned integrity and yet withal possessed that practical common sense which never runs to extremes. He won friends wherever he went, his life was well spent and honorable and his useful career was worthy of emulation. Mrs. Roper now owns a beautiful residence at No. 1030 Franklin place, where she lives with her sister, Miss Ruth A. Conklin, and in society circles of the city she is prominent.

HON. ROBERT SIMPSON.

Hon. Robert Simpson, formerly a member of the state legislature of Illinois, and one of the wealthy farmers of Winnebago county, resides on section 5 in the southern part of Rockford township, where he owns over five hundred acres of valuable land. He was born in Yarmouth, in the London district of the province of Ontario, Canada, March 15, 1836, and is a son of Peter and Henrietta (Curry) Simpson, natives of Edinburgh, Scotland, born in 1812 and 1815, respectively. In their family were eight children—Mary Ann, Mary Ann (second), Mary Jane, William, Susan, and two died in infancy. It is also believed that the grandfather, Robert Simpson, Sr., was likewise born in Edinburgh, and it is definitely known that he came to America in 1833, settling in Yarmouth, where he resided for six years. On the expiration of that period he came to Illinois and purchased a squatter's claim in what is now Rockford township, Winnebago county, which was located on section 6, township 43, range 1 east. He improved and resided upon that tract until his death, being one of the prominent early farmers of his locality. He married Mrs. Mary (Knox) Laurie, a widow, who was also a native of Scotland, her death occurring in Centerville, Winnebago county, in January, 1865.

Peter Simpson was reared and married in Scotland and taking up the study of medicine afterward engaged in practice in Edinburgh until 1833. He then determined to seek a home in the new world and crossed the Atlantic to America, locating in Yarmouth, Canada, but he came to Illinois in the same year in which the grandfather established his home in Winnebago county. Accompanied by his family, he made the entire journey overland, crossing the Detroit river on the 4th of July, 1839. Later in the year he arrived in this county, finding it a pioneer district, in which the work of improvement and development had scarcely been begun. The land was at that time owned by the government and a few settlers were living in or near the timber, it being thought impossible that the prairies would ever be settled or prove of any value. The timber land was held by claimants who desired to sell their rights so as to be able to move farther westward. Peter Simpson purchased a claim to a tract of land in what is now Rockford township, and when the land came into market he entered it from the government. There he carried on general farming year after year and his labors wrought a wonderful change in the appearance of the place, the wild land being transformed into highly productive fields, from which he annually harvested good crops. At the time of the Civil war he espoused

the Union cause, enlisting as a member of the Fifteenth Illinois Infantry in the spring of 1861. His name was on the roll of Company C for three years and he was under command of Colonel Ellis. Before leaving Scotland he married Henrietta Curry, who died in 1851. For a second wife he married Rebecca, daughter of Jonathan and Lydia (Morse) Drake. She was born in Cortland county, New York, December 17, 1832, and is now living with Robert on the farm. There were two children by his second marriage, one of whom, Charles, is in British Columbia, and Clara, who died in 1894.

Robert Simpson was but three years old when brought by his parents to Illinois and upon the home farm he was reared, the days of his boyhood and youth being passed in the usual manner of farm lads of that period. He worked in the fields when not occupied with the labors of the schoolroom and continued on the old homestead until the 6th of August, 1862, when no longer content to remain at home while his country was in peril, he offered his services to the government and joined the boys in blue of Company C, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry, being mustered in as corporal. He participated in various battles, including the engagements of Perryville, Nolansville, Stone River, Chickamauga, Liberty Gap, Missionary Ridge and the Atlanta campaign under Sherman, taking part in all the battles from Chattanooga to Atlanta and in the siege and capture of the city. After its fall he went with his regiment in pursuit of Hood and fought in the battles of Spring Hill, Franklin and Nashville. He was honorably discharged as orderly sergeant and was mustered out June 10, 1865, returning to his home with a most creditable military record.

Previous to entering the army Mr. Simpson had purchased eighty acres of land on section 5, Rockford township, now included within his present farm. He has at different times, however, extended the boundaries of his property until his landed possessions now aggregate over five hundred acres. He is thus one of the large land-owners of the county and his property is very valuable owing to the splendid improvements he has placed upon it and the care with which the fields have been cultivated. His farm in all of its departments is neat and thrifty in appearance and indicates the careful supervision of a practical and progressive owner.

On the 17th of April, 1867, Mr. Simpson was united in marriage to Miss Eliza Davis, a native of New Brunswick, and a daughter of John and Ellen Davis. One child, Effie, died February 5, 1881. Mrs. Simpson died in 1872 and the following year Mr. Simpson wedded Catherine Spottswood, a native of Kemptville, Greenville county, of the province of Ontario, Canada, her

parents being Robert and Mary (Graham) Spottswood, both of whom are now deceased. They had a family of nine children—Catherine (first), Robert (first), Robert (second), Catherine (second), Elizabeth, Margaret, Jennie, Mary, who was principal of the Lincoln school in Rockford for eighteen years, and died July 30, 1902, and Ellen, who died in infancy. The father was born in or near Roxboro, Scotland, as was also his father, Robert Spottswood. He came to America in 1833, settling in Greenville county, Canada. He had married Elizabeth Frater, also a native of Scotland, who died in Canada in June, 1866. Mrs. Simpson's father was a blacksmith by trade, and after coming to America he engaged in blacksmithing at Kemptville and later engaged in merchandizing. Subsequently he removed to St. Lawrence county, New York, but after a few years' residence there returned to Kemptville, where he followed his trade until 1867, when he came to Illinois. His wife was a daughter of James and Catherine (Clinkscles) Graham and was born in Dumfriesshire, Scotland. Both are now deceased. Two children have been born unto Mr. and Mrs. Simpson—Mary, born March 25, 1877, who was married September 12, 1905, to Homer St. John, who is with the Western Indiana Railroad and lives in Chicago, and Arthur G., born December 16, 1882, who lives at home with his parents.

In his political views Mr. Simpson is independent, but was elected to the state legislature in 1888 on the democratic ticket. He has also served in other official capacities, acting as supervisor of Rockford township for ten years, and no public trust reposed in him has ever been betrayed in the slightest degree. As a soldier upon the fields of battle, as a legislator or as a private citizen he is equally loyal to the general good and he has made an honorable reputation in business circles as well.

LEWIS KEITH.

Lewis Keith, a retired farmer of Rockford to whom success has come in recognition of his untiring labor and his utilization of the opportunities which have surrounded him—such as are common to all men,—has resided in this section of Illinois from the period of its pioneer development. For many years he was closely associated with agricultural interests and still owns valuable farm property on the border line between Boone and Winnebago counties. He is a native of Morgan county, Ohio, born May 2, 1826, and represents a family that was established in America in colonial days. His great-grandfather emigrated from Holland to the new world about fifteen years before the Revolutionary war and



Lewis Keith

settled in New Lancaster, Pennsylvania. He was a blacksmith by trade and conducted a shop there for many years, after which he removed to Huntingdon county, Pennsylvania, where his death occurred in 1810. During the war for independence he served his country as a blacksmith. His son Peter P. followed both blacksmithing and farming and about 1814 removed from Pennsylvania to Morgan county, Ohio. In 1836 he became a resident of Rockford, Illinois, which at that time contained only three houses that were located on the east side of the river just below the present site of the water tower. He reared a family of twelve children and died at the age of eighty-one years and four months.

Lewis Keith, Sr., father of our subject, was born in Huntingdon county, Pennsylvania, in 1801, and in 1814 accompanied his parents to Morgan county, Ohio, where he lived until the 6th of July, 1832, when he took up his abode at Laporte, Indiana, building a cabin there. He married Miss Mary Spencer, by whom he had four sons. Her death occurred when her son Lewis was only twenty-three days old. The father afterward married Nancy O'Hara, by whom he had six sons and four daughters, and his third wife was Mrs. Nancy H. Jessup. His children are as follows: Mrs. Jane Bunker; Elisha, who married Amanda Thornberg; Peter, who married Sarah J. Thornton; Lewis, of this review; Mary, the wife of Henry Crane; Julia A., the wife of Lewis Parker; Maria, the wife of Edward Cox; Wesley, who married Sarah Prian; Dennis T., who married Catherine Ernest; Francis, who married Martha McLain; Margaret, the wife of George Huckens; W. Riley; Sarah Crane; and Aridana, the wife of Amos Taylor.

Lewis Keith spent the first few years of his life in the county of his nativity and at the age of nine came to Winnebago county to live with his grandfather Spencer. He made the journey with friends, it requiring fourteen days to travel one hundred and fifty miles, during which time snow fell to the depth of one foot. He found here a pioneer district, the city of Rockford being at that time but a small village of but two houses, while all of the land in the county was still in the possession of the government and the work of improvement and progress had not been begun. His grandfather died in 1838 and Lewis Keith was then thrown upon his own resources. Whatever success he has achieved is due entirely to his own efforts. His educational privileges were meager, but with a resolute spirit he started out to make his own way in the world and has brooked no obstacles that could be overcome by persistent and honorable effort. He was employed at different kinds of farm work, and by frugality and industry managed to acquire a small sum of money. This

he invested as partial payment on a tract of forty acres of government land, giving his note for the remainder of the purchase price. Thus he secured a home of his own and began raising wheat. He worked from early morning until late at night in the fields, and as the years passed he prospered. When his financial resources were somewhat increased he purchased other land and from time to time invested in property, making payments thereon through his sales of wheat, hogs and cattle. Ultimately his landed possessions amounted to fourteen hundred acres lying in Winnebago and Boone counties. Subsequently he purchased a tract of one thousand acres in Iowa and managed that farm in connection with his Illinois lands. He was formally the owner of valuable property in North and South Dakota in addition to his farming interests in this city, and at one time he conducted a mercantile enterprise in Cherry Valley and Fairdale, Illinois.

Mr. Keith has been married twice. He first wedded Katherine Brown, a native of Ohio, who died in 1862, leaving three children: Lewis W., Luther L., and Roswell C. For his second wife Mr. Keith chose Louisa M. Farley, who came from Ohio to Illinois and was married to him in 1864. They have three children: Julia Florence, the wife of Earl D. Reynolds, a practicing attorney of Rockford; Mabel K., the wife of M. L. Burt, of Bedford, Iowa; and Estella, at home.

Mr. Keith continued to reside upon his farm for many years, placing the land under a high state of cultivation and adding to it modern buildings and many substantial improvements. In 1901, however, he removed from his farm to Rockford and purchased property at No. 1552 Charles street. He rebuilt and remodeled this, and now has a comfortable home in which he is spending the evening of life. His health is somewhat impaired but he keeps in touch with the current events of the day. His political support has long been given to the republican party, but he has never sought or desired office. The history of pioneer life in Winnebago county is familiar to him, and his memory forms a connecting link between the primitive past and the progressive present. He came to the county when it was largely wild and has seen a great transformation here. Furthermore he has assisted materially in making the changes which have developed the county into an important center of civilization, and his name is on the roll of honored pioneer settlers in Winnebago county.

ALEXANDER RALSTON.

Alexander Ralston, deceased, was a pioneer of northern Illinois of 1849, in which year he settled at Caledonia, Boone county, near the Winnebago

county line. He was a native of Scotland, born in 1820, and his parents were John and Belle (Greenlee) Ralston, both of whom were natives of Scotland, whence they came to Illinois in 1850, settling in Caledonia the year following the arrival of their son Alexander. There they made their home on a farm with their children until called from this life.

Alexander Ralston was educated in the common schools of his native country and was reared upon a farm there, early becoming familiar with the methods of agriculture in vogue in that country. He was married in the land of hills and heather to Miss Margaret McKerrall, also a native of Scotland, born January 1, 1825, her parents being Dugald and Jane McKerrall, whose birth occurred in the same country. They came to the new world in an early day, settling in Canada, where they resided until called to their final home, the father carrying on general farming there throughout his active business career. He died at the very advanced age of eighty-six years.

Soon after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Ralston sailed for America, locating first in Canada, but after a short time coming to Illinois and, as before stated, settled near Caledonia, which place was largely established by emigrants from Scotland. There he purchased a farm and carried on general agricultural pursuits until his death, being one of the substantial and reliable farmers of the locality.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Ralston were born nine children, of whom six are yet living. Jane is the widow of Matthew Harvey, who was engaged in the agricultural implement business in Rockford for many years, and she now resides in Rockford at No. 2310 West State street. Margaret is the wife of Alexander Ferguson, a retired farmer, residing at No. 915 North Court street. Mrs. Thomas Waterson makes her home in Ardale, Iowa. John D., who married Ida M. Simpson, resides at No. 940 North Court street, Rockford. He and his brother constitute the firm of J. D. & G. A. Ralston, extensive dealers in agricultural implements, carriages, wagons and harness at No. 110 and 112 North Madison street. George A., a partner of his brother John, married Augusta Mariett and they reside here at 316 Rockton avenue. Mrs. C. H. Blass is now living in Mongo, Indiana. Those deceased are Isabelle and two who were named Jeanette.

In his political views Mr. Ralston was a republican, giving his support to the party from the time that he became a naturalized American citizen. He was a member of the Presbyterian church at Caledonia, took a deep and helpful interest in its work, served as an elder and was also leader of the choir. His religious faith permeated his entire life and shaped his relations with his

fellowmen. He owned a large farm near Caledonia and was very successful in his business pursuits. Although he never resided in Rockford, he was well known here and had the entire respect of all with whom he was brought in contact. He died December 25, 1888, at the age of sixty-nine years, and his remains lie interred in the Scotch cemetery near that place.

Following her husband's death Mrs. Ralston sold the farm to her son George, with whom she resided for a year thereafter. She then went to live with her daughter, Mrs. Ferguson, in Harlem, this county, remaining there for eight years. In the meantime her son George had removed to Rockford and began business with his brother in this city, and in 1903 Mrs. Ralston came to Rockford, since which time she has lived at No. 316 Rockton avenue with her son George and his wife, he having lately built a nice residence there. The Ralstons are a prominent and well-to-do family of the city and the firm of Ralston Brothers constitutes an important factor in commercial activity here.

CHARLES J. SOWLE, D. D. S.

Dr. Charles J. Sowle, engaged in the practice of dentistry in Rockford, was born in Tomah, Wisconsin, March 22, 1869. His paternal grandfather, Hiram A. Sowle, removed to that place in the '40s, becoming one of its pioneer settlers. His son, Orlando Thompson Sowle, was born in Vermont, and accompanied his parents on their removal to Wisconsin, where he was reared to farm life, remaining on the old homestead until seventeen years of age, when in 1861 he ran away from home to join the army, enlisting as a member of Company H, Eleventh Wisconsin Infantry. He afterward returned to that state and organized what became Company D of the Fifty-first Wisconsin Regiment of Volunteers. Mr. Sowle was made first lieutenant of the company, and saw much active service on the battlefields of the south, continuing at the front until mustered out at the close of the war. Returning then to his old home in Wisconsin he joined his father in the conduct of a general store, and was also engaged in the hotel business. He was upon the road as a traveling salesman for a number of years, and was proprietor of a hotel in Tomah, Wisconsin, afterward entering into the real estate and pension business and remaining there until the time of his demise, which occurred in 1889, when he was forty-five years of age.

Dr. Sowle is the only surviving member of a family of four children. His mother died in California in 1901. Continuing his education in his native state, he became a high school student there, and afterward attended the University of



DR. C. J. SOWLE.

Wisconsin at Madison for a year. Deciding upon a professional career, he entered the Chicago College of Dental Surgery in 1892, and on the completion of a regular three years' course was graduated with the class of 1895, winning the valedictorian honors and delivering the address to a class of one hundred and twenty. He then located for practice in Rockford, and now has a well equipped office at No. 401 Brown Building. He is thoroughly informed concerning modern methods, and his work is of a most satisfactory character, insuring him a continuance of a liberal and growing patronage. He belongs to the Illinois State Dental Society, the Northern Illinois Dental Society, Winnebago County Dental Society, the Delta Sigma Delta, a college fraternity and the Odontological Society of Rockford.

Dr. Sowle was married in October, 1897, to Miss Gertrude E. Stuart, a daughter of Margaret Stuart, of Rockford, who was born in this city. They now have two sons and a daughter: Stuart Orlando, five years of age; Charles Burdette, three years old; and Helen Elizabeth, born January 16, 1905. Dr. Sowle belongs to the Elks lodge at Rockford. In politics he is independent, supporting men and measures rather than party. He is a young man of laudable ambition and firm principles, and has made for himself a creditable place in the professional circles in Rockford.

ISAAC TOMS.

Isaac Toms, deceased, was one of the pioneer farmers of Winnebago county, who settled here in 1837, and through many years was closely connected with agricultural interests—the basis of the wealth and prosperity of the great state of Illinois. He was a native of New Jersey, born in Elizabeth, Essex county, on the 24th of December, 1809. The family is of English lineage and the grandfather, Lewis Toms, spent his last days in New Jersey, in which state occurred the birth of Isaac Toms, Sr., the father of our subject. He learned the carpenter's trade in early life and was connected with building operations in Essex county up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1809, two months before the birth of his son and namesake. In early manhood he had wedded Elizabeth Henderson, also a native of Essex county and a daughter of Robert Henderson, a native of Scotland, who was drafted into the British army during the Revolutionary war and therefore came to America. Interested in this land, he established his home in the new republic and for some time resided in New Jersey, but eventually removed to Canada, where he made his home until called to his final rest. Following

the death of her husband Mrs. Isaac Toms, Sr., accompanied by her three children, removed to Simcoe, Canada, in 1816, and there remained with her children until she, too, passed away.

Isaac Toms of this review was a little lad of only five summers when the family went to Canada. He attended the public schools there, acquiring a good practical education, and after putting aside his text-books he and his brother were engaged in farming in Canada until 1837, purchasing land which they continued to cultivate until the removal of Isaac Toms to Illinois. He was at that time twenty-eight years of age. Bidding adieu to his old home and friends across the border, he started for this state on foot, carrying his possessions in a bundle. The first night he met a young man on his way to Michigan riding a horse, and they afterward traveled together, riding by turns to Branch county, Michigan, from which place Mr. Toms continued the journey on foot to Rockford. The now populous and beautiful city was then a small collection of pioneer cabins, but it lay in the midst of a rich agricultural district and the natural resources of the country were such as to give promise of a bright future. Mr. Toms was at once made constable and held that office in Rockford for seven years. He was also employed at a very early day on the building of the dam across Kent creek and in the spring of 1838 he went to Ogle county, where he was variously employed until 1840. He then returned to Rockford and two years later purchased the land included in his farm. It was then a tract of wild prairie, entirely destitute of improvements. It lay in Guilford township, the place comprising two hundred acres. With characteristic energy Mr. Toms began its development and the utility of his labors was soon manifest in substantial buildings and well tilled fields. He also planted an orchard and set out shade and ornamental trees, and as the years passed he added all of the modern equipments and accessories of a model farm. He was not only practical, but progressive in his work and long ranked with the leading agriculturists of the community.

In 1865 Mr. Toms was married in Chicago to Miss Martha A. Dodge, whose birth occurred in Mount Vernon, New Hampshire, on the 8th of May, 1829, her parents being Charles and Alice (McClary) Dodge. Her father was born in New Boston, New Hampshire, and for many years resided in the old Granite state, devoting the greater part of his time and attention to general agricultural pursuits. He was a son of Amma and Lucy (Fowler) Dodge, who spent their entire lives in New Hampshire. Charles Dodge was therefore reared in New Boston and it was subsequent to his marriage that he became a resident of Mount Vernon. He married Miss Alice

McClary, a native of Windham, New Hampshire, and they began their domestic life in the state of their nativity, where Mr. Dodge provided for his family for many years by the careful conduct of his agricultural interests. At length he became ill and was in poor health for thirteen years. Because of this he left the farm and in 1830 removed to Lowell, Massachusetts, where he spent his remaining days, his death occurring in 1832. His wife survived him until 1850, passing away in Methuen, Massachusetts, while visiting her daughter there. She had, however, been a resident of Lexington for four years. Both Mr. and Mrs. Dodge were members of the Presbyterian church and he had served as deacon for many years. Mrs. Dodge was of Irish and Scotch descent. Her father, John McClary, was born in the north of Ireland of Scotch parentage, but from early manhood until his death was a resident of New Hampshire. Mrs. Toms accompanied her parents on their removal to Lowell, Massachusetts, where she resided until 1856, after which she spent two years in Davenport, Iowa. The succeeding two years were passed in St. Louis, Missouri, and she then went to Chicago, where she remained from 1862 until 1865, when she came to Winnebago county. There were no children born unto Mr. and Mrs. Toms, but the latter belonged to a family of nine children, of whom three are yet living. Her sister, Hannah F., born September 8, 1823, in Mount Vernon, New Hampshire, is the widow of Francis B. Abbott, a native of New Hampshire, born in 1817. When a lad he went to Lowell, Massachusetts, where he acquired a good education in the high schools. He then learned the machinist's trade, at which he worked in Chicago for forty years, and he applied himself so closely and untiringly to his business that he broke down his health, his intense activity and energy being the cause of his death. He was a man of strong religious temperament and a devoted Christian, whose labors were effective and far-reaching in behalf of the gospel work. He established a chapel and Sunday-school in Chicago and would attend the chapel every morning before going to his work. The little chapel grew in membership, in influence and in the extent of its operations for the moral development of mankind and is now one of the largest churches in Chicago—known as Grace church. Mr. Abbott continued to follow his chosen vocation in Chicago up to the time of his death. His niece, Emma Abbott, was a noted prima donna. Mr. and Mrs. Abbott had no children of their own, but adopted a son, George L. Austin, who married Etta Perkins. He was graduated from Harvard University, became an editor and publisher and died in Cambridge, Massachusetts, leaving four children. After the death of Mr.

Abbott in Chicago his widow came to Rockford and has since made her home with Mrs. Toms.

Nancy Elizabeth, the other surviving member of the Dodge family, was born November 30, 1825, and is the widow of George W. Clark, of Rockport, Massachusetts, who was extensively engaged in the manufacture of boots and shoes in the east, conducting a large and profitable business. He afterward removed to Sanoma, California, where he was engaged in the same business for many years, but eventually retired, and in the enjoyment of a well earned ease spent his last days in that land of sunshine and flowers, his death occurring in Sanoma. Mrs. Clark now resides in Azusa, California, with her only son, Fred L. Clark. There were three members of the Dodge family who died in infancy, while the others were: Sarah Jane, who was the wife of John Collins, and died at the home of her sister in Sanoma, California; Catherine, who married Daniel B. Shipley, and died in Derry, New Hampshire; and Charles R., who died soon after his marriage. He was a farmer in the east and subsequent to his removal to California he carried on agricultural pursuits until his death.

The home of Mr. Toms was located on section 27, Guilford township, where he had one of the best farms of the county, supplied with fine improvements, indicating the careful supervision and progressive spirit of the owner. There he engaged in general agricultural pursuits till a few years prior to his death, when he retired from business cares. He then sold one hundred and twenty acres of his land, but continued to remain at the old home until he passed away on the 17th of January, 1902. Beside serving as constable of Rockford in an early day he held a number of local offices in his township and in politics he was always a staunch republican, unswerving in his allegiance to his party. He was a self-made man, whose business career was marked by consecutive advancement, owing to his close application, unremitting diligence and strong and honorable purpose. He was so honorable in his conduct and so fair in his views that his opinions carried weight among his friends and neighbors and he became an influential citizen of his community, respected by all for what he accomplished and for the honorable principles which proved the motive power of his action. He was well known to all the pioneer settlers of the county and he had many friends in Rockford.

Following the death of her husband Mrs. Toms sold the farm and removed to the city, where she invested her money in realty, but has since sold off much of her city property. She has in her possession a most interesting relic, one of the old "grandfather's clocks," which has been in possession of the Dodge family for nearly two hundred

years, and yet keeps perfect time. Mrs. Toms and Mrs. Abbott are now residing at No. 929 Rockton avenue, but the former expects soon to buy or build a large residence in the north part of the city, in which she and her sister will make their future home. She frequently visits her sister in California, for the family ties are held most sacred by them both. Mrs. Toms and Mrs. Abbott have many friends in the city and are greatly esteemed by those who know them.

THOMAS GILMORE.

Thomas Gilmore, retired from business life, is residing at No. 1511 School street, Rockford. He is entitled to representation in this volume because of an honorable business career and because of the valuable service which he rendered to his country in the dark days of the Civil war. He was born in Belfast, Ireland, March 20, 1843, and comes of Scotch-Irish ancestry. His father, David Gilmore, was a native of Scotland and was a weaver by trade.

Thomas Gilmore resided on the Emerald isle until about 1856, when he came to America, settling at Corning, New York, where he remained until after the outbreak of the Civil war. In the meantime he had watched with interest the progress of events in the south and his spirit of patriotism was aroused in behalf of the Union, so that on the 1st of August, 1862, he offered his services to the government and was enrolled as a member of Company I, One Hundred and Seventh New York Volunteer Infantry. He enlisted at Corning and after serving for three years was honorably discharged at New York city on the 20th of July, 1865. He served in the Eastern Army for eighteen months and was then sent to the west, participating under General Sherman in the Atlanta campaign and the celebrated march to the sea, which showed the claims of the Confederacy to be but an empty boast, its military strength having been drawn from the interior to defend the borders. Mr. Gilmore participated in many important engagements, including the battle of Antietam, September 17, 1862. He was in Fredericksburg in the winter of 1862-63, and in May of the latter year participated in the battle of Chancellorsville and the hotly contested engagement of the first three days of July, 1863, at Gettysburg. He also met the enemy at the battle of Buzzard's Roost: at Rocky Face Ridge; Resaca, May 15, 1864; New Hope Church, May 25, 1864, and was wounded there with a grape shot on the 25th of May, which necessitated the amputation of his leg. The member was cut off on the 27th of May under the trees on the battle-field. He then rode for three days in a wagon, but his injury became worse,

gangrene set in and there had to be another amputation. He had indeed a hard time and after lying at Chattanooga for a while was sent to Louisville, Kentucky, and on to Madison, Indiana, the rebel cavalry following in the path of the soldiers who were then advancing to the north. When in the battle of Antietam Mr. Gilmore saw General Mansfield shot from his horse. Being mustered out of the service, he returned to New York city, where he engaged in the manufacture of artificial limbs, being thus occupied until 1871, when he sold his business and came to Rockford, where he has since resided with the exception of a period of three years beginning in 1875. At that date he made a trip to Massachusetts, remaining in New England until 1878. He is now granted a pension of forty dollars per month in recognition of the sacrifice which he made for the government.

Before coming to the west Mr. Gilmore was married in New York city in 1868 to Miss Margaret Hamilton, a daughter of Robert and Jane (Carroll) Hamilton, the former a shoemaker, which pursuit gave him the means of livelihood for his family. Mrs. Gilmore was born in 1844 and by her marriage has become the mother of six children, all of whom are yet living. David, born July 16, 1869, is a farmer residing in Harrison township. He married Emma Rottger and has three children. Agnes G., born January 9, 1871, is the wife of Fred Knapp, living on a farm in Harrison township, and they have three sons. Chauncey A., born December 25, 1873, is the owner of a fruit farm, upon which he lives, in Oregon. Ellen H., born April 30, 1875, is the wife of Samuel Scott, a resident farmer of Harrison township, and they have two children. Elizabeth M., born December 2, 1880, is the wife of Charles Higgin, an agriculturist of Owen township, and they have two children. Mary A., who was born April 7, 1882, married J. C. Black, and they reside on a farm near Beloit, Wisconsin.

Since coming to the west Mr. Gilmore has been identified with business interests and public service. He conducted the postoffice in Harrison township from 1891 until 1898, and also carried on a store there for fifteen years. He was township clerk for thirteen years and was likewise township school treasurer. In 1896, however, he sold his business interests in Harrison township and in 1898 removed to Rockford, following his election to the office of county treasurer, in which capacity he served for four years, or until 1902, retiring from office with the confidence and good will of all concerned, his capable administration of the affairs of the position having won him high encomiums. In 1902 he became manager of the west end yard of the Rockford Lumber and Fuel Company, but had to abandon that position

on account of ill health occasioned by the injury sustained in the Civil war. He now deals to some extent in real estate, but is largely living retired. He owns the home in Rockford where he resides at No. 1511 School street, and a lot on Locust street, on which he is now erecting a fine residence.

He belongs to Nevius post, No. 1, G. A. R., of Rockford, and to Harrison camp, No. 684, M. W. A., while both he and his wife are valued members and generous contributors to the Presbyterian church. In politics he has always been an earnest republican since casting his first presidential ballot in 1864, ever voting the straight ticket. He is deeply interested in the success and growth of his party and his devotion to its welfare and his loyalty to all that is beneficial in friendship have been the means of winning his elections when as the candidate of the republican ticket he has stood for office.

JOHN W. WOLVEN.

John W. Wolven is one of the valued citizens of Pecatonica, whose business activity and capable service in public office have made him a representative man here. He was born in Greene county, New York, September 4, 1830, and in his early childhood was taken to Canada, his education being acquired in the schools of that country and in Wisconsin. His parents, Jacob and Elizabeth (Story) Wolven, were both natives of New York, the former born in 1800, while his death occurred in Canada in 1834, at a comparatively early age. His wife, long surviving, departed this life in Seward township, Winnebago county, in 1893. Mr. Wolven was a butcher by trade, and would buy a beef, sheep or hog which he would slaughter and then peddle the meat. In this way he made a living for his family, which numbered four children: John W., who was born in Greene county, New York; and Benjamin, Catherine and Andrew, all born in Canada.

Soon after the father's death John W. Wolven, the eldest of the children, left his home to make a living for the family. The mother took in sewing, making clothing for people in the neighborhood, and when between them they had saved up a little money she determined to return to New York. She hired a team to take them across the country, but at Lewiston, New York, their supply of money gave out and they were forced to remain there for some time until they could work and earn enough more to enable them to complete the journey. They moved to Buffalo and later to Lockport, New York, where they were living when visited by Mr. Wright, an uncle of our subject, with whom they

returned to Buffalo and later accompanied him to Racine, Wisconsin, in 1847, making the journey in a sailing vessel around the lakes. From Racine Mr. Wolven, with his uncle and family, went to Duck lake, in Walworth county, Wisconsin, where he remained with Mr. Wright for about two years. He hauled grain and worked in the town for four dollars per month. He was employed in that way for about six weeks, after which he returned to his uncle's home. Later his mother married again, becoming the wife of William Russell, and Mr. Wolven then went to live with her and his step-father. The latter secured him a position as cook on a lumber vessel, sailing between Michigan ports and Racine and he was on the lakes for two years, spending his winters in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, with Mr. and Mrs. Russell, who had removed to that place from Racine.

When Mr. Wolven had saved forty dollars he went to Bloomfield, Wisconsin, where he lived with his uncle and attended school in the winter months. He afterward began work at digging wells, being employed in that way for about six weeks, and in the fall he became a man in the harvest field upon his uncle's farm. The following spring he went to Richmond, where he purchased a grain cradle, and with this implement he began cradling grain for a dollar and a half per day in the employ of Mr. Sutton. When the wheat was all cradled he cut rye. The following season he purchased a yoke of steers for forty dollars, taking this step through the influence of his uncle. Mr. Wolven did not wish to put all of his money in the steers, but found that he profited by doing so. Later he purchased three yoke and his uncle bought three yoke, after which they broke grub land. Just before purchasing his steers Mr. Wolven came to Winnebago county and bought a soldier's land warrant for one hundred and fifty dollars, with which he obtained one hundred and sixty acres of land in Seward township. He then returned to Bloomfield, Wisconsin, traveling most of the way on foot. He next purchased a pair of oxen for forty dollars, for which he gave his note and then plowed forty acres of land, for which he received forty dollars, and was thus enabled to discharge his indebtedness. Realizing the need of education he attended school, working nights and mornings for his board for O. H. P. Gookin, who wintered his stock for him. He broke land through the succeeding summer and again spent the winter with Mr. Gookin. At this time he hired to haul wheat to Kenosha for S. Post, receiving four dollars and a half for three days' work, using his own oxen. With the money thus earned he came west to his land in Seward township, bringing four yoke of oxen with him. He traded his grain cradle and his best coat in



J. W. Wolven

order to get his last steer. After reaching this county he boarded with Mr. Warner near his own claim, paying him a dollar and a half per week. He then began working his land, turning the first furrow on twenty-five acres. He also broke ten acres for a neighbor for a dollar and a half per acre, for which he received an order on a merchant in Freeport. Mr. Moore gave him a cow for breaking land, and he afterward obtained another cow in the same way. When E. Cleveland came to the county he gave Mr. Wolven a dollar and a half per acre for breaking twenty-five acres of land, paying him the cash, which was the first money that he ever received for breaking prairie in Winnebago county.

Mr. Wolven's next service was in the harvest field. He found two men who had a Smith reaper, and he began working for a dollar and a half per day. He cut hay to winter his cattle on and in the fall of 1851 he began working for a contractor on the Chicago & Galena Railroad, breaking the ground for the construction work. Through trading he afterward obtained five acres of timber land and hauled logs to Sumner's mill. As he found opportunity he continued the work of improvement upon his own land, fencing eighty acres and seeding twenty acres. He built a granary upon his farm and he traded his oxen for a two-horse team. In the following June he sold his land and its improvements for twenty-five hundred dollars, reinvesting in one hundred and twenty acres in Stephenson county and eighty acres in Winnebago county. On the former tract there was an old house, but few improvements had otherwise been made.

In the same fall Mr. Wolven was married to Miss Juliett Martin, a daughter of David and Hannah (Brando) Martin. In 1879, however, he was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died on the 11th of November, at the age of forty-three years, four months and twenty-nine days. Their eldest son, Albert, died April 6, 1860, at the age of ten days. They had one son, Edwin, who is living in Worthington, Minnesota. Charles A. married Miss Bombard, of Harvard, Illinois, and died February 26, 1892, at the age of thirty years, six months and fourteen days. The other members of the family, Jessie and Georgia, are twins. For his second wife Mr. Wolven chose Miss Ida Lamb, a native of Minnesota, with whom he lived for about twenty-two years. After her death he married Mrs. Levina Wallick, this marriage taking place September 7, 1904. Three times he has divided his property with his children. Just before his second marriage he gave each of his children land to the value of fourteen thousand dollars, and later on he again made division of his property, giving twenty-three thousand dollars to

each of his children and an equal amount to his wife. In the fall of 1904 he deeded his Kansas land, consisting of fifty-three quarter sections. Ten quarter sections of this he gave to people outside of his family, one of whom had long been in his employ, while the balance was given to his children. At the present time he owns twenty-four and a half quarter sections in Hand county, South Dakota; and between six and seven hundred acres in Stephenson county, Illinois; one hundred and twenty-five acres in Winnebago county; and four hundred and twenty-three acres in Minnesota; while his improved property in Rockford is valued at fifty thousand dollars.

Mr. Wolven has acted as supervisor for four or five years, was also mayor for five or six years in Pecatonica, giving to the city an administration characterized by marked helpfulness and progressiveness. He is to-day one of the wealthy men of Winnebago county, and is a splendid example of the self-made man, for he was in very limited financial circumstances in his youth. He has acquired extensive landed holdings through judicious investment, but more than all he owes his success to his untiring industry and careful management. As the years have gone by he has made the most of his opportunities; has strongly guarded his business, and has worked earnestly and persistently. For years he did any service that would yield him an honorable living, and was found busy from early morning until late at night. Thus he gained his start, and in later years the result as a raiser of grain and stock and his dealings in land have brought him the splendid success which now crowns his labors.

HON. FREDERICK HAINES.

Hon. Frederick Haines, treasurer of the Forest City Insurance Company of Rockford, is a son of Anthony and Adaline (Rowse) Haines. The father was a native of Marietta, Pennsylvania, and the mother's birth occurred in Bucyrus, Ohio. They were married in 1853 and the following year became residents of Rockford. The father was engaged in the grain business in this city for many years and was otherwise identified with its commercial and industrial activity, conducting an important manufacturing plant for several years. He sought for the development and up-building of his locality as well as for individual success, and in public office he rendered capable service, being a member of the county board of supervisors for eighteen years, and he represented the first ward in the city council about the same length of time. His long continuance in the of-

face of supervisor was unmistakable evidence of his fidelity to duty.

Frederick Haines, whose birth occurred in Rockford August 30, 1863, was a student in the city schools until he had been advanced through consecutive grades and was graduated from the high school with the class of 1879. He first engaged in business with J. McDermid, manufacturer of churns, with whom he was associated at that time for a year. Alert and enterprising, watchful of business opportunities and quick to utilize the advantages that had offered, he assisted in the organization of the Rockford Street Railway Company, thus meeting a public demand for transportation facilities. He acted as superintendent of the road until the plant was changed to electric power. He afterward spent two years with the Rockford Construction Company and in 1900 he was elected to the important position of treasurer of the Forest City Insurance Company, which position he now holds. The business of this company has reached extensive proportions and the corporation is widely and favorably known. Mr. Haines, as one of its executive officers, has contributed in no small degree to its success. As a business man he is very energetic, sagacious and discriminating, and carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes.

In the political campaign of 1902 Mr. Haines was nominated on the republican ticket as the candidate for representative in the state legislature and was elected by a large majority. At the session of 1903 he was placed on several important committees and his services were most acceptable to his constituency. He was closely connected with some of the important constructive legislation of that assembly and he formed the acquaintance and won the admiration of a large number of the prominent members of the house.

Mr. Haines was married in 1887 to Miss Minnie Bushnell, of Sterling, Illinois, and they now have one son, Anthony. The family home is at 1621 National avenue, and in his fraternal relations Mr. Haines is a Mason, a Knight of Pythias and an Elk. He has become widely known through business and political relations and is a typical citizen of the west, determined in accomplishing the task that lies before him, making opportunity where none exists, and pushing forward the wheels of progress in various paths wherein lies the upbuilding and prosperity of the community and the commonwealth.

GEORGE A. FRITZ.

George A. Fritz, a representative of one of the oldest pioneer families of this county and now a retired farmer living upon his home place on

sections 11 and 12, Durand township, where he owns three hundred and sixty acres of valuable land, was born upon this farm September 25, 1840. His parents were George and Cornelia J. (Cleveland) Fritz, the former born in Maryland of German parentage, while the latter was born in the state of New York in 1827. It was in the year 1837 that George Fritz, Sr., arrived in Illinois, entering from the government the land upon which his son George now resides. It was entirely destitute of improvements, being covered with the native prairie grasses but he at once began to break the prairie and till the fields and in course of time was gathering abundant harvests. Throughout the long period of his residence in Winnebago county he continued upon this farm, where his death occurred in 1898, when he was eighty-one years of age. His wife passed away in 1881. The surviving members of their family are: George A.; Henry, who married Mary J. Crowley and resides in Harrison township, has three daughters and one son, deceased; and Ellen A., who is living in Durand township. Ann Cecelia, who is deceased, married Henry E. Harris, of Durand township, and left four children: Fred M., a rural mail carrier of Durand; Lewis H., of Seattle, Washington; Raymond F., of Chicago; and Lillian J., now postmistress of Durand.

George A. Fritz, whose name introduces this review, has spent his entire life upon the home farm save for the brief period of three years spent in the Union Army during the Civil war. He was educated in the common schools and was trained to farm work, early becoming his father's assistant in the development and cultivation of the fields. In August, 1862, however, he put aside business and personal considerations that he might aid in the preservation of the Union and become a member of Company H, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry, with which he served until mustered out in August, 1865. He took part in the battles of Perryville and Stone River and many of lesser importance and was in the hospital service for a considerable portion of his time but wherever his duty called he was found loyal and prompt in its discharge and made a creditable record as a soldier.

When the war was over Mr. Fritz returned to his home and his bride, having been married after his enlistment to Miss Sarah A. Frazier, of Durand township, the wedding taking place on the 20th of August, 1862. Her parents were Alva V. and Lucy (Truesdell) Frazier. Her father was born in the state of New York in 1804 and soon after his marriage made his way westward to Chicago, which at that time contained but thirteen buildings. He remained in or near the embryo city for several years and



MR. AND MRS. G. A. FRITZ.

afterward removed to Wisconsin when Mrs. Fritz was about seven years of age. He purchased a farm in Green county and for many years lived in Wisconsin and in Illinois, but eventually removed to Iowa, where he died at the advanced age of eighty-four years. His wife, who was a native of the Empire state, died at their Iowa home when eighty-six years of age. The brothers of Mrs. Fritz are: John F. Frazier, who is living in Quincy, Iowa; James W., who died leaving a son; John, now a resident of Montana; Mrs. Ella Patterson, a resident of Minnesota; and Mrs. Sarah A. Gaylord, who is living in Durand, Illinois.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Fritz was blessed with seven children. George W., born in 1865 and now living in Durand, married Lucy Nowles and has two sons, Paul and Ralph; Minnie, born in 1867, is the wife of James H. Thomas; Rosa A., born in 1869, is at home; Burton E., born in 1873, is a resident of Durand township; William A., born in 1875, resides in Bremerton, Washington; Artie R., born in 1879, is at home; and Lawrence E., born in 1881, is also at Bremerton.

Reared to the occupation of farming, Mr. Fritz has always followed that pursuit as a life work but is now retired from active business cares, his farm being conducted by his son. He has a valuable tract of land of three hundred and sixty acres, a part of which has never been out of possession of the family since it was entered from the government by his father. He has made good improvements thereon and he conducted his work in a practical, systematic manner that resulted in bringing him a handsome competence. In politics he is independent and he attends the Baptist church of Laona township. His entire life having been passed in this county, he has a very wide acquaintance here and his many excellent traits of character have gained him the esteem of those with whom he has associated. He is numbered among the honored pioneer settlers and in a quiet way has done his full share toward the improvement and upbuilding of the locality in which he resides.

THOMAS WELLINGTON.

Thomas Wellington, deceased, who became a resident of Rockford in 1852, and was for a number of years connected with its industrial interests, was a native of England, born March 9, 1831. His parents were Abraham and Jennifer Wellington, also natives of England, in which country they resided until after their son Thomas came to the new world. Later they emigrated to America, settling in Rockford, where the father

lived retired, enjoying a well earned rest until called to his final home. His wife has also passed away. Their son William was the first of the family to cross the Atlantic and he, too, resided in Rockford, where he engaged in stonecutting until his death.

Thomas Wellington was educated in the common schools of his native country, where he continued to reside until he attained man's estate. He then determined to seek his home and fortune in America and in company with a companion about his own age he made the voyage to the new world. On reaching New York he at once resumed his journey, his destination being Rockford, in which city his brother William was then living. Here Thomas Wellington at once began learning the stonecutter's and stonemason's trade and in addition to working along this line he would frequently drive through the county among the farmers, exchanging coffee, tea and groceries for eggs and other farm products. He was quite successful in that business. As a stonecutter he assisted in the erection of many of the early schoolhouses and other public buildings of the kind and became a proficient workman, his services being in constant demand.

In 1857 Mr. Wellington was united in marriage in Rockford to Miss Margaret Martin, a native of Belpre, Ohio, and a daughter of John and Mary (Patterson) Martin, who were natives of Scotland, whence they came to America at an early day, settling in Ohio, where Mr. Martin was engaged in farming for a few years. He afterward came to Winnebago county and was among the early settlers in this part of the state. He purchased a tract of land in Guilford township and for many years was engaged in farming, making his place a very productive and well-improved property. Subsequently he removed to Bremer county, Iowa, where he continued farming until after his wife's death, when he returned to the land of his nativity and there lived retired until called to his final home. He was a man of integrity and wherever he went he was respected by all with whom he came in contact. The surviving members of his family are Mrs. Wellington and John H. Martin, the latter a retired banker, now residing in Tripoli, Iowa, where for many years he was engaged in the banking business, a pursuit that has always been followed by his son. He is now a very well-to-do man, with a desirable capital to supply him with all of the comforts and many of the luxuries of life, he is living retired.

Mr. and Mrs. Wellington became the parents of two sons and two daughters. Charles, who died at the age of forty years, was a butcher in Rockford, Illinois, and also in Rockford, Iowa, his death occurring in the latter place. He married Eva Kaufman, also now deceased, and they had

one child, Mabel Edmonds, who is living in Los Angeles, California, where Mrs. Wellington occasionally visits. Mary E. became the wife of Milton E. Rowley and both are now deceased. They left a daughter, Miss Bessie Rowley, who has always made her home with Mrs. Wellington and is now twenty years of age. Abraham L., who was a traveling salesman for a Minneapolis candy firm, was killed in that city in the explosion of fireworks on the evening of July 4, 1890. Louise became the wife of William Griffin and died at the age of thirty-one years and her husband is also deceased.

Thomas Wellington, subsequent to his marriage, engaged in working at the stonemason's trade and in the conduct of other business interests in Rockford until after the inauguration of the Civil war, when his patriotic spirit having been aroused, he responded to the country's call for troops in 1862, enlisting in the Eleventh Illinois Infantry under Captain Andrews. His company participated in a number of important engagements and while in camp at Shreveport, Louisiana, Mr. Wellington was shot and killed by one of his company on the eve of February 14, 1865, his remains being interred there. He was well known among the early settlers of Rockford as a man of genuine worth, of genial disposition and manly principles. A great lover of music, he possessed a fine voice and was a favorite in musical and social circles of the city. Though many years have passed away since he departed this life, his memory is yet cherished by his widow and many friends. Mrs. Wellington and her granddaughter now reside at No. 114 North Third street. She owns property in Waverly, Iowa, which she inherited from her brother, William Martin, and this brings her a good income. She is a member of the Centennial Methodist Episcopal church of Rockford.

CHARLES FULLER.

Charles Fuller, brother of Lemuel Fuller, and now following farming near the western limits of Rockford, was born in Geneseo county, New York, February 12, 1836. His father, John Fuller, was born at Worthington, Hampshire county, Massachusetts, in 1800, while his wife, Mrs. Lucy (Wilder) Fuller, was born in Hampshire county, on the banks of the Westfield river, in Massachusetts. The Fuller family was of English lineage, probably coming to America from Hampshire, England, and early ancestors participated in the Revolutionary war. The grandfather, Lemuel Fuller, was captain of a training company in Hampshire county, Massachusetts, in early militia days. In his family were seven children, in-

cluding Henry, Clara, Eliza, Nancy, Susan and Mary. After losing his first wife Lemuel Fuller married a Miss Smith, by whom he had two sons, Lemuel S. and Daniel P., who died at the ages of seventy-five and seventy-three years, respectively.

Henry Fuller was a prominent man of Illinois, having a wide acquaintance throughout the state, and he was one of the real upbuilders and promoters of the city of Chicago during the earlier epoch of its development. He secured the passage of the famous lake front bill, which was a source of great benefit to the city. He was the president and principal stockholder of the Knickerbocker Fire Insurance Company at the time of the great Chicago fire of 1871, whereby his fortune, which had formerly amounted to millions, was greatly reduced. He became a resident of Chicago about 1839, only two years after the incorporation of the city, and there he conducted various business enterprises. He was proprietor of one of the first theaters there and he was instrumental in constructing the first street railway, operated by horses, built in the city of Chicago. In this he was connected with David Gage, Frank Parmelee and the celebrated Dr. Bigelow, of Boston. Mr. Fuller, however, managed the business and finally purchased the interests of the other stockholders, becoming sole proprietor. He was also interested in banking and was a good business lawyer. His knowledge of legal principles led to his election to the bench in Michigan and he was commonly known as Judge Fuller. He also owned large lumber interests in Michigan and engaged to a greater or less extent in speculation.

Henry Fuller was a most successful man and did much toward pushing forward the wheels of progress in the young city by the lake, contributing in large measure toward its early development which in its growth and expansion has made the marvelous metropolis of to-day. He died at his home in Chicago about 1880, when seventy-five years of age.

Charles Fuller was reared in Rockford township, Winnebago county, and has always followed farming as a business. He was married here to Miss Emma F., daughter of John and Rebecca (Marrow) Hamilton, of Albia, New York, who came from New York to Rockford when twelve years of age. In his political affiliation he is a republican.

DAVID SCHOONMAKER.

David Schoonmaker, living retired at No. 1227 Crosby street, in Rockford, after long connection with agricultural interests, in which his labors brought him a very gratifying competence, was

born October 31, 1849, in Knox township, Albany county, New York. His father, Cherrick Schoonmaker, was born in Florida, Montgomery county, New York, in 1824, and was of Dutch ancestry, but his father and grandfather were also born in Montgomery county. In 1855 Cherrick Schoonmaker came to the west in search of a location and purchased land in Owen township, Winnebago county. Hither he brought his family in 1857 and located on the farm which he had prepared. He lived in Owen township until 1880, when he purchased a farm on section 18, Harlem township, to which he removed, making his home there until his later years, when he located at Latham Park. He died March 15, 1898, a most respected and worthy citizen of the community. His wife bore the maiden name of Charity Daring and was a native of Wright, Schoharie county, New York, born January 5, 1827. Her parents were Frederick and Catherine Daring, who were also natives of the Empire state. The daughter Charity gave her hand in marriage to Mr. Schoonmaker on the 19th of August, 1848, and they traveled life's journey together as man and wife for almost a half century. Mrs. Schoonmaker is now living at Latham Park and is a hale and active old lady, doing her own housework. By her marriage she became the mother of two sons, of whom Frederick Schoonmaker is now living on a part of the old homestead in Harlem township. He married Miss Minnie Bryden, a daughter of James Bryden, and they have two sons.

David Schoonmaker came west with his parents in 1857 when a youth of seventeen years and lived upon the home farm in Owen township until 1880, when he removed to the farm which his father purchased in Harlem township and there he resided until 1897. He was throughout the period of his active business career engaged in general farming and his labors were carefully directed, so that he secured a comfortable competence as the years passed by. He was practical in all of his work, systematic in everything relating to the improvement and cultivation of the farm and enterprising in everything that he undertook. At length he retired from the farm and removed to Latham Park in order to care for his parents who were living there. On the 8th of November, 1904, he removed to the city of Rockford, where he is now living with his estimable wife in a comfortable home at 1227 Crosby street. His farm comprises one hundred and sixty-three acres in section 18, Harlem township, and brings to him a good rental.

On the 23d of November, 1886, Mr. Schoonmaker was married to Miss Ida Wright, a daughter of Solomon and Eliza Wright, of Rockford township. Mr. and Mrs. Schoonmaker attend the

Baptist church and he is a member of camp No. 616, M. W. A., at Latham Park. In politics he has always been a stalwart republican and while at Latham Park served as postmaster from the 15th of June, 1898, until the 1st of July, 1904. He was also for three years road commissioner in Harlem township, for many years was school director and likewise filled the office of justice of the peace, discharging every duty that devolved upon him with promptness and fidelity. His faithfulness to every trust has been one of his marked characteristics and his business record, political service and private life are alike above reproach.

HENRY M. BRINKERHOFF.

Henry M. Brinkerhoff, deceased, who was engaged in the dairy business in Rockford for several years, was born in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, January 5, 1856, his parents being John M. and Margaret (Creswell) Brinkerhoff. The mother died in the Keystone state when her son Henry was but eight years of age. The father afterward carried on agricultural pursuits in Pennsylvania until 1887, when he came west with his son Henry and settled at Franklin Grove, Illinois, where he lived retired until the son removed to Rockford, the father accompanying him. There he also lived retired until his death, which occurred December 24, 1894.

Henry M. Brinkerhoff was a student in the common schools near Gettysburg and in his youth assisted in the operation of the home farm until the father sold the property in 1887. As stated, they came together to Illinois and the subject of this review secured a position as baggage man for the Chicago & Northwestern Railway Company at Franklin Grove. Later he was transferred to Dixon, Illinois, where he occupied a similar position for the same corporation for about two years. He then removed to Rockford in 1890 and entered into partnership with his brother-in-law, W. A. Moore, in the establishment and conduct of a grocery store at the northwest corner of Church and State streets. They engaged in business there for two years, at the end of which time Mr. Brinkerhoff sold his interest to Mr. Sharp, but continued in the store as an employe for a brief period. He then turned his attention to the dairy business at No. 826 Mulberry street and used several milk wagons in the delivery of the dairy products, being accorded a very liberal patronage. He engaged in business up to the time of his death and was quite successful, his labors bringing to him a good financial return annually.

Mr. Brinkerhoff was married in Franklin

Grove to Miss Flora V. Plank, a native of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, and a daughter of George and Tirzah (Kittinger) Plank, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania, where the father followed farming throughout his entire life. He died in that state and his widow is still residing upon the old home farm there. Mr. and Mrs. Brinkerhoff had one daughter, Tirzah, who is living at home with her mother.

The death of Mr. Brinkerhoff occurred on the 6th of March, 1905. He was a member of the Woodmen camp and the Fraternal League, both of Rockford, and he gave his political allegiance to the republican party, but never sought or desired office. He was known throughout his home neighborhood as the "early riser," as he always had his milk wagons out at a very early hour. His close application to his work and his unremitting diligence undermined his health. On the 1st of September, 1904, he purchased a residence at No. 715 Rockton avenue, where his widow and daughter now reside. Mrs. Brinkerhoff is a member of the German Baptist church of Rockford and is living with her daughter in the home prepared for her by her husband, together with her two cousins, Raphael Kittinger and Nancy Berger.

JEREMIAH DAVIS.

Jeremiah Davis, the founder of the town of Davis Junction, Illinois, and now an esteemed and valued resident of Rockford, was born in Steuben county, New York, June 12, 1826. When thirteen years of age he accompanied his parents on their removal to Milton, Rock county, Wisconsin, and continued his education, begun in the schools of his native state, in the public schools of Milton and in the academy there. His first active business venture was the purchase of eighty acres of land, which he cultivated until 1850, when he made an overland trip to California in company with L. P. Knowlton, of Waterloo, Wisconsin. He was attracted to the far west by the discovery of gold, and, locating a miner's claim near Georgetown, California, he spent a year in a successful search for the precious metal. Having established a residence in the territory he therefore had a right of franchise, and voted for the adoption of the first constitution of the state, in September, 1850.

Subsequently Mr. Davis returned to the middle west, again taking up his abode at Milton, Wisconsin, where he remained until 1859, when he removed to Ogle county, Illinois, securing a tract of land on which he carried on general agricultural pursuits. When the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad was projected in 1874 he laid out and founded the town of Davis Junction, which yet bears his name. In the mean-

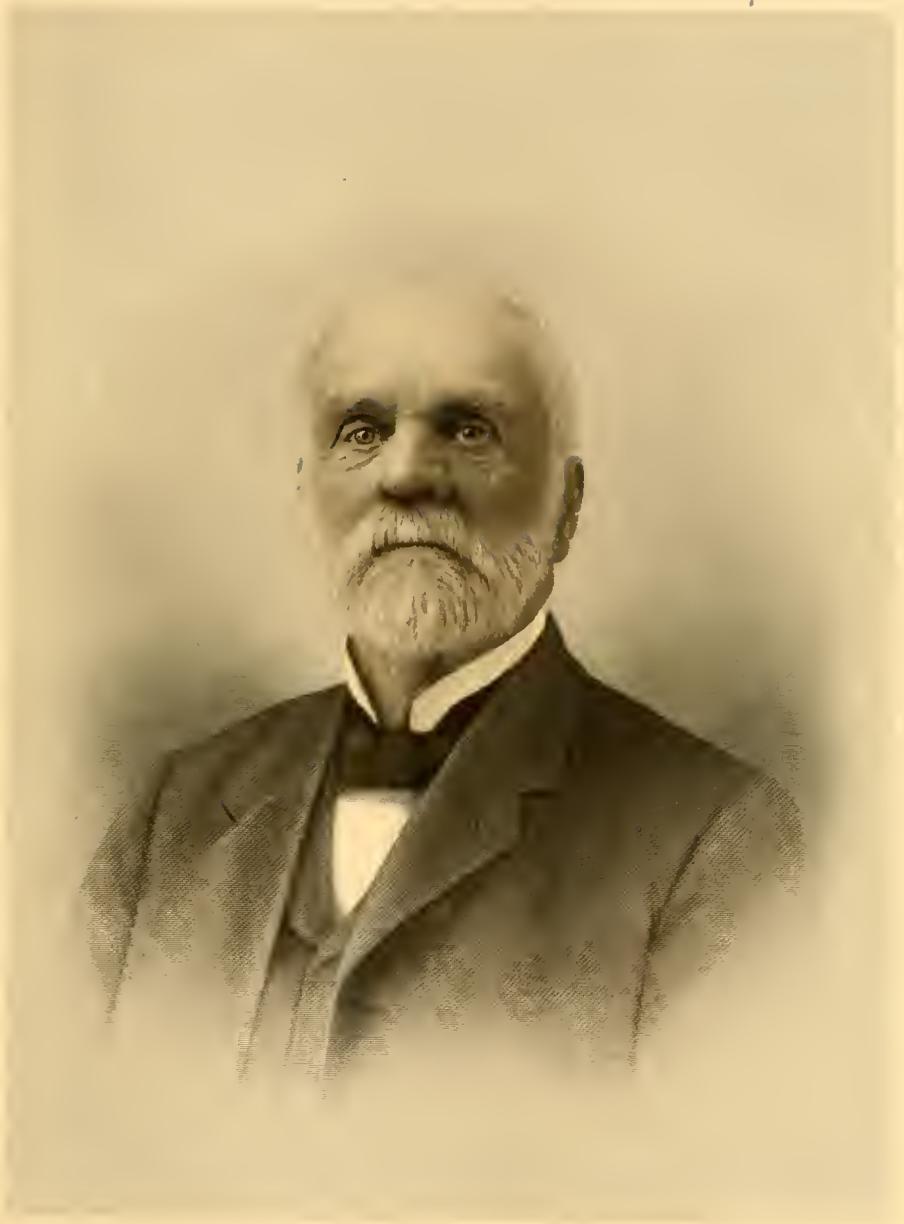
time he had purchased farm land at different intervals until his realty holdings in that locality were valuable and extensive. Farming has been his real life work, and it is along this line that he has acquired a competence that now classes him with the substantial citizens of northern Illinois. In the year 1881 he removed to Rockford, establishing his home at No. 216 North Second street, where he has since resided, and his excellent qualities have made him well and favorably known in this city.

While residing in Milton Mr. Davis was united in marriage to Miss Jane Goodrich, of that city, a daughter of the Hon. Joseph Goodrich. The wedding was celebrated in the spring of 1852, and as the years passed they became the parents of eight children, six of whom are now living: J. Milton, of Davis Junction; Mrs. Alice Woodman, now residing in Chicago; Henry G., a practicing physician of Monroe Center, Illinois; Charles E.; Elbert Lincoln, residing at Davis Junction; and Mrs. Mabel Vandemark, of Rockford.

In matters of citizenship Mr. Davis has always been progressive, active and helpful, and while living in Ogle county he represented the town of Scott on the board of supervisors for eight years. He was also elected to represent his district in the state legislature, serving in 1871-2 and after his removal to Rockford was elected to the city council from the first ward in 1885. His official service has ever been characterized by an unflinching devotion to duty prompted by a deep interest in the welfare and progress of his community. He has been a member of the Masonic fraternity for many years, and is a member of the Western Society of California Pioneers. He has passed the seventy-ninth milestone of life's journey, and receives from young and old, rich and poor the respect and veneration which should ever be accorded one of advanced years whose career has been characterized by all that is manly and straightforward in his relations with his fellowmen. In his business career he made good use of his opportunities, prospering from year to year, nor has never permitted the accumulation of a competence to effect in any way his actions toward those less successful than he. Although now in his eightieth year Mr. Davis is a well preserved man, having never used tobacco or intoxicating liquor in any form, and is still active, giving his attention to his business interests.

HON. HENRY ANDRUS.

Hon. Henry Andrus, whose name figures in the history of legislation in Illinois, and who is to-day one of the most honorable and honored citizens of Winnebago county, was born in Har-



Jeremiah Davis

lem on the 4th of November, 1844. His youth was quietly passed, his time being largely devoted to the acquirement of an education in the public schools and to the work of the home farm, with which he early became familiar. In early manhood his entire attention was devoted to agricultural pursuits and he resided upon his farm up to the time of his marriage in 1868. He then removed to Pecatonica, where he remained for six years, and on the expiration of that period he resumed agricultural pursuits in Cherry Valley township, where he owned a productive tract of land. That place continued to be his home until his removal to Rockford and its further development and improvement occupied his energies with the result that the property became very valuable.

Mr. Andrus' devotion to the general good and his fitness for leadership led to his selection for public offices of honor and trust. He was elected supervisor of the township of Cherry Valley for nineteen years and during that period he was for seven consecutive years honored by the board with its chairmanship, a distinction that has not been conferred upon any other man serving as supervisor in Winnebago county. In 1896 he was elected to represent his district in the general assembly of Illinois and that he won the approval of his constituents and the public in general is shown by the fact that he was re-elected in 1898, while in 1900 he was elected to the upper house and represented the tenth senatorial district until January 1, 1905. He has been actively concerned in constructive legislation and was an earnest working member of the senate. Among the important measures which have been enacted into laws through his efforts is the enabling act, which gave the people of Winnebago county the right and privilege of voting for an appropriation by the board of supervisors of a sum of money for the building of a memorial hall in memory of the soldiers and sailors of this county. He also secured the passage of the act providing for the building of a monument at Stillman Valley. He is a student of social economy and political questions and is thoroughly conversant with the more important issues of the day. Every measure which was introduced received from him careful consideration and when once he determined upon a course that he believed would prove beneficial to the state he never wavered in his allegiance thereto. He was one of the strong and able members of the senate and although he did not seek the fame that arose from brilliant oratorical efforts, he was known as one of the earnest working men of the upper house.

Mr. Andrus was married in 1868, the lady of his choice being Miss Jennie Love. They have two living children—a daughter, Mrs. Edith Scott, who resides on a farm in Cherry Valley;

and a son, Dr. S. C. Andrus, a prominent physician of Rockford. Mr. Andrus' name is on the membership roll of the Elks lodge, the Modern Woodmen camp and the Masonic fraternity, and in the last named he has attained high rank, being now a thirty-second-degree Mason. He has won distinction in the fields of political life and is to-day numbered among the leading influential and honored citizens of Rockford. He is recognized as a leader in public thought and action and is moreover known for his public-spirited devotion to all that pertains to the welfare of the county and the commonwealth.

F. W. ROCKWELL.

F. W. Rockwell, following farming in Rockton township and rendering valuable service to his community in the position of supervisor, comes of a family that through many generations has been distinctively American, both in its lineal and collateral branches. His great-great-grandfather, William Rockwell, was the first planter of Windsor, Connecticut, and was the ancestor of the family in New England. He is a member of the church of that organization formed in the new hospital at Plymouth, England, by the Rev. Mr. Warhan as pastor, and with Mr. Maverick as teacher. This congregation emigrated in a body to America in 1630. They landed at Nantucket, Massachusetts, and soon afterward made settlement in what is now Dorchester, in that state, where they remained until 1836. In the latter part of the year the greater part of the colony removed to Windsor, Connecticut, and William Rockwell became a planter there. His second son, Samuel Rockwell, married Hepzibah Pratt, and they were the parents of Martin Rockwell, the great-grandfather of our subject. He wedded May Burrell, and their son, William Rockwell, married Maria Roberts. Of their family only one is now living, Susan M. Rockwell, who makes her home in Jersey City, New Jersey.

Martin Rockwell, son of William and Maria (Roberts) Rockwell, was born in Coldbrook, Connecticut, and was united in marriage to Miss Malissa W. Talcott, a native of Rockton, Illinois, and a daughter of Sylvester Talcott. Her father and his brother, Waite Talcott, were very early settlers of Winnebago county, and were successful in their business affairs, becoming prosperous citizens. At his death Sylvester Talcott left a very large estate, which was under the supervision of F. W. Rockwell. It passed to Sylvester Talcott's wife and when she died to F. W. Rockwell and his mother, who still retain it.

F. W. Rockwell is the only child that was

born unto his parents. His youth was passed in Rockton and in Minnesota, but subsequently he returned to Rockton, where he has since followed agricultural pursuits, and since the death of his grandmother, from whom he inherited a large tract of land, he has managed the estate, which is extensive and valuable. In this connection he displays excellent business ability and executive force and is regarded as one of the representative leading citizens of his community.

In 1899 Mr. Rockwell was united in marriage to Miss Florence Wilford, a native of Wisconsin. In politics he is an earnest republican, keeping well informed on the questions and issues of the day and at this writing he is serving as supervisor of Rockton township. He had filled the office for two years, when in 1905 he was re-elected for a second term. He has also been a member of the village board and has been town clerk for several years, discharging the duties of these positions in a capable manner, which indicates his public-spirited interest in the general welfare. The circle of his acquaintance is an extensive one and his friends are almost equally numerous, for in this county where much of his life has been passed he has the favorable regard and good will of a large number of those with whom he has been brought in contact.

CLINTON HELM, M. D.

Clinton Helm, M. D., who since 1878 has enjoyed a substantial practice as a member of the medical fraternity at Rockford, was born in Schoharie county, New York, in 1829. His father, Woodhull Helm, was born in Orange county, New York, in 1777, and was of English and Irish lineage. The English branch of the family received a coat of arms as a reward for distinguished service to the state. Woodhull Helm was a member of the state militia for many years, and rose to the rank of captain. He was three times married, his third wife, who bore the maiden name of Miss Lucy Ruggles, being the mother of Dr. Helm, who was the youngest member of the family. About 1835 the father removed to Jersey county, Illinois, and in 1837 to Ogle county, this state, where his remaining days were passed. He died in Byron in 1845, when sixty-eight years of age.

Dr. Clinton Helm was a lad of six years when brought by his parents to Illinois, and his early education, obtained in the common schools, was supplemented by study in Rockford Academy. Later he entered upon preparation for his chosen profession as a student in the office of Dr. Lucius Clark, of this city, and his later reading and investigation were carried on as a student in the medical department of the University of Iowa, at Keokuk, in 1852. Following his graduation, Dr.

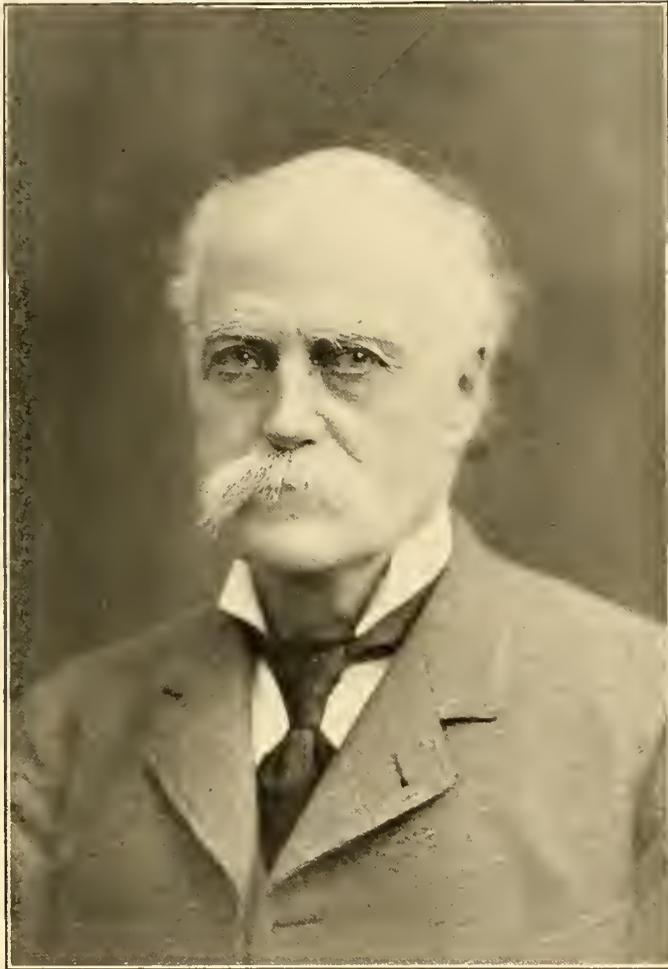
Helm located for practice in Oregon, Ogle county, Illinois, and afterward removed to Byron, whence he later went to Beloit, Wisconsin, remaining for eight years as a practitioner of that city, his patronage constantly growing in volume and importance. It was about the end of that time when, in September, 1862, he received appointment from Governor Yates to the position of sergeant of the Ninety-second Illinois Infantry, and during the succeeding year he was with that command in all of its marches and battles. On the 20th of September, 1863, he was captured by the Confederates at Chickamauga, Tennessee, and spent two months in Libby prison. During the last year of the war he was with General Kilpatrick's command as medical director, and was honorably discharged June 21, 1865, having rendered valuable aid to his country by the exercise of his professional skill among the ill and wounded.

When the war was over Dr. Helm returned to Byron, and in 1878 became a resident of Rockford, where he has since practiced his profession. He was not long in demonstrating to the public his thorough understanding of the principles of medicine, and his correct application of their use as remedial agencies, and his business steadily grew. He is a member of the Winnebago County Medical Society, and is called in consultation in critical cases over a wide area of country. There had been great changes made in the methods of practice during the years of his connection with the profession, and Dr. Helm has kept in touch with the onward march of progress.

Dr. Helm was married in 1852 to Miss Hannah S. Poyneer, a native of Connecticut, and of French lineage. She was a lady of superior culture and refinement, kindly in manner, charitable in disposition, helpful and benevolent in action. Both the Doctor and Mrs. Helm held membership in the Second Congregational church, and were foremost in charitable work here. They became the parents of six children, five of whom are living: Minnie E., wife of E. J. White, of Chicago; Clinton, a practicing dentist of Rockford; Eva, wife of Charles McGlashan; Harry S. and Willis. Mrs. Helm died in July, 1899, her death being deeply deplored by many who had come to know and love her during the years of her residence in Rockford. Dr. Helm maintains his home at No. 628 Mulberry street, and in the community is prominent professionally and socially, his upright life justly entitling him to the esteem in which he is held.

JOHN F. AND GEORGE P. McMAHON.

John F. and George P. McMahon are representative farmers of Burritt township, living on section 27 where they own and cultivate one hundred and sixty acres of rich productive land. John



DR. CLINTON HELM.

F. McMahon was born in November, 1873, upon the old homestead farm where he yet resides, and the birth of George P. McMahon occurred March 14, 1877. Their father, Hugh McMahon, was a native of Ireland, born in January, 1846, and with his parents he came to the United States in 1853, being then a youth of seven years. He remained under the parental roof until 1862, when at the early age of sixteen years he responded to the call of his adopted country for aid and enlisted in the Union army, becoming a member of the Ninetieth Volunteer Infantry. He was made sergeant of Company A and color bearer of his regiment and served with the army until the close of the war, proving a loyal and valorous soldier. He participated in twenty-one engagements, beginning with Vicksburg and ending at Bentonville, North Carolina. He was with Sherman throughout his campaign to Atlanta, on to the sea and through the Carolinas and was also with General Sherman's division in the grand review at Washington, D. C., where the president viewed the victorious army marching through the streets of the capital city.

When the war was over Hugh McMahon returned to Winnebago county and was employed at farm labor until his industry and economy had brought him capital sufficient to purchase a home. In 1870 he became the owner of what is now the old McMahon homestead and lived thereon for a number of years, placing many modern improvements on the farm. He is now, however, living retired, leaving the active work of the farm to his sons, his home being at No. 318 Rockton avenue in Rockford. He has been quite prominent and influential in local community affairs and for eight years served as justice of the peace, his decisions being characterized by a strict regard to the equity as well as the law in the case. He has also been school director for many terms and on the 1st of July, 1903, he was appointed to a position in the rural free delivery postal service. In politics he has always been a stanch democrat and he and his family are members of the Catholic church, belonging to St. Mary's parish in Rockford.

John F. and George P. McMahon are with one exception the eldest members of the family and the others are as follows: James F., who was born November 26, 1873, and was married, February 7, 1901, to Miss Nellie Steifman, a daughter of John and Mary Steifman, of Burr-ritt, while their home is now in the village of Winnebago; Charles H., who was born May 7, 1881, and is living with his parents in Rockford; Mary E., who was born December 17, 1882, and is at home; and Thomas Joseph and David Henry, who died in infancy.

John F. and George P. McMahon were reared

upon the old family homestead. They were students in the public schools of the neighborhood in their boyhood days and through the months of summer assisted in the work of the fields. They are now in charge of the home property, cultivating one hundred and sixty acres of land which is rich and arable. In all of their work they are practical and the efforts of the one ably supplement the labors of the other.

John F. McMahon was married, May 2, 1905, to Miss Helen E. Redmond, a daughter of Henry and Julia Redmond, of Rockford, Illinois, who are members of old families of the city. Her birth occurred October 12, 1879, and she has always lived in this county. John McMahon is now serving his second term as justice of the peace and his third term as school director. The brothers are both advocates of democratic principles and are members of St. Mary's Catholic church of Rockford. They are wide-awake and enterprising young business men, widely and favorably known in the locality where they reside and where they are so directing their efforts as to win creditable prosperity.

HUGH McMICHAEL.

Hugh McMichael is the owner of a farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 21, Winnebago township, and his labors have made it a valuable property, well equipped with modern accessories and conveniences. Mr. McMichael arrived in Winnebago county in 1851 and for ten years was a resident of Rockford. He is a native of Scotland, his birth having occurred in Argyleshire in 1830. His parents were Hugh and Nancy (McDougall) McMichael. The mother died in Scotland, after which the father came to this country in 1853 and resided in Winnebago county, Illinois, up to the time of his death, which occurred in Harlem township, in 1879, when he was about eighty-four years of age. In his family were six children, who came to America, namely: Malcolm, now living in Rockford; Neil, a farmer residing on the old homestead in Harlem township; Elizabeth, who died in the Scotch settlement in this county in 1857; Mrs. Archie Stewart, now a resident of Minnesota; and Donald, who afterward returned to Scotland, where he died in 1803.

Hugh McMichael spent the days of his boyhood and youth in the land of hills and heather and learned the blacksmith's trade in that country. He crossed the Atlantic in 1851 and, making his way to this county, was for the succeeding decade a resident of Rockford, following the blacksmith's trade in that city. He then took up his abode in

Harlem township, north of Argyle, where he resided for four years, while later he spent fourteen years in Owen township, where he was engaged in general farming. He removed to his present farm in 1880 and has since made it his home. He now has one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 21, Winnebago township, and this is well improved largely through his own efforts. He also owns another tract of ninety-eight acres in the same township and he operates the entire amount, giving his time and energies to general farming with excellent success.

Mr. McMichael was married in this county to Miss Mary Hill, who was born in Argyleshire, Scotland, and came to America in 1858. They have six children, all of whom are living. Daniel, a resident of Rockford, employed in the tin shop of John Rawlston, married a Miss Henderson, who resided near Caledonia, Illinois, and they have two daughters, Ellen and Edith. Agnes is residing at home. Hugh is following farming on his father's land. Lizzie is the wife of James McNair, a resident farmer of Winnebago township, and they have two children, Jean and Robert. John, engaged in the real-estate business, makes his home at Cedar Falls, South Dakota. James is now a student in a dental college in Los Angeles, California.

In his political views Mr. McMichael has always been a democrat since becoming a naturalized American citizen and he has filled several township offices in a creditable manner, faithfully discharging every duty that has devolved upon him. Both he and his wife are members of the Winnebago Presbyterian church, interested and active in its work.

THEODORE E. BUCKBEE.

Among the early settlers in beautiful Winnebago county, famed far and wide as one of the garden spots of Illinois, was Jesse Buckbee. A far-seeing man, whose tendencies were agricultural, the new country, to which he was about to remove his family, presented immense possibilities to him and to an extent it can be truly said that the city of Rockford and the entire country, of which it is the natural capital and trade center, stand, in these latter days, a monument to the business sagacity of the New York farmer who, anticipating Horace Greeley's since famous advice, had given up his eastern home and had come west to grow up with the country. For he had no sooner thoroughly inspected the country in the region round about Rockford, then but a village, than he purchased a full section of land to the immediate south, set up a farm upon it and a home for his family. That land is now largely within the corporate limits

of Rockford, much of it is taken up by splendid homes and the city has spread to the south, the east and the west until the old homestead is fairly surrounded and is no longer "out in the country." On the site which was once a pasture field of the home farm stands one of the largest buildings in Rockford, in which a grandson of Jesse Buckbee conducts a business whose operations extend to every section of the United States, Canada and lands across the sea.

John, the first of the Buckbee family known to America, settled on Manhattan Island in the seventeenth century, having come from England. The second generation from John brought the descent to Russell Buckbee, who gained fame as a lieutenant in the Revolution. He participated in the battle of Trenton, where he was taken prisoner by the Hessians. An exchange of prisoners released him from the guardship where he had been confined, and after the close of the war he settled in Orange county, New York, where his son, Jesse, was born. The latter grew to manhood in Monroe county, New York, at Buckbee's Corners, near Chili Center, fourteen miles southwest from Rochester, and there, June 22, 1833, Theodore E. was born, the seventh of nine children. In 1844 the family removed to the west, traveling by wagon to Buffalo, thence by way of the Great Lakes to Milwaukee, thence overland again to Janesville, Wisconsin. The children who made the journey were Charles W., Francis A., Theodore E. and Eleanor. The first named, who became quite prominent in Rockford business affairs, died in 1887, a bachelor, and is buried here. Francis A. is a highly respected resident of Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, and for years has been one of the leading attorneys of Walworth county. Eleanor (Mrs. John Ames), aged eighty-four, and the oldest of the family, resides at Nora, near Stoughton, Wisconsin. Theodore E. died in Rockford, June 6, 1904, and is buried here. The mother of these children, Mary Secor, daughter of French parents, was a most estimable woman, and her character and guiding ability are reflected in the upright and ever honorable lives of her sons and her daughter. She died in Rockford in 1875, at the ripe age of eighty-four.

When Jesse Buckbee, through a letter of introduction to the late Horace Miller, had an excellent opportunity to view the land around Rockford, he forthwith decided to settle, and accordingly purchased the section of land heretofore mentioned, removing his family to the new home from Janesville by ox team, and reaching Rockford February 22, 1845. Here Theodore made his habitation continuously until his death, and his life was closely and almost entirely interwoven with the growth and material progress of the city. No man ever lived who had more

friends in Winnebago county nor whom more thoroughly deserved to have them. His advice in business and public affairs was sought eagerly and often and those who followed it had no regrets. A pioneer republican, whose first son, as a happy omen, was born on the very day that saw the election of Abraham Lincoln to the presidency of the United States, he was active in the councils of his party for over forty years, and for more than thirty years was chairman of its town committee. As a member of the board of supervisors (for many years its chairman), he served the public with fidelity and unquestioned integrity. He was chairman when the splendid memorial hall was erected in Rockford to commemorate the valor of the soldiers and sailors of Winnebago county, and at its dedication, June, 1893, introduced to the audience Theodore Roosevelt, the orator of the day. As an officer and director of the Winnebago County Fair Association he paid special attention to the speed department and brought it up to a high standard, serving the society until it finally passed out of existence. He also served as director of the Mechanics' Furniture Company.

His home life was ideal. In 1860, on February 11, he was married to Katherine Elizabeth Allington, who was born at Van Etten, New York, and was a daughter of Jacob and Katherine (Westbrook) Allington. Her father was from a sturdy Scotch family. Her mother was a daughter of David Westbrook and Mary Dimon. Jacob Allington was a son of Elizabeth Swartwood, whose ancestor, Peter Swartwood, was one of the four original Swarthwoods who emigrated from Holland to America long before the Revolutionary war, and Peter's grandson Jacob, became a general in that successful struggle for freedom. A member of this same Swartwood family married Kathenne Van Auken, one of the heroines of the Revolution. Mrs. Buckbee still makes her home in Rockford. Her only children are two sons—Hiram W., born November 6, 1860, and John T., born August 1, 1871, both residents and prominent business men of Rockford. The immense seed business conducted by them under the name of H. W. Buckbee, with its collateral branches, Rockford Seed Farms and Forest City greenhouses, is one of the most important merchandising institutions, not only of Rockford, but of Illinois, and for that matter, of the United States. Hiram W. was married September 15, 1885, to Mary, daughter of Judge William Brown. John T. was married, November 2, 1897, to Florence, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Fisk H. Day, of Lansing, Michigan. Two children, Francis and Mary, have been born to them, the former in 1899, the latter in 1901.

Of the inception and growth of the H. W.

Buckbee seed business it may be well to say that the former was the work of growing seeds on the farm by the father, the latter the determination to make a life work of it in larger form by the son Hiram. With the latter John T. has been associated for many years. Under skillful guidance the institution, which had such a modest beginning has grown to real greatness in its particular line, and has carried the historic name of Buckbee to almost every quarter of the globe.

JACOB A. REHM.

Jacob A. Rehm, following farming on section 8, Harlem township, was born in Chicago, Illinois, March 1, 1884, and resided at Blue Island until his removal to Harlem township in 1904. His grandfather, Jacob Rehm, was born in Alsace, France, December 6, 1828, and married Philloppina Richenbacker, a native of Germany now living in Chicago. The grandfather was a prominent business man of that city, as is Jacob A. Rehm, the father of our subject. When a young man the former drove a team to Galena, Illinois, taking emigrants to that place and passed through Rockford on the trip. He was then about fourteen years of age. He came to the United States in 1837 and after living in Naperville, Illinois, for two years the family removed to Chicago. When a youth he hauled water from Lake Michigan to the homes of people in the embryo city, selling it by the barrel. As the years have passed and the city has grown he has developed extensive and important business interests and is now a prosperous man. Jacob F. Rehm was born in Chicago, September 2, 1853, and is now the vice-president of the National Brewing Association. Throughout his entire business life he has been connected with the brewing business and has met with splendid success. He married Minnie Wuest, who was born in Chicago, September 10, 1858, and they still reside in that city. They have two sons and a daughter: Jacob A.; Walter A., who was born December 31, 1886, and is now a student in Wisconsin State University; and Clara Louisa, who was born November 2, 1882, and is at home.

Jacob A. Rehm resided in Blue Island, a suburb of Chicago. He was a student in the ward schools of Blue Island and afterward attended the Lake View high school of Chicago and subsequently the Illinois Agricultural College, a department of the State University. He then returned to Blue Island, where he remained until 1904, when he removed to Winnebago county, settling in Harlem township. He is now extensively and successfully engaged in general agricultural pursuits and in the breeding of

registered blooded stock, making a specialty of Angus cattle, Shropshire sheep and Berkshire hogs. His business interests are well conducted and his keen foresight and executive ability are noticeably characteristic in his work. He belongs to the Country Club of Rockford and is a member of the National College Fraternity. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and while not an aspirant for office he is interested in its success. A young man, alert and enterprising, with laudable ambition, he has already attained a creditable measure of prosperity which will undoubtedly be augmented in the future.

HIRAM H. WALDO.

Hiram H. Waldo, the youngest son of Hiram and Dulcinea Waldo, was born in Elba, Genesee county, New York, on the 23d day of November, 1827. He was educated in a country school and attended one term at Carey Collegiate Seminary in Alabama, Genesee county, New York. Having read glowing accounts of Rock river valley, Illinois, he was seized with the pioneer spirit and emigrated to Rockford, Illinois, in 1846, with the distinct purpose of teaching school. On arriving in Rockford he was examined by Goodyear A. Sanford, then school commissioner, and was granted a certificate of competency to teach school under the requirements of the school laws then existing in Illinois. He taught successively and successfully at Whig Hill, Rockford, Cherry Valley, Guilford and Harlem, and was the assistant of C. A. Huntington and Seeley Perry in the Rockford Academy, a private school where scholars were prepared for college. Samuel Montague, chief engineer of the Union Pacific Railroad and Alexander Kerr, professor in Greek of Madison University, were his classmates. Mr. Waldo prepared himself in the Rockford Academy for Beloit College, but being offered a handsome salary to accept a situation in the Chicago postoffice, he abandoned his college career. He was foreman of the western distribution department for two years, and then returned to Rockford to take charge of the Rockford postoffice under the postmastership of C. I. Horsman.

Mr. Waldo was elected to the office of school commissioner in 1856, and held the office by election and appointment for eight years, and during that time he assisted Newton Bateman and Simeon Wright in framing the first free school law adopted by the Illinois legislature. On September 1, 1855, he established a book store at 205 West State street, but moved, in 1859, to his present location, at 304 West State street, and Mr. Waldo is now celebrating his fiftieth

anniversary as a bookseller and claims that he antedates any other book store in the state in continuous business under one firm name.

In 1853 Mr. Waldo was married to Miss Olive S. True, of Lewiston, Maine. His wife's death occurred in September, 1855. In 1858 he was married to Miss Sarah E. Hulett, of Albion, Michigan. Mr. Waldo was a republican in politics until Horace Greeley was nominated by the democratic party, and since that time he has been an independent and voted for those men who were opposed to the protective tariff and in favor of a sound and not a fictitious money basis. Mr. Waldo's religious affiliations are with the church of the Christian Union, which was organized September 1, 1870. He was a charter member and has not missed a Sunday service since its organization up to date, October 15, 1905. Mr. Waldo has never sought any political office since his retirement from the office of school commissioner but without his solicitation he was appointed receiver of the Second National Bank by Hon. James H. Eckels, then comptroller of the currency, and was continued in the office by Hon. Charles G. Dawes until its final settlement.

Mr. Waldo is now seventy-eight years old and attends regularly to his daily business duties and wishes to do so as long as he can do business intelligently. He is not an advocate of "retiring" from business but rather for "continuing" in business as long as his health and strength will permit. Mr. Waldo said to the writer that the supreme desire of his life was to cultivate an optimistic spirit and become the possessor of a cheerful old age. Although Mr. Waldo is on the "last leaf" on the tree of business pioneers at Rockford he does not look "sad and wan" nor have the "melancholy grin" that characterized the "Last Leaf," written about by Oliver Wendell Holmes.

JOSEPH W. IRVINE.

Through a number of years Joseph W. Irvine was known as a promoter of industrial and commercial activity in this city and through his financial assistance, wise counsel and able management contributed to the business development which has made Rockford a leading productive center of Illinois. To the interests which claimed his attention he brought careful consideration and keen discrimination, and he would never tolerate any methods save those which would bear the closest scrutiny, so that he won success and an honored name simultaneously. Mr. Irvine was born in Belleville, Ontario, Canada, March 10, 1816, his parents being Rev. Alexander and Clarissa (Harrington) Irvine. The father was



Hiram H. Kello.

from Perthshire, Scotland, and was a descendant of an old and prominent family of that country. His parents, William and Marjorie (Stuart) Irvine, determining to make a home in the new world, crossed the Atlantic to the United States when their son Alexander was but four years of age and became residents of New York, William Irvine remaining a resident of the Empire state until his death. His wife, long surviving him, removed to Canada, where she passed away at the age of ninety-seven years. She was connected with the royal family, and both she and her husband were members of the Presbyterian church.

Having arrived at years of maturity Rev. Alexander Irvine was married in the state of New York to one of its native daughters, Miss Clarissa Harrington, who was descended from New England ancestry. They removed to Canada and during their residence there two children were born unto them. They afterward returned to the Empire state, but when Joseph W. Irvine was twelve years of age they went to Canada, whence they came to Illinois, in 1836. They first settled near Dixon, in Lee county, but after a short period removed to Ogle county, taking up their abode on the Rock river, near Byron. Rev. Alexander Irvine secured a tract of land in Rockdale township from the government and began the development of a farm, but was not long permitted to enjoy his new home, his death occurring in 1840, when he was in the prime of life. His wife survived him until during the period of the Civil war, when she passed away at the age of sixty-two years. Their church relationship was with the Methodist denomination. Their family numbered four sons and four daughters.

Joseph W. Irvine, the second in order, was a youth of seventeen when he came with his parents to Illinois. He had attended the public schools of New York and Canada, but had no educational advantages after he was twelve years of age. He became, however, a well informed man, adding to his knowledge year by year through reading, experience and observation. After putting aside his text-books he was employed in a store in Toronto, Canada, and subsequent to the removal of the family to Ogle county, Illinois, he assisted his father in the operation of the home farm until twenty-two years of age, when he was married to Miss Electa Sheldon Parsons, a native of Massachusetts, in which state she spent her girlhood days. In early womanhood she came to Illinois, and her death occurred upon the farm in Ogle county, in 1856. She possessed many excellent traits of character that endeared her to a large circle of friends and was devoted to the welfare of her family. She had become the mother of five children: Edwin,

who is now a railroad mail agent, residing in Rockford, married Miss Mina Underwood; Ellen C. is the wife of William Warburton, a resident farmer of Buchanan county, Iowa; Mary is the wife of Christian Burkholder, a dealer in agricultural implements in Sterling, Illinois; W. Henry is living with his sister in Sterling; and one died in infancy.

After losing his first wife Mr. Irvine was married, in Ogle county, to Miss Rebecca W. Waggoner, in 1857. She was born in New Columbia, Union county, Pennsylvania, on the 23d of June, 1829. Her parents, Henry R. and Elsie (Woods) Waggoner, were natives of Northumberland county, Pennsylvania, but at the time of their daughter's birth were living on the banks of the beautiful Susquehanna. Her father was of Pennsylvania Dutch lineage, while her mother came of Irish ancestry. They were married in Northumberland county and in order to provide for his family Mr. Waggoner followed mechanical pursuits. In 1848 he brought his family to Ogle county, Illinois, settling on a farm in Rockdale township, and after losing his first wife he wedded Miss Margaret Hensel. Subsequently he went to Mount Morris, this state, where he passed away March 5, 1869, when about seventy-five years of age and his second wife also died there. Mrs. Irvine was one of seven children and by her marriage became the mother of five children, but the youngest, Wilson S., died in infancy. Charles Francis, the eldest, married C. Blanche Swarthout and is secretary and treasurer of the Rockford Overalls Manufacturing Company, making his home in Rockford. George L., president of the Rockford Overalls Manufacturing Company, married Miss Nevada Miller, who died two months later, and he then married Hattie M. Swain. Elsie M. is the wife of C. Eugene Sovereign and they reside in Rockford, Mrs. Irvine making her home with them. Mr. Sovereign is a member of the firm of C. E. Sovereign & Company, manufacturers of neck yokes, leather washers and hardware specialties at No. 415-27 West State street and is very prominent in manufacturing circles here. He also represents one of the early families of the county and a sketch of his father, Israel Sovereign, is given elsewhere in this work.

After his first marriage Mr. Irvine purchased a farm in Ogle county and was engaged in general agricultural pursuits until October, 1869, when he removed to Rockford and became connected with what is now the Emerson Manufacturing Company, being associated therewith for seventeen years. He was afterward with the Wilkins Knitting Factory for a few years and has been a promoter and stockholder in various other important business enterprises, sometimes actively interested therein and at other times

having but financial investment. He was connected with the Rockford Boot & Shoe Company, the Silver Plate Manufacturing Company, the Rockford Watch Company, the Rockford Watch Case Company and the Rockford Overalls Company. He was esteemed for his sound business judgment and keen insight into intricate business problems. He possessed a large fund of that quality which we call common sense and his opinions were sound and his counsel reliable. For some time he was president of the Rockford Boot & Shoe Company but in the later years of his life lived retired and in a well earned ease spent his remaining days in a beautiful home in Rockford.

In his political affiliation Mr. Irvine was a staunch republican and held several offices in Ogle county but was never an aspirant for political preferment. He and his wife were members of the Court Street Methodist Episcopal church, in which he served as a member of the official board and as trustee. He was one of the leading business men of this city and was very successful in all life's relations. He commanded the trust and good will of those with whom he came in contact and was never so busy but that he had time to accord to any one the courtesy of an interview and he also found opportunity to cooperate in movements for the moral development of the city. Mrs. Irvine now makes her home with Mr. and Mrs. Sovereign, at No. 412 North Court street.

ORLANDO F. CRILL.

Orlando F. Crill, a retired farmer of Ogle county, became a resident of Rockford in 1900. He was born in Ogle county, May 30, 1850, his birthplace being his father's farm in Monroe township. He is a son of John J. Crill, who was born in Steuben county, New York, and with his parents came to Illinois in 1843, the family home being established in Monroe township, where the grandfather, Henry Crill, followed farming for many years. As he prospered in his undertakings he wisely invested in land until he became the owner of about thirteen hundred acres, and this place is still in possession of his descendants. In his family were nine children, five sons and four daughters, of whom two daughters and a son are now living—Mrs. Orbit, who resides on West State street, in Rockford; Mrs. Stocking, of Rochelle; and Harvey Crill, living on North Main street.

John J. Crill, a native of New York state, was about nineteen years of age when he came to Illinois, and he assisted in the arduous task of developing a new farm until twenty-one years of age, when he purchased a tract of land, upon

which he spent his remaining days, developing it into an excellent farm property. He, too, became an extensive landowner, adding to his original purchase until he owned six hundred acres. His business judgment was sound and accurate and his investments were wisely placed, so that he realized a handsome financial return. He wedded Miss Margaret Keith, who was born in Marietta, Ohio, and they became the parents of two sons and a daughter—M. J. Crill, who is living on Third street in Rockford; Orlando F. and Mrs. M. J. Hardy, whose home is on Third street in Rockford. In his political views the father was a republican. He kept thoroughly informed concerning the questions and issues of the day and held the office of assessor, but was never active in seeking political preferment. He and his wife were members of the Methodist church and their home was always the place of entertainment for the ministers who visited the locality. Mr. Crill contributed most liberally to the support of the church and was deeply interested in all that pertained to the moral upbuilding of the community. He died in the year 1888, and is still survived by his widow, who at the age of seventy-two years resides in Rockford with her son, M. J. Crill.

Orlando F. Crill pursued a common-school education and his youth was a busy one, for when not occupied with his text-books he assisted in the work of the home farm. He remained with his parents until twenty-two years of age, when he purchased a tract of land in the same locality, carrying on its improvement and cultivation until he traded it for the farm which he now owns. He has two hundred and fifty-seven acres of finely improved land in Monroe township, on which is a beautiful country residence, substantial barns and all modern equipments, including windmills and tanks. There is running water on the place and in his farming operations Mr. Crill introduced all modern methods and improvements that facilitated his work and rendered his labors more available in the acquirement of a handsome competence. He kept a great amount of stock and this, too, proved a source of income. His farm is one of the best improved in Ogle county and he resided thereon until 1900, when he took up his abode in Rockford.

On the 17th of December, 1873, Mr. Crill was married to Miss Julia Matthews, who was born June 1, 1852, in the state of New York, her parents being John T. and Elvira P. (Garvin) Matthews, who came to Illinois when their daughter was but five years of age. They had a family of six children—Andrew, who died in New York city; Keziah, who died in the state of New York, in April, 1885; Augusta, who became the wife of George Carr and died in Cherry Valley,



MR. AND MRS. O. F. CRILL.

Illinois, leaving four children; Harlow, who died in Ogle county, Illinois, and who was a soldier of the Civil war, serving for four years in the Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry; Jane, who became the wife of Hugh Carr, and died in Butler county, Iowa, leaving a daughter; and Julia. Both Mr. and Mrs. Matthews have now passed away.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Crill was blessed with four children, but they lost their eldest, Johnnie, who was born October 4, 1874, and died February 28, 1875. Perry A., born March 27, 1877, pursued his education in the common schools in Monroe Center for a year and in the business college at Rockford for one term. He remained upon the home farm until twenty-three years of age and five years ago he entered the Manufacturers' Bank of Rockford as collector, assistant cashier and bookkeeper. In fact, he did any work that was needed to be done around the bank and his capability made him a valued assistant. He remained there three years, at the end of which time he accepted a position in the office of the Edison Light Company, where he continued for a year. He then went upon the road as traveling salesman for the American Stogey Company at a salary of twelve hundred dollars per year, and he makes his home with his parents. Edna Ruth, born May 10, 1883, was educated in a business college and has also received considerable instruction in music. Marguerite Hazel, born October 24, 1885, is a graduate of the high school of Rockford of the class of 1905.

While Mr. Crill is practically living retired, he is a man of marked energy, indolence and idleness being utterly foreign to his nature, so that he can hardly content himself without some business interests, and has operated in real estate for himself and for the Eastern Investment Company. He deals in South Dakota lands and also in property here. A republican in his political views, he has refused various offices that have been tendered him, preferring to give his attention to his business and social relations. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and he and his wife attend the Methodist Episcopal church, of which their daughters are members. Their home is at No. 423 South Church street, and they are prominent and influential people of the community, having won many friends in their connection with the social life of Rockford.

WILLIAM THOMPSON.

William Thompson, who for about fifteen years has served as township treasurer of Rockton township and is proprietor of a store in the

village of Rockton, was born in England, in 1832. His father, Richardson Thompson, was also a native of that country, and about 1834 he crossed the Atlantic to America with his family, establishing his home in Canada, where his remaining days were passed. In his native country he had married Eliza Green, who was also born in England. He passed the Psalmist's allotted span of three score years and ten, reaching the age of seventy-three years, while his wife died in Canada at the very advanced age of ninety-two years. They were the parents of eight children, of whom William was the fourth in order of birth. Five of the number were born on the "merrie isle," while three were natives of Canada. Those still living are: William; Thomas, a resident of Minnesota; Robert, who resides in Toronto; and Mrs. Sarah Ann Winters, also living in Canada. Throughout his entire life the father followed the occupation of farming and thus provided for his wife and children.

William Thompson was only five years old when brought by his parents to the new world and was reared to manhood in Canada. Having arrived at adult age he entered business life there as a grain merchant and miller, carrying on the dual pursuit until about 1879, when he came to Winnebago county, Illinois, establishing his home in Rockton. Here he engaged in teaching school for three or four terms and in 1881 he became a factor in mercantile life, establishing a store which he has since conducted with constantly growing success, his business increasing year by year owing to his reasonable prices, his fair dealing and his progressive methods. He carries a well selected line of goods and his patrons find him obliging, courteous and considerate. He has thus gained a good living by the conduct of his mercantile interests and is well known as one of the leading business men of the village.

In 1852 Mr. Thompson was married to Miss Elizabeth Davis, who was born in Canada, but came of American parentage. They had three children, but Rachel Ann is deceased. Julia became the wife of John Manning and had two children, Evelyn and Kate. Sarah Elizabeth became the wife of Hiram Baker and died, leaving two children, Winifred and Mae. The former is now the wife of Frank Hueltner, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and has one son, Frederick.

Since becoming a naturalized American citizen William Thompson has never failed to cast his ballot for the men and measures of the republican party and for about fifteen years has served as township treasurer, while for a number of years he was justice of the peace. He discharges his official duties with the same promptness and sense of conscientious obliga-

tion that marks his private business career and he is much esteemed in Rockton where he has manifested traits of patriotic and public-spirited citizenship and has also made a creditable name as a merchant and in private life.

CHESTER E. BRIGGS.

Chester E. Briggs, deceased, was a representative of a pioneer family in Winnebago county and his business connections and personal qualifications insured him a place of prominence in the public regard and made him a worthy citizen of Rockford. A native of Vermont his birth occurred in Jamaica, on the 19th of September, 1852, his parents being Joseph W. and Elizabeth (Cressy) Briggs, who were also natives of the Green Mountain state, the father born in Dover, May 29, 1825, while the mother's birth occurred in Jamaica, April 14, 1820. The paternal grandparents were Calvin and Lucy (Washburn) Briggs, both natives of Vermont, where the grandfather carried on business as a tanner and farmer. He spent his entire life in his native state, after which his widow came west to Rockford on a visit to her son C. C. and other children and died in his home. Both Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Briggs were representatives of old New England families and were relatives of Governor Briggs, of Massachusetts, and of Governor P. T. Washburn, of Vermont. Joseph W. Briggs is the only survivor of a family of nine children and is now living a retired life in Rockford. He came to Winnebago county, in December, 1855, settling on a farm in Berry township, where he resided for three years. He then removed to Milford township for a short time, after which he purchased a farm in Cherry Valley township and continued the cultivation and improvement of that place for three years. On the expiration of that period he took up his abode in the city of Rockford, where he has since resided. His wife died here September 24, 1900, and he now resides at No. 917 Kishwaukee street. He owns much valuable property in this city, having in former years made judicious investment of his capital in realty which now commands a high price. He was one of the early members of the First Congregational church here and has lived an upright, honorable life, commending him to the good will, friendship and confidence of those with whom he has been associated. Unto him and his wife were born a son and daughter, the latter being Maria E., now the wife of Elwin W. Chandler, of the firm of Chandler Brothers, publishers, of Rockford. They had one son—Cressy Elwin, who died March 24, 1897, at the age of ten years, and they are now rearing an adopted son—Melvin Joseph, who was born November 30, 1892.

Chester E. Briggs acquired his early education in the district schools of Cherry Valley township, having been brought to Winnebago county when in his third year. He continued his education in the Rockford high school. He was a youth of nine years when his parents removed from the farm to the city and while still a student he devoted much of his leisure hours to mechanical work, seeming to possess much natural ingenuity in this direction. He was always making brackets or other devices and after putting aside his text-books he began learning the cabinet-maker's trade, securing a position with the Forest City Furniture Company, of Rockford. He followed that pursuit for several years and then entered the employ of the bicycle works of this city, with which he continued for a brief period. He had saved his earnings and when the Co-operative Furniture Company of Rockford was established he became one of the stockholders and was made secretary and treasurer of the company. He was thus engaged in business for himself for a few years and then sold his interests, after which he returned to the Forest City Furniture Company, with which he remained for a few years or until his retirement from active business life. He was a skilled workman and in fact the company said that they never had a more efficient workman in their employ. He was very successful in his business dealings and as he accumulated money he invested in property, erecting the residence which is now occupied by his widow and son. This is located at No. 905 Kishwaukee street and adjoins the home of Mr. Joseph W. Briggs. Mr. Briggs was also executor for the well known Britton estate for thirteen years.

Chester E. Briggs was married twice. He first wedded Miss Ollie A. Preston, a native of Camden, New Jersey, who was born July 5, 1857, and died in Rockford, March 7, 1892. There were two children by that marriage: Edwin C., who married Constance Fritz and resides in Chicago, where he is an instructor in the Armour Institute; and Lewis P., who is at home with his stepmother and attends the Rockford Business College. In 1893 Mr. Briggs wedded Miss C. Elizabeth Allen, a native of Gun Plains, Allegan county, Michigan, and a daughter of William Allen, who was a farmer of that county throughout his active life. He died in Otsego, Michigan. The death of Mr. Briggs occurred February 27, 1903. Although never an aspirant for public office he was a staunch advocate of republican principles and both he and his wife were members of the First Congregational church of Rockford. He was a man whose business integrity was above question and his life was manly, his actions sincere and his manner unaffected. He lived in Winnebago county for

almost a half century and many of his staunchest friends were those who had known him from his boyhood days—a fact that indicates an honorable career, worthy of confidence and respect.

WILLIAM H. TOUSLEY.

William H. Tousley, editor of the Durand Clipper, was born December 8, 1866, at Jefferson, Wisconsin. His father, William F. Tousley, was a native of Medina county, Ohio, and when a young man accompanied his parents to Wisconsin, settling at Fort Atkinson. He learned the printer's trade in his brother's office at Jefferson, Wisconsin, and afterward in connection with a brother established a job office at Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, whence he later removed to Edgerton, in the same state. There Mr. Tousley and his cousin began the publication of the Independent and subsequently Mr. Tousley purchased his partner's interest and established the Wisconsin Tobacco Reporter. He was connected with the newspaper business throughout his entire life. He married Lenora Schmidt, who was born in Jefferson county, Wisconsin, in July, 1848. He died in 1881 and is still survived by his widow who resides in Edgerton. They had four sons: William H.; Frank H., who is living in Oelwein, Iowa, and has a son and daughter; Jesse E., of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, who has one daughter; and George R., also a resident of Oelwein.

William H. Tousley spent his youth in Jefferson and Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, remaining in his native county until 1878, when his parents removed to Edgerton, where his father established a paper. He learned the printer's trade there and followed it for a number of years as a journeyman, being employed in various cities until 1888, when he came to Rockford, working here on the Register-Gazette. He was foreman and linotype operator and continued in that position until October 7, 1903, and then purchased his present office at Durand, since which time he has been editor and proprietor of the Clipper, having a well conducted newspaper office and giving to the public a bright and interesting paper devoted to the dissemination of general news and to the furtherance of local interests.

On the 14th of November, 1888, Mr. Tousley was married to Miss Frances L. Zastrow, of Rockford, a daughter of Frederick and Minnie (Chartier) Zastrow. Her father was born in Germany and when seven years of age was brought to the United States by his parents. In early life he learned the miller's trade, which he followed until a few years prior to his death, when he purchased a farm in Jefferson county,

Wisconsin, and thereon spent his remaining days, passing away at the age of fifty-six years. His wife was born in the United States and died during the early girlhood of Mrs. Tousley, whose brothers are Edward Zastrow, of Concord, Wisconsin; Herman, who is living at Wetmore, Colorado; and Paul, who makes his home in the same place. Mr. and Mrs. Tousley have one daughter, Ruth Millicent, who was born in Rockford, January 23, 1896. The parents are members of the Evangelical Lutheran church and Mr. Tousley is a staunch republican, known as the champion of the party by reason of active work in its ranks and by his advocacy of its principles through the columns of his paper. He is a member of camp No. 61, M. W. A., and is now its venerable counsel. He also belongs to Shawbnee lodge, No. 146, I. O. O. F., of which he is secretary, and to Blue lodge, No. 302, A. F. & A. M. Mr. and Mrs. Tousley are both members of the Daughters of Rebekah.

FRANK E. DARROW.

Few men are more prominent or more widely known in the enterprising city of Rockford than Frank E. Darrow, a wholesale lumber dealer and the president of the Co-operative Furniture Company. The prosperity of any community, town or city depends upon its commercial activity, its industrial interests and its trade relations, and therefore the real upbuilders of a town are those who stand at the head of the leading enterprises. Mr. Darrow is justly accorded a place among the representative American citizens, who while advancing his individual success also promotes the general prosperity.

A native of New York state, he spent his youth in that part of the country, supplementing his early common school advantages by study in an academy. He came to Illinois in 1889 and has since engaged in the wholesale lumber business, his interests representing large investment in sawmills and timber lands in the state of New York and in the south, in both of which he is extensively engaged in the manufacture of lumber. He is also the president of the Co-operative Furniture Company of Rockford, of which he is a large stockholder. The product of his mills in New Mexico and old Mexico and the south supplies railroads and furniture companies in Rockford and other points. Some of the finest timber in the country is to be obtained in New and old Mexico. The mills are supplied with band saws and the most modern machinery in every particular and have a capacity of three hundred thousand feet per day. The lumber consists of oak, pine, gum and other

hardwoods and the volume of business annually conducted makes Mr. Darrow one of the leading representatives of the lumber interests of the country. He has been watchful of every indication pointing toward success and to him there has come the attainment of a distinguished position in connection with the great material industries of the state, while his affairs have been so discerningly directed along well defined lines that he seems to have realized at any point of progress the full measure of his possibilities for accomplishment at that point.

HENRY WILLIAM PRICE.

With the industrial and commercial development of Rockford, whereby the city has attained prominence as a leading commercial and productive center of Illinois, Henry W. Price was closely identified and although he has passed away, the measure of good which he did in the world in this connection will not have ceased until the enterprises with which he was associated are no longer a factor in business life here. Moreover he maintained a reputation for integrity and trustworthiness that made his name an honored one and his life history, too, is another exemplification of the fact that the road to success is open to all who have the will to dare and to do. At one time he was interested in twenty different lines of business in Rockford but was most closely connected with the manufacturing interests.

A native of Lakeville, Livingston county, New York, born May 22, 1837, he was a son of William Henry and Margaret (Haynes) Price, both of whom were natives of the Empire state, where the father conducted business as a carpenter, builder and contractor. He resided in Lakeville until the fall of 1837, when he came to the west, settling in Chicago, which city in that year was first incorporated. He became identified with its building interests but later established a planing mill and conducted the business with marked success. His patronage grew readily and he built other planing mills until his enterprise was the largest of that character in the city. There he continued in business until 1840, when attracted by the discovery of gold in California, he started for the Pacific coast but on the way became ill and died on the Isthmus of Panama. His widow afterward returned to the east and spent her remaining days at the old home in Lakeville, New York.

Henry W. Price was indebted to the public school system of his native state for the early educational privileges he received and later continued his studies in the Temple Hill Academy

at Geneseo, New York. He was pre-eminently a self-made man, who without any family or pecuniary assistance made his way from humble surroundings to a position of prominence that well justifies the use of the term "captain of industry" in connection with his name. He was thirteen years of age when his parents started for California, leaving him in Chicago. He secured a position as errand boy and caretaker in a clothing store conducted by a Mr. Harris at a salary of two dollars per week and there his faithfulness and utility won him promotion until he was made clerk and finally became the leading salesman in the establishment. He had the faculty of interesting customers, displaying the goods to the best advantage, and indeed possessed the traits of a natural born salesman. He occupied the position for three years, at the end of which time his maternal grandfather, who was much attached to him, took him back to Geneseo, New York, and provided him with the means that enabled him to secure his academic education.

While he was working in the store he and his mother managed to save three hundred and fifty dollars. About the time he put aside his textbooks he learned of the failure of a small shoe store in Buffalo, New York, and invested the capital which he had saved in the stock of shoes. Embarking in the retail shoe trade he was very successful in the conduct of the business until 1860, when his store was destroyed by fire, together with a part of the stock. He then determined to take the remainder of the stock to the west, believing that the advantages afforded in the Mississippi valley were greater than he might enjoy in the east. He went direct to Freeport, Illinois, but not liking that town never unpacked his goods there and came on to Rockford, where he opened a small shoe store on the east side. Prosperity attended the new venture from the beginning and it was not long before he was enabled to establish a second store and eventually a third on West State street, so that he was the owner of three shoe stores in the city, having a large patronage that made his business very profitable. He continued that business for some years, after which he traded his stock of shoes for a stock of gloves and mittens and concentrated his energies upon the glove and mitten trade. He hired a horse and buggy and assisted by his wife he visited all of the neighboring towns, selling his stock in small job lots until he had disposed of the entire amount at a good profit. Turning his attention to the wholesale trade as a dealer in gloves and mittens he opened a store at the corner of State and Wyman streets, purchased goods at Gloversville, Johnston and as far east as Boston and also in the English



Henry W. Price

markets, and entered upon a prosperous era in the trade, finding it necessary to enlarge his stock from year to year in order to meet the growing demands of a constantly increasing patronage. His business assumed such proportions that he was justified in the erection of a large building on Wyman street, where he continued in the wholesale trade. At the same time he built a large factory at the corner of Peace and Wyman streets and began the manufacture of gloves and mittens, thus conducting both branches of the business throughout his remaining days. He employed a number of men in both places and his house gained a wide reputation, his product finding a ready sale upon the market. He had as many as twenty salesmen traveling at one time and his trade reached from coast to coast and from Canada to the far south. He also spent much time upon the road himself in buying his stock and looking after the interests of his business. So extensive and important did the enterprise become and so well known was he to the trade that he was called the "glove king."

Mr. Price was a man of marked business discernment and resourceful ability, watchful of opportunities and prompt in utilizing every business advantage that offered him a field for honorable effort. He became interested in many other kinds of business here and the commercial and industrial circles of the city would be much abbreviated if it were not for the prominent part which he took in promoting the productive industries and financial affairs of the city. He was president of the Rockford Watch Factory and one of its large stockholders, was president of the Rockford Street Railway Company, president of the Rockford Silver Plate Works, a director in the People's Bank, a stockholder in the Nelson House, a director in the Rockford Insurance Company, financially interested in the Rockford Tack Factory and one of its directors and one of the charter members of the Rockford and Interurban Railway Company, so continuing up to the time of his death. He was likewise interested in real estate and owned valuable property all over the city. He also held stock in other business enterprises here. He found in 1890 that his interests were becoming too extensive and varied for successful management and made an assignment at a time when he was able to pay dollar for dollar. Such was the position which he held in the trust of his fellowmen that his creditors all assisted him in again starting in business and it was not long before he was once in control of extensive interests and many of the business enterprises mentioned above felt the stimulus of his activity and profited by his wise counsel and keen discernment up to the time of his demise.

On the 20th of January, 1862, Mr. Price was united in marriage to Miss Frances Irene Warner, a native of Bradford county, Pennsylvania, and a daughter of Myron and Harriet (Hurlbert) Warner, and a granddaughter of Dr. Adjonia Warner, who was one of the first physicians of Pennsylvania. Her father followed farming throughout his entire life and made his home in Bradford county, Pennsylvania, until called to his final rest, at the age of eighty-six years, while his wife passed away at the age of eighty-two years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Price were born two children: Mrs. Maude St. Leon, who resides in Denver, Colorado, with her son, Harry Price, and who also has a daughter, Mary Daphne. The second daughter of Mr. Price, Mary Eugenia, died in July, 1870. The death of Mr. Price occurred very suddenly on the 11th of May, 1903, a few days before the sixty-sixth anniversary of his birth.

In his political affiliation Mr. Price was a staunch republican, who took an active interest in the party, its work and success. He belonged to Rockford lodge, A. F. & A. M., and Crusader commandery, No. 17, K. T. Both he and his wife held membership in the Episcopal church but she is now identified with the Seventh Day Adventists. Mr. Price was an earnest Christian man and in his life exemplified a humanitarian spirit that awakened admiration and respect. At all times he commanded the esteem of those with whom he had business relations or who were employed by him and those who came within a closer circle of a social acquaintance knew him as a most genial and companionable gentleman. His was a noble career from the fact that entering business life with the meager salary of two dollars per week he worked his way steadily upward to a place where he controlled business interests involving hundreds of thousands of dollars. He had a ready appreciation for opportunities and never failed to utilize the advantages that came to him and his name was a synonym for integrity in commercial transactions. His history is interwoven with that of Rockford and while he has passed away his name is found upon the roll of honored dead. Men of prominence and in public life and whom the world acknowledges as of real worth are not the military or political leaders but those who are controlling the veins and arteries of the traffic and exchanges of the world wherein rests the prosperity of town, county and nation, and Mr. Price contributed in substantial measure to the material upbuilding, growth and development of his adopted city. Moreover he was known as a citizen of genuine worth endeared to his associates by ties of strong friendship.

Mrs. Price, well known in social circles of Rockford, was the first lady clerk in the postoffice

of this city, for during the period of the Civil war she accepted that position for a man who desired to go to the front and she acted in that capacity for eighteen months. In May, 1882, Mr. Price built the present residence where his widow now resides, at No. 929 North Main street, and it is one of the large and fine homes of the city. It is said that Mr. Price never had an enemy in the world but all men liked him and that he was popular with young and old, rich and poor. It is only men of the best qualities and characteristics who are thus esteemed and in Rockford he stood as a man among men.

"His life was noble and the elements
So mixed in him that Nature might stand up
And say to all the world 'This was a man.'"

FRANK OSCAR SEGURD.

Death often removes from our midst those whom we can ill afford to lose and such was the case with Frank O. Segurd, who when called from the activities of this life, was one of the progressive business men of Rockford, his labors contributing to its commercial progress and prosperity. He also was well known in political circles, while his personal traits of character endeared him to a large circle of friends. He was a native of Sweden but was only two and a half years of age when he came to Winnebago county with his parents, locating in Pecatonica, on a small farm, which his father had purchased near that village. Both parents still reside there. The father is a shoemaker by trade and follows that pursuit in the village in addition to the management of his agricultural interests. He has two sons and a daughter, who are yet living: Charles, who is engaged in the grocery business on Seventh street in Rockford; Godfrey, who is a farmer residing in Walker, Missouri; and Anna, the wife of George Brewster, a carpenter, living in Pecatonica.

In his boyhood and youth Frank O. Segurd attended the public schools and when a young man went to Rock Island, Illinois, where he was a student for one year. On his return to Pecatonica he was in the employ of J. B. Greenwood for five years and spent the year 1886 in Chicago. The following year he took up his abode in Rockford, where he secured a position with W. W. Sawyer, one of the oldest druggists in years of connection with the trade in the city. He continued to clerk for Mr. Sawyer for eleven years, or until 1897, when he embarked in the drug business on his own account at No. 536 South Seventh street, where he continued up to the time of his death. He was situated at an advantageous corner and had a handsome well appointed store, carrying a large

line of drugs, druggists' specialties and imported and domestic cigars. He likewise made a specialty of compounding medicines and filling prescriptions and was accorded a liberal patronage not only by reason of his straightforward business methods but also on account of his genial and obliging manner and his pleasant disposition. He led a very busy life, having little time for recreation, finding that his business interests claimed his time, energies and talents to the full extent. He was also one of the stockholders in the Rockford Undertaking Establishment, with which he was connected from its organization twelve years ago to the time of his death.

On the 2d of October, 1890, Mr. Segurd was united in marriage to Miss Selma Elizabeth Borg, a native of Rockford, and a daughter of Andrew and Matilda (Carlson) Borg, both of whom were born in Morlunda, Sweden. Her father was at one time engaged in business in Rockford as a mason contractor and builder. He was born June 16, 1839, and was among the early emigrants from his land to the United States. He learned his trade in Oskersham, and in the summer of 1854, when twenty-four years of age, took passage on a sailing vessel bound for New York city. They encountered severe weather and for four days were without food and water. Twenty-four passengers died from exhaustion and were buried in the sea, but at length the long hard voyage was over and Mr. Borg set foot on American soil in New York city, August 15, 1854. He then started for Chicago. He was entirely without money and had also lost his trunk so that literally he began life in the new world empty-handed. He was resolute and energetic, however, and soon found employment. A year later he determined to go to Kansas but in passing through Rockford was so well pleased with the city that he resolved to make his home there. Other members of the family also came to this country. Three years after coming to this country Mr. Borg returned to his native land, where he wedded Anna S. Carlson, who died at the age of twenty-two years, only nine days after she and her husband had come to the United States. Later he wedded Ida M. Carlson, a sister of his first wife, and she also died at the age of twenty-two years. She left a daughter, Selma E., now the wife of Frank Segurd. Mr. Borg was married in Rockford to Anna S. Bowman, who was born in Sweden, August 4, 1852, and in 1864 came to this city with her parents. There were eight children born of the last marriage, of whom four are yet living, Albert, Olivia and Victoria, twins, and Esther have passed away. Those who still survive are Edward, Albert A., Esther L. and Hubert.



FRANK O. SEGURD.

The year following his arrival in Rockford Mr. Borg began business as a mason contractor and builder and many of the substantial structures of the city stand as monuments to his skill and enterprise. As liberal patronage was accorded him and his financial resources were thereby increased, Mr. Borg invested in property here and in addition to his own residence had an interest in the flats and residence at the corner of Fourth avenue and Seventh street. He and J. A. Bowman built the Royal block and the Bowman Borg building. He likewise became financially interested in a number of important business enterprises, being a stockholder in the Skandia Plow Company, a stockholder and director in the Skandia Brick Company and a director in the Union grocery store. His was a successful business career, in which diligence, effort and perseverance were crowned with a full measure of success. His political allegiance was given to the republican party and both he and his wife were members of the Zion Lutheran church. They remained residents of Rockford until called to their final rest, Mr. Borg passing away December 3, 1899. Mr. and Mrs. Segurd have but one son, Floyd Oliver, born August 4, 1892.

Mr. Segurd departed this life June 10, 1905. His widow still owns the drug store. He always took an active interest in politics and for many years was an active worker and treasurer in the Rockford Republican Club. He was a trustee of the Zion Lutheran church for twelve years, and its treasurer for five years and Mrs. Segurd yet retains her membership with that organization. She now resides at No. 622 College avenue and is prominent socially in Rockford. Mr. Segurd was well known, being one of the representative citizens here, and he always had a kind word for all with whom he came in contact. He was also a man of liberal spirit and marked generosity and the poor and needy never appealed to him in vain. His fidelity in friendship, his trustworthiness in business and his honor in citizenship combined to make him a man deserving the esteem of all, while his life record is worthy of emulation.

HON. CHARLES A. WORKS.

Hon. Charles A. Works, who died very suddenly at his home on College avenue in Rockford, on the evening of May 16, 1903, was a representative of one of the pioneer families of Winnebago county, his birth having occurred in Guilford township, May 4, 1848. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Works, were natives of the east and on coming to this county in 1836

settled upon a farm in Guilford township, where they spent their remaining days. The records of the First Congregational church of Rockford show that Charles Works, Sr., was admitted to its membership on the 19th of May, 1837.

Mr. Works of this review was a public school student in his home district in Guilford township and afterward in the east side high school of Rockford, where he completed a course in 1868. He then entered Beloit College, at Beloit, Wisconsin, and was graduated with the class of 1873. His first experience in professional life was as clerk of the Illinois supreme court at Ottawa, where he remained until 1875 and in September of that year he was chosen superintendent of schools of La Salle, Illinois, where he continued his labors as an educator for two years. He next entered the office of the circuit clerk at Ottawa as deputy, remaining there until the spring of 1878. During his entire residence in La Salle county he had devoted every available moment to the study of law and in 1878 was admitted to the bar, having qualified himself for the practice of his chosen profession. About this time he received the appointment to a position with the United States superintendent of Indian affairs at Yankton, Dakota. In January, 1879, he entered upon the active practice of his profession at Rockford with W. D. Staplin as a partner, which continued for about two years. About ten years prior to his death he formed a partnership with Stanton A. Hyer, which relation was maintained until his life's labors were ended. Mr. Works was recognized as a prominent member of the Rockford bar, preparing his cases with great thoroughness and presenting them before court or jury with great force and earnestness. He always impressed his juries with faith in the justice of his cause and his success made him one of the notable lawyers of this part of the state. In 1880 he was elected state attorney of Winnebago county, which position he filled with distinguished ability for twelve years, neither fear nor favor swerving him in the discharge of his duties. In 1892 he was elected a member of the state board of equalization of the old ninth congressional district and acted in that capacity for a period of thirteen years.

Mr. Works was well known as an ardent republican and his championship to the principles of the party were an influential factor in its successes. He cast his first presidential vote for General Grant, in 1872, and ever afterward worked for the organization in its campaigns. In 1888 he was chosen as a delegate to the republican national convention, which nominated Benjamin Harrison for the presidency. He was excelled by few as an impromptu political speaker and because he had firm belief in his party plat-

form and possessed beside a natural gift of oratory he never failed to leave a strong impression upon the minds of his auditors and frequently carried conviction to his hearers. He was also regarded as a safe political advisor, being wise and conservative in his political labors as well as professional life.

In November, 1880, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Works and Miss Eva Enoch, a daughter of Hon. Abraham I. Enoch, one of the prominent citizens of Rockford at an early day. They became the parents of four children, Marion, Mabel, Helen and Charles Enoch. Mr. Works was a man of strong domestic tastes who found in his home most congenial surroundings and he was ever untiringly devoted to the welfare of his wife and children. He had perfected plans for a beautiful new residence on North Main street when called to his final rest and Mrs. Works has since carried out the plans and now has a fine home occupied by herself and children. Mr. Works was the only thirty-second degree Mason in Winnebago county. He belonged to Rockford lodge, No. 102, A. F. & A. M., Winnebago chapter, No. 24, R. A. M., Crusader commandery, No. 17, K. T., Freeport consistory, S. P. R. S. and Tebala temple, A. A. O. N. M. S. He had also taken the thirty-second degree, an honor to which one must be elected and he likewise held membership in Rockford lodge, No. 64, B. P. O. E., and the Independent Order of United Workmen. He was a valued representative of these different organizations and in their ranks his death was deeply regretted, while Rockford recognized its loss of a valued citizen, the bar a prominent member and his family a devoted husband and father.

GILBERT F. COLBY.

The Pecatonica News is a bright and newsy weekly, and has aided in no small way in promoting the interests of the village where it is published. It is a successful representative of the people of the place where it is located and its value in the community can not be estimated. Tireless in its defense of the right, and fearless in its denunciation of the evils of the age, it has won an enviable reputation among the best people of the county and its popularity is proved by a constantly increasing subscription list.

The editor and publisher of this paper was born in Pecatonica, Winnebago county, Illinois, July 10, 1881, the son of Nathan L. and Ella M. (Smith) Colby.

The father, one of the founders of the Pecatonica News and one who, during his life, was one of the most influential and best known resi-

dents of the county, was born at Beloit, Wisconsin, December 20, 1854, the son of Nathan D. and Sybil W. (Pease) Colby. His parents came to Beloit in 1847 from Maine, being among the earliest settlers. His mother died in Beloit, on December 17, 1884, and his father's death occurred seven years later, July 12, 1891. In his youth he learned the trade of a printer in a printing establishment at Beloit and gained a good education in the schools of his native city. In 1870 he went to Milwaukee, where he became a compositor on the Sentinel but the following year removed to Davis, Illinois, and with his brother, William A. Colby, started a paper of their own. In December, 1872, it was moved to Pecatonica and established as the Pecatonica News. In 1880 he purchased his brother's interest and conducted the paper with marked success up to the time of his death.

Mr. Colby was a staunch republican and filled various offices of trust, serving for five years as township clerk, also as village treasurer, president of the village board of trustees, member of the board of education, justice of the peace, and in September, 1898, he was appointed postmaster, being re-appointed in 1902. He was for many years chief of the fire department, president of the Electric Light Company and otherwise identified with the upbuilding of the community. In his social connections he was identified with the A. W. Rawson lodge, No. 145, A. F. & A. M., at Pecatonica; Crusader commandery, No. 17, Knights Templar, and Tebala Temple of the Mystic Shrine, at Rockford; Freeport consistory, at Freeport; the Eureka camp, No. 50, M. W. A.; Monitor garrison, No. 19, at Pecatonica, and was at one time connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His death occurred July 11, 1904, passing away very suddenly.

The mother of our subject, known in maidenhood as Ella M. Smith, was born in Ridott township, Stephenson county, Illinois, April 8, 1859, the daughter of Gilbert F. and Helen M. (Shaw) Smith. She was educated in the country schools and afterward taught school for a number of years. Her marriage, which was solemnized in Freeport, September 15, 1880, was blessed by the birth of three children, namely: Gilbert F., born July 10, 1881; Claude A., July 27, 1883; and Smith W., May 15, 1887. She was always a true and faithful helpmate to her husband and their united efforts brought them a competence which left her well provided for at the death of her husband. She still resides at the family residence in Pecatonica.

The subject of our sketch obtained his education in the Pecatonica public school from which he was graduated in 1897. He then accepted a position as assistant postmaster under

his uncle at Union Grove, Wisconsin, which position he resigned a year later to take a similar position under his father in the Pecatonica postoffice. In 1901 he was appointed to a position in the railway main service of the government, running first between Chicago and Dubuque and later from Chicago to Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. At the Lake Geneva postoffice, his terminal office, he became acquainted with Lena A. Voss, a clerk, and a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Voss, with whom he was united in marriage, March 30, 1904. Just prior to the death of his father, in July of the same year, he resigned from the railway mail service to assist him in the postoffice and printing office and at his father's death took up the management of the paper. To Mr. and Mrs. Colby was born, July 17, 1905, a son, Charles Nathan.

Politically Mr. Colby is a republican and conducts the paper which he publishes in the interests of that party. He is at present a member of the village board of trustees and greatly interested in the welfare of the community.

BENJAMIN BLAKEMAN.

Benjamin Blakeman, a retired merchant and manufacturer, who has almost rounded the span of four score years, was born in Stratford, Connecticut, June 12, 1826. The ancestors of the Blakemans emigrated from England to America in 1639. The grandfather was Zachariah Blakeman and the father was Treat Blakeman. The latter was born in Stratford, Connecticut, in 1798, and was a man of affairs, active and enterprising in business, and he died at the advanced age of ninety-two years. He married Hannah Birdsey, also of Stratford, Connecticut. The great-grandfather of Mr. Blakeman in the maternal line was the Rev. Nathan Birdsey, who settled in Stratford, Connecticut, in 1739, and attained the very advanced age of one hundred and three years and five months.

Benjamin Blakeman, spending his boyhood days in the place of his nativity, acquired his early education in the public schools of Stratford, and afterward continued his studies in Bridgeport, Connecticut. He entered upon his business career as a salesman in a general store, and thinking to enjoy better business opportunities in the eastern metropolis, he went to New York city, where for two years he occupied a position as clerk. Later he bought and removed to a farm in his native town, on which he resided until 1856, when he came to Rockford, Illinois. Here he engaged in the lumber business associated with Henry Plant, and afterward became a member of the firm of Blakeman, Upson &

Company. His next business relationship was as senior member of the firm of Blakeman, Woodruff & Company, and afterward he was with William Dobson. He engaged in manufacturing and supplying builders' material and continued actively in trade until 1898, when he disposed of his holdings to William Dobson.

In the meantime Mr. Blakeman had made extensive and judicious investments in real estate, and is to-day the owner of considerable valuable property in Rockford, including a number of good brick business houses and residences. He is also a stockholder in the People's Bank & Trust Company, on the board of its directory, and for several years was a director of the Home Loan & Building Company. Since severing his connection with the lumber trade, he has lived quietly, looking after his general business interests and affairs, and amid comfortable surroundings, and in the midst of many friends is enjoying the fruits of his former toil.

While residing on the farm in his native town Mr. Blakeman was married in 1848 to Miss Caroline Fairchild, and unto them were born four daughters, namely: Anna C., widow of Dr. Thomas G. Vincent; Helen, the wife of Theron G. Pierpont; Emma, the deceased wife of Albert D. Early, and Harriet E., who died in 1904. Mr. and Mrs. Blakeman are acceptable members of the Second Congregational church, to which they are liberal contributors, and he has been a deacon in the church for more than forty years. Their home is at No. 732 North Main street, and for years it has been noted for its gracious and attractive hospitality.

Mr. Blakeman is an extremely well preserved man for one of his years. Nature is kind to those who abuse not her laws, and Mr. Blakeman has ever been strictly temperate in all of his habits, never using tobacco or intoxicants in any form, and molding his life in harmony with the principles that underlie an upright manhood. He earned for himself an enviable reputation as a careful man of business, and in his dealings was known for his prompt and honorable methods which won for him the respect and unbounded confidence of his fellowmen. Such a career should serve as an example for the young and an inspiration to the aged.

WILLIAM BODINE.

William Bodine, following general farming on section 18, Harrison township, is a pioneer settler, the length of whose residence in Winnebago county is surpassed by few of its citizens at the present day, for he arrived here in January, 1840. He was born in the township of Southwold, in

the district of London, now in the province of Ontario, Canada, March 8, 1820, and is a son of Abram and Zelah (Taylor) Bodine, the former of English and the latter of French and German parentage. The father was born in New Jersey, and his wife was a native of Pennsylvania. In 1810 they removed to Canada, where he engaged in farming, and where they made their home until called to their final rest, Mr. Bodine departing this life in June, 1846, when about sixty-five years of age, while his wife died in April, 1837, when about fifty years of age. They had a large family, and two of the sisters came to Illinois, a son of one of them, Frank Pelley by name, now residing in Rockford township.

William Bodine was reared in Canada, and there made his home until eighteen years of age, when he went to Michigan, where he spent fifteen months. He then removed to Joliet, Illinois, and in January, 1840, arrived in Winnebago county. A year or so afterward he settled upon the farm which is now his home, purchasing a claim of S. S. Richards. After spending the first summer at Roscoe Mr. Bodine took up his abode on this farm, and is now the oldest resident of Harrison township. He owns eighty-nine acres in the home place, besides sixty acres on section 7, Harrison township, and he has long carried on general farming and stock-raising, bringing his land up to its present high state of cultivation and making all of the improvements upon the place. It came into his possession just as it had left the hand of nature and the soil, naturally rich and productive, under the cultivation of Mr. Bodine has brought forth rich harvests which have annually returned him a good income.

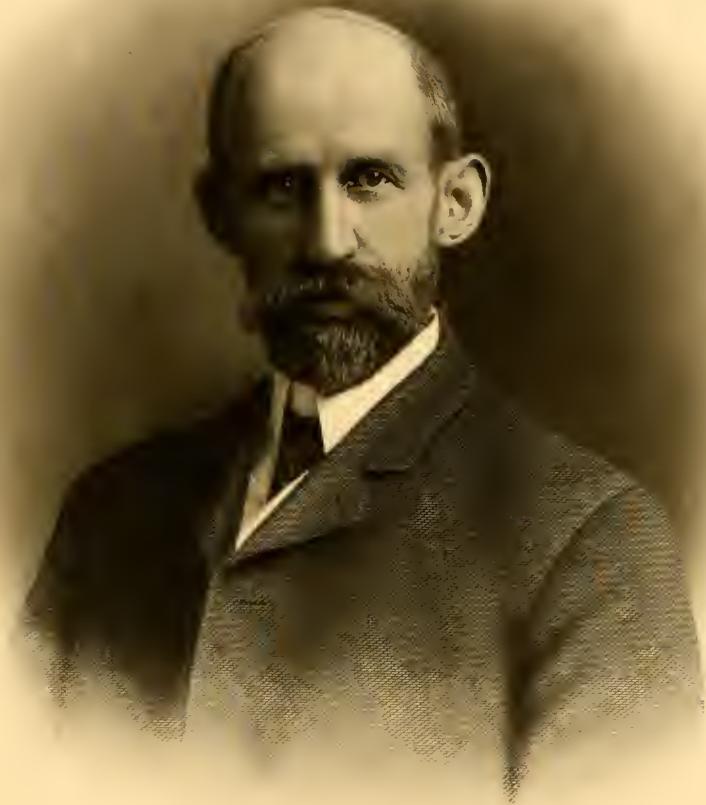
In Harrison township, this county, Mr. Bodine was first married to Miss Harriet Sophronia Babcock, a native of New York, who died here in August, 1846, leaving two children. Harriet Lenora, born September 1, 1844, is the wife of Alexander Tunks, of Clover, Portage county, Wisconsin, and she is now a grandmother. George W., who served in the Civil war, entering the army as a recruit of the Fifty-fifth Illinois Infantry, died before joining his regiment, being then about eighteen years of age. For his second wife Mr. Bodine chose Frances E. Albright, of Winnebago county, who was born in Ohio, but was reared in Michigan and in this state. She is now living at more than seventy-four years of age. There were eleven children by this marriage: Orin J., Jacob, and Doris C., who died in infancy; Zelah, the wife of Daniel Dobson, a farmer of Harrison township; Jeremiah, a farmer, living in Arkansas; Esther L., the wife of John M. Hurd, who resides in Harrison township; Charles Sumner, who died when

twenty-one years of age; Laura Emeline, the wife of George M. Norton, a farmer and carpenter, residing near her father's farm; Arthusa, who is living at home; Anna Loiza, the wife of Frank W. Selden, living on the home farm with her father; Isaac, who died when about seventeen years of age.

Politically Mr. Bodine is a stalwart prohibitionist, and supported the abolition party before the war. He was the first boy who dared to step forward and sign the cold water pledge in the town where he was born in the early days of temperance agitation, and he has always exerted his influence, both by precept and example, against the liquor traffic. He has served in some of the local offices of the township, has been chairman of the board of trustees of the Freewill Baptist church and is an earnest Christian gentleman and highly respected citizen. Honorable principles and upright motives have actuated his life, and he receives the veneration and esteem which should ever be accorded those who have advanced far on life's journey. Through sixty-five years he has lived in this county, and we of the twentieth century can scarcely realize the hardships, dangers and privations borne by the early pioneers who bravely met the struggles and difficulties incident to settlement in a frontier region and planted the seeds of civilization which have brought comfort and prosperity at the present time.

EDWARD TAYLOR.

Edward Taylor, the secretary and treasurer of the Rockford Silver Plate Company, is a native of Massachusetts, his birth having there occurred in 1863. He pursued his education in the public schools and when quite young removed to Michigan with his parents, where he continued his studies. Later he returned to his native state, where he entered upon his business career as an employe in the Pairpoint Manufacturing Company, of New Bedford, Massachusetts. In 1891 he went to San Francisco, California, where he established a branch business for his firm and after placing this upon a substantial footing he returned to the old Bay state, and subsequently accepted a position with the Holmes & Edwards Silver Company, of Bridgeport, Connecticut. He continued with that house until May, 1890, when he took charge of the Rockford Silver Plate Company and here he became a stockholder in the enterprise and soon afterward was elected secretary and treasurer, which positions he has since filled in a most creditable manner. Under the management of Mr. Taylor a number of valuable improvements have been made. The business has



Edward Taylor

been enlarged and the sales have been increased until the industry is recognized as one of the substantial productive enterprises of Rockford, contributing in no small degree to the commercial prosperity of the city. The works were established in 1883, having been removed to this city from Racine, Wisconsin. Local parties became interested therein and the company is capitalized for one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars. The present officers are Hon. William Lathrop, president, and Edward Taylor, secretary and treasurer. A four-story building was erected especially for this business, was equipped with the latest improved machinery and with steam power and about one hundred operatives are employed in the factory. They do all kinds of plating of tableware, cutlery specialties, and novelties. The majority of workmen are skilled in their line and the output of the house is of such a desirable character that a ready market is secured for the product at home and abroad.

Mr. Taylor was married in 1889 to Miss Georgia H. Bradley, and they make their home at No. 962 North Church street. Mr. Taylor is prominent in Masonry, having attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite. He is popular socially as well as in business circles and in the latter has made a creditable name and an honorable record. His entire life has been devoted to the line of activity which still claims his attention and by a thorough understanding of the work, close application, unremitting diligence and devotion to the interests entrusted to him he worked his way steadily upward and has achieved the success which classes him with the "captains of industry" in this city.

JAMES M. SMITH.

James M. Smith, who carries on farming on section 35, Harlem township, where he has one hundred and sixty acres of land, was born upon this farm, June 24, 1860, and has spent his entire life here. His grandfather, Daniel Smith, was a native of Argyleshire, Scotland, and became the founder of the family in this county, where he located in pioneer times. He died in Harlem township in 1845, while his wife, who bore the maiden name of Mary Montgomery, and was born in Argyleshire, Scotland, in 1800, survived him for thirty years and departed this life in 1875. The members of their family were as follows: John, father of our subject; Robert, who is now living in Rockford; Daniel, a resident of the village of Winnebago; Alexander, who died in Rockford in May, 1904; Archibald, who died in his youth; William, who died

in Rockford in September, 1904; Flora, who died in 1847; Mrs. Jane Greenlee, living in Charles City, Iowa; and Mary Agnes, who died in 1845.

John Smith was born in Argyleshire, Scotland, July 21, 1826, and came with his parents to the new world. They left Campbellstown, Scotland, on the 4th of June, 1842, and landed at New York on the 4th of July. They then went by boat to Albany, thence to Buffalo by way of the Erie canal, by steamer from Buffalo to Chicago, and on by team to Winnebago county, the grandfather hiring teams to haul his family and goods to Harlem township. Reaching this location, John Smith purchased government land and cast in his lot with the pioneer settlers of this locality. Rockford at that time was but a small village, the business district being all on North Madison street, and there was no bridge across the river. A colored man conducted a restaurant and was also the banker of the little town. From pioneer times down to the present Mr. Smith has watched the development and growth of the county and has materially assisted in its progress by his efforts along agricultural lines. He is now a hale and hearty old gentleman, living in honorable retirement from business cares with his wife, their home being near that of their son, James. Mrs. Smith bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Montgomery, was born in Argyleshire, Scotland, December 9, 1826, and was a daughter of James and Jane (Caldwell) Montgomery, pioneer residents of Harlem township. Mr. and Mrs. Smith were married December 12, 1852, and became the parents of the following sons and daughters: James M., Daniel M., who is living in Rockford township, and wedded Catherine Brown, of Caledonia, Illinois, by whom he has one son; Jane, the wife of James S. Reid, of Harlem township, by whom she has two sons and two daughters; Flora W., at home with her parents; and Mary E., the wife of Hugh McCarrroll, of Battle Creek, Michigan, by whom she has one daughter.

James M. Smith, whose name introduces this review, has always lived upon the old homestead, where he yet resides. At the usual age he entered the public schools, and therein mastered the common branches of English learning. Having arrived at years of maturity he wedded Isabella Rawlston, a daughter of Thomas and Jane Rawlston, of Harlem township, the wedding being celebrated on the 20th of October, 1900. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Smith is noted for its generous and genial hospitality and their farm is one of the finest in the county. The residence is a commodious and attractive house built in modern style of architecture, and in the rear stand good barns and outbuildings which in turn are surrounded by well tilled fields, giv-

ing every indication of the careful supervision of a practical owner of good business judgment and enterprise.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith hold membership in Willow Creek Presbyterian church at Argyle, and in politics he is a stalwart republican, active in support of the party. He is now serving as supervisor of his township, and for many years has been a member of the school board, doing effective service for the cause of education, while in his other official duties he is ever found prompt and reliable.

ROBERT G. McEVROY.

Robert G. McEvoy, a leading member of the Rockford bar, who served as corporation counsel of the city, and was also assistant state's attorney for several years, was born in Prescott, Canada, in 1861, his parents being John and Mary McEvoy, who were natives of Ireland. After coming to America they settled in Canada, where the father engaged in farming until 1869. He then removed to Winnebago county, Illinois, and purchased a tract of land in New Milford township, on which he carried on general agricultural pursuits until 1888. In that year he took up his abode in the city of Rockford, where he lived retired for ten years, or until his death, which occurred in February, 1898. His wife died upon the farm in New Milford. Of their children, seven are now living: William, James, Mrs. Burritt, Samuel, John, Robert G. and Albert.

Robert G. McEvoy was only eight years old when his parents came to this county. He attended the public schools until he had acquired a good English education and then entered upon the study of law in the office of Judge Arthur H. Frost, who was one of the first attorneys of Rockford, and is now upon the bench of the circuit court. After reading under the direction of Judge Frost, Mr. McEvoy was admitted to the bar in 1884, and located for practice in this city. He then entered into partnership with his former preceptor, and the relation was maintained for fourteen years, the firm of Frost & McEvoy occupying a foremost position at the Rockford bar. At the end of that time Mr. McEvoy opened an office in the Forest City National Bank building, where he remained until his life's labors were ended. A liberal clientage was accorded him and connected him with much of the important litigation tried in the courts of his district. He was thorough and painstaking in the preparation of his cases, and in his reasoning was cogent and logical, so that he won many verdicts favorable to his clients to whom his devotion was proverbial.

Mr. McEvoy was married in Rockford to Miss Ella Compton, a daughter of J. H. and Hester N. Compton. Her father was an early settler of Rockford, who was engaged in agricultural implement business here for many years and then retired. He died in May, 1900, and his widow, now seventy-seven years of age, is residing in Rockford with Mrs. Youngberg, at No. 327 Independence avenue. Mr. and Mrs. McEvoy became the parents of two daughters, Vera C. and Edna May, both residing with their mother. The father died July 20, 1904, and thus passed away a representative citizen of Rockford.

In his political views Mr. McEvoy was an unflinching republican, and, keeping well informed on the questions and issues of the day, was enabled to support his position by intelligent argument. He served as alderman from the fourth ward for two terms, and his devotion to the public good found tangible evidence in his support of many aldermanic measures whereby the welfare and progress of the city were augmented. His social relations were with the Knights of Pythias, the Modern Woodmen, the Mystic Workers, the Red Men and Royal Arcanum, all of Rockford. He was a man of capability, of strong intellectuality, of laudable ambition and honorable purpose, and his success in his professional career was equaled by his popularity among his friends. Mrs. McEvoy is a member of the Court Street Methodist Episcopal church, and she owns a nice residence at No. 420 Winnebago street, where she and her children reside. She also has a nice summer home on the banks of Rock river, at the northern boundary of Rockford, where they spend the heated summer season, and she also spends much of the winter months in the south. In addition to the residences which she occupies she also has other valuable property in Rockford, which returns to her a comfortable financial income.

EDWARD P. CATLIN, M. D.

No history of Winnebago county would be complete without the life record of Edward P. Catlin, for many years a physician of Rockford and a representative of one of the oldest and most prominent families of the city. His father, too, practiced here for many years, and thus the name Catlin has long been associated with the medical fraternity of Winnebago county. Edward P. Catlin was born in Chester, Ohio, July 1, 1837, his parents being Dr. Archibald and Miranda (Harwood) Catlin. The father was born in that part of Litchfield, which is now Winfield, Herkimer county, New York, his natal day being September 8, 1801. He is descended



ROBERT G. McEVOY.

from Revolutionary ancestry, his grandfather, Roger Catlin, Sr., having been a soldier of the American army in the war for independence. Roger Catlin, Jr., father of Archibald M. Catlin, was a native of Connecticut, and the father came originally of English lineage. Roger Catlin, Sr., removed from the Charter Oak state to New York, spending his last days in Herkimer county, and Roger Catlin, Jr., became one of the pioneer settlers of that county, to which place he removed after being reared and married in Connecticut. In what is now the town of Winfield, Herkimer county, he purchased a tract of timber land, on which he built a log cabin, containing one room on the ground floor, and one above. As it was located in the center of the township, at the junction of five roads, he was frequently called upon to entertain the travelers to different parts of the county, and this led him to establish a hotel. His home, too, was often used as a meeting place when religious services were held, and later he donated the land upon which a little church was built, and he took an active part in furthering the intellectual, moral and material progress of his community. He continued to conduct his hotel and also carried on farming interests until his death, which occurred in 1813. He married Sarah Clark, a native of Connecticut, and a daughter of Deacon Clark, a pioneer of Tompkins county, New York. After the death of her husband Mrs. Catlin was married again, and her death occurred in Winfield, New York.

Archibald M. Catlin was only twelve years old at the time of his father's death, and he remained with his mother until her second marriage, after which he lived with an uncle in Plainfield township, Herkimer county, assisting in the farm work when not attending the district schools. In 1820 he started for the west, walking to Olean Point, and thence going down the Allegheny river to Pittsburg, and by way of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers to St. Louis, which at that time was a small town. He was in Missouri when it was admitted to the Union, and afterward he removed to Madison county, Illinois, but a year later returned to Missouri, where he worked in the lead mines until 1823. He then went again to New York. He had read medicine previous to his removal westward, and now resuming preparation for the profession he attended lectures at the Fairfield Medical College, in Herkimer county. Subsequently he became a student in the office of Dr. Clark, of Winfield, and attended a course of lectures in the college at Castleton, Vermont, in the winter of 1825-6. In January of the latter year he again entered Fairfield College, and was graduated with the class of 1827. After winning his degree he located for practice in Winfield, New York, and

for five years was a partner of Dr. Nathan Harwood. He then removed to Chester, Ohio, where he continued in active practice until 1832, when he became a resident of Lorain county, that state, making his home there until 1838, which year witnessed his arrival in Rockford. He found a small village of little importance, standing in the midst of a sparsely settled district, in which much of the land was still owned by the government. He built a home on the east side, where he purchased a lot, and from that time until his death continued as one of the most prominent physicians in his part of the state. He was one of the earliest members of the profession in Rockford, and engaged in practice here for seventy years. He was honored and respected by all by reason of what he accomplished, and the effective work which he did for his fellowmen in alleviating human suffering. He was progressive in his methods, keeping in touch with modern progress in his chosen calling, and his life was indeed a busy and useful one. In his earlier years he bore the hardships which always fall to the lot of the pioneer physician, but later his practice was more largely confined to the city, and brought to him the remunerative return which was his just due. He died August 28, 1892, at the very advanced age of ninety-two years, and his name was then added to the roll of Winnebago county's honored dead.

In early manhood he had wedded Miranda Harwood, of Winfield, New York, a daughter of Dr. Nathan Harwood. His marriage took place in 1828, and she died in 1846. The following year Dr. Catlin married Sarah Morrill, a native of Meriden, New Hampshire, and a daughter of Rev. John Morrill, who was the first minister of the First Congregational church in Rockford, he and his two brothers organizing the church here. Mrs. Sarah Catlin survived her husband until 1902, passing away at the advanced age of eighty-four years. Dr. A. M. Catlin gave his early political support to the whig party, and afterward became a staunch republican. He acted as president of the first medical society ever organized in Winnebago county, and he and his wife held membership in the First Congregational church. The world is better for his having lived, for his influence was ever on the side of right, progress and improvement, and his influence was a potent factor in promoting the moral and intellectual development of his community.

Edward P. Catlin was brought to Winnebago county in 1838, when only about a year old, and his youth was passed in the village of Rockford, where he began his education in the common schools, passing through successive grades until he had completed the high school course. He then went to Meriden, Vermont, where he completed an academic course by graduation from

the Kimball Union Academy, and thus with broad literary knowledge to serve as the foundation for professional learning he matriculated in Rush Medical College, of Chicago, where he mastered the regular course, and was graduated in 1864. Not content, however, with his preparation for his profession, he went to New York city, pursuing post-graduate work in the College of Physicians & Surgeons. He also attended the Bellevue Hospital Medical College of New York city in 1865.

Returning to Rockford after his graduation from Rush Medical College, Dr. Catlin entered upon practice here, and was thus engaged when in 1864 he enlisted as first assistant surgeon in the One Hundred and Fifty-second Illinois Infantry, with which he served for a year, or until the close of the war. Following his return to the north he resumed his professional labors in Rockford, and with the exception of the period spent in college in New York he continued one of the active physicians of this city until his death. Anything which tended to bring to man the key to the complex mystery which we call life was of much interest to him. He carried his research and investigation into various fields of knowledge, and became one of the learned members of the medical fraternity in Winnebago county, having a knowledge that well equipped him for the important and responsible duties which ever devolve upon the medical practitioner.

In 1866 Dr. Catlin was married to Miss Mary H. Robinson, a native of Huron, Ohio, born in 1840, her parents being Sylvester and Emily (Skinner) Robinson. Her father was a native of Connecticut, and her mother of New York, and he became one of the early settlers of Rockford, but remained only a few years. He arrived here in 1847, and, entering into partnership with E. H. Potter was engaged in general merchandising until 1849, when he became attacked with the gold fever and started for California, in which state his death occurred. His wife passed away in Rockford. Dr. and Mrs. Catlin became the parents of four children: Archibald M., who married Ella Riley, of Washington, D. C., and is now engaged in the newspaper business in Chicago; Sanford R., a practicing physician of Rockford, where he represents the third generation of the family in the medical profession and who married Mary H. Richings, of Washington, D. C.; Norman E., who is a member of the firm of H. H. & N. S. Robinson, of this city, and makes his home with his mother; and Emily Harwood, who died in infancy.

Following his marriage Dr. Catlin removed to Manteno, near Kankakee, Illinois, where he practiced for several years, and he was also surgeon

for the Illinois Central Railroad Company at that place for a year. He then returned to Rockford, where he resumed practice, and was an active and eminent member of his profession in this part of the state until his death, which occurred September 26, 1904. He was a man of strong intellectuality, progressive views and noble purposes, and the high principles which actuated his life in all its relations made him a leading member of the medical fraternity, conforming strictly to the highest ethics of the profession. He held membership in Nevius post, No. 1, G. A. R., and gave his political allegiance to the republican party, and both he and his wife were members of the First Congregational church of this city. Mrs. Catlin still owns the old home, at No. 304 South First street, where she and her son reside, and the Doctor's offices still remain upon the lot. She possesses many old family relics, including a rocking chair in which Mrs. Archibald M. Catlin rode in the wagon when the family removed from Ohio to Rockford, in 1838, carrying her little son, Edward P., in her arms. As has been stated, the name of Catlin is inseparably associated with the history of Winnebago county, and its representatives have ever been loyal in citizenship; have held friendship inviolable, and have been found trustworthy and reliable in all life's relations.

BENJAMIN HERD AND GEORGE PARKER.

These two gentlemen, both now deceased, were prominent citizens of Rockford, and, although neither engaged in business here, both spent their last days in the city, living retired until called to their final rest. Benjamin Herd was a native of Herkimer county, New York, was reared upon a farm, early becoming familiar with all the labor necessary for its cultivation, and in the district schools he acquired his education. He was married in Herkimer county to Miss Almira E. Sheldon, a native of that county, who came of Revolutionary ancestry, so that she is now one of the daughters of the Revolution. Following his marriage Mr. Herd engaged in farming on his own account in Herkimer county and through his well directed labors, enterprise and ability won creditable success. He made judicious investment in real estate, and became the owner of several farms, continuing to engage in agricultural pursuits in Herkimer county until 1868, when he came to the west and took up his abode in Rockford. The income derived from his property interests was sufficient to enable him to live retired, and he no more actively engaged in business pursuits but enjoyed a well earned rest here until called to his final

home in 1893, when he had reached the venerable age of eighty-seven years. His wife survived him, passing away November 18, 1899. He ever took a deep interest in religious work and was junior warden of the Episcopal church of this city. His entire life was in harmony with his profession, and his fidelity to duty, his honor in business relations and his devotion to his family were numbered among his salient characteristics.

There were four children born unto Mr. and Mrs. Herd: Eugenia C., is a native of Herkimer county, New York, and married Rufus Mills Parker, a native of Massachusetts, and a son of George and Catherine A. Parker. His father was born near Boston, Massachusetts, in 1805, and resided in the east until 1869, when he took up his abode in Rockford and lived retired until his death in August, 1885. His wife passed away July 19, 1904. He was a republican in his political views, and both he and his wife held membership in the First Congregational church of Rockford.

Venetia R. Herd, the second child of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Herd, is the widow of Major Alexander Walker, of Rockford, and resides at No. 410 South Third street. Ada is the wife of Henry Ellsworth, a commission merchant of Chicago. Eugene H., the youngest member of the family, died at the age of four years.

Rufus Mills Parker was born in Massachusetts, and came to the west at an early day, settling first in Joliet, Illinois, where he was engaged in the dry goods business for a few years. In 1867 he came to Rockford, where he married Miss Herd, and unto them were born three children: Lillian C., the eldest, is the wife of James Colville, a traveling salesman, representing the Arcade Manufacturing Company of Freeport, Illinois. They reside in Rockford with his parents, and they have two children. Violetta is the wife of G. W. Anderson. Edith died at the age of four months.

Mr. and Mrs. Parker own and occupy the old Herd homestead, which is a beautiful residence, at No. 503 Catlin street. Both the Herd and Parker families are prominent in Rockford, their representatives being well known in social circles.

ELMER E. HARRIS.

Elmer E. Harris is the owner of a good farm of one hundred and five acres on section 14, Durand township, and upon this farm was born July 23, 1862. His father, Elisha Harris, was born in Steuben county, New York, July 19, 1817, and there followed farming until 1837, when he came west to Pecatonica township,

where he was employed for a short time. He then came to Durand township and entered a claim from the government, securing a farm which is now owned by his son Elmer. Here he spent his remaining days, devoting his time and energies to agricultural pursuits. He was married in early manhood to Calista C., daughter of Scott and Lavina Robb. She was born in Ohio, July 22, 1823, and became a resident of Durand township in 1842. In August of that year she gave her hand in marriage to Mr. Harris, and they traveled life's journey together for forty-one years, the wife and mother passing away August 19, 1883, while Mr. Harris died December 13, 1900. Their children were as follows: Henry E., born November 27, 1843, is living in Seattle, Washington, and has three sons and a daughter. William Eugene, born May 8, 1847, and also a resident of Seattle, has three sons and a daughter. Lewis Frederick, born October 10, 1848, is living at Neil, Kansas, and has four daughters and a son. Charles E., born March 19, 1853, is living at Bartonville, Illinois. Willis Spencer, born February 18, 1860, resides at Geneva, Illinois. Jesse F., born July 3, 1867, makes his home in Durand. Those deceased are: Erastus P., who was born January 25, 1844, and died in the hospital March 11, 1863, while serving the Union as a member of Company H, Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry; Joseph Scott, who was born January 19, 1858, and died February 2, 1892; and Julia L., who was born April 11, 1851, and died November 6, 1869.

Elmer E. Harris has always lived upon the home farm in Durand township where his birth occurred and in the common schools he acquired his education. He received ample training at farm labor, for at an early age he began to assist in the cultivation of the home place, and was thus well qualified to assume its management when he began farming on his own account.

On the 11th of April, 1888, Mr. Harris was united in marriage to Miss Eva Place, a daughter of J. R. and Amanda (Morris) Place, of Durand township. She died December 23, 1898, leaving three children: Bessie A., born September 18, 1889; Lloyd E., born February 28, 1893; and Eva I., born November 26, 1898. For his second wife Mr. Harris chose Lois, daughter of Hawkins and Lydia (Gillem) Ingebritson, of Durand township, who were of English and Norwegian descent. She was one of six children: Annie, who married Earle Strauss, of Rockford, and has two children; Lois, of this review; John, living at Bremerton, Washington; Sherman and Shirley, twins, the former living at Bremerton, the latter in Durand township; and Alfred, who also lives at Bremerton, Washington. Mr. and Mrs. Harris have one son, Wayne J., born September 11, 1903.

Mr. Harris is a member of Shawbence lodge, No. 146, I. O. O. F., of which he is a past noble grand, and he likewise belongs to Durand lodge, No. 302, A. F. & A. M., both of Durand. In politics he is an earnest republican, and is now serving as assessor of his township, while for six years he was road commissioner. He and his wife hold membership in the Methodist church, and are people of genuine worth, whose many good qualities have gained them unqualified confidence and trust of those with whom they have been associated.

FRANK B. CAMPBELL.

Frank B. Campbell, one of the extensive land-owners of the county, now living in Pecatonica township, was born in Durand township, July 25, 1846. His education was acquired in the public schools and he also attended the seminary at Durand, while an inmate of his father's home. His parents were Jeremiah and Cynthia (Hoyt) Campbell. The father came to Winnebago county in 1836, driving across the country with an ox team. He and his brother David entered land from the government and became pioneer residents of this portion of the state. There were only three houses in Rockford at the time of their arrival here and the entire countryside was largely as it had come from the hand of nature, the prairie being covered with its high grasses, while in certain districts stood the forest trees, amid which the sound of the woodman's ax had not been heard. He first entered his land at Dixon and built thereon a log house, which was afterward replaced by a frame residence. He hauled his grain to the Chicago market and on one trip to that city the entire expense of the journey was twelve cents, which he paid for milk. In connection with general farming he engaged in the manufacture of cheese, which he sold at Mineral Point, Wisconsin, and also at Galena, Illinois. He carried on the work of the fields and as his financial resources increased he bought more land until a short time previous to his death, he was the owner of a valuable tract of four hundred acres which he sold to his son Frank. He was active and influential in community affairs and held all the different township offices, the duties of which he discharged with promptness and fidelity. In his political views he was a republican. His death occurred in Durand township, April 25, 1884, while his wife is now living in that township. He was twice married and by the first union had one son, Edward S., who was born December 11, 1840, and died at the age of fifty-eight years. The children of the

second marriage were as follows: Romeo H., who was born September 15, 1844, was married and died at the age of fifty-seven years, leaving a wife and five children; Frank B. is the second; Emma L., born June 10, 1850, died April 15, 1864; and Eva M., born December 24, 1854, is the wife of Louis Goodrich, and resides in Fremont, Nebraska.

Mr. Campbell was reared to farm life and, as before stated, was given good educational privileges. At the age of twenty years he bought his time from his father for one hundred and fifty dollars and began farming for himself on five hundred and forty acres of land, for which he gave twelve hundred dollars per year rent. When twenty-one years of age, having made some money in the previous year, he purchased one hundred and forty-five acres, at twenty-five dollars per acre. This was largely covered with brush or timber and he had to clear it before it was ready for the plow. He afterwards rented his father's farm of four hundred acres for which he paid twelve hundred dollars per year, and subsequently he bought this tract of four hundred acres from his father, becoming its owner in 1865. He then removed into the old home and began operating his land, for which he had paid fifty dollars per acre. That he worked diligently and prospered is indicated by the fact that within six years he had paid twenty thousand dollars on the property and was thus the owner of the old homestead, which he had freed from debt. He continued farming with excellent success and has purchased more land from time to time until his realty possessions at present comprise nineteen hundred and seventy acres. Upon his home place he has all modern improvements and a beautiful residence with hot and cold water and all modern improvements. It is surrounded with fine shade trees and is one of the most attractive features of the landscape. In his farm work, Mr. Campbell is systematic, determined and capable and has carried forward to completion whatever he has undertaken. He has been engaged quite extensively in feeding cattle and hogs, feeding about two hundred and thirty head of cattle in the winter of 1904 and about three hundred head of hogs. He now has about two hundred and forty head of hogs and two hundred and twenty head of cattle. His oats crop in the year 1905 was thirteen thousand bushels in excess of what the renters got as their share. His wheat also yields him thirty bushels to the acre and eleven acres were planted to that crop. In 1905 he raised fifty-six acres of oats, yielding sixty-six bushels to the acre.

On the 20th of December, 1870, Mr. Campbell was united in marriage to Miss Arabelle Adams, a native of the state of New York, and a daugh-



F B Campbell

ter of Daniel D. and Olive Adams, also born in the Empire state, whence they came westward to Winnebago county about 1860. Their only child was Mrs. Campbell. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Campbell have been born the following named: Lula, born April 11, 1881, married Rufus Winchester, a farmer of Durand township; Ralph, born March 2, 1885, and Roy, born April 19, 1888, are both at home; while Rena, the first born, died in infancy.

Mr. Campbell is a man of domestic tastes, devoted to his family and considering no personal sacrifice on his part too great if it will promote the happiness or enhance the welfare of his wife and children. He has held some public offices but has no ambition in this direction, preferring that others shall fill the official positions. His support is given to the republican party. His life record illustrates the power and force of keen discernment, strong purpose and indefatigable energy in the fields of business for through these means he has made for himself a place among the prosperous citizens of his native county. Buying his time of his father and receiving no pecuniary assistance, as the years have gone by he has through his own efforts become a prosperous man and one whose success is equaled by the respect which is generously accorded him.

BENJAMIN D. GOLDY.

Benjamin D. Goldy, who follows farming on section 3, Shirland township, where he owns eighty acres of finely improved land, has been a resident of Winnebago county since the spring of 1850, although for a brief period he was in the west. He was born in Elmira, New York, in 1839, his parents being Samuel and Mary Ann (Durham) Goldy, who came to this county in the spring of 1850. The father was born in Pennsylvania, and became a farmer of the Empire state, where he carried on general agricultural pursuits until his removal to the middle west. He was married in the east to Miss Durham, a native of Elmira, New York, whose father was a surveyor of that locality. As before stated, the year 1850 witnessed the arrival of Samuel Goldy and his wife in this county, and for six years they resided in Rockton township, after which they removed to the farm now owned and occupied by their son Benjamin, the father having purchased this land upon coming to the county. Here he and his wife resided until called to their final rest, Mr. Goldy passing away in January, 1865, when sixty-three years of age, while his wife died in 1890, at the age of eighty-three years. He was active and

influential in community affairs, and served as commissioner of highways in Rockton and Shirland townships for several years. In their family were six children: James, who went to California in 1849, afterward lived for a number of years in Kansas, but eventually returned to California, where his death occurred. John, who was a hatter by trade, learning the business in Elmira, New York, also spent four years as a sailor on whaling expeditions, and later he sailed on the Great Lakes for several years. He served his country as a member of the Union army during the Civil war, and subsequently he was married and removed to Butler county, Kansas, where his death occurred. William, who learned the printer's trade in Elmira, New York, afterward worked at Aurora and at Chicago, Illinois, and in the latter city was foreman of the job office owned by S. P. Rounds, in which office the first color work was probably done. He continued to make his home in Chicago during the greater part of the time until his death. Mrs. Elizabeth Hollister, the fourth member of the family, resides at Cresco, Iowa. Stephen D. died May 22, 1905, in Harrison township, this county, where he had resided for many years, engaged in raising bees and dealing in honey.

Benjamin D. Goldy was a youth of nine years when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Winnebago county, arriving here in the spring of 1850. He resided in Rockton township for six years, and since that time has practically made his home in Shirland township. However, he spent some years on the plains in the west, going first in 1860 and again in the early '70s. He secured a homestead in Adams county, Nebraska, proved it up and retained the ownership thereof for several years, but sold it some time ago. He now resides on section 3, Shirland township, where he owns a farm of eighty acres, which is productive and valuable land.

At the time of the Civil war, however, Mr. Goldy felt that his duty to his country was paramount to all other interests in his life, and in 1862 offered his services to the government, enlisting in Company D, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry, at Rockford, being mustered in and out at the same time as the entire regiment. During a part of the three years, however, he was out of the service for a time on account of his ill health, but he re-enlisted and met the company at Chattanooga. He was never injured, although he participated in many important engagements, and he was mustered out at Nashville, Tennessee, at the close of the war, and paid off at Chicago. He was always loyal to the cause he espoused, and upon the battle-fields of the south faithfully followed the stars and stripes until the

flag of the Union was victoriously planted in the capital of the southern Confederacy.

Mr. Goldy was married first, in 1862, to Miss Harriet Stilwell, who was born in Shirland township, this county, and died in 1869, leaving three children: Hiram S., a farmer of Shirland township, whose daughter, Mrs. Judd, resides in Laona township; William, of Seattle, Washington, who was for years engaged in the railroad business; and Eugene, a resident farmer of Lincoln county, South Dakota, who is married, and has four sons. His property is a valuable farm of two hundred and forty acres. For his second wife Mr. Goldy chose Miss Velona Guptil, who was born in Rockton township, Winnebago county, and is a daughter of John B. Guptil, one of the pioneer residents of this county, now deceased. His widow, however, still resides at Shirland. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Goldy have been born the following named: Mrs. Bessie Hulburt, who is living in Monroe, Wisconsin; Floyd, a farmer, residing near Springfield, in Bonhomme county, South Dakota, who is married and has one child; Stanley, who is bookkeeper in the Manufacturers' Bank at Rockford; George, John, Samuel, Clarence, Robert and Alice, all at home.

Politically Mr. Goldy is an earnest republican, having always given staunch support to the party and its principles. He has served as supervisor for eight or nine terms, and in various other local offices, and no trust reposed in him has been betrayed in the slightest degree. Socially he is connected with Nevius post, No. 1, G. A. R., at Rockford, became a charter member of Harrison camp, No. 684, M. W. A., and is now a member of the camp at Shirland. He attends the Congregational church in Shirland township, and his interest in the material, social, political and moral welfare of his community is that of a public-spirited citizen who realizes possibilities, improvements and opportunities, and does what he can not only for his individual advancement, but also for the welfare of the general community.

ARCHIBALD R. ARMSTRONG.

Archibald R. Armstrong, one of the extensive landowners of Winnebago county, his farm comprising four hundred and eighty acres, was born in Allegheny county, Pennsylvania, February 16, 1852, and when about two years of age was brought to Illinois by his parents, Archibald and Eliza (Newburn) Armstrong. The father was a native of Ireland, born in County Sligo in 1815. Crossing the Atlantic to America in 1848, he made his home in Pennsylvania and soon afterward sent for his wife, whom he had married

on the Emerald isle. She was born in 1813 and with her children she started for the new world, joining her husband and father here. They settled near Pittsburg, where they remained until 1854, when they came to Winnebago county, Illinois, Rockford being their destination. Soon afterward Mr. Armstrong rented land in Owen township and the family home was established thereon. He also worked as a farm hand in the neighborhood until 1860, when he purchased eighty acres of land and thus became one of the property holders of his locality. He worked persistently and energetically in order to make a good home for his family and acquire a comfortable competence, and as the years passed he was enabled to extend the boundaries of his farm by additional purchase until it comprised two hundred and forty acres. His remaining days were devoted to general farming and stock-raising and he deserved the respect and esteem which was uniformly accorded him because of what he accomplished and by reason of the honorable methods which he always followed in his business career. He died in 1893, and his wife departed this life in 1877. They were the parents of three sons and five daughters, and two sons and four daughters are yet living, namely: Catherine; J. W., who married Martha Wishop; Elizabeth, the wife of James Black; Marie, the wife of Walter Wickes; Sarah, the widow of William A. Halley; and Archibald R. Rebecca and James E. are deceased.

Being but two years of age at the time of the removal of the family to Winnebago county, Archibald R. Armstrong was reared in Illinois and through the period of his boyhood and youth remained with his parents. After attending the public schools he spent two years as a student in Professor Lownsbury's Business College, at Rockford, and was thus well equipped for life's practical and responsible duties. Following his marriage he located on a tract of land of eighty acres, constituting the nucleus of his extensive possessions. He realized that "there is no excellence without labor," and he persistently and energetically sought to make his farm productive and his annual sales of crops added to his income and made it possible for him to extend the boundaries of his farm until he is now the owner of four hundred and eighty acres of very valuable land. All of the improvements upon the property are his work and include substantial buildings and every modern accessory.

On the 28th of December, 1881, Mr. Armstrong was married to Miss Agnes Compton, a daughter of Wortman and Mary (Vanderhoff) Compton, the former born July 27, 1830, and the latter April 14, 1833. They were both natives of New Jersey, and came to Winnebago county



MR. AND MRS. A. R. ARMSTRONG.

in 1855, settling first in Owen township, after which they removed to Harrison township, where Mr. Compton carried on business as a contractor and builder. He erected many substantial structures in this county and was well known throughout this part of the state as a reliable business man and representative citizen. At the time of the Civil war he espoused the Union cause and enlisted as a member of Company D, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry, and served until the close of the war. Following his return from the battle-field of the south, he again worked at his trade and later purchased a farm, which he made his home until 1886, when he removed to Rockford, there living a retired life until called to his final rest October 12, 1901. His wife survived him until July 28, 1903. They had two children: Agnes, who was born August 23, 1854; and Whitfield, born January 14, 1859. Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong also have two children, Charles E. and Mary L., who are at home.

Mr. Armstrong has served as a member of the school board, as town clerk, assessor and justice of the peace, filling the latter position at the present time, and in all of these offices he has discharged his duties with capability and fidelity. His political allegiance is given to no one party for he holds himself free to vote for the men and measure that he deems best worthy of his support. He favors the Methodists Episcopal church, of which his wife is a member, and he belongs to Owen camp, No. 616, M. W. A. There have been no exciting chapters in his life record but the inherent forces of his character and his unremitting diligence have enabled him to gain a position of affluence and win at the same time the good will and trust of his fellowmen by reason of the honorable methods he has ever followed.

THOMAS M. BUTLER, M. D.

Dr. Thomas M. Butler, of Rockford, who was born June 21, 1833, in Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, was a son of Thomas and Hannah (Farr) Butler. In the paternal line he comes of Scotch-Irish ancestry, while in the maternal line he is of English lineage, the Farr family having been founded in America, however, prior to the Revolutionary war. Thomas Butler, Sr., was born in the north of Ireland, and came to America when twelve years of age, settling in Pennsylvania about 1790. He served his country in the war of 1812 as a member of General Hull's Brigade. Following the close of hostilities he returned to Pennsylvania, and was there married to Hannah Farr, whose people resided near the Potomac river. Their property was destroyed

during the progress of the war, and the government afterward gave to the family one thousand acres of land in Lycoming county, Pennsylvania. Mr. Butler became the owner of a farm in that locality, where he made his home until 1854, when he sold his property and came to Winnebago county. Here he purchased a farm in Rockford township, and continued its further development and improvement up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1857. His wife long survived him, and died in 1891. They were the parents of nine children, three of whom died in Pennsylvania before the removal of the family to the west. At the present time four sons and two daughters are yet living: John, a resident of Ogle county, Illinois; William F., who died in 1866; Ann, the wife of O. J. Cummings, of Winnebago county; Thomas M.; Bartlett F., also of this county; G. C., who is living in Marshall county, Kansas; Gillon T., who died at Clarksville, Butler county, Iowa, in the '90s; and Margaret E., who is living in Winnebago county.

Thomas M. Butler was a student in the district schools of Pennsylvania, and later attended an academy at Bloomsburg, that state, and afterward the Lewisburg University. He pursued a scientific course preparatory to entering upon the study of medicine. He read medicine under the direction of Drs. Hill and Butler and later came west with his father. Subsequently he went to Cincinnati, Ohio, and continuing his preparation for the practice of medicine, was graduated from the Cincinnati Medical College in May, 1857. He then located for practice in Rockford, opening an office in this city in connection with J. B. McFatrigh, with whom he remained for about a year. Dr. Butler then removed to Iowa, where he practiced for a time, after which he took up his abode in Jackson county, Illinois, where he continued in business for some time. He also taught school, and in 1861 he came to Pecatonica, Winnebago county, where he continued in the active practice of medicine and surgery for sixteen years. In 1876 he was elected clerk of the circuit court, in which capacity he served for three terms of four years each, thus spending twelve years in that office, to which he was chosen as the candidate of the republican party. In 1888 he removed to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he followed his profession for two years, and later spent five years as a practitioner in Detroit. In 1895 he returned to Rockford, where he again opened an office, but about two years ago he retired from active life. He had enjoyed a large practice in many of the towns in which he had been located, and by careful husbanding of his resources had gained a handsome competence.

Dr. Butler was married in Pecatonica, September 1, 1864, to Miss Adelaide A. Prouty, a

daughter of William C. Prouty, who came to Rockford in 1805, and was engaged in merchandising here until the time of his death in 1878. He was born in Brattleboro, Vermont, in 1844, and on coming to the west settled in Pecatonica, where he was engaged in business until his removal to Rockford. His widow long survived him, and died in 1892, at the age of eighty years. Dr. and Mrs. Butler have had two children: Anna C., who was born in Pecatonica, May 7, 1866, and is living at home; and W. H. P. Butler, who was born October 13, 1867, and was married in 1891 to Miss Mary Buker. He died November 28, 1894. He had served as clerk with his father in the circuit court, and in his business career was connected with Lewis Lake and afterward with the Holland Abstract Company. He had one child, Norman H., who is now fourteen years of age.

Dr. Butler is a Mason, belonging to A. W. Rawlson lodge of Pecatonica, and he has also taken the Royal Arch and Knight Templar degrees. He served as prelate in the commandery for ten years, was also eminent commander, and in his life has exemplified the beneficent spirit of the craft, which is based upon mutual helpfulness and brotherly kindness. In politics he has been a republican since the organization of the party. Dr. Butler, in the practice of his profession, rendered valuable service to his fellowmen. Without capital, wealth or influence to aid him in his professional career, he placed his dependence upon his native intellectual force, his laudable ambition and his unflinching energy, and these proved an excellent capital. His success resulted entirely from his close application and capability, and he is well known in Winnebago county as one who justly merits the esteem and confidence of all with whom he has been brought in contact.

JOHN M. RHODES.

John M. Rhodes, who has served for twenty-one years on the board of supervisors and has taken an active part in community affairs in Roscoe, his native village, was born August 25, 1840, his parents being John J. and Pamela (Wilson) Rhodes. The grandfather, John Rhodes, a native of Ireland, came to the new world after his marriage, bringing with him his wife and one child. His wife was a native of England. They settled in Oneida county, New York, the year of their emigration being 1795. Mr. Rhodes had been a carder in the woolen mills in his native country and subsequently conducted a woolen mill in the Empire state. The father was a native of the Empire state, born in 1803, while the

mother's birth occurred in Canada, in 1806. When a young man John J. Rhodes learned the trade of carding in a woolen mill in the state of New York, and later with a younger brother went to Canada, where they conducted a woolen mill for several years. It was during their residence there that the parents of our subject were married, and in 1839 they came west to Illinois, remaining for about a year in Rockford. On the expiration of that period they took up their abode in Roscoe, where Mr. Rhodes built a sawmill. He also purchased land and in connection with the manufacture of lumber was engaged in pursuits upon the farm, which is now the property of his son, John M. The tract comprised about three hundred and forty acres and was largely unimproved but the father, with characteristic energy, placed his fields under a high state of cultivation. He was the first supervisor of Roscoe township, which office he filled for seven years to the entire satisfaction of his constituents. He was also justice of the peace for many years and his decisions were strictly fair and impartial. He was also highway commissioner and every trust reposed in him was faithfully performed. His political allegiance was given to the whig party in early manhood and on its dissolution he espoused the principles of the new republican party and continued one of its stalwart supporters until his death, which occurred in Roscoe, when he was fifty-six years of age. His wife survived him until about seventy years of age. They brought with them to Illinois three children, who were born in Canada, but only one is now living, William, a resident of Worth county, Iowa. The other members of the family born in Illinois, who yet survive, are John M. and his sister, Mrs. Laura Sammons, the wife of Amos Sammons.

John M. Rhodes has made his home in Roscoe throughout his entire life. The public schools afforded him his educational privileges and on the 24th of May, 1861, in response to his country's need, he offered his services to the Union, enlisting as a private of Company B, Fifteenth Illinois Infantry for three years' service. He continued with the command for about a month after the expiration of his term, being mustered out June 14, 1864. He went to the front under Captain Hurlbut, who afterward rose to the rank of major general. The first battle in which he participated was the hotly contested engagement at Shiloh, where the men fell like flowers before a hailstorm, the regiment losing two hundred and fifty-eight of its members in eight minutes. Mr. Rhodes had three bullets shot through his clothes in that engagement. Later he participated in the battles of Fort Donaldson and the siege of Vicksburg and in other engagements with his regiment, never faltering in the performance of any duty assigned to him.

When mustered out of the army Mr. Rhodes returned to his home in Roscoe, and was married on the 25th of August, 1864, to Miss Louisa Love, a native of Roscoe, and a daughter of Jabez Love, who was born in England but in his youth came to America, settling in Detroit, Michigan, whence he afterward came to this place, casting in his lot with its early settlers. He is now the owner of one hundred and ninety-seven acres of his father's old homestead. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Rhodes were born three children, of whom two are living: Charles, now a veterinary surgeon, residing at Beloit, Wisconsin, married Miss Maria Lyford, a daughter of Dudley Lyford, of Roscoe, and they have two children, Alice and John D. Mary is the wife of Clifford Wilcox, and had three children, Lee and Ethel, living; and Arthur, who was killed by lightning August 9, 1893. He married Ella Cummings, and they had one son, Ralph.

Through much of his life Mr. Rhodes has been identified with agricultural interests but in 1900 he went to Washington, D. C., and became one of the police officers in the capital, where he remained for a year. He was then appointed to a position in the internal revenue service, acting as special agent for three years, after which he returned to Roscoe. Prior to his residence in the national capital he was for many years justice of the peace and had also served on the board of supervisors for nine years at one time, and ten years at another time. He was the first native born son of Roscoe to be called to that office and upon his return from Washington he was again elected supervisor so that his service in the position covers twenty-one years altogether. No higher testimonial of his ability or of the trust reposed in him could be given than the fact that he has so long been retained in the one office. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, at Rockton, and of Nevius post, No. 1, G. A. R., at Rockford. He has ever been a public-spirited and patriotic citizen, as true and loyal to his country in days of peace as when the war cloud hung over the land and he battled for the Union upon the contested ground of the south.

MICHAEL C. KEATING.

Michael C. Keating, a retired farmer residing in Pecatonica, is a native of the Emerald isle, and in his life has displayed many of the sterling characteristics of the Celtic race, including the ready adaptability and unflinching enterprise which have been strong elements in the success of the sons of Erin. He was born in Queen's county, Ireland, October 3, 1846, and

was educated in Westchester county, New York, and in the schools of Rockford. He came to America in March, 1848, with his parents, James and Winifred (Brammon) Keating. They were eight weeks in crossing the Atlantic to America, as passengers on a sailing vessel, which dropped anchor in the harbor of New York. Michael Keating was then about a year and a half old, and the family lived in Westchester county for five years, after which they removed to Oswego county, New York, where they spent a year. Three children had been born in Ireland and three more children were added to the family in the Empire state. In 1854 the parents left New York, made their way by boat to Detroit, Michigan, thence by canal to Chicago, and on by rail to Elgin. For a year the family home was maintained between Rockbridge and Elgin, and the father laid the track for the Fox River road and also worked on the old St. Charles Air Line. In the spring of 1855 he removed to Rockford, living in the city for four years, working on the water power. He then came to Pecatonica on the 27th of July, 1859, and purchased a small lot on the north side of the river, after which he at once began to clear his land. There was a log house on the place in which he and his family took up their abode. They had lost one daughter, Mary, while living in Rockford, and the youngest daughter, Margaret, died here in 1859. The father added to his land from time to time as his financial resources increased until he had about three hundred acres, constituting a valuable property. He was one of the early pioneer settlers of the county, industrious and honest, and he enjoyed the respect of all with whom he came in contact. He died at the age of seventy-two years and three months, while his wife passed away when about eighty-seven years of age. He and all his family were communicants of the Catholic church.

Michael C. Keating accompanied his parents on their various removals and lived with them until they were called to the home beyond. He worked upon the home farm after coming to Winnebago county until the age of thirteen years, when he began earning his own living by working as a farm hand in the neighborhood by the day and month. He was employed by Samuel Derwent for two years, after which, in 1863, he began farming on his own account, and was thus engaged until 1864, when he could no longer content himself to remain at home while the Union was in peril, and enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Forty-sixth Illinois Infantry, as a private. He was enrolled in the month of August, and went to Camp Butler, at Springfield, where he received his uniform. He then went to Brighton, Macoupin county, where the troops

were drilled until ordered to Alton on provost duty, remaining there for about three months. They next went to Peoria on provost duty, Mr. Keating being there with nine others of his company. Later he returned to Springfield, and on to Cairo, where he was on guard duty for about two months. He was next sent to New Orleans by boat to take paroled prisoners to the south, and was in that city when the rebel ran the blockade. He afterward returned to Cairo, leaving there upon the day that President Lincoln was assassinated—April 14, 1865, when he reported at Camp Yates, in Springfield, being mustered out there July 8, 1865.

Returning to his home, Mr. Keating engaged in farming again, and in connection with his father purchased land and carried on general agricultural pursuits. As a companion and helpmate for life's journey he wedded Miss Ellen Kennedy, to whom he was married June 20, 1879. Her parents were Patrick and Ellen Kennedy, both natives of Ireland. The mother was twice married, having two children by her second marriage, but Mrs. Keating was the only child of the first marriage. Her second husband was Michael Russell, who is now living in Rockford. Mr. Kennedy died in 1854, while the mother of Mrs. Keating passed away in 1878. They were early settlers of Winnebago county, and arrived here in the '50s. Mr. and Mrs. Keating have two children, a son and daughter: James W., born February 5, 1880, and Mary, born January 30, 1881. The wife and mother passed away November 10, 1883, and her remains were interred in the Irish Grove cemetery. The daughter Mary is now acting as her father's house-keeper, and they have a pleasant home in the village of Pecatonica. The son, James W., attended the public schools in Pecatonica until twenty-one years of age, when he was graduated from the high school, after which he went to Chicago and entered the law department of the Northwestern University, from which he was graduated with the class of 1903. He is now engaged in the practice of his profession in that city, and was formerly connected with Thomas Foley, a leading attorney there. The daughter was a student in St. Charles Sisters' School, in Chicago, completing the eighth grade work. Her mother died about that time, and she then returned to Pecatonica and completed her education by graduation in the high school here.

Mr. Keating owns three hundred acres of well improved land, but is now practically living a retired life. His farm lies near the town, and the house thereon is situated about two miles from the village. He and his family are communicants of the Catholic church. In politics he is a republican, and has been a member of the town board and has been district school direc-

tor for twelve years. He has never sought or desired office, however, preferring to give his attention to his business affairs. He has always been a lover of fine horses, and at the present time owns four very fine specimens, two coming from Tennessee, one of these being a pedigreed animal. He worked hard from early boyhood through long years, and his well earned ease is a fitting crown to his life of industry and well directed effort.

HERVEY SEYMOUR CLEVELAND.

Hervey Seymour Cleveland, who in practical, progressive and profitable manner is following agricultural pursuits in Seward township, was born in Hebron, Washington county, New York, January 18, 1831, his parents being Job W. and Almira (Fenton) Cleveland. The father, born August 7, 1796, removed with his family from Washington county to Wyoming county, New York, about 1834 and spent his remaining days there, his death occurring July 7, 1870. His wife was born November 12, 1799, and died on the eighty-seventh anniversary of her birth. They were married in Vermont but spent the greater part of their married life in the Empire state. Mr. Cleveland was a member of the Masonic fraternity and also the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In his family were eleven children, of whom four are now living: Eli, a resident of Rockford; William J., who is living in Seward; Hervey S., of this review; and Helen, the wife of Percival Joiner, whose home is in Wethersfield, Wyoming county, New York.

Hervey S. Cleveland, when three years of age, was taken by his parents to Wyoming county, where he acquired his education in the district schools. He remained at home until sixteen years of age, after which he worked in Leroy, New York, for three years, there learning the trade of a wagonmaker. Later he went to Attica, Wyoming county, New York, where he had to abandon work at his trade because it proved detrimental to his eyesight. In September, 1853, he came west to Winnebago county, where he remained until winter came on, when he went to Monroe, Wisconsin, where he again resumed wagonmaking. However, he had purchased a tract of land of eighty acres where he now lives and began breaking the wild prairie, continuing the active work of the farm until 1855, when he returned to the state of New York to see his parents. He remained at home for three years and was married there on the 11th of June, 1856, to Miss Annette Curtis, who was born in the



W. S. Cleveland, Sen



Mrs. Annette Cleveland.

town of Java, Wyoming county, New York, April 21, 1834.

With his wife Mr. Cleveland returned to Winnebago county in the spring of 1859 and during the summer lived in a shanty belonging to his brother but in the fall of that year erected a house and with strong purpose began the development of his farm and the improvement of his property. Later he purchased another eighty-acre tract of land and afterward bought sixty acres, continually adding to his property until he had two hundred and ninety-five acres of very valuable farm land. In the fall of 1887 he was visited by a disastrous fire, eleven buildings being destroyed, but soon he built his fine home in which he now lives and the substantial barns and outbuildings which give shelter to grain and stock. He was, up to the last five years, extensively and successfully engaged in raising and feeding stock and he now has twenty head of cows upon his farm and raises from forty to sixty head of hogs each year. He was, however, a breeder of shorthorn cattle until he suffered so extensively from the fire.

In 1891 Mr. Cleveland was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died on the 26th of April of that year. Her standing in the community and in the regard of her many friends is perhaps best indicated by the following resolutions of respect.

Whereas, It has pleased the Great Master of the Universe in His infinite wisdom to remove from our midst our beloved sister, Annette Cleveland, therefore be it

Resolved, That in the death of Sister Cleveland this Grange has lost an earnest and energetic member, a woman endowed with those graces of mind and body which endeared her to all who knew her.

Resolved, That while bowing submissively to the Divine Will we deeply deplore the loss of one who was to us a cheerful companion, one whose gentle habits and lovable qualities rendered her a desirable associate in our order.

Resolved, That we offer our sincere sympathy to the bereaved family of the deceased in this sad hour of affliction.

Resolved, That these resolutions be entered in our minutes and a copy of the same be sent to the family of the deceased and also a copy sent to the Grange News for publication.

LAURENCE McDONALD,
JOHN McDONALD,
JULIA McDONALD,

Committee.

Attest: John McDonald, Sec.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Cleveland were born five children: Myrtie, who was born January 5, 1860, and died November 17, 1867; Alta C., who was

born February 20, 1862, and died November 16, 1867; Lucas, who was born September 7, 1870, and died February 10, 1871; Amy, who was born November 24, 1881, and died the same day; and Hervey, who was born March 27, 1869, and is now conducting the home farm.

For many years Mr. Cleveland has been and at the present time is a member of the school board and the cause of education finds in him a warm and helpful friend. He has also been a member of the directors of the Winnebago Farmers' Mutual Fire and Lightning Insurance Company of Winnebago and Seward townships, which was incorporated February 5, 1875. He belongs to the Knights of the Globe and is a supporter of the Congregational church, which he has attended for many years.

JAMES H. BABCOCK.

James H. Babcock, who has placed his capital in the safest of all investments—real estate—and is now an extensive dealer in lands in Illinois and the Dakotas, is a native son of this state, his birth having occurred in Stephenson county, near Freeport, in 1861. His parents were E. N. and Harriet (Dunn) Babcock, who became early settlers of Stephenson county, where the father engaged in agricultural pursuits and became one of the prosperous farmers of his neighborhood.

In the usual manner of farm lads of the period James H. Babcock spent his boyhood days. He began his education in the district schools and afterward enjoyed the benefits of instruction in the higher schools of his county. When his education was completed he turned his attention to farming and stock-raising, which he carried on quite extensively, and while still living upon his farm he became interested in real-estate operations. He is seldom at fault in matters of judgment concerning the value of property and is thus enabled to make judicious investments and profitable sales. In 1901 he removed to Rockford, where he opened a real-estate office and is now devoting his time and means to investing in and selling western lands. He is now the possessor of large tracts, having a valuable farm of about thirteen hundred acres in Dakota which is a grain farm devoted to the raising of wheat, it being situated in the midst of the great wheat and corn belt. He also owns several farms in Minnesota aggregating eight hundred acres, which are well stocked with thoroughbred Hereford cattle, many of them being registered. This farm is conducted largely under his own supervision with the aid of a number of employes. He is likewise interested in

valuable land in Iowa, and his holdings in Illinois return to him a good income. He has property in the city of Chicago, three good farms in Kansas and also land in Wisconsin.

In 1887 Mr. Babcock was married to Miss Jennie E. Steele, of Stephenson county, Illinois, and they have a son and daughter, Ralph and Marie. The family home is at No. 1535 East State street. Without special educational or financial advantages to aid him in the outset of his career Mr. Babcock has steadily worked his way upward. The successful men of the day are they who have planned their own advancement and have accomplished it in spite of many obstacles and with a certainty that could have been attained only through their own efforts. This class of men has a worthy representative in James H. Babcock, who in his active life has ever displayed a weight of character, a native sagacity, a far-seeing judgment and a fidelity of purpose that commands the respect of all.

TIMOTHY P. BURNS.

Timothy P. Burns, interested in general agricultural pursuits on section 29, Burrirt township, where he owns and cultivates one hundred and sixty-nine acres of land, was born in this township January 23, 1867. His father, Tobias Burns, is a retired farmer, living in Rockford. The family is of Irish lineage, and was established in the United States by John and Julia (Shaughnessy) Burns, who came to this country in 1850, accompanied by their family. After spending about four years in New York they made their way westward to Winnebago county, where they resided until called to their final rest, John Burns passing away in October, 1873, while his wife died in June, 1896. In their family were eight children, and of the seven daughters all are now deceased with the exception of Mrs. James Morrissey, of Belvidere, Illinois.

The only son, Tobias Burns, was born in County Carlow, Ireland, and is now about seventy-five years of age. He came with his parents to America, and through many years was identified with agricultural interests in Winnebago county, his success being attributable entirely to his own labors. He was married in Rockford in 1860 to Miss Mary Doyle, who was born in County Kilkenny, Ireland, in October, 1842, her parents being Timothy and Elizabeth (Ryan) Doyle, natives of County Carlow, Ireland. They came to the new world in 1850, and after living for four years in Rochester, New York, removed to Rockford, where Mr. Doyle died in February, 1866, his wife, however, surviving until November 1, 1893. Mr. and Mrs. Burns began their

domestic life upon a farm, and from April, 1864, until March, 1902, resided on section 22, Burrirt township, where the well directed labors of Mr. Burns won him a gratifying prosperity. More extended mention of this worthy couple is given on another page of this work.

Timothy P. Burns, of this review, was reared in the usual manner of farm lads of the period, no event of special importance occurring to vary the routine of work, study and play for him in his boyhood days. Arriving at years of maturity he sought a companion and helpmate for life's journey, and was married on the 13th of January, 1898, to Miss Margaret E. Shehan, a daughter of Phillip and Ann Shehan, of this county. She is a graduate of the high school of Winnebago of the class of 1892, and taught school for several terms, being known as one of the most successful teachers of the county. She was thus engaged up to the time of her marriage. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Burns has been blessed with three children: William Shehan, born September 15, 1899; Philip, born August 2, 1901; and Tobias, born in October, 1904.

At the time of his marriage Mr. Burns left the old homestead farm on which he had been reared, and of which he had acted as manager in the early years of his manhood and took up his abode upon the farm which is now his home, comprising one hundred and sixty-nine acres of land on section 29, Burrirt township. Here he is now successfully carrying on general agricultural pursuits, his life being characterized by unremitting diligence and perseverance. In community affairs he is interested, and for several terms he has served as school director. His political allegiance is given to the democracy, and he and his wife are communicants of St. Mary's Catholic church in Rockford.

WILLIAM A. POWELL.

William A. Powell, interested in general farming on section 27, Winnebago township, is numbered among the pioneer settlers of the county, having resided here since 1854, and the changes which have occurred have left their impress on his memory, so that he is well informed concerning the history of this section of the state as it has emerged from pioneer conditions and taken on all the improvements and advantages of an advanced civilization. A native of Pennsylvania, Mr. Powell was born in Chester county in 1844, his parents being Lewis and Mary (Hallowell) Powell, who arrived in Rockford in the spring of 1853. They resided about a mile and a half west of Westfield Corners for a year, at the end of which time Lewis Powell purchased the

eighty-acre tract of land upon which W. A. Powell now resides. He began improving the farm, which up to that time had but little work done thereon. His labors were effective and practical, and as the years passed his work wrought a very gratifying transformation in the appearance of the place. The house which he first built has been moved back on the farm and is now being used as a wood house. Later he purchased the eighty-acre tract just east of his original farm on section 26 and this is also owned by William A. Powell, who likewise has ten acres of timber land on section 34, Winnebago township. Lewis Powell continued to carry on general farming on the old homestead up to the time of his death, which occurred March 17, 1899, when he was eighty years of age, his birth having occurred in Chester county, Pennsylvania, April 18, 1818. The family is of English lineage. Mr. Powell gave his political support to the democracy and served as a school director and in other local offices, taking an active and helpful interest in the affairs of the township. He desired public improvement and progress along lines that would prove of practical benefit and he did his full share in promoting the welfare of his community. He and his wife were members of the Presbyterian Church of Winnebago. Mrs. Powell, whose birth occurred in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, in 1821, died in this county January 31, 1888, when about sixty-six years of age.

Howard Powell, the brother of our subject, was for some years engaged in farming in Winnebago township. He was born in Chester county, Pennsylvania, in 1851, and died July 3, 1873, soon after his marriage to Miss Delia Bunn, who still resides in this county. One sister, Anna Mary, born here in 1858, married Leonard Greene and resides at Pomona, California.

William A. Powell was but nine years of age when the family came to Illinois, and since his tenth year he has resided upon the farm which is now his home. He was reared to agricultural pursuits, being trained to the practical work of the fields under the direction of his father, who early impressed upon his mind the value of industry and integrity in active affairs of life and in the years that have passed these lessons have borne rich fruit in a successful and creditable business career. As before stated, he owns the old family homestead, his landed possessions aggregating one hundred and seventy acres. The farm comprises one hundred and sixty acres of land that is rich and productive, and in addition he has a ten-acre timber tract. Everything about his place is neat and thrifty in appearance, and from the time of early spring planting until crops are harvested in the late autumn he gives careful supervision to his farm work and is prosperous in all that he undertakes.

Mr. Powell was married to Miss Angeline Hollenbeck, a native of Schoharie county, New York, and a daughter of Henry and Eva (Zimmer) Hollenbeck, who came to Winnebago county in 1857 and located on section 22, Winnebago township, the farm now owned by M. Hollenbeck, a brother of Mrs. Powell. Her father died March 23, 1894. In his family were nine children: Catherine, Miner, Sylvester, John, Eliza, Mary, Luther, Millard, and Angeline. Mr. and Mrs. Powell have two sons, both born upon the home farm: William W., born July 21, 1870, who follows farming near his father and who married Miss Rachel Patrick, of the village of Winnebago, by whom he has three children, Lewis, Clara and Anna; and Clifford, born July 9, 1880, still at home.

Politically Mr. Powell is a democrat and has served as school director. He has always taken an active interest in political affairs in his township and is interested in the great issues and questions which divide the two parties. His wife is a member of the Congregational church of Winnebago, and both have a wide acquaintance in the county where they have long resided, Mr. Powell having for more than half a century made his home within its borders, so that from pioneer times down to the present he is familiar with its history.

JOHN FITZGERALD.

John Fitzgerald, following the occupation of farming on section 17, Rockford township, owns here one hundred and twenty-three acres of land, and is numbered among the pioneer residents of the county, having settled here on the 15th of March, 1859. He was born in county Wetherford, Ireland, about four miles north of Youghal Harbor, July 23, 1838, his parents being Edward and Bridget (Mountain) Fitzgerald, both of whom died in Ireland. They were farming people, and on the Emerald isle they reared their family of six children, of whom John was the second in order of birth. Of that number Michael still resides in Ireland, while Thomas is living in Rockford and James died in New Jersey. The daughters, Mary and Ellen, have also passed away.

John Fitzgerald came to America when nineteen years of age, landing at Quebec, Canada. A week later he went to Toronto, where he remained until November of that year (1857). He then traveled through New York, visiting New York city and also Philadelphia. Making his way westward he worked on the Kenosha division of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad for a little time. He then went south, spending two years in that section of the country but at the outbreak of the war he returned to Rockford.

Here in 1862 Mr. Fitzgerald enlisted as a member of Company A, Ninetieth Illinois Infantry, called the Chicago Irish Legion, under command of Colonel O'Mera. He was mustered into service at Chicago at Camp Dunne and the regiment was with the Sixteenth Army Corps until ordered to Vicksburg, when they were attached to the Fifteenth Army Corps. Mr. Fitzgerald participated in the battles at Jackson, Vicksburg and Mission Ridge. At the last named he was wounded and was sent to the hospital, where he remained for six months, after which he served with the invalid corps. When the war was over and his aid was no longer needed he was mustered out at Indianapolis, Indiana, July 5, 1865. He had been seriously wounded in the leg by two bullets.

Mr. Fitzgerald at once returned to Rockford and has since resided in Winnebago county. He was married here to Miss Anna Kearney, a native of County Carey, Ireland, who came to this country in 1863. Mr. and Mrs. Fitzgerald have nine children living and one deceased; Agnes, the wife of Martin Duane, of Boone county, Illinois, and the mother of eight children; Edward, a resident farmer of Rockford township; Mary, who has taught school for the past fourteen years in Winnebago county and is now residing with her brother Edward; Mark L., who resides on a farm just south of Rockford and is married and has two children; Catherine, the wife of James Radmond, of Rockford; Anna, the wife of William Drohan, of Rockford township; John, who died at the age of twenty-two years; Margaret, Patrick W. and Clara, all at home.

Politically Mr. Fitzgerald is a democrat where national questions and issues are involved, but at local elections he votes independently. Socially he is a member of Nevius post, No. 1, G. A. R., at Rockford and also belongs to the Ancient Order of United Workmen. He is likewise a member of St. Mary's Catholic church of Rockford. Throughout almost his entire business career he has followed farming and his success is the direct outcome of his well directed labors, his splendidly improved farm being the visible evidence of his life of enterprise and untiring activity.

PROFESSOR P. R. WALKER.

Peleg Remington Walker, for more than twenty-one years city superintendent of the schools of Rockford and widely acknowledged as one of the most capable educators representing the public school system of the state, is a native of Brooklyn, Windham county, Connecticut, where his birth occurred on the 1st of July, 1835. He was but four years of age at the time of the removal of the family to East Brooklyn, now

Danielson, where he pursued his education in the district schools until twelve years of age, after which only the winter months were devoted to study, while the summer seasons were given to farm work. Ambitious, however, for further educational development he resumed his studies, in the West Killingly academy, attending during the fall and winter terms of 1850.

In November, 1852, Professor Walker entered upon the profession which he has made his life work as teacher in the North Bigelow district in Hampton, Connecticut, and in the following summer he engaged in carpentering in connection with his father. He taught in the south parish school in Killingly in the winter of 1853-4, and at that time began preparation for a college course, attending school through the following winter, but in the spring of 1855 he was forced to abandon his cherished plan, because of troubles with his eyes, occasioned by an attack of measles. He became a resident of the middle west in April, 1856, when he accompanied his father's family on their removal to Scott township, Ogle county, Illinois, and in the fall of the same year he was elected to the position of teacher in Lynnville for seven months. When summer came he engaged in breaking prairie and was thus identified with the early agricultural developments of the county, but the winter found him installed behind the teacher's desk in the Smith-Woodburn school, in Byron, Illinois.

His work in the schoolroom has been so satisfactory that he resolved to devote his life to the profession and that he might be still better qualified he pursued a course in the Normal University at Bloomington, Illinois, being graduated therefrom in June, 1861. He taught at Dement the following year, but feeling that a higher duty called him—his duty to his country—he put aside personal considerations, and on the 12th of August, 1862, joined the boys in blue of Company K, Ninety-second Illinois Infantry, as a private. The regiment was sent to Camp Fuller and from that point left for the scene of hostilities, October 10, 1862. The regiment was mounted in July, 1863, and supplied with repeating rifles, and with his command Professor Walker participated in the advance on Chattanooga, was with Hooker at Lookout Mountain, saw the battle of Mission Ridge, was with Sherman in Kilpatrick's Cavalry, from Chattanooga to Atlantic and on the march to Savannah. He was slightly wounded when approaching Raleigh but otherwise escaped uninjured. He was promoted successively to sergeant, first sergeant and lieutenant and was in command of his company during the last year of the war. Conscious of having faithfully performed his duty to his country, he then returned to his home to resume the pursuits of civil life.



P. R. WALKER.

Before leaving the army Professor Walker had been engaged to teach the Dement school, leaving there only after eight years to accept a still better position in Rochelle, Illinois. Twelve years were passed in the latter city and a further onward step was made when he accepted the proffered superintendency of the city schools of Rockford. The public school system of this city is largely a monument to his life work. He was continually sought for work in institutes. He has inaugurated new and practical ideas and by his own zeal and enthusiasm have inspired the teachers to their best work. Rockford has every reason to be proud of her schools—and her schools owe their excellence and advanced position to his efforts. He keeps in touch with modern thought relative to his profession through regular attendance at the National and State Teachers' Associations and for several years he served as treasurer of the latter, and in 1890 he was its presiding officer. He has also been the president of the Northern Illinois Teachers' Association and a member of the state board of education for more than twenty years and his name in educational circles stands as a synonym for progress and practical work in the public schools.

Professor Walker's fraternal relations are with the Grand Army of the Republic. He married Miss Martha E. Webb, of New York, and with their daughter they reside at No. 716 North Church street—the center of a cultured society circle.

DAVID B. PENNIMAN, M. D.

Dr. David B. Penniman, engaged in the practice of medicine in Argyle and Harlem township, was born June 9, 1867, at Woodburn, Macoupin county, Illinois. His paternal grandfather, David Penniman, was a native of New Hampshire, born June 12, 1786, and died in North Bloomfield, Ohio, July 26, 1858. His ancestors came from New England and from Maryland, representatives of the name living in New England as early as 1630. The maternal grandfather of the Doctor was a soldier of the American army in the war of 1812. The father, Dr. Alexander B. Penniman, was born in Rutland, New York, April 11, 1824, and in his youth accompanied his parents to Bloomfield, Ohio, where they lived for a number of years. During that period he pursued his literary education in Oberlin College, at Oberlin, Ohio, after which he took up the study of medicine in the Eclectic College, at Cincinnati, Ohio, from which institution he was graduated. He located for practice in Canada, remaining there for three

years, after which he removed to southwestern Missouri, where he also practiced for three years. He next went to Woodburn, Illinois, where he followed his profession with excellent success for a quarter of a century, after which he took up his abode in Oberlin, Ohio, in order that his children might enjoy the benefits of education afforded in that city. For five years he continued in practice there or until his death, which occurred in 1887. In early manhood he had wedded Sarah Barton, who was born in Jacksonville, Illinois, January 10, 1833, and was a daughter of John H. and Mary (Reid) Barton. Mrs. Penniman still survives her husband and is now living with her son David in Argyle. The other members of the family are: Rev. Alford Penniman, who is pastor of the Congregational church at Ravenswood, Illinois; and Ira, who is director of music in the First Congregational church in Omaha, Nebraska.

Dr. Penniman, of this review, spent the first fourteen years of his life in the place of his nativity and then went with his parents to Oberlin, Ohio, where he continued his education, studying for eight years in the preparatory school and college. He was graduated from the latter with honors and afterward removed to Chicago, Illinois, where he entered upon the study of his profession in the medical department of the Northwestern University. When he was graduated and received his degree he located for practice in Spring Valley, Illinois, and on the 28th of September, 1893, he took up his abode at Argyle, where he has since followed his profession with excellent success. He has now an extensive patronage from among the best Scotch families of this locality, and his thorough understanding of the principles of medicine, combined with a conscientious devotion to his chosen life work, makes him one of the most capable, as well as one of the most successful physicians of this part of the county.

On the 13th of September, 1893, Dr. Penniman was married to Miss Corda Shively, of Shelby, Iowa, a daughter of Joseph Shively, now living in Dayton, Ohio. Her father was a soldier of the Civil war, serving in Company H, of the Tenth Kentucky Volunteers. Her mother died when Mrs. Penniman was about six years of age. The latter was born February 14, 1868, and unto the Doctor and his wife have been born two children: Lawrence W., born January 28, 1895; and Alford, born January 28, 1902.

Dr. Penniman is a member of the Masonic lodge at Roscoe, the Modern Woodman camp at Caledonia, Illinois, and also is connected with the Mystic Workers at Argyle. In politics he is a republican and he takes an active and helpful interest in the cause of education, doing effective service in that line as a member of the

school board. He and his wife are members of the Willow Creek Presbyterian church at Argyle and he is a member of the board of sessions. A gentleman of culture, of capability in his profession and of practical ideas concerning the vital questions of life in man's physical, intellectual and spiritual nature, he stands as the champion of all that is worthy and has commanded the confidence and good will of his fellowmen by his genuine personal worth.

LEWIS B. GREGORY.

Lewis B. Gregory, who was interested in the erection of the first sawmill on Rock river and the building of the first dam, and who is now connected with various corporations of the city, having financial interests therein, although he is largely living a retired life, was born in Seneca county, New York, March 28, 1820, and is a representative of one of the old families of New England. His grandfather, Samuel Gregory, was a native of Connecticut, and there spent his entire life as a farmer, dying at an advanced age. He married a lady of Connecticut, who survived him for a number of years and died at the home of one of her children, at the age of eighty-seven years. Both grandparents were active members of the Methodist church, doing all in their power to extend its influence and promote its growth.

Their son, the Rev. Harry Gregory, was born in Danbury, Connecticut, and was reared among the hills in that section of the country. When a young man he removed to Seneca county, New York, where he was united in marriage to Miss Hannah Barnum, a native of that locality. They began their domestic life there, and after several years removed to Niagara county, New York, where Mr. Gregory began active work in connection with the ministry of the Methodist church. From that time until his death, which occurred in Canandaigua, New York, in 1879, when he was eighty-four years of age, he was engaged in proclaiming the gospel, and his influence was a potent force in the development of his denomination. He served his country as a soldier in the war of 1812, became a staunch advocate of the abolition cause and took an active part in suppressing slavery. His political support was given to the whig party until the republican party was formed to prevent the further extension of slavery, when he joined its ranks. His wife died in New York about twenty years prior to the death of her husband. They were the parents of eight children, four of whom are yet living and are married.

Lewis B. Gregory was quite young when his parents became residents of Lockport, New

York, and later he accompanied the family on their removal to Lima, Livingston county. He supplemented his early educational privileges by study in the seminary there, and subsequently he began teaching, following that profession in the east for several years. He was a young man of twenty when he arrived in Rockford, and for two and a half years he continued his active connection with the teacher's profession, being one of the early educators in this part of the state. Quick to recognize a business opportunity and to utilize it, he became a factor in industrial interests by joining others in the erection of the first sawmill built on Rock river at this place. He was also connected with the building of the first dam, and was associated in other progressive movements which have been of material benefit in the upbuilding and improvement of the city. At the present time he is laying out into town lots the land which he purchased here in 1845. A man of wise council and keen discrimination in business matters, his co-operation has been sought in the conduct of a number of important enterprises here, and the value of his council has been demonstrated in the success which has attended many enterprises with which he has been associated. He is now a stockholder and director in the Burial Case Company and a stockholder and vice-president of the Air Brush Company, which has developed an extensive business during the ten years of its existence.

In Rockford was celebrated the marriage of Lewis B. Gregory and Miss Lucy E. Spafford, who was born in St. Lawrence county, New York, December 18, 1831, her parents being Dan and Julia (Galloway) Spafford, who were early residents of Rockford, coming here in 1844. Her father was connected with the printing business here through a long period, and was well known as a pioneer resident of the county. He and his wife had a very wide acquaintance, and were familiarly called "Uncle" and "Aunt" by their many friends, who entertained for them the warmest regard. Both lived to an advanced age, and Mrs. Spafford was a consistent member of the Episcopal church. They had a large family, including Mrs. Gregory, who was a lady of innate culture and refinement, her good qualities of heart and mind winning her the love and esteem of all who knew her. She was a member of the Presbyterian church, and died in that faith at her home in this city, July 2, 1888. She had become the mother of six children, of whom Charles died in infancy. Those still living are: Edward, a plumber of the firm of Springer & Gregory, who married Evaline Chaney, and after her death chose Laura J. Potter for his wife; Carroll S., who was educated in Beloit, Wisconsin, and is now a plumber of that city, where he married Jennie Waterman; Lewis L., who wed-



Lewis B. Gregory

ded Sarah Throckmorton; and is a successful practitioner of medicine in Chicago; Kittie C., the wife of George N. Safford, lumberman, of Rockford; and George B., who is bookkeeper for the Love Manufacturing Company, of Rockford.

On the 7th of December, 1893, Mr. Gregory married Mrs. Sarah A. Stambro, widow of Ira Stambro, and a daughter of John Crain. She was born in Alabama, but in early life removed to Memphis, Tennessee. By her first marriage she has one daughter, Henrietta, now the wife of Frank L. Cleveland, of Rockford.

Mr. Gregory has now passed the eighty-fifth milestone on life's journey. His has been an active and useful career, in which much time has been devoted to his business interests, and yet he has found time and opportunity to co-operate in measures for the general good. He has long been an advocate of temperance principles, and casts his ballot for the men and measures of the prohibition party. America is a self-made country, and those who have created it are self-made men. It is to this class that Mr. Gregory belongs, for he came to the west when twenty years of age, with no capital, possessing however, a laudable ambition and strong determination. He realized that there is no excellence without labor, and he resolutely set to work to achieve a fortune through persistent, earnest purpose. He has always manifested a lively interest in and given a helping hand to every movement for the benefit of his city and has also been very helpful to young men just beginning the battle of life—never forgetting his own early struggles. He is genial, courteous and chivalrous, and a fast friend to those who have enjoyed his confidence. In all of his business enterprises he has been eminently successful, and by those who know him has been regarded as exceptionally sure and conservative.

JOHN BLACK.

John Black, whose business ability finds visible evidence in his well improved farm, which has been acquired from his own efforts and improved through his own labors, was born in Sligo county, Ireland, July 31, 1846, his parents being Charles and Eliza (Hall) Black. The father, who was born in Sligo county, November 21, 1821, died on the 6th of November, 1902, while his wife, who was born in October, 1824 passed away October 21, 1893. The year 1846 witnessed Mr. Black's emigration to America. He landed in New York, made his way to Philadelphia and afterward to Chester county, Pennsylvania, where he lived for ten years. He had been married in 1839, and after a residence of two years in the new world, during which time he became con-

vinced that he could provide a better living for his family in this country, he sent for his wife to join him in 1848. They arrived in Winnebago county, Illinois, in 1856, and after a residence here of two years, Charles Black purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land while subsequently he bought an additional tract of one hundred and twenty acres. He built thereon a house and at once began breaking the raw prairie. Not a furrow had been turned or an improvement made upon the place when it came into his possession. He was one of the pioneers settlers of the community and he did as others had to do to meet the hardships and trials incident to life on the frontier. In addition to raising grain he also engaged in the raising of cattle, horses and hogs, and was actively identified with agricultural pursuits until the last fifteen years of his life, when he lived retired. He was known as an energetic, hard-working man, persevering in all that he did, and his labor formed the basis of a richly merited and gratifying success. Unto him and his wife were born twelve children, of whom eleven are still living: James, who married Miss Elizabeth Armstrong, by whom he had five children, is now carrying on farming in Brown county, Kansas. Edward, who married Miss Mary Chapman, and has five children, resides at Jessup, Iowa. John is the third of the family. William, who married Miss Amelia Gephard, and has six children, is engaged in general farming in Owen township. George, who wedded Miss Mattie Hullet, and has thirteen children, is carrying on general farming in Owen township. Annie is the wife of Edson Miller, a resident of Madison, South Dakota, and they have three children. Charles, who married Miss Agnes McMichael, and is living in Owen township has five children. Charlotte resides on the old homestead. Samuel B., who is married and has five children, makes his home in Brown county, Kansas. Eliza is the wife of E. O. Campbell, of Owen township, and they had six children, of whom four are living. Lorenzo D., who lived to the age of twenty-four years, married Miss Mary Harvey and had three children. Louise is living on the old homestead in Owen township.

John Black was only about two years of age when brought by his mother to America. He was reared under the parental roof, and was a youth of ten summers when the family removed to Winnebago county, where he has since lived. He continued under the parental roof until twenty years of age and gained practical experience in farm work, so that he was well qualified to carry on a similar business for himself, when at the age of twenty years he began farming on his own account. He took up his abode on the place where he yet resides, but at that time it was open prairie without improvement or culti-

vation. All of the buildings upon the place stand as monuments to his enterprise and progressive spirit, and the well tilled fields are the evidence of his life and thrift and industry. He has worked persistently, his labors guided by sound judgment, and in all that he does he is eminently practical. He owns five hundred and eighty acres of land in Winnebago county and one hundred and twenty acres in Rock county, Wisconsin.

On the 4th of September, 1870, Mr. Black was married to Miss Lucy Chapman, a daughter of Edom and Gertrude Chapman, in whose family were eight children, of whom five are yet living: Minerva became the wife of Thomas Liddle, who died May 16, 1904, leaving three children, who with the mother resides in Owen township. Mrs. Black is the next of the family. Elmer is married and lives in Butte, Montana, and has three children. Emma is the wife of Frank King, of Rockford, and has one child. Jeremiah is deceased. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Black has been blessed with eight children, of whom all are yet living: George, who married Agnes Pomeroy, and has three children, is engaged in farming in the town of Rockton. Lena and Baze are at home. John, who married Miss Bessie Fairchild, and has one child, is also a farmer in the town of Rockton. Jay, who wedded Miss Mary Gilmore, is engaged in farming near Beloit, Wisconsin. Minerva is the wife of Albert Ashland, of Rockton township. Edom and Charles are at home.

Mr. Black has been called to public office, holding all of the different positions in the town except that of clerk, and at this writing he is supervisor. He belongs to Rockton lodge, No. 74, A. F. & A. M., and Rockton chapter, No. 190, R. A. M. He contributes to the support of the Methodist Episcopal church and gives his political allegiance to the republican party.

G. W. COLLINS.

G. W. Collins, who originated and conducted the first Farmers' Institute in Winnebago county, and who has ever stood for improvement and progress in agricultural circles, is now living on section 5, Guilford township, where he has one hundred and twenty-six acres of well improved land. It has been his home since the spring of 1858, and the excellent buildings upon it stand as monuments to a life of well directed and intense activity. Mr. Collins is a native of the Empire state, his birth having occurred in Lewis county, in 1834. His parents were Sylvester and Betsy (Glasgow) Collins, likewise natives of New York. On leaving that state they removed to Hillsdale county, Michigan, in 1844, and there

spent their remaining days until the father and mother departed this life about ten years ago. In their family of four sons and three daughters, all are yet living and five of them are residing in Hillsdale county. Another son, Charles, who formerly engaged in farming, is now living a retired life in Oklahoma.

G. W. Collins has spent almost his entire life in the middle west, being a youth of ten years when his parents removed to Michigan. He there remained until he had attained his majority and his preliminary education, acquired in the common schools, was supplemented by one year's study in the State University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor. He then entered active business life on his own account and at the age of twenty-six years was married to Miss Eliza Hart, a daughter of Frederick and Sylvia Hart, of Guilford township. Her people were also from the Empire state and they came to Winnebago county in 1854. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Collins was blessed with three children: Rufus, a practicing physician of Chicago who is a graduate of the schools of Beloit and of the Chicago Medical School, since which time he has followed his profession for fifteen years, is now married, having a wife and one daughter; Howard, who follows farming in Harlem township, is married and has one daughter; and Eva M., a graduate of the Rockford high school, is at home.

Mr. Collins arrived in this county in the fall of 1855, and in the spring of 1858 settled upon his present farm on section 5, Guilford township. All of the improvements upon his place are evidences of his handiwork and of his practical progressive spirit. He has erected new buildings, including a good residence and substantial barn and buildings for the shelter of grain and stock. He carries on general farming and everything about his place is kept in excellent condition. Politically he is a democrat, who for seven years represented Guilford township as supervisor. He has also held various local offices, doing everything in his power to conserve the public welfare. His interest in agricultural progress is evidenced by the labor which he performed in behalf of the first Farmers' Institute in Winnebago county, which he organized and conducted. His religious views are in accord with the Christian Union church of Rockford. He has ever worked for high standards in agricultural life and his own farm is an excellent example to those who live near him.

MOSES BARTLETT.

Moses Bartlett, deceased, whose record was the chronicle of successful accomplishment in the business world and of respect and honor gained

in private life by reason of the strong and sterling traits of his character, came to Rockford in 1860. He belonged to the class of representative American men, who in promoting individual interests also advanced the general welfare and Rockford profited by his business efforts in the promotion of her industrial and commercial activity. Mr. Bartlett was born in New Hampshire. His parents were likewise natives of that state, where they spent their entire lives, the father engaging in mercantile pursuits there up to the time of his death. Moses Bartlett was reared upon the home farm and the district schools of his native county afforded him his educational privileges. When he had become proficient in the knowledge of the common branches of learning he began teaching school, successfully following the profession for a few years in New York. He then removed to Whitby, Canada, where he was also a teacher for a short time and it was during his residence there that he was first married. While living in Whitby he married Miss Fannie Hall, of that village, and there were three children born unto them: Harvey, who was at one time engaged in the milling business in Rockford and is now deceased; Esther, the wife of John Nichols, and a resident of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin; and James, a traveling salesman residing in Evansville, Indiana. The son Harvey was the first of the family to come to Rockford, arriving about 1859, after which he purchased a flour mill and the careful conduct of his interests gained very his death in 1867.

Following his marriage Moses Bartlett continued to engage in teaching school in Canada for several years, and then with the capital which he had acquired through his own economy and industry he embarked in general merchandising in Whitby, conducting a store at that place for several years. He afterward removed to Rockford in 1860 and entered into partnership with his son in the milling business, which they conducted on the wholesale plan, engaging in the manufacture of flour throughout the Civil war and until the son's death in 1867. Later Mr. Bartlett retired from active business life but indolence and idleness were utterly foreign to his nature and he could not content himself without business interests. It was then that he became a stockholder in the Winnebago Agricultural Company on Wyman street, manufacturers of carriages. His partner in that enterprise was Mr. Hall, and they entered the business in 1876. Mr. Bartlett was chosen president of the company and continued at the head of the enterprise for several years, making it a profitable concern which took rank with the leading manufacturing interests of the city. It was during that time that he was chosen vice-president of the Winnebago National Bank, in which institution he served for several

years, and he also became president of a water power company, of Rockford, and afterward was its vice-president. He also invested in real estate in this city and was the owner of valuable property. His varied business interests were ably conducted by him for a number of years and he was actively associated with manufacturing interests until 1878, when he gave up all participation in business affairs and lived retired until his death. Whatever he undertook he carried forward to successful completion. He was a man of keen insight into business conditions, readily recognizing and utilizing an opportunity, and by the careful conduct of his interests gained very gratifying success.

Having lost his first wife Mr. Bartlett was married to Miss Mary Foster, a native of Marcellus, New York, and a daughter of Silas H. and Fannie (Smith) Foster. Her father was a farmer and tanner. He spent his entire life in Marcellus and in Warsaw, New York, his death occurring in the latter place. His widow afterward came to Rockford and resided with Mrs. Bartlett until called to her final home in 1881. The death of Mr. Bartlett occurred in April, 1879. His political views were in accord with republican principles but he was never an aspirant for office. Although not a member he served as a trustee in the Westminster Presbyterian church and was also a teacher in the Sunday-school here. He became one of the leading and well-to-do business men of Rockford, and was very liberal with his means for promoting movements for the general good. With a capacity and experience that would have enabled him to fulfill any trust to which he might be chosen he never sought to advance himself in office but was content to do his duty where he could and leave the office-seeking to others. He was, however, in full sympathy with all the great movements of the world about him and watched the progress of events with keen interest. He was recognized by those who knew him as a man of kindly heart, of sterling worth, pure and incorruptible in all his business and social relations.

In 1881 Mrs. Bartlett gave her hand in marriage to Ira J. Nichols, of Chicago, who was born at Lake George, New York, and went to the former city in childhood. He afterward took up the study of law and both he and his brother were admitted to the bar there. He also engaged in the real-estate business there. In an early day he predicted the great growth and improvement of Chicago and invested his money in property in South Chicago and Englewood. This rose rapidly in value and he became very successful. Both he and his brother devoted a part of their time to legal practice and he also operated in real estate until his death, which occurred about a year

after his marriage, or in 1882, while he was living at the corner of Sixty-first street and Wentworth avenue. His remains were interred in the Oak-wood cemetery. Mrs. Nichols continued to reside in Chicago for several years thereafter, or until 1894, when she returned to Rockford to make her home. She now owns and resides in the old Bartlett residence at No. 303 Grove street—a beautiful home—and her sister, Frances E. Foster, resides with her. She is well known here in society circles and is a member of the Westminster Presbyterian church.

ISAAC SWARTHOUT.

Isaac Swarthout, a resident of the village of Harlem, was born on the 26th of December, 1832, his parents being Ralph B. and Catherine (Voorheis) Swarthout. The father was born in Dutchess county, New York, and was of Pennsylvania Dutch descent, while the mother was born in the state of New Jersey and came of similar ancestry. The former died at St. Charles, Illinois, in February, 1869, and the latter on the 10th of March of the same year. They had become residents of Winnebago county in 1850 and after a brief period spent in Rockford the father purchased a farm in Cherry Valley township and for a number of years devoted his attention to agricultural pursuits. In their family were the following named: James V., who died from wounds sustained in the army while serving the Union cause as a member of a New York regiment; Ralph B., who is living in Rockford, Illinois, and who served for four years in the Eighth Ohio Cavalry in the Civil war; Benjamin L., who was a member of Company E, One Hundred and Twenty-seventh Illinois Infantry and died in St. Charles, Illinois, during the period of the Civil war from disease contracted in the service; Luther, who died at the home of his parents while on a sick furlough, being at the time a member of Company E, One Hundred and Twenty-seventh Illinois Infantry; Edwin, who died in Rockford a few years after the close of hostilities, his health having been broken down by his army service; Mrs. Mary Ann Wyckoff, who is living in Seneca county, New York; Mrs. Martha S. Martin, who became the wife of Sidney Martin, of Rockford, and died about fifteen years ago; Mrs. Sophia S. Warman, who died in Rockford about forty-five years ago; and Mrs. Lois Golden, who died in 1859.

Isaac Swarthout, whose name introduces this review, remained in the place of his nativity until eighteen years of age, acquiring his education in the public schools and in a business college. He

then accompanied his parents on their removal to Rockford, Illinois, in 1850, and after two months spent in the city the father purchased a farm in Cherry Valley township. Mr. Swarthout of this review assisted in the cultivation of the home place for two years and then removed to Chicago, where he was engaged in the pump and lightning rod business, his territory extending between Chicago and Centralia, Illinois. He followed that pursuit for seven years, at the end of which time he took up his abode in the city of Rockford and continued in the sale of pumps and lightning rods with territory between Rockford and Galena, Illinois, for two years. Through the succeeding two years he was engaged in farming at St. Charles, Illinois, but put aside business considerations in order to respond to his country's call in August, 1862.

The history of the Swarthout family is a remarkable one concerning its military record, the brothers all espousing the Union cause and doing active service on the battle-fields of the south. Isaac Swarthout joined the boys in blue of Company E, One Hundred and Twenty-seventh Illinois Infantry, with which he served for three years, mostly in the Army of the Tennessee. He was under General Grant until after the surrender of Vicksburg and later was under command of General Sherman in the Army of the Cumberland, serving in the campaigns of Nashville, Chattanooga and Atlanta. His regiment was assigned to the Fifteenth Army Corps, General John A. Logan commanding, and went with Sherman on the celebrated march to the sea and through the Carolina campaign, marching from Savannah, Georgia, to Richmond, Virginia, and thence to Washington, D. C., where they participated in the grand review, the most celebrated military pageant ever seen on the western hemisphere. At Washington transportation was furnished to the regiment to Chicago but the muster out occurred in the capital city. Of the original ten hundred and ten men who formed the One Hundred and Twenty-seventh Illinois at the beginning of its service in 1862 but ninety-five were mustered out at Washington, D. C., the others having been killed in battle, died from disease or discharged because of disability prior to that time. Mr. Swarthout participated in seventeen of the most important engagements of the war beside many skirmishes. A week prior to the surrender of Vicksburg he became ill with typhoid fever and after the surrender of the city he was taken to the hospital at Memphis, being there granted a furlough. He returned to his home in St. Charles, Illinois, and by the extension of his furlough for thirty days he remained at home for about three months. He then rejoined his regiment at Larkinsville, Alabama, and



ISAAC SWARTHOUT AND FAMILY.

continued at the front until hostilities had ceased and the flag of the Union was planted in the capital of the Southern Confederacy.

Following his return home Mr. Swarthout secured employment in a foundry in St. Charles, Illinois, where he remained for three years and in 1868 he removed to a farm in Harlem township, on which he spent five years. In September, 1872, he located in the village of Harlem, where he embarked in general merchandizing and was also appointed to the position of postmaster. He conducted his store until December 6, 1904, when he sold out the business and resigned the position of postmaster because of failing health. He had been very successful as a merchant and had carefully conducted his efforts along honorable and enterprising business lines, so that a liberal patronage was accorded him and he gained thereby a gratifying competence.

On the 27th of August, 1862, a few days after his enlistment, Mr. Swarthout was married to Miss Louise Austin, of Rockford, Illinois, a daughter of Edward and Harriet Austin. Her parents were born in England and the father died in Beloit, Wisconsin, thirty-five years ago. The mother, whose maiden name was Harriet Martin, died in the village of Harlem eight years ago at the very advanced age of ninety-two years. They had three daughters: Mrs. Swarthout; Mrs. Sabina Bishop, of Beloit, Wisconsin; and Mrs. Catherine Fabrick, of Harlem. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Swarthout have been born the following named. Edward R., born June 18, 1867, in St. Charles, Illinois, is now living in Hampden, North Dakota, where he is engaged in banking and in the real-estate business. He married Miss Caroline Coad, of Park River, North Dakota, and has two children, Bernadine and Emma A. May L., born September 26, 1869, is the wife of W. L. Whipple, then of Rockford but now living at Mount Moriah, Illinois, where he is pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church. They have three children: Louis, Leonard A. and Ruth. Harriet A., born March 29, 1871, is the wife of Fred A. Hart, of Harlem township, and they have two children, Harold L. and Charlotte.

Mr. Swarthout is a member of Nevius post, No. 1, G. A. R., of Rockford, and thus maintains pleasant relations with his old army comrades. In politics he has always been a republican and his official service covers thirty-two years as postmaster at Harlem, eight years as justice of the peace, twenty-five years as township clerk, and a number of years as a member of the school board. His duties have been performed with marked promptness and fidelity and no trust reposed in him has ever been betrayed in the slightest degree. He is now living in well earned ease at his pleasant home in Harlem,

having for many years been connected with either agricultural or commercial interests whereby he has won a creditable and gratifying measure of success. In all matters relating to the general good he is true and loyal, manifesting the same patriotic spirit that he displayed when he wore the blue uniform of the nation upon the battlefields of the south.

HUGH GREENLEE.

Hugh Greenlee, a retired farmer now residing at No. 637 North Winnebago street, Rockford, was born in Argyleshire, Scotland, in March, 1831, and is a son of Robert and Mary (Mitchell) Greenlee. He has resided in this county for thirty-nine years. In 1859 he came with his parents to Illinois, the family home being established in Caledonia township, Boone county. The father purchased a farm there and continued to make his home upon that place until his death, which occurred in 1868, when he was sixty-nine years of age. His wife long survived him and passed away in 1885, at the age of eighty years. This worthy couple had a large family, of whom three sons and four daughters are yet living.

Hugh Greenlee spent the greater part of his boyhood and youth in the land of his nativity and was educated in the common schools there. After coming with his parents to Illinois at the age of nineteen years, he resided upon the home farm in Boone county until 1867, when he came to Winnebago county, having purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land in Winnebago township. Since that time he has splendidly improved the property, enclosing it with a fine hedge fence, placing his fields under a high state of cultivation, keeping his buildings in good repair and adding all modern equipments and accessories. Year after year he carried on general farming with excellent success, and as time passed he accumulated a very gratifying competence. He still owns this farm of one hundred and twenty acres and it returns to him a good rental, but in 1904 he put aside the active work of the farm and took up his abode in Rockford, where he is now living retired.

Hugh Greenlee was married in Winnebago county to Miss Jane Smith, a daughter of James Smith, who resided in Winnebago township. Her father came here about 1855 but died a year later, his wife surviving him for several years. Mrs. Greenlee was born in Argyleshire, Scotland, about sixty years ago, and by her marriage she became the mother of two sons and a daughter: James S., who is employed at Shirley's wholesale grocery house in Rockford; Nellie, at home; and Albert, who is in the employ of Frank Pitney, of Rockford.

In his political views Mr. Greenlee is a democrat and has served as school director and in other local positions. He is a member of the First Presbyterian church, of Rockford, and is now enjoying life, being able to secure many of its comforts and some of its luxuries. For years he worked earnestly and persistently, gaining the sure reward of consecutive endeavor when guided by sound judgment.

WILLIAM S. CALDWELL, M. D.

Although Dr. William S. Caldwell never resided in Rockford he had an extensive acquaintance among the best people of the city, as he lived in the neighboring town of Freeport from 1879 until his death and was one of the prominent, influential and well known citizens of that place, having an extensive practice, which was accorded him by many residents of Freeport and Stephenson county and also extended to Winnebago county. A native of Charlottesville, North Carolina, he was born August 28, 1832. His father, Dr. William Caldwell, was also a successful practicing physician. He lived in the south for many years, belonging to a prominent old family of that section of the country and was an own cousin of John C. Calhoun. After practicing for a long period in North Carolina, he removed to Vicksburg, Kalamazoo county, Michigan, where he continued in practice up to the time of his death, his skill and efficiency being widely acknowledged in the liberal patronage which was accorded him.

Dr. William S. Caldwell was a student in the public schools of his native state and after his father removed to Kalamazoo county, Michigan, he entered upon preparation for the profession in the office and under the direction of his father. He also attended private schools in the town of Kalamazoo until he had completed his course in medicine and received the certificate which permitted him to practice. In 1856 he left Kalamazoo county, removing to the town of Elizabeth in Jo Daviess county, Illinois, where he opened an office and entered upon the active work of his profession. It was during his residence there that Dr. Caldwell was united in marriage to Miss Caroline B. Hutchins.

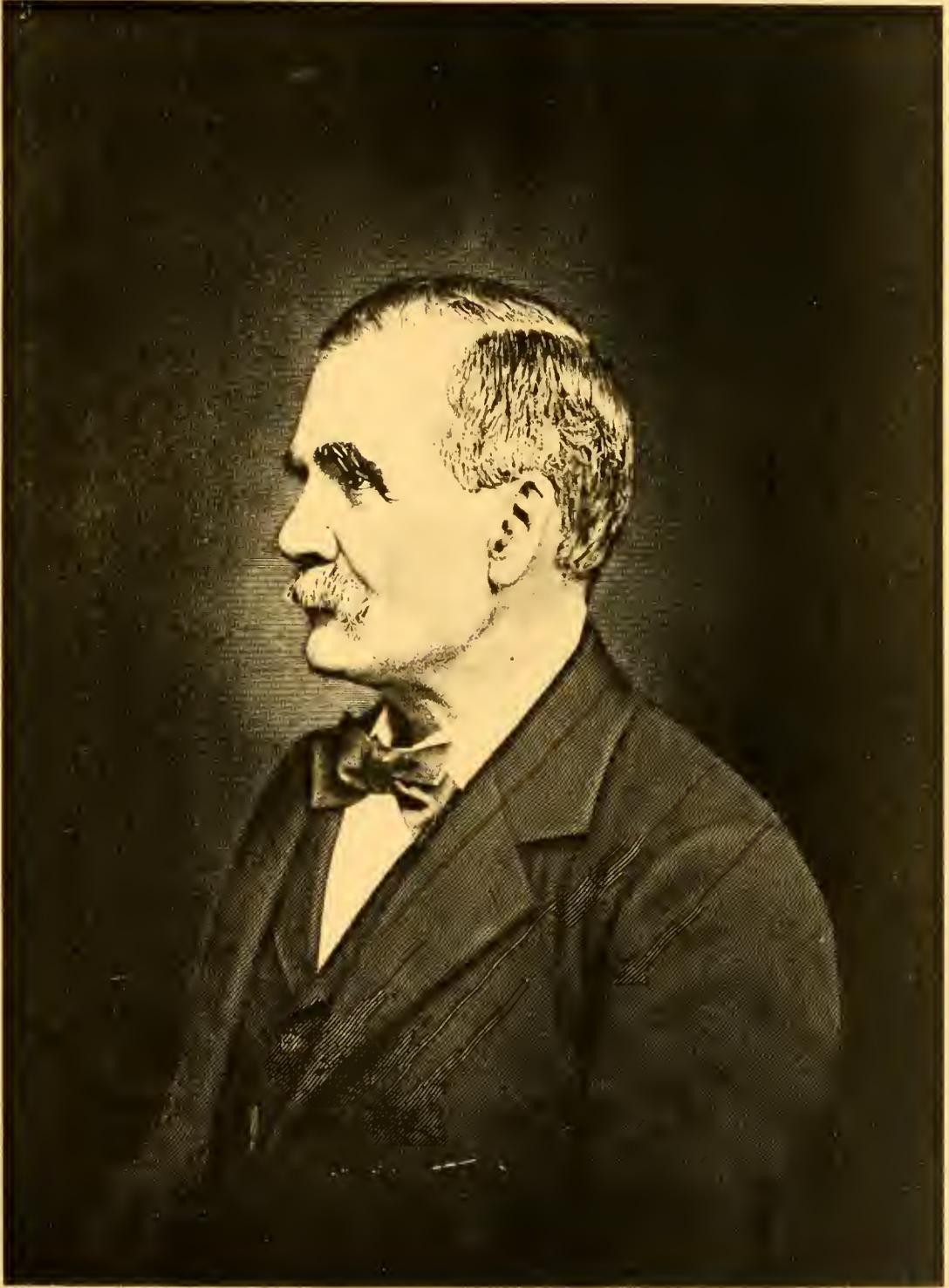
Dr. Caldwell continued to practice in Elizabeth for fourteen years, after which he removed to Warren, Illinois, where he practiced for six years with excellent success. On the expiration of that period, in 1877, he went abroad, remaining in Europe for two years, and upon his return to his native land, in 1879, he settled at Freeport, Illinois, where he engaged in practice throughout his remaining days, being accorded a very

liberal patronage. He was careful in the diagnosis of a case and seldom at fault in matters of judgment concerning the outcome of disease or of complications that might arise. His skill was widely acknowledged and he continually promoted his efficiency through study and investigation, having a deep scientific as well as humanitarian interest in his profession. In addition to his practice he was recognized as a representative and valuable business man of Freeport and was connected with many important enterprises there. In connection with D. C. Stover he organized the State Bank of Freeport, which is the largest institution of that character in the city and remained connected therewith up to the time of his death. He also assisted in the organization of a bank in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and he dealt quite extensively in real estate there. He possessed keen business sagacity and unfaltering enterprise and carried forward to successful completion whatever he undertook. In politics he was a staunch republican, thoroughly in sympathy with the principles and policy of the party, yet he never sought or cared for office for himself. He belonged to the Masonic lodge and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Freeport and had many friends in these fraternities. He was also widely known in Rockford, where he gained the favorable regard of many with whom he came in contact. His business activity, his professional efficiency and his public spirit made him a valued citizen of the community in which he long made his home and, his well directed efforts brought him a financial return that classed him with the wealthy residents of Freeport. Mrs. Caldwell is now a resident of Rockford.

CHARLES W. SANDERS.

Charles W. Sanders, living retired in Rockford, was born at New Haven, Connecticut, October 1, 1835, his parents being Carmie and Susan (Brooks) Sanders, the former a native of Connecticut and the latter of England. Mrs. Sanders came with her parents to America in 1835, the family settling in Otsego, New York. In 1845 Carmie Sanders brought his family to this state, taking up his abode in McHenry county, where he remained for some time. Three sons of the family were soldiers in the Civil war and all are yet living: William Henry, being a resident of Chicago; Ebenezer A., of Aurora, Illinois; and Levi L., of Rockford.

Charles W. Sanders, whose name introduces this review, was a youth of ten summers when he came with the family to Illinois. His education was acquired in the public schools and he lived at Franklinville for some time and also spent



Wm. T. Caldwell, U.S.

some time at Belvidere, Illinois, being employed in various ways in those two places. In 1857 he took up his abode permanently in Winnebago county but had been here several times before. Here he engaged in teaming for a number of years and for twenty-one years he was in the shops of the John P. Manny Company. He then went upon the road as a traveling salesman for that house and later retired from active business with a comfortable competence secured through his industry, economy and well directed efforts. He owns the home where he resides at No. 1426 Charles street and also the house adjoining and here he has lived since 1863. When he took up his abode here his house was all surrounded by farm land but the growth of the city has made it in one of the populous residence districts.

In 1857 Mr. Sanders was united in marriage to Miss Melisse D. Scott, a native of Schenectady county, New York, born in 1829, and a daughter of Jesse D. Scott, a cousin of General Winfield Scott, of the Empire state. Her mother bore the maiden name of Hannah Tollman and was also born in New York. She died when forty-eight years of age, while Mr. Scott reached the advanced age of ninety-three years. They were the parents of thirteen children, who lived to manhood or womanhood, and in the family were five sons who became loyal defenders of the Union in the Civil war, namely: John S., now deceased; Cornelius, a resident of Manchester, Iowa; Aristides and Allen, both deceased; and Demosthenes, who resides in Harrison county, Ohio.

Mr. and Mrs. Sanders have one child, Sue E., who for seven years has been deputy in the office of the county clerk of Winnebago county. In his political views Mr. Sanders is independent, but is the champion of progressive measures and advocates all movements for the general good. He is a self-made man, who without any family or pecuniary advantages at the outset of his career has worked his way steadily upward to success. He has been so honorable in conduct, so fair and reasonable in his views that his opinions carry weight among his neighbors and friends, thus making him a man of influence in the community.

DAVID BEATSON.

David Beatson, living on section 14, Burrirt township, where he is successfully engaged in the cultivation of a farm of two hundred and eight acres, was born on the 12th of April, 1848, in the town of Florida, Montgomery county, New York. His father, William Beatson, was a native of Scotland, born in December, 1811, and in early youth he crossed the Atlantic, becoming a resident of New York state. In 1849 he removed from

New York to Illinois, arriving in Burrirt township in the fall, accompanied by his family, at which time he settled on section 23, now known as the McSweaney farm. There he lived until the spring of 1873, when the present home was purchased. He devoted his entire life to agricultural pursuits and passed away on the 7th of June, 1883, in Rockford. His wife, who was born in March, 1814, died in Rockford on the 7th of June, 1896. In addition to our subject their children were as follows: George, born in Scotland, November 27, 1836, died in Rockford, September 20, 1898, leaving a widow and eight children. John, born in Scotland in 1839, is now living in Rockford, but his wife died in April, 1905, leaving four daughters. Jeannette, born in Scotland, April 7, 1841, is the widow of E. H. Wemple and is living in Rockford with her three children. Ellen, born in New York in 1846, died on the old home farm in this county in 1865. Agnes, born in New York in 1846, is the wife of Louis M. Hickox, of Rockford, and they have four sons. David is the next of the family. Caroline, who was born in Burrirt township in 1850, is the wife of J. N. Lillie, a resident of Rockford, and they have six children. Julia, born in 1852, is living in Rockford.

David Beatson, whose name introduces this record, was little more than a year old when brought by his parents to Winnebago county and upon the home farm in Burrirt township he was reared. He continued with his parents until twenty years of age, when he went to the west and was employed on the construction of the Union Pacific Railroad Company in Wyoming and Utah. He remained there until November, 1868, when he went to Colorado, where he resided until September, 1869. He then returned to Illinois, where he continued until the early winter of 1872, at which time he made his way to Kansas and took up a homestead claim from the government. After proving up this property he again took up his abode in Burrirt township, living with his parents until the spring of 1873. He then went to California, where he spent a little more than a year and returning to Winnebago county in 1874 he has since continuously devoted his attention to agricultural pursuits here, having now a valuable farm of two hundred and eight acres of very rich and productive land, which he has placed under a high state of cultivation and which returns to him golden harvests each year.

On the 10th of January, 1877, Mr. Beatson was united in marriage to Miss Emma Comstock, a daughter of Levi and Matilda Comstock, of Burrirt. Her father was born May 3, 1812, and died in Rockford, June 24, 1884, while his wife, whose birth occurred in Berkshire county, Massachusetts, August 15, 1810, died in 1898 at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Beatson. The latter

was born in Saratoga county, New York, August 17, 1850, and was brought by her parents to this county in 1859, since which time she has lived in Burritt township. Mr. and Mrs. Beatson have become the parents of four children: Clyde E., born November 28, 1878; Ethel M., who was born October 29, 1879, and was married on the 9th of March, 1904, to Frank Kasch, a resident farmer of Durand township; Earl H., born April 1, 1884; and Irene, born February 17, 1889.

In his political affiliation Mr. Beatson is a republican, interested in the success of his party, and he gives inflexible support to its principles. He has served as a school director for the past nine years and the cause of education finds in him a friend, whose labors have been effective in promoting the welfare of the schools.

WILLIAM BROWN.

William Brown, well known in Pecatonica and other sections of Winnebago county, was born in Northampton county, England, May 22, 1831. His father, Richard Brown, worked for an English company for about sixty years and aided in building the Prince Albert canal. He cut big limbs from the trees in the Wittleboro forest about fifty miles from London and they were used in the construction of the canal. The forest was about six miles square and there were about three thousand deer running wild there. These they caught in nets, and many of them were put in Queen's park, in London. In his old age Mr. Brown was a pensioner of the English government, having practically spent his entire life at work on the canal in one position and another. Both he and his wife lived to be more than eighty years of age.

Their son, William Brown, had little opportunity to attend school and is practically a self-educated as well as a self-made man. In his early youth he pickled fruit, worked in a brickyard and was also employed on the Prince Albert canal, tending locks in the city of London, for the canal extended twelve miles through the city and on to the basin at the opening. His duty was to close and open the gates when the boats came in from the east at flood-tide. Mr. Brown also worked at farming in England, but at length becoming convinced that he would have better business opportunities in the new world, he bade adieu to friends and native land and completed his arrangements to seek a home in America.

Taking passage on a sailing vessel at Liverpool bound for New York city Mr. Brown was six or seven weeks in crossing the Atlantic. He then went up the Hudson river by boat to Albany and from there made his way into the country

where he secured work as a farm hand. One of his early experiences, however, was being poisoned by ivy. Later he went to Utica, New York, by stage and on into the pine woods of Madison county, that state. He worked as a farm hand for thirteen dollars per month through the summer season and in the following winter worked for his board. In the spring he was paid sixteen dollars per month in a hop-yard but yet not content with his location, because he believed he could do better elsewhere, he came in the fall of that year to Winnebago county, going first to Rockford and later to Pecatonica, where he secured employment in a butcher shop. Soon afterward he began conducting a meat market of his own and for many years he has been one of the heaviest buyers and shippers of stock at this point—a fact which indicates a consecutive progress and success in his business career. He has bought and sold many hundred acres of land and at the present time he owns sixty-five acres within the city limits of Pecatonica and is also owner of the stockyards at this place.

Mr. Brown was united in marriage here to Miss Matilda Peterson, a native of Sweden. Her father, Charles Magnus Peterson, was born in Sweden, May 13, 1817, and was married in that country. With his wife, Johanna, he came to America in 1854, and they were therefore among the early settlers of the county. The father bought the land that he now owns at Twelve Mile Corner on the state road. Some of the farm has since been laid out in town lots and it was thought that a village would be built thereon, but this hope was not realized. The mother died October 8, 1891. In the family were six children, who came with their parents to America. Mrs. Matilda Brown, who was born May 28, 1832, died in 1900; Orphia, born May 30, 1877, is the widow of Peter Lindolf, and resides in Minnesota. Emily is the wife of S. A. Johnson, of Rockford. Anna S. is the wife of L. Collins. Augusta Albertina, born November 2, 1847, is now caring for her father. She learned the millinery trade and conducted a store in Rockford for twenty-five years and employed from five to eight girls, during which time she bought most of her goods from D. B. Fisk, of Chicago, and she is now keeping house for her father. John, born August 3, 1850, died in Rockford August 24, 1854. Mr. and Mrs. Brown have become the parents of nine sons and three daughters. Six of the sons are yet living and are actively engaged in business. Charles R., a resident of Clark, Nebraska, is married and has one daughter, Florence. John is the owner of an extensive ranch in Colorado, on which he has about eight hundred head of cattle, mules and horses. He is also married. Fred, living in Clark, Nebraska, married Maud McClain and they have two children, William W.

and Edwin. He is now buying and feeding stock and is also conducting a store at Clark. Alfred I., extensively engaged in buying and selling horses and also in merchandising in Clark, Nebraska, married Sophia Morgan, and has one daughter, Mildred. Joseph, engaged in buying, feeding and shipping cattle at Seward, Nebraska, shipped two hundred and fifty head from that place to New York city and thence by the Ohio steamship of the Wilson line. Mr. Wilson also shipped two hundred and twenty-five head at the same time and thus they sent out twenty-eight carloads from Seward on that occasion. William Henry, living at Seward, Nebraska, is conducting a meat market and is feeding cattle and horses. He was interested with his brother, Joseph, in the shipment of cattle to Deadford docks, at London, England. Mr. Brown of this review went with that shipment of cattle from Seward to New York city, but there took passage on a steamer of the White Star line, from which he landed in Liverpool and thence made his way by train to London. He afterward went to Yadley, where he spent several days with his brothers and friends, returning thence to Deadford docks, where he remained until the cattle shipped by his sons had been sold. He left Seward, May 27, 1903, and returned home on the 2d of July. The daughters of the Brown family are all deceased and the mother has likewise passed away, her birth occurring March 28, 1832, and her death on the 12th of May, 1900. The daughter Hannah, born September 25, 1864, died May 10, 1886. One son, George W., born March 8, 1866, died on the 29th of April, of that year. George O., born May 16, 1867, died on the 20th of September following. Cora M. and Nora M., twins, were born December 15, 1872, and the former died on the 23d and the latter on the 31st of the same month.

Mr. Brown has never sought or desired public office. His first presidential vote was cast for Abraham Lincoln and he has always supported the candidates whom he has believed best qualified for office.

DAVID A. STURTEVANT.

David A. Sturtevant, who has risen from a humble clerkship to rank with the successful and leading merchants of Winnebago county, conducting a well equipped store in Roscoe, was born in Oneida county, New York, in 1825. His father, Cephas Sturtevant, was a native of Massachusetts and never came to the west but retained his residence in New York up to the time of his death. He was a mason, following that trade as

a means of livelihood throughout his active business career and passing away in Madison county, New York, at the advanced age of eighty years. He married Elizabeth Lawrence, also a native of Massachusetts and they became the parents of ten children who reached mature years, David A. Sturtevant being the ninth in order of birth and the only son now living. He has one surviving sister, Susan Pearl, a resident of Rockford.

David A. Sturtevant spent the days of his boyhood and youth in New York, acquiring his education in the public schools and in the fall of 1846 he came west to Illinois induced to this step by the fact that he had a sister living in Roscoe. He had previously learned the shoemaker's trade in the east and he resumed work in that line on arriving in Roscoe. For ten years he followed his chosen vocation and was then obliged to relinquish work on the bench because of ill health. He rented land in Roscoe township and for five or six years carried on general agricultural pursuits, after which he spent one year in California, working in the mines. It was in 1857 that he crossed the plains to the Pacific coast, attracted by the discoveries of gold in that far western country. Upon his return to Roscoe in 1859 he again resumed shoemaking, to which he devoted his energies until after the outbreak of the civil war.

Mr. Sturtevant had been an interested witness of events in the south, had noted the growing feeling of unrest and had resolved that if an attempt was made at secession he would strike a blow in defense of the Union. Accordingly he became a member of Company H, Second Regiment of Illinois Light Artillery. His old friend, Dr. Ransom, of Roscoe township, who was a surgeon in the army, secured his detail for duty at the hospital but ill health eventually forced Mr. Sturtevant to retire from the army and he returned to Roscoe, where the following year he secured a clerkship in the store of A. D. Lawrence, his brother-in-law, who was proprietor of a dry-goods establishment. He remained as a salesman there for three years, at the end of which time Mr. Lawrence removed to Iowa and Mr. Sturtevant purchased the store, which he has since conducted. He has one of the oldest concerns of the village both as regards years and in the length of his continuous connection with mercantile interests. He has a well appointed establishment, having closely studied the needs and wishes of the public and by reason of his fair dealing, his earnest desire to please his patrons and his enterprising methods, he has won a creditable measure of success.

Mr. Sturtevant has been married twice. He first wedded Susan M. Wood and they had two children, Frank and Hattie. The former married

Bertha Eakin, of Illinois, and has three children, Bert, Louisa and Lenore. Hattie is the wife of George Wiggins. In 1863 Mr. Sturtevant was again married, his second union being with Harriet E. Lawrence, a native of New York, a daughter of Judge L. W. Lawrence, of Belvidere, Illinois, who went to that town in an early day. They have three children: Maude, Blanche, the wife of Giles Baldwin; and Marie, who married Fred Blackington and has three children, Ralph, Letta and Ferne.

Mr. Sturtevant and his family are members of the Methodist church and are people of the highest respectability, their lives being permeated by principles which work for good citizenship and for upright character. In his political views Mr. Sturtevant has been a stalwart republican since the organization of the party and for three years served as tax collector of Roscoe township. In 1881 he was appointed postmaster of Roscoe by President Garfield and was retired by President Cleveland in 1885, but when the republicans again came in power he was appointed by President Harrison and continued in office altogether for seven years. He has been notary public for twenty years. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity of Roscoe and is one of the most respected, influential and prominent citizens of the village. There is indeed much that is commendable in his life record and he is justly entitled to the confidence and respect so uniformly tendered him.

HON. RUFUS C. BAILEY.

Hon. Rufus C. Bailey, who for thirty-two years has served with honor and distinction as the county judge of Winnebago county, a public service unparalleled in the history of Illinois, was born in Auburn, Maine, July 28, 1833. His parents were Moses and Anne (Chandler) Bailey. The father was born in Minot, Maine, and spent his entire life in that state, passing away when the Judge was about seven years of age, while his wife, who was a native of Yarmouth, Maine, also lived in the Pine Tree state until her death, which occurred about 1853.

Judge Bailey attended successively the common schools of his native city and Auburn and Waterville (Maine) Academies, wherein he prepared for college. He then matriculated in Amherst College and completed the scientific course by graduation with the class of 1855. Immediately afterward he sought a home in the great and growing west, with firm faith in its future and a desire to utilize its business conditions so that his own career might be crowned with success. Taking up his abode in Rockford, he was then engaged in railroad engineer-

ing, in which he continued until 1857, being employed on the Kenosha & Rockford Railroad. Becoming imbued with the desire to attain something better, he entered upon the study of law in 1858 in the office of Lathrop & Brown and after thorough and systematic preliminary reading was admitted to the bar on the 18th of August, 1860. He immediately entered upon the practice of his profession as a member of the law firm of Lathrop & Bailey, which had a continuous and successful existence of twelve years. In the meantime he was elected as a clerk and acted in that capacity for five years when associated with Mr. Lathrop in the practice of his profession. He was also city attorney for the year 1863 and in 1873 he received the republican nomination for the position of county judge and by re-election has been continued in the office for thirty-two consecutive years, an official record unparalleled in length of service in the state. It would be tautological to enter into any series of statements showing him to be a man of marked capability or of a special fitness for office, for these have been shadowed forth between the lines of this review. His decisions are regarded as models of judicial soundness and he presides over his court with a dignity and impartiality that awakens respect for the law and for the office to which one must look for the protection of human rights, privileges and liberties.

On the 5th of October, 1885, Judge Bailey was married to Mrs. Emma L. Faulkner, nee Trufant, who died April 11, 1905. Prominent in Masonry, he belongs to Rockford lodge, A. F. & A. M., Winnebago chapter, R. A. M., Crusader commandery, No. 17, K.T., the consistory, in which he attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite and the Mystic Shrine. He served for about six years as eminent commander of the commandery. He also belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and is identified with the Christian Union. While on the bench he is dignified and reserved. Those who know him in his home life find him a most social and congenial companion and the circle of his friends is almost co-extensive with the circle of his acquaintance.

JOHN BARRETT.

John Barrett was well known in Rockford for nearly a quarter of a century and had a wide acquaintance among the early settlers of the city, taking up his abode here in 1868. He was a native of County Limerick, Ireland, born November 24, 1838, and his parents were Edward and Margaret (Noonan) Barrett, who were likewise



JUDGE R. C. BAILEY.

natives of County Limerick, where they spent their entire lives. The father was a tailor by trade and always followed that pursuit in order to provide for his family.

John Barrett was educated in the Catholic schools of his native country and acquired a good education there. When a young man he began to learn the shoemaker's trade and throughout his entire life that continued to be his source of livelihood. As a companion and helpmate for life's journey he chose Miss Margaret Hayes, also a native of Ireland, born December 29, 1841, and a daughter of Hall and Mary (Downey) Hayes, also natives of the Emerald isle. His father always followed farming and died in the land of his nativity, after which the mother emigrated to America and spent the remaining days in the home of her son, Thomas Hayes, in Traer, Tama county, Iowa. After his marriage Mr. Barrett continued to work at the shoemaker's trade on the Emerald isle until 1868, when with his family, then numbering wife and five children, he crossed the Atlantic to the United States. Landing in New York city, he came direct to Rockford and invested in town property here, after which he owned a shoe shop on East State street at the southeast corner of Madison street. There he worked at his trade for nearly a quarter of a century or until his death, which occurred June 16, 1892.

Mr. and Mrs. Barrett became the parents of ten children, of whom six were born in Ireland: Catherine, who died July 7, 1900, was the wife of Joseph L. Schmauss, who is now secretary and treasurer of the Schmauss Company, the largest wholesale and retail dealers in meat in Rockford. Mary is the wife of George Schlenk and resides in this city. Edwin died in Ireland at the age of six months. Margaret and Hannah B. are at home with their mother. Ann died in Rockford June 24, 1879. John J., who married Katherine F. Hickey, resides in Rockford and is captain of hose company No. 2 of the city fire department. William died September 17, 1891. Edwin, who conducts a large fire and life insurance business with offices at No. 124 South Main street, also resides with his mother. Elizabeth, who died October 6, 1904, was the wife of Walter McGuire, a member of the McGuire Hardware Company of Rockford.

Mr. Barrett always took a very active part in politics and was a staunch democrat. He held membership in St. James' Catholic church, of which his wife and family are also communicants. He was a hard-working man, honest and upright and was quite successful. In the early days of his residence here he purchased the entire block upon which his widow now resides, and as the city has grown and developed this became very valuable property and much of it has since been

sold as city lots. They still own and retain possession of the old Barrett home, however, at No. 1303 Benton street, where Mrs. Barrett and three of her children still reside, and the family is well known here. Mrs. Barrett is now rearing her grandson, Edwin Barrett, whose father, William Barrett, is now deceased. Her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Katherine Barrett, also owns a nice home on a part of the Barrett addition to this city.

HENRY W. STEVENS.

Henry W. Stevens, interested in general agricultural pursuits in Owen township, is one of the worthy citizens that England has furnished to Winnebago county. His birth occurred in London, October 9, 1852, his parents being Henry and Mary Ann Stevens, who had but two children, the daughter, Rosa, coming to this country with her brother, Henry. The parents, however, both died in the old country.

Henry W. Stevens spent the first twelve years of his life in his native land and was a student in the public schools there. He landed at New York city, whence he afterward made his way to Belvidere, Illinois, and subsequently he came to Winnebago county, living in Rockton township until about thirteen years ago. He first earned his living by working as a farm hand by the month and persistently and energetically he continued his labor until his work had brought him a goodly sum of money. He then purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Rockton township, partially improved, and for ten years gave his attention to its further cultivation and development. He followed both farming and stock-raising, and on the expiration of a decade he bought eighty acres of land in Owen township, whereon he has since lived, having now an excellent farm here. He has built a new and modern residence and has made all that he possesses through his industry, for he started out in life for himself a poor boy. He has bought and fed hogs and cattle and in his various business pursuits has gained a creditable and gratifying measure of success.

Mr. Stevens was married December 22, 1881, to Miss Diantha, daughter of Daniel and Margaret (Calkins) Van Wicklin. Her father was born September 18, 1827, on Long Island, New York, and came to Illinois in the early '40s. He worked as a farm hand near Crystal Lake until about 1857, when he removed to Minnesota, where he lived for two years. He then returned to McHenry county, Illinois, settling near Woodstock, and throughout his entire life he followed agricultural pursuits, molding his life according to the golden rule and doing unto others as he

would have them do unto him. He passed away in April, 1867, and the mother of Mrs. Stevens departed this life December 4, 1860. The remains of both now rest in the family burial ground near Crystal Lake. Mrs. Van Wicklin was born December 4, 1835, and was married in 1854. She had two children: Cerroland, who was born February 25, 1855, and is a carpenter living in Rockford; and Mrs. Stevens, born May 26, 1859. After losing his first wife Mr. Van Wicklin married Miss Sarah Sawyer and they had two children: Cora, now deceased; and Mary, who is living in Rockton.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Stevens was celebrated December 22, 1881, and has been blessed with two daughters: Mabel G., born December 22, 1885; and Ida E., born July 8, 1888. Both have attended the public schools, and the latter is now attending business college. Mabel G. is the wife of Raymond S. Bradt, of Shullsburg, Wisconsin. Mr. Stevens has never sought or desired public office as a reward for party fealty, but is recognized as a staunch and unfaltering advocate of republican principles. He belongs to Owen camp, M. W. A., and both he and his wife are faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

EDWIN R. HALLEY.

Edwin R. Halley, following the occupation of farming in Owen township, was born at Rockton, Winnebago county, February 20, 1856, his parents being William and Christian (Mackie) Halley. The father was born in Fifeshire, Scotland, about twenty miles from Edinburgh, on the 4th of June, 1818, and acquired a common school education. He became a resident of this county in 1838, when about twenty years of age, and lived for a year and a half near Rockton. He then settled in the village in February, 1840. He was a tailor by trade and followed that pursuit, also handling ready-made clothing, and he continued in that business for twenty years, meeting with splendid success by reason of the liberal patronage which was accorded him. He then purchased five hundred acres of raw prairie land in Owen township which he improved, making a splendid property. He planted many trees upon his place and also raised trees from the seed. His farming operations were also attended with success and, making additional purchases, he had at one time more than one thousand acres of land. He was a worthy pioneer settler of this locality, aiding greatly in the reclamation of the wild land for the purposes of civilization, and his efforts contributed in substantial measure to the progress and improvement of the locality. His fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, fre-

quently called him to office. He was the first town clerk in Rockton township, also served as supervisor and assessor and was likewise justice of the peace. He was one of the first supporters of the whig party in the country and cast his ballot for William Henry Harrison. On the organization of the new republican party he became one of its staunch advocates and voted for Abraham Lincoln. He was married, December 6, 1846, to Christian Mackie, who is now living at the age of ninety-two years. In their family were three children. William A., who was born in Rockton in 1851, married Miss Sarah Armstrong and had one child. His death occurred June 6, 1895. Annie M. became the wife of John Wishop and died in December, 1894, leaving one son.

Edwin R. Halley, the other member of the family, began his education in the public schools and for two years was a student in Professor Lownsbury's Business College at Rockford. He was reared to farm life, spending his boyhood days under the parental roof, his parents removing from Rockton to the farm in 1860. He has always been identified with general agricultural pursuits and stock-raising and he is now the owner of four hundred acres of fine land which is well improved and constitutes one of the best farms of this locality. He also has a half interest in three hundred and twenty acres in Rockton township.

Edwin R. Halley was married, August 24, 1887, to Miss Ida Cowan, a daughter of John and Maria (Judson) Cowan. Her father, who was born November 10, 1810, at Rowe, Massachusetts, died November 9, 1891, at the age of eighty-one years, while his wife, whose birth occurred in New Berlin, Chenango county, New York, February 27, 1818, died on November 7, 1894. When only two years old the father was taken by his parents to Watertown, New York, where he lived until he attained his majority, when he located in New Berlin. There he was married and worked at the carpenter's trade while later he established his home in Rochester, New York, where he again followed building pursuits. He next became a resident of Naples, New York, and in 1853 he removed to the middle west, settling at Winslow, Stephenson county, Illinois. He was one of the pioneers of that locality and entered from the government a tract of one hundred and sixty acres of wild land. He broke the raw prairie and began the work of improvement there by building a log cabin. In connection with his farming pursuits he also worked at the builder's trade and contracting until 1854, in which year he removed to Nora, Jo Daviess county, Illinois, where he built a home and settled in order that his children might en-



Yours Truly
William H. Alley



MRS WILLIAM HALLEY
AGED 92 YEARS

joy the advantages of the town schools. He purchased forty acres near the town which he used for pasturage, also raising some corn thereon. His last years were spent in honorable retirement from labor. Both he and his wife were devoted members of the Methodist Episcopal church and were worthy people, enjoying in full measure the confidence and good will of those with whom they were associated. In his political views Mr. Cowan was a staunch republican. It was on the 13th of January, 1833, that he wedded Maria Judson, at New Berlin, New York, and they became the parents of three sons and seven daughters. Five of the family are yet living. Cornelius, who was born January 20, 1834, married Lemyra Steere and they had seven children, of whom three are now living, Emery, Lucia and Louise. Philo J., born January 24, 1846, married Miss Elizabeth Welty and they have three living children. Helen E., born February 17, 1848, is the wife of Walter Stickney and has three sons and two daughters living. Louisa, born June 21, 1843, is the wife of T. W. Young and has four surviving daughters.

Mrs. Halley, the other member of the Cowan family, was reared in her parents' home, where she remained until her marriage. There has been one child by this union, Helen C., born July 1, 1889. Mr. and Mrs. Halley have always lived upon the farm, where they now have an attractive home, and in social circles in the community they occupy an enviable position.

Mr. Halley holds membership with Rockton lodge, No. 74, A. F. & A. M., which is one of the oldest Masonic organizations in the state. He likewise belongs to Rockton chapter, No. 190, R. A. M., and both he and his wife are members of Starlight chapter, No. 404, O. E. S., while Mrs. Halley is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. His political support is given to the republican party and he has been supervisor and assessor of Owen township. He now has a valuable farming property and in its control displays excellent business ability, executive force and keen discernment. He has led a busy and useful life and is justly accounted a representative farmer of Owen township.

EUGENE E. DAVIS.

A city which owes its upbuilding and derives its income from its manufacturing interests always attracts to it men of inventive genius, who are prominent in the world of mechanical construction—men whose labors are of the utmost value to the world at large by reason of the fact that they have and are producing many labor-saving devices, which also produce a finished product

at less cost and time than hitherto had been done. Eugene E. Davis brought to the manufacturing city of Rockford a skill and ability, which in the line of manufacturing and invention, made him one of the valued representatives of industrial life here.

A native of Herkimer county, New York, he was born March 30, 1855, and was a son of Benjamin C. and Catherine Davis. His mother died in Buffalo, New York. The father, also an inventor, was connected with manufacturing interests during the greater part of his life and manufactured many household articles, devoting his energies to the business until his retirement. He now makes his home with his niece in Oneida county, New York, and has reached the age of about eighty years.

After attending the common schools in his native county Mr. Davis began working for his father, who at that time was engaged in the manufacture of sash and blinds. He soon learned the use of tools and the principles upon which machinery was propelled and thus laid the foundation for his labors in later life. Desirous of seeking his fortune in the west, he left home at an early age and went to Michigan, where he was employed in different factories for a few years, when he came to Rockford. Mr. Gent was then the owner of the water power here and Mr. Davis entered his employ, but after a short time he secured a situation with the Emerson Manufacturing Company, now controlling the largest manufacturing plant in the city. Mr. Davis became the patent expert on binders for the company. During that time William W. Burson, who is mentioned elsewhere in this work, and who is president of the Burson Knitting Company of Rockford, was connected with the Emerson Manufacturing Company, and he, too, is an inventor of wide reputation and superior ability. When he formed the Burson Knitting Company Mr. Davis entered his employ and soon both Mr. Davis and Mr. Burson went to Chicago, where they worked as inventors for the Deering Harvester Company. After a short time they returned to Rockford and Mr. Davis was made superintendent of the machinery department of the Burson Knitting Company, in which important position he remained for many years.

While in Chicago Mr. Davis met and married Miss Elida Campbell, a native of Bath, New York, and a daughter of John M. and Elizabeth (Halleck) Campbell, the latter a member of the well known Halleck family and a descendant of Fitz Green and General Halleck. Mr. Campbell was a brother of the late Lieutenant-Governor Campbell of New York. Of Scotch descent, he was an early settler of Steuben county, New York, where he successfully carried on farming all his life, his death occurring in that county.

His widow afterward removed to the west, residing in Chicago for a number of years, and after her daughter's marriage she came to Rockford, making her home with Mr. and Mrs. Davis until called to her final rest. She died May 26, 1898, and her remains were interred in the cemetery here. Mr. and Mrs. Davis had no children of their own but adopted her nephew, Donald Patterson Campbell, who was born May 23, 1893, and is now a student in the Kent school.

Following his return to Rockford and the severance of his connection with the Burson Knitting Company, Mr. Davis went to Canton, Ohio. He had formed the acquaintance of James Baird, an inventor, working under Mr. Davis. About 1900 he accepted the position of superintendent of the Canton Roll Machine Company, of Canton, Ohio, and persuaded Mr. Davis to go to that city and take charge of the plant. Accordingly in April, 1901, Mr. Davis left the Burson Knitting Company and went to Canton, Ohio, where he entered the service of the above mentioned firm. Becoming ill, however, he died after about ten months spent there, passing away in Canton on the 10th of March, 1902. His remains were then brought back to Rockford for interment. He possessed superior ability along mechanical lines and his inventive genius was far beyond the average. Mr. Burson said of him that he was a natural born inventor, and no more skilled or active man was ever in his employ.

Mr. Davis was a staunch republican in his political views and was always interested in the questions and issues of the day relating to the welfare of state and nation. He read extensively and kept well informed on all matters of general moment. Although not a member he contributed generously to the support of the First Presbyterian church here, and took an interest in its work. Mrs. Davis now belongs to this church, and she owns a beautiful home at No. 1101 South Church street, where she and her family reside. The death of the husband and father was deeply felt not only by his immediate family, but also by his many friends here, and while to all he was a genial, courteous gentleman, it was in the inner circle of his own home that his best traits of character were most often seen.

SYLVESTER B. WILKINS.

Sylvester B. Wilkins, a retired merchant and manufacturer of Rockford, comes of English lineage, tracing his ancestry back to Bray Wilkins, the progenitor of the family in the new world, and the son of Lord J. Wilkins, of Wales. Bray Wilkins came to America in 1630 and representatives of the family lived in the New England states through many succeeding generations.

Cooley Wilkins, the grandfather of Sylvester B. Wilkins, was an early settler of Guilford, Vermont, and married Polly Crandall. Their son, Joshua L. Wilkins, was born in Chenango county, New York, in 1799, and became one of the prosperous men of that locality. He wedded Mary Stowell, who was also of English lineage, and the representatives of the name who crossed the Atlantic became pioneer residents of New England. The Wilkins family was represented by seven members in the Revolutionary war.

Sylvester B. Wilkins is also a native of the Empire state, his birth having occurred in Chenango county, New York, March 24, 1833. He was reared to farm life and began his education in the district schools, while later he enjoyed the benefit of instruction in the schools of Binghamton, Broome county, New York. He made his home upon his father's farm until he attained his nineteenth year, when he started out in life on his own account, accepting a clerkship in a grocery store at Binghamton, where he remained for some time. In 1857 he became interested in manufacturing spokes and belt work for wagons in Binghamton, and later was identified with industrial interests in Milton, Pennsylvania, where he remained for twelve years. In 1869 he came to Rockford, where he entered upon the manufacture of bolts for agricultural implements, building up an extensive business in this regard, his product being sold to manufacturers of agricultural implements throughout the western states. He furnished them upon order and continued active in the conduct of this important productive industry from 1869 until 1890, when he retired from the active management of the business. He did not confine his efforts entirely to this line, however, for other enterprises felt the stimulus of his co-operation and benefited by his wise counsel. He was for some time connected with the knitting industries of Rockford, and in 1892 he became interested in the Chicago Hosiery Company, of Kenosha, Wisconsin. Being one of the incorporators of the company, he continued his connection therewith for a number of years and is still one of the stockholders. The works which were for some time located in Rockford were afterwards removed to Kenosha.

In 1861 Mr. Wilkins was united in marriage to Miss Jane G. Goodlander, of Milton, Pennsylvania, and a daughter of Christopher and Mary (Osmond) Goodlander. They became the parents of a son and two daughters: George L., of Chicago, who is identified with the New York Life Insurance Company; Mary R., the wife of George N. Holt, of Paris, and a highly accomplished musician, who is now receiving instruction from some of the most noted teachers in Europe; and Ruth C., who is a teacher of domestic science.

Mr. Wilkins in his political views is a pronounced republican, taking great interest in the success of his party, yet never seeking office for himself. He has ever been a follower of temperance principles and is a strong advocate of prohibition measures. He belongs to the E. W. F. Ellis lodge, No. 166, A. F. & A. M., and to Winnebago chapter, No. 24, R. A. M., and he and his wife are members of the Court Street Methodist Episcopal church, to which he has long been a liberal contributor. He is public-spirited and thoroughly interested in whatever tends to promote the moral, intellectual and material welfare of Rockford. A man of distinct and forceful individuality, of broad mentality and matured judgment, he has left his impress upon the industrial world. For years he was an important factor in the development of business enterprises in Rockford and through this means he contributed in substantial measure to the general improvement. Now in the evening of life there has been vouchsafed to him a rest from further labor and the unqualified confidence and admiration of his fellowmen are also accorded him by reason of his success and the honorable methods he has ever pursued.

WILLIAM H. SCHOONMAKER.

William H. Schoonmaker, following farming on section 20, Winnebago township, where he has made his home for the past fifty-three years, this being the place of his birth, was born May 5, 1852, his parents being Henry and Mary (Lown) Schoonmaker, who came to Winnebago county, November 26, 1838, from West township, Albany county, New York. It was in that locality that the parents were reared and married, and at the time of their removal to the west they had but one child, Cornelia Ann, who was born November 26, 1837. On coming to Illinois they established their home in Rockford, and they resided in Winnebago county from 1838 until called to their final rest. Henry Schoonmaker worked at Rockford on the first dam built there. He secured a claim on the west side of the river where Burr Brothers' store now stands, but because of his health he was forced to leave the water side and located on the prairie. He remained for a time both at Westfield and Byron and then took up a claim of one hundred and sixty acres on section 20, Winnebago township, where he successfully carried on farming, extending the boundaries of his land until at the time of his death he owned three hundred and twenty acres. He had no funds when he arrived at Rockford, in fact, was utterly penniless and borrowed fifty cents from his sister-in-law, Margaret Lown, who had accompanied them to Illinois. Margaret Lown af-

terward became the wife of W. W. Smith, of Freeport, and died in 1903, at the advanced age of eighty years, while Mr. Smith passed away in 1904. Mr. Schoonmaker, although without capital, possessed strong determination and energy, and these qualities enabled him to overcome the difficulties and hardships of pioneer life and work his way steadily upward until he became a substantial farmer, having a valuable property which supplied him with all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. He died August 20, 1872, at the age of sixty-two years, four months and six days, while his wife passed away April 12, 1892, at the ripe old age of eighty years. Both died upon the old home farm, which is now owned and occupied by their son William. In his political relation Mr. Schoonmaker was a republican and all his sons have become advocates of the same party. He served as school director for many years and also filled other local offices. He was a reliable citizen, and both he and his wife were held in the highest esteem. In their family were eight children: The eldest daughter, Cornelia Ann, became the wife of Edward Hobson, and is now living in Winnebago township, but Mr. Hobson died about nine years ago; Emmeline, born August 10, 1840, is the wife of Adam Branagh, and resides at Chicago Heights; John, born April 2, 1842, now resides on Montague street, in Rockford; Margaret N., born September 14, 1849, became the wife of Henry Warner, and died in Winnebago, March 16, 1883; David, born September 18, 1847, resides at Stinneton, Oklahoma; William H. is the next of the family; Charles E., born March 27, 1857, is now a retired farmer living in Winnebago; and Mary Ellen, born March 9, 1863, married Robert McDonald, by whom she has nine children, and her home is at Ireton, Sioux county, Iowa.

William H. Schoonmaker was reared and has always resided upon his present farm, and the care and cultivation of the place has fully claimed his time and attention. He has a finely improved property of eighty acres, the fields being under a high state of cultivation, so that he annually harvests good crops. The house was built about forty-six years ago, but he has since rebuilt and added to it at different times. It is, however, one of the old landmarks of the county and has been a mute witness of the great changes that has occurred as Winnebago county has progressed from pioneer conditions to an advanced civilization.

In 1873 Mr. Schoonmaker was married to Miss Melinda B. Taugher, who was born in Peca-tonica, December 5, 1853, and is a daughter of James and Mary C. (Swift) Taugher, who came to Winnebago township when their daughter was but six months old, so that she was reared in this locality. Her father, now residing in the village

of Winnebago at the age of seventy-two years, was born in Ireland, in April, 1833. After coming to Illinois he worked on the railroad for many years and he is now the owner of some property in the village of Winnebago, beside a good farm in Wisconsin. He came to Winnebago county in 1853 with his parents, and in early life he learned blacksmithing, but followed railroading for many years, acting as section foreman at Winnebago for sixteen years. His wife died February 10, 1887, when more than sixty-one years of age. Mrs. Schoonmaker was one of eleven children, but only three are now living. Her elder sister, Hannah, born June 23, 1851, became the wife of Michael McMahon, who died May 5, 1904, while she now makes her home in Butler county, Iowa; the other sister, Maria, born October 18, 1858, is the wife of Frank Booth, and resides at Rockford. The other members of the family are all deceased.

Mr. and Mrs. Schoonmaker have become the parents of five daughters: Mary, born November 23, 1874, married Emery James and died August 31, 1896, at Winnebago, leaving one child, William E.; Jennie, born March 7, 1878, is the wife of Edward McDonald, a farmer of Winnebago township, and they have had three children, Morrill Andres and Lester Martin, living, and James, deceased; Laura E., born August 23, 1881, Winnie, born July 17, 1884, and Nellie, born April 27, 1890, are all at home.

Mr. Schoonmaker is a staunch republican, but has always refused to become a candidate for office. His wife is a member of St. Mary's Catholic church at Rockford. Throughout his entire life he has lived upon the farm where his birth occurred and which is endeared to him through the associations of his youth as well as those of later manhood. He has found in the operation of his land opportunity for the exercise of good business ability, and through his untiring industry has gained a desirable measure of success.

JOHN SEARL.

John Searl, now retired from active business life and residing just outside the city limits of Rockford, where he owns a tract of land of fifteen acres, upon which he has built a fine home, also has other realty possessions in Winnebago county, being the possessor of a fine farm of two hundred and thirty acres on section 9, Rockford township, which land he has rented for several years. He came to Winnebago county in 1850 from his native country of England. His birth occurred in Cornwall, in 1835, his parents being Walter and Ann (Philp) Searle, both of whom died in England, but three of their children came

to the new world. The brother of our subject, Walter Searl, located in Winnebago county about 1850, and for a time followed his trade of carpentering but afterward gave his attention to farming. He died about ten or twelve years ago, leaving three sons and a daughter, all of whom were born in this county—John F., William, Frank and Annie,—all yet residents of Rockford. The sister, Sarah, became the wife of William F. Matthews and is now residing in Rockford.

John Searl spent his early youth in England, where he acquired his education in private schools and when a young man he crossed the Atlantic to the new world, hoping to find better business advantages in America, where advancement is more quickly acquired and returns follow more readily upon the exercise of industry and enterprise. He is a carpenter by trade and followed that pursuit both in Canada and in Winnebago county. Removing from the Dominion to the United States he took up his abode in this county where about twenty years ago he purchased his present farm and for a long period he continued actively in its operation and improvement. He has made his home at his present residence, however, for a long period and at this writing is leaving the farm work entirely to others, receiving a good rental from his land which is rich and valuable and in his present home he has fifteen acres of land well laid out and adjoining the city limits of Rockford so that while enjoying the advantages of a rural home he also can secure those of city life with little effort.

Mr. Searl was united in marriage to Miss Maria Wilcox, a native of Cornwall, England, their wedding being celebrated at Beloit, Wisconsin, in 1853, but he made his home in Rockford, however. Mrs. Searl departed this life about nine years ago, when more than sixty years of age. In politics Mr. Searl has always been a republican, giving his support to the party since becoming a naturalized citizen of the United States. The hope that led him to seek a home in America has been more than realized and he has never had reason to regret his determination to cross the Atlantic for here he found the business opportunities he sought and which are always open to young men of ambition and determination. Thus making the most of his advantages he steadily worked his way upward to a position of affluence.

ST. MARY'S PARISH, PECATONICA.

St. Mary's Parish, at Pecatonica, had its first house of worship erected in 1841. From that date until 1871 the parish was served by pastors from Galena, Freeport and Rockford and the first per-



MR. AND MRS. JOHN SEARL.

manent pastor was appointed in 1871. The churches in the parish include St. Mary's, at Pecatonica, built in 1882 by Rev. John Ryan; St. Thomas, at Seward, built in 1870 by Hon. L. McDonald; St. Mary's, in Durand, built in 1869 by Rev. M. Hanley; and St. Patrick's, at Rock Run, in 1895, by Rev. M. J. Sullivan.

St. Mary's parish is the most expensive in the archdiocese, of Chicago, being thirty-eight miles long and about twenty miles wide and including parts of Ogle, Winnebago and Stephenson counties, Illinois. The list of its permanent pastors is as follows: Rev. Father Birch, 1871-75; Rev. Charles O'Callahan, D. D., 1875-78; Rev. M. Welby, 1878-79; Rev. John E. Shanahan, 1879-83; Rev. John H. Ryan, 1883-86; Rev. Richard McGuire, 1886-90; Rev. Thomas Kearney, 1890-94; Rev. Michael J. Sullivan, 1894-99; and Rev. Michael Cotter, 1899.

Rev. Charles O'Callahan, D. D., the second permanent pastor, was born in the city of Cork, Ireland, and was graduated from the famous University of Propoganda, at Rome, Italy. He was a distinguished theologian and classical scholar, a cultured gentleman and a most zealous priest.

Rev. John H. Ryan, another pastor, was born in County Tipperary, Ireland, and his first appointment after his ordination was to Pecatonica, where he built St. Mary's church. He was well liked by all classes in the community and did a good work here. While attending the sick in the parish he caught a severe cold and died from its effects, his remains being interred in the Catholic cemetery at Seward.

Rev. Michael J. Sullivan, the date of whose appointment to St. Mary's parish, in Pecatonica, was 1894, was the builder of St. Mary's rectory and also of St. Patrick's church, at Rock Run, in 1895. The present house of worship there is the third that was erected. The first, which was built in 1849, is now used as a barn on the Matt Redd farm, while the second, built in 1862, is now a barn on Anthony Mullarkey's farm. The present church is the most beautiful in the surrounding district. In 1899 Rev. Father Sullivan was promoted to an important parish in Chicago.

Rev. Michael Cotter, the present pastor, was appointed in June, 1899, and has greatly improved the parish grounds by cement sidewalks and shade trees, shrubs and flowers until the lawn is the most beautiful in Pecatonica.

MRS. GEORGIANA B. GLOVER.

Mrs. Georgiana B. Glover, the widow of John W. Glover, resides in Owen township, where she has a good farm. She was born May 31, 1840, in Lewiston, Delaware, her parents being Isaac

and Elizabeth (Waples) Mariner, both of whom were natives of Lewiston, Delaware. They came from the east to Winnebago county in 1850, and for a number of years the father followed the occupation of farming, but eventually purchased a home in Beloit, Wisconsin, where he died on the 31st of May, 1898, at the age of eighty-one years. In his family were but two children. Mrs. Glover; and Joseph, who was born in 1842.

Georgiana B. Mariner spent her girlhood days in her parents' home, and on the 10th of October, 1865, gave her hand in marriage to John W. Glover. He was a son of Thomas Glover, who was born in Manchester, England, and was married there to Miss Anna Collier. His death occurred when he had reached the age of seventy-eight years, and his wife died at the age of seventy-five years. They were the parents of three children, of whom John W. was the eldest. The sisters were Jane Ann, who died at the age of fifty years; and Isabella, the wife of Luther W. Kendall, of Beloit, Wisconsin.

John W. Glover arrived in Winnebago county when seventeen years of age and worked with his father at Roscoe spinning cotton, for they had a cotton mill there. Later he went to Rockton, where he was engaged in the painting business and eventually he began farming, following that pursuit from 1856 up to the time of his death, which occurred July 31, 1893, when he was in his sixty-third year. He had eighty acres of land when he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits and subsequently he added a forty-acre tract to his farm. He was an industrious man and made for his family a good home with the assistance of his estimable wife, who was indeed a worthy helpmate to him. They lived in an old stone house in which the death of Mr. Glover occurred, and because of his industry, perseverance and capable business management in former years he was enabled to leave his family in comfortable financial circumstances.

Mr. and Mrs. Glover were the parents of eleven children: Mary Ann, who was born September 17, 1866, and died September 4, 1894; Jane Ann, born March 17, 1868; Thomas, born July 25, 1869; Annie Belle, born April 6, 1871; Isabelle, born November 6, 1872; Nellie J., born June 11, 1874; Katie E., born July 25, 1876; John W., born March 28, 1878; Fanny, born October 11, 1880; Frank M., born August 24, 1884; and Janette, born February 5, 1887.

Mr. Glover was called to some public offices, serving his township as justice of the peace during the last seven years of his life, while for four years he was a school commissioner. The cause of education found in him a warm friend and as justice of the peace he rendered excellent service, being always fair and impartial in his decisions. He was a member of Rockton lodge.

No. 74, A. F. & A. M., for forty years and at the time of his death was its oldest representative. He was laid to rest with Masonic honors, for he had been a devoted and faithful member of the craft, and in his life had exemplified its beneficent spirit. He had settled a number of estates and was a man in whom implicit confidence was reposed. He had many friends in Rockford and throughout the entire county and was honored by all who knew him. Mrs. Glover now belongs to the Eastern Star lodge of Rockford, and her daughters Mrs. Belle Styler, Fanny and Nettie H., are also members. She is a lady whose circle of friends is almost co-extensive with the circle of her acquaintance.

GEORGE J. WUNDER.

George J. Wunder, one of the best known German-American citizens of Rockford, who for many years figured in business circles here and became a wealthy man so that in his last years he was enabled to live retired, was born in Bavaria, Germany, July 4, 1827. His parents, Michael and Louisa (Karner) Wunder, spent their entire lives in Germany, making their home upon a farm, where the father died at the age of sixty-three years. His wife long survived him and retained her mental and physical faculties almost unimpaired up to the time of her death, which occurred in 1886, when she was eighty-four years of age. They were both members of the Methodist church. In their family were but two sons, the younger being Martin Wunder, now deceased, who owned and occupied the old homestead in Bavaria, Germany.

George J. Wunder, who was six years his brother's senior, was reared to farm life in the fatherland, but the hope of bettering his financial condition led him to cross the Atlantic to America, and when about twenty-seven years of age he sailed for New York, where he arrived on the 28th of August, 1854. He was accompanied by a cousin and the voyage was made on a sailing vessel which was forty-two days upon the trip. Mr. Wunder was in very limited financial circumstances when he arrived in the United States. He at once made his way across the country to Chicago, having at that time a cash capital of only five dollars. That was the year of the great cholera epidemic in that city. Mr. Wunder secured a position in a lumberyard owned by Seeley Perry, one of the old lumber merchants of that city, with whom he remained for two years, after which Mr. Perry drove with a team across the country to Rockford, in 1856, accompanied by Mr. Wun-

der. The latter then engaged in the lumber business in Rockford for seventeen years, being one of the early representatives of that line of activity in the city. Later he turned his attention to farming in Rockford township and continued the tilling of the soil for a short period, but found that he was not as successful as an agriculturist as he was in commercial lines. He therefore returned to Rockford, where he was engaged in the dairy business for a short time. He then re-entered the employ of the old lumber firm with which he had formerly been connected and to that work devoted his energies until 1860, when he went to California by way of New York and the Isthmus of Panama. He was quite successful during the few years which he spent on the Pacific coast, but failing health caused him to return and in 1864 he again took up his abode in Rockford. He then rented land for some years and with the money saved during the period in which he cultivated his farm he began dealing in sand. A few years later he embarked in the dairy business, which claimed his attention for four years and then for two years thereafter he lived retired. Later he engaged in buying and shipping horses and in 1876 he became a wholesale dealer in beer and also did a retail bottling business. He was agent for and sold the first Milwaukee beer in Rockford and was one of the pioneers in the bottling business here, his ice house and wholesale house being located at No. 1312 Charles street. He conducted the business with constantly growing success for fifteen years and then, having accumulated a very gratifying fortune, he retired to private life, enjoying a well earned rest throughout his remaining days.

Mr. Wunder was married in 1856, in Chicago, to Miss Louisa Kaderli, a native of Berne, Switzerland, who came to America in 1854. Her parents both died in the land of the Alps. Mr. and Mrs. Wunder had but one child, Carrie, who is now the wife of Alfred E. Giggey, a dealer in fine wines and liquors at No. 316 East State street, who for the past twenty years has resided in Rockford. Mr. and Mrs. Giggey now make their home with Mrs. Wunder and they have one child, Alfred, who was born January 8, 1898.

After taking up his abode in Rockford Mr. Wunder made a visit to Germany, in 1884, looking again upon the scenes amid which his boyhood, youth and early manhood were passed and renewing acquaintances and friendships of former years. He was well content, however, to return to America, having formed a deep attachment for the land of his adoption, to whose welfare and interests he was ever loyal. In the community in which he lived his support could always be counted upon to further progressive



George Vanels

measures. He bore a striking resemblance to the typical figure used to represent our country and his friends therefore familiarly and affectionately called him Uncle Sam.

His early political allegiance was given to the democracy but he afterward became a staunch republican. He was a charter member of the Germania Society in Rockford, and he had a very wide circle of friends here. As he prospered in his business career he made judicious investment in real estate and was the owner of valuable property all over Rockford. Though he advanced in years he was always young in spirit, delighting in the companionship of the young. He had excellent eyesight, never using glasses. He was of a genial, jovial manner, of kindly spirit and deference for the opinion of others, of broad sympathy and those with whom he once came in contact entertained for him warm regard and strong friendship because of his sterling personal traits of character. He died February 1, 1904, when in his seventy-seventh year, and thus passed away one of the old German-American citizens of Rockford. Mrs. Wunder now owns a nice home at No. 618 East State street, where she resides together with Mr. and Mrs. Giggey and their son. Both ladies are prominent in social circles here. Mrs. Wunder now spends much of her time in traveling and has visited many points of interest in this country.

BENJAMIN C. SHERMAN.

Farming interests of Harrison township find a worthy representative in Benjamin C. Sherman, whose valuable tract of land of one hundred and thirty-one acres on section 21 indicates careful supervision and practical farm methods. Back to pioneer days his residence extends for he arrived in this county in 1847. He was born in March, 1836, in Grafton county, New Hampshire, his parents being Benjamin and Sallie (Cowen) Sherman, who arrived in this county in the fall of 1847, taking up their abode on the farm now owned by their son Benjamin. The father was born in Lisbon, New Hampshire, in 1806, and was a son of Benjamin Sherman, who was also born in the east, either in Connecticut or New Hampshire. The father of the last named was a native of Connecticut and with his family removed to the old Granite state. Mr. Sherman, of this review, is undoubtedly a relative of General William T. Sherman, of Ohio. His mother, Mrs. Sallie Cowen Sherman, was born in Lisbon, New Hampshire, in 1805, and was a daughter of Zachariah Cowen, who died in that state in the late '40s. Throughout his entire life, Benjamin Sherman, father of our subject, carried on gen-

eral agricultural pursuits and became a pioneer farmer of Winnebago county, aiding in developing the natural resources of this part of the state, and finding upon the broad prairies of Illinois ample opportunity for the successful conduct of agricultural interests. His wife died in 1853 and, surviving her for thirty years, he passed away in 1883. In their family were six children, the daughters being Mrs. Mary A. Jameson, who died in Florida; Eliza, who died in childhood in New Hampshire; Mrs. Laura Brown, who died at Eau Claire, Wisconsin, and was buried there; Mrs. Arvesta Pease, now living in Beloit, Wisconsin; and Mrs. Hannah Hathaway, whose home is in Eau Claire.

Benjamin C. Sherman, the only son of the family, spent the first eleven years of his life in the state of his nativity and then accompanied his parents on their removal to Illinois, remaining in Winnebago county between the ages of eleven and twenty-two years. He then went to California, in 1858, and to some extent engaged in mining during the seven years of his residence on the Pacific coast. He returned in 1866 to Winnebago county and purchased the home farm in Harrison township, whereon he has since lived. He has the unique record of having walked the entire distance to Los Angeles, California, and his experiences in the far west would prove a most interesting chapter in his life history if given in detail. Since his return he has worked at farm labor on the old homestead, his fields resulting in the development of a splendid property, and he now owns one hundred and thirty-one acres on section 21, Harrison township, which yields him a good living as the reward of his earnest and persistent labor.

Mr. Sherman married Miss Nancy A. Logan, whose people were among the earliest settlers of Winnebago county. Her mother belonged to the Blake family, also pioneer residents here, their home being established at Rockton, and Mrs. Sherman was born at Rockton about sixty years ago. Unto our subject and his wife have been born five children: William, who resides on the farm owned by his father on section 9, Harrison township; Harry C., who is a farmer, residing in Franklin, Minnesota, and married a Miss Sherman; Mrs. Mary Bratt, who resides at her father's home and has one child, John, now seven years of age; Mrs. Alice Geildseth, of Durand, who has a daughter, Eveline; and Ezra, who is working another of his father's farm in Shirland township; he married Miss Etta Bennett and they have three children, Allen, Alice and Edward.

Mr. Sherman is now the owner of four hundred and sixty acres of land, of which two hundred and twenty acres lies in Shirland and the remainder in Harrison township. He has been very successful since locating here

in 1866, placing his dependence upon the substantial qualities of unflinching industry, guided by practical common sense. He has been watchful of opportunities pointing to success and by the careful husbanding of his resources, by judicious investment and the profitable sale of his farm products he has won a very gratifying measure of prosperity. In politics he is independent without desire for office, and while in California he served as sheriff. Socially he is connected with the Grange and the Farmers' Mutual Benevolent Association, and his wife is a member of the Seventh Day Adventist Society.

Mrs. Sherman was born in Rockton township, and it will be interesting in this connection to note something of the history of her people who are prominent pioneer settlers here. Her parents are John and Rachel (Blake) Logan. Her father came from Michigan in the '30s, and his brothers, Robert and James Logan, had settled in this county prior to that time. John Logan followed farming and made his home at Rockton up to the time of his death, which occurred December 10, 1872, when he was fifty-one years of age. His wife was born in North Carolina and came to Winnebago county with her parents, David and Nancy (Bowman) Blake, who located in Rockton township near the village of that name in 1833. They afterward removed to Iowa about 1850, locating in Decorah, where Mr. Blake died, and subsequently his widow returned to Rockton, where her death occurred about 1865. They were the parents of eight children: Amos, who died at Rockton; Allison, who died on the plains while en route to California and was buried near the Humboldt river; Elizabeth, the wife of Robert Logan, of California; Eleanor, who married Albert Hewlett; Rachel, who married John Logan; Emeline, who became the wife of Samuel Drake and died at Rockton, Illinois; Adeline, who married Guy Hewlett and died in Chicago; and David, who died in North Dakota, in 1904, at the age of seventy-one years.

HARLOW E. BLAKE.

Harlow E. Blake, a native son of Winnebago county, who, in the enjoyment of a well earned ease, is living retired in Pecatonica, was born in what was then Howard township, but is now Durand township, May 2, 1847. His parents were John and Miranda (Barker) Blake, who were married in the fall of 1841. The father was born in Franklin county, Vermont, March 31, 1812, and was of English descent. He became a pioneer resident of Winnebago county, where for many years he energetically and successfully carried on agricultural pursuits. He cast his first presidential vote for William Henry Harri-

son, and on the dissolution of the whig party, became a staunch republican. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and his genuine worth was recognized by his fellow townsmen, who called him to a number of local offices of honor and trust. In his family were six children: Milan A., who is married and has five children; Harlow E.; Andrew S., who is married and has four children; Henry J.; Mary A., the wife of A. A. Moore, and the mother of three children; Sarah A., the wife of Frank Anshutz, a resident of Iowa.

Harlow E. Blake acquired his education in the public schools and attended the normal school in Durand. He also worked on his father's farm in his youth and devoted his time between the labors of the fields and the duties of the school-room until twenty-two years of age. About that time he was married to Miss Lydia Corwin, a daughter of Captain B. F. and Betsy Corwin, the former born October 28, 1810, and the latter on the 13th of July, 1815. They were married December 31, 1839, and came to Rockford, where Captain Corwin established a brickyard, the first enterprise of the character started in the county seat. Later he removed to the vicinity of Pecatonica, his home being about three and a half miles north of the village. There he entered government land, securing one hundred and sixty acres, on which he built the first brick house in the township, burning the brick and making the lime for the building. He was one of the pioneer settlers of the community, broke the raw prairie, cut the timber and hewed out the lumber used in the construction of the barn. He also split the shingles for the roofs of his buildings and burned the brick for the first brick building erected in Pecatonica. In addition to general agricultural pursuits he conducted a cooper shop on his farm and made barrels for the shipment of pork and beef. He also made hundreds of flour barrels, which he sold in Rockford, Galena and Freeport. He continued in the coopering business for forty years or more, and at times did shoemaking for his own family. His business interests were thus varied and extensive. He possessed marked mechanical ingenuity, as well as unflinching enterprise and strong purpose, and his labors were attended with a gratifying measure of success. His death occurred in Durand township, and the community thereby lost one of its representative citizens. In the family were seven children: E. W., born September 4, 1842; Marquis L.; Asenath, born November 22, 1847; Amassa, born April 27, 1849; Mrs. Blake, born March 21, 1852; Lucy J., December 31, 1855; and Franklin S., March 19, 1859.

Following his marriage, Mr. Blake began farming on the old homestead, which he operated for five years, and then returned to Poweshiek county, Iowa, where he purchased a farm, on

which had been built a log house. He lived in that cabin for a winter and then erected a more substantial and commodious residence. His attention was given to the cultivation and improvement of his land, and he transformed it into a valuable property. He took with him to Iowa ten cows and some other stock and carried on his farm work and stock-raising along progressive lines. After living in that state for four or five years he returned to this county, settling in Durand township, where, in connection with his brother, he rented four hundred acres, belonging to Mr. Pettingill. For about three or four years they conducted business there, carrying on an extensive dairy. They had sixty-five milch cows, but at length decided to sell out, and held a sale, receiving thirty-six hundred dollars for their stock, reserving, however, ten head of the best cows, also four head of horses and some of the farm machinery. The brothers then began feeding cattle, and they had at one time two hundred and fifty head. They shipped their stock to the Chicago market and continued the business for about three years, at the end of which time Harlow E. Blake sold his interest to his brother and removed to North Dakota, purchasing a hotel at Grafton, in connection with Daniel Norton. He continued as the landlord there for two years and then traded his interest in the business, in 1881, for one hundred and forty-six acres of land in Dakota. Taking up his abode there, he carried on farming for eight or ten years, making a specialty of the raising of wheat and barley. He then rented the farm, retaining the ownership, however, until 1904, when he sold the property. About 1890 or 1891 he returned to the old homestead in Winnebago county, whereon he resided until February, 1902, when he retired from farm life and took up his abode in Pecatonica, where he has since made his home.

Mr. and Mrs. Blake have become the parents of six children: Maud E., the wife of Fred Salisbury, a resident of Freeport, Illinois, by whom she has two children: Andrew J., who married Mate Arnold and died in 1903, leaving three children; Roy R., at home; Pearl, the wife of Blake Hamilton, of Pecatonica; Ralph W., who is living in California; and Walter H., at home.

Mr. Blake served as trustee of the village of Pecatonica in 1904, faithfully discharging his duties, and while living in Iowa and also in Pecatonica he served as school director, being a member of the board for about twelve years. His political allegiance has always been given to the republican party. He is prominent in the Odd Fellows society, of which he has been a member since 1879, and he has passed through all of the chairs in Pecatonica lodge, No. 173. He joined the order, however, in Shawbena lodge, No. 146, at Durand. His life has been an active

and busy one, and now he is enjoying a well earned rest. He has visited many parts of the country and is especially thoroughly familiar with the middle west, its possibilities and its business conditions. His personal traits of character are such as have gained him warm friendship, and he deserves mention among the leading native sons of the county.

ALVA B. DAVIS.

Alva B. Davis, a worthy representative of agricultural interests in Harlem township, living on section 20, now owns and operates one hundred and sixty acres of land. He was born June 13, 1857, in Burrirt township, his parents being George B. and Samantha (Place) Davis. The Davis family is of Welsh lineage and the father of our subject was born in New Brunswick, Canada, while the mother is a native of the state of New York, born in 1838. Mr. Davis, coming to Winnebago county as one of its early settlers, resided for some time in Burrirt township, and about 1858 removed to Owen township, where he resided for ten years. He then returned to Burrirt township and for a long period was identified with agricultural interests in this part of the state. His death occurred in 1904, when he was seventy-four years of age. His widow still survives him and resides in Burrirt township. Their sons are: Alva B.; Adelbert B., of Burrirt township, who is married and has two sons and a daughter; Frank E., of Burrirt township, who has three sons and four daughters; George also a resident farmer of Burrirt township; and Guy, who died in 1905. The daughters of this family are: Mrs. Adelle Andrews, who resides in Burrirt and has one daughter; May, who is living upon the old homestead in Burrirt township; and Mrs. Ellen Davis. The maternal grandmother is yet living, her home being in New Milford township, and has attained the extreme old age of one hundred and three years.

Alva B. Davis was only about a year old when his parents went to Owen township and after ten years he returned with them to Burrirt township, where he lived until he attained his majority. He then started out in life on his own account, working as a farm hand until his marriage, which was celebrated on the 16th of July, 1879, Miss Mary A. Weatherhead, of Harrison township, becoming his wife. Her parents were James R. and Nancy (Fisher) Weatherhead, and the latter died during the infancy of her daughter. Mr. and Mrs. Davis took up their abode in Burrirt, where they lived for a year and then removed to Laomi township, where they resided for two years. The succeeding sixteen years were spent in Harrison township, and in the spring of 1901 they came

to Harlem township, and have since resided on section 20, where Mr. Davis owns a valuable and well improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres. He carries on general agricultural pursuits and the neat and thrifty appearance of his place is indicative of his careful supervision and practical methods.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Davis was blessed with three children: Lee W., born October 20, 1883; Dale L., born November 24, 1886; and Fay B., born January 24, 1890. Mrs. Davis was born October 10, 1854, in Harrison township, and has been a devoted wife and mother. Mrs. Davis holds membership in Willow Creek Presbyterian church at Argyle, and he belongs to Harrison camp, M. W. A. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and for one year he served as road commissioner in Harlem township, but has never sought or desired office, his business cares claiming his time and attention, while his earnest labor and perseverance have been the salient factors in his prosperity.

JOHN SEGUR.

John Segur at the age of seventy-six years is living a retired life in Rockford, where for nearly a half century he has made his home, having taken up his abode here in 1857. A native son of New England, his birth occurred in Granby, Connecticut, July 6, 1820, and his parents, Orlean and Amret (Dean) Segur, were both natives of that state. His paternal grandparents were Augustus and Elizabeth (Tuller) Segur. The former located in Connecticut in early life and was extensively engaged in farming there, owning over three hundred acres of land. He always devoted his attention to agricultural pursuits and he passed away in the Charter Oak state at the age of seventy-six years, while his wife reached the extreme old age of ninety-six years. She was a daughter of Eli Tuller, one of the heroes of the Revolutionary war.

Orlean Segur made his home near Canton, Connecticut, where he engaged in farming for many years and during the last thirty years of his life he lived retired at Simsbury, Connecticut, where he passed away in October, 1872. His widow survived him until November, 1882, when she too died in Simsbury. One of her brothers is still living, Orlando Dean, who is a retired carpenter and merchant and makes his home in Simsbury at the very venerable age of ninety-one years. Mr. and Mrs. Segur were the parents of six children, of whom two sons and a daughter yet survive, the second being John of this review. Dighton, who is now eighty-one years of age, is still engaged in carriage manu-

facturing in West Suffield, Connecticut. Ellen is the widow of Moses D. Humphrey and resides with her brother John in Rockford. Mr. Humphrey was descended from English ancestry and became a resident of Connecticut in early life. Throughout his business career he carried on farming near Simsbury, Connecticut, and there his death occurred in 1897.

John Segur obtained his education in the common schools of his native town and on leaving home he went to New Hartford, Connecticut, where he became acquainted with Freeman Graham and went to work for him to learn the machinist's trade, following that pursuit until 1855. In that year Mr. Segur came west with the Graham family and settled at Beloit, Wisconsin, where he and Mr. Graham worked at their trade for two years and in 1857 both came to Rockford. Mr. Segur then secured a position in the employ of Emerson & Talcott, the predecessors of the Emerson Manufacturing Company now controlling the largest manufacturing plant in Rockford wherein agricultural implements are made. Mr. Segur continued to work for that house as a machinist for several years and was then promoted to the position of foreman of the machine shops, in which capacity he served for twenty years, so that his term of service in the employ of the firm covers thirty-five consecutive years. At the end of that time he was accidentally injured and lost the sight of one eye and because of this he retired from business.

In the meantime through his frugality Mr. Segur had added year by year to his capital and had invested his savings in valuable property in Rockford, which in 1887 he exchanged for his present home on Clifton avenue, where he now owns twenty-two acres of land. This is situated in the city limits in the southern part of Rockford and he has made many improvements thereon, having a beautiful home. Although he has retired from his trade indolence is utterly foreign to his nature and he can not content himself in idleness, so he gives his time to light farming and thus manages to keep busy. The city, however, is building up very rapidly around him and he expects soon to divide his twenty-two acres into town lots and thus make an addition to Rockford.

While living in the east Mr. Segur was married to Miss Jane Trowbridge, a native of Barkhamsted, Connecticut, and a daughter of James Trowbridge, who was a carpenter by trade in early life and afterward became general agent for D. B. Smith & Son, large cotton manufacturers of Connecticut, with whom he continued throughout the remainder of his business career. Mrs. Segur died in Rockford, September 7, 1900. There was a son and daughter by that



JOHN SEGUR.

marriage: James, who was born in New Hartford, Connecticut, married Nellie O'Connor and is a machinist by trade now residing in Dubuque, Iowa, where he is occupying the position of superintendent with the A. Y. McDonald Manufacturing Company, manufacturers of pumps, having resided in that city for twenty years. Sarah A., born in New Hartford and now living at 1103 South Main street, Rockford, is the widow of Judge J. C. Garver, of Rockford, whose history and portrait are given on another page of this work.

Mr. Segur has never been an office seeker nor sought reward for party fealty but has long given an unswerving support to the republican party. He has held membership with the Masonic fraternity since January 12, 1851, and after coming to Rockford was made a charter member of Ellis lodge, A. F. & A. M. He also belongs to the Royal Arch chapter. His sister, Mrs. Humphrey, is a member of the Winnebago Street Methodist Episcopal church and she resides with her brother at No. 1715 Clifton avenue. Mr. Segur is a self-made man of strong purpose and firm determination and these qualities have enabled him in an active business career to steadily work his way upward. He came to Rockford empty-handed and all that he now possesses has been obtained through his earnest labor and judicious use of his means. He is well known among the pioneers of the city and county and justly merits the esteem which is uniformly extended him. Rockford has long been his home and he is therefore a witness of much of its growth and progress, his mind forming a connecting link between the past when it was a small and unimportant village and the present when it has become one of the leading commercial and manufacturing centers of the Mississippi valley.

GEORGE FRANKLIN.

George Franklin may truly be called a self-made man, as the prosperity which he now enjoys is attributable entirely to his earnest labor that year after year has brought him a good living and enabled him to add annually to his income, until he is now the possessor of a comfortable competence. He is one of Winnebago county's native sons, whose birth had occurred in Durand township March 17, 1851. His father, Charles M. Franklin, came to this county about 1837 or 1838, and cast in his lot with the pioneer settlers of Durand township. He secured a tract of timber land and at once began its development. This was a frontier settlement, and there were many hardships and privations to be endured. He had to haul his grain to Mineral Point, Wisconsin, that being the nearest market,

and he also took his farm products to Chicago. At Rockford there were only a few houses, and some of the now thriving towns and villages of the county had not at that time sprung into existence. As the years passed, his continued efforts wrought a marked transformation in his land, and his farm became a valuable property. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and in his political views was a whig.

George Franklin pursued his education in the public schools near his father's home. He was a hard-working, industrious young man, and when his labor had brought him a sufficient sum of money he made purchase of a farm of eighty acres in Burritt township, to the improvement and cultivation of which he devoted his energies untiringly until 1887. He then sold that farm and removed to Owen township, where he purchased one hundred and eighty acres of land, upon which he now resides. He has here a well developed property, improved with modern equipments, while the fields return to him golden harvests for the care and labor he bestows upon them.

On the 13th of February, 1878, Mr. Franklin was united in marriage, at Burritt, by the Rev. John Wilcox, to Miss Emma Jane Swindells, a daughter of John and Susanna (Statham) Swindells, both of whom were natives of England. They crossed the Atlantic to America on a sailing vessel, "The Washington," which weighed anchor at Liverpool on the 21st of March, 1849, and reached Boston harbor a month later. They continued to reside in Boston until 1857, and thence came to Rockford, where the father soon afterward died. They were the parents of three children: William J., Margaret Ann and Mrs. Franklin. After losing her first husband, Mrs. Swindells was married on the 10th of October, 1859, to Richard Lightfoot, and they had one son, Nathaniel. Mr. Lightfoot was born in the county of Cornwall, England, January 29, 1824, and came to America in 1851 upon a sailing vessel, leaving Plymouth, England, and landing at Quebec. The voyage was a tempestuous one of eight weeks and four days. Not long after reaching the new world, Mr. Lightfoot made his way to Winnebago county, Illinois, where he soon afterward rented land and began farming on his own account. Later he purchased land, for which he paid twenty dollars per acre. He was one of the pioneers of this county, and contributed in substantial measure to its early development and improvement. In 1881 he built a residence about a quarter of a mile from his old home, and there spent his last days in retirement from labor.

Mr. and Mrs. Franklin have become the parents of seven children. Susie is the wife of Casius Zuck, a draftsman living in Rockford, and

they have one child. Carroll M. married Cora Salisbury and resides in Rockford. Edith B. is the wife of Albert Zuck, of Kansas, and they have one child. Walter is living at home. Bertha J. is the wife of Lorenzo H. Crowell, Jr. Irma and George M. are also at home.

Mr. Franklin is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and has led a life in harmony with his professions. In politics he is a republican, having long supported the party. He has spent his entire life in this county, where he is well known as a reliable and honorable business man.

PENN W. RANSOM, M. D.

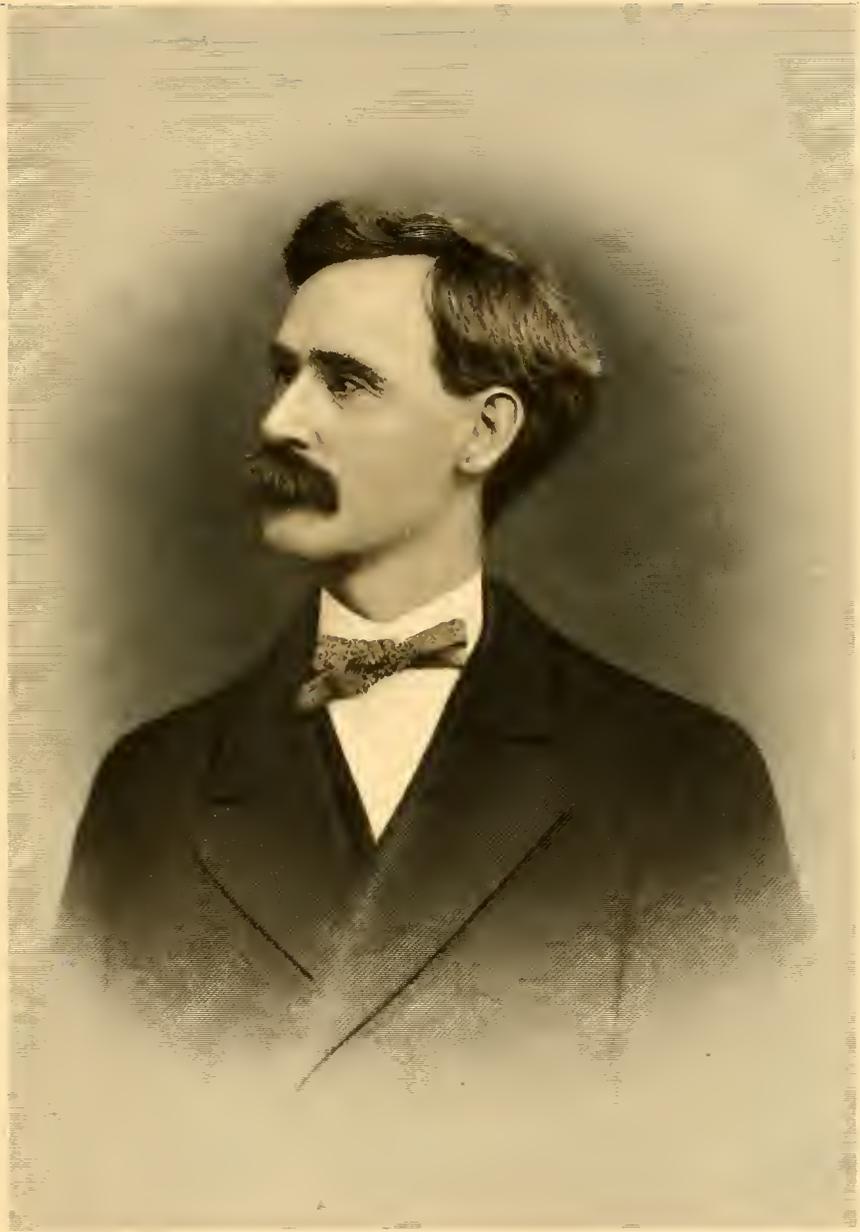
Dr. Penn W. Ransom, a specialist in the treatment of many diseases and the founder and proprietor of The Ransom Sanitarium at Rockford, is a native son of Winnebago county, his birth having occurred in Roscoe, May 4, 1857. His father, Dr. Giles P. Ransom, was a native of New York, born January 13, 1824, and tradition says that the family was founded in America by three brothers who came to this country from England. The great-grandfather, Daniel Ransom, was born in New England, and in early days left Vermont to become a resident of New York. He devoted his entire time and attention to agricultural pursuits and passed away in Wyoming county, New York.

Dr. Daniel Ransom, the grandfather, whose birth occurred in Windham county, Vermont, spent his youth upon his father's farm, but believing that he would find the professional life more congenial than agricultural pursuits he entered upon the study of medicine in Oneida county, New York. Later he removed to Erie county and subsequently spent eight years as a practitioner of medicine in Union City, Pennsylvania. The year 1844 witnessed his arrival in Illinois, and he successfully engaged in practice in Belvidere until failing health caused him to abandon the arduous duties of the profession. In early manhood he married Miss Elizabeth Willard, who was born in Westfield, Connecticut, and was a daughter of Samuel Willard. Both spent their last days in the home of Dr. Giles P. Ransom, of Roscoe, the grandfather there passing away in 1870, and his wife in 1874. They were the parents of six children: Erasmus D., Azina, Giles, Cynthia, Samantha E. and Loretta H.

When a mere youth Dr. Giles P. Ransom joined a party of emigrants en route for the Rock river valley. This was in 1843. He walked the greater part of the distance and secured a position as a teacher of a three months' term of school in Poplar Grove. Pioneer con-

ditions existed everywhere throughout this portion of the state. At that time twenty-five cents postage was required upon each letter, and so scarce was money that often this amount had to be borrowed from some neighbor before the letter could be procured from the postoffice. Dr. Ransom obtained a position as postmaster at Belvidere and was well known in connection with the pioneer progress and development of his locality. He began reading medicine with Dr. Ames, and after the removal of that gentleman to Roscoe, Dr. Ransom also went to that place in January, 1845, and entered upon practice there. He was graduated from the Rush Medical College of Chicago in 1850, and his professional service called him to all parts of Winnebago county. In 1862 he entered the United States service as assistant surgeon of the Second Illinois Light Artillery, which position he resigned a year later on account of ill health. He ranked high in his profession and was for some time one of the oldest physicians of the county in the years of continuous practice here. He married Mahala Jenks, in March, 1860, and in his social relations Dr. Ransom was well known as an exemplary Mason.

Dr. Penn W. Ransom, whose name introduces this record, is a high school graduate, and in the line of his chosen calling enjoyed excellent educational privileges. He first read medicine with his brother, Dr. Wilmot L. Ransom, and afterward entered the Chicago Medical College, now the medical department of the Northwestern University, from which he was graduated with the class of 1879. He entered upon practice at Aurora, Illinois, where he remained for seven years and then, coming to Rockford, established The Ransom Sanitarium. It is situated a mile north of the city on the east bank of the Rock river in a most beautiful grove and amid attractive surroundings. The buildings have been designed especially for the use to which they are put. The spring water is clear and possesses valuable medical qualities. It was in 1887 that Dr. Ransom purchased the building, which is a large frame structure containing twenty well furnished rooms. It stands in the midst of eight acres of ground adorned with fine shade trees, beautiful walks and drives. The sanitarium is opposite Harlem park and the Chautauqua Assembly grounds, which each year attracts thousands thereto. The Kenosha division of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad passes within a few rods of the house, also the Rockford, Beloit & Janesville Interurban passes the place, making easy access to Rockford and points north. The visitors to the sanitarium number from nineteen thousand persons annually, and Mrs. Ransom, a most accomplished lady, presides over the institution and also attends to



Sam H. Rawson, M. E.

much of the business in connection with its conduct. Dr. Ransom gives his attention to his practice, making a specialty of the treatment of mental and nervous diseases. He utilizes only such measures and means as are known to and endorsed by the profession, including electro-thermal, hot air and plain baths, salt glow, oil inunctions, massage, and other lines of bath treatment in connection with medicine, surgery, diet and rest. He is assisted by a corps of well-trained nurses and attendants and The Ransom Sanitarium is splendidly equipped for carrying on this work.

In 1884 Dr. Ransom was married to Miss Sarah C. Brown, of Rockford, Illinois, a daughter of Lewis Brown and a representative of one of the old families of this county. Dr. Ransom has a very wide acquaintance and is a most genial gentleman whose cheering presence in the sick room is like a ray of sunshine dispelling gloom. He follows nature's methods of healing in all of his practice and also keeps in touch with the most advanced methods of the medical and surgical science.

WILLIAM DALES.

William Dales, long connected with interests that made Rockford a manufacturing center and one of the best business cities in Illinois, allied his interests with those of Winnebago county at an early day in its development, when Rockford was a small village. As the years passed by his recognition of business opportunities and intense and well directed business activity were felt along many lines and his efforts proved of commercial value, not only to himself, but also as a factor in Rockford's prosperity.

A native of Delaware county, New York, he was born October 14, 1821, his parents being Samuel and Susan (Walker) Dales, both of whom were natives of Orange county, New York. The father was educated for the ministry, but after his marriage he settled in Delaware county, New York, where he began farming, which vocation he followed throughout his remaining days. His widow afterwards made her home with her children and died at the home of her daughter in Monroe, Wisconsin.

The educational advantages which William Dales received were only such as were afforded by the common schools, but all through life he used his advantages to the best opportunities, and in this lay the secret of his success. He worked on the home farm in his youth and prior to his first marriage he began learning the carpenter's trade, at which he worked for some time in the east. Before his second marriage he came west

to Illinois, taking up his abode in Rockford in the spring of 1852. It was a small place but he foresaw the rapid and substantial development of the west and wisely concluded to try his fortune in this part of the country. His first work in the city was the superintendency of the carpenter or construction work on the machine shops, now the largest building on the water power. He also superintended the carpenter work on many of the fine residences of the city of an early day, including the home of Judge Church and others. At length he abandoned building operations and entered into partnership with W. D. Trahern, under the firm name of Trahern & Dales, and they began the manufacture of threshing machines and farming implements of all kinds. While thus engaged he also traveled quite extensively, selling the machines to the outside dealers. Later the firm began the manufacture of pumps and the Trahern Pump Company is still conducting a prosperous business in Rockford. On retiring from the firm, Mr. Dales began an independent business as the manufacturer of the Dales wind-mill, his factory being located on South Main street, where he employed a large number of men in the manufacture of the output which was sold all over the country. He had soon developed a paying business and he continued operations in that line for several years or until he had manufactured enough to supply the trade for some time. He then began the manufacture of plows in connection with Mr. Derwent and this claimed his attention for a number of years or until his health began to fail, and for about ten years he was unable to do any active business save the collecting for the firm and the supervision of the repair work. It was very reluctantly that he retired from the field of active industrial and commercial life, for indolence and idleness were utterly foreign to his nature, but he was at length compelled to do so, and he lived retired until his death, July 18, 1892. His business career was characterized by untiring industry and perseverance, and in his vocabulary there was no such word as fail. If he undertook to do a thing he did it. He was a man of action rather than theory, and while he planned his work carefully, he was also prompt and determined in its execution.

Mr. Dales was married first in Delaware county, New York, to Miss Margaret McQueen, a native of New York, in which state her parents always lived, her father engaging in farming there. Mrs. Dales died in the county of her nativity a few years after her marriage. There were two children, Elizabeth and Walker. The former is the wife of Jesse Robertson, a retired carpenter of Monroe, Wisconsin, and the latter died at the home of his grandmother in Monroe, Wisconsin, at the age of three years. Mr. Dales was mar-

ried in the town of Courtright, Delaware county, New York, to Miss Nancy E. Dales, a distant relative and a native of that county, born April 11, 1823, her parents being Alexander and Rachel (Dibble) Dales, the latter born in Columbia county and the former in Orange county, New York. Her father was a farmer there and in Delaware county, and died on the farm in the latter county, where he had so long resided. His wife also passed away there. There were three children born of the second marriage: Ralph E., who married Isabelle Riney, is an electrician of Rockford. John, a successful physician of Sioux City, Iowa, married Gertie Locke, and after her death wedded Marie Peterson. Lillian, a teacher in the Kent school of Rockford, resides with her mother.

Mr. Dales was well known to the early settlers of the city and had many friends among the pioneer settlers of Rockford and Winnebago county. He was a staunch republican and his friends frequently suggested to him a candidacy for office, but he would never consent to accept a nomination. He attended the Presbyterian church, to which Mrs. Dales and her daughter belong, and he was always in sympathy with movements for the public good. He rejoiced in the upbuilding and improvement of Rockford, where he resided for almost forty years, passing away July 18, 1891. Mrs. Dales now occupies a nice home at No. 601 South Winnebago street, where she and her daughter reside. This has been in possession of the Dale family for nearly half a century, a part of the building having been erected by Mr. Dale in 1856. It then stood in the midst of the hazel brush, there being only three houses in the neighborhood, where now stand many beautiful homes, constituting an attractive residence district of the city.

JOSEPH W. FAULKNER.

Joseph W. Faulkner, deceased, was for many years closely associated with agricultural interests in Winnebago county, and spent his last years in Rockford. He was a native of England, born in Bedfordshire, his natal day being January 3, 1834. His parents, John and Mary (Read) Faulkner, were also natives of the same county, and while they resided in England became the parents of seven children, with whom they started for America in the early '50s, crossing the Atlantic in a sailing vessel, which, after a voyage of seven weeks, dropped anchor in the harbor of New York. The father, accompanied by his wife and children, made his way at once to Chicago, and by team proceeded to Winnebago county, for the era of railroads had not yet

come, and travel at that time was done by stage or private conveyance. The family home was established in Seward township, where few settlements had been made by early pioneers, but much of the land was still in possession of the government, and John Faulkner entered a claim which he at once began to clear and improve. In the course of time this became a valuable farm property, and he was classed with the substantial agriculturists of his locality. He continued a resident of the county throughout his remaining days, his last years being spent in the village of Winnebago, where he departed this life in 1884, after having attained the age of three score and ten years. He erected the first warehouse in Winnebago and for some time was engaged in the grain business, owning a large elevator there. His wife has since passed away in Rockford. They were both members of the Methodist church, took an active part in its work and contributed liberally to its support. Mr. Faulkner was well known in his home locality as "Uncle Johnnie," a term which was indicative of the confidence and love reposed in him. His life was ever upright and honorable, and he left his family an untarnished name. Unto him and his wife were born fifteen children.

Joseph W. Faulkner, the eldest son and second child of the family, attended the public schools of England to a limited extent, but his education was largely acquired in the night schools there. He came with his parents to America and in early life assisted his father in the arduous task of developing a new farm. He was frequently sent to Chicago, where all of the farm products were marketed. He learned the value of industry and economy in the active affairs of life, and those traits of character were always manifest by him and proved the basis of the success which he attained. He was married in Rockford to Miss Catherine Falconer, a native of Rosshire, Scotland, born in 1836, and a daughter of Hugh and Catherine Falconer, who came to America about 1842, making their way direct to Chicago, after which they drove across the country with ox teams to Winnebago county. They, too, were among the early settlers of this part of the state, and experienced all the hardships and trials incident to pioneer life. Rockford at that time contained only a few log houses and much of the land was still in possession of the government, having never been claimed by the white men for the purposes of civilization. They first settled in the village of Centerville, but afterward Mr. Falconer purchased a farm in Winnebago township, where he carried on general agricultural pursuits until his death. His widow afterward lived with her daughter, Mrs. Faulkner, until she was called to her final rest. Their first home was a log cabin, which had no

board floor, but later this was replaced by a comfortable residence, for Mr. Falconer prospered as the years went by, displaying in his life the sterling traits of character of the Scotch race. His wife was seventy-three years of age at the time of her demise, and both she and her husband were devoted members of the Congregational church. Mr. and Mrs. Falconer became the parents of two daughters. Mary A. is the wife of James F. Bennett, and they reside with her mother. Mr. Bennett is a ladies' tailor, conducting an extensive business at No. 302 West State street, and they have two children, Ethel F. and Josephine. Katie L. Falconer is the wife of J. F. Hollenbeck, a hardware merchant at No. 1030 South Main street, in Rockford, and they have two children, Vera May and Joseph.

On the 24th of March, 1887, Mr. Faulkner retired from the farm and removed to Rockford, where he enjoyed a well earned rest. His life had been most active and enterprising, and in his farming operations he was practical and progressive, so that the soil under his cultivation became very fertile and productive and his farming interests brought him very gratifying success. In politics he was active, supporting men and measures, rather than party. He served as road commissioner in his township for several years, and was always interested in whatever pertained to the welfare and progress of his community. He displayed many commendable traits of character that gained him the favorable regard of his friends, and his life record is especially noteworthy from the fact that he owed his prosperity entirely to his own labors. Mrs. Faulkner and her family are all members of the Second Congregational church of Rockford. She owns a nice home at No. 1204 South Main street, where she resides, Mr. and Mrs. Bennett and their family living with her. She also owns the old home farm of about one hundred and three acres of very rich and arable land, and this brings to her a good income.

THOMAS H. BROWN.

Thomas H. Brown, living retired in Rockford, but for many years an active and enterprising agriculturist of Winnebago township, was born near Benson, in Rutland county, Vermont, February 8, 1835. His parents were Arthur and Jane (Dougand) Brown. Their family consisted of seven children, only three of whom are now living: William, residing in Vermont; Thomas H. and Hamilton W., who live in Denver, Colorado.

Thomas H. Brown spent the first nine years of his life in Vermont, and then came to Illinois with Martin Root and his family, with whom

he remained until twenty-one years of age. He acquired his education in the common schools of Du Page county, Illinois, and on attaining his majority began farming on his own account. Two years later he removed to Winnebago county, where he lived continuously since.

About 1875 he became the owner of a tract of land of one hundred and ninety-six acres, and has since had valuable landed holdings in the county. He now owns two hundred and forty-five acres of fine land in Winnebago township, and his farm is well improved with good equipments and all modern accessories. He removed to Rockford in 1861, and since that time has resided continuously at his present home at No. 114 Rockton avenue.

Mr. Brown was married in 1871 to Miss Caroline E. Holcomb, who was born in Ohio in 1845 and is a daughter of Talcott and Jeanette Holcomb. Of their two children, the elder, Hermon H., died in 1888, at the age of fourteen. The younger, Pembroke H., was educated in the high school of Rockford, and also received liberal instruction in music. He is now living with his parents in this city. Mr. and Mrs. Brown attend the Christian Union church. In politics Mr. Brown is a republican, but has never sought or desired office. Although he has led a quiet life, it contains lessons that might well be followed, for he has always been reliable in his dealings with his fellowmen and faithful to the duties of citizenship that have devolved upon him.

FRANK E. THOMAS.

Frank E. Thomas, chief of the Rockford fire department, was born in Greenville, the county seat of Darke county, Ohio, June 23, 1863, his parents being John and Melinda (Clapp) Thomas, also natives of Ohio. For many years the father was a contractor and builder of the Buckeye state, and in later life he removed to Chicago, where he was employed on the construction of a five-story building, from which he fell and was instantly killed in the year 1881. His wife yet survives him, and is living in Rockford with her son Frank, being now in her seventy-sixth year. The family of this worthy couple numbered six children, but only three are yet living, the surviving daughters being Mrs. A. F. Hale and Mrs. J. C. Duell, both of Rockford.

Frank E. Thomas was a lad of seven summers when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Chicago, in 1870, and in that city he completed his education as a public school student. Putting aside his text-books, he entered the employ of Field, Leiter & Company. He was first employed as messenger and cash boy and

was advanced from time to time, until he became inspector of goods, remaining with that house as a trusted and efficient employe until he attained his twenty-first year. In this way he gained a practical knowledge of the dry-goods business and at the same time it was good schooling for him in the matter of mingling with men. In 1885 he came to Rockford, and for one year was employed as watchman by the Forest City Furniture Company. In February, 1886, however, he became connected with the Rockford fire department, and, proving his efficiency, was elected captain of Company No. 1. In 1901 he was appointed chief of the fire department, and is a most capable official, having the department well organized and doing effective service. He is cool and collected in times of danger, watchful of the interests of the city and of the individual in the line of his duty and his service has won him high encomiums.

In 1887 Mr. Thomas was married to Miss Ida Erickson, a daughter of John Erickson, of Rockford, and they have two children, Lillian M. and Robert E., who are high school students here. The family home is at No. 614 Whitman street, and Mr. Thomas has social relations with Rockford lodge, No. 102 A. F. & A. M., and with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

GEORGE RICHARD ATKINSON.

George Richard Atkinson, well known in business circles of Rockford as a merchant tailor, was born September 19, 1835, in Cockermouth county, Cumberland, England. His parents were Joseph and Ann (Anderson) Atkinson, the former a native of England and the latter of Ireland. The father died when the son was a small child. He had been connected with a factory whose produce was Cumberland tweed. George R. Atkinson, the eldest of the family, remained a resident of his native land until about nineteen years of age, when in 1858 he crossed the Atlantic to the new world. At the age of twelve years he had entered upon an apprenticeship to the tailor's trade, serving a term of four years and when he had mastered the business he decided to seek his fortune in America, hearing that better wages were paid for all such work in the new world. Accordingly he made arrangements to leave his native land and secured passage on the sailing vessel, James Bell, which was six weeks in making the voyage to New York city. He then went up the river to Albany, New York, where he began working in a tailoring establishment, spending a brief period in that city. Because of the fact that his uncle, Thomas Chambers,

lived in Montreal, he made his way to the latter place and entered the employ of his uncle who was conducting a store there. After six months, however, he went to Portland, Maine, in order to see the Prince of Wales depart for England. He did not return then to Montreal but retained in Portland for a year and in 1860 went to Boston, where he met the lady who became his wife—Miss Julia Ann Harper, a resident of Wilton, Franklin county, Maine, her birth having occurred near Farmington, that state. Her father was Colonel James C. Harper, a veteran of the Mexican war, who served under General Winfield Scott.

Mr. Atkinson continued a resident of Boston until 1864, when he went to Maine on a visit. Later he returned to Boston but in the meantime he had heard much of Chicago and its advantages and determined to make a visit to the western city. There he met a friend who was living in Rockford and induced him to come to this place in 1864. While in Boston he had learned the cutting business and had become an expert workman in that line and after arriving in Winnebago county he secured a position as a cutter with the firm of David, Wallach & Company, remaining with that house for five years. He then determined to embark in business on his own account and carried out the plan in the year 1869. In January, 1900, he again embarked in business on his own account at No. 304 South Main street in the Nelson building. Here he has since remained and now enjoys a liberal patronage accorded him by his fellow townsmen, also a large trade which comes to him from surrounding cities. That his business has reached extensive proportions is indicated by the fact that he now employs fourteen men throughout the entire year. In style, finish and workmanship the products of his tailoring establishment are of superior grade and as he is reasonable in his prices and honorable in his dealings his patronage has continually increased until it has reached gratifying proportions.

Mr. Atkinson was married on the 1st of January, 1863, and he now has a beautiful home at 1215 National avenue. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, his membership being in the Star of the East lodge, and he has attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish rite. He is likewise connected with the Mystic Shrine and in politics he was a democrat until 1896, since which time he has supported the republican party. During the years which mark the period of his business career he has met with gratifying success for he is a self-educated as well as a self-made man. After coming to America he attended night school in Albany and made the most of his opportunities as the years passed by. During the period of his residence in Rockford he has won the



GEORGE R. ATKINSON.

good will and respect of many of the best citizens here. Concentration of purpose and persistently applied energy rarely fail of success in the accomplishment of any task, and in tracing the career of Mr. Atkinson it is plainly seen that these have been the secret of his rise to prominence.

LEVI B. FULLER.

Levi B. Fuller, who resides immediately west of Rockford on Montague road, and gives general supervision to his farms, which he has rented, was born in Geneseo county, New York, February 12, 1834. His father, John Fuller, who was born in 1800, came to Rockford in 1838, and purchased the claims now owned by his son Lemuel, after which he returned to the Empire state. The following year, however, he brought his family to the west and settled on section 19, Rockford township. There were four children: Lemuel, Levi B., Charles and Nancy. John, Lucy E. and Eliza J. were born in Illinois. The last named became the wife of Harvey Ingalls and died in Rockford township in 1877. John Fuller continued to make his home in Winnebago county until his death, which occurred in October, 1858, when he was fifty-eight years of age. In early days he was very active and influential in politics, and his opinions carried weight in the councils of his party. He improved the claims which he purchased and became an extensive landowner, having at the time of his death about one thousand acres. He always followed farming, and his enterprise and well directed effort constituted the basis of his prosperity. In early manhood he wedded Lucy Wilder, who, like her husband, was a native of Massachusetts. They were married in Pittsfield, that state, and Mrs. Fuller, long surviving her husband, died in Winnebago county, December 13, 1895, at the age of eighty-eight years. Henry Fuller, an uncle of Mr. Fuller of this review, was a very prominent citizen of Chicago, and built the first street railway there.

Levi B. Fuller was reared in Winnebago county and acquired his education in the common schools. His advantages in that direction were somewhat limited, but reading, observation and experience have largely broadened his knowledge. He was trained to the active work of the farm, assisting his father in the labors of field and meadow in early boyhood days, and for many years he continued to actively engage in agricultural pursuits. He was also engaged in the grocery and produce business for a quarter of a century, and he bought and shipped poultry for about twenty-five years. He has now been retired from regular business interests since 1877,

but he still owns two farms in the county, and gives his general supervision to their improvement and cultivation.

Mr. Fuller was married in Bradford, Chickasaw county, Iowa, to Miss Anna A., daughter of Zenas and Maria (Carpenter) Thomas, a native of Pennsylvania. They became the parents of five children, of whom only two are living: Levi S., who was formerly credit man in Appel's store in Rockford, is now occupying a good position in Chicago. He married Esther Wells. Frances E. is at home. The three children who have passed away were Franklin S., Emma E. and Ida E. All were natives of Winnebago county.

Politically, Mr. Fuller is a republican, having never faltered in support of the party since he attained his majority, and he has served as alderman of Rockford, representing the fifth ward. He is a worthy representative of a prominent pioneer family, and his own sterling traits of character make him a leading citizen here, enjoying in large measure the good will and confidence of those with whom he has been associated.

DANIEL DOBSON.

Daniel Dobson, now serving for the fourth term as justice of the peace in Harrison township and energetically carrying on farming operations on section 30, was born in Lancashire, England, in October, 1841, his parents being Henry and Sarah (Bird) Dobson, both of whom were natives of England, whence they crossed the Atlantic to America in 1849. They resided in Connecticut until 1857, when they came to this county, the father carrying on agricultural pursuits here until retirement from business life. In the east, however, he had been connected with the manufacture of paper. In 1868 he put aside the cares of the farm and removed to Rockford, where he lived in quiet and honorable retirement from labor until 1878, when at the age of sixty-three years he passed away. His wife died in 1871, at the age of sixty-five years. In their family were ten children: Thomas, now deceased; Abram, living at Chicago Heights, Illinois; James, who died in Dakota; Henry, of Rockford; Daniel of this review; Mrs. John M. Smith, of the village of Winnebago; Ann and Martha, who have passed away, and two who died in infancy.

Daniel Dobson was about eight years of age when he accompanied his parents on the voyage across the Atlantic to the new world, and was a youth of sixteen when he arrived with the family in Winnebago county. He has since resided in Harrison township, with the exception

of three years spent in the army. Watching with keen interest the events that preceded the Civil war, he enlisted as a member of Company A, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry, and served for three years, being mustered out at Springfield on the 9th of July, 1865. He served in the Army of the Cumberland and was never seriously injured, although he was slightly wounded at Stone River. Faithful to his duty, he followed the banner of the Union on many southern battle-fields, and when its supremacy was established he returned to his home, resuming farming pursuits in this county.

In 1868 Mr. Dobson was united in marriage to Miss Susan Moate, who died about 1895 leaving three children: Mrs. Frank Herrick, who is living in Harrison township; Mrs. Herbert Lillie, a resident of Burritt township; and George W., who died in 1899, at the age of twenty years. For his second wife Mr. Dobson chose Miss M. Zelah Bodine, a daughter of William Bodine, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work. Politically a republican, Mr. Dobson has always kept well informed on the questions and issues of the day, and is thus able to support his position by intelligent argument. He has served in various township offices, was school director for eighteen years, has been township trustee for three terms, was supervisor for one term, is now serving for the fourth term as justice of the peace, and in fact has been continuously in one official position or another, discharging with marked capability the duties that have devolved upon him, and thus manifesting the same loyalty to his country that he displayed when upon southern battle-fields he aided the Union cause. He maintains pleasant relations with his old army comrades through his membership in Nevins post, No. 1, G. A. R., at Rockford, and he is also connected with the Modern Woodmen camp at Harrison, while his religious views are indicated by his membership in the Methodist Episcopal church.

ELIJAH B. GUILFORD.

Elijah B. Guilford, the oldest living settler in Winnebago county to-day, has been a witness of almost the entire growth and development of this section of the state and no history of the locality would be complete without the record of his life. For a long period he was actively connected with agricultural interests and has also followed mechanical pursuits, but now in the evening of life is living retired in Pecatonica township. He was born in Worcester county, Massachusetts, April 21, 1824, and when about

four years of age left that place, his parents removing to Genesee county, New York. The father, John Guilford, died when the son was a small boy, so that the latter does not remember seeing his parent.

Mr. Guilford of this review left the Empire state in company with his mother and her three brothers, Ephraim, William and James Sumner. They started westward with a two-horse team but traded the horses for four head of oxen and with the ox-team proceeded on their journey. They arrived in Winnebago, Illinois, September 19, 1835, and here they traded one yoke of oxen for land, securing a claim on which a log house had been built. It stood on the bank of the Pecatonica river, but the family were almost drowned on account of the high waters, Mr. Guilford's mother being carried out of the house by one of her brothers, for the cabin was entirely surrounded by the river. They lived upon their original claim for seven years or until 1842, when the government opened a land office at Dixon. About that time they took up their abode upon a farm at Twelve Mile Grove. All three of the brothers purchased land upon which they settled. They were typical pioneer residents and underwent all of the hardships incident to establishing a settlement on the frontier. The greater part of the land was still unclaimed and could be had for a nominal price. Ephraim Sumner built a house at the grove and after selling that place built another. He also constructed a gristmill a mile and a half west, it being the only mill in this part of the county.

Elijah B. Guilford worked for his uncle until about twenty-four years of age. The uncle bought and sold more land than any other real-estate dealer of the county and at one time was the owner of fifteen hundred acres. Eventually he removed to Rockford, where he practiced law, making his home in the city for a number of years, after which he returned to the farm. He was the second postmaster at Vanceboro, which was on the old stage line between Chicago and Galena, and he held all of the offices in his township, including that of justice of the peace. While serving in that capacity he at one time swam the river in order to marry a couple and received fifty cents for performing the ceremony, but when he returned home he found that he had married the couple out of his jurisdiction. On another time when crossing the river driving some oxen he lost control of his team and they landed on one side of the river, while he and the wagon box were left on the other side. He sought and found shelter, however, in a log cabin, where he spent the night. His last days were passed in Rockford and when he was called to his final rest the county lost one of its most prominent pioneer settlers, a man who had



E. B. Guilford



Mary Jane Gullford

done much for the early improvement, upbuilding and development of this section of the state.

In his youth Elijah B. Guilford became familiar with all of the hardships, labors and privations of frontier life. He continued to work at farming and in various ways assisted his uncle. At length, however, he began life on his own account, starting out with forty acres of prairie land and forty acres of timber land. Upon the farm he built a little house, which was ultimately replaced by his present residence. He has planted all of the trees upon his farm, both fruit and shade trees, and the various improvements are the work of his hands and indicate a life of earnest labor and untiring activity. He would go to the fields in the early morning and continue his labors until the sun had set and as the years passed by and he prospered he kept adding to his land until he had at one time four hundred and sixty-five acres, but he has given away most of this, retaining possession, however, of a good farm property, which returns him an income sufficient for all his needs and in fact such as supplies him with the comforts and some of the luxuries of life.

On the 2d of December, 1849, Mr. Guilford was married to Miss Mary Jane Butler, at Freeport. She was born at Aiden, New York, November 10, 1828. Her father, Stephen Butler, was born January 23, 1800, in Whitestown, Oneida county, New York, and died March 25, 1881, his death occurring in Chicago, while his remains were interred in the cemetery at Pecatonica. After traveling life's journey together for nearly a half century Mr. and Mrs. Guilford were separated by death, the wife being called to her final home on the 8th of October, 1898.

Mr. Guilford has had in many respects an eventful life. In 1857, accompanied by his wife, he started for Pike's Peak, going as far as Blue river, where they remained for two years. About 1867 he went to St. Louis by boat and ultimately reached Fort Benton. It required seventy-six days for the steamer Favorite to make the trip up the river, for they had to haul the boat over the sand bars by attaching ropes to the shore. Mr. Guilford spent one winter and two summers at Fort Benton, where he was largely engaged in mining, getting out the timbers for the mine and also doing underground work. He likewise made a hay press and followed blacksmithing there. He has given more or less attention throughout his entire life to mechanical pursuits and has always maintained a workshop on his farm. Possessing excellent mechanical ingenuity he was enabled to keep his farm machinery and his buildings in good repair.

Mr. Guilford is a member of A. W. Rawlson lodge, No. 145, A. F. & A. M. Although he usually votes the democratic ticket and adheres

to the principles advocated by Jackson and Jefferson, he does not consider himself bound by party ties and has often voted for men of the opposite party, including Abraham Lincoln. He was a visitor at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago and also attended the Railway Appliance Exposition in Chicago. The Guilford family has long been known in Winnebago county and the name is inseparably connected with its history. Mr. Guilford's mother, who was born in 1800, was well known because of her medical skill and her services were often in demand by her neighbors and friends throughout the county. Guilford township was named in her honor. Mr. Guilford, as a pioneer settler, did much for the early development and improvement of this part of the state and his mind carries a picture of pioneer days with all of its hardships and privations, its joys and its pleasures, and he can relate in a very interesting manner many anecdotes of the early times.

GEORGE O'BRIEN.

George O'Brien, living on section 19, Burritt township, is one of Winnebago county's native sons, his birth having occurred in Rockford, December 25, 1851. His father, Patrick O'Brien, was born near Dublin, Ireland, about 1819, and came to the United States in 1851. Two years later he took up his abode on a farm on section 19, Burritt township, having up to that time lived in Rockford, and his death occurred upon the old homestead farm in October, 1881. He wedded Mary McMahon, who was also born near Dublin, in the year 1821, and she passed away on the farm in Burritt township about 1875. George O'Brien is the eldest son of the family. The others are as follows: Margaret, who was born in Ireland in 1848, is the wife of John Bailey, formerly of Burritt township, but now of Rockford, by whom she has six children. John, who was born in 1853, is married and living in Rockford. He wedded Margaret Maloney, of Pecatonica, and has six children. James was born in 1855, and is living in Rockford. Thomas, born in 1857, makes his home in York, Nebraska, and is married and has five children.

George O'Brien was in his second year when his parents removed from Rockford to the home farm in Burritt township near his present place of residence, and he has since lived in this township, devoting his entire life to agricultural pursuits, which he has carried on successfully. He wedded Miss Mary Murphy, a daughter of John and Ellen Murphy, of Winnebago county. Her father was born in County Wexford, Ireland, May 30, 1831, and died in Rockford, May 29,

1802, while his wife, who bore the maiden name of Ellen Behan, was born in County Wexford in 1820, and now makes her home in Rockford. Their children were as follows: Thomas W., who resides in Winnebago and is married and has eight children; John W., also living in Winnebago, who is married and has six children; Mrs. Anna Dolan, of Rockford; Mrs. Ellen McDonald, of Seward, Illinois, who has four children; Mrs. Kate Murphy, who died in 1893; and Mrs. O'Brien, the wife of our subject. She was born March 3, 1857, and on the 3rd of February, 1880, gave her hand in marriage to George O'Brien. They now have twelve children. George, born November 20, 1880, was married January 11, 1905, to Belle Milne, of Burritt, where they now reside; Mary, born January 1, 1882; Nellie, born February 14, 1883; James, born November 21, 1885; John, June 18, 1887; Florence, July 24, 1889; Margaret, November 1, 1890; Raymond, September 20, 1892; Vincent, January 28, 1894; Loretta, May 1, 1895; Ignatius, July 21, 1898, and Bernice, April 29, 1901, are all at home.

Mr. O'Brien has always carried on general farming, and his place is well improved and brings to him a good return in large crops. In politics he has always voted the straight democratic ticket, and for the past five years he has served as school director. He and his family are communicants of St. Mary's Catholic church of Rockford, and he is well known in his community as an industrious, enterprising agriculturist. For more than a half century he has lived in Burritt township and has seen many changes that have occurred as pioneer conditions have given way to the improvements of an advanced civilization.

N. P. WILSON.

N. P. Wilson, engaged in farming, resides on section 32, Guilford township, where he has seventy-eight acres of land that is finely improved with modern equipments. He is a native of Pennsylvania, his birth having occurred in Clarion county, in 1858, his parents being John and Margaret (Moore) Wilson, both of whom died in Pennsylvania, where they followed the occupation of farming.

N. P. Wilson was reared in the Keystone state, and in his youth attended the common schools. He afterwards came west to Illinois, settling in Boone county, and he also resided for three years in Ogle county before coming to Winnebago county in 1885. In that year he located on his present farm, known as the old Sanders place, and he has always followed agricultural

pursuits. He works persistently and energetically and his farm is now returning him a good income. At one time his attention was largely given to gardening and dairying, but he now tills the fields in the cultivation of the cereals best adapted to the soil and climate and has seventy-eight acres of rich land highly cultivated. Upon the place he has made many improvements and altogether the farm is a model property, lacking none of the facilities which are found on the best farms of the middle west.

While residing in Ogle county, Mr. Wilson was united in marriage to Miss Minnie Gordon, a daughter of William C. and Mary (Foulk) Gordon, who were early settlers of Illinois, taking up their abode in Ogle county about 1846. The mother died in that county May 23, 1895, and Mr. Gordon now makes his home with Mr. Wilson. He was born in Clearfield county, Pennsylvania, November 13, 1828, a son of Patrick Gordon, who was born in Ireland of Scotch parentage. Patrick Gordon was reared, however, on the Emerald isle and in early manhood went to England, whence he afterwards sailed for America. While living in Center county, Pennsylvania, he wedded Eliza Cook, who was born in Lancaster county, that state, and subsequently they established their home in Clearfield county, where Mr. Gordon became owner of one hundred and seven acres of land, making that place his residence until 1846, when he came to Illinois, settling in Monroe township, Ogle county. That the district was largely wild and unimproved is indicated by the fact that he entered a claim from the government but he was not long permitted to enjoy his new home for his death occurred in November of the same year. His widow, long surviving him, passed away in Oregon, at an advanced age. They were the parents of nine children, and with one exception all reached mature years.

William C. Gordon spent the days of his boyhood and youth in the county of his nativity and came to Illinois with his parents, making the journey by team and canal to Pittsburg and thence down the Ohio and up the Mississippi rivers. Following his arrival in the state he began earning his own living by working as a farm hand by the month and was thus engaged until 1852, when attracted by the discovery of gold in California he made the journey, crossing the plains to the Pacific coast, accompanied by James Riddell. They left Peru, Illinois, in April of that year and eventually reached their destination in safety although the journey was a long, difficult one. The only white people living between the Missouri river and California at that time were missionaries and soldiers, and the Mormons who has established their colony at Salt



N. P. WILSON AND FAMILY.

Lake City. Mr. Gordon was employed at mining at four dollars per day and later he received seventy-five dollars per month and his board. He remained in California until 1854, when by way of the Isthmus of Panama he returned to his home in Illinois. In the meantime he had sent money back to this state with which to purchase the interests of the other heirs in the eighty acres of land which his father had left in Ogle county. He continued to work as a farm hand, however, until 1857, when he built a home upon his farm and took up his abode there, residing upon that place until 1864. In that year he sold out and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Spring township, where he lived for two years. Once more selling his farm, he purchased two hundred acres lying in Ogle county along the boundary line of De Kalb county and he cultivated that place until 1883, when he rented it and purchased seventy-nine acres in Guilford township. There he made his home until 1888 and placed many improvements upon that property. In the year mentioned he placed his son-in-law in charge of the farm, while he moved to a farm in Guilford township, comprising twenty-eight and a half acres within half a mile of the city of Rockford.

In 1864, Mr. Gordon was married to Mary (Foulk) Steele, a native of Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, and a daughter of Peter and Susan (Schowalter) Foulk, natives of Bucks county and Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, respectively. Her parents lived in Cumberland county for some time after their marriage and later removed to Perry county, whence in 1851 they came to Illinois.

Mr. Foulk followed farming in Stephenson county for some time and later purchased land between Ogle and De Kalb counties. He next took up his abode in Black Hawk county, Iowa, where he carried on general farming for a number of years, after which he lived retired in Waterloo, Iowa, until his death in 1887. His wife survived him until the following year. Their daughter Mary first became the wife of Cadwallader Steele, who died in 1854, leaving a son, Frank P. Mr. and Mrs. Gordon had one daughter, Minnie J., now the wife of N. P. Wilson. They also lost three children, of whom one died in infancy, Emma at the age of three years, and Ida May when she was seventeen years of age. Since the death of his wife Mr. Gordon has come to make his home with Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, with whom he now resides.

Mrs. Wilson was married in Boone county, Illinois, and by her marriage has become the mother of seven children: John W., a resident of Rockford, employed in the Emerson manufacturing plant; Earl C., M. Grace, N. Pearl,

Glen G., Blanche and Rose, all at home. N. P. Wilson is a republican and he belongs to the Central Christian church. He has a wide and favorable acquaintance in Winnebago county, where he has now lived for twenty years and in his business affairs he has met with gratifying success.

HENRY L. BAKER.

Henry L. Baker, deceased, was numbered among the early settlers of Winnebago county, becoming a resident of this section of the state in 1838, at which time his father's family settled in Owen township. He was born in Upper Canada August 12, 1827, and was a son of Dr. Daniel and Nancy (Reed) Baker. The father was born in the state of New York, and the mother in Boston, Massachusetts, and after their marriage they removed to Upper Canada, where Mr. Baker engaged in farming until 1838. He then went with his family to Winnebago county, settling on a farm in Owen township, on what was known as the old Dr. Baker place. He was a physician, having studied medicine in the east in his early life, and became one of the first practitioners in this county. He practiced here in Owen township, and also engaged in farming throughout the remainder of his days. He died on the old homestead farm there June 15, 1868. His widow afterward removed to Rockford, and spent her last days in the home of her son Henry, passing away January 19, 1874.

Henry L. Baker was only ten years old when brought by his father to this county, and in his youth he attended the district schools near the home farm. He was ambitious to learn, and was always at the head of his class. When not busy with his books, he assisted his father in the work on the farm, until the latter's death, after which he purchased the home property from the other heirs. He continued to reside upon the farm until his health failed, and he was an enterprising, practical and prosperous agriculturist. At length he retired to private life, removing to the city of Rockford March 7, 1873. He was in hopes that his health might be benefited by his rest, but he grew gradually worse, and passed away on the 11th of September, 1873.

Mr. Baker was married in Iowa to Miss Cassandra Cottrell, a native of McLean county, Illinois, born March 11, 1837. Her parents were William and Margaret (Ellington) Cottrell. Her father was a native of Ohio, and her mother of Kentucky, and throughout his entire life he followed farming. He removed from his native state to Illinois, and afterward to Iowa, finally settling on a farm in Kansas, where both he and

his wife died. Mr. and Mrs. Baker were the parents of four children: Daniel W., who wedded Mary S. Gorham, and is a carpenter, residing at No. 1200 Parmelee street, in Rockford; Alice is the wife of William Jenks, a farmer residing near Rockford; Marietta is the wife of E. C. Beasley, of Wisconsin; and William H. married Georgia Countryman, and they reside with her mother in Rockford, Mr. Countryman being in the employ of Hart & Page. They have three children, Clyde, Glenn and Marguerite.

Mr. Baker was interested and active in community affairs, and his fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, called him to public office. He served in several township positions in Owen township, and was a staunch republican in politics. He belonged to the Masonic fraternity in Rockford, and he and his family attended the Methodist Episcopal church. He was a man reliable in business, and his energy, close application and strong purpose enabled him to become a prosperous farmer, and one whose success was well merited. His death was deeply regretted by many friends, and most of all by his family, for he was a devoted husband and father.

Since her husband's death Mrs. Baker has sold the farm, which comprised one hundred and fifty-eight acres of land, and purchased her present home in Rockford at No. 1440 Blaisdell street, where she resides with the family of her daughter. She expects to make Rockford her permanent home, and she is well and favorably known here.

WILL N. GARRETT.

Will N. Garrett, the present assessor of Guilford township, who has capably served in other official positions, represents one of the old and prominent pioneer families of Winnebago county. The farm which he owns has been in possession of the family since it was entered from the government by his grandfather, Thomas Garrett, during the administration of John Tyler as president of the United States in 1841. Thomas Garrett was the first shoemaker of Rockford and remained in that city, working at his trade for about two years, after which he removed to the farm. He there continued to follow shoemaking to some extent, but gave much of his attention to the cultivation and improvement of his land, developing a good farm property, upon which he resided up to the time of his death, which occurred in June, 1873, when he was seventy-six years of age. His wife was Margaret Kervish, who died in February, 1873. They were both natives of the Isle of Man, and they came to America in 1827, settling first at Painesville, Ohio, where they lived until 1838, when

they removed to Rockford and Mr. Garrett thus became identified with its business interests as proprietor of its first shoe shop. Both he and his wife were members of the Methodist church.

Thomas Garrett, father of our subject, was born on the Isle of Man in 1827, and was therefore an infant when brought by his parents to the new world. His boyhood and youth were passed in Ohio and in Winnebago county, and in early life he learned the trade of blacksmith and wagon-maker in Rockford, serving his apprenticeship under Henry Morton. Later he worked for the firm of Frink & Walter, of the stage company, being employed by them for several years at Rockford as an expert shoer of horses. Later he followed his trade in New Milford for eighteen years before locating on his farm and his last years were spent upon the old homestead, his attention being given to agricultural pursuits. He died here January 19, 1900, when about seventy-three years of age. He had been married in Ohio on the 6th of June, 1852, to Miss Mary Ann Radcliffe, who was born in Leroy, Lake county, Ohio, in January, 1833, her parents being Thomas and Mary (Kervish) Radcliffe. She was reared in Ohio up to the time of her marriage, and then accompanied her husband to Rockford, and she now resides upon the home farm with her son Will, who is an only child.

Will N. Garrett was reared in Milford until 1871, when his parents removed to a farm in Guilford township. He supplemented his early educational privileges by study in Rockford Business College and the Commercial Institute there, after which he took up farming, which he has continuously followed to the present time. He was married at Cherry Valley, on New Year's day of 1878, to Miss Carrie B. Crosby, who was born there in 1861, her parents being Sidney and Julia (Daggett) Crosby. Her mother was born at Newburg, Boone county, Illinois, May 28, 1840, and is now residing in Cherry Valley. Her father was a native of the Empire state, born near Schenectady, New York, in 1831, and coming thence to Newburg, Boone county, Illinois, when a young man. He was a carpenter by trade and followed that pursuit until his death, which occurred September 15, 1901, in Cherry Valley, where he resided continuously from the time of his marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Crosby were the parents of six children, of whom Mary died in infancy about twenty-six years ago. The others are A. E. Crosby, who is living in northern Nebraska; Mrs. Garrett; Elizabeth, the wife of Frank Garrett, of Cherry Valley; Henry F., of Swift county, Minnesota; and George, who is living with his mother in Cherry Valley. The maternal grandparents of Mrs. Garrett were Asa and Elizabeth (Barnes) Daggett, who went to

Boone county, Illinois, in 1836, where Mr. Daggett engaged in farming. They had previously been residents of Connecticut. The grandfather died January 8, 1848, at the age of fifty years, while his wife died July 1, 1891, at the age of eighty-three years.

Mr. and Mrs. Garrett have become the parents of four children: Alma B., the wife of Thomas Norton, living on her father's farm, and now the mother of two children, Gladys and Dorothy, both born in Rockford; Thomas A., at home; Julia, who died March 5, 1902, at the age of sixteen years; and Robert E., who died March 13, 1897, at the age of six months. Mr. Garrett is a member of the local county and state granges and is secretary of the county grange. He also belongs to the Masonic fraternity at Cherry Valley, and in politics is a stalwart republican, recognized as one of the leaders of his party in Winnebago county. He has for many years held office, serving in most of the township positions. He was township clerk for several years, was justice of the peace for twelve years, was school director for twelve years, and has recently been elected for a second term to the office of assessor. He has very often served as a member of the election board, the town hall being located on his farm. In public affairs he is active, and his labors have been far-reaching and beneficial, his devotion to the general good being above question. He yet resides upon the old family homestead, comprising one hundred and ten acres of land, which has been in possession of the family since entered from the government by his grandfather.

JOHN H. DAVEY, JR.

The farming interests of Winnebago county find a worthy representative in John H. Davey, Jr., who is successfully carrying on general agricultural pursuits on section 31, Rockford township. He has been a resident of the county since the 18th of June, 1854, coming to Illinois from Canada, to which country he had removed from England. He was born in Cornwall, England, September 18, 1846, his parents being John and Sarah (Wellington) Davey, both of whom spent their last days in Rockford township, the father's death occurring in 1896, when he was seventy-six years of age, while his wife passed away in 1894, when seventy-four years of age. John Davey worked on the old Galena Railroad during the first year of his residence in Illinois, receiving only ninety cents per day for his services, and during the succeeding thirteen years and a half he worked in the Bartlett flouring mill. He then purchased eighty acres of land, now owned by his son, J. H. Davey, Jr., and to

the development and improvement of that place he devoted his energies throughout his remaining days. From the time he became a naturalized American citizen he gave an unfaltering support to the republican party, and warmly espoused its principles. Both he and his wife commanded the esteem of all who knew them, being people of the highest respectability.

John H. Davey, Jr., their only child, was a young lad in his eighth year when brought by his parents to Winnebago county. He began his education in the schools of England, but was mostly educated on the east side of Rockford, being a student under Professor Freeman. He always remained with his parents upon the old homestead farm, rendering to his father in his boyhood days such assistance as his age and strength permitted. Later he performed a man's full duty upon the place, and he has since continued the operation of the farm, which comprises at present one hundred and thirty-five acres of finely improved land. All of the present buildings have been erected by him, and he has made many other substantial improvements, including the building of fences, the careful cultivation of his fields and the use of the best machinery in the care of his crops.

Mr. Davey was married in this county to Miss Elizabeth Berridge, who was born in Williams county, Ohio, in 1848, and is a daughter of Charles and Harriet (Ager) Berridge, but the latter died during the early girlhood of Mrs. Davey. The Berridge family were from Bedfordshire, England, and located first in the state of New York, whence they removed to Williams county, Ohio, subsequently becoming residents of La Grange county, Indiana, where the father of Mrs. Davey died. He was a farmer by occupation and the old homestead is still in possession of the family. There were six children, but only three are living: Elizabeth, the wife of our subject; Charles, of La Grange county, Indiana, and Mrs. Mary Arver, of Steuben county, Indiana. Those who have passed away are Mrs. Jane Notstine, who died in the spring of 1905, and Henry and Simon, who died in Indiana. Mrs. Davey came to Rockford on a visit in 1869, and three years later was married. Two children have blessed this union: S. J., who at the age of twenty-five years conducts the home farm, and Florence P., who is nineteen years of age, and is yet with her parents.

In politics Mr. Davey is an earnest republican, but has little aspiration for office, having refused to accept various positions of trust and honor, which would have been conferred upon him had he consented. He has, however, served for the past sixteen years as trustee of New Milford township, and in this regard has done much for the material improvement of the county,

favoring progressive measures at all times, and doing much for the schools, the public highways and all improvements that tend to promote the general welfare. He and his wife and children are devoted and loyal members of the Centennial Methodist Episcopal church of Rockford.

EDWARD J. HOFFMAN.

Edward J. Hoffman, deceased, was one of the large manufacturers of Rockford. He was prominent among the business men of the city, where for a long period he was closely identified with the history of commercial prosperity here as a representative of one of its most important business interests. He was a man of keen discernment and sound judgment and his executive ability and excellent management brought to the concern with which he was connected a large degree of success. As the president and treasurer of the Rockford Frame and Fixture Company and also as the president and treasurer of the Cream City Mirror Plate Company his name was known far beyond the limits of this county and was an honored one on commercial paper.

A native of Brooklyn, New York, Mr. Hoffman was born January 15, 1863, a son of Joseph and Catherine Hoffman. The father was an engineer, and was killed in a railroad accident when his son, Edward J., was only four years of age. The mother died in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1904. Following his father's death Edward J. Hoffman went to live with an aunt who resided near Brooklyn, New York, and there he attended the public schools and also studied at nights, thus acquiring a good education. When nineteen years of age he went to Boston, Massachusetts, where he secured a position in the glass department of a lantern factory, being there employed for some time. He afterward obtained a situation in Boston as a beveler and smoother in a mirror factory, and became an expert in that line. His efficiency and ability were so pronounced that he was promoted to the position of foreman in the factory at the age of twenty-one, but when he had acted in that capacity for a brief period he decided to try his fortune in the west, and made his way to Chicago, where he was employed in different mirror works for a few years, becoming one of the most experienced and capable representatives of the trade. He afterward removed to Milwaukee Wisconsin, where he began business on his own account by the establishment of a small factory for the manufacture of mirrors. In this enterprise he was associated with Henry Rich and John Getzinger and they engaged in

the business for a few years. It was then that P. A. Peterson and H. H. Robinson, of Rockford, were desirous of securing the services of some one in Rockford to take charge of the Rockford Mirror Plate Works, and Mr. Hoffman and Mr. Getzinger were offered the positions. Accepting the proposition made them they came to Rockford and brought with them several of their best workmen and through the joint efforts of these men the Rockford Frame and Fixture Company was organized as well as the Cream City Mirror Plate Company, of both of which Mr. Hoffman was made president. The business increased rapidly from the beginning, and soon the old plant was sold and a new one erected. In 1898 Mr. Hoffman purchased the interest of his partner, Mr. Getzinger, with whom he had been associated up to that time, after which he became president and treasurer of both companies, and so continued up to the time of his death. The plant is a very extensive one and an annex has recently been built. It is located at the corner of Fourteenth avenue and Twenty-second street, and is one of the most extensive and important industrial concerns of the city. Employment is furnished to several hundred operators in the factory, together with many office employes and traveling salesman. Since the death of Mr. Hoffman his widow has succeeded him in the presidency of the two concerns, while J. A. Carlstrom is treasurer and general manager, Frank Carlston assistant manager and A. Erickson shipping clerk. Display rooms are maintained by the company in New York city, Chicago and Grand Rapids, Michigan, and the output of the factory is shipped from coast to coast and also to European markets. They manufacture all kinds of ornamental furniture, and a glance at their catalogue, or better still, a visit to their warerooms shows that the company are producers of some of the finest goods in their line in the country.

Mr. Hoffman was not only a manufacturer, but was also an inventor, and gave to the world the finest glass polishing machine ever made. After perfecting his invention he had the machine manufactured, and it is now in use in the Rockford factory and in the factory in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. It was this invention which gave Mr. Hoffman his start in life, as he was very successful with it and realized a handsome profit upon the work.

Edward J. Hoffman was first married to Lizzie Mitchel in New York city, and they had three children: Louis E., who is now attending St. Mary's Academy, at St. Mary's, Kansas; Henry O. and Catherine E., at home. For his second wife, Mr. Hoffman married Miss Anna G. Leber, a native of New York city, and a daughter of William and Anna Leber. Her



E. Hoffman.

father removed to the west in 1879 and now resides in Rockford, where he is occupying a good position with the Cream City Mirror Plate Company. He and his wife reside at No. 523 East street. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hoffman were born two children: Margaret G. and Marion V., both with their mother.

In 1902 Mr. Hoffman met with an accident in the breaking of the fork of his bicycle, from which he was rendered unconscious, and from which he never recovered. He was ill for a year and a half, and received the best medical treatment in the west, after which he was taken to the Geneva Sanitarium at Geneva, Illinois. While there he grew rapidly worse, and died on the 14th of February, 1904. Thus was ended a life of intense usefulness. In politics he was a republican, and was a prominent member of the Knights of Columbus of Rockford. He always took a great interest in church work, being a devout Catholic, and both he and his wife were members of St. James Catholic church. He also held membership in Germania Society of Rockford, and in his family he was a most devoted husband and father, his interest centering at his own fireside. He stood as one of the most prominent citizens of Rockford, having instituted one of its most modern industrial enterprises. The safe, conservative policy which he inaugurated commended itself to the judgment of all, and secured to the company a patronage which makes the volume of trade transacted over its counters of great importance and magnitude. The prosperity of the company is certainly due in a large measure to Mr. Hoffman, who planned the business methods, along which the enterprise is still conducted. It has been truthfully said that the man who pays each week over his counters a large force of employes does more for his country than he who leads armed forces forth to battle. This was what Mr. Hoffman did, furnishing employment to many workmen, and thus contributing in substantial measure to the commercial activity and prosperity of his adopted city. He was alert and enterprising, and was, moreover, notably prompt and reliable, and his business career was such as any man might be proud to possess, awakening the admiration of his associates and of the general public.

JOHN S. PARKER.

John S. Parker, a practical and enterprising farmer, living on section 28, Harlem township, is a native of New York, his birth having occurred in Vienna, Oneida county, December 10, 1831. His father, Linns Parker, was born in Litchfield, Connecticut, in July, 1790, and when

a young man removed to New York, settling in Oneida county when it was a wild and unimproved region, in which many Indians still resided, while wild beasts roamed in the forests. In March, 1853, he came to Winnebago county, Illinois, where his remaining days were passed, his death occurring at the old homestead on the 26th of November, 1876. His wife, who was born in Clinton, New York, April 17, 1799, died in Vienna, Oneida county, New York, February 6, 1842. Their children were: Whitman Parker, who died in 1839; Herbert R., of Rockford, who was born in May, 1834, and is married and has a son and four daughters, and John S., of this review.

The last named spent the days of his minority in his native county, and in his youth acquired a public-school education and worked upon the farm. In April, 1853, he left Oneida county and traveled to Buffalo by way of the Erie canal. There he took passage on a steamer which carried him to Chicago, and he landed on the 2d of May, 1853. The journey from Chicago to Rockford was made by rail over the Chicago & Galena road, Rockford being then the terminus of the line. He came to Harlem township where his family had preceded him by a few months, and purchased the farm where he now lives. He has since made his home in this locality, and is accounted one of the successful agriculturists of his community. Upon his farm stands an old building that was known as the Buckhorn Tavern in very early days, having been built eighty-five years ago. There have lived upon the place six generations of Mrs. Parker's family.

On the 12th of December, 1866, John S. Parker was united in marriage to Miss Anna Bartholomew, of Harlem township, a daughter of Edwin and Lemira (Wilder) Bartholomew, who were pioneer settlers of the community. The father was born in the state of New York, September 16, 1821, and died in May, 1853, while the mother, who was born in Jericho, Vermont, August 14, 1826, died in June, 1848. Mr. Bartholomew made an overland trip to California at the time gold was discovered on the Pacific coast, and returned in the same way after a year spent there. In 1839 he had sailed around the world on a whaling ship that left the harbor of New Bedford, Massachusetts. Mrs. Parker was born July 20, 1846, in Harlem township, and by her marriage has become the mother of the following named: James W., born January 31, 1866, married Lula A. Fowler, of Lena, Illinois, and is living in Roscoe. They have one daughter, Welthy Louisa, born June 7, 1868, is at home. Eben S. Parker, born September 19, 1877, is living with his parents. John R., born January 31, 1875, died August 14, 1889. Charles H., born September 5, 1887, is also at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Parker are well known in the locality where they reside, and have a large circle of warm friends. He has always carried on general agricultural pursuits, and while there have been no exciting chapters in his life record his history yet displays many sterling characteristics that have won him commendation and respect. In politics he has always been a democrat, and served for ten years as township assessor, for one year as collector, and for several terms as school director. He and his family attend the services of the Methodist Episcopal church at Harlem.

ROBERT OLIVER.

Robert Oliver, at one time sheriff of Winnebago county, and now living retired at 603 North Avon street, after active connection with agricultural interests in Harrison township, was born July 4, 1838, in County Down, Ireland, a son of Adam and Mary Oliver. His father was a fisherman and boat-builder, and came to America in 1848 with his family, establishing his home near Rochester, New York. After coming to this country he engaged in farming on a small scale. In his family were five sons and four daughters, of whom two sons and three daughters are yet living: James, who is a wealthy farmer of Harrison township, Winnebago county, owning between three and four hundred acres of valuable land; Robert, of this review; Mary Jane, the wife of James Gilmore, of Rockford; Martha, who is the widow of William Miller, and resides in South Dakota; and Eliza, the wife of T. W. Allen, also living in South Dakota. The parents, removing from New York to Illinois, both died in Harrison township, this county.

Robert Oliver was only eleven years of age when, with his parents, he came to the United States, and he lived in the vicinity of Rochester, New York, until he had attained his majority, pursuing his education in the public schools of that city. In 1860 he came with the family to Winnebago county, and on the 9th of September of the following year in response to his country's call he enlisted as a member of Company C, Fifty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which company carried the colors of the regiment. His command was assigned to the First Brigade, Second Division, Fifteenth Army Corps, Army of the Tennessee. At its organization he was made corporal, was promoted to sergeant May 1, 1862; first sergeant, September 1, 1862; next lieutenant to rank from November 20, 1862, and after veteranizing was commissioned captain on the 11th of August, 1864. He

was slightly wounded at Shiloh and was seriously injured in the right shoulder at Bentonville, North Carolina, March 20, 1865, and later was mustered out with his regiment. He participated in thirty-two battles, and was for one hundred and twenty-seven days under fire. The regiment went out with nine hundred and eighty-seven men and officers, was furnished with one hundred and eighty-five recruits while in the south, and came home with only two hundred and thirty-nine members. Those who read between the lines will gain a story of hardships in battle and of many difficulties and privations borne until the ranks were so greatly disseminated that there were scarcely more than enough men to make up two companies. The Fifty-fifth Illinois Regiment marched thirty-three hundred and forty miles, traveled by rail twenty-eight hundred and seventy-five miles and by water fifty-eight hundred and fifty miles. Captain Oliver was in the battles of Shiloh, Russell House, the siege of Corinth, Chickasaw Bayou, Arkansas Post, Snyder's Bluff, Champion Hill, Vicksburg, Jackson, Mississippi; Tusculum, Alabama; Mission Ridge, Kenesaw Mountain, Atlanta, Jonesboro, the march to the sea, Fort McAllister, Savannah, South Edisto river, Charleston, Columbia and Bentonville, and was present at the surrender of General Johnston. He was mustered out at Little Rock, Arkansas, August 14, 1865, and was finally discharged at Chicago, on the 24th of August, 1865.

Following the close of the war Captain Oliver came to Rockford, and in three days began feeding a threshing machine, working on the machine until fall, while the following spring he began farming. He rented land in Harrison township for three years, after which his father-in-law purchased one hundred and twenty-two acres, selling it to Captain Oliver on time. He also began buying other land, adding to his property until he became the owner of about four hundred acres. He continued his active farming operations until 1891, meeting with splendid success in his undertakings, and then renting his land he removed to Rockford, where he has since resided. He now owns a fine home at No. 603 North Avon street, together with two hundred and thirty-three acres of fine land, well improved, in Harrison township and one hundred and sixty acres of good land in North Dakota.

On the 26th of March, 1866, Captain Oliver was married to Miss Jane Atkinson, of Harrison township, who was born in 1840, and is a daughter of William Atkinson, who died in 1903, at the very venerable age of ninety-one years. He had served as supervisor of Harrison township for seventeen consecutive years, and was a very prominent, influential citizen, true to every trust



ROBERT OLIVER.

reposed in him and active and prosperous in his business career. Mr. and Mrs. Oliver became the parents of three sons and a daughter: William G., born May 26, 1868, who married Ida Higginbottom, and is a farmer residing in North Dakota; Robert C., born October 7, 1870, who married Pearl Lilly, and lives in North Dakota; Guy T., born September 26, 1873, who married Floy Shepherdson, and, like the others of the family, makes his home near McClusky, North Dakota; and Irma C., born April 10, 1881, the wife of S. H. Buchanan, of Rockford, Illinois.

Captain Oliver is a stalwart republican, interested in his party and its welfare, and he has been called to a number of public positions of honor and trust. He served as supervisor of Harrison township for four years, as assessor for eleven years, and in Rockford has been road commissioner of his township for four years, occupying the position at the present time. In 1894 he was elected sheriff of the county, and filled that position for four years, discharging his duties without fear or favor. He is a member of Nevius post, No. 1, G. A. R., of Rockford, and also of the Modern Woodmen camp and the Masonic lodge. All he possesses has been acquired through his own efforts, and his life history stands in splendid exemplification of what can be accomplished when one has the will to dare and to do. He found, as others may, that earnest labor is the basis of prosperity, and is the only means whereby honorable success can be attained. He is highly esteemed in his community, enjoying in full measure the good will of those with whom he has been associated.

EMANUEL STOVER.

Emanuel Stover, deceased, was never a resident of Rockford or Winnebago counties yet had many friends and acquaintances here because his home was always in neighboring towns and his family have resided in Rockford since 1891. He was born in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, April 7, 1828, his parents being Jacob P. and Elizabeth (Emmert) Stover. The father was a native of Franklin county, Pennsylvania, and the mother's birth occurred in Washington county, Maryland. He remained during the greater part of his life in the place of his nativity, and always devoted his time and energies to farming. Both he and his wife have now passed away. They were the parents of eleven children, but only three are now living, namely: Daniel, a retired manufacturer residing in Freeport, Illinois; Mitchell, who owns a large fruit farm in Alabama, where he makes his home; and Mrs. Margaret Middlekauf, a resident of Lyons, Kansas.

Emanuel Stover obtained his education in the common schools of his native county and assisted in the work of the home farm during the period of his boyhood and youth. When he became of age his father gave him a farm in Carroll county, Illinois, and he took up his abode thereon. Not long afterward he sought a companion and helpmate for life's journey, and was married there to Miss Sarah I. Moffitt, who was born in Carroll county, being one of the first white children born there. Her parents were Garner and Mary J. (Davis) Moffitt, both of whom were natives of Virginia. Her father cast in his lot with the first settlers of Carroll county, where he was engaged in farming until his death, which occurred when he was forty-nine years of age. His wife, long surviving him, died at the advanced age of eighty-two years. Mr. and Mrs. Stover had a family of four children; Carrie Elizabeth, who died at the age of four years and six months; Robert, who married Edith Hull, and resides in Warren, Ohio, where he is superintendent of a machine shop; Porter, who died at the age of eighteen months; and Frank G., who married Annie Draper and was a prominent dentist of Rockford for a number of years, but has recently removed to Jonesboro, Arkansas, where he is now engaged in practice.

Following his marriage Mr. Stover removed to Freeport, Illinois, where with his brother Daniel, he engaged in manufacturing machinery of all kinds, and they continued business there for many years. In fact Daniel is still interested in the enterprise. It was during that time that Mr. Stover was elected a member of the thirty-fifth general assembly of Illinois, serving in the lower house of the state legislature for two years. He proved so capable an official that he was re-elected for a second term of two years, and he left the impress of his individuality upon the legislation enacted while he was a member of the assembly. He afterward removed to Lanark, Illinois, where he organized a life insurance company, and toward the close of the war in 1864 he became a member of the Union army, enlisting as second lieutenant of Company B, Seventy-first Illinois Infantry. He served for six months but was ill in the hospital much of that time, and was discharged in Chicago in 1865. He then returned to Lanark, Illinois, where he again took up the life insurance business in which he continued up to the time of his death. He passed away April 24, 1890, at the age of sixty-two years and seventeen days. In politics he was a republican, and while he never sought office in the way most politicians do, he was ever loyal to the interests of his party, and when honored with political preferment was ever true to his duty. He belonged to the Modern Woodmen, also the Workmen lodge, and the Independent

Order of Odd Fellows, all of Lanark, Illinois. He was likewise a member of the Christian church of Lanark, and was a man of benevolent, kindly spirit, who ever gave a helping hand to the poor. He had great sympathy for the unfortunate in distress and did whatever he could to promote the comfort and happiness of his fellowmen. In his home, too, he displayed the gentle and affectionate side of his nature, and he was uniformly a favorite among his many friends and acquaintances. His death carries to his family the comfort that he leaves behind him an untarnished name and the record of a career in which they can take unalloyed satisfaction. In 1891 Mrs. Stover sold her property in Lanark and removed to Rockford, now residing at No. 713 Elm street. She is a very consistent member of the Central Christian church, and takes an active and helpful part in its work.

THOMAS A. DENNEY.

Thomas A. Denney, whose history is that of a self-made man, rising from a humble financial position to one of affluence through well directed and earnest effort, is now living in Owen township. He was born on the 1st of August, 1854, in Janesville, Rock county, Wisconsin. His parents were Aaron and Jane (Mains) Denney. The father was born in Belfast, Ireland, in 1811, and was of Scotch parentage. In 1847 he crossed the Atlantic to America, attracted by the improved business opportunities of the United States. Landing in New York city, he there remained for about five or six years, after which he made his way westward to Wisconsin, settling in Janesville, where he resided for a year. He then removed to Dane county, where he entered eighty acres of land, upon which he erected a log house. The land office at that time was at Mineral Point. He was one of the pioneer settlers of his locality and experienced all of the hardships and privations of pioneer life, but through determined purpose overcame these and in due course of time secured the comforts known to a more advanced civilization. As he prospered in his business affairs he extended the boundaries of his farm until he had two hundred acres of rich and productive land, and in the '70s he erected thereon a commodious and substantial residence to replace his pioneer home. He had taught school in the early days in the winter months and made good use of every opportunity to provide for his family. He acted as town clerk for twenty-one years and was township superintendent of schools for a long period. In the early days the townships were very large, but he assisted in dividing them, and he took an active and helpful part in many matters

of progress and improvement in his locality. Mr. Denney gained more than local reputation as a writer and was always a great reader, keeping in touch with the trend of modern thought and also becoming familiar with many of the best works of literature. When a boy he committed to memory poems which he never forgot throughout his entire life. His political allegiance was given to the democracy and he advocated the principles promulgated by Jefferson. He died June 18, 1893, at his home in Dane county, Wisconsin, and thus passed away one of the most honored and respected pioneer residents of that portion of the state. His widow, who was born in 1817, is still living and now makes her home with her son Thomas, who is the elder of the two children born of this family. The daughter, Eliza, born December 7, 1857, is the wife of Robert Steel, of Mitchell county, Iowa, and they have two children.

Thomas A. Denney was but an infant when taken by his parents to Dane county, Wisconsin, and in his youth he worked upon the home farm, assisting his father to pay off the indebtedness upon the place. When this was done he began saving his money and ultimately he purchased eighty acres of land, while later he bought his sister's and mother's interest in the old home farm, residing thereon until the spring of 1894, when he sold the property and crossed the line into Winnebago county, taking up his abode in Owen township. At that date he purchased his present farm comprising one hundred and sixty acres of good land. It is a desirable property, the fields being under a high state of cultivation, while many modern improvements have been placed thereon.

On the 26th of October, 1883, Mr. Denney was married to Miss Martha H. Fitton, a daughter of John and Charlotte (Pilling) Fitton, both natives of England, whence they came to America at an early day, Mrs. Fitton living in this country about twenty years prior to the arrival of him who afterward became her husband. Mr. Fitton worked for his uncle in early manhood, and following his marriage he rented land for a time until he was able to purchase a farm of eighty acres. He then sold out and bought a farm of two hundred acres, spending his remaining days thereon, engaged in the raising of grain and stock up to the time of his death, which occurred when he was between fifty-five and sixty years of age. In his family were seven children, of whom six are living: James, George, Martha, Julia, Amelia and Jennie. Fraternally the father was connected with the Odd Fellows society, and in his political views he was a republican. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Denney have been born five children: Robert A., Alice H., Jennie M., Everett A. and Willard.

In politics Mr. Denney has always been a staunch republican, and he held various local offices while residing in Vermont township, Dane county. He was chairman of the town board during the last eleven years of his residence there and was president of the school board for twenty-one years. In early manhood it was his desire to study medicine and follow a professional career, but on account of his father's financial condition he remained at home, assisting him in paying off the indebtedness on the farm. He managed to acquire a good education, however, by reading, observation and experience, supplemented by a retentive memory. He has always been a strict abstainer from liquor and tobacco and has done much to further the temperance cause. His life has indeed been honorable and upright, actuated by principles which develop upright manhood and which in every land and clime awaken confidence and inspire respect.

WILLIAM STOTHARD.

William Stothard, who was connected with the business interests of Rockford as a representative of the merchant tailoring trade, became a resident of the city in 1853, when it was a small town. He was the second tailor who settled here, and through long years he was interested in business, being widely known for his efficient workmanship and honorable dealings. He was born in Yorkshire, England, July 5, 1820. His father, Marmaduke Stothard, spent his entire life in England, as did his wife. In the common schools of his native country William Stothard obtained his education, and when a young man he left his parents' home and went to London, where he learned the tailor's trade. His parents and relatives were then all living in a small town near Manchester, and after completing his apprenticeship William Stothard removed to that place, where he worked until 1848, when on the twenty-eighth anniversary of his birth he sailed for America. The voyage was a long and tedious one, as he embarked on the 5th of July and it was the 27th of August when he landed at New York city. He at once went west to Buffalo, New York, where he secured employment as a merchant tailor, occupying a position there until 1853. Thinking that he might have still better opportunities in the middle west he came to Rockford, and with the exception of three years spent in Genoa, Wisconsin, he remained a resident of this city until his demise, and was continuously connected with tailoring here.

Before leaving his native country Mr. Stothard was married to Miss Ann Newbolt, a native of England, who died in Buffalo, New York. There

were three children of that marriage: Marmaduke, who was a railroad man, living in Rockford, and died in Wisconsin; Emma, deceased; and one that died unnamed. Mr. Stothard was again married, his second union occurring in Buffalo, the lady of his choice being Miss Julia McNally. Her birth occurred in Dublin, Ireland, on the 31st of August, 1826. Her father, James McNally, was a farmer of the Emerald isle, and died there during the early girlhood of his daughter, who afterward came to the United States with her mother, who departed this life in Rockford. There were eight children born unto Mr. Stothard by his second marriage, all natives of this city, namely: William, now deceased; Jennie, who owns one of the leading millinery stores of Rockford, located at No. 103 West State street, where she conducts a large business; Mary, the wife of Charles Hinckley, of Aurora, Illinois, by whom she has three children, George, Blanche and Charles; John, deceased; Thomas, who died in infancy; Julia, deceased; Elizabeth, the wife of Guy Cutting, a resident of Rockford, by whom she has three children, Bertha, Harold and Francis; and Sarah, the wife of Charles T. Boswell, a member of the firm of C. T. Boswell & Company, druggists at No. 325 East State street. They reside with Mrs. Stothard and have two children, Clarence and Bernice.

After coming to Rockford Mr. Stothard worked at his trade, being employed as cutter most of the time, this perhaps being the most particular department of the business. For a brief period he abandoned tailoring and became the landlord of the Rockford House, but soon returned to his trade and conducted a large business. He prospered in his undertakings as the years went by and the hope that led him to seek a home in America was therefore realized. He found here business conditions which were favorable for men of ambition, willing to work, and through his persistency of purpose and capability he secured a good return for his labor. His early political support was given to the democracy, but during the last five years of his life he voted the republican ticket, having become convinced that the principles of the republican party contained the best elements of good government. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity of Rockford, and in his life exemplified the beneficent spirit of the craft. He was a man of intelligence, always interested in the leading questions and issues of the day, kept well informed on all matters of general moment and devoted his leisure hours to reading. This trait of his character made him an entertaining and companionable gentleman and won for him the friendship of many with whom he came in contact through social and business relations. He died January 15, 1900, after a residence in Rockford covering nearly

a half century, during which time he witnessed many changes as the city emerged from villagehood and took on all the evidences of a metropolitan center. He delighted in the progress of the city and county and in as far as possible aided in the work of public improvement. Mrs. Stothard and her family are all members of the Centennial Methodist Episcopal church. She owns a pleasant home at No. 512 Walnut street, and with her resides Mr. Boswell and his family.

WILLIAM A. HALLEY.

William A. Halley, who died in Rockford only a few months ago, belonged to one of the pioneer families of Winnebago county and was born in the village of Rockton, May 18, 1851, his parents being William and Christina (Mackie) Halley. The father came to this county in 1838, when the now populous city of Rockford contained only a few houses, and he then believed that Rockton would become the larger town of the two. He therefore removed to that township. He was born in Fifeshire, Scotland, about twenty miles from Edinburgh, on the 4th of June, 1818, and acquired a common school education. He became a resident of this county in 1838, when about twenty years of age, and lived for a year and a half near Rockford. He then settled in the village in February, 1840. He was a tailor by trade and followed that pursuit, also handling ready made clothing and he continued in that business for twenty years, or until 1860, meeting with splendid success by reason of the liberal patronage which was accorded him. He then purchased five hundred acres of raw prairie land in Owen township which he improved, making a splendid property. He planted many trees upon this place and also raised trees from the seed. His farming operations were also attended with success and, making additional purchase, he had at one time more than one thousand acres of land. He was a worthy pioneer settler of this locality, aiding greatly in the reclamation of the wild land for the purposes of civilization and his efforts contributed in substantial measure to the progress and improvement of the locality. His fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, frequently called him to office. He was the first town clerk in Rockton township, also served as supervisor and assessor and was likewise justice of the peace. He was one of the first supporters of the whig party in the country and cast his ballot for William Henry Harrison. On the organization of the new republican party he became one of its staunch advocates and voted for Abraham Lincoln. He was married December 4, 1846, to Christina Mackie, who is now living at the age of ninety-two years. In their

family were three children. They live in the same house with their son, T. R. Halley, a prosperous farmer of Owen township.

William A. Halley was a student in the public schools of Rockton in his early youth but was only nine years of age when his parents removed to Owen township and he afterward became a public school student in Rockford, thus acquiring a good education. In his boyhood days he assisted in the operation of the home farm in Owen township and later he began farming on his own account. Subsequent to his marriage he purchased land in that township and was engaged in its cultivation and in the improvement of the farm until about 1900, when he suffered from ill health and gave up hard work. He was not afterward actively engaged in general agricultural pursuits but continued to make his home upon his farm and supervise its operations until March, 1905, when he removed to Rockford.

In 1883, Mr. Halley was married to Miss Sarah J. Armstrong, a native of Owen township, and a daughter of Archibald and Eliza (Newburn) Armstrong, both of whom were natives of Ireland, whence they came to America, settling first in Pennsylvania. They afterward left the east and at an early day became residents of Winnebago county, taking up their abode in Owen township, where the father was actively engaged in farming until his later years, when he lived retired until his death in 1893, when he was seventy-seven years of age. His wife passed away in 1877, at the age of sixty-two years, and further mention of them is made on another page of this work. Mr. and Mrs. Halley became the parents of one daughter, Alice, who is now a student in Rockford and resides with her mother.

As before stated, Mr. Halley continued to engage in farming from the time of his marriage until his removal to Rockford. His health grew worse in the city until on the 6th of June, 1905, he passed away. He voted with the republican party but had no desire for office, his attention being given during his active business life to his farming interests, whereby he acquired a handsome competence, being thus enabled to leave his family in very easy financial circumstances. His widow owns a nice home at No. 1523 School street and yet owns the old homestead farm of four hundred acres in Owen township, which is said to be one of the finest in the county.

ROBERT MEYER.

The growth of Rockford has been marvelous, especially along manufacturing lines, until the city is to-day one of the leading productive centers of the middle west. In the control of exten-



W A Halley

sive and important interests are men of marked enterprise, keen discernment, executive force and splendid business ability, and to their labors the development of Rockford is due. Mr. Meyer, a representative of this class, is now general manager for the Rockford Glass Bending Works, the only enterprise of this character in the state.

A native of south Germany, he was born in 1862, and, having acquired his education in the schools of the fatherland, he afterward learned his trade in that country, becoming familiar with all departments of glass manufacturing. He came to America in 1877, then a youth of fifteen years, and has followed glass bending continuously since. He removed to Rockford from St. Louis, where he had previously followed his trade. In that city he was with the Western Glass Bending Company, and also the Oyer Glass Bending Company, and his long experience well qualified him for the work which he undertook in Rockford. He located here in April, 1899, establishing his plant, which is the only one of the kind in the state. It was built after the company was organized and they now have three furnaces, which are in constant operation, being run night and day. Employment is furnished to about twenty-five men, and the output of the factory finds a ready and profitable sale on the market. The plant is located at the corner of Tenth avenue and Tenth street, and Mr. Meyer has entire charge of the business, which he is developing along modern lines and in conformity with strict commercial ethics, so that the house sustains a very enviable reputation.

In 1884 Mr. Meyer was united in marriage, in St. Louis, to Miss Sophia Schmidt, and they have six children: Henry, who is employed in the glass works, is married, and resides in Rockford; Otto, who is also working at the factory; Lena, Robert, Emma and Albert, all at home. Politically, Mr. Meyer is a republican, interested in the success and welfare of his party, but never desiring office as a reward for party fealty. He belongs to Rockford lodge, No. 689, I. O. O. F., and his religious views are in accord with Protestantism. The family home is at Tenth avenue and Tenth street, and Mr. and Mrs. Meyer have made many friends during their residence in Rockford, and Mr. Meyer has won for himself favorable regard in business circles here.

MILTON TODD.

Milton Todd, a self-made man, who has become a large landowner with holdings in Rockford, Owen and Harrison townships, makes his home on section 1, Burritt township, on a tract of land of one hundred and seventy acres. He was born September 6, 1847, his parents being

Jonathan and Hannah P. (Vadakin) Todd. The father was born in New Jersey, April 20, 1826, while the mother's birth occurred in Wayne county, Pennsylvania, November 5, 1819. They came to the west in 1855, and the father bought the homestead farm in Harrison township. Throughout his active business career he carried on general agricultural pursuits, and he passed away April 13, 1871, being long survived by his wife, who died January 5, 1894. In their family were the following named: George R., who is living in Harrison township and has three children: Daniel, a resident of Burritt township, who is married and has two children; Mrs. Marilla Moffatt, the wife of R. N. Moffatt, of Harrison township; and Milton.

The last named, a native of Liberty Corners, Somerset county, New Jersey, was a lad of about eight years when brought by his parents to the west, and upon the home farm in Harrison township he was reared, early becoming his father's assistant in the labors and duties that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. He lived in Harrison township for twenty-eight years and then removed to his present home on section 1, Burritt township, where he has resided for twenty-two years. In his farm work he has prospered, and as the years have gone by he has added to his possessions, becoming the owner of one hundred and seventy acres. He has for some time made a specialty of growing seed corn and of manufacturing syrup. At the present time he is practically living retired, leaving the active work of the farm to his son, although he gives general supervision to the place. Working persistently and energetically year after year, his rest is now justly deserved, and his extensive possessions are the visible evidence of his life of well directed industry.

On the 2d of July, 1879, Mr. Todd was married to Miss Eliza K. McDougall, of Burritt township, a daughter of D. C. and Jessie B. McDougall. Her father was a native of Perthshire, Scotland, and became a resident of Harrison township, this county, in 1851. Soon afterward, however, he removed to Burritt township, and as the years passed became an extensive landowner. He is now living a retired life in Rockford, possessing a handsome competence that enables him to enjoy all the comforts and many of the luxuries that go to make life worth living. He wedded Jessie B. Patterson, who was born in Scotland. They were married in that country, and the year 1851 witnessed their removal to the United States. Mrs. McDougall, however, departed this life on the home farm in Burritt township, May 15, 1900. In their family were the following named: John McDougall, a resident of Burritt township, who married Kate McGonegal, and has five children; James McDougall, of Shirland township, who

married Ellen M. Scott, and has three children; Arthur McDougall, of Burritt township, who married Isabelle Lidell, and has five children; and Jennie, who became the wife of S. B. Wallace, and died July 23, 1892, leaving two children. The other member of the family is Mrs. Todd, who was educated at Lownsbury Academy in Rockford and followed teaching from the age of eighteen to twenty-three years. Of the four children born to Mr. and Mrs. Todd, Ella J. died at the age of ten years and Arthur died at the age of fourteen years. Those still living are: Jessie M., who was born in Harrison township, September 6, 1880, and is the wife of J. M. Harcourt, of Rockford; and Ira D., who was born January 14, 1883, and is living at home, largely relieving his father of the work of the farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Todd belong to a progressive class of people who believe in living in the present and not in the past, and who are continually abreast with the modern march of progress and improvement. They have many warm friends in the community and are highly esteemed by all who know them, while the hospitality of their own home is greatly enjoyed by many. Mr. Todd is an ardent republican in his political views, and for sixteen years has served as school director, while for nine years he was justice of the peace, discharging his duties in a manner strictly fair and impartial, so that his official service has been creditable to himself and satisfactory to his constituents.

FRANK M. BAUDER.

Frank M. Bauder, residing in New Milford, where he is engaged in farming and in the raising of early garden products, came to this county in October, 1854, from Fort Plains, Montgomery county, New York. He was there born and was only a year and a half old when brought to Illinois by his parents, Peter G. and Julia A. (Allen) Bauder, who on emigrating to the west brought with them a number of fine sheep. They spent their remaining days in Winnebago county and for a number of years resided at Rockford, but afterward returned to New Milford, where they passed away, the father dying July 1, 1903, at the advanced age of eighty-five years, while his wife died on the 7th of December, 1900, at the age of eighty-two. He was a farmer and stockman, raising and handling sheep and wool. He bought wool for a number of years, finding this a profitable department of his business interests. He owned the farm on section 23 and 26, New Milford township, that is now the property of his son, Frank M. Bauder, having about one hundred and twenty acres of rich land. He became well known as an extensive stock-dealer

and for years he attended the dairy state fairs in Iowa and Illinois, exhibiting his high grade and thoroughbred sheep. He did much to improve the standard of sheep raised in this section of the country and thereby greatly promoted the prosperity of the agricultural class. In his family were four sons: J. J., who is now living retired in New Milford; George M., who is engaged in the livery business in Chicago; Charles, who was killed by being thrown from a horse in his boyhood days in New York; and Frank M.

Frank M. Bauder was reared in this county, living on the home farm in New Milford township for over fifty years. Having acquired a common-school education he started out in life on his own account and whatever success he has achieved is due entirely to his own efforts. He was married here to Miss Mary J. Graham, who was born in northern Ireland and is a daughter of William and Agnes (Beggs) Graham, who came to Kishwaukee, this county, about 1858 and has since resided here. Her father was a farmer and shoemaker by trade, and his death occurred about 1885, when he was sixty years of age. His widow, now more than eighty years of age, still resides in this county. Mrs. Bauder was one of a family of six daughters and four sons, of whom eight are living: Hugh, a resident farmer of Cherry Valley township; William John, of the same township; Mrs. Sarah Cassidy, of that township; Mary J.; Thomas, of New Milford; Mrs. Maggie Lacy, of Davis Junction, Ogle county; Mrs. Asa Kinson; George, a farmer of New Milford; Jennie, who died at the age of three years; and Jeannette, who died in infancy.

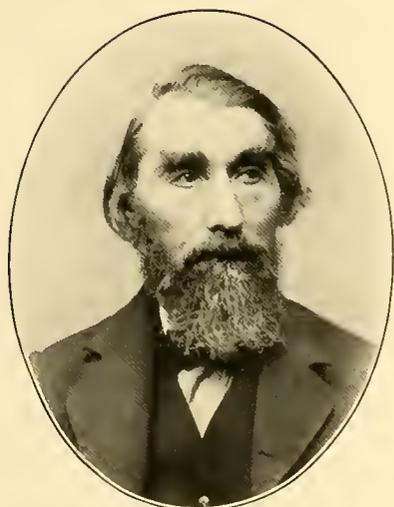
Politically Mr. Bauder is a republican, who has served as school director and in other local offices. His wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and both are well known in the locality where they have long resided. In his business affairs, Mr. Bauder has proposed and in connection with general farming he has been engaged in the poultry business for a number of years, handling several breeds of fine chickens, including Cochins, Brahmas and Leghorns, which he has exhibited at the St. Louis and Chicago fairs and also in Iowa, winning various premiums. He formerly devoted considerable attention to the raising of Poland China hogs and he is now engaged also in the raising of vegetables for the market. His business interests are well conducted and he is now a prosperous resident of his locality.

SOLOMON JENKS, M. D.

No history of Roscoe township would be complete without mention of Dr. Solomon Jenks, who was the pioneer physician in his part of the



MRS. F. M. BAUDER.



P. G. BAUDER.



MRS. P. G. BAUDER.



F. M. BAUDER.

county. He was born in Vermont in 1796, and when about six or seven years of age accompanied his parents on their removal to Rhode Island, where he was reared to manhood. He supplemented his public school education by a course of study in the medical school at Pittsfield, Massachusetts, and, following his graduation, he sought a field of labor in the middle west, going first to Ohio, where he continued in active practice for some time. He was married in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, and soon afterward came to Illinois, arriving in Winnebago county in 1839. He was the first physician to locate in Roscoe township, and for several years he practiced there, meeting the usual experiences of the physician upon the frontier, who, because of the sparsely settled district, must needs take long drives under the summer's sun or through the winter's cold, counting no personal sacrifice too great if it would enable him to advance the welfare of his fellowmen by reason of his professional skill and ability.

Dr. Jenks was married to Miss Lydia Walker, a native of North Adams, Massachusetts, and they became the parents of fourteen children, including Mrs. Ransom, of Roscoe, who was the fifth member of the family, and to whom we are indebted for the material furnished for the sketch of her parents. One son of the family, Captain George W. Jenks, who raised a company at Vandalia, Illinois, for service in the Civil war, was commissioned its commander. Of the fourteen children only three are now living: Mahala, who became Mrs. Ransom; Mrs. Gertrude Billings and Mrs. Alma Lawrence. Mahala was married to Dr. G. P. Ransom, of whom mention is made in connection with the sketch of Dr. Penn W. Ransom, of Rockford, on another page of this work.

Dr. Jenks departed this life in Roscoe in 1842, at the age of forty-six, while his wife, returning to Ohio, died in Saybrook, Ashtabula county, at the age of fifty-six years. They were worthy pioneer people of this part of the state, and are yet remembered by some of the earliest settlers of Winnebago county.

ELLIS ANDREW.

Ellis Andrew, retired from agricultural pursuits and now living in Rockford, was born in England in 1838, his parents being William and Hannah Andrew, who in 1846 made their way across the briny deep to the new world, landing at Rhode Island, where they remained for four years. During that time the father came to Burrirt township, Winnebago county, and purchased thirty acres of land from the government. He then returned to New England, and in 1850

brought his family to Illinois, settling upon the little farm which he had prepared. He spent his remaining days in Burrirt township, and as the years went by his labors were not only practical and progressive, but also profitable, and he became the owner of two hundred and sixty acres of land. Both he and his wife were identified with the church of England. They were the parents of thirteen children, of whom nine reached years of maturity, while Ellis and three sisters are now living, namely: Mrs. Chapman, who resides on Winnebago street in Rockford; one living in Missouri; and another in Iowa.

Ellis Andrew acquired but a limited education, for when only eight years of age he began earning his own living, and has always followed farming. He remained at home until twenty-eight years of age, and in 1866 was united in marriage to Miss Ellen Rudd, who was born in Erie county, New York, November 5, 1842, her parents being Joel and Caroline (Estee) Rudd. The father was born in Middletown, Virginia, February 7, 1794, and the mother in Salem, New York, February 4, 1807. In 1846 Mr. and Mrs. Rudd removed to the west, and the former followed agricultural pursuits in Burrirt township, where he owned and operated sixty acres of good land up to the time of his death, which occurred February 25, 1856. He was survived by his wife until February 17, 1874. His three daughters are all living, namely: Mrs. E. Cushman, a resident of Rockford; Mrs. Clarissa Oakley, of Durand; and Mrs. Andrew. Unto our subject and his wife have been born two sons. Lewis J., born January 2, 1869, was a student in Oregon, Illinois, for three years, and afterward attended the Chicago Dental College, from which he was graduated in April, 1899, since which time he has practiced in Rockford, having an office at the corner of Wyman and State streets. Charles A., born October 3, 1870, and attended college in Oregon, Illinois, for a year. He married Miss Bertha A. Davis, of Burrirt township, and has one child, Verna L., born May 22, 1902. He is now successfully following farming in Burrirt township.

After his marriage Mr. Andrew of this review engaged in operating land on the shares from 1866 until 1874 and in the latter year his mother-in-law died, after which he purchased a farm of sixty acres which she had previously owned, and of which he retained possession until a short time ago, when he sold to his son. He kept adding to it from time to time until the farm comprised one hundred and seventy-five acres, and of this he still has one hundred acres, but in 1890 he retired from active business life and took up his abode in Rockford, where he rented a house for four years, and then in 1903 built the home which he now occupies at No. 837 North Horsman street.

Voting with the republican party, Mr. Andrew keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day, and has served as highway commissioner and constable. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and attends the Court Street Methodist church, of which his wife is a member. He gained the greater part of his property through his own efforts, and his life record proves the force and value of industry and perseverance in the active affairs of life. He is not only a self-made, but also a self-educated man, and keeps thoroughly informed concerning the leading questions and interests of the day. He was but eight years of age when he came with his parents to America, and for more than a half century he has resided in Winnebago county.

ARTEMUS C. THORNE.

Artemus C. Thorne is the present township clerk of Winnebago township, and also the village clerk. He has filled the former position for thirty-three years, and no higher testimonial of his capability and fidelity could be given than the fact that he has so long been retained in office. He has lived in Winnebago county since 1858, locating at that time in Durand, where he resided for one year, since which time he has made his home at Winnebago. He is a native of Oneida county, New York, born in 1848, his parents being C. A. and Angeline (Grippen) Thorne, who came to Winnebago county, where they resided for several years, and here the father died in 1859. The mother afterward removed to Nebraska, spending her last days in Fairmont, where her death occurred in 1879. In their family were two daughters, Mrs. Chambers Atwood, now living in Rawlins county, Kansas, being the only survivor with the exception of the subject of this review, who is the only son. Mrs. Celestia Treadwell died in Nebraska. A. C. Thorne was about ten years of age when he became a resident of Winnebago county, and since 1864 he has lived in the town of Winnebago. He was a youth of only sixteen when, in 1864, he responded to his country's call for troops, enlisting in Company I, One Hundred and Fortieth Illinois Infantry. In February, 1865, he joined Company F, One Hundred and Fifty-sixth Illinois Infantry, and was discharged as second lieutenant. Returning to the north when the country no longer needed his aid, he settled in Winnebago, and for the past thirty-five years he has been engaged in carpentering. In this way he has aided in the construction of many of the leading structures in the town and surrounding districts, and he has through his business, official

and social relations become well acquainted with practically every resident of the township. He has long been a recognized leader in the ranks of the republican party, and has served on the election board of the town for the past thirty-four years. He has for a third of a century been township clerk of Winnebago township, and at this writing is also filling the position of village clerk.

In 1868 Mr. Thorne was united in marriage to Miss Martha Benedict, who was born in the western part of New York, near Auburn, and came to this county in 1865. They have three daughters and one son, the last named being C. A. Thorne, who is a conductor on the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad. The daughters are Mrs. U. G. Dennison, whose husband is a druggist of Winnebago; Mrs. B. Faulkner, whose husband is a farmer of Seward township; and Mrs. E. J. Foley, whose husband is agent for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company at Gilberts, Illinois. Fraternally Mr. Thorne is prominent, being a valued representative of various lodges. He holds membership relations with the Masons, Modern Woodmen of America, the Royal Arcanum, the Knights of the Globe and the Good Templars, and he is also a member of the Nevius post, No. 1, G. A. R., of Rockford. His wife holds membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, and the family attend services there. Mr. Thorne certainly needs no introduction to the readers of this volume, being so well known here, and he is a popular citizen, whose good qualities have gained him warm regard, the circle of his friends being almost co-extensive with the circle of his acquaintance.

ROBERT FALCONER.

Robert Falconer, deceased, for many years a farmer of Winnebago township, was practical in his methods, successful in his work. He was born in Rosshire, Scotland, February 1, 1832, and with his parents, Hugh and Catherine (McDonald) Falconer, came to America in 1848, being at that time about sixteen years of age. The family was established in Rockford township, Winnebago county, and about seven years later, in 1855, they removed to Winnebago township.

Robert Falconer remained under the parental roof through the period of his minority, aided his father in the work of the home farm and ultimately came into possession of the old family homestead, to which he added until he owned the one hundred and fifty-three acres which are now in possession of his widow. His father, Hugh Falconer, died January 8, 1867, being long survived by the mother, who passed away December

15, 1885. Mr. Falconer, as a companion and helpmate for life's journey, chose Miss Anna Ross, who was born in Rosshire, Scotland, in July, 1853, one of nine children of Crawford and Catherine (McDonald) Ross, both of whom died in Scotland in 1903, when more than eighty years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Falconer became the parents of seven children: Robert H., born November 5, 1876; Donald, October 23, 1878; Jessie, August 10, 1880; Ross, March 31, 1882; Margaret, April 14, 1884; Catherine J., April 20, 1886; and Joseph E., November 6, 1891. All are still at home with their mother save Jessie, who is now the wife of Cassius Gardner.

Throughout his entire business career Robert Falconer followed the occupation of farming, and his place became finely improved and was successfully operated. It is a valuable tract of land, and he was thus enabled to leave his family in comfortable circumstances. His political views accorded with republican principles and he did all in his power to promote the growth and insure the success of his party, yet he was never a politician in the sense of office-seeking. However, for over twenty-four years he filled the position of school director in district 98, formerly district No. 5. He attended the Congregational church, of which Mrs. Falconer and most of her children are members. His death occurred April 18, 1899, upon the old homestead farm, and was the occasion of deep regret, not only in his immediate family but also among his friends, for he had gained a wide and favorable acquaintance during the long years of his residence here, covering a period of more than half a century. Mrs. Falconer, with the aid of her sons, now operates the farm, which is a well equipped property, conducted along modern lines of agricultural development.

AUGUST W. LARSON.

August W. Larson, the senior member of the firm of A. W. Larson & Company, meat dealers of Rockford, has been a resident of this city since 1890. He was born in Vestergotland, Sweden, in 1873, his parents being Lars and Christina (Kling) Johnson. The father was a carpenter by trade and followed that pursuit in Sweden up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1887. His widow still survives and is living in Rockford, at the age of seventy-eight years. She came to the United States about fifteen years ago and has since made her home in this city. In the family were eight children, all of whom are yet living, namely: Charles, who is employed in the car shops of the Illinois Central Railroad; Gustaff, an upholsterer and furniture dealer living in Kewanee, Illinois; Mrs. Anna Eklund, of

Rockford; Hulda, the wife of C. A. Carlson; Alfred, who is superintendent and president of the Co-operative Furniture Company of Rockford; Robert, who is a cabinet-maker by trade and is a stockholder in the Co-operative Furniture Company; Albert, who is in the grocery store of P. O. Anderson & Company; and August W.

In taking up the personal interest of August W. Larson we present to our readers the record of one who has made consecutive advancement since entering upon his business career empty-handed at an early age. He was educated in the common schools of Sweden and after coming to America learned the trade of wood-carving. He was a young man of seventeen years when with his mother he crossed the Atlantic to America and became a resident of Rockford. Realizing that in America where labor is not hampered by caste or class he might have better opportunities for business advancement, he resolutely set to work here to gain a start in life and after working at his trade for some time he embarked in his present business in 1897, now having a large meat market at No. 620 Seventh street, where he is associated with August Eklund. They have built up an excellent business and are now prospering, having a commodious, comfortable and model market. Their business methods, too, are such as to commend them to the confidence and patronage of the public and their worth in trade circles is widely acknowledged.

Mr. Larson was married to Miss Hulda Englund, who was born in Indiana, in 1875, and is a daughter of Charles Englund, who now resides at No. 1723 Charlotte street, Rockford. They have two children, Leroy William and Florence Irene, aged respectively four and two years. The family home is at 1007 Sixth street, and their residence is a very attractive and pleasant one. Mr. Larson is connected with the Mission Tabernacle,—which indicates his religious views, and his political support is given to the republican party. He is a strong advocate of temperance principles and of all movements that tend to alleviate mankind. His own life is honorable and upright, actuated by high motives and commendable principles. He is firm in support in what he believes to be right and stands for justice and truth in man's relations with his fellowman.

STEPHEN W. TANNER.

In this enlightened age when men of energy, industry and merit are rapidly pushing their way to the front, those who by their individual efforts have won favor and fortune may properly claim recognition. Years ago when the west was enter-

ing upon its era of growth and development and Illinois was laying its foundation for the future prosperity there came to Rockford from all parts of the county men of sturdy independence, possessing strong determination to succeed. Among this number was Stephen W. Tanner, who became a well known manufacturer of Rockford, engaged in the manufacture of all kinds of leather goods. He took up his abode in this city in 1866 and his business record was in harmony with the spirit of the times—characterized by unfaltering energy and consecutive advancement. Born in London, England, he represented an old family of that country. His parents came to America during his early youth and settled in Canada. The father was a veterinary surgeon, and engaged in the practice of his profession in Canada throughout the remainder of his days, his wife also departing this life there.

S. W. Tanner was a student in the district schools, in addition to those of Canada, where his father resided, but was only a boy when his parents died. After completing his education he began to learn the trade of a leather manufacturer in Canada, being employed in different factories of that country as a common laborer. He saved his earnings and his frugality and industry at length brought him capital sufficient to enable him to engage in business on his own account on a small scale. For several years he conducted private business interests in Canada, after which he removed to Ashtabula, Ohio, where he continued in the same line for a few years. Later he sold out and went to Comcaut, Ohio, and subsequently came to the middle west, locating at Clinton Junction, Wisconsin, where he purchased a tract of land and was engaged thereon in general farming for twelve years. He did not meet with the success that he had anticipated in that direction and becoming discouraged he decided to return to his trade as leather worker. He then sold his farm, and it was at this time, in 1866, that he came to Rockford. Here he established a leather manufacturing plant, erecting a large factory near the Rockford fair grounds. His business steadily increased until he employed a large number of leather workers and manufactured all kinds of leather goods, which he shipped to various parts of this country. He visited the factory each day to superintend the work therein conducted, but maintained an office near the Rockford National Bank. He was thus associated with one of the large productive industries of this city up to the time of his death, and was a man of unfaltering industry, neglecting no detail of his business, and watchful of every indication pointing to success. He was well known to the manufacturers of this part of the country and his name in trade circles was a synonym for business integrity and for successful accomplishment.

Mr. Tanner was married in the state of New York to Miss Margaret A. Stewart, a native of New Brunswick, Canada, and a daughter of Robert and Ann (McClellan) Stewart, both of whom were natives of Scotland, whence they emigrated to America in early life, settling in the Empire state. The father was there engaged in farming for several years and afterward removed to Canada, where he carried on general agricultural pursuits for a long period or until his retirement from active business life. He then removed to the home of his son at Eagle Prairie, Wisconsin, where he and his wife lived until called to their final rest. Mr. and Mrs. Tanner became the parents of three children: James E., who married Miss Nichols, of Boston, Massachusetts, and now resides near that city, where he is engaged in the manufacture of a patent brick; William J., who married Miss Elizabeth Schmauss, of Rockford, and died here in 1902; and Mrs. Katherine E. Fisk, the noted singer. She was born in Clinton Junction, Wisconsin, November 5, 1861, and married Franklin Proctor Fisk, of Chicago. She had her voice cultivated in New York city, and since her marriage has been on the stage, being one of the noted singers of the present day. Mr. Tanner was a democrat in his political views, but was never an aspirant for office. The success of his life was due to no inherited fortune or to any happy succession of advantageous circumstances, but to his own sturdy will, steady application, tireless industry and sturdy integrity. He kept in touch with the modern thought and action of the business world and his ready adaptability and laudable ambition proved a strong basis for his prosperity. He died February 25, 1888. Mrs. Tanner is a member of the First Congregational church of Rockford, and takes a deep and active interest in its work. She resides at No. 512 College avenue, where she owns a beautiful home.

O. J. CUMMINGS.

O. J. Cummings, who for about a half century has resided on a farm on sections 17 and 18, Guilford township, where he yet makes his home, having more than three hundred acres of land that annually returns him a good financial income, arrived in Winnebago county on the 14th of February, 1844, in company with his father, Nehemiah Cummings. In early manhood Nehemiah Cummings had married Rebecca Cottam, who died, in 1837, in Ohio. The father afterward married Miss Laura Clark, and with his second wife and his children he made the journey westward to Illinois, reaching his destination on the date indicated. He settled on what is called the big bottom in Guilford township, tracing Ohio land for a tract here. He



O. J. Cummings

found the soil rich and productive after careful cultivation and he continued to make his home upon his farm until his death, which occurred in 1863, when he was sixty-nine years of age. He always followed the occupation of farming and was thus enabled to provide a comfortable living for his family. His early political allegiance was given to the whig party and when the republican party was formed to prevent the further extension of slavery he joined its ranks. He was an ardent advocate of the Union cause but he did not live to see the completion of the war and the vindication of the president's policy. He held membership in the First Methodist Episcopal church of Rockford and his life was honorable and upright. His second wife, long surviving him, died a few years ago in Missouri, when more than eighty years of age. She had one child by a former marriage and one son by her second marriage—Clarkson E. Cummings, who is now living in Iowa Falls, Iowa.

O. J. Cummings also has a sister, Mrs. Mary Hunter, who resides in Delaware county, Iowa. O. J. Cummings was born in Geauga county, Ohio, in December, 1831, and was therefore a youth of about thirteen years when he came with his father to Illinois. He had begun his education in the schools of the Buckeye state and he continued his studies there, being under the instruction of Miss Ferona Foote, a well remembered teacher. At another time he was under the instruction of H. H. Waldo and he also attended the Rockford schools. Throughout the greater part of his business career he has carried on farming, starting out in life for himself as a young man. He had no special advantages to assist him but realizing that earnest labor is the basis of all prosperity he closely applied himself to his work and in the course of years has won success.

Mr. Cummings was married at the age of twenty-seven years to Miss Ann Butler, who was born in Pennsylvania, but came to Winnebago county in early womanhood. She is now seventy-six years of age, and for more than a half century has lived in Winnebago county. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Cummings have been born five children: Mrs. Lillian Fitts, of Northampton, Massachusetts; Mrs. Mary Gorham, formerly of Iowa, but now of Rockford; Mrs. Abbie Knoud, who is residing on the Samuel Fuller farm in Rockford township; and B. N., who is managing and residing on the farm in Guilford township, and who married Miss Ella Elliott, of Lynnville, by whom he has three children—Mildred, sixteen years of age; Kenneth, eight years of age, and Dorothy, a little maiden of four years. Mr. and Mrs. Cummings lost one child, Lulu, who is a twin of Lillian and who died at the age of four years.

Locating upon their present farm in the '50s, this place has since been their home and Mr. Cummings continued active in its cultivation and management until 1862, when, feeling that his country needed his aid, he became a member of Company D, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry, joining the regiment as a private soldier. He soon was made sergeant, however, and thus served until 1863, when he was honorably discharged because of disability. He had participated in the battle of Perryville, Stone River and other engagements and after being mustered out at Gallatin, Tennessee, he returned to his home. He has never entirely recovered from injuries sustained at the front. He is now a member of Nevius post, No. 1, G. A. R., and was at one time quite active therein. He was formerly identified with the Modern Woodmen and he is well known in political circles as a republican. For four years he served as a member of the board of supervisors and assisted materially in securing the location of Memorial Hall, at Rockford, and was likewise instrumental in the building of the north end bridge. He has a wide acquaintance in his township, having for about a half century lived upon his present farm and not to know Mr. Cummings in that community is to argue one's self unknown. There have been no exciting chapters in his life history but his record proves the true worth of character and indicates the effectiveness of persistent, honorable labor in achieving success, which is the goal for which all business men are striving.

MARQUIS L. CORWIN.

Marquis L. Corwin, a retired farmer, living in Pecatonica, was born February 22, 1845, in what was then the township of Lysander, but is now Pecatonica township. His parents were Captain B. F. and Betsy (Tibbits) Corwin, the former born October 28, 1810, and the latter on the 13th of July, 1815. They were married December 31, 1836, and about 1839 came to Rockford, where Captain Corwin established a brickyard, the first enterprise of the character started in the county seat. Later he removed to the vicinity of Pecatonica, his home being about three and a half miles north of the village. There he entered government land, securing one hundred and sixty acres, on which he built the first brick house in the township, burning the brick and making the lime for the building. He was one of the pioneer settlers of the community, broke the raw prairie, cut the timber and hewed out the lumber used in the construction of the barn. He also split the shingles for the roofs of his buildings and he burned the brick for the first brick

building erected in Pecatonica. In addition to general agricultural pursuits he conducted a cooper shop on his farm and made barrels for the shipment of pork and beef. He also made hundreds of flour barrels, which he sold in Rockford, Galena and Freeport. He continued in the cooperating business for forty years or more, and at times did shoemaking for his own family. His business interests were thus varied and extensive. He possessed marked mechanical ingenuity, as well as unfailing enterprise and strong purpose, and his labors were attended with a gratifying measure of success. His death occurred in Durand township and the community thereby lost one of its representative citizens. In the family were seven children: E. W., born September 4, 1842; Marquis L., of this review; Ase-nath, born November 22, 1847; Amassa, born April 27, 1849; Lydia, March 21, 1852; Lucy J., December 31, 1855; and Franklin S., March 19, 1850.

Marquis L. Corwin pursued his education in the public schools of Pecatonica township, and during his boyhood days worked upon his father's farm through the summer months. When about twenty years of age he rented land and began business on his own account. As a companion and helpmate for life's journey he chose Miss Fidelia A. Canon, a daughter of George P. and Harriet L. (Haynes) Canon, the former a native of Ohio, whence he came to Illinois, becoming one of the pioneer settlers of Winnebago county. Her grandfather erected the first frame house in what was then Cord, but is now Durand township. Her father carted wheat to the Chicago market and in return secured merchandise. He hauled his pork to Galena, Illinois, and also to the pine woods of Wisconsin. He was a member of Company 1, Seventy-fourth Volunteer Infantry, during the Civil war. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Canon was celebrated February 26, 1865, and in the first year thereafter he rented land from his father, while the second year he rented his father-in-law's farm. In 1868 he purchased forty acres of land, on which was a small house and a log barn, but the fields were poorly improved. He cleared away the timber on the place and added to the house, continuing the cultivation of the farm for some time. Later he sold this property and bought eighty acres of land seven miles from Pecatonica, to which he afterward added a tract of eighty acres. In 1900, however, he sold eighty acres of his land, but in the meantime was for a long period recognized as one of the most practical, energetic and progressive farmers of his locality. He placed his fields under a very high state of cultivation, and he raised blooded stock, both cattle and hogs, making a specialty of Durham cattle and Chester White hogs. He never raised a black hog in his

life. He also bred coach horses, and, in fact, all of the stock was of superior grades, so that he found ready sale on the market. His business interests were carefully and capably conducted until February, 1905, when he removed to the village of Pecatonica, where he is now living retired. He is still owner, however, of eighty acres of valuable land.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Corwin have been born three daughters: Nettie M., born September 26, 1866, is the wife of William A. Miller, residing on her father's farm in Durand township, and they have two children, Guy E. and Neva B. Eva L., born May 5, 1870, is the wife of Irving Clikeman, now living retired in Pecatonica, being formerly actively connected with agricultural interests, and they have one son, Claude E. Birdena F., born March 20, 1881, is a school-teacher, living at home, and has completed the courses in the district schools and high school of Pecatonica.

Mr. Corwin, interested in public affairs relating to the welfare and upbuilding of his community, has co-operated in many movements for the general good. He served for about sixteen years as a member of the school board and acted as overseer of highways for three or four terms. He is a member of the United Workmen, Modern Woodmen camp, Court of Honor and the Fraternal League, while his wife holds membership with the Eminent Ladies and Relief Corps. She is also a member of the Union Aid Society and the Hard Times Society, which indicate her benevolent and charitable spirit and her practical helpfulness. Mr. Corwin gives his political allegiance to the republican party. He has a wide acquaintance in the county, where his entire life has been passed. Both he and his wife are representatives of old and prominent families of pioneer times, and are now numbered among the substantial citizens of Pecatonica, a position which is due to their own labors, for in early married life their financial resources were limited, and that they now have a competence which enables them to enjoy a well earned ease is the result of capable management and well directed business interests.

SAMUEL SEYMOUR.

Samuel Seymour, now living retired in a pleasant home at No. 1026 East State street in Rockford, is a native of Litchfield county, Connecticut, born December 14, 1820, his parents being Erastus and Jerusha (King) Seymour, while the paternal grandfather was Samuel Seymour, of Connecticut. The father engaged quite extensively in farming in the Charter Oak state, owning one of the best farms in Litchfield county,



SAMUEL SEYMOUR.

He had three sons, all of whom reached adult age and are still living: Edward P., who resides near the old homestead in Connecticut; Samuel; and John, who is a wagonmaker, also living in Litchfield county.

Samuel Seymour of this review was educated in Williston Seminary in Massachusetts and afterward attended medical lectures for six months. He engaged in teaching school for four years in the village of Norfolk, Connecticut, and in 1849 he joined a company planning to go to the Pacific coast, attracted by the discovery of gold in California. They borrowed the money to buy a ship, which they stocked with lumber and pork and a good supply of provisions, and then sailed around Cape Horn to San Francisco. After reaching their destination they sold the lumber for five hundred and ninety dollars per thousand feet and they also made some money in mining, remaining in California for two years, after which they returned to Connecticut by way of the isthmus. Not long after reaching New England, Samuel Seymour went to Loudoun county, Virginia, where he was engaged in the chain pump business. His experiences in the far west were very interesting because of the pioneer condition of that country and he can relate many anecdotes which rival the marvelous tales of literature, proving again that "truth is stranger than fiction." Mr. Seymour came to Illinois when twenty-eight years of age, arriving in Winnebago county in 1857. He located in Rockford, where he began loaning money, and later he turned his attention to the insurance business, in which he continued for many years, winning a very high measure of success in his efforts along that line. He also represented a paper company of Beloit, Wisconsin, traveling upon the road for two years, but for the past ten years he has lived retired in the enjoyment of the fruits of a former toil and of the rest which he has truly earned.

Mr. Seymour was married, October 24, 1855, to Miss Laura Lewis, a native of Wyoming county, New York, their marriage being celebrated in the east. Her death occurred in 1898, and on the 8th of September, 1902, Mr. Seymour was again married, Miss Florence E. Kennish becoming his wife. She was born in Rockford and is a daughter of John and Ellen (Kissack) Kennish, of Davis Junction, the former a harnessmaker by trade. Both her parents were born on the Isle of Man and her father crossed the Atlantic on the same ship with John Hutchins. In his family were three children: Fred, who is living at Davis Junction; Mrs. Seymour; and Anna May, who is the wife of Adelbert Richards, and lives at Fairdale, Illinois. She has one child, a daughter. Mrs. Seymour began her education in the schools of Davis Junction and afterward

attended Mrs. Carpenter's Academy and the Wells Training School, at Oregon, Illinois. She successfully taught school for several years and then attended the business college at Rockford, completing a course in shorthand and typewriting. She is a lady of superior education, of natural refinement and culture, and like her husband enjoys the friendship of many here. They have one child, Porter Kennish Seymour, born June 29, 1903.

Mr. Seymour owns a fine home where he resides at No. 1926 East State street, and he also has several other residences in the town and real estate in the west, his property interests being the visible evidence of his life of activity and energy. His early political allegiance was given to the free soil party and he has now long been a republican. He is a liberal supporter of the Congregational church and is a self-made man, being both the architect and builder of his own fortunes. Labor is the basis of his prosperity and he has persistently and energetically followed a given course and is now one of the substantial residents of Rockford.

CHARLES E. HIGGINS.

Charles E. Higgins is the owner of a good farm on sections 2 and 11, Burrirt township, and has always carried on general agricultural pursuits. He was born in Owen township, this county, July 20, 1875. His father, Thomas Higgins, a native of Ireland, came to America in the year 1844, arriving in Winnebago county when about twenty years of age. He lived for a quarter of a century in Owen and Rockton townships and finally made a permanent settlement in the former, spending his remaining days there upon the old homestead, where he departed his life October 14, 1904. His wife was Miss Anna Scott in her maidenhood, and her birth occurred in Ireland in the year 1851. When seventeen years of age she came to the United States with her sisters, taking up her abode in Rockford, but soon afterward they removed to Owen township, and on the 17th of November, 1869, Anna Scott gave her hand in marriage to Thomas Higgins. She still survives him, and is now living on the old home farm in Owen township. In their family were eight children: Charles E.; William W., of Rockton, Illinois, who wedded Mary Milton, of Owen township, and has one daughter; Alfred J., a farmer of Harrison township, who married Belle Halley, of Owen township, and has one son; Thomas, a resident farmer of Owen township, who married Gertrude Webber, of Rockton township, and has one daughter; George, who is living on the old homestead in Owen

township; Orvis, also living on the old home farm in Owen township; Margaret and Ida, both at home.

Charles E. Higgins pursued his early education in the common schools and afterward attended a business college. He was reared to farm work and has devoted his entire life to agricultural pursuits and stock-raising, being now extensively engaged in the breeding of Duroc Jersey hogs. He resides on the Thomas Fell farm, and his time and energies are devoted to the tilling of the soil, the place comprising two hundred and forty acres of land. In his business he is energetic, ambitious and diligent, and is meeting with a creditable measure of success.

On the 8th of March, 1899, Mr. Higgins wedded Miss Elizabeth Gilmore, a daughter of Thomas and Margaret (Hamilton) Gilmore, of Rockford. Her father was born in the north of Ireland in March, 1843, and came to the United States when about eighteen years of age. Soon afterward he enlisted in the One Hundred and Seventh New York Infantry, serving from 1862 until 1864. In the latter year he was severely wounded, losing a limb, which necessitated his discharge from the army. In 1868 he was married to Margaret Hamilton, of Massachusetts, and came to this county about 1872. Mr. Gilmore is an ardent republican and has taken an active part in political work in this county. He served for four years as county treasurer and was township treasurer and collector of Harrison township for a number of years. He is an active and valued member of the Modern Woodmen camp, and he and his wife are now living in Rockford. Their daughter, Elizabeth, was born in Harrison township, December 2, 1880. Mr. and Mrs. Higgins have become the parents of two children, Margaret Anna and Clarence A., both born in Owen township, the former August 5, 1901, and the latter December 23, 1903.

Mr. Higgins is a member of Harrison camp, No. 684, M. W. A., and is actively interested in political questions, having always given his support to the republican party. He is a wide-awake and enterprising young business man, esteemed in the community where his entire life has been passed.

RUFUS W. GRAVES.

Rufus W. Graves, interested in general agricultural pursuits on section 11, Roscoe township, is numbered among the worthy citizens that the Empire state has furnished to Winnebago county. He was born in New York, April 26, 1825. His father, Obad Graves, was a native of Cortland county, New York, and his last days were spent

at the home of his son Rufus, where he died at the very venerable age of ninety-three years. He had followed lumbering in the east and after coming to the west was engaged in general agricultural pursuits, but for some years prior to his demise he lived retired with his sons in Roscoe township. His wife bore the maiden name of Allie Monroe, was also a native of New York state, and died in Roscoe at the age of eighty-five years. In the family of this worthy couple were nine children, of whom Rufus W. was the third in order of birth. Only three are now living, the others being O. Perry, a resident of Roscoe township; and George D., who is living in Beloit, Wisconsin.

Rufus W. Graves spent the period of his minority in the east and when twenty-one years of age made his way to Illinois, taking up his abode in Winnebago county, in 1846. Almost sixty years have since come and gone and great changes have occurred, a wonderful transformation being wrought in all departments of business activity. In the year of his removal to the west he was married in New York, to Miss Julia Thornton, also a native of the Empire state.

Mr. Graves when a boy was on a canal in the east. He brought with him only a limited capital when he removed to this county but invested his money in twelve acres of land, which he still owns. Almost from the beginning he prospered here and kept adding to his holdings until now his landed possessions aggregate three hundred and twenty acres in Roscoe township, of which forty acres is used for pasturage, while the remainder is devoted to general farming. His fields are highly cultivated and give promise of golden harvests. He has also been engaged quite extensively in the raising of stock, making a specialty of sheep and Chester White hogs. His business interests have been carefully managed and he has watched every indication pointing to success until now as the reward of his unremitting labor and honorable methods he is in possession of a very valuable and desirable property.

Mr. Graves exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party and is regarded as one of the influential citizens of his township, where he has held public offices of trust. For many years he served as highway commissioner of Roscoe township and did much to improve the condition of the roads. He has always favored the measures tending to advance the general welfare and his co-operation can be counted upon in movements for the public good. He held office twelve years. He was justice of the peace and his decisions were strictly fair and impartial, neither fear nor favor swerving him in the utterance of an opinion which he believed embodied the equity of the

case. He has held the office of road commissioner for forty-five years in Roscoe township.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Graves has been blessed with two sons and a daughter, all born in this county: Orlando M., now making his home in Beloit, Wisconsin, wedded Miss Lodena Rockwell and has two children, Smith M. and Fenton; Frances A. became the wife of George H. Muchmore and has three children; Harriet Winifred, Cora and Roy; Jay U. married Laura Franz, and has one child, Lyle F.

Mr. Graves is numbered among the early residents of the county, having for almost six decades lived within its borders and here he has worked his way upward from a humble financial position to one of affluence, basing his rise in the world upon the substantial qualities of unremitting diligence and unflagging industry.

THOMAS MANNIX.

Thomas Mannix, deceased, was one of the self-made men of Rockford, who, improving business opportunities, worked his way steadily upward from an humble financial position to one of affluence. He settled here in pioneer days, becoming a resident of the city in 1841 and he conducted the first express business here. He was born in County Clare, Ireland, December 22, 1821, and his parents both died in that country in his youth. He was then reared by his grandmother and an uncle and he attended the common schools of Ireland and acquired a fair education. He was a young man when he landed on the shores of the United States and he made his way to Vermont, where he worked as a laborer. He was also employed as a farm hand in that locality, where he continued to reside for several years.

It was while making his home in Vermont that Mr. Mannix was married to Miss Margaret Leahy, a native of Ireland, who died in Rockford, in 1865. They became the parents of four children, of whom two are now living: Marie, the wife of Leonard H. Schmauss, the president of the Schmauss Company of Rockford and one of the leading business men here; and Ellen, the wife of Edward Condon, residing upon a farm near Kishwaukee. In 1866 Mr. Mannix was again married, his second wife bearing the maiden name of Katherine Connelly. She, too, was born in Ireland and her parents, John and Mary (Doyle) Connelly, were both natives of that country, where they spent their entire lives. Their daughter Katherine and her brother came to the United States together and settled in Rockford, where the brother died and where the sister was married. Three children were born of the second union: Thomas J., who married

Ellen Condon and is engaged in the meat business; Katherine J., the wife of Edward Schmauss, who is traveling agent for the Schmauss Company and resides in Rockford; and Frederick, who died at the age of eighteen months. Mr. and Mrs. Schmauss make their home with her mother, Mrs. Mannix, and they have three children, Edna, Katherine and Alta.

Following his first marriage Mr. Mannix came to Rockford in 1841 and is well known to all its citizens as the first expressman of this place, beginning business here with an old two-wheeled dray. As the years advanced and the city grew his business also expanded until it reached extensive and profitable proportions. He had a very large patronage in his later years and derived a good income therefrom. Becoming suddenly ill with heart trouble he died December 15, 1895. He exercised his right of franchise in support of the men and measure of the democracy and he belonged to the St. James Catholic church, of which his wife and children are also communicants. There were no thrilling incidents in his career, but no history represented in this volume can serve as a better illustration to young men of the power of indefatigable industry and unswerving integrity in insuring success. Mrs. Mannix owns and occupies a residence at No. 604 South Fourth street and with her reside Mr. and Mrs. Schmauss and their children. The Schmauss Company are the large meat packers of Rockford and the family have attained wealth through the conduct of extensive business interests.

WILLIAM H. MINERS.

William H. Miners, a representative agriculturist of Harlem township, has an excellent farm on sections 16 and 21 and through his well directed labors has become one of the substantial citizens of his community. A native of England, he was born in Cornwall, December 21, 1849, his parents being James and Mary (Allen) Miners, also natives of Cornwall, the former born in 1827 and the latter in 1830. They are now residents of Rockford, the father having retired from active business life. In their family were seven children: Thomas J., a resident of Harlem township, who has two sons and one daughter; John, who is living retired in Oregon, Illinois; Abel, a resident farmer of Ogle county, Illinois, who has two sons and a daughter; James E., of Harlem township, who has one son; Mary, the wife of Henry Wilcox, of Harlem township, and the mother of one daughter; Mrs. Hiram Whitwood, of Harlem; and Louisa, who married Louis Overholt, of Calmar, Iowa, and has three daughters and two sons.

The other member of the Miners family is William H. Miners who, when five years of age, was brought by his parents from England to America. For four years the family home was maintained in Rockford, at the end of which time the parents removed to a farm near Westfield, Winnebago county, the father working as a farm hand by the day in that locality. When five years had passed he returned to Rockford township, where he resided two years, and then took up his abode in Harlem township. William H. Miners accompanied his parents on these various removals and for eight years lived with them in Harlem township, after which he started out in life on his own account. He carried on general agricultural pursuits for four years and afterward spent a year in Guilford township, subsequent to which time he settled in the city of Rockford and conducted a hack line for four years. He then followed teaming for about three years, after which he accepted the position of night watchman on the water power, acting in that capacity for three years, when he resumed teaming, which he followed for two years. His next work was as night watchman at the Phoenix furniture factory and a year later he began working for the city street department, with which he was connected for four years. About eleven years ago he removed to his present home in Harlem township, where he has since resided, giving his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits, his labors being crowned with an excellent measure of success. In his works he is very energetic and diligent, brooking no obstacles that can be overcome by determined and earnest purpose and in this lies the secret of his prosperity.

On the 3d of December, 1873, Mr. Miners was married to Miss Mary Mabie, of Harlem township, a daughter of Peter and Eliza (Chappel) Mabie, honored and early pioneer residents of Harlem township. Her father was born in Clyde, Ohio, in 1812 and the mother was a native of that place, born in 1813. In their early married life they came to Winnebago county, where they spent their remaining days, Mr. Mabie passing away February 3, 1892, and his wife in September, 1875. Mrs. Miners has three brothers and two sisters, namely: Joshua, residing at Santa Ana, California; Homer, of Mason City, Iowa, who has four sons and a daughter; William, who is living in Whiting, Indiana; Mrs. Frances Dresser, of Santa Ana, California, who has nine sons; and Mrs. Laura Corlette, whose husband is a farmer of New Milford township, and they have three sons and three daughters. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Miners are as follows: Henry Charles, born December 5, 1874, and now living in Owen township, married Miss Eda Reynolds, of Rockford, and they have a son and daughter, Madeline and William H. Clar-

ence E., born July 19, 1875, married Grace Brown, of Rockford, where they reside, and they have two daughters, Avis I. and Ethel M. Addie May, born December 9, 1880, is at home. At a family gathering on the 17th of September, 1905, on our subject's farm, there were thirty-five present and four generations represented.

William H. Miners belongs to camp No. 49, M. W. A., at Rockford, and in politics has been a staunch republican since age gave to him the right of franchise. The family attend the Methodist Episcopal church at Roscoe. Interested in general progress, Mr. Miners is a public-spirited and enterprising citizen and he deserves much credit for what he has accomplished in his business career, for he had to gain for himself the advantages which many boys receive through inheritance or parental indulgence. His educational privileges were limited but he has become a man of good practical knowledge gained through reading and experience. His farming interests have been carefully managed and his straightforward dealing and energy form the basis of his present success.

GEORGE GLEASMAN.

George Gleasman, who became an enterprising farmer of Owen township, and won success through his well directed efforts, was born in Rome, New York, on the 30th of June, 1840. He was a son of Godfred Gleasman, a native of Germany, who with his two brothers, Valentine and George, entered the Union Army, and all three were killed at the battle of Antietam, in the Civil war, by the explosion of one shell. Godfred Gleasman and his wife, Henrietta, were the parents of five sons and three daughters, of whom George Gleasman was the second son and fourth child. The members of the family still living are: Fred, a resident of Rockton; Philip, of Owen township; Lizzie, the wife of J. B. Atwood, of Roscoe township; Mrs. Louisa Faass, who is living in Utica, New York; and Kate, who is residing in Utica, New York.

George Gleasman spent the days of his boyhood and youth in the Empire state, acquiring his education in the public schools. He had no special advantages in his early life and in fact was dependent upon his own resources for a living from an early age. In the spring of 1863 he came from the Empire state to Illinois, settling first in Owen township, Winnebago county, where he purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land on section 1. This farm is still in possession of the family. He later bought four hundred acres in Rockton township and was a most successful agriculturist. All of his



GEORGE GLEASMAN

investments proved profitable and at his death he left thirteen hundred and forty-eight acres of very valuable land. His success, however, was characterized by unremitting diligence and he was truly deserving of the praise implied in the term a self-made man, being both the architect and builder of his own fortune. He came to the west empty-handed but he utilized his business opportunities to the best advantage and as the years passed amassed a goodly fortune for his family. He was also active, influential and helpful in public affairs in his township and county, and while living in Owen township served as highway commissioner for a number of years and capably and efficiently filled other offices of trust and responsibility. His political allegiance was given to the republican party.

George Gleasman was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Lake, a daughter of Hiram Lake, one of the early settlers of Winnebago county. They became the parents of nine children, of whom eight are living, namely: Edwin S., Charles H., Mina L., Kate, Ratie, Alice, Abbie and Frank, while one son, George, is now deceased. The death of the father occurred on the 1st of January, 1890, when he was about fifty years of age. He was led a busy and useful life characterized by close application to his daily duties, by unflagging industry in his business and by unfaltering perseverance in all that he undertook. He was in hearty sympathy with public progress and improvement and was a man whose genuine personal worth gained him the respect and confidence of those with whom he associated. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church at Rockton, taking an active part in the officiating of the same.

GEORGE STEVENS.

George Stevens, a resident farmer of New Milford township, his home being on section 31, has lived in Winnebago county since the 22d of February, 1861, arriving here when a young lad of four years. He was born in Boston, Massachusetts, in 1856, his parents being Gilbert and Lucinda (Hall) Stevens, who located in Kishwaukee, New Milford township, at the time of their removal to Winnebago county. The father was a machinist by trade and in the east was a master mechanic. Following his removal to the west he purchased a farm near the Kishwaukee settlement in New Milford township. The village of Kishwaukee was at one time larger than Rockford but has now ceased to exist, no house remaining at the present time to mark the site of the once thriving and prosperous village. Gilbert Stevens did not actively engage in business,

for his health had become impaired while still in the east, though from time to time he would do some work, as he did not wish to be idle. He resided in this county from 1860 until October, 1900, when he passed away at the advanced age of eighty-four years. He had served as highway commissioner for nine years and was always interested in public progress and improvement. His wife survived him until December, 1904, and departed this life at the very old age of eighty-eight years.

George Stevens, their only son, was reared to farm life, and is now the owner of one hundred and ninety-four acres of valuable land, of which one hundred acres is situated on section 31, New Milford township. In his youth he attended the common schools and when not occupied with his text-books his attention was largely given to the work of the fields. He has mainly followed farming and he was also engaged in the implement business for several years, enjoying a good patronage. He possesses strong determination and laudable ambition and he allows no obstacle to bar his path when he determines upon a given course. His farm property is now valuable and well improved and indicates in its excellent appearance his careful supervision and practical methods.

Mr. Stevens was married to Miss Abby Rothwell, a daughter of W. A. Rothwell, one of the oldest residents of New Milford township. Mrs. Stevens was born near her present home and by her marriage has become the mother of four children. Harry A., the eldest, who was born in 1881, and resides upon a farm in Ogle county, Illinois, married Miss Preston, whose father now resides in Rockford. They have a fine farm in Ogle county near the Winnebago county line and two children have blessed their union, Curtis and Elmer George. Clara Andrus, born in 1885, resides at home and is now engaged in teaching in New Milford township, having pursued her own education in Rockford high school and in DeKalb, Illinois. Alma, born in 1891, now attending high school in Rockford, and Orlo B., born November 18, 1900, are at home.

In his political views Mr. Stevens was formerly a republican, but is now a staunch advocate of prohibition principles, for the party platform embodies his ideas upon the temperance question. He has served as highway commissioner and has refused various other nominations, preferring to concentrate his attention upon his business affairs. Socially he is a member of M. W. camp, No. 419, of New Milford. He has made all of the fine improvements now on his farm and has recently erected a comfortable house for a tenant. He expects soon to retire from active farm work, although he will retain his residence upon the old homestead. His labors in former years have

constituted the source of a very desirable competence, which permits of his retirement from active business life.

GEORGE W. FLAGG.

George W. Flagg, actively interested in agricultural pursuits in Seward township, was born at Heath, Massachusetts, September 9, 1825, and is indebted to the common and select schools of that locality for the educational privileges he enjoyed. His parents were Silas M. and Hannah (Bixby) Flagg. The father, a native of Worcester, Massachusetts, died in 1845, at the age of forty-seven years, while his wife, who was a native of Vermont, passed away in 1857, at the age of sixty-five years. The father followed the occupation of farming in the state of his nativity throughout his entire life. In the family were three children, of whom George W. is the eldest. Henry F., born September 23, 1829, died July 3, 1853, when about twenty-three years of age. Marcia A., born April 11, 1832, died April 7, 1902. She became the wife of Corydon Simonds, who has departed this life since her death. They had one daughter, now Mrs. Clara Thompson.

George W. Flagg was reared to the occupation of farming, early becoming familiar with all of the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. He lived on the old homestead, taking care of his mother and sister until 1856, when he came to Winnebago county, Illinois, settling first in Pecatonica. He worked in a lumberyard during the succeeding summer and then removed to Seward township, where he purchased some land. In February, 1858, he returned to the old home farm in Massachusetts but had become imbued with the western spirit and in 1859 he returned to Seward township, where he has resided continuously since. He built a good home around which he planted shade and fruit trees and he also broke the wild prairie, transforming it into rich fields. He has one hundred and twelve acres of land, now finely improved, but when it came into his possession one-half of it was covered with timber. His fields promise golden harvests and in addition to cultivating of the cereals best adapted to soil and climate he is engaged quite extensively and successfully in the raising of cattle, hogs and horses.

On the 9th of January, 1850, Mr. Flagg was united in marriage to Miss Lestina Rugg, who was born in Heath, Massachusetts, August 14, 1820, and is a daughter of David and Eunice (Gleason) Rugg, who were also natives of Heath. Her father, who was born August 20, 1786, departed this life February 2, 1872, while his wife, who was born October 14, 1700, died on the 13th of March, 1874. He followed farm-

ing in Massachusetts until 1856, when he came to Pecatonica, where he remained until his death. In the family of that worthy couple were eleven children: Cyrus, who was born January 20, 1811, and died February 12, 1894; Lucretia, who was born December 8, 1812, and died May 8, 1889; Eunice, who was born November 4, 1814, and died October 28, 1846; Elizabeth, who was born November 18, 1816, and died December 29, 1842; David, who was born October 30, 1818, and died December 25, 1900; Erastus R., who was born November 2, 1820, and died September 20, 1888; Henry M., who was born October 13, 1822, and died October 13, 1890; Amos, who was born August 11, 1825, and died March 21, 1895; George, who was born August 11, 1827, and died June 27, 1864, being killed at the battle of Kenesaw Mountain, while serving as a member of the Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry; Lestina, the wife of George W. Flagg; and Alfred H., who was born August 8, 1831. The last two named are the only ones living.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Flagg was blessed with two sons and two daughters: Henry E., who was born October 17, 1850, and is still living on the old home farm; Clara A., who was born January 17, 1852, and died at the age of five years and six months, on the 14th of July, 1857; Lillian, who was born February 4, 1861, and is the wife of W. R. Stone; and Elijah F., who was born June 3, 1863, and died December 3, 1865.

Mr. Flagg has been school director for twenty years or more, and has ever been the champion of progress along educational lines, believing in the employment of competent teachers and the upholding of a high standard of intellectual attainment. Both he and his wife are devoted members of the Congregational church at Seward, in which he has served as trustee, and his political support is given to the republican and prohibition parties. His life has been characterized by honorable principles and upright motives, and during his long residence in Winnebago county he has so lived as to merit the esteem and good will of all with whom he has been associated.

MICHAEL J. ROGAN.

Michael J. Rogan, deceased, was a machinist of Rockford for many years and at the time of his death had charge of the machinery for the Star Publishing Company of this city. He was a native of Lockport, New York, born January 10, 1853, and his parents were Peter and Sarah (Stewart) Rogan, both of whom were natives of the Empire state, where they resided until



MR. AND MRS. GEORGE W. FLAGG.

1854, when they came to the west, settling in Rockford, where the father, who was a carpenter, followed his trade throughout his remaining days. He worked most of the time for J. P. Manny, now deceased, who is also represented in this work, and both he and his wife remained residents of Rockford until called to their final home.

Michael J. Rogan acquired a common-school education in the Adams school of Rockford and when he had put aside his text-books he began to learn the machinist's trade, working with his father in the employ of Mr. Manny until the latter failed in business, after which he accepted a position with the Star Publishing Company. His work at first was light and his salary small but he soon demonstrated his ability and won ready recognition and promotion. He was advanced from one position to another until at last he had full charge of all the machinery and presses of the plant. He occupied the position of foreman in the machinery department for several years or until his health began to fail, when he was obliged to give up his position. For several years he was in a semi-invalid condition and finally was forced to take his bed. He never recovered and his death occurred May 8, 1901.

After becoming a resident of Rockford Mr. Rogan was married in this city to Miss Elizabeth Farrell, a native of Rockford, and a daughter of Miles and Ellen (Wickham) Farrell, both of whom were natives of Ireland, whence they came to America, settling in Rockford in the early '40s. Her father was at one time a student in the school conducted by H. H. Waldo, the historian for this volume. Mr. Farrell was a mason by trade and after mastering the business followed it in Rockford throughout the remainder of his life. Both he and his wife died in this city.

Mr. and Mrs. Rogan had but one child, Robert, who is now eleven years of age. The parents held membership in St. James Catholic church here and Mr. Rogan possessed considerable musical talent and was a member of the choir here from early manhood until his death. He had a fine voice and always assisted in the public entertainments given. He was identified with the old militia here and was among the first to go to Atlanta, Georgia, at the time the call was issued for troops to serve there. He took an active interest in political questions and was a staunch democrat. Well acquainted, his genial manner, unfailing courtesy and kindly disposition gained him many friends. Being the owner of property in Rockford he became well known. He never sought to figure prominently in public life but was content to do his full duty to his employers, to perform his acts of

citizenship in a private capacity and devote his leisure hours to his friends and family. His widow and son now reside at No. 604 College avenue.

JOHN GRIFFITHS.

John Griffiths, now deceased, was born in Montgomeryshire, Wales, in 1816. He remained a resident of Great Britain until twenty years of age and in 1836 sailed from England with his brother William. The voyage successfully accomplished, they landed at New York, whence they made their way to Cincinnati, Ohio, the brother making a permanent location there but after a short period spent in that city John Griffiths removed to St. Louis, Missouri, where he remained for about three years. On the expiration of that period he came to Rockton township, Winnebago county, in 1840. Here he purchased a tract of land and throughout the remainder of his life was engaged in general agricultural pursuits. He was classed with the enterprising farmers, following modern methods and adopting all new ideas which he believed would prove of practical benefit in his work. His success was due to no fortunate combination of circumstances or to any inheritance, but resulted from his strong and steadfast purpose in carrying on his business affairs.

Mr. Griffiths was married March 1, 1860, to Miss Catherine Webber, who was born in England January 26, 1838, and was a daughter of William Webber. Her father was a native of Devonshire, England, whence he afterward removed to Somersetshire and there he became the owner of extensive landed interests and much property, which he disposed of at auction when he determined to come to America in 1849. His place presented the appearance of a fair ground, for tents were pitched for the accommodation of the visitors and food and drink were supplied to those who attended the auction, in keeping with the English custom at that day. He had married Mary Hake, also a native of England, and they were the parents of eight children before they crossed the Atlantic. After reaching New York they made their way westward around the Great Lakes and on reaching Winnebago county the father made purchase of six hundred and forty acres of land for which he paid ready cash, a thing quite unusual in that day. He was quite well-to-do, however, and after obtaining his land he continued to prosper in its care and cultivation, being recognized as one of the most enterprising and successful agriculturists of the county. Both he and his wife died when about eighty years of age. Further mention of the family is made in connection with the history of Henry A. Webber

on another page of this work. Mr. and Mrs. Griffiths became the parents of the following children: Mary S., the deceased wife of Elwin Damon, by whom she had two children, Lawrence G. and Winnifred M.; S. Catherine, the wife of James Brown, a farmer of Shirland township, Winnebago county, by whom she has three children, Stanley, Catherine, and Richard; Elizabeth A., the wife of Richard Powell and the mother of one son, Richard Ogden; Nellie E., the widow of C. Henry Cowan and the mother of four children, Ralph, Roslin, Robbin and Dorothy; Frances M., the wife of Charles Smith and the mother of one child, Robert; Winnifred E., the next of the family; Minnie, the wife of Arthur Ludley, by whom she has two children, Dorothy and Joseph; John C., who married Alice Little and has one child, Clarence; and William S., who married Viola Daring.

Mr. Griffiths continued to engage in farming pursuits throughout the period of his residence in this county, although he left the active work of the farm largely to others in the evening of life. He passed away at the age of eighty years, respected by all who knew him and he left to his family a comfortable competence and an untarnished name. Following her husband's death Mrs. Griffiths removed to the village of Rockton, where she now makes her home. She is a member of the Congregational church and is one of the highly esteemed ladies of the town.

JOHN ANDERS, JR.

Among the substantial and worthy citizens of Winnebago county that Germany has furnished to the new world is John Anders, Jr., a retired farmer of Pecatonica. He was born in the fatherland June 5, 1846, and spent his minority in that country, coming to America when twenty-one years old. He is a son of John and Maria (Benchrust) Anders, who were also natives of Germany and crossed the Atlantic in 1867, coming in June, 1868, to Pecatonica with their three children. The father was born June 19, 1816, and died April 19, 1891, while his wife, whose birth occurred November 15, 1821, passed away January 1, 1898, in her seventy-seventh year. On arriving in Winnebago county the father turned his attention to farming upon rented land which he secured from Mr. Sanders, and later when his financial resources permitted he purchased forty acres, spending his remaining days in its cultivation and improvement. He and his family were members of the German Lutheran church and his political allegiance was given to the republican party. He was respected because of his genuine worth and fidelity to duty and in the community

where he lived he had many friends. In his family were five children: Fred, who is now living in Pecatonica township, where he follows farming, married Miss Mary Swartz and they have five living children, three sons and two daughters and have also lost two daughters; John is the second in order of birth; Chris died at the age of twenty-five years; Mary is the wife of Chris Abrams, a resident farmer of Pecatonica township and they have five living children and have lost one; Sophia, the wife of Henry Sass, who follows farming in this township and they have three living children and have lost one.

John Anders, Jr., having pursued his education in the schools of his native country, resolved, on attaining his majority, to seek his fortune in the new world. Accordingly he left Hamburg, in November, 1867, and by steamer crossed the Atlantic to New York city, where he remained for about a week. He then went up the Hudson river to Rondout, New York, where he spent one year, being employed in a brickyard. On the expiration of that period he made his way by rail to Winnebago county and spent a month in Pecatonica, after which he went to Afton, Rock county, Wisconsin, where he became a farm hand in the employ of William H. Eldredge. After a year he returned to Pecatonica and for two years operated land which he rented from Leroy Kidder. He next rented the Ogden Hance farm for four years, after which he purchased land from Caleb Palmer, becoming the owner of one hundred and twenty acres, which is still in his possession. Later he bought sixty acres of Mr. Eggleston, eighty acres of Mr. Atwood and also purchased one hundred and sixty acres in North Dakota, in 1902. The tract was partially improved and is now rented, while his sons are operating his farms in this county. He owns altogether about four hundred acres of fine farming land in Winnebago county. For a number of years he engaged in feeding and shipping stock and has bred short-horn cattle, also Durham and Holstein breeds. He has likewise raised high grades of horses and hogs, breeding draft horses. His farming interests have been carefully conducted and have brought him a high measure of success. He is an excellent judge of stock and moreover he is practical in his work, his labors therefore bringing him a rich financial reward.

On the 24th of December, 1872, Mr. Anders was married to Miss Sophia Marth, a daughter of Joseph and Dorothy (Dirsehen) Marth, both of whom were natives of Germany, in which country the mother died. The father afterward came to America, arriving here about 1874. His daughter, Mrs. Anders, was already living here and subsequently a son and daughter came from the old country, while one son is still living in Germany. In the

family were five children, of whom four still survive: John, living in Seward township, wedded Mary E. Hacker and they have five children; Fred yet makes his home in Germany; Ricka died in this county; Mrs. Anders is the next of the family; Mary also died in Germany.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Anders have been born nine children: Bertha, born September 2, 1873, is the wife of Charles Cash, a resident farmer of Burritt township and they have one daughter, Violet; Herman, born August 17, 1874, and living in Burritt township, married Jennie Lyd and they have a son and daughter; Emma, born July 10, 1876, is at home; Minnie, born June 21, 1878, is the wife of Herman Thedorff and has a son and daughter, Harry and Helen; Ida, born March 21, 1881, is filling a position as bookkeeper in Rockford; John, born February 15, 1882, died in infancy; Mollie, born December 5, 1883, is at home; George, born June 28, 1886, is operating his father's farm in Burritt township in connection with his brother; and Rosa, born November 30, 1887, died November 30, 1893.

John Anders, active and interested in public affairs, has served for twenty-two years as school director and has done effective service in behalf of education. He has also been commissioner of highways in Burritt township for three years and at the present writing is one of the trustees of the village of Pecatonica. His political allegiance has always been given to the republican party save when he voted for Grover Cleveland for the presidency. He and his family are members of the German Lutheran church. In his life he has displayed many of the strong sterling characteristics of the German people. He feels that he made no mistake in selecting this country as a place of residence and as the years have gone by, through the improvement of business opportunities and unfaltering energy he has worked his way steadily upward until through his farming operations and judicious investment he has become the owner of extensive and valuable landed interests. At the present time, leaving the active management of his farms to his sons, he is now enjoying a well earned rest in Pecatonica and his life history stands in evidence of what may be accomplished when one has the will to dare and to do and through well directed labor finds the success which is the goal of all business endeavor.

HENRY TERMÖHLEN.

Henry Termöhlen, who came to Rockford in 1893 and accepted the position of shop foreman for the Rockford Street Railway Company, was thus identified with industrial interests in Winnebago county. He was born in Germany, December 16, 1865, his parents being William and

Marietta Termöhlen, both of whom were natives of the fatherland. They emigrated to America in early life and settled in Freeport, Illinois, where the father engaged in gardening for several years. He afterward removed to Rockford, but resided here only a brief period and then took up his abode in Des Moines, Iowa, where he spent the remainder of his life. His death there occurred. His widow is now living at the home of her sister in Iowa and several of their children are residents of the same state, while two make their home in Freeport, Illinois.

Henry Termöhlen is indebted to the district schools for the early educational privileges he enjoyed. He also pursued his studies in Freeport and Rockford, and he entered upon his business career as a gardener in Freeport, where he remained for two years. He afterward went to Des Moines, Iowa, where he became connected with the electrical business in the employ of a street car company learning to be an electrician. He was thus employed for three years, after which he came to Rockford, and here he accepted a position as electrician for the Rockford Street Railway Company, and was afterward promoted to foreman of the shops, having charge of all the men in their shops. This is a very responsible position, the duties of which were capably and promptly discharged by Mr. Termöhlen, who was retained in the service of the company throughout the remainder of his life. He was killed in a railroad accident, being on the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad between Rockford and Freeport when he was thrown from the train and his life was thus ended. This occurred December 16, 1900, on the thirty-fifth anniversary of his birth.

Mr. Termöhlen was married in Freeport, Illinois, to Miss Bertha Bauscher, who was born in that city and is a daughter of John and Sophia Baucher, both of whom were natives of Germany and became early settlers of Freeport, where her father worked as a harness-maker. Later he engaged in business as a florist and finally turned his attention to gardening, which he followed for many years or until he retired from active business life. When his labors had brought to him a comfortable competence he put aside further business cares and is now a well-to-do citizen of Freeport, where both he and his wife reside. Mr. and Mrs. Termöhlen had one child, Emily P., who now resides with her mother. Mr. Termöhlen was a member of the Modern Woodmen camp at Rockford and in politics was a republican, but he never sought or desired office, preferring to give his undivided attention to his business affairs. He is an expert electrician and a very industrious man, who was well liked by the people whom he served and by those who served under him. Mrs. Ter-

mohlen is a member of the Baptist church at Des Moines, Iowa, and with her daughter resides at No. 211 North Third street. August Nelson, who is now living retired, also makes his home with them, having resided in the Termohlen family for several years.

WILLIAM PHELPS.

Although William Phelps resided in Winnebago county for but a few years in the latter part of his life, he was a pioneer of this part of the state, living in Ogle county at a day when one's neighbors were the settlers that lived in districts covered by a radius of many miles. He was therefore well known among the early residents of Winnebago county, for his home was near the dividing line. A native of Herkimer county, New York, he was born on the 20th of November, 1820, his parents being John and Polly (Stebens) Phelps, both of whom were natives of Herkimer county, where the father followed the occupation of farming until 1852. He then came with his family to the west, his son William being at that time twenty-three years of age. The father entered land from the government, securing a claim near White Rock, in Ogle county, where he opened up a farm and carried on general agricultural pursuits up to the time of his demise. His wife also remained in that locality till the time of her death, which occurred when she had reached the very advanced age of ninety-seven years. The ancestry of the family can be traced back to the landing of the Mayflower.

William Phelps acquired a common-school education in Herkimer county, New York, and assisted in the development and improvement of the home farm there and after coming to Ogle county continued as his father's helper upon the new claim for a few years. He then purchased a farm in Ogle county and while living there was married, in 1865, to Miss Margaret J. Wiley, the wedding being celebrated in Rockford. Mrs. Phelps was a native of Genesee county, New York, and a daughter of James C. and Elizabeth (Corbett) Wiley, both of whom were natives of Washington county, New York. The father was a carpenter by trade and followed building pursuits both in Washington and Genesee counties, remaining in the Empire state until 1867, when he came to the west, settling in the town of Rockford, Floyd county, Iowa, where he was identified with building operations until his death. His first wife had passed away in Genesee county, New York, May 21, 1840, and he was again married there, his second union being with Miss Caroline Cole, who now resides in Rockford, Iowa.

Mr. Phelps brought his bride to his farm and continued its development and cultivation, making it a splendidly improved property. In all his work he was practical and he kept in touch with the modern methods of farming up to the time of his retirement from active business life in 1896. In that year he took up his abode in Rockford and afterward sold a part of his farm to his nephew, Harry P. Willoughby, who now resides thereon. Upon coming to Rockford Mr. Phelps purchased the residence now occupied by his widow and there lived until his death on the 5th of January, 1901. He held many minor offices in Ogle county and always voted the democratic ticket. He belonged to the Masonic fraternity in Holcomb, Ogle county, and took a deep interest in the craft, being in hearty sympathy with its teachings and tenets. He held membership relations with the blue lodge, chapter, commandery and Mystic Shrine and after coming to this state he became identified with the Knight Templars of Rockford.

His life was well spent and he was truly a self-made man, whose labors were so carefully directed that they brought to him a creditable measure of success. In the early days he would ride from his farm in Ogle county to Rockford to do his trading and he was well acquainted with the pioneer settlers of the city and county, many of whom have expressed a desire to see his history in this work. All respected him because of his genuine worth, knowing him to be an honest, upright man, worthy of their full confidence and regard. Mrs. Phelps now owns a nice residence at No. 437 North Avon street, where she resides, and also eighty acres of the old homestead farm in Ogle county to which she went as a bride in 1865. She is well known in Rockford, where she has many friends.

MRS. KATE GLAWE.

Mrs. Kate Glawe is the owner of an excellent farm of one hundred and fifty-nine acres on sections 28 and 33, Burritt township. This is one of the best kept places in this part of the county and indicates her careful supervision and excellent executive ability. Mrs. Glawe was born near Rochelle, Lee county, Illinois, October 3, 1861, and is a daughter of John and Margaret (Schmoll) Vaupel, of Lee county. She spent her girlhood days in her parents' home and in early womanhood gave her hand in marriage to Fred Glawe, who was born in Germany and came to this country about 1870. He worked for others as a farm hand until 1878, when he purchased the tract of land upon which his widow now resides. His time and energies were then given



William Phelps

to the improvement of his property until his death, which occurred April 24, 1897, when he was in his fifty-fifth year.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Glawe were born the following named: Louis, born April 26, 1882, was married in February, 1904, to Emma Weitkamper and is now living in Winnebago township. Edwin, born September 6, 1884, resides in Pecatonica township. Irvin, born September 18, 1886, is at home. Clarence, born in 1888, is also at home. Lilly, born June 19, 1890, Elmer, born June 11, 1893, and Walter, born March 15, 1895, complete the family. Alvin, the third in order of birth, died at the age of fourteen months.

Since her husband's death Mrs. Glawe has carried on the home farm with the assistance of her sons, who perform the active work of the fields, while she gives careful supervision to the business interests and in this work has displayed marked executive force and keen discernment. The farm is one of the neatest and best kept in the township and upon it stands an attractive modern residence. Mrs. Glawe believes in keeping abreast with improvement and progress on the farm and in the home and her place is therefore well equipped with all modern accessories. She is a lady of many estimable and admirable characteristics, who has carefully reared her children since her husband's death. She belongs to the Presbyterian church at Winnebago and is held in high esteem by all who know her.

H. M. SABIN, M. D.

Dr. H. M. Sabin, who as the result of years of thorough preparation and extensive practice became one of the most able and skilled members of the medical fraternity in Rockford, practiced in this city from 1880 until 1896, and when his death occurred in the latter year the community felt it had been called upon to part with one whom it could ill afford to lose. A native of Lennox, Massachusetts, Dr. Sabin was born September 6, 1832, his parents being Dr. Millen and Millescent (Bidwell) Sabin, both of whom were natives of the old Bay state. The father was also a physician and practiced successfully in Massachusetts until 1872, when he removed to the west, settling in Aurora, Illinois, where, after practicing for a few years, he retired to private life. He afterward removed to Princeton, where he spent his remaining days in the enjoyment of a well earned rest. He was a capable physician and his professional service therefore made his life of much value to his fellowmen. His widow removed from Princeton to Anna, Illinois, and resided at the home of her son until her death, which occurred in 1903, when she was ninety-seven years of age.

Dr. Sabin pursued his education in the Wellston Seminary, located near Lennox. Going to Cincinnati, Ohio, he taught in a college there for a few years, and then returned to Massachusetts, desirous of continuing his own education. He therefore entered Williams College, and was graduated in a class which has given to the country many eminent men. In the meantime he had determined to make the practice of medicine his life work and to this end matriculated in the Bellevue Medical College, of New York city, wherein he completed the full course and graduated in the class of 1863, after which he received his certificate to practice.

The proud possessor of a diploma which gave him entrance to the medical fraternity, Dr. Sabin returned to his home, but as the Civil war was in progress he enlisted in the Fifty-third Massachusetts Regiment. He had been in the service for only three months when he was taken ill and again went to his home, unfit for arduous field service at the front.

It was in 1867 that he came to the west, locating for practice in Edwardsville, Illinois, where he remained for a few years, after which he removed to Lincoln, Nebraska. There he continued until 1880, when he came to Rockford and for sixteen years was a well known representative of the medical fraternity here. He never permitted the profession to progress beyond a point with which he was also familiar, for reading, study and investigation kept him in touch with the advance made by the members of the medical fraternity. He was careful in diagnosing a case and apt in foretelling the possible outcome of disease, and in all his practice he was conscientious and earnest and conforming to the highest ethics of the calling. He built up a large practice in city and county and gave to it close attention until he became ill in 1894. For two years he was in poor health and then passed away April 29, 1896.

Dr. Sabin was married twice. In Edwardsville, Illinois, he wedded Miss Letitia Tunnell, who died in Lincoln, Nebraska, leaving a son, William H., the only child of that marriage and now a baker in Rockford. In the latter city Dr. Sabin was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Madeline M. (DeMarke) Shaw, a native of Galena, Illinois, and a daughter of Menard DeMarke, who was of French descent, as was his wife, and both are now deceased. By the first marriage of Mrs. Sabin was born a son, Charles H., who is now engaged in the study of law in the western part of Iowa.

In his political views Dr. Sabin was always an earnest Republican who kept well informed on the issues and questions of the day but was never an aspirant for office. He belonged to the Masonic fraternity and to the Second Congre-

gational church of Rockford and these relations indicated the character of the man, who entertained broad humanitarian views and was true to all the duties and obligations which devolved upon him as a business man, a physician and friend. Of studious tastes and habits he was a great reader, having a strong love of good books and he possessed a good library, with the contents of which he was familiar, spending some of his happiest hours in companionship with the best writers of this and other ages. He was a member of the Winnebago Medical Society of Rockford and enjoyed the high regard of his professional brethren. His widow resides at the old home, No. 309 Winnebago street, where she has long resided, and where her many friends delight to gather.

WILLIAM H. KEITH.

William H. Keith is a well known farmer of Burritt township, living on section 31, where he and his sister have a valuable farm of three hundred and forty-five acres, ten miles west of Rockford. This was his birth place, his natal day being May 18, 1848. He traces his ancestry back through several generations to Peter Keith, his great-grandfather, who came of Rockford in 1836. He found a little village of a few buildings standing in the midst of broad prairies which were largely uncultivated, much of the land being still in possession of the government. He came to Winnebago county in company with his son, Adam Keith, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1795 and who became a pioneer settler of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. He arrived in Rockford in 1836 and he kept moving westward in the advance guard of civilization and spent his last years on the frontier in Furnas county, Nebraska, where he died in 1883. He was well fitted to cope with the hardships and difficulties incident to pioneer life and he aided in planting the seeds of civilization and progress in various districts in four states to which he went as a frontier settler.

Adam Keith, father of our subject, was born November 7, 1825, in Ohio and was a youth of eleven years when brought by his parents from Indiana to Illinois. He lived in Rockford with his father until 1847, when he entered a homestead claim from the government and began its cultivation. Not a furrow had been turned and the breaking plow was soon put into use. The seed was then planted and in due course of time crops were harvested and thus the work of cultivation was carried on year after year until he transformed his place into a valuable farm prop-

erty, living thereon up to the time of his death, which occurred on the 25th of July, 1896, when he was in his seventy-first year. His life was a busy and useful one and all who knew him respected him for his genuine worth and his many sterling traits of character. In 1860 he served as township supervisor but while he was never remiss in the duties of citizenship he cared little for public office, feeling that the daily work of the farm was worthy of his best efforts and his undivided attention. He married Martha Holmes, who was born in Bradford, England, and died in Rockford, January 20, 1864. For his second wife he chose Nancy Hilton, who was born May 10, 1842, and died on the 7th of September, 1869. The brothers and sisters of William H. Keith are as follows: Elizabeth, who was born February 14, 1847, and in 1871 became the wife of J. L. Dickerson, now living in Oklahoma; Martha, who was born in 1854 and is living upon the old homestead with her brother William; Jessie, who was born May 20, 1858, and in 1884 became the wife of Fred Putney, now living in Indian Territory; Nancy E., who was born on the 17th of September, 1868, and in 1885 became the wife of Fred Whiting, who died, and in 1901 she married Jesse Hopkins, their home being on in St. Paul, Minnesota.

William H. Keith, whose name introduces this review, has spent his entire life upon the old homestead farm on section 31, Burritt township, save for the period of ten years which he passed in Hayes county, Nebraska. He has always carried on general agricultural pursuits and he and his sister Martha have a valuable place, the fields being well tilled, while the farm is equipped with many modern accessories and conveniences. Mr. Keith is also well known in connection with public interests of his community, to which he has always been most loyal. He was supervisor of his township from 1876 until 1879 and is again serving in that capacity. In politics he is a democrat but believes in supporting the best man for office.

WILLIAM COY.

William Coy, now deceased, was one of the honored pioneer settlers of Winnebago county, taking up his abode in this section of the state when the work of improvement seemed scarcely begun and when there was little promise of rapid development in the future. The year 1844 witnessed his arrival and from that time until his death he was numbered among the leading and successful agriculturists of this county. He came from England, having been born in Lincolnshire, in that country, in 1813. He was therefore about



ADAM KEITH.

thirty-one years of age when he crossed the Atlantic to the new world. He made his way direct to Winnebago county and settled upon the farm which is now in possession of his widow, which had been entered from the government by a Mr. Thomas. With characteristic energy he began the development and improvement of this place which was largely covered with timber, there being but ten acres of prepared land. It was necessary therefore that he cut down the trees, grub out the stumps and otherwise clear the fields before they were ready for cultivation. He worked earnestly and persistently year after year and as his financial resources increased he made judicious investment in property until his landed interests aggregated three hundred and twenty acres, of which two hundred acres is still in possession of his family.

Mr. Coy had been a resident of Winnebago county for about three years when, in 1847, he was united in marriage to Miss Isabella R. Ziebach, who had arrived here the previous year. She was born in Union county, February, 1822, and when about twenty-four years of age came to Winnebago county, where her sister, Mrs. Groves, was then living. Mr. and Mrs. Coy became the parents of six children, of whom four are living, two sons and two daughters; R. E., who is engaged in the practice of medicine in Rockford, Illinois; Miss E. A. Coy, who is an artist of New York city; Miss Emma Coy, now the principal of the Hall school at Rockford; and W. E., who resides upon the home farm, which he is now operating.

In his political views William Coy was a republican and kept well informed on the issues of the day although he never sought or desired public office. He was a man of rather quiet and retiring disposition and of domestic tastes, devoted to his family and his business. He counted his greatest pleasure in providing for his wife and children and his enterprise and untiring labors as the years passed enabled him to acquire a comfortable competence.

ROBERT SPOTTSWOOD.

Robert Spottswood, devoting his entire attention to the interests of the Winnebago Lumber Company, which is now one of the prosperous commercial interests of the town, has been a resident of this county since 1867. He is a native of St. Lawrence county, New York, his birth having occurred in the town of Lisbon, in 1846. His parents were Robert and Mary C. (Graham) Spottswood, both natives of Scotland, the former born in Roxburyshire and the latter in Dumfries. Both came to this country in childhood, aged respectively fourteen and nine years, and

with their parents they settled in New York and Canada. Following their marriage they took up their abode in St. Lawrence county, New York, where they resided until 1851, when they went to Canada, making their home in Kempsville, Grenville county, near Ottawa, until their removal to Winnebago county, Illinois, in 1867. The family home was then established at Westfield Corners, where Robert Spottswood, Sr., conducted a blacksmith shop for a number of years, being thus a well known representative of industrial interests of that place. He died in the fall of 1900, when more than eighty years of age, and his wife passed away in July, 1904, at the age of eighty-five years. In their family were eight children, of whom two died in infancy, while Mary C. died in 1903, after fifteen years teaching in the public schools at Rockford, while five are yet living, as follows: Mrs. Robert Simpson, of Rockford township; Mrs. Edwin Ware, of Winnebago township; Elizabeth, who is residing in Winnebago county; Margaret, who is employed in Stewart's department store in Rockford; and Robert of this review.

In his boyhood days Robert Spottswood acquired a public-school education. He accompanied his parents on their removal to Canada and to this county, living first in Westfield Corners, where he worked for his father at the blacksmith's trade until coming to Winnebago, since which time he has been connected with the lumber business. He was instrumental in organizing the Winnebago Lumber Company and devotes his entire energies to the development of the trade which has long since reached extensive and profitable proportions, the business being one of the leading enterprises of the city.

Mr. Spottswood was married in 1875 to Miss Eleanor F. Ellis, a daughter of William and Justina (Abbott) Ellis, who died at Byron, Illinois, in December, 1903, when about ninety-six years of age. Her father was a pioneer of Winnebago county and at different times owned property in Rockford. He was also owner of a farm in this county and was well known, commanding the respect and esteem of those with whom business and social relations brought him in contact. Mrs. Spottswood has two sisters at Byron—Mrs. Harriet Spoor and Mrs. David J. Simpson. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Spottswood have been born two children; M. Justina, who in early womanhood engaged in teaching in the schools of Rockford, and is now the wife of H. M. Robins, a resident of San Francisco, California; and Ralph B., who is connected with the Forest City Bank, of Rockford.

In politics Mr. Spottswood is an independent democrat and has recently been elected justice of the peace of Winnebago. He is also notary

public and township treasurer and in the discharge of his official duties is ever prompt, accurate and reliable. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp and to the Knights of the Globe of Winnebago and for twenty years has been a factor in fraternal, business and political circles of this place.

JOHN WALLIS.

It seems that nature intended that man should enjoy a season of rest in his later years. In youth he possesses unbounded vigor, hope and enthusiasm, and in his mature years there is added a sound judgment and capability that make his labor of much avail in the business world. Later when his powers are somewhat diminished, if he has carefully and persistently worked to acquire a competence he may put aside the more arduous duties of business life and live retired. Such has been the history of Mr. Wallis, who since 1849 has resided in Winnebago county and is therefore numbered among its pioneer settlers. He took up his abode in Owen township, near the village of Owen Center, and was there engaged in farming for a few years. He was born in Gloucestershire, England, sixteen miles from the city of Gloucester, in December, 1824, his parents being Thomas and Hannah (Greening) Wallis, both of whom were natives of England, whence in 1844 they emigrated with their family to America, first settling in Brooklyn, New York. The mother, who was quite ill during the voyage, died soon after their arrival, and the father afterward made his home with his son John until his death. All of the children are now deceased with the exception of him whose name introduces this review.

The educational advantages which John Wallis received were somewhat meager, although he attended school for a limited time in England. He was about twenty years of age when, with his parents, he crossed the Atlantic to the new world, and after residing for a few months in Brooklyn, New York, he went to Chester, New York, where he had an uncle living. There he worked at the carpenter's trade with his uncle for a brief period but decided to try his fortune in the west, believing that he would have better business opportunities in a district where competition was not so great. Accordingly he came to Winnebago county, Illinois. He first settled at Whig Hill, but after a short time removed to Owen Center, in Owen township, borrowing five hundred dollars from his father with which to purchase his farm there. His land was all new and unimproved, but he at once began to clear and cultivate it and soon rich harvests were gath-

ered where previously the wild prairie grass had been seen. He resided there from 1849 until 1855, when he abandoned farming and took up his abode in the city of Rockford.

Mr. Wallis was married in Corinth, Saratoga county, New York, to Miss Olive Barber, a native of the Empire state and a daughter of Isaac and Lucinda Barber, who resided in the east for many years, but after the father retired from business life they made several trips to Rockford and spent much of their later life in traveling. They visited Minnesota and Wisconsin and finally settled in Prescott, of the latter state, where both the father and mother died. He was a millwright by trade and for many years followed that pursuit. Mr. Wallis was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife in 1885, her death occurring in Rockford on the 28th of June of that year. There had been three children born unto them: Brunello Monroe, who died December 14, 1903, married Arabella Vale, of Elgin, Illinois, where she and her children now reside; Adelbert James, who married Ella Miller, makes his home in Columbus, Ohio, and is traveling salesman for a wholesale drug house of Peoria, Illinois; Mary Ellen is the widow of A. J. Roscoe, who was chief engineer at the power house of Rockford for the street car company for three years, and was also engineer for other companies in this city. He died November 25, 1901, and Mrs. Roscoe now makes her home in Rockford, Mr. Wallis residing with her. Mr. and Mrs. Wallis also adopted and reared a nephew, Professor William H. Brydges, who is a highly educated man, now superintendent of schools in Elgin, Illinois. For his second wife Mr. Wallis chose Miss Elizabeth Hetherington, a native of Scotland and a daughter of Mrs. Elizabeth Hetherington, a widow, who part of the time makes her home in Rockford with Mr. Wallis and spends the remainder of the time with her three sons in Michigan. Mrs. Elizabeth Wallis died in Rockford, December 26, 1900.

After coming to this city Mr. Wallis worked at the carpenter's trade for a short time and later engaged in selling sewing machines, buggies, carriages and other vehicles. He also conducted a general repair shop. Later he traveled on the road, selling sewing machine attachments for three years, and at the end of that time he joined his son in the conduct of a drug business at No. 325 East State Street, where he remained for several years. During all of this time the part of the city in which he now lives was an oatfield, but Mr. Wallis realized that the city was rapidly growing and that the outlying districts would soon be incorporated within the boundary limits. He therefore invested his money in land and began buying and selling houses. Many unimproved and unsightly places have been transformed into attractive residence districts by him,

and he now owns many dwellings in his part of the city which he rents, deriving therefrom a good income.

In his political views Mr. Wallis was a republican but was never an office seeker. He has always kept well informed on the questions and issues of the day and is interested in the success and growth of his party. Both Mr. Wallis and Mrs. Roscoe are members of the Christian Union church, and she is a member of the Ladies' Auxiliary society, the Woman's Relief Corps, and other social and benevolent organizations. She is well to do and has always been very liberal with her money, giving freely to churches and to any one in need. Mr. Wallis is now more than eighty years of age but is still a busy man, leading a useful and industrious life, his attention being given to the supervision and improvement of his property, which is located at various points on the east side. His home is at No. 501 Longwood Street, and as one of the pioneer citizens of Winnebago county he has a very wide acquaintance. He owes his prosperity entirely to his own labors, for he started out in life amid unfavorable circumstances. Believing that success might be accomplished through determined and honorable effort he has steadily worked his way upward and has not only gained a handsome competence but has also made for himself an honored name.

ROBERT RALSTON.

A productive and well tilled farm of one hundred and forty acres on section 22, Harlem township, is the property of Robert Ralston, who was born at Watertown, Washington county, Ohio, August 22, 1849. His paternal grandparents were David and Helen Ralston and the former died in Scotland, while the latter died in Harlem township. The maternal grandfather, Mr. Biggins, died in Ohio in 1856. The father, Robert Ralston, was a native of the parish of Southend, Argyleshire, Scotland, born July 12, 1802. When a young man he crossed the Atlantic to the United States, settling first in Massachusetts, where he secured employment in a hardware store and after spending a number of years in New England he removed to Ohio. For some time he engaged in teaching in Washington county, that state, and while living in Ohio he wedded Nancy Biggins, who was born in Watertown, that state, on the 16th of May, 1811. He continued to follow the profession of teaching during the greater part of his residence in the Buckeye state, whence, in 1851, he removed to Winnebago county, settling in Harlem township. About two years later he bought the farm on which his son Robert now resides and prior to this time he had been

identified with educational interests here. His remaining days, however, were devoted to agricultural pursuits and he died upon the old homestead, July 20, 1890, while his wife survived until October, 1900. The members of their family were: David W., a farmer residing at Neosho Falls, Kansas, who was born April 11, 1840, and is married and has two sons and three daughters; Henry, who was born September 7, 1841, and died March 11, 1862; John B., a hardware dealer of Rockford, who was born April 21, 1846, and is married and has one son; Ellen Jane, who was born March 4, 1843, and is the wife of Robert Henderson, of Caledonia, Illinois, by whom she has two sons and two daughters; and Mary Louise, who was born June 5, 1851, and is the wife of Robert McGeachy, of Swaledale, Iowa.

Robert Ralston, the other member of the family, was brought by his parents to this county in the fall of 1851, the family home being established in Harlem township upon the farm where he yet resides and where he has lived continuously since. He attended the public schools and through the summer months worked upon the farm. His education was supplemented by the assistance which he received from his father, who had for many years been a teacher and who was a well educated man, being a graduate of the Edinburgh University of Scotland. In farm labor he was also well trained and early became familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the stock.

On the 4th of March, 1896, Mr. Ralston was married to Miss Agnes F. Mitchell, a daughter of James and Agnes Mitchell, who for many years made their home in Harlem township. The father was born in Argyleshire, Scotland, came to the United States in 1870 and died in Harlem township in September, 1901. His wife bore the maiden name of Agnes Johnstone and was born in Argyleshire in 1845. She is now living in the township where she has long resided and where she is widely and favorably known. In the Mitchell family were six children: Hugh, who is living on the old homestead in Harlem township; William, who also occupied a part of that farm; Eliza McDougall Mitchell, also at home; Mary Jane, who is on the old farm; and Maggie, who died September 24, 1903. Mrs. Ralston is the other member of the family and was born in Guilford township, May 28, 1871. By her marriage she has become the mother of one daughter, Florence A., born June 23, 1897.

Mr. Ralston is an earnest supporter of the republican party, to which he has given his allegiance since attaining his majority. He has been recognized as an active worker, loyal to the party and effective in promoting its interests. In 1891 he was elected justice of the peace and has since served in that office. He has likewise been town

clerk since 1902, was assessor for three years and school director for the past two years. The family are members of the Willow Creek Presbyterian church of Argyle. The name of Ralston has figured prominently in connection with public affairs of the locality through a long period, for Mr. Ralston's father was honored with a number of local offices, serving from 1858 until his death as justice of the peace, while from 1854 until 1875 he was town clerk and for many terms was school director. The Ralstons have ever stood as champions of progress and improvement, devoted to the welfare of the community and active in support of every measure for the general good.

EDGAR THEODORE BILLMYER, M. D.

Dr. Edgar Theodore Billmyer, engaged in the practice of medicine in Cherry Valley, where he has been located since 1864, was born in Uniontown, Carroll county, Maryland, July 8, 1832. His father was a manufacturer of fine boots. The son, spending his boyhood days in the county of his nativity, acquired his literary education there, attending the Uniontown Academy. He afterward engaged in teaching in Carroll county for three years and in the meantime devoted his leisure hours to the study of medicine, his reading being directed by a physician of Westminster, Carroll county. Later he entered a medical college, being graduated in February, 1855, from Physio-Medical College at Cincinnati, Ohio, in which city he studied under Professor Curtis. He then crossed the river and studied for three months under Professor William Bird Powell, the subject of his investigation being cerebro-physiology and its relations to the body. He afterward traveled through Ohio and in the same year came on a visit to an aunt who resided between Cherry Valley and New Milford, in Winnebago county. Her son, Lemuel Colwell, still resides in Rockford, and she has a daughter who is also living in that city.

It was this that led Dr. Billmyer to locate in Winnebago county. He began practice in the locality where his aunt lived in June, 1855, purchasing a farm between the two villages, which he continued to make his home until 1864, when he took up his abode in Cherry Valley. He retained the ownership of his farm for some time thereafter, but sold it several years ago. Here he has practiced continuously since his connection with the medical fraternity in this county, covering over fifty years. He is a subscriber to many medical journals and thus keeps in touch with the advanced thought of the profession. He has instituted a treatment of his own

for pneumonia, using medicated sheets, which he wraps around the patient and in this special line of practice he has been exceptionally successful. Out of one hundred and thirty cases of diphtheria which he has treated in Cherry Valley and vicinity he has lost only one patient—a remarkable record. He also has a powder which he uses to clear the throats of diphtheria patients. In his general practice he has also been successful and a liberal patronage has been accorded him through many years.

Dr. Billmyer was married in this county to Miss Mary Metler, who died about twenty-two years ago. She belonged to one of the pioneer families of this part of the state, her people having located in Winnebago county about 1830. Politically Dr. Billmyer is a stalwart republican, having cast his first presidential vote for John C. Fremont and supporting each candidate at the head of the ticket since that time, although he was reared in the democratic faith. He has frequently been solicited to accept offices, but has always refused, serving only as school trustee in Cherry Valley for several terms and also while living on a farm. At one time he joined the Sons of Temperance in Maryland and he has always been true to his vows taken in early life, never purchasing any stimulant for use as a beverage during the seventy-three years in which he has traveled life's journey. He favors the Disciple church, but is liberal in his religious views. He is a remarkably active and well preserved man and his life has been of great usefulness and benefit to his fellowmen during the fifty years of his connection with the medical fraternity in Winnebago county. He is the loved family physician in many a household and a cheery presence has been a valuable supplement to the remedial agencies which he has employed.

PATRICK DROHAN.

Patrick Drohan, who departed this life about ten years ago after active and honorable connection with agricultural interests, was born in County Waterford, Ireland, and spent the days of his boyhood and youth in that country, but when a young man came to America. He took up his abode in Winnebago county about twenty years ago, residing first near Rockford, where he made his home for several years. He then purchased the farm which is yet owned by his widow and is operated by his two sons. This place comprises one hundred and ninety acres of land which is rich, productive and well improved. He was a hard-working man and very successful in his farming operations, his prosperity being due entirely to his unfaltering labor and perseverance.



E. T. BILLYER, M. D.

It was after his arrival in America that Mr. Drohan was united in marriage to Miss Mary O'Brien, who was born in County Limerick, Ireland, and came to the United States when a maiden of fifteen years, arriving here in the '50s. She first resided in Vermont and later became a resident of Rockford, where she gave her hand in marriage to Patrick Drohan. They became the parents of four children, of whom one died in infancy, while Ellen A. died at the age of twenty-five years. Thomas, residing on the home farm, married Miss Sarah Hartlett, a native of Stamford, Connecticut, and a daughter of Lawrence and Sarah (Malvy) Hartlett, who now reside near Rockford. Her parents were married in Limerick, Ireland, and Mr. Hartlett is engaged in business as a landscape gardener. Thomas Drohan and his wife have three children: Marguerite, Ellen and Paul Thomas. William Drohan, the younger son, now residing on section 7, Rockford township, married Miss Annie Fitzgerald.

In his political views Mr. Drohan was an earnest democrat, believing firmly in the principles of the party. He held membership in St. Mary's Catholic church of Rockford, of which his family are also communicants. His life proved the force and value of industry and integrity in an active business career and he deserved much credit for what he accomplished, as everything that he possessed was won through his indefatigable labor and capable management. He left to his family a very good farm, so that his widow is now in comfortable financial circumstances.

FRED W. PATTERSON.

Fred W. Patterson, following farming on section 29, Harrison township, where he has one hundred and twenty acres of land devoted to the raising of crops, was born in the neighborhood of his present home on the 5th of April, 1846, his parents being Lewis and Emily I. (Blackburn) Patterson, who were married in May, 1839, and came to Winnebago county, in August of that year. They forded the Rock river at what is now the city of Rockford at the place where the dam has since been built. There was hardly a hamlet there to give promise of the present city of metropolitan proportions with its splendid industrial, commercial and professional interests. The river crossed, they proceeded on over the prairies to Harrison township, where Mr. Patterson entered a claim on section 21. A year or two later he removed to section 29 on the same township and it was upon that farm that his son Fred was born. Robert Coulter had previously owned a claim and sold it to Mr. Patterson. A log house was the home of the family until 1876, when the pres-

ent commodious and substantial frame residence was erected. As the years passed the labors of Mr. Patterson and his son transformed the tract of wild prairie into fields that were made to bloom and blossom as the rose, and all modern equipments were added, making the farm a valuable tract of land. Here the father continued to make his home until his death, which occurred in October, 1900, when he was nearly eighty-four years of age. His wife passed away in April, 1905, at the age of eighty-four years and one month. They were natives of Canada and Ohio respectively and their marriage was celebrated near Cleveland, Ohio. Lewis Patterson did much toward promoting the pioneer improvement of the county and his genuine worth as an individual and citizen led to his election to local office. He was first chosen justice of the peace in 1853, his commission being assigned by Joel A. Matteson, while later he was commissioned by Governor Richard Yates and other chief executives of the state. He was likewise township collector for many years and also assessor. Mrs. Patterson, a worthy pioneer woman, held membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and proved a faithful companion and helpmate to her husband on the journey of life. In the family of this worthy couple were three sons and a daughter: John A., who was a member of Company C, Fifty-fifth Illinois infantry in the Civil war, was captured at Shiloh and died at Macon, Georgia, in 1862; George C., who was a member of the Seventy-second Illinois Regiment, was killed at the battle of Franklin, Tennessee; and Mrs. Marion Riche is living at Nora Springs, Iowa.

Fred W. Patterson, the other member of the family, was reared upon his father's farm here and has always lived in Harrison township with the exception of one year spent in Indiana. The educational facilities of the public schools gave him a knowledge of the common branches of English learning, while under his father's direction he became familiar with all the work of the fields. Having arrived at years of maturity he wedded Miss Erdell Kilbourn, who was born in Oneida county, New York, in 1853, a daughter of Daniel and Kate (Thorne) Kilbourn, who came to this county in 1858. The father died here in August, 1901, at the age of seventy-seven years, and his widow now resides in northwestern Iowa at the age of seventy-seven. For a long period they made their home in Durand township and were farming people of that locality. Mr. Kilbourn served his country as a member of the Twelfth Illinois Cavalry in the Civil war. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Patterson have been born two children: Emily Kate, the wife of Arthur Myott, residing in Durand township, by whom she has three children, Bernard L., Bernice D. and one who died in infancy; and Flora J., who is attending school.

They also lost their second daughter, Alice, who died in infancy. Mrs. Patterson is a member of the United Brethren church. Mr. Patterson has served in some local offices and has always given his support to the republican party. During almost six decades he has lived to see the changes that have been wrought here, transforming Winnebago county from a wild and unimproved district into one of the most populous and prosperous sections of this great commonwealth.

DANIEL KINSON.

Daniel Kinson, now retired from active business life and living on his farm on section 33, New Milford township, was born in the town of Eden, Vermont, August 21, 1827, his parents being John and Malinda (Lamphere) Kinson, the former a native of New Hampshire, and the latter of Vermont. Coming to the west they spent a few months at Whitewater, Wisconsin, while the father and his son Daniel looked over the country embraced within the borders of Winnebago county. Being favorably impressed with this part of the state they decided to locate here, for land could be secured at a nominal rate, much of it still being in possession of the government. The homes at that time were widely scattered and many of the now thriving towns and villages had not yet sprung into existence. Arrangements being perfected for securing a farm, John Kinson brought his family to Winnebago county and here spent his remaining days. He came into possession of what is now a part of Daniel Kinson's farm, securing it as a pre-emption claim, and continued its cultivation and improvement throughout the remainder of his active business life. He reached a venerable age, passing away in New Milford, December 28, 1891, after attaining the eighty-eighth milestone on life's journey. His wife died September 7, 1880, also at the age of eighty-eight years. In the family of this worthy couple were the following named: Daniel; Lewis, who became a member of the Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteer Regiment, and died while in the army; and Cynthia, the wife of Winslow Bordwell, a resident of the village of New Milford.

Daniel Kinson spent the days of his boyhood and youth in the Green Mountain state and with his parents came to the west. As before stated, he accompanied his father on a prospecting tour of this county and here he pre-empted a claim on which he has since made his home. He married Miss Joanna Baxter, who was born in the Empire state, in 1834, and came to Winnebago county with her parents. She was to her husband a faithful companion and helpmate on life's

journey for many years and she passed away in 1890, at the age of sixty-five years. Nine children had been born unto them, of whom seven are yet living: Asa H., who married Miss Lorena Graham of this township, owns a farm near his father's home. Mrs. Clara Fitzgerald is residing at New Milford. Ella is the wife of Albert McEvoy, of Ottawa, Illinois. John, who married Eva Eastman, is engaged in merchandising in New Milford township. Rena, the wife of Gilbert Thompson, a resident farmer of New Milford township. Ora married Miss Rose Lyman, and lives at Davis Junction. Rose is the wife of John Burt, who resides near Clarion, in Wright county, Iowa. Fred died in childhood, and one other son died in early life.

Politically Mr. Kinson is a republican, having continuously supported the party since its organization and he has served as school director and highway commissioner. He formerly had fraternal relations but is not identified with any lodge at the present time. He has always attended the Methodist church although not a member now. He continued active farming until two or three years ago, when he delegated the more arduous work of the fields to others and is now enjoying a well earned rest. He retains his residence, however, upon the old homestead farm, comprising two hundred and twenty-four acres in New Milford township, one hundred and sixty of which he entered from the government in early pioneer days. Few residents of the county have longer resided here and he has intimate knowledge of events which occurred in pioneer times and of conditions which existed when the land was but slightly improved and the county was sparsely settled and when there was little promise of future development. He has made progress in keeping with the county's adoption of the various interests of an advanced civilization and he relates in interesting manner many incidents of earlier days here.

JOHN CARLSON.

Among the men of Rockford now deceased who were formerly prominent and active in business circles here was John Carlson, who came to this city in 1868, and at the time of his death was one of the stockholders of the Rockford Standard Furniture Company. As the name indicates he was of Swedish birth, his natal day being October 21, 1816. His parents were Christopher and Catherine Carlson, who spent their entire lives in Sweden. The father was the owner of a large farm and always carried on agricultural pursuits there up to the time of his death. His widow is living on the old homestead farm there at the advanced age of eighty years.



DANIEL KINSON AND FAMILY.

John Carlson acquired a common-school education in Sweden and assisted his father on the home farm there until he attained his majority. He had heard favorable reports concerning business opportunities in the new world and resolved to try his fortune in America, so that at the age of twenty-one years he sailed for the United States, landing at New York city. He afterward went to Laporte, Indiana, where he was employed in various ways for three years. He afterward removed to De Kalb, Illinois, where he worked on a farm for his cousin for two years. On the expiration of that period he returned to Laporte and purchased a small farm near there, carrying on general agricultural pursuits for two years. Again he located in De Kalb, Illinois, where he was employed in a wagon factory for about fifteen years, and in 1868 he came to Rockford. Here he soon purchased stock in the Rockford Standard Furniture Company, manufacturers of all kinds of furniture, and now controlling one of the most extensive business enterprises of the kind in this city.

Indolence and idleness were utterly foreign to the nature of Mr. Carlson, and as he could not content himself without some work to do he accepted a position in the factory, where he remained until his health failed in 1900. He continued as a stockholder of the company, however, until his death, which occurred February 1, 1901.

While living in Laporte, Indiana, Mr. Carlson was married to Miss Anna Dolk, also a native of Sweden and a daughter of Peter and Marie (Peterson) Dolk, both of whom came to America in 1870, settling in De Kalb, Illinois. Her father was then sixty years of age and retired from active business life, living in the enjoyment of a well earned rest until he was called to the home beyond. Mrs. Dolk afterward came to Rockford and resided with her daughter until her death on the 2d of June, 1895. Mr. and Mrs. Carlson became the parents of ten children: Emma, the wife of Charles A. Stark, of Rockford; Charles, who married Miss H. Lundeen, and is a machinist of this city; Albert, who married Clara Peterson and resides in Rockford; Jennie, the wife of Charles Anderson, of Chicago; Minnie, the wife of D. W. Shirley, of Beloit, Wisconsin; Herbert T., a spinner by trade, residing with his mother; Olive, a stenographer employed by the Rockford Standard Furniture Company; Martin E., a finisher in the employ of the Rockford Mitten Company; Harold, who is with the furniture factory; and Maude, who is attending school. The children were all given good educational privileges in Rockford, the parents realizing the value of education as a preparation for life's responsible duties.

Mr. Carlson's study of the political questions and issues of the day led him to give his support to the republican party and he always

voted for its men and measures. He was a member of the First Lutheran church of Rockford, to which his family all belong. In his business affairs he was very successful and he was very prominent among the Swedish-American citizens here. He possessed many of the sterling characteristics of his countrymen, being very industrious and diligent, while his perseverance was another strong element in his prosperity.

JAMES A. PROVOOST.

James A. Provoost, assistant cashier of the Pecatonica Bank, was born in Buffalo, New York, May 22, 1863, and is a son of Robert C. and Fanny (Alton) Provoost. The father, who was born in Buffalo, New York, died in that city in 1881, while his wife, whose birth occurred in Dunkirk, New York, is now living in Chicago. The paternal grandfather of Mr. Provoost was the ship chandler's business at Buffalo for many years and the father was reared to that trade. At one time he turned his attention to the stone-engraving business but found that it was injurious to his eyes and so resumed operations as a chandler, in which he continued up to the time of his death.

James A. Provoost, the only child of the family, began his education in the public schools of his native city and continued his studies in Pecatonica, becoming a resident of this place when fifteen years of age. He lived with his uncle, H. H. Knowlton, for a time and later went to Chicago, where he worked for the Illinois Central Railroad Company in the motive department. He was thus employed until 1881, when he returned to Pecatonica and has since been connected with the Pecatonica Bank, in which he is now assistant cashier. He has gained a thorough familiarity with the banking business, both in principle and detail, and his close application, comprehensive understanding of the work and his loyalty to the interests of the institution have made him one of its valued representatives.

Mr. Provoost has also figured prominently in local affairs and during President Harrison's administration served as postmaster from 1890 until 1894. He was township treasurer for four years in the '80s and holds this office at the present time, having filled the position altogether for nine years, a fact which is indicative of his promptness and fidelity in the discharge of his duties. He has likewise served as village trustee for four or five years and as village clerk for two terms. He is a member of A. W. Rawlson lodge, No. 145, A. F. & A. M., at Pecatonica, in which he has served as master and filled other offices. He likewise affiliates with Rockford chapter, No. 24, R. A. M., Crusader commandery, No. 17, K. T. of Rockford and Tebala Temple of the Mys-

tic Shrine in that city. Both he and his wife are affiliated with the Eastern Star and are members of the Mystic Workers.

Mr. Provoost was married July 4, 1886, to Miss Mamie O'Brien, a daughter of James and Ann O'Brien. Her father was born in New York city, December 10, 1837, and the mother was born in England, January 11, 1844. Mr. O'Brien first came to the west in 1852, settling in Clinton, Wisconsin, and for many years was clerk in Lot Taylor's hotel there. He afterward came to this village and purchased the Pecatonica Hotel, which he conducted successfully up to the time of his death, which occurred September 22, 1887. His wife also died in Pecatonica, passing away February 28, 1900. They were the parents of two children, Mrs. Provoost and William, who is living in Woodstock, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Provoost have one daughter, Nellie A. They favor the Episcopal church but as there is no congregation of that denomination in Pecatonica they usually attend services at the Congregational church. Mr. Provoost is well known as a leader in republican circles in his community, as a banker of capability and as a man of genuine worth, who in all life's relations entertains a correct idea of the duties and obligations which devolve upon him and is ever loyal thereto.

ROBERT ANDREW.

Among the men who have contributed to the industrial and commercial development of Rockford in days past Robert Andrew was prominent. He became a resident of this city in 1868, and for some years was engaged in the flour and feed business here. He was among the worthy residents that Scotland furnished to Rockford, his birth having occurred in the land of the hills and heather in February, 1830. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. David Andrew, were also natives of Scotland, and with their children they came to America. One of their sons is now living in Rockford—John J. Andrew, who is now representing his district in the state legislature and is one of the prominent and influential citizens of Winnebago county now living retired from business cares. When the family came to America they settled first in Michigan and afterward removed to Guilford township, Winnebago county, the father purchasing a farm on section 1, where his son is now living. There he engaged in tilling the soil throughout his remaining days, being one of the enterprising and practical agriculturists of his community.

Robert Andrew was a public-school student in Guilford township, and when not busy with his text-books he assisted his father in the work of

the farm. On leaving home he came to Rockford, where he also attended school, thus acquiring a good education. He entered upon his business career in New Milford, Illinois, where he secured a position in the flouring mill. He learned the trade of milling and was employed in that mill for several years. He afterward went to Beloit, Wisconsin, where he followed the milling business for several years, and in 1868 he came to Rockford. Here he opened a flour and feed store on East State street, conducting the business for a few years, after which he rented a mill near the waterworks and operated it for some time. He afterward rented another flouring mill and continued in that line of business until he was taken ill, when he retired from active business cares. In connection with the industrial and commercial life here he was well known, and he accomplished all that he undertook by reason of his perseverance, strong determination and unfaltering energies.

Mr. Andrew was married in Rockford to Miss Caroline A. Evans, a native of Waterloo, New York, born in August, 1838, and a daughter of Ozias and Mary Evans. Her father settled in New Milford and later he removed to Byron, Ogle county, Illinois, where both he and his wife died. There were five children born of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew: Adella L., who has for some time been a teacher in the Freeman school of Rockford and resides with her mother; Merton Elwood, who died at the age of eighteen months; Robert M., a painter who resides with his mother; Carrie M., the wife of J. F. Duncan, a farmer residing in Shirland township this county; and Ada, who died at the age of two years.

The death of the husband and father occurred December 15, 1901. He was never an office-seeker nor did he take much interest in politics. He preferred to center his energies upon his business affairs and the enjoyment of home life. He held friendship inviolable, and to his family he was a devoted husband and father, putting forth his best efforts to secure a good living for his wife and children and to promote their happiness and welfare in every way possible. Mrs. Andrew and her daughter are members of the Centennial Methodist Episcopal church of Rockford, and she owns a nice home at No. 921 First avenue, where she is living with her son and daughter.

HON. CHARLES E. MARTIN, M. D.

Dr. Charles E. Martin, member of the legislature from Winnebago county, elected in 1904 on the democratic ticket, is now living in Seward. He was born in Melmore, Seneca county, Ohio.

February 8, 1866. His parents were Robert and Barbara (Kegy) Martin, both natives of Ohio, in which state the father followed the occupation of farming, while for nine years he served as county recorder of Seneca county. In his family were thirteen children, of whom eight are yet living: Samuel S., who married Miss Cora Hyatt and now resides upon the old homestead; Jennie, who married C. D. Leas; Eliza, the wife of Rev. John Sargent; Isaac R., who married Hattie Haverstick; John V., a practicing physician of Toledo, Ohio; Fanny, the wife of George Hepler; Anna, who married Charles Derr, a practicing lawyer of Tiffin, Ohio; and Charles E.

Robert Martin died when his son Charles was but thirteen years of age, leaving him without a patrimony, so that it became necessary for him to provide for his own support when but a lad. He was employed as a farm hand and in stores and ambitious to acquire an education, he managed to complete the high-school course. He then determined to devote his energies to a professional life and worked his way through Heidelberg College, Ohio, while later he matriculated in Rush Medical College of Chicago, in which he was graduated with the class of 1891. During his collegiate course he had no leisure hours, for when the school was not in session he devoted his time to attending indigent patients in the hospitals. He applied himself assiduously to the mastery of the branches forming the college curriculum and when he had completed his studies at Rush and won his diploma he located for practice in Seward, where he has since remained. He has now what is probably the largest practice of any physician in the country towns of Winnebago county and his work has fully justified the confidence which the public reposed in him. He is zealous and earnest in his professional duties and maintains a high standard of professional ethics in his practice, so that he enjoys the full confidence of his brethren of the medical fraternity.

On the 1st of June, 1892, Dr. Martin was united in marriage to Miss Mabel Tracy and they have two children, Mary L. and Barbara K. Dr. Martin is a member of A. W. Rawlson lodge, No. 145, A. F. & A. M., of Pecatonica, the Knights of the Globe, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Knights of Pythias and Elks lodge, No. 64, of Rockford.

Dr. Martin has always been a stanch democrat, unswerving in his support of the party because of his firm belief in its principles and yet never until 1904 has he sought to figure in political affairs. Indeed he did not enter the political arena at that time until solicited by many friends to do so. Differences of opinion among the democratic leaders led to the growth of factions

and it seemed necessary that they must choose as a candidate a man upon whom all could unite. Accordingly when the nomination for the legislative candidate was made Dr. Martin became the choice of the party. He made no campaign promises and did not do the usual amount of campaign work because of the claims of his practice but nevertheless he was elected, so that he is now a member of the Illinois legislature. To those who know him it is needless to say that he will be true to his principles at all times, that he will support no measure without giving to it his careful consideration and that as a champion he will be fearless and true. In local affairs he has ever stood on the side of progress, reform and improvement and he was in a large measure instrumental in securing the consolidation of the Seward schools, rendering valuable aid to Superintendent Kern, who said, "It gives me sincere pleasure to pay a tribute to a man who has unselfishly given his best efforts to improve the school advantages for the children on the farms. Dr. Martin has done valuable service in establishing the first consolidated country schools in Illinois. No man has done more. He and the late Hon. Laurence McDonald, of Seward, labored as no other men did to bring about better schools. This school at Seward, in the great success it is proving to be, is to a large degree the results of the labor of these two men. Dr. C. E. Martin is a sincere, true friend of education."

JAMES STEWARD.

James Steward, one of the pioneer settlers of Winnebago county, taking up his abode here in 1850, is a native of Canada, and a son of William and Sophia (Long) Steward. The mother was a native of Germany while the father was of Scotch lineage. He settled in Canada in early life and there worked at the carpenter's trade until 1850, when he removed with his family to Winnebago county, Illinois. Here he purchased a large tract of land in Owen township and put his sons to work upon this place, while he practically lived retired, merely overseeing the operation of his land. He thus enjoyed a well merited rest until called to his final home and both he and his wife died in Owen township. In their family were five children who are yet living, namely: Edward, a resident of Nebraska; Minard M., who is living retired, his home being on School street in Rockford; Mrs. Daniel Reddington, who resides in Rockford township; Mrs. James Scott, who is living in Burritt township, Winnebago county; and Alanson, one of the most extensive landowners of the county, having over one thousand acres in Owen township, on which he now

makes his home. He expects soon, however, to retire from active farm life, having through his own efforts become one of the wealthy men of the community.

James Steward acquired his education in the common schools of Canada and after the removal to Illinois assisted his brothers in the operation of the home farm here. He was married in Owen township, this county, to Miss Mary A. Smith, a native of Canada, born February 10, 1836, and a daughter of John and Laura (Webster) Smith, the former a native of Scotland and the latter of Vermont. Her father came to America in early life, settling in Canada, whence he afterward removed to Ohio and later he took up his abode in Winnebago county. Here he purchased a farm in Owen township, where he carried on general agricultural pursuits for many years. His wife died there and he afterward married again, his second union being with Mrs. Jerusha (Hill) Ward, who died in Rockford.

Following the death of his first wife Mr. Steward removed to the city of Rockford to live retired, giving up farm work at that time. There were six children by that marriage, namely: Melinda, the wife of David Sample, a farmer of Owen township; Leota, the wife of Charles Hoy, a resident of Brownsdale, Minnesota; Frank, who is living in Richville, Minnesota; Alice, the wife of Barney Conklin, a resident farmer of Burritt township; Fannie, the wife of Robert C. Moncrieff, a collar maker with the Hess & Hopkins Leather Company of Rockford, their home being with her mother in this city; and Clara, who died at the age of two years and six months.

Following his marriage Mr. Steward engaged in farming on a part of the old family homestead, placing his fields under a high state of cultivation. He also owned and operated a threshing machine for forty-six years in Owen township and continued the same business to some extent after coming to Rockford. His own farm was splendidly improved with modern equipments and the latest machinery and he continued in active farming until January, 1885, when he took up his abode in the city of Rockford, where he lived retired until his death. He retained possession of his farm of one hundred and sixty acres, however, in Owen township. In March, 1897, he became ill and after suffering for two months passed away on the 6th of May.

Mr. Steward was always interested in public affairs, giving helpful support to many measures for the general good. He served as a school director in Owen township for several years and was a staunch republican in his political views. His business dealings were ever honorably conducted and all who knew him esteemed him as a man of sterling worth, for he displayed many traits of character that in every land and clime command admiration and regard. Mrs. Steward

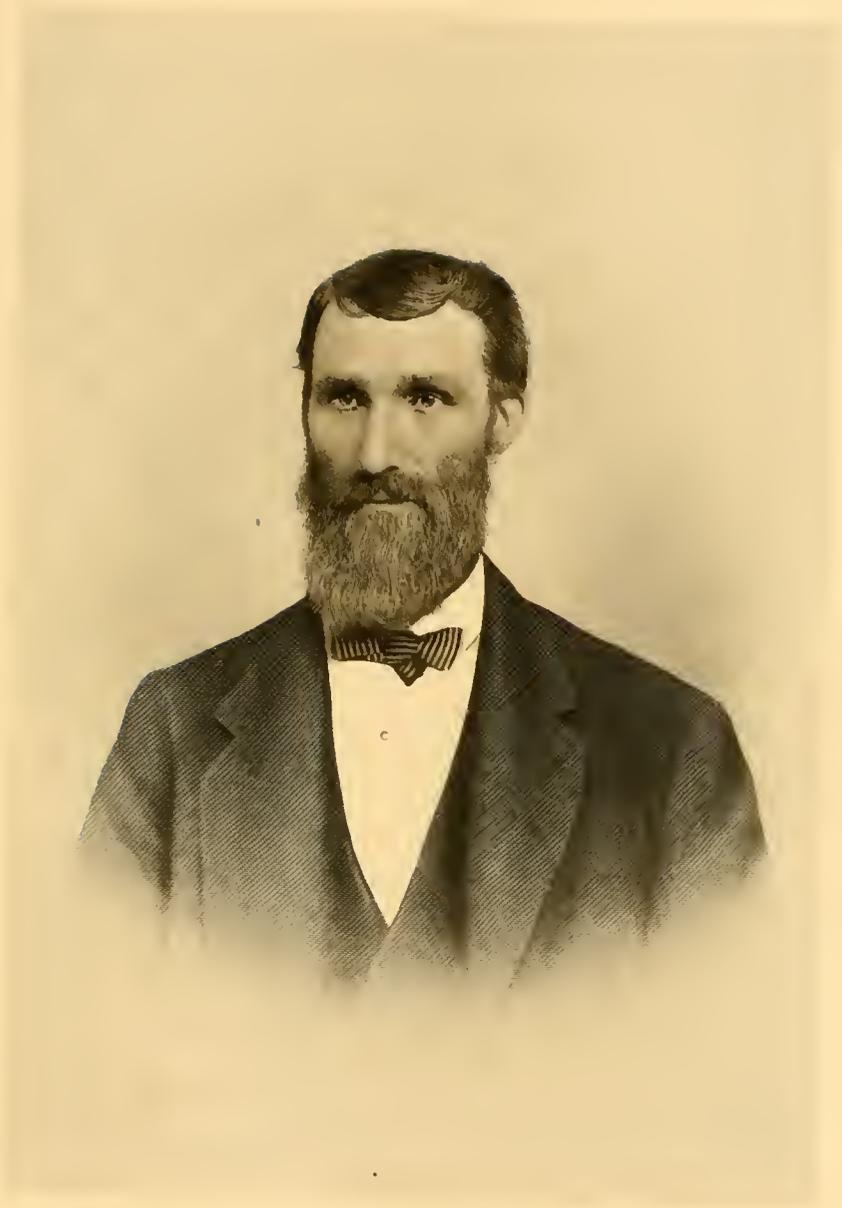
attends the First Presbyterian church of Rockford. Beside her country property she owns a nice home at No. 836 Woodlawn avenue, where she is now living with Mr. and Mrs. Moncrieff.

VALENTINE GLEASMAN.

Valentine Gleasman, now deceased, became one of the extensive landowners of Winnebago county and his life record proved that success may be obtained through persistent and earnest effort, guided by sound judgment and supplemented by honorable dealing. He was born in Rome, Oneida county, New York, March 2, 1838. His father, Godfred Gleasman, was a native of Germany and was a shoemaker by trade. He enlisted in defense of the Union at the time of the Civil war and he and his two brothers, Valentine and George, were all killed in the battle of Antietam by the explosion of a single shell.

As his parents were in limited financial circumstances Valentine Gleasman when but a boy started out to make his own way in the world and accepted any employment that would yield him an honest living. In 1857 he came to the west with the family of Chauncey Smith, for whom he drove a team across the country. Soon after reaching Winnebago county he secured employment by the month as a farm hand and afterward engaged in farming on the shares for one year for M. H. Patten. He then collected one hundred dollars from his first crop that had been raised on the shares and with this he returned to the east for his mother, three brothers and one sister, who accompanied him to Illinois, the journey being made by way of the lakes. He then resumed his farming operations in this part of the state, his mother acting as his housekeeper until his marriage.

On the 31st of December, 1859, Mr. Gleasman was joined in wedlock to Miss Maryette Gridley, who was born in Harmony, New York, and is a daughter of Jared C. and Celestia A. (Talmadge) Gridley, who came to Winnebago county in 1843, settling at Rockton. The father worked in the mills in the employ of the Talcotts. After his marriage Mr. Gleasman rented land in Owen township, taking possession of one hundred and twenty acres which he cultivated. Through the summer he would work for his neighbors in the daytime in order to obtain ready money, and he cut his own grain by night. The first tract of land which he purchased comprised one hundred and twenty acres in Owen township near the old Canada schoolhouse and he paid for the place in wheat at one dollar per bushel. Within a short time he had



D. G. Gosman

discharged his indebtedness and three years after making the purchase he sold his original farm and bought two hundred and ninety acres in the same township. In 1872 he bought another eighty acres adjoining. He afterward lived up to the time of his death either in Rockton or Owen township and as the years passed by he added to his landed possessions until at the time of his demise he owned nearly fifteen hundred acres, all lying in Rockton and Owen townships. He was an excellent judge of land, made judicious investments, and as the years passed by his labors brought him a handsome competence. His sound judgment and business ability were recognized forces in his life and it seems that all he undertook was crowned with success.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Gleasman were born five children: Godfrey, who is now living in Rockton; George, who follows farming in Rockton township; Ona M., who is a graduate of the normal department of the Rockford Normal School and is now living with her mother after a recent trip abroad, gaining thereby the culture and knowledge that only travel can bring; Jessie M., who died April 30, 1904; and Adelbert, who died August 10, 1877.

Mr. Gleasman removed to Rockford with the expectation of retiring from active business and bought a beautiful home there in 1892 but was not long permitted to enjoy his new place of residence for his death occurred on the 29th of September, 1893. He had served as road commissioner and in minor offices in his township and in politics he was a republican. His life was one of untiring industry and his prosperity was richly merited because of the methods he followed in its acquirement were such as would bear the closest investigation and scrutiny. He had the warm regard of many friends and his death was the occasion of deep regret in the community in which he lived.

JOSEPH MOORE.

The broad prairies of Illinois furnish opportunities to the agriculturist unsurpassed in any section of the country and it is because of this condition that many of the farmers, men of industry and enterprise, have worked their way steadily upward until having acquired a handsome competence they are enabled in their later years to enjoy a well earned rest. Such has been the career of Mr. Moore, who is now living retired in the village of Pecatonica. He was born May 1, 1856, in Seward township and is therefore one of the county's native sons. His parents, William and Mary (Fortner) Moore, were natives of England,

in which country they were reared and married, while two of their eight children, three sons and five daughters, were born unto them in that land. They came to the United States in 1840, leaving Liverpool on a sailing vessel, which after a long and tedious voyage of fourteen weeks and three days dropped anchor in the harbor of New York. For about a year they remained in the vicinity of that city and thence went by rail to Buffalo, on by way of the Great Lakes to Chicago and by rail to Turners Junction on the Chicago & Galena Railroad, from which point they drove across the country to Rockford. After spending about two years in the city they took up their abode in Seward township, Mr. Moore purchasing twenty acres of land for a dollar and a quarter per acre. Later he bought twenty acres additional at five dollars per acre, afterward forty acres at fifteen dollars per acre and still later another forty-acre tract, so that his farm comprised one hundred and twenty acres. This was all wild land when it came into his possession but the sturdy pioneer soon wrought a transformation in the place. He broke the wild prairie land, built a house for himself and labored untiringly in order to gain his start. Most of the work on his house was done by moonlight, for in the daytime he was engaged in tilling the soil. For some years he cultivated his farm of one hundred and twenty acres, gaining success as the years passed by and then as his financial resources increased he bought more land, until he owned about four hundred acres, constituting a valuable property. He reached the advanced age of eighty years, passing away September 2, 1896, and his wife died in 1903 at the age of eighty-two years. They were members of the Methodist Episcopal church. In their family were eight children: William, James, Joseph, Bertha, Mary, Isabelle, Adeline and Susan.

Joseph Moore was reared to the occupation of farming and throughout his active business career remained upon the old homestead. After his marriage he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land and later he bought one hundred and twenty acres, so that he now owns two hundred and eighty acres which he rents to his two sons-in-law. Through a long period, however, he was active in the work of tilling the soil and harvesting the crops. In the spring of 1905, however, he purchased a home in Pecatonica and took up his abode here on the 6th of March, since which time he has lived retired, the rental from his farms together with his other possessions bringing him a good income.

On the 13th of August, 1880, Mr. Moore was married in the German Lutheran church in Pecatonica to Miss Annie Peters, a daughter of John and Mary (Snell) Peters. Her parents were natives of Germany in which country the children

were also born and in 1870 the family came to America, sailing from Hamburg to New York city. They were on the water for seven weeks and after reaching the American port they proceeded by rail to Buffalo and by way of the lakes to Milwaukee but when they reached the former city there was so much ice that the boats could not run and they had to wait until the spring thaw. From Milwaukee they went to Appleton, Wisconsin, where the father worked on his brother's farm for fifteen dollars per month in order to repay his brother for the money sent him in order to meet the expenses of the voyage to the new world. When the indebtedness was discharged he removed with his family to Winnebago county and rented different farms here, carrying on agricultural pursuits until his wife died, when he retired to private life and is now living with his daughter, Mrs. Coppan, in Iowa. In the family were twelve children, of whom eight are now living: Minnie, Mary, Sophia, John, Amie, Rachel, Lena and Fred.

Mrs. Moore was born April 16, 1862, and by her marriage has become the mother of eight children, of whom seven are now living: William, Lillian, Josie, Jessie, Mabel, Lena and Guy.

Mr. Moore has been a member of the school board for three years and he gives his political support to the democracy. He and his wife belong to the Pecatonica Tribunes and are attendants on the services of the Methodist Episcopal church. For almost sixty years he has lived in Winnebago county, watching with interest its development and progress and along agricultural lines he has contributed to its upbuilding and growth. In his business career he has been earnest and energetic, considering that the duties of the work-a-day world are worthy of his best efforts and thus as the years have gone by he has attained a success which now enables him to live retired.

THOMAS J. MINERS.

Thomas J. Miners, living on section 17, Harlem township, was born in Cornwall, England, December 9, 1852. His father, James Miners, also a native of that country, was born in 1827 and is now living a retired life in Rockford township. His wife bore the maiden name of Mary Allen and yet survives. The children of this worthy couple are: William, living in Harlem township, is now married and has two sons and one daughter. John is married and is living retired in Oregon, Illinois. Abram, a resident of Oregon, is married and has two sons and a daughter. James, a farmer of Harlem township, is married and has one son. Mary Jane is the wife of Henry Wilcox, a farmer of Harlem

township, and has one daughter. Louisa M. is the wife of Louis Overholt, a resident of Colmar, Iowa, and has two sons and three daughters.

Thomas J. Miners was only two years old when brought by his parents to the United States, the family making their way to the city of Rockford after reaching the American port. Ten years later the father removed to a farm in Winnebago township, whereon he resided for three years, and then took up his abode in Rockford township, where he carried on general agricultural pursuits for five years. On the expiration of that period he settled on the Levins farm in Harlem township, where he lived for six years, after which he established his home in Latham Park.

In his youth Thomas J. Miners worked upon the home farm and in the common schools acquired his education. His advantages, however, in that direction were somewhat limited, for it was necessary that he assist in farm labor and aid in the support of a large family. He worked at four dollars per month at a time when other boys were attending school and when he had attained his majority he started in business on his own account, being first employed by Brown Brothers in a brickyard in Owen township. He remained there for four years, after which he took up his abode on a farm which he rented in Guilford township, continuing its cultivation for two years, when he removed to a farm in Winnebago township, on which he lived for eight years. He then located in Rockford, working for the city for a time, and for eight years was employed at teaming by Hart & Page. Through the careful husbanding of his financial resources he was enabled in the spring of 1893 to purchase his present farm, on which he has since lived, cultivating it very successfully. His fields are now under a very high state of cultivation and everything about his place is neat and attractive in appearance. He is systematic, methodical and practical in his work and his labors have been crowned with a gratifying measure of prosperity. He is now the owner of two hundred thirty-six and a half acres of cultivable land and one hundred acres of timber land in Harlem township.

On the 20th of April, 1878, Mr. Miners was married to Miss Ida D. Phillips, of Harrison township, a daughter of William and Almira Phillips, early settlers of this county. Mrs. Miners died April 5, 1885, leaving one son, Clifford B., who was born in Winnebago township on the 10th of June, 1880, and is now living in Portland, Oregon. On the 31st of March, 1891, Mr. Miners was again married, his second union being with Gertina Olson, of Rockford, a daughter of Mathias and Caroline Olson. Her father was born in Trondjhan, Norway, in 1837



T. J. MINERS.

and became a resident of Durand township, Winnebago county, where he died in 1871. His wife, who was born May 13, 1840, is now living in the city of Rockford. Mrs. Miners has two brothers, Olie M. and Theodore, both living in Rockford. She was born in Norway, October 31, 1868, and became the mother of four children but two died in infancy. Those living are: Hazel C., who was born April 30, 1893; and Verne L., born February 3, 1899.

In his political views Mr. Miners is a staunch republican and for several terms has served as school director. He and his wife attend the Methodist Episcopal church and are esteemed as worthy people of the community. His record is notable as that of a self-made man, for with few advantages and privileges in his youth he started out in life on his own account, working earnestly and persistently until he was at length enabled to buy property. Since that time in his farming operations he has met with a gratifying measure of prosperity that is due entirely to his capable efforts, close application and unremitting diligence.

DANIEL CARNEY.

Daniel Carney, well known in this part of Illinois in pioneer times in connection with a stage line before the advent of railroads and afterward as the owner of a valuable farm and fine trotting stock, visited Rockford at a very early epoch in the development of this section of the state, but did not take up his abode permanently here until 1848. He was born in Marbletown, New York, May 14, 1826, and was a son of Andrew and Lana (Greene) Carney, both of whom were natives of Ulster county, New York, where they spent their entire lives, the father engaging in farming in order to provide for his family.

Daniel Carney, being reared in that locality, attended the common schools and in his youth assisted his father in the operation of the home farm, early becoming familiar with the best methods of caring for the fields and cultivating the crops. He continued to aid in the work of the homestead until about twenty-one years of age, when he started out on an independent business career. He followed boating on the Delaware & Hudson canal for about three years and afterward engaged in teaming across the mountains from Ellenville to Middletown. He next drove a stage from Ellenville to Kingston and remained a resident of New York until 1845, when he came to the west by way of Buffalo, the Great Lakes and Chicago. There were no railroads here at that time and Mr. Carney began driving the old stage coach from Dixon to Oregon, Byron and other Illinois towns, carrying the mail between

many of these points. He also drove a stage coach between Rockford and Chicago, and became one of the well known citizens of the early days, having a wide acquaintance among the pioneer settlers who sought homes in northern Illinois. In 1848 he took up his abode in Rockford, where he engaged in the livery business for about a year. He then sold out and began teaming again, hauling goods and lumber between Rockford and Elgin. He likewise made trips to Chicago and Milwaukee, then back to Rockford again. He followed that business for two years, and later conducted a dray line in this city, becoming the first expressman of Rockford. He followed that business from 1855 until 1874, during which time he also formed a partnership with L. B. Starkweather, and he purchased horses for the Metropolitan Street Railway Company, of Boston, while during the period of the Civil war he purchased horses for use in cavalry service. In the spring of 1876 Mr. Carney bought the farm at the edge of Rockford, whereon his widow and son now reside. There he made a race track, and he was the owner of and drove the first horse in Rockford that ever beat the 2:30 heat. This was Chief, the trotter that in 1880 made the mile in 2:27 $\frac{3}{4}$. Mr. Carney at different times owned several fine racing horses and had other valuable stock.

In 1849 was celebrated the marriage of Daniel Carney and Miss Jane Ann Huntley in Beloit, Wisconsin. She was born in Phelps, New York, and was a daughter of John and Mehitable Huntley, both of whom were natives of Phelps, where the father died. The mother afterward came west, settling first in Michigan and subsequently in Rockford. Here in 1860 she became the wife of A. D. Stone, and both Mr. and Mrs. Stone departed this life in Rockford. Mr. and Mrs. Carney became the parents of two sons and two daughters: Ann Almira, born in 1851, died in 1852. Harry H., married Jennie Chamberlain, who died leaving a daughter Mabel. He now resides in Mound City, Missouri, where he is engaged in the insurance business. Julia died at the age of thirty years. D. Fay, born January 9, 1868, married Jeanette Gilmore, of Owen township, a daughter of William Gilmore, who was a prominent farmer of that locality. They now have one child, Jane Elizabeth, born January 5, 1904.

Mr. Carney continued to engage in farming, but his principal business was the purchasing, selling and trading of fine horses, and in this work he gained a wide reputation. It was his intention to join the army at the time of the Civil war, but he was disabled by being kicked by a horse and had to send a substitute. He was never an office seeker nor was he a strict partisan, but cast his ballot for the candidate whom he

thought best qualified for the office. Genial and courteous in manner, straightforward in business relations and public spirited in his devotion to the general good, he was known as a representative citizen of Winnebago county. He died after an illness of only five days, on the 19th of March, 1893.

Mrs. Carney, her son and his wife, all attend the Christian Union church. D. Fay Carney is a very prominent young man of this city and has been connected with various newspapers of Rockford and also some out-of-town publications, including Clark's Horse Review, and other papers for many years. He now remains at home looking after his mother's and his own property, and he has some very fine stock in Winnebago county. They own a beautiful residence and five acres of land at the corner of Rockton and Auburn streets, where Mr. Carney, his wife and mother are all now living.

WILLIAM C. JONES.

William C. Jones, deceased, who was engaged in the newspaper business in Rockford for several years, was born in Birmingham, England, November 26, 1856. His parents, John and Eliza Jones, were likewise natives of that country and always resided there, the father conducting business as a florist. William C. Jones was educated in the schools of his native land and was married in Birmingham, England, to Miss Ada F. Bennett, a native of that city, and a daughter of George and Eleanor Bennett, both of Birmingham. Her parents, however, came with their family to America about 1865, and settled in Belvidere, Boone county, Illinois, where Mr. Bennett was engaged with the bridge and building department of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company, representing that corporation throughout the remainder of his active business career. He died in 1884, and his widow afterward removed to Rockford, living with her children until her own death, which occurred several years ago. Three of the daughters of the family survive and are residents of Rockford. Mr. and Mrs. Jones became the parents of three children: Ethel, now the wife of Charles Sheldon, a farmer, residing in Winnebago township; Guy, who is a student in the high school; and Wallace, at home.

After his marriage Mr. Jones sailed for America, and in 1883 became a resident of Rockford, where he entered upon his business career as the first bookkeeper of the firm of Schmauss Brothers, the well known meat packers of this city. He was connected with that house for a year and was afterward bookkeeper for three years for the real-estate firm of Crawford & Revell. Subsequently he kept books for William Gent

for about a year and then turned his attention to the newspaper business, becoming a stockholder in the Republic. He was connected with that paper for four years, after which he entered into partnership with Abram Smith and was part owner of the Gazette for some time. Subsequently he and Mr. Smith established a newspaper which they called the Spectacle and engaged in its publication until they closed out the business. Mr. Jones then returned to the old Gazette, which in the meantime had become known as the Register-Gazette, and is now the leading daily newspaper of Rockford, Mr. Jones remaining as one of its stockholders until his demise, which occurred November 28, 1894.

At different times Mr. Jones was solicited to become a candidate for office by those who recognized his fitness for public service and his devotion to the general good, but he was without political aspiration and preferred to do his services for the public as a private citizen. He gave to the republican party a staunch and unswerving support, while fraternally he was connected with the Woodmen and with the Loyal League, both of Rockford. He held membership in the State Street Baptist church and was Sunday-school treasurer and secretary for more than eight years. He took a very great interest in the church work and was closely associated with many of its activities, and his labors proved of direct and permanent good in extending its influence and promoting its growth. In all this work he had the entire sympathy and co-operation of his wife, who still retains her membership in the State Street Baptist church. His business record was such as any man might be proud to possess, for he never made an engagement that he did not meet, nor incurred an obligation that he did not fulfill. Honored and respected by all he ranked long as one of the prominent men of the city. A short time prior to his death he built a large residence, which his widow and children now occupy, at No. 717 North Horsman street. He possessed strong domestic tastes, and while he accomplished much in the business world and ratified his friendships by kindly sympathy and thoughtful consideration, his greatest depth of love was reserved for his family.

ALEXANDER MILNE.

Alexander Milne, a retired farmer living on his farm on North Rockton avenue near the city limits of Rockford, was born in Winnebago county, Illinois, October 5, 1848, his parents being Alexander and Isabelle (Porter) Milne. The father was a native of Scotland and after coming to Illinois was married in 1838. He followed the occupation of farming and invested in land until he

owned two hundred acres constituting a valuable property in Burritt township. There he raised fancy cattle and other stock and also produced fine grain crops. In politics he was a republican, and both he and his wife were members of the Presbyterian church. His death occurred in 1885, while his wife passed away in 1900. They were the parents of nine children, of whom four sons are living, two being residents of Burritt township, while one resides in Huron, South Dakota.

Alexander Milne was educated in Burritt township and remained at home until twenty-one years of age, when he began farming on his own account. He rented land in Burritt township for five years and then purchased two hundred and forty acres which he cultivated and improved until 1891, when he sold out and came to Rockford. Here he has since lived, owning twenty acres just outside the city limits. Not caring to continue further in active agricultural pursuits to the extent that he had formerly done, he disposed of his larger farm and is now practically living retired, although he gives supervision to a general farming and gardening business, which are conducted upon his place here.

In 1877 Mr. Milne was united in marriage to Jessie Dow, who was born in Scotland in 1847 and is a daughter of Robert and Catherine Dow, who came to Winnebago county when their daughter was but two years old and made their home upon a farm in Burritt township. Both parents are now deceased but a sister of Mrs. Milne is yet living. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Milne have been born three sons: Donald M., Harry and Guy W., who are still with them at the home place, while Charles died at the age of six years. By a former marriage Mrs. Milne had a daughter, Millie, now the wife of Dr. Larned, of Chicago.

Mr. Milne votes with the republican party and served as collector for two terms. His wife is a member of the Congregational church, and they are well known in Rockford and the part of the county in which they reside, Mr. Milne having spent his entire life here, covering a period of fifty-seven years, so that his memory compasses the period of almost the entire growth and development of this portion of the state.

C. M. PACKARD.

C. M. Packard, who is now filling the position of township commissioner in Shirland township and who for several years has been engaged in the grain business in the village of Shirland, is a native son of this locality, born in 1848, his parents being Job and H. A. (Austin) Packard, early residents of this county. Both were born in

Buckfield, Maine, and the father came to Illinois with the Austin family, who were early residents of this part of the state. He located first in the village of Rockton, where for a short time he conducted a shoe shop, but soon afterward he secured a homestead claim in the northwestern part of Shirland township, where he resided for a number of years. He then sold that property and located on a farm that is now owned by Mrs. Fairchild, on section 18, Shirland township. For a long period he continued its cultivation and development, but eventually removed to the village of Shirland, where he turned his attention to the lumber and grain trades, continuing in those lines of business up to the time of his death, which occurred January 18, 1888, when he was seventy-six years of age. His wife passed away December 22, 1880. Mr. Packard was a republican in his political views, and served in various township offices, the duties of which he discharged with promptness and fidelity. In his family were three sons and a daughter: C. M., of this review; Edward, who is engaged in the real-estate business in Manilla, Iowa; Mrs. Frank Arnold, who is living in Woodbine, Iowa, and A. J. Packard, a railroad man who until recently was agent at Ottumwa, Iowa, of the St. Paul and Wabash railroads, occupying that position for a long period. He was associated with the former for a number of years, and he still makes his home in Ottumwa, and is now engaged in business as a traveling salesman. One daughter of this review, Mrs. Annetta Simonds, died in Shirland township.

C. M. Packard was reared in Shirland township, is indebted to its public school system for the educational privileges he received, and has spent nearly his entire life here. He was engaged in farming for a long period, but for a number of years has given his attention to the grain and live-stock business in the village of Shirland, where he has made his home for six years. He successfully conducts his interests, and is recognized as a far-sighted, sagacious and enterprising man, whose efforts are well directed, and form the basis of a creditable success.

Mr. Packard was married to Miss A. D. Cunningham, of Harrison township, Winnebago county, who was born in that township, and was one of a large family. Her parents were early residents of this county, and her grandparents located here about 1840, coming from Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania. Mrs. Packard is a daughter of William H. and Hannah S. (Halstead) Cunningham, who reside at Rockford. Her father had for many years carried on general agricultural pursuits in Harrison township, but in 1890 retired from the farm and took up his abode in the county seat, where he is now

filling the position of city weigher. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Packard have been born four sons and two daughters: Iva, the wife of H. L. Wager, a resident farmer of Shirland township; Rex, a carpenter, residing in the village of Shirland; Uri, a brakeman on the St. Paul Railroad, residing at Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Ada, the wife of William Baldwin, a resident farmer of Shirland township; Max, who is in the engineering department with the regular army at West Point, New York; and Leo, a stenographer, employed by the Cramer Advertising Company of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. They also lost two children, Guy, who died at the age of one year, and Job at the age of seven months.

Politically Mr. Packard is independent, and his fellow townsman, recognizing his worth and loyalty to local interests, have called him to public office. He is now serving his third year as commissioner of the township. Socially he is connected with the Masonic fraternity and the Modern Woodmen of America, being a charter member of Harrison camp, No. 684, while his wife is a member of the Order of the Eastern Star and the Royal Neighbors, and both hold membership relations in the Congregational church. Mr. Packard's interest in community affairs is deep and sincere and has been manifest in helpful co-operation in many movements for the general good.

THOMAS GLENNEY.

Thomas Glenney, now a wealthy and retired farmer of Rockford, possessed a capital of only a dollar and a quarter when he came to America. He was born in County Sligo, Ireland, June 12, 1818, his parents being Henry and Ann (Allen) Glenney, both of whom were natives of the Emerald isle. There the parents always resided and the father was a weaver of fine linen. He likewise engaged in farming to some extent and in his last years he lived retired from business cares. His wife was of Scotch-Irish descent. In the family were four children: Bessie, the wife of William Smith, a farmer now living near Waterloo, Iowa; Alexander, who follows farming in the same locality; Thomas; and Henry, who came to America in 1862 and is now a retired tailor of Rockford.

Thomas Glenney was educated in the common schools of his native country, where he remained until twenty-seven years of age, when he crossed the Atlantic to the new world. For some time he remained in Chester county, Pennsylvania, near Philadelphia, and afterward worked for eight years upon a farm of seven hundred acres at Valley Forge. He had but a

dollar and a quarter when he reached New York and he worked for the first winter in Pennsylvania for four dollars per month, after which he received ten and a half dollars per month for a half year. Later he was foreman of a gang on the railroad and each successive position which he secured brought him promotion in a measure.

While working on the railroad Mr. Glenney was married in Westchester, Pennsylvania, to Miss Margaret McClellan, a native of Ireland, the wedding being celebrated August 1, 1851. In March, 1853, they removed to Illinois, settling in Owen township, Winnebago county, where Mr. Glenney purchased thirty acres of land, on which he followed farming until 1865. He then bought twenty acres more and in addition to the home place he rented land which he cultivated. Subsequently when his labors had brought him sufficient capital he invested in a tract of one hundred and sixty acres one mile from the city limits of Rockford, after which he sold the original fifty-acre tract. He next bought forty acres and still later eighty acres additional, and he lived upon his home farm in the vicinity of the county seat until 1890, when he took up his abode in the city. However, he continued to supervise his farm until 1903. He traded eighty acres of his land for two hundred and sixty acres near Roscoe and recently he has disposed of this farm but he still owns two hundred acres of very fine land, well improved in Rockford township. When he took up his abode in the city he built the residence which he now occupies at No. 975 Grand avenue and he also owns two fine dwellings adjoining.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Glenney have been born eight children, of whom seven are now living. Henry married Melvina A. Burgoon, who was born in Dubuque, Iowa, a daughter of Francis and Flavia A. (Barnett) Burgoon, the former an extensive farmer of the Hawkeye state. Henry Glenney was for a long period actively connected with agricultural pursuits but has retired from the farm and is now engaged in real-estate dealing. He makes his home with his father and unto him and his wife have been born two children, Earl B., and Elsie M. Thomas married Laura Fiddick and after her death wedded Helen Fiddick, their home being now in California. James, residing on Rockton avenue in Rockford, married Eliza Long, born in this city. Anna J. is deceased. Mary is living on Rockton avenue, Rockford. William H., who follows farming, married Vena Sidders. Allen M. is the wife of John Burgoon, also of Rockford. Charles A., living in Roscoe, married Louisa Male, now deceased and afterward wedded Vina Male. The wife and mother died in August, 1888.



Thomas G. Long

Mr. Glenney is a member of the Grange and also of the American Protective Association, and in his political views is a stalwart republican. He has served as a school director but otherwise has held no public offices. He was reared in the Episcopal faith but later became a member of the Baptist church. Although now eighty-seven years of age he is still a well preserved man, hale and hearty, and in spirit and interest seems yet in his prime. All that he possesses or has enjoyed in life has been acquired through his own efforts. When upon the farm he was busy raising stock and grain and he has always been fond of a good horse and yet owns a fine one. The extent and importance of his business interests, his fair judgment and his consideration of others has made him an influential citizen and in the evening of life he receives the veneration and respect which should ever be accorded one of advanced years.

JOHN W. SEEK.

John W. Seek, deceased, who was numbered among the early settlers of Winnebago county, establishing his home here in 1840, was born in Virginia, September 29, 1822, his parents being John and Mary (Shaefer) Seek. They were natives of Virginia and removed thence to Indiana, where the mother died. The father afterward engaged in farming there until 1849, when he brought his family to Winnebago county, and purchased a tract of land in New Milford township, three miles southeast of the village of New Milford. He at once began the cultivation and development of the farm and continued its active operation up to the time of his death.

John W. Seek was a student in the public schools of Indiana in his boyhood days, and spent his youth in his parents' home. While living in that state he was married in Wells county, near Fort Wayne, to Miss Eliza J. Montgomery, whose birth occurred in Ohio, while her parents were natives of Pennsylvania. They removed from the Keystone state to Ohio, and there remained until called to the home beyond, the father following farming as a life occupation. Mr. and Mrs. Seek became the parents of five children, of whom Mary E. and William died in infancy. The others are as follows: George W., who wedded Agnes M. Hall, died in September, 1880, leaving a widow and two sons, Claude and Wilber. They reside with their mother in Rockford and are now employed by the Rockford Watch Company. Sarah is the wife of Thomas Lawson, a retired farmer living in the village of New Milford, and they have four children: Walter, Harry, Roy and Betty. Emma is

the wife of Lovejoy C. Hall, and they reside with her mother in Rockford. Mr. Hall is well known as a real-estate dealer of this city, conducting a large business. They have four children: Maude, Ida, Eugene and Emery. Mrs. Seek and her family are all members of the Methodist Episcopal church of New Milford. Mr. Seek was ever successful in his farming operations, and his widow is now well-to-do. The old homestead is still in possession of the family, but Mrs. Seek intends to make her home with her children.

H. H. STONE.

H. H. Stone, who is now retired from active business, although he is financially interested in the Rockford Burial Case Company as its vice-president and also owns a farm in Rockford township, makes his home at No. 1130 North Court street in the city of Rockford. For more than thirty-one years he has lived in Winnebago county, coming to this state from Minnesota. He was born, however, in Franklin county, Vermont, but left the Green Mountain state when a boy of eleven years. His father, James Stone, was a pioneer of Wisconsin, settling there in 1846. He was one of the best mechanics in the locality in which he made his home and throughout his entire life he followed that line of business. He settled on the Onion river in Wisconsin and, taking part in the founding of the town, he gave to it the name of Winooski. He was appointed its first postmaster and so continued up to the time of his death in the spring of 1857.

H. H. Stone, whose name introduces this record, spent the days of his boyhood and youth in his parent's home, remaining with his father until the latter's death, when he removed to Minnesota. There he was engaged in the furniture business until coming to Rockford, or for a period of about seventeen years. Believing that he might have good business opportunities in Winnebago county, he arrived in Illinois on the 1st of January, 1874, establishing his home in the city, where he continued to reside for two and a half years. He then removed to the farm upon which he lived for seven years, placing his land under a high state of cultivation. He then returned to the city, where he has since made his home and he has been financially interested in the Rockford Burial Case Company since its establishment about twenty years ago. Its business has steadily increased and the stockholders now annually receive a good dividend upon their investment.

Mr. Stone has one son by his first marriage: Roy J., who is assistant state mining engineer in the assayer's office in Nevada; and one by his second marriage, Frank H., who as an electrician

is employed by the Edison Company at Rockford. Mr. Stone exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party and has served as councilman of Rockford. Fraternally he has been connected with the Masonic lodge for many years, now belonging to Rockford lodge, No. 102, A. F. & A. M., and Rockford chapter, R. A. M., while both he and his wife are members of the Order of the Eastern Star. He is a past master of the lodge and has held various other offices. He is a Grand Army of the Republic man, having served two years in the Civil war, enlisting in the Seventh Minnesota Infantry. He is a member of the Christian Union church and his influence is ever on the side of right, improvement and progress. Through an active business career he accumulated a comfortable competence, which now enables him to live retired and he is enjoying the fruits of his former toil in a comfortable home in this city.

HENRY A. WEBBER.

Henry A. Webber, of Rockton, is a native of Somersetshire, England, born August 19, 1837. His father, William Webber, was born in England, in March, 1801, or 1802, and died at the age of eighty-five years while on a visit to one of his daughters in Burritt township, Winnebago county. He was a native of Devonshire, whence he removed to Somersetshire, where he became a large landowner and when he decided to come to America with his family his property was all sold by auction, which was carried on in the regular English style, it taking three days to dispose of his possessions. It was almost like a fair, tents being pitched for the convenience of the crowd, while the food and drink were served after the old-time English custom. He brought his wife and all of his eight children with him to the United States, landing at New York, and by way of the Great Lakes they proceeded to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, thence driving across the country with ox-teams to Rockton. Mr. Webber was a man of considerable means and on reaching his destination he purchased six hundred and forty acres of land, for which he was able to pay cash. He followed farming on an extensive scale, making his home in Winnebago county from 1849 up to the time of his death. His wife bore the maiden name of Mary Hake. She too was a native of England and died at the age of eighty years. They were the parents of eight children: Mrs. Margaret Wilcox; William, who is now living in South Dakota; John, a resident of California; Catherine, the widow of John Griffith; Henry A., of this review; Mrs. Mary Arnold; Herman J., who

resides in Rockton; and Thomas, deceased. The family home was about two miles south and just a little to the east of Rockton, and the father was one of the most prominent and honored of the pioneer settlers of his portion of the county.

Henry A. Webber spent the first ten years of his life in his native country and then came with his parents to America in 1849. He has resided almost continuously in Illinois. He was reared upon his father's farm in Winnebago county and afterward went to Chicago. He had previously learned the carpenter's trade and in Chicago he was one of the carpenters who laid the first planks for the building of the stockyards, this work being executed in 1865. Mr. Webber has always been of an inventive turn of mind and has produced some fifteen different inventions upon which he has secured patents, including the Webber reaper and mower, the Webber automatic gate, a railroad snow plow, a railroad track grater, and a Webber angle sieve fanning mill, which he is now manufacturing in Rockton at the old plant which is operated by water power and which was built by Mr. Webber and his brothers, William and John, a number of years ago, when they were engaged in the manufacture of the Webber reaper and mower. Our subject is now devoting his attention to the production of the fanning mills. With his brothers he continued the manufacture of the reaper and mower for fifteen years with much success. He has lived a life of marked industry and his continued energy furnishes an example that is well worthy of emulation.

At the time of the Civil war Mr. Webber responded to the country's call for troops, enrolling at Rockton in response to the first call. He afterward marched to Rockford, a distance of fourteen miles, to enlist. In days of peace he has been equally loyal to his country and has performed capable public service in local offices. For the past ten years he has been constable of the town of Rockton, has served on the village board and has held other local positions, being most true and faithful in the discharge of the duties that thus devolved upon him. His political allegiance is given to the republican party, which he has supported unswervingly since attained his majority.

In 1867 Mr. Webber was united in marriage to Mrs. Sarah A. Kennedy, nee Jewell, the widow of the late Samuel Kennedy, who was a veteran of the Civil war. He enlisted from Ohio in 1861 in response to the first call and was discharged on account of illness, dying soon afterward. He left one son, Elmer J. Kennedy, a native of Ohio. Mr. Kennedy was a blacksmith and wood-worker by trade, following those pursuits until he offered his services to the government in defense of the



MR. AND MRS. H. A. WEBBER.

Union. After the death of her first husband, Mrs. Kennedy made a visit to Illinois and formed the acquaintance of Mr. Webber. Later she returned to Ohio and soon afterward Mr. Webber went to that state and they were married. They have two living children: Minnie C., now the wife of William Alden, by whom she has three children, Harry, Ralph and Ruth; and Gertrude, who married Thomas R. Higgins and has one child, Dorothy.

WILLIAM G. SMITH.

William G. Smith, interested in general farming on sections 35 and 26, Harlem township, owns a valuable tract of land of two hundred acres. He was born in this township, December 4, 1870, on a farm adjoining his present place, his parents being Robert and Agnes (Greenlees) Smith, who are now living retired in Rockford. The former was born in Kintyre, Argyleshire, Scotland, August 22, 1824, and was a grandson of Daniel Smith, who removed from his native county of Ayrshire to Argyleshire, establishing his home in a sod house upon a tract of wild land. In the course of time, however, he improved a good farm there. Only two of his children ever came to America, Daniel and Mrs. Janet Brown, who made her home in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Daniel Smith, the grandfather of William G. Smith, was born in Argyleshire, February 11, 1791, and in his youth assisted his father in the work of the farm. When he started out in life on his own account he rented land and was engaged in farming until his emigration to the new world. He wedded Mary Montgomery, who was born in Kintyre, January 12, 1795, and was a daughter of Robert Montgomery. They became the parents of nine children, and with their family they sailed for America in 1842 as passengers on the *Gleaner*, which weighed anchor at Campbelltown, and was the first ocean vessel that ever left that port. The voyage continued from the 4th of June until the 4th of July, when anchor was dropped in New York harbor. The family came at once, however, to Winnebago county by way of the Great Lakes to Chicago, and thence to Harlem township, where Daniel Smith purchased the land that has long been in possession of the family. His home was a log cabin, and the farm was purchased by Mr. Smith and his brother-in-law, James Montgomery, for five dollars an acre. Although many pioneer experiences fell to his lot Mr. Smith persevered in the work of developing the farm until it became a good property. His death occurred there August 20, 1845, and his wife passed away on the old homestead, May 31, 1872.

Robert Smith was a youth of seventeen when the family crossed the Atlantic to the United States, and following his father's death, the care of the home farm devolved upon him. He conducted agricultural pursuits there for a long period, but is now living retired in Rockford, having acquired a handsome competence that enables him to rest from further business cares. In politics he has been a staunch republican since the organization of the party, and he and his wife are members of the Presbyterian church. He was married in 1855 to Agnes Greenlees, who was a native of his home town, and a daughter of William and Martha (Harvey) Greenlees. This union was blessed with five children: Mary J., Martha, Agnes, the wife of William Brown; William G., of this review, and Daniel A., who follows farming in Harlem township.

William G. Smith is indebted to the public-school system for the educational privileges he enjoyed in his youth. He has always remained a resident of Harlem township, and lived with his parents until the fall of 1898, when he purchased his present farm. He now carries on general agricultural pursuits and stock-raising, and both departments of his business are proving profitable, for he finds a ready sale on the market for the products of his fields, and also for the cattle, hogs and horses which he raises.

In November, 1898, was celebrated the marriage of William G. Smith and Miss Janie McEcheran, a daughter of John and Anna H. (Ralston) McEcheran, both of Caledonia township, Boone county, Illinois. They were natives of Argyleshire, Scotland, and became residents of Boone county in the '40s. Mrs. Smith was born in Caledonia township, August 7, 1876, and her home has been blessed with one son, John R., who was born December 22, 1899. Mr. and Mrs. Smith attend the Willow Creek Presbyterian church at Argyle, and he is a republican in politics. He has served as school director for several terms and is interested in local progress and improvement, but gives closest attention to his business affairs, wherein he has prospered. He is a young man of ambition, strong purpose and diligence, and it is with safety that his friends predict for him a successful future.

CYRUS A. WALLACE.

From the rich farms surrounding Pecatonica have come many of the representative citizens of the village—men who having long been connected with agricultural interests have so managed their business affairs that they are now in possession of a comfortable competence and are therefore able to enjoy at the present time a well

earned rest. To this class belongs Mr. Wallace, who is a native of Lorain county, Ohio, born May 24, 1837. His parents were William and Sophronia (Nobles) Wallace. The father, a native of Yorkshire, England, crossed the Atlantic to Canada, and in his early life was a sailor, going upon whaling voyages. He removed from Canada to Lorain county, Ohio, where he purchased fifty acres of timber land and built a log house in the midst of the forest. He then began clearing away the trees and brush in order to plant crops and continued the cultivation of the fields through the pioneer period in that part of the state. Later he sold his property there and in 1853 came to Winnebago county, Illinois, purchasing one hundred and sixty acres of land in Seward township. The tract was at that time raw prairie, on which he built a little cabin home. He then began breaking his land, and in course of time the fields were returning to him rich harvests. He marketed his wheat and oats at Peconica, for the railroad was built through that year. He paid three dollars per acre for his land, and the next year was offered twenty-five dollars per acre owing to the rapid increase in population, and also because of the excellent improvements he had placed on his property. He soon became recognized as one of the most successful agriculturists of his community and for many years prospered in his business undertakings here. He died in Seward township in his eighty-fifth year, while his wife, who was born in Massachusetts, died in the same township in her sixty-sixth year. She was married twice, her first husband being Eli Hubbard. There were three children born of that marriage, of whom all are now deceased, while to Mr. and Mrs. Wallace were born six children, of whom two are living, Cyrus A. and William. The latter, a resident farmer of Seward township, married Viola Kelley, and has two living sons by that marriage, Ernest and Cecil. For his second wife he chose Louisa Jones, and there is one living child by this union, Jerome, a resident of Seward township.

In his boyhood days Cyrus W. Wallace worked upon the home farm and afterward secured employment as a farm hand in the neighborhood. Before his marriage he had become the owner of eighty acres of land, and from that time forward he carried on general agricultural pursuits on his own account until 1892. That he prospered is indicated by the fact that in the year mentioned he was able to put aside active business cares and take up his abode in Peconica, having possessions sufficient to enable him to live retired. He now rents his farm, and in addition to this property he owns nine lots on which stand his present residence.

On the 28th of December, 1878, Mr. Wallace

was married to Sophia Alexander, a daughter of Samuel and Sarah (Franklin) Alexander, both of whom were natives of England, the former born April 6, 1806, and the latter on the 12th of June, 1804. Mr. Alexander passed away in 1888, while his wife died in her seventy-ninth year. They sailed from Liverpool, England, to New York city, and thence removed westward to St. Lawrence county, New York, where they lived for a short time, during which period Mrs. Wallace was born. They afterward took up their abode in Elyria, Ohio, where they remained for two years and then settled in Grafton township, Lorain county, where the father purchased about eighty acres of timber land, on which he built a log cabin. He then began clearing his farm, living in true pioneer style. He was one of the early settlers of that county and continued his residence upon his original farm for about eight or nine years, when he removed to the township of Eaton and bought two hundred acres of land. This he also cleared and improved, and at one time he was the owner of a valuable tract of three hundred acres. His health failed him eventually and he was unable to do any work during the last three years of his life. He was an upright, honorable man, respected by all who knew him because of his genuine worth and fidelity to principle. To each of his sons he gave a farm, and thus ably assisted them in starting out in life. In his family were eight children, of whom six are now living: Martha, born September 24, 1827, became the wife of Edward Martin, a resident of Laporte, Ohio, and died at the age of fifty-six years, leaving three children. Samuel, born May 3, 1830, resides at Eaton. Ann, born November 2, 1832, is the wife of William Rawlson, of Grafton, Ohio, and has two sons. Mrs. Wallace, the next of the family, was born January 1, 1835. John, born November 12, 1837, and living in Eaton, Ohio, married Hannah Dimmick, and has one daughter. Job, born December 23, 1841, and also a resident of Eaton, wedded Ann Pierce, and has six children, of whom five are living. Albert, born June 25, 1850, and also a resident of Eaton, married Mrs. Addie Golden, and has five children. Amanda, born June 25, 1850, died in infancy.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Wallace was celebrated in Eaton township, Lorain county, Ohio, December 28, 1878, and they have since traveled life's journey happily together. They lived upon the farm until 1892, when they established their home in Peconica, Mr. Wallace purchasing their present residence. He is a democrat in his political views and for one term served as school director, but has never sought or desired office. Fraternally he is connected with the Odd Fellows society. Through many years a resident of this county, he improved his business oppor-

tunities with such success that he is now one of the substantial citizens and Pecatonica knows him as a man of genuine worth whose friends in the county are many.

HENRY MURPHY.

Henry Murphy, whose life record was an exemplification of the saying "through struggles to success," followed farming for many years in Burritt township, Winnebago county, but in his later years was enabled to enjoy in honorable retirement the competence that had been acquired in the years of his former toil. He was also numbered among the pioneer settlers of the county, having taken up his abode here about 1850. His birth occurred in Ireland, March 24, 1830. His father was Perry Murphy. The mother died in Ireland at the birth of her son Henry, and he was then reared by an aunt in that country. His father also passed away on the green Isle of Erin.

Henry Murphy was but a boy when he emigrated to America, landing at New York, whence he went to Boston, where he worked for five years at any employment he could secure. He then determined to seek a home in the west and settled in Rockford in 1850, being then a young man of twenty years. Here he first engaged in teaming for a few years and then entered the employe of W. A. Talcott, being retained in his service for thirteen years. The capital which he acquired through his frugality and industry during that period enabled him to purchase a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Burritt township, and taking up his abode upon this tract of land he devoted his energies to its further development and improvement until 1898. In the meantime the well tilled fields had brought to him a gratifying financial return for his labor and with a comfortable competence he retired from the farm and took up his abode in Rockford, where he enjoyed a well merited rest until called to his final home.

Mr. Murphy was married in the old Warner home in Rockford to Miss Mary Sheehan, also a native of Ireland, born in March, 1829, and a daughter of William and Ellen Sheehan. Her father, a farmer by occupation, died in his native land, but the mother afterward came to America, making her way first to Rockford. Subsequently she settled on a farm in Burritt township, where she spent her remaining days. Only two of her children are now living, Mrs. Murphy and a brother, who resides in Solomon City, Kansas. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Murphy was blessed with nine children, but only one now survives, the others having all died in infancy, with the exception of William, who passed away at the age of thirty-five years. Mary is the wife of

Richard Foley, a mail carrier on Rockford rural route No. 8. They reside with Mrs. Murphy, and they had five children, but only Herbert is now living. Those deceased are Harry, Vinetta, Charlie and Willie.

The death of Mr. Murphy occurred on the 28th of August, 1904. He was a democrat in his political faith, and was a communicant of St. Mary's Catholic church of Rockford, of which all of his family are also members. He justly earned the proud American title of a self-made man, for he came to America empty-handed, and in fact had no capital at the time of his arrival in Rockford. He worked hard and his unfaltering energy was a strong element in his prosperity. Year after year he labored perseveringly to gain a good home and the comforts of life for his family, and at length he won a competence that left them in comfortable circumstances. His business methods, too, were ever honorable and straightforward and commanded him to the trust and good will of his fellowmen. Since her husband's death Mrs. Murphy has sold the home farm in Burritt township and she now owns a nice residence at No. 1016 Kilburn avenue, where she is living with Mr. and Mrs. Foley.

AVERILL A. MARSH.

Averill A. Marsh is the owner of two hundred and ten acres of land on section 16, Guilford township, which he leases, while he is practically living a retired life. He was born upon this farm, October 25, 1848, his parents being Richard and Sarah (Watson) Marsh, both of whom are now deceased. The mother, who was born in England, came to America when a little maiden of ten summers in company with her parents, who located on the farm now owned by Edwin Robinson in Guilford township. Richard Marsh, the father, was born in Pennsylvania, and arrived in Winnebago county in the winter of 1837-8. He cast in his lot with the pioneer settlers and here resided until his death, which occurred in November, 1893, when he had reached the age of seventy-six years. His wife died in September of the same year at the age of sixty-eight. Mr. Marsh would never consent to hold office, but was interested in general progress and improvement and contributed in substantial measure to the material development of the county through the part which he took in advancing agricultural interests. He was one of the early members of the Grange. In his family were three children: Averill A.; Leonard, who is residing near Topeka, Kansas, where he follows farming; and Mrs. Fanny A. Pierce, who resides on a farm just north of Rockford.

Averill A. Marsh has spent his entire life in Guilford township, and the place upon which he now resides is endeared to him through the associations of his boyhood, as well as those of later years. He now owns two hundred and ten acres of land, which he leases. In his youth, however, he became familiar with all of the duties and labors that devolve upon the agriculturist, and after completing his education in the district schools he gave his undivided attention to farm work, in which he continued for a long period, and his labor resulted in the acquirement of a comfortable competence, his fields yielding him excellent harvests as a reward for the care and labor which he bestowed upon them.

Mr. Marsh was married to Miss Emma Nichols, a native of Winnebago county, and the daughter of Horatio Nichols, one of the early residents of the county. Her father was a farmer by occupation and died during the early '60s. Both Mr. and Mrs. Marsh have many friends in this county and the hospitality of the best homes of Guilford township is freely accorded them. Politically Mr. Marsh is a republican, but has never sought or desired office, giving his undivided attention to his business affairs, which, being capably and honorably managed, have made him one of the prosperous agriculturists of Guilford township.

DUDLEY LYFORD.

Dudley Lyford, well known in Roscoe township as one of its representative and prominent citizens, occupies an attractive home in the village, his long connection with agricultural interests in former years well entitling him to the period of ease that he is now enjoying. He is a native of New Hampshire, his birth having occurred in the town of Canterbury, November 6, 1835. His father, Thomas Lyford, was also a native of the old Granite state, and belonged to a prominent pioneer family there. He, too, first opened his eyes to the light of day in Canterbury, and he continued his residence in his native town until 1842, when with his family he removed to Illinois, becoming a resident of Winnebago county, where he carried on agricultural pursuits up to the time of his death. He was accidentally killed in a threshing machine in 1858, when fifty-two years of age. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Eliza B. Greeley, was a native of Gilmanston, New Hampshire, and her death occurred at the age of seventy-five years. When Mr. and Mrs. Lyford arrived in Winnebago county in 1842 he purchased a tract of land of one hundred and sixty acres in Roscoe township, which his brother-in-law, Dudley Greeley, had entered from

the government in 1836. The latter was a native of Maine, and had become one of the pioneer settlers of this county. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Lyford were three sons and three daughters, namely: Dudley; Elizabeth, the wife of John Bradley; Joseph, who is living in Guilford, Winnebago county; Alice, the widow of Josiah Richardson, who served as major in a regiment of colored cavalry in the Civil war; Augusta; and Charles, who is living in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Dudley Lyford spent the first seven years of his life in the state of his nativity, and then accompanied his parents on their removal to Illinois, since which time he has made his home in Harlem township. He was reared to the occupation of farming, and in his business career has been very successful, making investments in land from time to time, until he is now the owner of twelve hundred acres of valuable farming land in this state. Of this he and his son cultivate about four hundred acres, while the remainder is rented, and the son now largely relieves his father of the care of the farm mentioned, so that he is practically living retired. In 1902 he purchased fifty-five acres of land in the village and built thereon a nice residence, which stands on a knoll and commands an excellent view of the surrounding country. He also built a barn and has all modern improvements, and his home is one of the attractive places of the town. It is a monument to his enterprise and labors in former years, and its tasteful furnishings bring to him the comforts of life, which he well merits.

Mr. Lyford was married April 13, 1862, to Miss Emma Harley, a native of Rockton, Illinois, and a daughter of Thomas Harley, one of the early settlers of this county. Twelve children were born unto Mr. and Mrs. Lyford, of whom seven are yet living. Of those deceased, one daughter, Helen, became the wife of Bert Hutchins, and at her death left four children, Bertha, Margaret, Helen and Anna. Those who still survive are: Anna; Maria, the wife of Charles Rhodes, a veterinary surgeon of Beloit, Wisconsin, by whom she has two children, Alice and John D.; Katherine, the wife of Charles Gleassner, and the mother of three children, George, Lauerne and Mildred; Thomas, who married Donna Coffin, of Rockford, and has four children, Francis, Esther, James and Addie; Dudley, who is living on the old home farm; Custer, a resident of Cheyenne, North Dakota, and Emily, the wife of Joseph Gesell.

Mr. Lyford exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party, and was highway commissioner for one term, but has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs, in which



OSBLEY LYFORD

he has met with splendid success. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, holding membership in Roscoe lodge, No. 75, A. F. & A. M., and that he has attained high rank in the craft is indicated by the fact of his membership in the Mystic Shrine. He is today one of the extensive land-owners of the county, and his holdings represent a life of untiring activity, of keen business discernment and straightforward methods, his history being proof of the fact that success and an honored name may be won simultaneously.

MRS. EMILY M. BARBER.

Mrs. Emily M. Barber, owning valuable farm property in Rockford township, is the widow of N. Barber, who died June 25, 1899, at the age of seventy-four years. Mr. Barber was a native of Madison county, New York, born in the town of Fenner about 1825, his parents being Eli and Olive (Nourse) Barber, both of whom died in the Empire state. The family was of English lineage and representatives of the name removed from Connecticut to New York, where they followed the occupation of farming. Mr. Barber was one of five children, two of whom reached years of maturity, but his sister, Delia, died several years ago. She was the wife of Reuben Mathers, and resided in the state of New York until her death. She left one son, Seldon Mathers, who resides in Virginia.

Nolton Barber was reared in the state of his nativity, and was but six of years of age at the time of his father's death. Between the ages of nine and twenty-one years he resided with a Mr. Gillett and then started to work by the month as a farm hand. It was thus that he entered upon his business career, and in the course of years he had become the owner of land, and was known as a substantial agriculturist. After his marriage he purchased a farm in Madison county, New York, where he made his home for two years, and in 1855 he started westward, settling in Rockford township in Winnebago county, Illinois. It was largely a pioneer district, and much of the land in the county was but slightly improved. Here and there were still seen the rude pioneer cabins, and the city of Rockford was at this time but a small town. Mr. Barber at once began the cultivation and development of his land, which he transformed into productive fields, and the tract which he purchased on his arrival in the west has now been the family home for forty-three years. When it came into his possession it was wild prairie, and had no buildings or trees upon it, but he knew that earnest labor would work a change in its appearance and productiveness, and he was soon able to harvest good crops where before were seen the

wild prairie grasses. In the home farm is a tract of land of eighty acres, and just south is another tract of twenty-five acres, making in all one hundred and five acres, which now belongs to Mrs. Barber, and which she has rented. It was before his removal to the west that Mr. Barber was married on the 15th of March, 1840. He wedded Miss Emily Marshall, whose birth occurred September 10, 1824, in Fenner, Madison county, New York, her parents being Thomas and Phoebe (Keeler) Marshall, both of whom were natives of the state of New York, and there died many years ago. They were farming people of the highest respectability. The ancestors of the Marshall family came from England, and the early home of the family was in Massachusetts. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Barber served in the Revolutionary war, and lived to the extreme old age of more than ninety-six years. Unto Thomas and Phoebe Marshall were born six children, all of whom reached adult age, including Elmer, who resides in the state of New York; Mrs. Maria Pinckney, living near Auburn, New York; Mrs. Louisa Sears, who died at Rockford in June, 1903; and John F., who died at Rochelle, Illinois, June 7, 1859.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Barber were born three children: Myron, the eldest, born in New York, April 2, 1850, is a farmer, residing near Mason City, Iowa. He married Anna Sloan, who was born December 4, 1858, in Illinois, and they have become the parents of ten children: William, born May 9, 1884; John M., April 26, 1886; Emily P., July 17, 1887; Myron H., March 6, 1889; Mary L., October 9, 1890; Olive S., October 2, 1893; Daisy A., February 24, 1896; Ada N., April 19, 1898; Lizzie, January 4, 1899; and Grace, December 13, 1902. Louisa Barber, the elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Nolton Barber, was born in New York, June 14, 1853, and became the wife of Jerome A. Hudler, who was born August 8, 1849, in the Empire state. They have four children, but the two eldest are by a former marriage: Maud, born May 9, 1884, and Harry, born in February, 1887. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Hudler are: Laura E., born January 30, 1893, and Irene L., born October 1, 1895. The family home is in Rockford, where Mr. Hudler is connected with the dry plate works. Ada I. Barber, born July 21, 1858, in Winnebago county, is the widow of Albert M. Truesdall, who was born November 22, 1862, in Illinois, and died at the home farm of Mrs. Barber February 11, 1901. Mrs. Truesdall resides with her mother, and has two children: Emma Louise, who was born June 2, 1892, and Arthur, born March 10, 1894.

Mr. Barber was a republican in his political views and served in several local offices

in his township. He was a member of the Grange, and both he and his wife belonged to the Winnebago Street Methodist Episcopal church. His life was a busy and useful one, and for many years he successfully carried on agricultural pursuits, his labors resulting in the acquirement of a comfortable competence. He was truly a self-made man, for he started out empty-handed and depended entirely upon his own resources for all that he acquired or enjoyed. His sterling worth gained him the confidence of his fellow townsmen, and all who knew him entertained for him warm regard. Mrs. Barber still resides on the old homestead farm, and although she has rented the land, gives general supervision to the property.

FREDERICK W. WARNER.

Frederick W. Warner, connected with agricultural interests in Winnebago county from an early day, when produce was hauled by team to the Chicago market, is now the owner of a valuable farm of six hundred and eighty-seven acres in Harlem township. He was born September 29, 1828, at Wethersfield, Connecticut, a son of Walter and Ora (Cheney) Warner, both of whom were natives of Connecticut.

The Warner family (in so far as present records go) originated in County Essex, England, where William, the American emigrant, was born October 20, 1594, and who settled at Ipswich, Massachusetts, with a daughter and two sons in 1637.

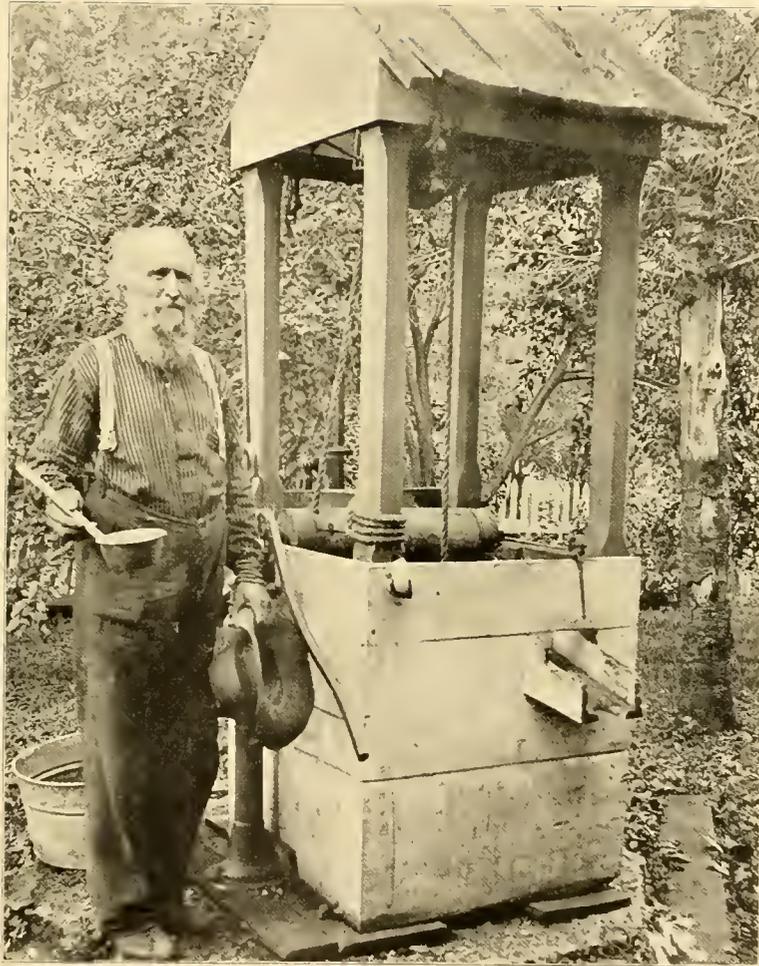
A grandson and namesake of the emigrant, Lieutenant and Deacon William Warner, settled in Wethersfield, Connecticut, and married November 1, 1667, to Hannah, (daughter of Gentleman John) Robbins. From this couple a long line of Warners has descended in the (nearly) two hundred and fifty years that have elapsed since their marriage. Many of these lived and died at Wethersfield, and more found homes in far distant scenes of life and activity. Among the latter we find, Walter Warner, the Rock river pioneer, who was the son of Allen and Mary (Beadle) Warner, born at Wethersfield, Connecticut, June 12, 1801, died at Roscoe, March 25, 1863, and who married first, April 13, 1825, Orry (daughter of Oleott) Cheney, of Berlin, Connecticut, who was born February 5, 1804, died July 13, 1839, at Roscoe. He was married second, November 9, 1840, to Sarah Sanborn, daughter of John and Hannah (Dickerman) Tucker. The Tucker family, originally of Roxbury, Massachusetts, removed after 1813 to Baltimore, where Sarah was born April 4, 1816. The family again removed about 1820 to Green-

brier county, Virginia (now West Virginia), and from there about 1839 to Kane county, Illinois, where she married. She died at Kirkwood, Missouri, December 16, 1889, and was buried at Roscoe.

Walter Warner's father died in 1813, leaving him at twelve years of age the main support of a mother and five children. In early life he worked at the carpenter's trade one or more winters at Savannah, Georgia, returning to Wethersfield for the warm season, and working his passage on the sailing vessels plying between New York and Savannah, as a common sailor. In 1824 he assisted in building the first Methodist church organized in Wethersfield, being a member of the first board of trustees. This was a rude structure, as money and labor were scarce, and particularly so for such an enterprise as Methodism was considered almost a heresy at that time. However the house was built and inclosed, though for a long time for lack of means, it remained unfinished. Rude seats were made by placing planks across the timbers, upon which the worshipers set while their feet rested on the ground.

Mr. Warner continued to reside at Wethersfield, where his older children were born, until 1835, when he removed to Lima, New York, where he bought a farm, but becoming dissatisfied with his purchase, he left his family at Lima in 1836, and in company with his wife's brother, Benjamin Cheney, he went to Illinois, to "spy out the land". The Black Hawk war had ceased, and the tide of immigration had just begun to set that way. He "filed" on a considerable tract of land in the autumn of 1836, returned to Lima, and in the following spring sent his family over the lakes by boat, while he and his brother-in-law, Norris Wilcox, drove a team with their few belongings overland from Lima to Illinois, where their families joined them, arriving on the 8th of August, 1837.

By his first wife he had six children, as follows: Lucy Ann, born at Berlin, Connecticut, September 17, 1826, living now at Roscoe, married William Richardson, born at Spencer, Massachusetts, September 3, 1820, died at Roscoe, September 18, 1898. Frederick William, of this review is the next of the family. Orry, born September 24, died November 4, 1830. Mary Jane, born at Wethersfield, July 31, 1833, now living in Beloit, Wisconsin, married at Roscoe in 1852 Sabin O. Wood, of Maine, who died in November, 1888. Josephine Amelia, born at Wethersfield July 15, 1835, now living at St. Paul, Minnesota, married at Roscoe, in 1870, Arthur P. Brown, who died April 18, 1905. Sarah Elizabeth, born at Roscoe, September 2, 1837, died at Grinnell, Iowa, March 5, 1868. She was the first wife of Arthur P. Brown, who



F. W. WARNER.

married her sister Josephine. The following children were born of the second marriage: John Tucker, born August 20, died September 10, 1841. George Washington, born August 11, 1842, died March 8, 1874. He was married November 24, 1865, to Ellen A., daughter of Lewis and Susannah (Pratt) Anderson, born Stockbridge, New York, March 1, 1844, now living in Chicago. Martha Maria, born November 29, 1844, died July 21, 1882. She was long a teacher in the public schools of Roscoe and Rockford; William Fisk, born at Roscoe, June 20, 1848, now living at St. Louis, Missouri, married October 7, 1873. Florence Gazlay, daughter of William M. and Emily H. Waide, of Louisville, Kentucky, born at La Grande, Kentucky, July 10, 1856. Stephen Olin, born November 6, 1851, died February 15, 1897. He married on October 1, 1880, Elva B. Horning, now living in Chicago. Hannah Lucretia, born December 5, 1854, died June 29, 1855. Lucy A., Frederick W., Mary J., and Josephine A., came to Winnebago county on the 8th day of August, 1837, and all are still living.

Frederick W. Warner was about nine years of age when he accompanied the family to Illinois, traveling by canal to Buffalo, thence on a sailing vessel on the Great Lakes to Chicago, the lake trip requiring three weeks time. They found Chicago a small village, located in the midst of a swamp. That was the year of its incorporation and the most prophetic could not have dreamed that it was soon destined to become the commercial center of the great west. Mr. Warner was his father's active and able assistant in the arduous task of clearing and developing a new farm and he worked diligently, faithfully performing all the tasks necessary in the development and improvement of the property. He and his father hauled grain and dressed hogs to the Chicago and Milwaukee markets over many miles of corduroy roads and carried on farming with the crude machinery of that day, but speedily adopted the improved farm implements and other modern facilities as they were introduced. Mr. Warner has always kept pace with progress in agricultural life, and in fact has been recognized as a leader in many things in his community. Year after year carrying on general farming, he has prospered in his undertakings and is now a prosperous citizen. He has large landed possessions in Texas, comprising thirteen thousand acres, and all has been acquired through his own labors and wise investment.

On the 27th of October, 1853, Mr. Warner was united in marriage to Miss Pamela Birdsall, of Roscoe, Illinois, who was born in New Hartford, New York, April 5, 1829, and died June 24, 1896, her death being deeply regretted not only

by her immediate family but also by many friends because she was a most estimable lady, displaying many excellent traits of character. There were two sons and three daughters of that marriage. George B. Warner, the eldest, born November 30, 1854, and now living in Shenandoah, Iowa, married Ada Blair, of Roscoe, Illinois, and has a son and two daughters. Nellie A. is the wife of John P. Graham, of Rockford, and has two daughters. Harriet J. is the wife of Payson W. Peterson, of Lisbon, Iowa, and has a son and two daughters. Abigail M. Warner is living in Palo Alto, California. Fred W., a resident of Baker City, Oregon, married Edith Eldred, of Beloit, Wisconsin, and they have two sons, Fred W., 3d, and Eldred. Mr. and Mrs. Warner, of this review, also lost one son and two daughters.

In politics Mr. Warner is an inflexible supporter of the prohibition party, having long been an ardent advocate of the cause of temperance, doing everything in his power to promote its principles. He is also a friend of higher education, for although his own advantages in youth in that direction were rather limited, he realizes the value of intellectual training and desires it for others. For the past forty years he has been a school director and has ever favored methods which would promote the utility and efficiency of the schools of the county. He is a member of the Methodist church at Roscoe, in which he is serving as steward and his long useful and honorable life have gained him the respect and trust of his fellowmen. As a pioneer citizen he is also entitled to representation in this volume, having for sixty-eight years lived in the county.

FREDERICK GARNER.

Frederick Garner was a wealthy retired farmer, who resided in the city of Rockford for more than a third of a century. He came to Winnebago county in 1858 and purchased a farm in Guilford township. He was a native of New York, born December 19, 1830. His father died in the Empire state when Frederick was only nine years of age, and the mother afterward made her home in New York throughout her remaining days, passing away in New York city, although she frequently made visits to Rockford and was well known here. Only one member of that family still survives, Nyac, who resides in New York city.

Frederick Garner attended the public schools of New York, but his educational privileges were somewhat limited, and it was through the inherent force of his character, his strong determination and native ability that he won the suc-

cess that crowned his efforts. He remained with his mother in the east until 1858, when he came to Illinois, establishing his home in Winnebago county. Here he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 31, Guilford township, but only resided thereon for a brief period, after which he rented his land and took up his abode in the city of Rockford, living retired here until his death.

It was subsequent to his removal to the west that Mr. Garner was married to Miss Elmore J. Davis, a daughter of Peter Davis, who was one of the early settlers of the county, and purchased a farm in Guilford township, where he carried on general agricultural pursuits until his death. All of the members of the Davis family have passed away with the exception of Mrs. Garner. There were five children born in this union, but only three are now living: Grace G. and Ruby F., who reside with their mother, and Mrs. H. C. Chandler, a resident of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. Those who have passed away are Mrs. A. G. Allen, who died in Buffalo, New York, and one that died in infancy.

The death of Mr. Garner occurred in Rockford, December 18, 1891. He was independent in his political views, supporting men and measures rather than party. He formed a wide acquaintance during his residence here and gained many friends, who esteemed him because of his genuine personal worth. He was always considerate of others, was loyal in citizenship, faithful in friendship and devoted to his family. Mrs. Garner still owns the old home farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Guilford township, together with her fine residence at Rockford, at No. 509 College avenue, where she and her daughters are living. She is a member of the First Congregational church of this city.

EDGAR C. SPAULDING.

Edgar C. Spaulding, who in his life exemplified the traits of character which in every land and clime command respect and confidence, was born in Brodhead, Wisconsin, June 18, 1860, and for many years was actively identified with building operations in Rockford as foreman for many contractors of this city. His parents were Allen C. and Phoebe (Keller) Spaulding, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania, whence they came to the west at an early day, settling in Brodhead, Wisconsin. Later the father removed to Iowa, but after a brief period returned to Brodhead. He was a carpenter and general mechanic, and he carried on business at Brodhead until 1874, when he removed with his family to Rockford. Here he became owner of a

large sash and blind factory, which he conducted successfully on South Main street for many years. He secured a good patronage, his business constantly increasing, and he resided in Rockford until he went south, where he remained until his death. At the time of the Civil war he responded to the country's call for aid, and became a member of the Union army. His widow still survives him, and is now living in Chattanooga, Tennessee. A daughter of the family is also a resident of that city, and another daughter of Hammond, Louisiana.

Edgar C. Spaulding was only five years of age when brought by his parents to Rockford, and he acquired a good education in the public schools here. He found necessity to be the spur of ambition when he started out upon his business career, and by his persistency of purpose he won advancement. He first worked in a tannery for a few years and afterward secured a situation in connection with a dry-plate business of Rockford. Subsequent to his marriage he spent about six months in the vicinity of New Orleans, working at the carpenter's trade, after which he returned to this city, and resumed building operations here. He had a thorough understanding of the principles which underlie construction as well as of the practical work of the trade, and because of his ability he acted as foreman for Mr. Cook, a contractor, and in this capacity superintended the construction of many of the fine residences and public buildings of Rockford.

It was on the 23d of October, 1890, that Mr. Spaulding was united in marriage in this city to Miss Laura Morten, a native of Rockford, and a daughter of Jonathan F. and Mary Ann (Long) Morten, both of whom were natives of Hamilton county, Ohio. The father was born October, 18, 1824, and in May, 1868, removed to Rockford, where he entered into partnership with a Mr. Currier in the drug business. They conducted a store in East Rockford for several years, but Mr. Morten did not meet with the success he had anticipated in that line of activity and in consequence withdrew from commercial pursuits and removed to a farm in New Milford township, Winnebago county. He then devoted his energies to agricultural pursuits for a few years in that township, after which he took up his abode on a large farm in Roscoe township, continuing its further development and improvement for some time. Eventually he again established his home in Rockford, where he was engaged in carpentering until his death in November, 1891. His widow now makes her home in Rockford with her daughter, Mrs. Spaulding. There were six children in the Morten family, of whom Mrs. Spaulding is the youngest. The others are as follows: Sarah, the eldest of the Morten family, is now the wife of W. P. Gui-

teau, of Marietta, Ohio; John L. is carpenter living in Sacramento, California; C. Gilbert was an engineer for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company, and made his home in Rockford, but on account of ill health he has recently removed to Los Angeles, California; Frank resides at Deer Lodge, Montana; Arthur E. was a very prominent young man of Rockford, having a wide acquaintance and the friendship of all with whom he came in contact. He was a member of the armory, and he married Rena Lemman. They now reside in Libby, Oregon, where he has charge of the offices of a mining company. Of a social, genial nature, he was very popular, and his removal from Rockford was deeply regretted by his many friends in this city.

Mr. and Mrs. Spaulding became the parents of five children: Mary M., who was born November 16, 1891; Phoebe, born March 22, 1895; Ruth M., April 5, 1897; Olive M., March 22, 1899, and Elizabeth Clara, April 6, 1901. The eldest daughter is now a high school student. Mr. Spaulding gave his political support to the republican party, but had no desire for office, preferring to concentrate his attention upon his business affairs, his home and his church. He was a member of the State Street Baptist church, and took a very active and helpful part in its work, giving generously according to his means to its support and regularly attending its services. In business life he was known as a skilled workman, and above all as a conscientious and reliable one. Socially he was connected with the Fraternal Tribunes. His death occurred in Rockford, September 2, 1900, after a very brief illness, and was the occasion of deep and widespread regret in building circles, among his friends and in his church, but the loss came with greatest force to his family, for in his own household he was a devoted husband and father.

Mr. and Mrs. Spaulding were living on Avon street at the time of his death, but she has since removed to Irving avenue, where she purchased a lot and erected a nice residence, living there with her children and her mother. She too is a member of the State Street Baptist church, and is actively interested in its work.

ALLEN WELLS GOODRICH.

Allen Wells Goodrich, whose farming interests are represented by one hundred and twenty acres of land on section 8, Durand township, and section 5, Laona township, was born in the former township, September 19, 1849, his parents being David M. and Eliza Ann (Wells) Goodrich. The father was born in Manlius township, Onondago county, New York, February 19, 1814, and in

1836 came west to Illinois, casting his lot with the pioneer settlers of Stephenson county, where he lived for four or five years, when he entered from the government what has since been known as the Goodrich homestead. He was an enterprising and prosperous agriculturist, and carried on the work of the farm until his death, February 10, 1878. His wife, a daughter of Henry and Ann Wells, was born in Manlius, New York, March 3, 1814, and died August 7, 1856. Their son, Henry J. Goodrich, born August 15, 1839, enlisted in July, 1862, as a member of the Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteers, and was wounded in the battle of Kenesaw Mountain, June 23, 1864. He was then taken to the hospital at Chattanooga, Tennessee, where he died July 21, 1864, his remains being interred in the national cemetery there. One son of the family died in youth. Betsy Ann Goodrich, a sister, born August 6, 1842, became the wife of A. M. Kasson, of Eskridge, Kansas, and they have five sons and two daughters. Mr. Kasson enlisted October 16, 1861, in Company B, Eighteenth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, was discharged at Corinth for disability, re-enlisted December 17, 1863, and was mustered out at Louisville, Kentucky, in July, 1865, after participating in various battles of the Army of the Tennessee and Cumberland. Wealthy J. Goodrich, born May 18, 1845, is the wife of Henry Wallace, of Durand, and has a son and daughter. After losing his first wife David M. Goodrich married Harriet Ames, and the half-sisters of our subject are: Ella, who was born May 9, 1858, and is the wife of Hiram Potter, of Laona township, by whom she has four sons; and Katie E., who was born December 25, 1859, and is the wife of Fred Sackett, of Minneapolis, by whom she has one daughter. Two sisters died in childhood.

Allen W. Goodrich, born only five and a half miles from his present home, has always lived in Durand township, and at the usual age began his education in the public schools, while in the summer months the work of the fields claimed his attention and he assisted in the plowing, planting and harvesting. He has always followed agricultural pursuits, and he also carries on dairying, both branches of his business being carefully conducted, so that he is prospering in his undertakings.

Mr. Goodrich was united in marriage to Miss Emma C. Potter, December 24, 1873. She is a daughter of Joseph and Sallie (Smith) Potter, of Davis, Illinois. Her father, born in Ohio, September 2, 1830, came to this state about 1837, and died May 3, 1860, while his wife, who was born in Indiana, November 10, 1834, died in Davis, November 27, 1859. They were married July 3, 1853. Mr. Potter was descended from

Virginian ancestry, his father having removed from the Old Dominion to Ohio in pioneer times, while Mrs. Potter was of Irish and German descent. They had two sons: Hiram, of Laona township, and one that died in childhood.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Goodrich have been born four children: Clarinda E., born October 6, 1874; D. Birdell, born May 20, 1879; Omer A., November 3, 1881; and Darrell R., December 19, 1886. All are at home. The parents attend the Methodist Episcopal church at Durand, and Mr. Goodrich gives his political allegiance to the republican party, of which he is an unflinching advocate. He has served for many years as school director, and is interested in all that pertains to public progress along material, political, intellectual and moral lines. That many of his staunchest friends are those who have known him from boyhood is an indication that he has led an upright life, worthy their unqualified regard.

DANIEL A. SMITH.

Daniel A. Smith is one of the younger and successful representatives of agricultural interests in Harlem township, owning land on sections 26 and 35. It was upon this same farm that he was born March 18, 1873. He comes of Scotch lineage, tracing his ancestry back to Daniel Smith, a native of Ayrshire, Scotland, who, removing to Argyleshire, lived for many years in a sod house, and transformed a tract of wild land into a productive farm. His son, Daniel Smith, born in Argyleshire, February 11, 1791, engaged in the cultivation of rented land after attaining his majority. He was married to Mary Montgomery, whose birth occurred in Kintyre, January 12, 1795, her father being Robert Montgomery. In 1842 Daniel Smith with his wife and children sailed on the *Gleaner* from Campbelltown to New York, where they arrived on the 4th of July, and thence by way of the Great Lakes to Chicago they came to Winnebago county, settling in Harlem township on the farm which is now the home of our subject. The land was purchased at a low figure by Mr. Smith and his brother-in-law, James Montgomery, and the improvements on the place consisted of a log cabin and a large log building which had been used as a distillery. Mr. Smith continued to operate his farm until his death which occurred August 20, 1845, his wife surviving him until May 31, 1872.

Robert Smith, their son, born in Kintyre, Argyleshire, Scotland, August 22, 1824, was a young man of eighteen years when the family crossed the Atlantic. He was the second of nine children, and after his father's death the work of

improving and developing the home farm devolved largely upon him. He continued its cultivation for many years, making many improvements there but at the present time is living retired in Rockford. In 1855 he married Agnes Greenlees, who was born in Kintyre, Argyleshire, a daughter of William and Martha (Harvey) Greenlees. She is now deceased. Mr. Smith is a Presbyterian in religious faith, and his political views endorse republican principles.

Daniel A. Smith, the youngest of five children in his father's family, has always resided upon the old home farm. He assisted his father until nineteen years of age, when he and his brother William rented the home place, and in 1898 Daniel Smith purchased the farm. His attention has been given in undivided manner to its further development and improvement, and in connection with the tilling of the soil he carries on stock-raising. He was well qualified for his business interests by a good common-school education, and a term's study in a business college at Rockford and in all of his work he is methodical, practical and diligent.

In June, 1901, Mr. Smith married Margaret Ralston, a daughter of Thomas and Martha (Picken) Ralston, of Harlem township. Mrs. Smith was born September 21, 1875, and her parents were early residents of the locality. Our subject and his wife attend the Willow Creek Presbyterian church, and his political allegiance is given to the republican party. They are well known young people of the community, to whom the hospitality of the best homes is freely accorded.

CHARLES R. HALL.

Charles R. Hall, who since 1858 has made his home in Winnebago county and in connection with farming is financially interested in industrial pursuits and banking in Rockford, now lives on section 19, Rockford township, where he owns a valuable farm of three hundred acres, in addition to which he cultivates a tract of two hundred acres which he leases. He is a native of Connecticut, having been born in the town of Bristol in 1855, his parents being Friend C. and Loly B. (Matthews) Hall, who came to Winnebago county about 1858. The mother died April 11, 1901. She was a daughter of Joel and Julia (Ford) Matthews, who spent their entire lives in Waterbury, Connecticut, and were farming people. Our subject's paternal grandparents were Lyman and Mila (Hall) Hall, who died in Wallingford, Connecticut, the former March 6, 1844, at the age of forty-six years, and the latter November 16, 1837, at the age of thirty-six years.



Lily B Hall

On reaching the middle west Friend C. Hall purchased a farm in Winnebago township, and later received nine hundred acres in Rockford township from his uncle, Riley Hall, who came to the west at a very early day in the development of this section of the state and took up the land from the government. The old stage barn was located upon his farm, and is still standing on the property of Charles R. Hall. The farm was one of the first developed in this locality, and has since been divided among the four children of Friend C. Hall. It was upon this place that Charles R. Hall was reared, early becoming familiar with the duties and labors which claim the attention and energies of the agriculturist. In addition to what he inherited of the old home

ucation, and since his youth has had charge of the home farm and its operation. At one time he cultivated eight hundred acres of valuable land, and he has recently sold a farm in Hodge-man county, Kansas. He now cultivates five hundred acres of land, of which he owns three hundred acres. He carries on general farming and stock-raising, feeding a large amount of stock annually. He has upon his place many thoroughbreds, including shorthorn Durham cattle and Poland-China hogs. He not only raises, but also buys and feds, hogs and cattle, handling several hundred each year. The buildings are all new and the farm is finely improved. In 1904 he suffered great losses through fire, the buildings being thus destroyed, but with char-



OLD WELL.



OLD STAGE BARN.

property he later purchased his brother's interest, following the death of the father October 15, 1904, at the age of seventy-four years. Friend C. Hall had been prominent and influential in community affairs and had served as road commissioner and school director for many years. He was active in business and political life, and was well liked by his neighbors and friends. In early manhood he became a member of the Masonic fraternity, joining Star in the East lodge, No. 166, March 3, 1871. In his family were four children: F. L., who married Rose C. Smith, of Rockford, and is living in Rock Island, Illinois; Charles R., of this review; Mrs. John Stiles, whose home is in Rockford township, and who had two children, Clinton J., who died in infancy, and Loly B., at home; and Alena, who is living at the old family home.

Charles R. Hall acquired a common school ed-

acteristic energy he replaced them by commodious and modern structures, and now has a splendid farm property, on which is a good residence and large barns and other outbuildings for the shelter of grain and stock. Mr. Hall has likewise become financially interested in the furniture factories of Rockford and in the Rockford National Bank. He is a man of excellent business discernment, sound in judgment, enterprising in purpose and reliable in his dealings.

In his political views Mr. Hall is an independent democrat, and for twenty years has served as school director, but otherwise has never held nor sought public office. Fraternally he is a Mason, and is now worshipful master of Star in the East lodge, No. 166, A. F. & A. M., of Rockford. He also belongs to the Eastern Star chapter, the Royal Arch chapter, Crusader commandery, No. 17, K. T., and the consistory

at Freeport, thus attaining the thirty-second degree of the Scottish rite. He is likewise a member of the Mystic Shrine at Rockford, and he has filled many offices in various branches of Masonry and is chairman of the board of hall committees of the Masonic bodies.

REV. ALPHA WARREN.

Death often removes from our midst those whom we can ill afford to lose, and such was the opinion generally felt when Rev. Alpha Warren was called from this life. He served as a minister of the Congregational church in Rockford and other points in this part of the state, and resided for a number of years in Winnebago county, respected and honored by all who knew him. He was born in New York, and his parents spent their entire lives in the east. In his native state he acquired a good education, and, preparing for the ministry he entered upon the active work of the Methodist Episcopal church while in New York. He was upon the same circuit as his father-in-law, the Rev. S. H. Stocking, and he preached in the Empire state until he came to the middle west, settling first near Janesville, Wisconsin, where he followed farming, and also continued his labors as a minister of the gospel. He was later made presiding elder.

Rev. Warren was married before his removal to the west, Miss Harriett Spaulding becoming his wife. She too was a native of New York, and her parents both died there. Her death occurred in Rockford at the family home at No. 609 North Church street, where their son, John, now resides. He married Lottie Menzer and is now living retired. The elder child of that marriage died unnamed in infancy. In 1875 Rev. Warren was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Eliza A. (Stocking) Herrick, a native of Pike county, Pennsylvania, born in October, 1821, and a daughter of the Rev. S. H. and Polly (Matson) Stocking. Her parents were natives of New York and removed to Pennsylvania, whence they afterward came to Illinois, first settling on a farm near Belvidere, Boone county. Later they took up their abode in Beloit, Wisconsin, where Mr. Stocking served as pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church for several years. Later he engaged in preaching in various churches of his denomination in the northern part of Illinois, and finally settled in Beloit. He and his wife died in Rockford. His daughter, Eliza A., was first married to Rufus L. Herrick, of Homer, New York, who removed to Belvidere, Illinois, where he was engaged in business as a carriage finisher. He afterward went to

Beloit, Wisconsin, where his death occurred. There were five children of that union, of whom three are now living: Lizzie J., born March 9, 1848, is the widow of Edwin W. Wilson, who had charge of a paper mill in Beloit and near Kankakee, Illinois. He lived for a short time in Rockford, but died in Elmwood, Illinois. Mrs. Wilson now makes her home with her mother in this city. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Wilson were born four children: Charles E., now deceased; Nellie E., who is a nurse, and resides with her mother; Ruby May, who is living on South Winnebago street, in Rockford, and one that died unnamed in infancy. Charles E. Herrick is a carriage-painter, residing in Neenah, Wisconsin. William A. makes his home in Rockford, where he is engaged in the extract business. The members of the family now deceased are Sophronius and Albert Neely.

From Janesville, Wisconsin, Rev. Warren removed to the village of Roseoe, Illinois, acting as pastor of the Congregational church for a few years. He then retired from the work of the ministry and removed to a farm in Harlem township, devoting his energies to agricultural pursuits for several years, on the expiration of which period he took up his abode in Rockford, making his home here until his death. He became a prominent and influential citizen here, and owned much valuable property, but the estate has not yet been divided. He stood as a high type of American manhood, respected by all for his genuine worth, and the world is better for his having lived. His influence was ever on the side of reform, improvement, justice and truth, and Rockford therefore lost one of its best citizens when he was called to his final rest. Mrs. Warren owns and occupies a nice residence at No. 1020 Rockton avenue, where she and her daughter, Mrs. Wilson, reside.

THOMAS HENRY CULHANE, M. D.

Dr. Thomas Henry Culhane, who in his practice is making a specialty of surgery and is also serving on the staff of the City Hospital of Rockford, was born in Cherry Valley, Winnebago county, June 7, 1868. His parents, Andrew and Catherine Margaret (Bevin) Culhane, were natives of Ireland, and on crossing the Atlantic to America in 1857, the father made his way to Buffalo, New York. Afterward he located in Cherry Valley, where he continued to make his home until his death. He served as foreman for Hugh Mackey and John Brown. For the last fifteen years of his life he lived retired and died February 28, 1905. In his family were eight children, of whom one died in infancy. The

others are: Mary, the wife of John Sullivan, of the firm of Sullivan & Curry, of Rockford; Julia, the wife of Joseph Sullivan, of Rockford; Ellen, who married Harry Jilbert, of this city; Katherine, the wife of Frank P. Dooly, of Chicago; Thomas H.; Alice, a teacher in the public schools of Rockford; and A. B., a practicing dentist of this city.

Dr. Culhane pursued his education in Cherry Valley until he had completed the high school course, after which he engaged in teaching there and in Caledonia for two years. He began preparation for the practice of medicine in 1887, matriculating in Rush Medical College of Chicago, from which he was graduated in 1890. In 1903 he pursued post-graduate work in the Physicians and Surgeons' West Side Hospital of Chicago, and reading and research have always kept him abreast in the advancement made by the medical fraternity. Following his graduation he located in Rockford, opening an office at No. 1025 South Main street, and he has now a very large practice, his patronage having constantly grown as he has demonstrated his ability to meet the intricate problems which continually confront the physician. He makes a specialty of surgery and he is a member of the staff of the City Hospital. He belongs to the Illinois State Medical Society, the Winnebago County Medical Society and the American Medical Association.

In 1893 Dr. Culhane was married to Miss Katherine T. Fitzpatrick, a daughter of Nicholas Fitzpatrick, of Chicago, and they have three children: Marion, born in 1896; Francis, in 1897; and Thomas Henry, October 25, 1904. The parents are members of St. Mary's Catholic church, and Dr. Culhane has fraternal relations with the Knights of Columbus, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Home Fraternal League, the Mystic Workers, the Fraternal Tribunes and the Loyal Americans. He is independent in his political views, supporting the candidates whom he regards as best qualified for office. He has twice been a member of the pension board, and is now president of the school board, and local advancement, as well as national progress, is a cause dear to his heart, so that more than one measure for the benefit of Rockford has felt the stimulus of his support and co-operation.

DAVID ATWOOD.

David Atwood, for many years an agriculturist of Winnebago county and also connected with banking interests as a stockholder, took up his abode here in the fall of 1844, and was therefore one of the pioneer residents of this part of the state. Sixty years have since elapsed and many changes have occurred, for at the time of his

arrival he found a district largely unimproved, while Rockford was a little village giving small evidence of future development and growth. Mr. Atwood was born in Middleville, Berkshire county, Massachusetts, June 11, 1824, his parents being Phineas and Huldah (Hascall) Atwood. The father was a native of Great Barrington, Massachusetts, and the mother of Peru, that state. In his native town he learned and followed the blacksmith's trade and also engaged in farming there. He was likewise active in the work of the church and was an ordained minister of the Methodist Episcopal denomination, preaching at both Middleville and Washington, Massachusetts. In 1842 he removed to Lewis county, New York, where he resided until 1845, when he came to the west, settling in Winnebago county. For a short time he resided in New Milford and then went to Harlem township, where he became owner of a large tract of land, to the cultivation and improvement of which he devoted his energies as a general farmer for many years. Later he lived retired, making his home there until his death, which occurred in Harlem township when he was eighty-five years of age. He had served his country as a soldier in the war of 1812 as a drummer boy, and was equally loyal to her welfare throughout his entire life and also to public progress and improvement along the lines that promote the material, intellectual and moral development of the race. His widow died in Harlem township at the age of ninety-four years. There were ten children in their family, of whom four are living, namely: Jonathan, a retired merchant, residing in De Kalb, Illinois; Mary W., who is the widow of Charles Haskins, and resides at No. 415 East street in Rockford; Hezekiah, a retired merchant living in Boone, Iowa; and Sylvester G., who is living retired at No. 1904 Harlem avenue in Rockford. Those deceased are Phineas, Harriet N., Patience, David, Louisa and Bradley S.

David Atwood acquired a good education in the east and in 1842 accompanied his parents on their removal to Lewis county, New York, where he lived until 1844. The brothers came west on account of the health of Jonathan Atwood. They made the journey by way of the Great Lakes to Chicago and by stage to Rockford. Here Mr. Atwood began working by the month as a farm hand and finally located on the place now known as the old Hastings farm in New Milford township, living there for a few years. Subsequently he took up his abode in Harlem township where he purchased a tract of wild prairie land for seven dollars per acre and on this he built a small house. He then began clearing his land, and as the fields were prepared for the plow he turned his furrows and planted his crops. He paid for his farm by hauling his corn to Beloit, Wisconsin.

which was then the nearest market, receiving for the product twenty cents per bushel. Desiring a companion and helpmate for life's journey, Mr. Atwood was married November 15, 1848, to Miss Elizabeth Crill, better known as Libby. She was born in Stark, Herkimer county, New York, October 10, 1831, her parents being James and Susan (Guivits) Crill, both of whom were natives of Herkimer county. The family, however, is of German lineage, and the grandfather, Thomas Crill, was the first of name to come from Germany to America, emanating from a noble family. He served as a soldier of the Revolutionary war and died in Herkimer county, New York. James Crill and his wife moved to the west in 1844, and first settled in New Milford township, Winnebago county, on a farm, where they lived for four months. They then removed to Monroe township, Ogle county, where Mr. Crill became the owner of extensive farming property land. Subsequently he engaged in general farming until his later years, when he removed to the village of Monroe, where he lived retired. In the meantime he had become very wealthy and was there engaged in loaning money, while his two sons, Isaac and John, now deceased, looked after the farm. Both Mr. and Mrs. Crill resided in the village of Monroe until called to their final rest.

Mr. and Mrs. Atwood became the parents of two children. The elder son, James M., married Lilly Tuttle, and they now reside in Guilford township, where he is engaged in farming. Charles D. Atwood married Emma Shaul, a native of Amsterdam, New York, and they reside with his mother in Rockford. He, however, is engaged in business in Chicago and spends only Sunday at home. Mr. and Mrs. Atwood also adopted and reared three children: Millicent, the wife of Gilford Smith, living near Holcomb, Illinois; Kitty, who now resides in Marion, Ohio; and Henry, who lived with Mrs. Atwood until nineteen years of age, and is now a resident of California.

Mr. Atwood continued his farming operations in Harlem township and purchased more land there until he owned an extensive tract. He was practical and progressive in his farming methods, adding good buildings to his place and cultivating his land so that it produced excellent crops. He there carried on general farming until the marriage of his younger son in 1888, when he turned over the farm to the care of his sons and the property is still a part of the estate. Mr. and Mrs. Atwood then removed to Rockford, and throughout his remaining days he enjoyed the fruits of his former toil. He passed away here September 22, 1904. For several years he had been a director in the Rockford National Bank and he left his family in very comfortable cir-

cumstances. His possessions had all been acquired through his own efforts and his example should serve to encourage and inspire others, showing what may be accomplished through determined purpose, laudable ambition and unfaltering industry when guided by sound judgment. In politics he was a democrat, and he belonged to the Masonic lodge of Rockford for over a half century, the fiftieth anniversary of his connection therewith being celebrated in August, 1904. He also belonged to the Order of the Eastern Star. He contributed toward the building of the Crill Methodist Episcopal church of Monroe township, and both he and his wife attended the services of that denomination, but were not members thereof. Mr. Atwood, known and honored as one of the wealthy and prominent men of the county, left behind him many friends. The family is prominent here and Mrs. Atwood and her son occupy a commodious and beautiful residence at No. 215 Kilburn avenue.

BRADFORD A. KNIGHT.

Bradford A. Knight is a representative of the Winnebago county bar and is a native son of Illinois. He was born in Ogle county, Illinois, on the 20th of May, 1856. His parents were Joshua A. and Achsah J. (Davis) Knight. The father was born in the state of New York in 1833. He removed to Ogle county, Illinois, in 1856, and took up his abode there in Lynnville township on a tract of land which he continued to cultivate until his death in 1883. He is survived by his wife, who yet resides on the old homestead. The paternal grandfather was Hezekiah Taleott Knight, who married Miss Anna Angell, of New York. The maternal grandfather was Richard Davis, also a native of the Empire state, and his wife bore the maiden name of Lois Eddy, also of New York state.

Bradford A. Knight supplemented his early education, obtained in the common schools, by study in Mount Morris Academy, and began preparation for the practice of law as a student in the office and under the direction of H. O. Rogers, of Rochelle, Illinois. Subsequently he attended lectures in the law department of the State University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, from which he was graduated with the class of 1885. In the same year he entered upon the practice of the law in Rockford, where he has resided continuously since. His clientage has constantly increased as he has demonstrated his power to solve intricate legal problems. His practice extends now into other states as well as in the federal court. His law library contains thousands of volumes, and is one of the



B. A. KNIGHT.

largest and most complete private law libraries in the state of Illinois. Mr. Knight is by nature a student and this characteristic is one of the strong elements in his success at the bar.

In 1884 Mr. Knight was married to Miss Kate F. Oakes, of White Rock township, Ogle county, Illinois, a daughter of William D. and Sarah (McCormack) Oakes. They have become the parents of eight children: William D., Arthur, Katherine, Alice, and Dorothy, who are living, three having died in infancy. In politics Mr. Knight has been what ought to be called an independent, having voted the leading party tickets as each came nearest to voicing his sentiments.

CALVIN WELTY.

Calvin Welty is a prosperous farmer, residing on East State street near the city limits of Rockford. A native son of Pennsylvania, he was born in Tioga county, in December, 1836, his parents being John and Elizabeth (Linehart) Welty, who are mentioned in connection with the sketch of J. J. Welty on another page of this work. They removed to the west when their son, Calvin, was a youth of fifteen years, and he remained under the parental roof until after the outbreak of the Civil war. His education, which was gained in the public schools of Pennsylvania, was continued in the district schools of Cherry Valley township.

In October, 1861, he enlisted at Cherry Valley as a member of Company L, Eighth Illinois Cavalry, and served for three years, after which he re-enlisted in 1864, and thus as a veteran remained with the army until the close of the war. He was always with the cavalry troops, and he enlisted under Captain Duston, of Sycamore, Illinois, in whose command he was sent to Washington, D. C. The regiment was attached to the Army of the Potomac in Virginia, and was under command of General John Farnsworth. Mr. Welty participated in the following engagements: Williamsburg, May 5, 1862; Baltimore Cross Roads, May, 1862; Fair Oaks, Virginia, June 17 and 18, 1862; the battle before Richmond; Turkey Creek, Virginia; Malvern Hill, Barnstown, Catoclin Pass, Middleton, South Mountain and Boonsboro, Maryland, and Martinsburg, Virginia. At the last named place he was taken prisoner, but was paroled by General Lee, and returned to his command in March, 1863. In that year he participated in the battles of Freeman's Ford and Beverly Ford. The latter occurred April 30, 1863, and thirty-five thousand men were engaged on both sides. It was one of the hardest fought cavalry engagements of the war. After this battle Mr. Welty was made quar-

termaster sergeant, and so continued until the close of hostilities. In 1863 he was also in the engagements at Upperville, Fairfield, Pennsylvania; Gettysburg, Williamsport, Boonsboro and Benevola, Maryland; Tunktown, Falling Waters, Chester Gap, Culpeper, Rapidan, Madison Courthouse, Raccoon Ford, Stevensburg, Brandy Station, Bull Run, Bealton Station, Hazel Ridge and Chantilly. In January, 1864, he re-enlisted, and was detailed for duty in Washington, where he remained for some time, and later was sent to Virginia to hunt Colonel Mosby, following that commander for a considerable period. Although in many hotly contested engagements, and often in the very thickest of the fight, he was never wounded, and at the close of the war was discharged at St. Louis, after which he was sent to Washington, D. C., being mustered out on the 15th of July, 1865. From Washington to St. Louis the troops went by boat from Cincinnati, Ohio, to Cairo, Illinois, and then started up the Mississippi river to St. Louis that night, but the boat sank and four of the men on board were drowned.

After the war Mr. Welty came to Cherry Valley township, where he worked with a threshing machine. The next year he bought eighty acres of land, on which he lived until 1875, when he sold out and purchased his present farm. He now owns one hundred and six and a half acres of fine land, under a high state of cultivation, adjoining the city limits on East State street. Here he has a magnificent home, and everything is thoroughly modern, being in keeping with the most progressive spirit of the times. While in the army he saved twelve hundred dollars, and this gave him a start in life, and most of his property has been acquired entirely through his own labors. He keeps a large amount of stock, including cattle, and for thirty years he was successfully and extensively engaged in the dairy business, and for twenty-seven years of that time supplied the female college. He carries on general agricultural pursuits, and superintends most of the farm work himself, doing not a little of the labor.

In 1867 Mr. Welty was married to Miss Frockelia M. Dawson, who was born in Boone county, Illinois, in April, 1847, her parents being Robert and Cornelia (Dewitt) Dawson. Her father was of French descent; became a farmer of Indiana, and died in that state at the very advanced age of one hundred and four years. The children of this marriage are: Grace, Genevieve and John, all at home, and Bert, who married Nellie Osborn, and lives near his father's place, on State street.

Mr. Welty is a republican, and has served as school director, but otherwise has filled no public offices. He belongs to Nevius post, No. 1, G.

A. R., and also the Masonic lodge, and he and his family are members of the Baptist church. His life exemplifies the term "dignity of labor," for along honorable lines and through indefatigable industry he has won his prosperity, his labors being so directed as to gain the highest esteem of his fellowmen.

REV. JOSEPH S. BRADDOCK.

Rev. Joseph S. Braddock, who is now the oldest living graduate of Washington & Jefferson College at Washington, Pennsylvania, and who since 1865 has been the pastor of the Middle Creek Presbyterian church in Winnebago township, was born in Greene county, Pennsylvania, June 17, 1817, his parents being Francis and Anna (Gray) Braddock, both of whom were natives of the Keystone state. They were farming people and both passed away in Pennsylvania more than a half century ago.

Rev. Joseph S. Braddock was reared to farm life, early becoming familiar with the duties and labors of the fields as he assisted his father in the farm work. His early educational privileges were supplemented by a course in Washington College, now the Washington & Jefferson College at Washington, Pennsylvania, from which he was graduated in the class of 1842. He is now the oldest living alumnist of that noted institution. Determining to devote his life to the work of the ministry, he became a student in the Western Theological Seminary at Allegheny, Pennsylvania, and was licensed to preach in 1847, since which time he has been continuously connected with the active work of the ministry, never failing to preach a sermon on the Sabbath through all these years on account of illness, and his vacations have also been few. His first pastorate was in Kentucky near Frankfort. He remained in that state for sometime and was also principal of a female seminary at Lebanon, Kentucky, until the school was destroyed by fire by the noted rebel general Morgan. This was because of Rev. Braddock's allegiance to the Union and after the destruction of his property he came to the north in 1865 and accepted his present pastorate at the Middle Creek Presbyterian church.

While in Lebanon, Kentucky, Rev. Braddock was married to Miss Ella Edmunds, who died in 1900, and their only son, William A., was killed in the Civil war. In his early political affiliation Mr. Braddock was a whig and when the republican party was formed to prevent the further extension of slavery he joined its ranks and gave to it his support for a number of years but is

now a prohibitionist, that party embodying his views on the temperance question. His life, however, has been given almost entirely to the upbuilding of the church and the dissemination of Christian principles. Toward the middle of the nineteenth century the adherents of Presbyterianism in this locality worshiped in the First Presbyterian church in Rockford but were too far distant to attend services there regularly and in April, 1855, application was made to the presbytery of Chicago for the organization of a church in this neighborhood. The request was granted and the church was formed with sixteen members, services being held in a stone schoolhouse. In the spring of 1856 Rev. W. P. Carson became pastor, combining the work of teaching and preaching and remained at the head of the church for a number of years. In the summer of 1856, after worshipping for five years in the stone schoolhouse and Grout church alternately, arrangements were made for the building of a house of worship and on the 10th of May, 1861, the new church edifice was dedicated. In September of that year Rev. Carson resigned and was succeeded by Rev. M. B. Patterson, and in October, 1862, M. J. L. Merritt was called to the pastorate. He was succeeded in December, 1865, by Rev. J. S. Braddock, who has now for forty years been pastor here, and his labors have been attended with success, which is manifest in the growth of the church, its spiritual development and its activity in its various lines of Christian labor. Rev. Braddock has the unqualified respect and good will of all throughout the community whether of his own or other denominations and has the warm love of his parishioners, as is indicated by the fact that he has remained here as pastor through four decades.

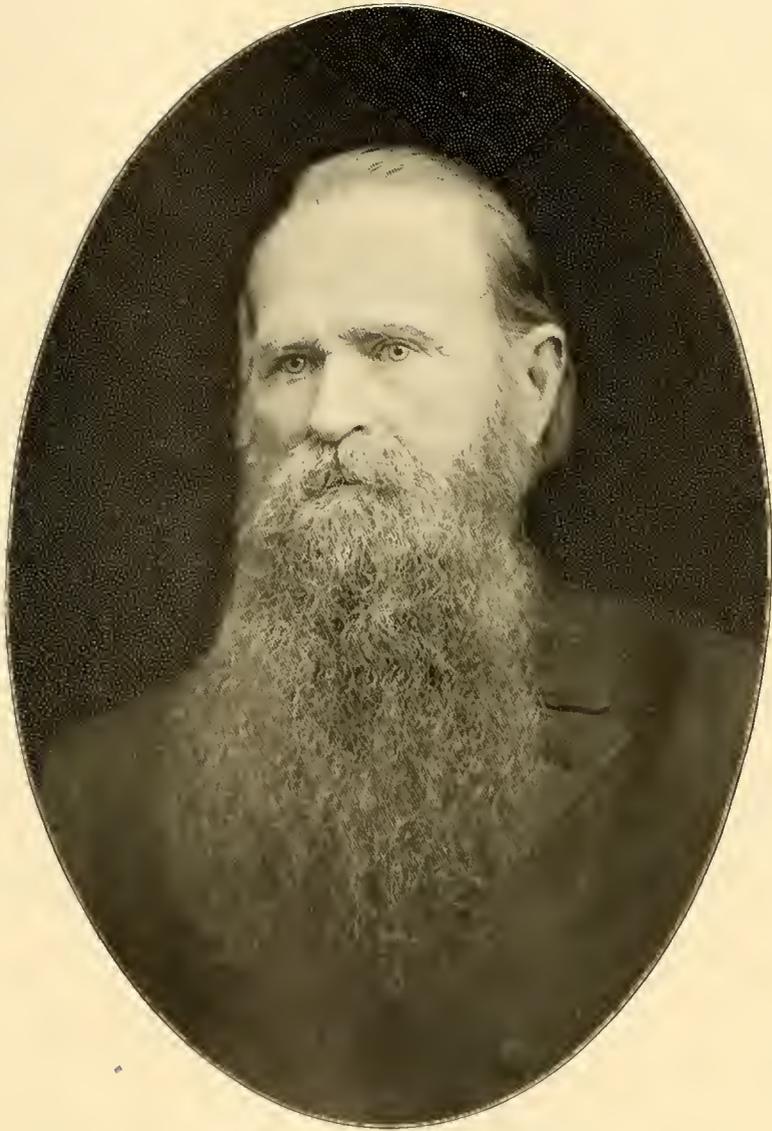
TIMOTHY FITZPATRICK.

Timothy Fitzpatrick, a farmer, located on section 30, New Milford township, came to Illinois fifty-one years ago, taking up his abode at White Rock, Ogle county, in 1854. He is a native of Ireland, his birth having occurred in County Cork, in 1833. His parents were John and Ellen (Shehan) Fitzpatrick, both of whom died on the Emerald isle. Mr. Fitzpatrick had two brothers and two sisters who came to this country, but the brothers are now deceased. The sisters are Hannah, living in Rockford, and Mrs. Mary Dohany, who is residing near Cherry Valley.

Timothy Fitzpatrick spent the first eighteen years of his life on the Green Isle of Erin, and acquired a common school education there. He heard favorable reports of America and its opportunities, and resolved to seek his fortune in a



MRS. J. S. BRADDOCK.



REV. J. S. BRADDOCK.

land where labor was not hampered by caste or class. Therefore, crossing the Atlantic, he made a settlement in Pennsylvania, where he resided for five years, and on the expiration of that period he came west to Illinois, establishing his home at Whiterock, Ogle county, in 1854. Three years later, however, he removed to his present farm, which he at first leased, but soon afterward purchased. He now has a finely improved tract of land of two hundred and forty acres, and for a long period he was actively engaged in general farming, but for the past six years he has lived retired, leaving the work of the fields to others, while he is enjoying a rest that he has richly earned and merits.

In Illinois Mr. Fitzpatrick was united in marriage to Miss Bridget Hickey, who was born in County Galway, Ireland, but who left there in her early childhood, being brought to the United States by her father. The mother had died in her native land. The father, Patrick Hickey, landed at New York city, whence he made his way to Illinois, settling in Ogle county, where his death occurred in 1897. The members of his family were: Mrs. Fitzpatrick; Michael, who is engaged in blacksmithing in Rockford; and Mrs. Mary Garrity, who is living in Ogle county. Mr. and Mrs. Fitzpatrick have become the parents of six children, but lost two, John and Louisa. Those still living are: Mrs. Mary Welch, of Rockford; Mrs. Emma Welch, of Durand; Mrs. Grace Parnell, of Winnebago county; and Francis, who is residing at home. In political views Mr. Fitzpatrick is somewhat independent. He does not consider himself bound by party ties, and, though he usually votes for republican candidates, he often gives his support to the nominees of the democratic party. He belongs to St. James Catholic church, and he is a self-made man, who, coming to the new world empty-handed, has steadily worked his way upward, and as the architect of his own fortunes he has builded wisely and well.

RIENZI WEBSTER.

Rienzi Webster, one of the oldest merchants of Durand, where he is engaged in dealing in boots and shoes and mens' furnishing goods, was born at Weathersfield Springs, Wyoming county, New York, May 8, 1837. His parents were Solomon and Polly (Kellogg) Webster. The father was born in New Hampshire in 1803, and died in Laona township, Winnebago county, Illinois, January 2, 1878, while his wife, a daughter of Lovell and Thankful Kellogg, was born December 22, 1810, on the Holland purchase, in the state of New York, and died in Laona township, No-

vember 22, 1860. Her father served as a soldier in the American Army during the Revolutionary war, and Mr. Webster, of this review, is also a direct descendant of Governor John Webster, of Connecticut. The brothers and sisters of our subject are as follows: Lydia Almina became the wife of Duncan J. Stewart, Sr., and died in Durand, in August, 1872, leaving three sons: Duncan J., a merchant of Rockford; Charles, of Spencer, Iowa; and Henry, also of Rockford; and a daughter, Mina, who is now the wife of Justin Walker, of Durand township. Harriet J. Webster is the wife of Abijah Morey, who was one of the early residents of Laona township, but in the spring of 1884 removed to Valentine, Nebraska, where he now resides. They now have two sons: Otis W. Morey, of Valentine, and Solomon R. Morey, of Deadwood, South Dakota, and two daughters, Jennie M., the wife of Thomas Malone, of Valentine, Nebraska; and Cora Alvira, wife of J. H. McKean, of Deadwood, South Dakota. Charles Eugene Webster died several years ago near Grand Island, Nebraska, leaving a wife, who was formerly Mary Fleming, of Laona township, this county. Minor Abel Webster, living at Seattle, Washington, married Maria Allen, of Laona township, and has three daughters. He enlisted August 6, 1862, in the Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry and was mustered out June 10, 1865, after participating in the battles of Champion Hill, Stone River, Tullahoma, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, Resaca, Atlanta, Kenesaw Mountain and others of less importance. Emily L. Webster became the wife of John Davies, of Durand, and died March 19, 1874, leaving five daughters. Martha Bancroft, the deceased wife of Renzi L. Cleveland, of Devil's Lake, North Dakota, left one son, Edward Webster, who married Frances Barmingham, died in Durand township, leaving one child, now deceased. Thurlow Weed Webster, a stock dealer of the village of Durand, married Ella Adams, of Durand township, and has one daughter. Carr Webster, a lumber manufacturer of Wildwood, Washington, married Emily Seniler, of Durand township, and has two sons.

When Rienzi Webster was seven years of age his father came to Rockford, where he spent the winter of 1844-45, and in the spring of the latter year he removed to Laona township. During the winter months he had worked at the blacksmith's trade, but after taking up his abode at Laona he turned his attention to farming and Rienzi Webster remained with his father upon the old home farm until twenty-five years of age. In the meantime he had acquired a good education in the common schools of Laona township and spent one year at the business college in Rockford. When twenty-five years of age he left

home, bought land and began farming on his own account. After eighteen months, however, he sold that property in 1864 and went to Virginia City, Idaho. Returning the same year he engaged in the agricultural implement business with John Davis, and this partnership was maintained for four years, during which time they also dealt in boots, shoes and clothing. The firm then sold out and Mr. Webster bought a farm in Laona township, on which he remained for seven years, when he rented the land and returned to the village. Here he established business as a dealer in dry goods, groceries and machinery, with John Van Sickle, and they were thus connected for about three years. Then the partnership was dissolved and Mr. Webster conducted the business alone until the spring of 1896, when he sold out and lived retired for two years. He then sold his farm in Laona township, and in 1899 purchased his present business which he has since conducted, carrying a select stock of boots, shoes and mens' furnishing goods, and receiving from the public a liberal patronage.

In May, 1867, Mr. Webster was married to Miss Henrietta Van Sickle, a daughter of John and Phoebe Van Sickle, of Wantage, Sussex county, New Jersey. Her father was born in Wantage, March 15, 1815, and died at Durand, February 28, 1890, while his wife, who bore the maiden name of Phoebe Courtright, was born in Wantage, August 30, 1844, and died in Durand May 6, 1897. The members of their family were as follows: John C. Van Sickle, born in Wantage, is now a dealer in agricultural implements and harness at Durand. He married Miss Lucy M. Judd, of Durand township, and has one son living. Mary J. Van Sickle is the wife of Forest J. Rolason, of Durand township, and has two sons and three daughters. Elvira is the wife of David B. Lane, of Jackson, Summit county, Pennsylvania, and has two sons and one daughter. Harriet is living in Durand. Elizabeth is the wife of W. A. Patterson, of Durand township, and has a son and a daughter. Mrs. Webster was born December 20, 1841, and is descended from early Holland settlers of New York.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Webster have been born two children: Phoebe B., born in Laona township, March 27, 1872, was married to James M. Alden, editor of the Durand Clipper, and a direct descendant of John Alden, of Mayflower fame. Their marriage occurred November 25, 1896, and they afterward removed to Chicago, Illinois, and later to Byron, this state, where Mr. Alden was editor of the Byron Record at the time of his wife's death, August 13, 1900. Mae E. Webster, born December 6, 1879, in Laona township, is living with her parents.

Mr. Webster is a member of the Masonic fraternity and has served as treasurer of the blue ment.

lodge of Durand. His political allegiance is given to the republican party. He is now one of the oldest merchants of Durand and one of its most enterprising business men, contributing in substantial measure to its commercial prosperity. His labors have resulted in bringing him a creditable measure of success and have ever been guided by honorable principles that will bear the closest scrutiny and investigation.

WILLIAM JOHNS.

William Johns is the owner of extensive farming interests in Winnebago county, his home place being on section 2, Rockford township. His residence in this county dates from 1851, and as an early settler as well as reliable and successful business man he deserves mention in this volume. He was born in Cornwall, England, in 1832, and with his parents came to the United States when about nineteen years of age. His father, Thomas Johns, proceeded at once into the interior of the country after landing on the Atlantic coast and settled in Rockford township, where he purchased land on section 12, that is now owned by F. E. Willoughby. Even prior to this time he purchased property at the northwest corner of Second and State streets in Rockford, and there resided for a brief period, after which he removed to the farm on section 12. He carried on agricultural pursuits during a considerable period, and then retiring from active business life once more took up his abode in Rockford, where he lived until his death, about thirty years ago. His life was essentially that of a farmer, his entire attention being given to agricultural pursuits until he had acquired a capital that enabled him to put aside all business cares. His wife, who was Elizabeth, daughter of Richard and Elizabeth Lightfoot, survived him for about ten years. William Johns of this review has a brother Richard, who is a retired farmer of Rockford, and had another brother, Thomas, who died in England, in 1904. There were six sisters: Jane E., who married Rev. George Haveraft, and lives at Little Prairie, Wisconsin; Elizabeth J., who married James Fiddiek, and lives at Duarte, California; Priscilla, who died in infancy; Priscilla, second, who married Charles Haley, and lives at Rockford; Mary, who married John Elwick, and died in 1903; and Ann, who married Thomas Johns, and died in 1902.

William Johns was a young man of about nineteen years when he arrived in this county, and he has since carried on agricultural pursuits with the exception of about fifteen months



WILLIAM JOHNS AND FAMILY.

spent in the employ of the firm of Diamond & Thompson, butchers, of Rockford. He had little assistance when he started out in life, but he placed his dependence in the substantial qualities of close application, unfaltering diligence and good common sense, and by the use of those he prospered and invested his capital in more land until he now owns about nine hundred acres, lying in various farms in Rockford township, with the exception of two farms comprising two hundred and sixty acres in Owen township. His different farms are now carried on by his sons.

On December 30, 1858, Mr. Johns was united in marriage to Miss Ann Rodd, a native of Beverly, Canada, daughter of Joseph and Mary A. (Clement) Rodd, and of English lineage. She is now sixty-five years of age. In their family were six children: Mary J., who married Thomas Kyle, and died in 1866; Fannie, who died in infancy; Ann, now Mrs. Johns; Fannie A., who married Colonel Thomas G. Lawler, and lives in Rockford; Elizabeth, who married Rev. James Baume and lives in Rockford; and Lucy C., who died in 1871. The sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Baume, of Rockford, spent ten years as a Methodist Episcopal missionary in India.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Johns were born eleven children, all of whom are yet living: Ella R. is at home. Frederick W., who was formerly a farmer, and is now mail carrier on route No. 6, residing on Rockton avenue, in Rockford, married Flora J. Brown, and has two sons, Dwight F. and Selwyn W. Fannie is the wife of Harry Brown, who resides upon a farm, and also conducts a lime kiln. Their children are Orville R., Aurilla M., Chester H., Ella I., Myrtle C., Eveline F. and Maybelle. George, residing in Owen township, is a farmer, and married Miss Jessie Drew, who died in 1899. She was the mother of four children, but Paul T. died in 1897, the surviving members being Earl W., George H. and Jesse R., of whom the last named is now with his grandparents. For his second wife, George Johns chose Maud Russell, of Greene, Iowa, Louis, residing on section 2, Rockford township, was married to Miss Sarah J. Loucks, a sister of William Loucks, proprietor of a restaurant on North Main street, Rockford, and they have three children, Marian E., Dorothy A. and William L. Lucy M. is the wife of George Tallman, a resident farmer of Rockford township, and they have one daughter, Alice M. Annie E. Johns is at home. Edward married Miss Lula M. Chapman and is a farmer residing on the North Main street road in Owen township. Herbert, who lives upon a farm on section 16, South Rockford township, married Miss Isadore C. Haight. Roy C. is at home. Charles E., residing on a farm on section 9, Rockford town-

ship, married Miss Lulu M. Sanders, and they have two children, Mildred G. and Mary.

In politics Mr. Johns is a republican, but has never been an office seeker. He contributed money to assist in raising a company for the Civil war, nor has he withheld his support from many movements for the general good. He and his wife are members of the Court Street Methodist Episcopal church, while his life has been pre-eminently that of a business man who has never sought his own advancement to the exclusion of those interests which develop an honorable manhood and awaken the confidence and trust of one's associates. He has prospered, but has gained his success along lines that will bear closest investigation and scrutiny.

CHAUNCEY R. BURCH.

Chauncey R. Burch, following the occupation of farming in Seward township, was born in Erie county, Pennsylvania, October 20, 1838. He is a son of Chauncey and Nancy (Cole) Burch, the former a native of Westfield, Chautauqua county, New York, born in April, 1803, while the latter was born in Massachusetts in 1805. Both died at the age of seventy-six years. The father followed the occupation of farming in order to provide for his family, and was also well known as a Freewill Baptist preacher, devoting many years of his life to the work of the ministry, preaching for thirty years in one church in Erie county, Pennsylvania. His influence was of no restricted order, and proved a helpful factor in the moral development of the communities in which he made his home. In his family were eleven children, but only four are now living: Mrs. Emeline Loomis, Mrs. Mary Colburn, Chauncey R. and Mrs. Delia Loomis.

Chauncey R. Burch, spending his boyhood days under the parental roof, worked upon the old homestead farm until twenty-one years of age. He assisted in the tilling of the soil, in cutting timber and wood, and in all of the various duties that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. Thinking that he might have better business opportunities in the west, he came to Winnebago county, Illinois, in November, 1859, settling in Pecatonica. During the first winter he worked for Elisha Woodruff, cutting wood, and in March, 1860, he entered the employ of M. L. Lowry, for whom he worked as a farm hand at thirteen dollars per month. He was thus employed for nine months, and in the succeeding winter he worked for three months for nine dollars per month. He continued his work as a farm hand until May 24, 1861, when he offered his services to the country, enlisting

at Freeport, Illinois, in Company C, Fifteenth Illinois Infantry, for three years' service. He was under command of Captain E. F. W. Ellis. This was the first Illinois regiment enlisted for three years, and with that command Mr. Burch went to Alton, Illinois, thence to Fulton, Missouri, and on to Rolla, that state. Because of illness he was granted a furlough, and returned to his home, but he rejoined the regiment at Fort Donelson and participated in the engagements there and at Fort Henry. He was wounded in the battle at Pittsburg Landing, the engagement occurring there on the 6th and 7th of June, 1862. After his injury he was taken to Savannah, Georgia, but later joined his regiment at Corinth and participated in the siege of that city. Subsequently he went to Memphis, Tennessee, and later to La Grange, Tennessee, where because of disability he was honorably discharged on the 28th of July, 1863.

When no longer able to serve his country Mr. Burch returned to Pecatonica, and the following year because of his ill health was unable to work. At a later date he purchased the property known as the Deacon Woodruff farm, comprising one hundred and sixty acres, and upon this he yet lives, carrying on general farming and stock raising. He sells cattle, hogs and horses and the products of his farm which he markets return to him a good income. His fields are well tilled, and everything about the place is kept in excellent condition, the farm being productive and his care and labor being the source of his success.

Mr. Burch has been married twice. He first wedded Miss Mary Whittlesey, on the 24th of December, 1863. Her parents were Eliphalet and Lydia (Hitchcock) Whittlesey. The father was born in Massachusetts in 1816, acquired his early education in the public schools, and afterward attended Oberlin College, at Oberlin, Ohio. He came to Winnebago county, Illinois, in 1837, and later removed to Iowa, where he died in 1902. He was one of the pioneer residents of this section of the state, and is yet remembered by early settlers here. Mrs. Burch departed this life in June, 1878, leaving two sons, Charles W. and Eliphalet C. For his second wife Mr. Burch chose Mary E. Short, a daughter of James and Rosa A. (Redman) Short. Her father, who was born in St. Lawrence county, New York, died in September, 1837, and her mother, who is a native of Wexford, Ireland, is now living in Pecatonica with her daughter, Mrs. Short. They were the parents of three children, all born in Essex county, New York, namely: Mrs. Burch, born September 20, 1859; Isador C., born July 28, 1867; and James E., who was born July 5, 1871, and died at the age of five years. The father was a farmer by occupation, and also

acted as a guide in the Adirondack Mountains. He was murdered by Otis Arnold, who destroyed himself on the same day that he committed the crime. The second marriage of Mr. Burch occurred in Seward township, April 11, 1880, and by this marriage there were three children: Edna R., who was born July 30, 1883, and died May 6, 1885; James H., who was born May 30, 1886; and Mary E., who was born July 4, 1889, and died November 22, 1892.

Mr. Burch is one of the influential citizens of his township and his neighbors, recognizing his worth and ability, have called him to public office. He has served as trustee, collector, assessor and road commissioner and for twenty years was school director. He is likewise a member of the Modern Woodmen camp, and for fifteen years has been a member of Ellis post, No. 320, G. A. R., at Pecatonica, has served as commander for fifteen years, and also is a member of the Knights of the Globe. He belongs to the Congregational church at Seward, and in his political views is a republican. He is found true and faithful to every trust reposed in him, and his official record, his military service and his private life alike entitle him to mention with the respected and representative citizens of his community.

STEPHEN H. HERRICK.

Stephen H. Herrick, following the occupation of farming on section 4, Rockford township, owns a tract of land of thirty and three-quarters acres, and in connection with its cultivation he is engaged in the dairy business and in the raising of small fruit. He is a native of the Empire state, his birth having occurred in Malone, New York, October 20, 1835, but he was reared at Milton, Chittenden county, Vermont. His parents were Phineas and Emily (Mears) Herrick, both of whom were natives of Vermont, and are now deceased. The Herrick family is of English lineage in one line and also of early Danish ancestry. Five Herrick brothers came to this country from England shortly after the landing of the Pilgrims, settling in Massachusetts, and some of them reared families. All of the name in this country are doubtless related. Phineas Herrick was a farmer by occupation, and followed that pursuit throughout his entire business life. He was a most devoted member of the Congregational church, doing everything in his power to promote the cause in which he believed. In his family were eight children, who reached years of maturity, and in addition to S. H. Herrick, of this review, those still living are: Mrs. Huldah G. Meeker, of Milton, Vermont; Mrs. Lottie Corey, of Santa Barbara, California; and George



S. H. HERRICK.

F., who is residing at Riverside, California, and is engaged in the raising of oranges. One brother, Edgar, served in the Civil war, and is probably now in the Soldiers' Home at Wilmington, Delaware. He was a brave soldier, and was mustered out as acting captain.

Stephen H. Herrick spent the days of his boyhood and youth in the Green Mountain state, making his home there until twenty-one years of age, although in the meantime he taught school for two winters in the state of New York. The year 1856 witnessed his removal to the middle west. He made his way to Beloit, Wisconsin, where he engaged in teaching school through the following winter, and in the spring of 1857 he joined a party who traveled by way of St. Louis to Kansas. He then located in Doniphan county, Kansas, although he took up a claim in Brown county. After spending four years in the Sunflower state, he returned to Vermont, where he was married in 1861 to Miss Emily Cadman, who died in 1873 at the age of thirty-three years, leaving four children, all of whom were born in Winnebago county, Illinois. She was a daughter of George and Lydia (Austin) Cadman.

Mr. Herrick removed to this county during the period of the Civil war, arriving in January, 1863, at which time he rented land near Rockford, settling on a part of what is known as the John Davey farm. He began here in a small way, but as the years have passed he has been quite successful, and he now owns a fine home, in the rear of which stand commodious and substantial buildings for the shelter of his grain and stock. His farm is also well improved in every particular, and in connection with the raising of cereals best adapted to the soil and climate, he is also engaged in the dairy business, which he has followed successfully for the past twenty years. His farm was originally a part of the H. H. Stone farm, and he purchased it eight years ago. He now has upon his place a herd of ten cows, largely of the Holstein variety. He formerly supplied milk to the hotels in Rockford, and still supplies to the Chick House. He also has a large retail trade, furnishing about one hundred quarts of milk daily to his patrons. He is to some extent also engaged in the raising of small fruit, having an apple and cherry orchard and also good strawberry beds. He likewise has a few pear and plum trees, and the horticultural products of his place add not a little to his annual income.

It was after his removal to Winnebago county that Mr. Herrick was called upon to mourn the loss of his first wife. Of their children, W. D. is now residing at Downers Grove, Illinois, Dora E. is the wife of Charles Loucks, of Rockford, and has three children—Nina, Katharine and Charles E. Louis A., who is secretary and manager of the Stephenson Telephone Company,

married Clara Tunnel, and has one child, Roswell, aged five years. Elmer, who was connected with the telephone business, died in 1902, at the age of twenty-nine years. For his second wife Mr. Herrick chose Miss Catherine A. Mandeville, a daughter of Dr. Charles and Sarah (White) Mandeville, who came from New York state to Illinois, her father being an early physician of Rockford. The children of this marriage were: Sarah, Charles and Nettie, all deceased; Lizzie, a twin sister of Nettie, and now a professional nurse of Stockton, Illinois; Ida, the wife of Frank Nason, who is a son of Edward and Amanda Nason, of Rockford, and is residing on a farm in this county; and Gertie, who is the wife of John Sullivan, of Rockford.

In his political views Mr. Herrick is a republican, having continuously supported the party since casting his first presidential vote for John C. Fremont. He is a member of the Christian Union church, and in all matters of citizenship is public-spirited and progressive. He has lived in Winnebago county forty-two years, during which time his own progress has been in keeping with the growth and development of this section of the state. He is entirely a self-made man, having no family or pecuniary advantages at the outset of his career, but the efficacy of labor has been proven in his life record, and he is today a substantial resident of Rockford township.

JOHN H. NELSON.

John H. Nelson, a contractor in teaming of Rockford, whose business since its establishment in 1892 has continually grown until it is the largest of the kind in the city, was born and reared in Laona, Illinois. His parents were natives of Europe, his father belonging to a Swedish family, while his mother represented a family of Irish lineage. When a youth of only thirteen years Mr. Nelson started out in life on his own account, and to his own labors may be accredited his success. He had no influential friends or advantageous circumstances to aid him, and, depending entirely upon industry and energy, he has overcome all difficulties and obstacles in his path and is to-day in control of a profitable business. In 1892 he located in Rockford, where he began teaming with one team, and to-day he employs from five to seven teams for contract hauling, his business now exceeding that of any other representative of the same line of activity in Rockford. His attention was largely given to this work and during the past two years he has been engaged as inspector for the city.

Mr. Nelson was married in Chicago to Miss Ella Hawkins, who was born in Harrison, Illi-

nois. Her parents came to this state from the state of New York about fifty-four years ago, and were therefore numbered among the early settlers. Mr. Nelson now owns three residence properties in Rockford, having built two fine new dwellings on Acorn street, while his own home is at No. 933 Acorn street. He likewise has another residence on Forest avenue, and his property is the visible evidence of his life of thrift and industry. In politics he is a democrat, while socially he is connected with the Modern Woodmen camp of Rockford, and his wife is a member of the Royal Neighbors. Both are communicants of St. Mary's Catholic church.

EDWIN WARE.

Edwin Ware has now retired from active farming, but still resides upon the home place on section 24, Winnebago township, and is the owner of two hundred acres of finely improved land, in addition to a tract of timber land some distance south of the home farm. His possessions altogether comprise two hundred and thirty acres. He has been a resident of the county for the past thirty years, coming to the west from New Hampshire. He is a native of Hillsboro county, of the old Granite state, born January 31, 1842. His parents were Ebenezer and Martha (Lakin) Ware, who were also natives of the same part of New Hampshire, and resided there until called to their final home. The father was a contractor and builder, and erected many of the important structures in their home town of Hancock, New Hampshire. Later in life, however, he turned his attention to farming, which he followed near Hancock upon the old homestead property upon which his father had settled. The Ware family is of English lineage, the ancestors having resided in Devonshire, whence Robert Ware came to America as early as 1640. He established his home in Massachusetts and was one of the wealthy and prominent men of that day. The Lakins were of Scotch-Irish descent, and in religious faith were adherents of the Methodist church.

Edwin Ware is the only member of his father's family who came to Winnebago county. He belonged to a family of nine children, of whom six are yet living. He was reared in New Hampshire until seventeen years of age, when he made his way westward to Wisconsin, where he spent three years. He then entered the army, enlisting on the 13th of August, 1862, as a member of Company G, Thirteenth New Hampshire Volunteers, with which he served until the close of the war, or for almost three years. The regiment

was attached to the Ninth and afterward to the Eighteenth Army Corps. Mr. Ware was wounded four times, but was not disabled seriously, although he has been lame since from the effect of his injuries. Because of meritorious and faithful conduct on the field of battle, he was promoted from grade to grade until commissioned second lieutenant. He had not yet attained his majority when he offered his services to the Union, and he made a great sacrifice for his country, which owes to him a debt of gratitude that can never be repaid. It is told of him that at the outbreak of the war he, with one other, went to the recruiting station to join the army. Quaking in his shoes for fear of the officer finding out he had a malformed foot, he loosened his trousers and allowed them to drop down and hide from the officer the malformation. When the war was over he returned to New Hampshire, where he carried on farming for several years, or until his removal to Winnebago county, where he has now lived for almost a third of a century, making his home throughout the entire period on the same farm.

Mr. Ware has been married three times. On the 16th of December, 1866, in this county, he wedded Agnes McQuaters, who was a native of New England, and was of Scotch parentage. She died in Winnebago county, May 24, 1883, leaving three children. Winifred A., the eldest, is now the wife of W. A. Thwing, a resident of East Derry, New Hampshire. Ernest E., of New York city, is a graduate nurse of Bellevue Hospital, New York, and saw service in the Spanish-American war. He re-enlisted and spent a year and a half in Cuba, and is now engaged in hospital work. John C. Ware, the youngest son of the family, spent three years as a member of the Third United States Infantry in the Philippine service, and is now married and resides in Rockford, where he is engaged in business as an electrical engineer. On the 31st of January, 1886, Mr. Ware was married to Mary E. Miller, who died April 21, 1892. His present wife was Miss Jennie Spottswood, whom he wedded December 20, 1894. She was a resident of this county, and was a daughter of Robert and Mary (Graham) Spottswood, and is a sister of Mrs. Robert Simpson, of Rockford township.

Mr. Ware has made all of the improvements upon his farm which are today seen there, and which make it one of the valuable farming properties of the county. He now rents his land, although he still resides upon the farm. He has in his home a most interesting collection of war relics, including souvenirs of three wars—the Revolution, the Civil and the Spanish-American. He has also various relics brought from the Philippines and a number of Indian relics, and his cabinet collection is indeed a fine and interesting one. In politics he is a republican, having supported his party since casting his first presidential



MR. AND MRS. EDWIN WARE.

vote for Abraham Lincoln when a soldier on the field of battle. He now belongs to Nevius post, No. 1, G. A. R., of Rockford, and is a member of Rockford camp, No. 51, M. W. A. He and his wife are members of the Second Congregational church of Rockford. He is a representative in the seventh generation of the descendants of Robert Ware, the progenitor of the family in America, and during his residence in Winnebago county he has become recognized as a valued citizen, as loyal to public interests in days of peace as when he followed the stars and stripes upon the battlefields of the south. In business affairs he has also been found reliable, and his present valuable farm is the visible evidence of his life of industry.

CYRUS L. HUNTER.

Cyrus L. Hunter, deceased, was for several years traveling representative of the F. C. Johnson factory at Rockford. His birth occurred in St. Thomas, Canada, April 22, 1850, his parents being Robert and Elizabeth Hunter, both natives of Canada, where the father engaged in business as a contractor. He died in St. Thomas when his son Cyrus was only four years old and the mother also died during the early boyhood of our subject. In the public schools of his native city Cyrus L. Hunter acquired his education and when but a lad began learning the harness maker's trade, which he followed in St. Thomas for several years. After leaving that place he worked as a journeyman in other towns and finally located in Beloit, Wisconsin, where he engaged in harness making until 1881. His health becoming impaired he then decided to remove to a farm and the same year settled in Stillman Valley, in Ogle county, Illinois, purchasing a tract of land in Marion township. There he carried on general agricultural pursuits until 1897, but did not find that occupation entirely congenial and removed to Rockford. He then accepted a position as traveling salesman for the Johnson Company, his territory being in southern Illinois, Indiana and Oklahoma, and his trips varied from one to three months in length.

Mr. Hunter was married in Ingersoll, Canada, to Miss Elizabeth Young, a native of Union, Canada, and a daughter of Matthew and Sarah (Turner) Young. Her father was a contractor and he died in Union, Canada, in 1899, having for several years survived his wife whose death occurred in October, 1891. Mr. and Mrs. Hunter became the parents of three children: Enabelle, now the wife of William A. Dennis, who is bookkeeper for the Third National Bank of Rockford, and resides at No. 522 North Second street; Jeanette, who is a stenographer for

the New England Insurance Company, at Rockford, and resides with her mother; and Leland M. at home.

While living in Ogle county Mr. Hunter was elected and served as justice of the peace, was also tax collector for two terms and likewise filled the office of school trustee. He took an active interest in political questions, giving a staunch support to the republican party and he ever kept well informed on the questions and issues of the day. He was a charter member of Stillman Valley lodge, I. O. O. F., and also of Stillman Valley camp, M. W. A. Both he and his wife held membership in the Congregational church of Stillman Valley but she now attends the Court Street Methodist Episcopal church of Rockford. On the 7th of July, 1904, Mr. Hunter started on his last trip for he was taken ill at Beardstown, Illinois, and there died on the 25th of July, 1904. He had a wide and favorable acquaintance among the business men of Rockford and in Ogle county as well and he possessed a social, genial nature that made him popular with those with whom he came in contact. His friendly spirit and kindly disposition, combined with his deference for the opinions of others, won for him warm regard, and his death was deeply regretted. Mrs. Hunter and her daughter are well known socially in Rockford and they reside at No. 930 Rockton avenue.

JAMES M. ATWOOD.

James M. Atwood, whose activity in the purchase, improvement and sale of lands and stock has contributed to the business prosperity of the community as well as to his individual success, now resides upon a farm on section 33, Guilford township. He is numbered among the native sons of this county, his birth having occurred in Harlem township, in 1851, and there he was reared upon the old homestead. His parents, David and Betsy E. (Crill) Atwood, were early residents of the county, and the father was a very successful man. His home was in Harlem township and there he carried on general agricultural pursuits for many years or until his retirement from active business life about fifteen years ago. He then settled in Rockford, where he made his home until his death on the 22d of September, 1904. His widow still survives and yet lives in Rockford. They had two sons, one of whom is Charles D., now residing with his mother at 215 Kilburn avenue.

James M. Atwood, the other son, was reared on the old family homestead in Harlem township, where he remained until starting out in life on his own account. He has purchased, improved and sold a number of farms and other real estate.

and has also handled and sold a large number of horses, and in fact has led a very active and busy life. He has resided on his present home farm on section 33, Guilford township, for the past ten years, although he has spent about three years in other localities. He has done considerable speculating in the line of real-estate investment and his judgment is safe and reliable. He now has a finely improved farm upon which is an attractive residence and good outbuildings. There is a street car line passing his door and this brings him into close connection with the city.

Mr. Atwood was married to Miss Lilly Tuttle, a native of Pennsylvania, who has resided in Winnebago county for the past thirty-five years. They have three children, all born in Harlem township, namely: Jennie M., the wife of James Cotton, a resident of Cherry Valley township; Calla M., who is the wife of Bert Popham, also of Cherry Valley, and has one child, Donald A.; and Harry O., at home.

Politically Mr. Atwood is a republican and socially he is connected with Cherry Valley lodge, No. 173, A. F. & A. M. Both he and his wife are members of the Order of the Eastern Star of Cherry Valley, and both likewise belong to Oriental White Shrine, No. 5, at Rockford, and M. W. camp, No. 51. He has a wide acquaintance in the county where his entire life has been passed, and that he enjoys the favorable regard of many who have known him from his boyhood days is an indication that his career has been honorable and straightforward as well as active and prosperous.

GEORGE W. MARSTON.

George W. Marston, an honored veteran of the Civil war, living in Seward township, was born in Wyoming county, New York, February 12, 1835. His parents were Charles and Meribah (Morrill) Marston, natives of Vermont, the former born December 21, 1796, and the latter September 16, 1797. The father learned the carpenter's trade when a young lad, and in early manhood he was married in Vermont, the wedding day being November 4, 1823. After the birth of five of their children Mr. and Mrs. Marston removed from the Green Mountain state to Wyoming county, New York, where they lived for two or three years, and then established their home in Buffalo, New York, while later they went to Royalton township, in Niagara county, New York. In October, 1844, they took passage on the steamer St. Louis, bound from Buffalo to Chicago, but because of a heavy storm the steamer had to put back to Black Rock, and the Marston family therefore remained in Erie

county through the winter of 1844. In May, 1845, they again started for the west on the same vessel on which they had taken passage in the previous fall, and this time they were wrecked on Manitou Island. The passengers were taken on board the steamer Madison, however, and were landed at Southport, Wisconsin, the present city of Kenosha.

Charles Marston made his way across the county to Winnebago county, after which he returned to Wisconsin with horse teams for his family, bringing them to Rockford. He worked at his trade in and near the city until 1847, at which time he and his sons entered three eighty-acre tracts of land from the government, paying the usual purchase price of a dollar and a quarter per acre. The land was all wild prairie except twenty-four acres, which was covered with timber. Mr. Marston hewed the trees which he converted into lumber, from which he built a frame house, hauling the timber to the saw mill at Byron, Illinois, where it was cut by Smith brothers, owners of the mill there. The Marston family experienced all the hardships and privations incident to pioneer life and suffered many privations in those early days when Winnebago county was cut off from the comforts of the older east. In pioneer times it was customary for them to put lights in their windows on dark nights so that people might see the way if any chanced to be wandering over the prairie. As the years went by Mr. Marston continued his farming operations and his land was transformed into productive fields, from which he annually harvested good crops. He served as school director for some time, and was one of the first members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which for many years he served as class leader. His life was honorable and upright, consistent with his principles, and he left the impress of his individuality for good upon the community in which he made his home. His political allegiance was given to the whig party, and when the republican party was formed he joined its ranks. He was living in the vicinity of Plattsburg at the time of the war of 1812, when the battle occurred at that place. The cannonading shook the home of Mr. Marston, and Charles Marston, his enthusiasm aroused, desired to enter the army, but his mother prevented him from doing so, as he was then a young lad. He died August 27, 1872, respected by all who knew him, and his wife passed away July 3, 1876. They were the parents of nine children: Julia L., who was born July 23, 1824, and died September 8, 1808; Laura A., who was born February 4, 1826, and died October 24, 1855; William H., who was born September 8, 1827, and died February 17, 1871; Charles, who was born February 25, 1831, and died Decem-



G. W. MARSTON.

ber 9, 1898; Benjamin W., who was born July 19, 1832, and died July 3, 1835; George W., of this review; Hannah, who was born March 11, 1837, and died June 1, 1891; Joel B., born September 9, 1838, and died August 12, 1889; and Benjamin, who was born May 26, 1841, and died February 9, 1867.

George W. Marston spent his boyhood days in his father's home and assisted him in the active work of the farm, taking his place in the fields almost as soon as he was old enough to reach the plow handles. In the winter months he attended school, and thus acquired a fair English education. Early in the spring of 1861, soon after the Civil war had been declared, he offered his services to the government as a defender of the Union, being at that time twenty-six years of age. He joined Company C, of the Fifteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, for three years, or during the war, and went to the front under command of Colonel Thomas Turner, going from Rockford to Freeport, thence to Alton and afterward to St. Charles, Missouri. At Mexico, Missouri, they joined General Grant's brigade and proceeded to Fulton City, Missouri, on to St. Alberts, and there took the boat for St. Louis. Mr. Marston, however, became ill with measles at that place. The troops went from Jefferson Barracks, St. Louis, to Rolla, Missouri, covering Sigel's retreat, and at the time of Fremont's raid they marched three hundred miles, living on half rations, to Springfield, Missouri. Afterward they were ordered to Tipton and to Otterville, building a fort at the last named place, and on the 5th of February, 1862, they left there for St. Louis on the way to Fort Donelson, taking passage on the steamer on the 13th of February, and reached Fort Donelson just after its capitulation. They then marched to Fort Henry, and the troops were sent afterward to Pittsburg Landing. Mr. Marston and his company were in General Hulbert's division, and were the first to land at Shiloh, being there for a month before the battle had begun on the 6th of April. On the first day of the battle Mr. Marston was in the central division, and the regiment lost nearly half of its number. Mr. Marston was wounded near Shadow church, first in the left leg, the bullet passing through the limb. He managed to get behind a tree, but after being wounded he stood up and kept on firing, but was wounded again, this time in the side while stooping over to tie up his leg. After being wounded the second time he lay on the field for about forty-eight hours, the battle going on all around him and the shells flying thick and fast over his head. Captain Hart, of the Second Tennessee Regiment, left orders that his troops should take good care of the Union soldiers, and he himself went

to secure the services of a surgeon to look after Mr. Marston, who in the course of the tide of battle, because of the advances and retreats, was now within the rebel lines. He saw the rebels on the run as he lay on the ground. That night his brother came to him and bathed his wounds, but he did not receive medical attendance until later. At length he was taken to the camp tent, where he remained for about a week, and was then sent home, his brother returning with him. They took him to the boat at Pittsburg Landing, whence they proceeded down the Tennessee and up the Ohio rivers to Evansville, Indiana, and later down the Ohio to Cairo, on to St. Louis, Missouri, and by boat to Dunleath, East Dubuque. Mr. Marston was brought the entire distance on a cot. From Iowa he proceeded by train to Winnebago county, where his bed was placed in a wagon and he was thus taken home. This was in April, 1862, and he was ordered to report for duty in July. His wound, however, did not heal by that time, but he made his way to Chicago on crutches, and on the 9th of August, 1862, he was honorably discharged.

Since recovering his health Mr. Marston has lived upon the old homestead, following the occupation of farming and stock-raising, but he has never been able to do any hard labor since his military experience, his injuries having permanently disabled him for active manual work. He has, however, given personal supervision to the management of his agricultural interests, and his keen business sagacity and enterprise have resulted in bringing him a fair measure of success.

On the 25th of August, 1863, Mr. Marston was married to Miss Sarah Scott, a daughter of Dr. Anos and Harriet (McCarty) Scott, both natives of Muncy township, Lycoming county, Pennsylvania. Her father was born October 3, 1820, and died September 12, 1901, while his wife, whose birth occurred May 23, 1823, passed away in December, 1889. Dr. Scott had studied medicine in Philadelphia, and later he engaged in teaching school. He came west to Illinois in 1857 and purchased a farm in Seward township, turning his attention to agricultural interests. In 1864 he joined the Union Army as a private, but passed the medical staff examination and was enrolled in the service as a surgeon, being assigned to duty with the One Hundred and Fifty-third Volunteer Infantry. He rendered efficient and valuable aid to the sick and wounded in the south, and with a most creditable military record returned to his home when the war was over. He then continued the practice of medicine, which he followed for over forty years. Interested in the welfare and upbuilding of his community he gave his aid to many measures for the general good, and through a long period

served as school director. His religious faith was that of the Congregational church, and his political support was in accord with the principles of the republican party. In his family were nine children, of whom Sarah, Mrs. Marston, is the eldest, having been born December 4, 1842; Rachel, born December 2, 1844, died May 6, 1891; Mary, born May 8, 1847, is now Mrs. Tracy, of Seward; Charles, born May 26, 1849, died in August, 1890; Martha, born in November, 1851, is now Mrs. Ray, of Winnebago county; Julia, born in March, 1854, is Mrs. Hunting, of Northfield, Massachusetts; Mercy, born in June, 1856, died in February, 1857; Harriet, born in March, 1853, and Clara, in September, 1861, complete the family.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Marston has been blessed with seven children: Amos W., who is now engaged in the practice of law in Chicago; Anson, who is a professor of civil engineering in the State University at Des Moines, Iowa; Charles L., who is a graduate of Rush Medical College, at Chicago, and is now practicing in Mason City, Iowa; Mary A., the widow of John Smith, who died in 1901; George E., a resident farmer of Iowa; Walter S., a mechanical engineer, living in Chicago; and Robert E., who follows farming with his father.

Mr. Marston has served as township collector for one year and as school director for nine years. He made a great sacrifice for his country, and has ever been a loyal citizen, devoted to the welfare of his locality, state and nation.

CHARLES F. CRANDALL.

Charles F. Crandall, following the occupation of farming on section 20, Rockford township, has been a resident of Winnebago county since 1875 and since 1876 has made his home on the farm which he yet owns and occupies. He came to the west from Troy, Bradford county, Pennsylvania, but was born in Cortland county, New York, near the village of Homer, March 4, 1827, his parents being Daniel and Lydia (Morey) Crandall. In both the paternal and maternal lines the families are descended from three brothers who came to this country in the seventeenth century, probably from England. The paternal grandfather of our subject was a soldier of the Revolutionary war, serving with a Connecticut regiment. The maternal grandfather was born in Vermont and was a mason of the early day. Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Crandall became the parents of seven children, of whom three are yet living. Niles is a resident of Oak Park, Illinois, and was roadmaster on the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, having charge of the division out of Elgin

and Freeport. He continued in railroad service throughout his active business life but is now living retired. Bradford Crandall is a retired farmer of Rockford and owns a good tract of land near Rochelle, Illinois. The half sisters of Mr. Crandall are Mrs. Frances C. Coddington, who resides on State street near Rockford and Mrs. Antoinette Wheeler, of Santa Rosa, California.

Charles F. Crandall was about six years of age when his parents removed from New York to Pennsylvania, where he was educated in the common schools. He was early trained to the work of the home farm and has always followed general agricultural pursuits. When he started out upon his independent business career he began working by the month as a farm hand at twelve dollars per month and later he was paid successively thirteen, fourteen and fifteen dollars per month, being thus engaged for several years. As a companion and helpmate for life's journey he chose Miss Sophia Dillin, a daughter of Joseph and Eliza (Breathwaite) Dillin, to whom he was married in 1853. She was born in Queens county, Ireland, and was brought to America when only six months old by her mother, who was an English lady. Her birth occurred January 1, 1830, and the young couple began their domestic life in Pennsylvania, where they resided for more than twenty years, after which they came to Winnebago county in 1875. The following year Mr. Crandall purchased the farm which has since been his home and he now owns and cultivates seventy-nine acres of land on section 20, Rockford township. Here he carries on general farming and he also operates about seventy-five acres additional of the Wigdon farm, being assisted in his work by his son George.

In 1890 Mr. Crandall was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died on the 31st of May of that year, when about seventy years of age. They had a son and daughter; George F. and Lydia E., both born in Pennsylvania and both still living with their father.

At the time of the Civil war Mr. Crandall was an advocate of the Union cause and enlisted in December, 1864, as a member of Company B, Forty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, which was attached to the Ninth Army Corps under Brigadier General Curtin. While at Knoxville, Tennessee, this command used for the first time wire entanglements in order to keep Longstreet's army away. It is told for a fact that this scheme saved the day for the Ninth Army Corps. His regiment mined and blew up the fort in front of Petersburg. The first test of negro troops was made at this time. Mr. Crandall served for seven months and was mustered out at Alexandria, Virginia. After the close of the war he returned to his home in Pennsylvania.



MR. AND MRS. CHARLES F. CRANDALL.

where he resided until his removal to Illinois. His first presidential vote was cast for Zachary Taylor in 1848 and at the previous state election he had voted for David Wilmot, the framer of the famous Wilmot Proviso. He is now an advocate of the prohibition party, which embodies his views on the temperance question. He and his family favor the Methodist Episcopal church and usually attend the services at the Court Street church in Rockford. Mr. Crandall has now passed the seventy-eighth mile-stone on life's journey, but though the snows of many winters have whitened his hair he is yet an active and enterprising man, who in spirit and interest seems yet in his prime. Old age is not necessarily a synonym of weakness or inactivity and need not suggest as a matter of course lack of occupation, for there is an old age that grows stronger in character as the years pass by and gives out of its rich stores of experience and learning. Such is the history of Mr. Crandall, whose many good qualities win him genuine regard among a large circle of friends.

GEORGE L. PETTIS.

George L. Pettis, whose realty holdings comprise two hundred and thirty-six acres on sections 11 and 14, Harlem township, is one of the native sons of this county, his birth having occurred in Winnebago township, December 28, 1861. He is a son of Lewis M. and Sarah J. (Mandeville) Pettis. His maternal grandfather fought in the American army in the Revolutionary war, while his great-grandfather Clark was a member of the provincial congress in colonial days and served in the general assembly of New York for several terms after the establishment of the republic.

Lewis M. Pettis, now living at No. 1235 South Main street, Rockford, was born in Westmoreland, Oneida county, New York, and lived there until March, 1857. He then accompanied his parents on their removal to the west, reaching Walworth, Wisconsin, on the 1st of April. He taught school in both the Empire and the Badger states and from Walworth county removed with his parents to Sheboygan county, Wisconsin, where he followed teaching for three terms. He also attended the Wayland Academy, at Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, about that time. He lived in Sheboygan county until 1860, when he came to Winnebago county, Illinois, and purchased a farm in Winnebago township, making his home thereon until 1865, during which time he taught school in the winter months, while in the summer seasons he performed the labors of the fields. In December, 1865, he took up his abode in the city where he has since made his home and in 1867

he accepted the position of foreman for N. C. Thompson, dealer in agricultural implements, with whom he remained two years. He then went upon the road, selling the John P. Manny harvesters, and has been a traveling salesman continuously since 1870, being one of the best known "knights of the grip" who represents Rockford industries and commercial enterprises. He was married, March 18, 1861, to Sarah J., daughter of H. N. and Peace J. (Chase) Mandeville, of Skaneateles, New York. The members of the Pettis family are: Frances, the wife of John F. Armstrong, of Rockford, by whom she has one son and one daughter; Catherine M., at home with her parents; John, who died at the age of nineteen years; and Frederick, who died at the age of seventeen.

George L. Pettis, the surviving son of the family, was seven years old when his parents left the farm and removed to Rockford, where he was educated, attending successively the public schools, a business college and Lounsbury Academy. When twenty-three years of age he left the city and rented a farm in Winnebago township, whereon he made his home for six years, when he removed to Benton county, Iowa, where he followed farming in the vicinity of Vinton for five years. He then returned to Illinois and after farming for a year in Winnebago township, came to his present home in February, 1901, purchasing two hundred and thirty-six acres of good land, which he has further developed and improved, having now a good farm, from which he annually garners rich harvests, the reward of the spring planting.

On the 22d of November, 1884, Mr. Pettis married Agnes G. Buxton, of Stockbridge, Wisconsin, who was born at Forrest, Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, August 10, 1863, a daughter of Rinaldo A. and Lucy J. (Schofield) Buxton, then of Stockbridge. Her father, a native of New York state, came to Winnebago county when there was not even a village where the city of Rockford now stands. He was then a young man and he drove a six-mule team overland to California at the time of the gold fever. His wife, who was born in Essex county, Vermont, in 1840, came west with her parents in her early girlhood days to Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, and is now living at Stockbridge. The brothers of Mrs. Pettis are Edwin A., George L., Albert J., Charles W., Herbert E., Alva R. and Cecil R., and she has a sister, Blanche C., the wife of John W. Birkitt, of Winnebago township. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Pettis have been born eight children: Bessie F., born December 22, 1885; Jessie A., August 16, 1887; Lewis B., who died January 16, 1901; Ruth G., born January 12, 1891; Blanche C., August 10, 1893; Frank A., born September 10, 1897; Alva A., March 29, 1901;

and Lucy J., March 27, 1903. The family attend the Methodist Episcopal church at Roscoe and in politics Mr. Pettis is a stalwart republican. His business career has been marked by steady progress and with a realization of the fact that labor is the basis of all true success, his diligence and industry have been made the basis of the comfortable competence which he now possesses.

LEONARD E. HERRICK.

Among the retired farmers of Winnebago county who are now comfortably located in Rockford is Leonard E. Herrick, who makes his home at No. 622 Woodlawn avenue. He still retains the ownership of two farms of eighty acres each, located on sections 9 and 18, Rockford township. He established his home in Winnebago county in 1856, when he came to the west from Vermont. He was born in Chittenden county, that state, March 17, 1820, his parents being Russell and Maria (Tyler) Herrick, the former born in Rutland, Vermont, and the latter in Connecticut. The father was a typical New England farmer and never removed to the west.

Leonard E. Herrick was reared on the old family homestead in the Green Mountain state, working there from early boyhood up to the time of his marriage, when he came to the west. He had lived within the shadow of the old Mansfield mountain in his native state, but here he took up his abode upon the prairie. After a brief period he removed to a farm on section 9, Rockford township, and there he carried on general agricultural pursuits until about fifteen years ago, when he removed to the city in order to give his children better educational privileges. He has spent some time in South Dakota, Iowa and other western states. He now gives his supervision to his property interests and the rental therefrom brings him a good income. He placed many excellent improvements on his land and developed good farms, which are now attractive features in the landscape.

Mr. Herrick was married in 1854 to Miss Susan Bruce Coffren, who was born in New Hampshire, December 20, 1820, her parents being Daniel and Sally (Currier) Coffren, who removed to Vermont from New Hampshire. They were both natives of Ackworth, New Hampshire, in which place Mrs. Herrick was also born. The Coffren family were of Scotch-Irish descent and all were staunch church people. Mrs. Herrick's mother, however, was of English lineage and was a Baptist in her religious faith. Both Mr. and Mrs. Herrick received academic instruction. Mrs. Herrick has three brothers

who are ministers and a son who has also followed that holy calling, all being connected with the Congregational denomination. Harriet, a sister of Mr. Herrick, married the Rev. Dr. L. H. Cobb, of New York.

Unto our subject and his wife have been born four children: George M., now with the Philadelphia Life and Trust Company of Chicago, residing in Englewood, was formerly president of Washburn College at Topeka, Kansas. Rev. Henry M. Herrick is a graduate of Yale College and of Williams College of Northampton, Massachusetts, and for fifteen years was actively engaged with the ministry of the Congregational church, but is not preaching at the present time. Laura is the wife of Rev. Francis W. Bates, a missionary of the American board, now connected with the East Central Mission in Africa, having spent fifteen years in that work there. Grace E., who is a graduate of Carlton College at Northfield, Minnesota, has been a teacher in South Africa but is now at home and at this writing is assistant principal in one of the schools of Rockford.

Politically Mr. Herrick supports the republican party and voted for its first presidential candidate, John C. Fremont. Prior to that time he was a whig. He is an active and influential member of the Congregational church and spent three years in Sunday-school work in the west as a representative of that denomination. His life has been honorable and active, his actions manly, sincere and unaffected, and his whole career has been so dominated by upright principles that he ever commanded the highest regard of all with whom he has come in contact in whatever section of that country he has been.

FRANCIS E. WILLOUGHBY.

Francis E. Willoughby, who follows farming on section 12, Rockford township, is a native of the Empire state, his birth having occurred in Oxford, Chenango county, New York, April 30, 1831. His parents were John B. and Nancy (Shapley) Willoughby, who spent their entire lives in the state of New York. Their son Francis was reared and educated there, remaining a resident of the east until 1855, when he took up his abode in Ogle county, Illinois, settling in Lynnville township, where he purchased a farm. With characteristic energy he began its cultivation and improvement, making his home thereon until the spring of 1866. In February of that year he removed to Winnebago county and located on the farm on section 12, Rockford township, where he has resided continuously since, covering a period of almost forty



F. E. WILLOUGHBY AND FAMILY.

years. He now owns sixty acres of land, which is being operated by his son. He has made substantial improvements upon this tract, erecting good buildings and using the latest improved machinery in the care of his land. Through many years he devoted his attention to general agricultural pursuits, but now is largely living retired, leaving the active work of the farm to others.

On the 6th of February, 1857, Mr. Willoughby was united in marriage to Miss Janett E. Root, who was born in Oxford, New York, and is a daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth (Moore) Root. Five children have been born unto them, one of whom, Edgar, died September 11, 1895, when about thirty years of age. Augusta E. is the wife of Warren O. Eddy, a farmer residing near Rockford, and they have two daughters, Flora and Alice, the former a teacher in the Rockford high school. Arthur B., who resides near his father's home on section 12, is a molder by trade and married Miss Kitty Ernst, by whom he has four children, Hazel, Lyria A., Fletcher and Derwin. John H., who is a farmer residing in California, married Etta B. Clinite and has five daughters, Neenah, Janett, Mary, Helen and Doris. Francis W. is unmarried and operates the farm for his father.

In his political affiliations Mr. Willoughby is stanch prohibitionist, thus expressing his views on the temperance question. He has served as school trustee for a number of years. He was formerly identified with the Grange and while living in Ogle county was a member of the Good Templars society. He belongs to the Court Street Methodist Episcopal church and has always been deeply interested in the cause of temperance, morality and religion, doing everything in his power to aid in the uplifting of mankind.

SELVEY K. BLODGETT.

Selvey K. Blodgett follows farming and stock-raising on section 19, Shirland township, where he owns and operates one hundred and twenty-three acres of well improved land. In addition to this he has a farm in Rockton township which he leases but his personal supervision is given to the home place. His entire life has been passed in this section of the country, his birth occurring in Beloit, Wisconsin, June 10, 1838. His parents were S. K. and Mahala (Norris) Blodgett, who removed from Ohio to Beloit shortly before 1838. Not long afterward they took up their abode in Rockton township, this county, where the father purchased a tract of land lying along the Pecatonica river—the farm now being owned by the subject of this review. There the father turned

his attention to general agricultural pursuits and stock-raising, which he followed for ten years, when he once more took up his abode in Beloit, where he engaged in the stock and grain business and also conducted a flour mill. He was thus closely connected with the commercial and industrial life of the city for many years and was a very successful man, possessed of a good fund of common sense, keen business sagacity and strong purpose. He commanded the respect of all by reason of his genuine worth and sterling integrity and when he passed away in 1881, at the age of sixty-nine years, his death was deeply regretted by many who knew him. He was a native of New York and had become a resident of Ohio when a young man. His political allegiance was given to the democracy but he had little aspiration for public office. His wife was a native of Virginia and they were married in Ohio. Her death occurred in Beloit about 1884, when she was seventy-three years of age. In their family were four children: William, now deceased; Selvey K. of this review; Mrs. Sabra H. Smith, living in Beloit; and Elanor, who died at the age of nine years.

Selvey K. Blodgett was reared in Winnebago county until ten or eleven years of age and began his education at Rockton, then known as Macktown. He was acquainted with Stephen Mack and his squaw wife, Hononeqah, and attended school with their half-breed children. His education, however, was completed in the schools of Beloit and after putting aside his text-books he engaged in business with his father and brother at Beloit for several years. In 1864 he went west to the Pacific coast and spent about two years in California, gaining much experience and practical knowledge there if not wealth. On the expiration of that period he returned to this state and settled on the homestead farm in Rockton township, where he resided until 1900, when he removed to his present place of residence on section 19, Shirland township. He now owns altogether five hundred and sixty-four acres of land in his two farms and he rents his Rockton township property, while giving his personal attention to the cultivation and improvement of his farm in Shirland township.

Mr. Blodgett has been married three times. He first wedded Helen M. Bullis, of this county, who died leaving two children: Ella E., now the widow of Samuel Austin and a resident of Wisconsin; and Delia H., who is the wife of Samuel Wallace, of Durand. For his second wife Mr. Blodgett chose Miss Adda Miller, also of Winnebago and at her death she left five children: Harry, who died at the age of twenty-four years; Elmer, a farmer now residing in Rockton township; May; Emma, deceased; and S. K., at home. For his present wife Mr. Blod-

gett chose Mary E. Austin, whose people were early residents of the county, coming from New York state to Illinois. Her parents resided in Laora township but are now deceased. Politically Mr. Blodgett has always been a democrat, unfaltering in his advocacy of the party and he and his wife are members of the Methodist church of Shirland, in which their genuine worth and fidelity are recognized, while in business circles he is known as a reliable man, placing his dependence upon the substantial qualities of earnest labor and perseverance.

ROBERT M. SMITH.

Robert M. Smith, who became a resident of Rockford in 1865, was connected with the building interests of the city for many years, assisting in the erection of many of the early homes and business houses of Rockford and of the bridges of Winnebago county, was born in Norfolk, England, in 1824. His father, Jackson Smith, was also a native of that country and both he and his wife spent their entire lives there, passing away at Norfolk, where he had extensive railroad holdings.

Robert M. Smith began his education in England, and while a student he became ill with smallpox and it was long before he was able to resume his studies. In early manhood he determined to try his fortune in America, having heard favorable reports concerning the business opportunities here afforded and in 1863, accompanied by his brother George, he sailed for the new world. They first settled in Indiana, where they remained until 1865, when they came to Rockford. George Smith was a mason but remained in this city for only a year, after which he returned to Indiana, where his death occurred. The brothers had not long been residents of that state when the Civil war broke out and Robert M. Smith espoused the cause of his adopted country, enlisting in an Indiana regiment, with which he served for one year and eight months. He was on active duty most of that time and was then wounded, after which he returned to his home. He then removed to Illinois, first settling in Belvidere, where he and his brother worked at their trade for almost a year, coming to Rockford, as before stated, in 1865. In early life he had learned the trade of a brick and stone-mason and in this capacity, he was employed on the construction of many of the large buildings of the city, and he and his brother built the old Commercial Hotel here. Many of the early structures of Rockford stand as monuments to his skill and enterprise. He particularly liked the brick and stone work connected with the walling of wells, and while engaged in that way on one occasion a wall caved in upon him, injuring him for life. He never re-

covered but remained an invalid for many years.

Mr. Smith was married in 1870 to Miss Susan N. Knapp, a native of Allegany county, New York, born June 3, 1841, and a daughter of John and Mary Elizabeth (Towner) Knapp. The father was a millwright by trade and lived in the east until old age. He then made his way westward, settling in Iowa, where he carried on farming until his death. His wife passed away in Jo Daviess county, Illinois. Four of their children are still living. Mrs. Smith came to Rockford in 1850 with some of her relatives. Here she gave her hand in marriage to Robert M. Smith. Two children graced this marriage: George H., who married Anna Chrismaker and now resides in Sabula, Iowa; and Robert Elvin, who married Gussie Satkiz. She died here February 24, 1902, leaving a daughter, Myrtle May, four years of age, who is now being reared by her grandmother. Robert E. Smith is a plumber by trade but at present writing is employed in a glove factory at Rockford and makes his home with his mother.

In his political views Robert M. Smith was a staunch republican but never sought or desired office. While in England he was a communicant of the Episcopal church. His life was characterized by untiring industry and perseverance as well as frugality and by saving his earnings and investing in property he became the owner of considerable realty in Rockford, which he left his family at the time of his death, on the 11th of January, 1892. Industry and integrity were among his salient traits of character and made his example one worthy of emulation. Much of the property which he left has recently been sold but Mrs. Smith still retains possession of the old homestead at No. 803 Rockton avenue, where she and her son yet reside and of which she has been the owner for thirty years.

WILLIAM RILEY.

William Riley, now living retired in Winnebago, came to this county in the later '50s. England has furnished a number of valued and representative citizens to Illinois, including Mr. Riley, who was born in Yorkshire, August 16, 1835, his parents being Robert and Sarah (Duckett) Riley, both of whom spent their entire lives in England, where the father conducted business as a laborer. In the family were eight children but William is the only one who ever came to this country.

In his native land William Riley was reared, receiving limited educational advantages, for at the early age of nine or ten years he began earning his own living. He is a thoroughly self-educated and self-made man, whose life has been



MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM RILEY.

crowned by success as the reward of labor that has been persistent, well defined and indefatigable. As stated, he arrived in Winnebago in the later '50s and located first in Burritt township, where he resided for many years. His work brought him capital sufficient to enable him to purchase a farm and he then invested in land and carried on general agricultural pursuits until about nineteen years ago. He sold the farm property two years ago. When he left the train at Rockford he was practically penniless and therefore began work by the month. Out of his earnings he saved the sum which enabled him to become a landowner and year after year upon his farm he added to his property until with a comfortable competence he removed to the village of Winnebago in 1887 and purchased a home. He then leased his farm and continued to rent it until he had sold out about two years ago.

Mr. Riley was married in this county to Mrs. Charlotte R. Randerson, who was born March 15, 1826, and to them have been born five children, of whom two are living: John, who now makes his home on South Court street, in Rockford, and follows the carpenter's trade; and Minnie, the wife of Elmer Mellen, of Winnebago. Politically a prohibitionist, Mr. Riley has long been a staunch advocate of the temperance cause and has given of his time, means and influence to further the work along that line. His religious views are indicated by his membership in the Methodist church. A member of the Masonic order for thirty years he belongs to Winnebago lodge, No. 745, and he and Mrs. Riley are members of Eastern Star lodge, No. 444, both holding office in the lodge. He is known and honored for his genuine worth, his life being characterized by integrity, straightforward dealing in business and honorable relations with his fellowmen at all times. He certainly deserves much credit for what he has accomplished, for he has worked hard and persistently and as the years have gone by his labors have made him one of the substantial citizens of the county.

PHILETUS W. DOOLITTLE.

Philetus W. Doolittle, one of the native sons of Winnebago county, represents an old and prominent pioneer family here, his parents having come to Illinois in 1835 before the land in Winnebago county was placed upon the market. The subject of this review first opened his eyes to the light of day on the 19th of February, 1844, at the old home farm in Harlem township and he now carries on agricultural pursuits on section 14, Guilford township, where he has a valuable farming property. His parents were Harry and

Catherine (Stedman) Doolittle, both natives of New York and they are now deceased. The father came to Winnebago county in 1835, being one of the first settlers within its borders. He secured a claim of two hundred and twenty acres in Harlem township and entered the land when it came in the market. He turned the first furrows of the fields, planted his seed and in due time harvested good crops, continuing the active management of the place until 1845, when he sold that property and removed to Guilford township, securing two hundred and thirty acres of land on section 11. That remained his home until his death, which occurred in 1894, when he was seventy-six years of age. He had served in various township and local offices and was a prominent and progressive citizen, giving tangible evidence of his interest in public affairs by his co-operation in measures for the general good. He was a man true to his honest convictions and was highly respected because of his genuine worth. Free from ostentation and display he nevertheless, showed many sterling traits of character. His wife passed away January 12, 1882. They were married in Winnebago county and all of their children were here born, namely: Mrs. Clara Beamer, now living in Cherry Valley; Mrs. Elizabeth Fuller, of Clear Lake, Iowa; A. L., of Belvidere, Illinois; Edward, whose home is near Council Bluffs, Iowa; Mrs. Laura Ketchum, residing in Michigan; Austin, who died in California a few years ago, leaving a wife and four children; Calvin, who died in childhood; and Sarah, who died at the age of fourteen years.

Philetus W. Doolittle, spending his boyhood days in Harlem and Guilford townships, acquired his education in the public schools near his home. He was only seventeen years of age when, in September, 1861, he offered his services to the government and joined the boys in blue of Company D, Eleventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Later he served with Company B, First United States Veterans, being a member of that command during the last year of the war. He was mustered out on New Year's day of 1866 in Baltimore, Maryland, having served for four years and four months, which was one of the longest terms of any soldier of the Civil war. The Eleventh Illinois regiment undoubtedly lost more heavily than any regiment of the entire army, a fact which indicates that they were in the thickest of the fight. Mr. Doolittle was in practically all of the engagements of the regiment, including the battles of Fort Donelson, Shiloh, the assault on Vicksburg, the siege of that city, Liverpool Heights, Yazoo City, Black River Bridge, Jackson, Clinton and Fort Blakely. He was never taken prisoner nor was he in the hospital, and he was never off duty during his long term. Week after week and month after month he continued with his command, taking long marches, serving

in hotly contested battles or doing guard duty at whatever post assigned. He was indeed a brave and loyal soldier and one to whom the country owes a debt of gratitude for what he accomplished for the Union cause. He is now a member of Nevius post, No. 1, G. A. R.

Mr. Doolittle at once returned to his home and resumed farming on his father's land, but in 1868 was married in Guilford township, and started out in life on his own account. He purchased one hundred and thirty acres of land, which constitutes his present farm. Only a small number of acres had been broken at that time, but he at once began to clear and improve it and now has an excellent property. He has built substantial buildings, divided his place into fields of convenient size with well kept fences and has tilled the soil until it is very rich and productive, yielding him excellent crops.

Mr. Doolittle was married to Miss Mary Ray, of Belvidere, Illinois, who was born in New Brunswick, Canada, in 1849, her parents being William and Sarah Ray, both of whom were natives of Scotland. They were married there and afterward came to New Brunswick, later removing to Boone county, Illinois. Mr. Ray died in 1903, near Olympia, Washington, and Mrs. Ray departed this life about 1875. Mr. and Mrs. Doolittle have but one child, a daughter, Gertrude M., now the wife of A. J. Shaw, who is residing in Guilford township. There is one child by this marriage, Alta Lucile, now three years of age. They have a good farm in Guilford township.

In politics Mr. Doolittle is a republican and has held various township offices, including that of assessor, collector and other positions, to which he has been called by his fellow townsmen, who have recognized his worth and his allegiance to the general welfare. Socially he is connected with the Modern Woodmen camp of Rockford as well as with the Grand Army of the Republic and he belongs to the Freewill Baptist church of Cherry Valley. His entire life has been passed in this county and he is held in the highest regard where best known, a fact which indicates that his life record has been straightforward and honorable.

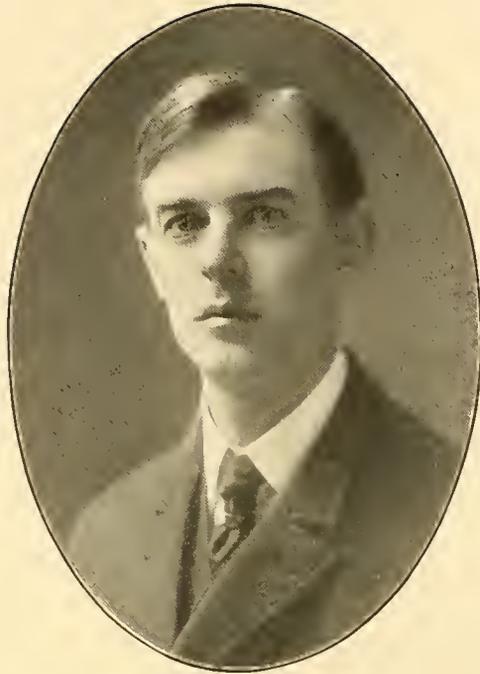
MRS. JULIAETTE B. HICKS.

Mrs. Juliaette B. Hicks, residing in a comfortable home on section 31, Rockford township, is the widow of Stephen B. Hicks, who was born March 16, 1840, and died in January, 1874. At the time of the Civil war he became a member of the Forty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, enlisting as a drummer boy in Company G and serving for more than four years. In the latter part of that period he was a messenger. Fol-

lowing his return from the army he took up the occupation of farming in Winnebago county, and his widow still resides upon the place where he made his home.

In 1838 Mr. Hicks was united in marriage to Miss Juliaette B. Hovey, who was born in Winnebago county and is of English descent, her ancestors having come from England to America at an early period in the colonization of the new world, establishing a home in Connecticut. Her paternal grandfather, Edmond Hovey, was a farmer of Connecticut and it was at Mansfield, that state, that Aaron Hovey, her father, was born in 1812. He spent the days of his boyhood and youth in New England and was married in Connecticut to Miss Fidelia Harmon, whose birth occurred in Suffield, Connecticut, in 1808. Soon after their marriage they came to the middle west, locating in Winnebago county in 1834. Here Aaron Hovey built a cabin on what is now known as the Weldon farm and later he entered as a claim the farm which is now owned by his son, E. T. Hovey, and daughter, Juliaette B. Hicks. There he carried on general agricultural pursuits for many years and developed a splendid farm property, the productive fields annually yielding him excellent crops. He was a republican in his political views for many years but afterward became a prohibitionist. He died in 1894, while his wife passed away in 1888. Both were members of the Methodist church and in that faith they reared their family.

Mary E., the eldest child of Mr. and Mrs. Hovey, became the wife of Dr. Guthrie and died at the age of twenty-eight years, leaving a daughter, who is now married and makes her home in San Bernardino, California. Juliaette B. became Mrs. Hicks and is still living on the old home farm. Edmond T., who was born February 1, 1842, is now the owner of a valuable farm of one hundred acres on the southeast quarter of section 31, Rockford township. He remained in Winnebago county until twenty-nine years of age, when he went to the west, visiting Cowley county, Kansas. There he spent five years engaged in farming and mining, after which he returned to Illinois and purchased a part of the old homestead property in Rockford township, where he now resides. He is a republican in his political views, having supported the party since he cast his first presidential ballot for Abraham Lincoln in 1864. Ellen Hovey is now Mrs. George Martin, of San Bernardino, California. Hubert H., residing in Cowley county, Kansas, has a family of eight children, namely: Florence Lissa, Mary Fidelia, Juliaette, Lucora, Edmond Hubert, Grace, Hubert Brooks and Ralph Aaron. Melissa



HERBERT S. HICKS.



S. B. HICKS.



MRS. S. B. HICKS.

is the widow of Albert Kidd and resides in San Bernardino, California. She had five children, two daughters and three sons, of whom four are yet living.

The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Hicks was Jehiel Harmon, who is the only Revolutionary soldier buried at Rockford and a brass tablet suitably inscribed has been affixed to his tombstone by the Daughters of the Revolution. Mr. and Mrs. Hicks had but one child, Herbert S. Hicks, born April 12, 1872. He graduated at the Illinois State Normal University, at Normal, in 1892 and from Stanford University, California, in 1896, and has practiced law in Rockford since the spring of 1897. He is secretary of the Winnebago County Telephone Company. He married Florence Gantz, of Dixon, Illinois, March 11, 1904. Mrs. Hicks since her husband's death has remained upon the old farm, which is a valuable property and brings to her a good income. She has a wide acquaintance and enjoys in large measure the friendship and kindly regard of her neighbors and friends.

DAVID PERRY.

David Perry, living in Rockford in well earned ease after long years of active and prosperous connection with agricultural interests in Cherry Valley township, was born in Cayuga county, New York, July 6, 1825, his parents being Ozias and Eliza (Merchant) Perry, both of whom died in Cherry Valley township many years ago. They were farming people, respected for their sterling worth of character. David Perry had two brothers and two sisters, of whom a sister and a brother are still living, namely: Mrs. Clara Lovejoy and Marvin Perry, the former a resident of Boone county, Illinois, and the latter of Iowa. The other members of the family, Mrs. Esther Martin and John Perry, are both deceased, the latter having passed away while living in Iowa.

David Perry spent the first twenty-five years of his life in the state of his nativity, acquiring his education in the public schools and in 1851 came to Illinois. He stopped first in the vicinity of Belvidere but soon after located in Cherry Valley township, where for forty years he followed farming, becoming one of the prosperous agriculturists of his community. His work was conducted along practical lines and he was seldom, if ever, at fault in matters of business judgment relating to the farm and its improvement. He was also earnestly desirous for the welfare of his township and county and co-operated in many movements for the general good. When the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad was built the station of Perryville was located partially on his

farm and he gave the site for a sidetrack, while his father, Ozias Perry, gave the site for the depot. Mr. Perry, of this review, in connection with the tilling of the soil and the raising of the crops best suited thereto, also engaged quite extensively in raising stock and feeding cattle. He owned two farms, one of which he has sold since retiring to private life but he still owns two hundred acres of valuable land on sections 10 and 11, Cherry Valley township. He continued his active farming pursuits until 1892, when he retired, putting aside business cares and taking up his abode in Rockford, his home being now at No. 1141 Charles street.

Mr. Perry was married to Miss Charity J. Van Alstine, who was born in the state of New York. They have two children, both born in Winnebago county: Clark, now a resident of northwestern Iowa, who is married and has five living children, while one is deceased; and Mrs. Ella Merchant, who is residing in Ellendale, North Dakota, and has two daughters.

Mr. Perry attends the Christian Union church of Rockford while his political faith is that of the republican party. He served in the office of road commissioner for three years in Cherry Valley township, his administration of its duties being acceptable. He has always been interested in general progress and his support of the movements for the upbuilding of the county has been generous, loyal and sincere. His labors in business affairs have been the resultant factors that have won him prosperity, making him a leading farmer of the county and now enabling him to enjoy a well earned rest.

JOHN C. CARROLL.

John C. Carroll, deceased, was born in Ireland, in 1847, and, ambitious and enterprising, he determined to try his fortune in America when a young man and with his brother came to the new world. Bidding adieu to friends and native country they sailed for Baltimore, Maryland, and were soon joined in that city by their parents, who continued to reside in Baltimore until called to their final home. John C. Carroll and his brother, however, left Baltimore and went to St. Louis, Missouri, where they remained for a few years and later they took up their abode in Nebraska City, Nebraska, where Mr. Carroll of this review conducted a saloon for a short time. He next located in Fairfield, Nebraska, where he engaged in the same line of business and subsequently went to Hastings, Nebraska, where he likewise conducted a saloon for a time. Later, however, he accepted a position as traveling salesman and went upon the road. While living in

Nebraska City Mr. Carroll was united in marriage to Miss J. Caroline Casford, a native of Janesville, Wisconsin, and a daughter of William and Fannie Casford. The mother was born in London, England, and is a representative of one of the English families belonging to the nobility. She now makes her home in Rockford. Mr. Casford was born on Prince Edward Island, and came to Wisconsin at an early day. He and his three sons became soldiers of the Union Army in the Civil war, he enlisting in the Thirteenth Wisconsin Regiment. For several years he engaged in farming in Wisconsin and later removed to Nebraska, where he was very successful in business as an agriculturist. He spent his remaining days there and departed this life in Nebraska. Two of the daughters of that family are residents of Rockford—Mrs. Carroll and Mrs. Thomas McFarland. Mr. and Mrs. Carroll became the parents of five children: Mrs. Isabelle MacCormack, of Rockford; William Revere and Mellie, both at home; Sarah, who died at the age of sixteen years; and Johnnie, who died at the age of two years.

Mr. Carroll continued as a traveling salesman for several years and finally located in Freeport, Illinois, where he was identified with different business interests for three years, or until his death, which occurred January 17, 1891, at the age of forty-four years. At the time of the Civil war he served as a soldier in the Confederate Army and his political allegiance was always given to the democratic party. He was reared in the Catholic faith but never belonged to any church. Although he was never a resident of Rockford, while living in Freeport he became acquainted with many citizens here and in 1902 Mrs. Carroll removed to this city in order to be near her mother and is now living with her children at No. 312 Rockton avenue.

DANIEL W. MILLER.

Daniel W. Miller, deceased, who found that success is ambition's answer, and who through long years was actively engaged in merchandising in Rockford, came to Winnebago county about 1860, first locating in the village of New Milford, where his brother John was then living. He was a native of Mount Morris, New York, born February 27, 1830. His parents were natives of the east and always resided in the state of New York, where both passed away. The father was a farmer by occupation and followed that pursuit until his death, which occurred when his son Daniel was a small lad.

Daniel W. Miller obtained his education in the common schools of his native county but as

he lost his father in his early youth it was necessary that he earn his living when still quite young. He secured employment as a clerk in a boot and shoe store in Mount Morris, New York, and was employed in different shoe stores of that city until he had become thoroughly acquainted with the business. He then decided to seek a home in the west, believing that he might have better opportunities for rapid advancement here. Accordingly he made his way to New Milford, where his brother John was living, but after a short time he came to Rockford. Here he opened a boot and shoe store on East State street where he continued in business for many years with constantly increasing success, carrying a large and well selected line of goods and receiving from the public a liberal patronage. As his financial resources increased he made judicious investments in real estate and realized a goodly sum from his purchases and sales of land. During his later years he gave up the shoe business, intending to retire from active business life, though he still dealt to some extent in real estate.

Mr. Miller was married twice. He first wedded Miss Margaret Forbes, a daughter of Duncan Forbes, a representative of an early family of Rockford. She died leaving one son, William, who is now teller in the People's Bank and is well known in social as well as financial circles of the city. For his second wife Mr. Miller chose Miss Harriet L. Dean, a native of Adams county, New York, and a daughter of Richard and Diadama (Woodruff) Dean. Both the Dean and Woodruff families were early settlers of Rockford and became wealthy. Mr. Dean took up his abode in this city in 1864 and invested in land near the county seat. He then engaged in real-estate operations until his death, negotiating many important realty transfers. He passed away at the age of sixty-five years, while his wife's death occurred when she was seventy-two years of age. He was a man of strong force of character, of marked individuality, of excellent business capacity and capable management, and became one of the representative and honored residents of his adopted county.

In 1895, on account of the ill health of his wife, Mr. Miller took her to Colorado, where they remained for some time, Mrs. Miller being fully restored to health during that period. On the day on which they were to start for home, however, Mr. Miller was stricken with paralysis and died very suddenly on the 1st of October, 1895, at Steamboat Springs, Colorado. His remains were then brought back to Rockford for interment. He was an exemplary member of the Masonic fraternity, in which he attained the Knights Templar degree. In politics he was an unflinching advocate of republican principles, but although often urged to do so by his friends, he would

never accept office. He always attended the Centennial Methodist Episcopal church of Rockford, of which his widow is now a member, and he gave generously to the church work. The strong and salient characteristics of his manhood were such as commanded confidence and good will, while the social qualities of his nature endeared him to those with whom he came in contact. He held friendship inviolable and the best traits of his heart and mind were reserved for the inner circle of his own home and family. Mrs. Miller is prominent socially in Rockford, where she owns and occupies a fine residence at No. 222 South First street, which was built by her husband and in which she intends to spend her remaining days. She also has other valuable property here from which she derives a good income.

MRS. ELLA E. PARTRIDGE.

Mrs. Ella E. Partridge is well known in Pecatonica and other parts of Winnebago county. Her husband, Edward C. Partridge, was a native of Stephenson county, Illinois, born December 24, 1847, and was a son of C. M. and Mary D. (Parks) Partridge, both of whom were natives of Dalton, Berkshire county, Massachusetts. Possibly a better account of his parentage can be given by quoting liberally from the memorial volume published upon the death of his mother and which said "Mary D. Perley was born in Dalton, Massachusetts, September 2, 1818, and died at Orange City, Florida, September 25, 1900, at the age of eighty-two years and twenty-two days. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Abigail Parks, were of English descent, and being quite wealthy farming people for that day she was given good educational privileges. She possessed a sunny disposition, was always cheerful, full of ambition and vivacity. A conspicuous trait in her character was self-reliance, and industry was inherent in her nature. She was daily taught by her mother all the various duties of the household. She at one time received at a county fair a premium for a magnificent piece of broadcloth which she wove with her own hands. She was sent away to complete her education in a select female seminary in Connecticut and in due time was graduated with honors, after which she successfully engaged in teaching school with marked ability. When she had followed that profession for a brief period she gave her hand in marriage to Cotton Mather Partridge, who came of good stock, of a religious and literary family noted for unswerving integrity and nobility of character. Cotton Mather Partridge was the youngest of his father's family, and his eyes were turned to the growing west—to Illinois, with its deep fertile lands. Following his marriage to Mary Parks

he took his bride to the pioneer district of Winnebago county. This was in 1846. After traveling on the canal for about ten days they arrived at Buffalo, New York, where they took passage on a boat for Chicago, which at that time was a small village, having been incorporated only eleven years before. There were no railroads at that time, and they had yet one hundred and thirty miles to go after reaching Chicago, but they completed the journey with a farmer, who took them to Rockford, where they began house-keeping in a comfortable farm house which the husband had previously prepared for his bride. They invested every dollar which they possessed in land, which in course of time became very valuable, and they realized a splendid return upon their purchase. In 1855 they removed to Pecatonica, and built one of the first large and elegant houses in the town. Mr. Partridge had built a small house to live in while a more pretentious one was being finished and he did not live to see the latter completed. Mrs. Partridge and her son Edward, however, took possession of the larger residence and there she lived with her boy for many years. In 1862 she became the wife of E. F. Perley, a man of literary tastes, who had formerly been a journalist, but was then a member of the commission house of David Buell & Company, of Chicago, and an operator on the board of trade. He also owned one of the first elevators built in Pecatonica, where he was in the grain business for many years. Mr. and Mrs. Perley lived happily together for nearly forty years, when they were separated by his death. Mrs. Perley was a lady of excellent business capacity and of most kindly spirit. Silent deeds of kindness and numerous acts of charity were conspicuous in her whole life. She loved her home and its pleasant duties, and while she never mingled in "society," those who knew her best were loudest in praise of her genial nature and sunny disposition. In her later years she spent the winter months in Florida to escape the rigorous climate of the north and there she passed peacefully away."

Edward C. Partridge, her only son, having pursued his education in the public schools continued his studies in Oberlin College at Oberlin, Ohio, and later attended a business college in Chicago, from which he was graduated in February, 1867. He then returned to Pecatonica, where he opened a general store. Later he sold that business and went to Holton, Kansas, to look after his father's estate, and in due course of time he disposed of the Kansas property and went to Florida and purchased land at Orange City. He bought and sold a number of tracts of land at different times in the south and he built two fine homes there, one for his mother and one for himself, which is yet owned by his widow, Mrs. Ella Partridge.

It was in 1886 that he went to Florida and he continued his operations in real estate there to a greater or less extent until his death.

On the 15th of February, 1888, Edward C. Partridge was united in marriage to Miss Ella Fenton, a daughter of M. A. and Hannah (Hicks) Fenton. Her father was born in Bolton, Warren county, New York, January 19, 1829, and died in Lena, Illinois, February 9, 1899, while his wife was born in Norwich, Canada, November 17, 1835, and is now living in Lena at the old homestead with her youngest son. Mr. Fenton removed to St. Clair county, Michigan, with his parents when but four years of age, and they became pioneer settlers of that locality. When he was about fifteen years of age he had poor health and his parents planned that he should sail upon the lakes with a lake captain who was his father's friend. He spent between one and two years in that way and his health was thus greatly improved so that he afterward went to work upon his father's farm, and was thus connected with agricultural pursuits until 1852. He then married and carried on farming on his own account, but subsequently he disposed of his property in Michigan and in 1862 removed to Stephenson county, Illinois, settling near Freeport. Being undecided as to whether he wished to remain in that locality he rented a farm for a time and later established his home in Lena, where he purchased a residence, spending his remaining days there. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and was a man respected and honored by all who knew him.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Fenton were born nine children, of whom seven are now living: Martha E., born May 11, 1853, is the wife of L. Swtwell, a resident of Lena, and they have one son. Elias E. Fenton died in infancy. Rebecca J., born January 5, 1857, is the wife of Augustus F. Schwencck, and they have five children, with whom they are living at Cathay, North Dakota. Lodema, born February 9, 1859, became the wife of Michael Bardell, who died in Rockford, leaving five children, and Mrs. Bardell now makes her home in Pecatonica. Elwood A., born June 8, 1861, died in infancy. Nathaniel M., born January 5, 1865, is married, has two children, and resides in North Dakota. Mrs. Partridge, born September 13, 1867, is the next of the family. Charles M., born June 4, 1870, married Miss Bertha Potter, and is now living in Spokane, Washington. They have two children. Lewis J., born September 29, 1873, is living at the old home with his mother at Lena, Illinois.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Partridge were born two daughters and a son: Hazel L., Gladys L. and Harold E., who with the mother survive the death of the husband and father.

Mr. and Mrs. Partridge, following their mar-

riage, spent the winter of 1888-9 in Florida and traveled to a considerable extent. They attended the World's Columbian Exposition in 1893 and made other trips. Theirs was a congenial companionship and the death of Mr. Partridge was a heavy blow to the wife. He was prominent and influential in community affairs in Pecatonica, and at the time of his death was serving as a member of the school board. He never cared, however, to hold public office, preferring to aid in progressive measures as a private citizen. His genuine worth of character commanded the respect of all who knew him. He displayed many sterling traits of character and the circle of his friends was a very extensive one. Mrs. Partridge, highly esteemed in Pecatonica, was elected a member of the school board for a term of three years, but resigned the office after one year. It was on the 4th of February, 1901, when fifty-four years of age, that Mr. Partridge was called from this life, and on account of ill health Mrs. Partridge spent the succeeding summer in North Dakota and a part of the winter of 1904 in San Antonio, Texas. A lady of natural culture and refinement she enjoys in high measure the friendly regard and esteem of those with whom she has been associated during the years of her residence here.

WILLIAM C. McCAUGHEY.

William C. McCaughey, deceased, whose last years were spent in an honorable retirement from business life in his home in Rockford, was born in Ottawa, La Salle county, Illinois, March 8, 1833. The family is of Scotch lineage and was founded in America by three brothers of the name who came from Scotland to the United States. One of the number, James McCaughey, was the grandfather of William C. McCaughey. When a young man he established his home in Pennsylvania, whence he afterward removed to Jefferson county, Ohio, casting in his lot with the pioneer settlers of that district. He purchased a tract of land which was all covered with timber, but he at once began to clear away the trees and brush and in due course of time developed a good farm, upon which he made his home until his death.

His son Thomas M. McCaughey was born in Mount Pleasant, Jefferson county, Ohio, and after obtaining his education in the public schools of that locality he learned the cooper's trade, which he followed in Ohio until 1836. In that year he came to Illinois, securing government land near Ottawa in La Salle county. There he performed the arduous task of developing a new farm and later he sold his original claim and opened up another farm in the same



THOMAS P. KETTLEWELL.



WILLIAM C. McCAUGHEY.

locality, continuing to reside there until 1840, when he removed to Highland Prairie, Dodge county, Wisconsin, and was among the early settlers of that locality. His home was a mile and a half from the present town of Juneau and he there carried on agricultural pursuits until 1855, when he sold his farm and removed to Appleton, where he conducted a general store for five years. His next place of residence was Rockford and after spending a few years in the city he took up his abode on a farm six miles south of the county seat at the mouth of Kishwaukee river in New Milford township, where he carried on general agricultural pursuits up to the time of his death, passing away January 5, 1866. In early manhood he had wedded Ruth N. Noble, who was born in Maryland, her parents, Charles and Margaret (Ellis) Noble, also being natives of that state and of English lineage. Mrs. McCaughey survived her husband for several years, passing away in San Diego, California, in 1873, her remains being interred there. But one of the children of Thomas and Ruth McCaughey are now living—Mrs. Jennie Gilbert, a widow of Charles D. Gilbert, residing near San Diego, California, where she owns a large fruit farm.

William C. McCaughey acquired a good education which was completed in the university at Appleton, Wisconsin. He was only two years old when his parents removed to that state, the journey being made with ox teams and in his youth he assisted his father on the home farm as soon as old enough to handle the plow. Through the winter months when the work of the farm was practically over for the year he pursued his studies in the pioneer schools and, following his removal to Appleton, he enjoyed the benefit of a four years' course in Lawrence University. He became a resident of Rockford in 1860 and on the 5th of August, 1862, he responded to the country's call for aid, enlisting in Company D, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry, with which he served until June, 1864. He was then discharged on account of disability and returning to Winnebago county he purchased a farm near Rockford, whereon he engaged in market gardening for a long period. He followed that pursuit until 1887 and then purchased a home on Second street, where he lived retired until his death.

In 1870 Mr. McCaughey was united in marriage to Miss Mary E. Kettlewell, who was born in London, Middlesex county, Canada, her parents being Thomas P. and Susanna (Horton) Kettlewell. The family is of English lineage and her grandfather, Thomas Kettlewell, and her great-grandfather, Richard Kettlewell, were both natives of Scruten, Yorkshire, where the birth of Thomas P. Kettlewell, the father of Mrs.

McCaughey, also occurred on the 22d of August, 1818. He was a young man of seventeen years when he came to the United States in company with his father who brought his wife and nine children to the new world, taking passage at Liverpool on the 13th of May on the sailing vessel Columbia, which after two months dropped anchor in the harbor of New York on the 3d of July. Later the family crossed Lake Erie to Port Stanley, and Thomas Kettlewell, Sr., purchased a tract of land in Southold township in what is now Elgin county, Canada, making his home there for several years. His last days, however, were spent in Rockford. His wife bore the maiden name of Mary Pinckney and was also born in Scruten, England, her parents being Ralph and Fanny Pinckney. She died at the home of her son in Rockford in 1873.

Thomas P. Kettlewell, father of Mrs. McCaughey, remained with his parents in Canada until his marriage, when he began the operation of a rented farm in Westminster township, Elgin county, residing there until 1850, when he came to Illinois. The journey was made by lake and rail to Elgin, this state, which was then the western terminus of the railroad and from Elgin he proceeded by team to Rockford, after which he followed farming for two years. Later he devoted his energies to the butchering business and stock-dealing, which continued to be his life work until he retired from active business cares. He was married July 3, 1844, to Susanna Horton, who was born in Southold, Elgin county, Canada, April 12, 1824, a daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth (Ramsey) Horton. Her father was born in New Jersey, as was her grandfather, Samuel Horton, who, however, removed to Canada in pioneer times. At the time of his marriage Peter Horton settled on a tract of timber land three miles from the old home and in 1846 came to Winnebago county, Illinois, purchasing land in Guilford township, which he continued to cultivate and improve until the time of his death in 1850. Mr. and Mrs. Kettlewell became the parents of seven children: Mary; Nannie J.; Eva, now Mrs. Henry Carmichael, living on North First street, Rockford; Louise and William, both deceased; Charles, a resident of Missoula, Montana; and Fanny, deceased. The parents were devoted and faithful members of the Presbyterian church and Mr. Kettlewell was republican in his political views. Both were held in high esteem, enjoying in large measure the good will and confidence of all with whom they were associated.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. McCaughey was blessed with two children: Hallie Pauline, now the wife of Joseph Weiss, a minister of the Congregational church residing at Washburn, Wis-

consin; and Evelyn Louise, who is now the wife of Wirt Gould and lives in Chicago, where Mr. Gould occupies a good position in the offices of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company.

After the war Mr. McCaughey purchased a small farm of twenty acres which was then near Rockford but is now within the city limits on Charles street. This tract is still owned by his widow. There he engaged in the raising of fruit and vegetables for several years, doing an excellent business as a gardener. However, he never enjoyed good health after his return from the south and giving up his business he built the residence where his widow now resides, living retired up to the time of his death, which occurred February 15, 1893.

Mr. McCaughey held a number of town and county offices. He was town collector for two terms, served as deputy under Sheriff Patrick Flinn in 1869, was county coroner from 1883 until 1887, and also filled other positions of public honor and trust. In politics he was a gold democrat and took an active interest in the party and promulgation of its principles. He was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of Appleton, Wisconsin; of G. L. Nevins post, No. 1, G. A. R., at Rockford, and of the Centennial Methodist Episcopal church, with which his family are also identified. His life record was not without its difficulties, discouragements and hardships, but these he overcame by determined purpose and his record should inspire all young men who read it with a truer estimate of the value and sure regard of character. Both Mr. McCaughey and Mr. Kettlewell were prominent business men, were respected for their genuine worth, and their memory is still cherished by many friends.

A. B. WILMARTH.

A. B. Wilmarth, of Rockford, was born in Providence county, Rhode Island, in 1838, his parents being Stephen and Hannah (Wade) Wilmarth, who became residents of Ogle county, Illinois, in 1856, locating in Marion township, where the father purchased a farm. There he carried on general agricultural pursuits for some years, but removed to Rockford about sixteen years prior to his death in 1876 and while in the city he lived retired. He was prominent in political circles in the east, giving his allegiance to the democracy in early life, while later he joined the ranks of the new republican party. He served as a member of the legislature of Rhode Island, but after coming to the

west did not figure prominently in political circles, although as a citizen he manifested a public spirit that prompted his active co-operation in every measure that he deemed would prove of public good. His wife, who accompanied him to Illinois, died in Ogle county about 1858. They became the parents of thirteen children, of whom two died in early life, while all of the remaining eleven reached the age of eighteen years or more. Only four of the family are now living, however: C. N., who is residing on the old family homestead in Ogle county; Susan A., who resides in Rockford; L. C.; and A. B., of this review. L. C. Wilmarth is a millionaire residing at Ashland, Wisconsin, who for many years has been very prominent and active in business. He was the first banker at Ashland and throughout his business career he seems to have realized at any one point of his progress the utmost possibility for accomplishment at that point. He secured a claim on the site of Topeka, Kansas, and for seventeen years lived there, being very successful in his speculations and business operations in the west.

A. B. Wilmarth was reared in Rhode Island, coming to Ogle county when eighteen years of age. His education was obtained in the public schools and after his removal to the west his attention was given in undivided manner to agricultural pursuits for a long period. He followed farming until about 1890 and for fifteen years has made his home in Winnebago county. Six years ago he removed to Rockford, where he owns several houses and a flat building in the city. He also has a farm of one hundred and ninety-one acres in New Milford township and another tract of ninety acres in the same township. His time and attention are given to the supervision of his property and other business interests.

Mr. Wilmarth was married in Ogle county to Miss Hannah A. Hagaman, who was born in Montgomery county, New York, in 1840, and went to Ogle county, Illinois, in 1843, with her parents, Joseph B. and Catherine (Lepper) Hagaman, who located in Marion township, where the father followed the occupation of farming. Throughout his entire life he devoted his energies to that vocation and both he and his wife have now passed away. Mrs. Wilmarth has two brothers who are now living in Ogle county—J. M. and C. W. Hagaman, while other members of the family are scattered over the country. There were six sons of the family, but Mrs. Wilmarth was the only daughter. By her marriage she has become the mother of two sons: N. D., a farmer of New Milford township, who has two children; and R. A., who likewise follows farming in that township and has two children.



A. B. WILMARTH.

Mr. Wilmarth, giving his political allegiance to the republican party has never swerved in his devotion thereto, because he believes that its platform contains the best elements of good government. He has served in various local offices and has always been found true and loyal to the trust reposed in him. For almost a half century he has lived in this part of the state and his life record is as an open book which all may read. Activity in farm pursuits and loyalty in citizenship have been the salient traits of his character and have gained him good will and confidence.

HENRY COX.

Henry Cox, deceased, was one of the pioneer residents of Rockford, and was chief of the old hand fire department of the city nearly a half century ago. He became well known here, his business interests and his activity in behalf of public progress making him a leading resident of Winnebago county.

Mr. Cox was a native of Hampshire, England, and a son of James and Rebecca Cox, who were also born in that country in which they spent their entire lives, the father following the occupation of farming in order to provide for his family. At the age of twelve years Henry Cox left his home in Hampshire and went to the city of Winchester, near London, England. He lived in the home of a minister there until 1865, when he came direct to Rockford, having an uncle, William Cox, who was then living in Burritt township, Winnebago county. It was this that caused Mr. Cox to seek a home here, and he turned his attention to the milling business. He first worked in the old Chick mill for several years, and later he purchased an interest in the old Shirley mill and was engaged in its operation for about seven months. He then returned to Rockford and was connected with the D. L. Bartlett mill for several years or until the plant was destroyed by fire. At that time he went upon the road as a traveling salesman, representing the Bartlett Company of Chicago for several years in the sale of crackers. He afterward traveled for a Milwaukee wholesale house, selling crackers and candy, and he remained upon the road for twenty years, when upon one of his trips, while at Malta, Illinois, in the winter of 1896-7, he fell upon the icy sidewalk and was badly injured, after which he was brought to his home here in Rockford. Other complications aggravated his injuries and he passed away March 27, 1897.

Mr. Cox was married in this city to Miss Ann Rew, a native of England, in which country her parents always remained. She is an aunt of Robert Rew, the well known attorney of Rockford. She

came to America to make her home with a half brother, John Lake, now a retired capitalist of Rockford, who is one of the most prominent and best known citizens here. Eight children were born unto Mr. and Mrs. Cox: Alice, the wife of Hiram Kauffman, of Rockford; Minnie, the wife of Alvin Ellsworth, of Chicago; Edith R., a stenographer residing at home; Harry, a baker of Rockford; Joseph R., who is a mail carrier in this city; Olive B., who is also employed as a stenographer; Herbert R., at home; and Grace, who died at the age of nine years.

Mr. Cox was always interested in the upbuilding, growth and development of his city, and in the early days he became a member of the old hand fire department, of which he was chief engineer a half century ago. In politics he was a staunch republican and socially he was connected with the Masonic and Odd Fellows lodges in Rockford. He held membership in the Episcopal church in England, but in this city he and his wife attended the Christian Union church. He gave to his children good educational advantages, realizing the value of mental training as a preparation for life's work, and he was devoted to the welfare of his family, counting no personal sacrifice on his part too great if it would enhance the happiness and promote the welfare of his wife and children. His manner was always genial and affable, and he won friends wherever he went. The family at one time resided on Seventh street and the property is still owned by Mrs. Cox, but in 1894 Mr. Cox exchanged one hundred and sixty acres of Minnesota farming land for the beautiful residence which is now occupied by his widow and children at No. 307 Penfield Place.

CHARLES H. HOPKINS.

Charles H. Hopkins, following the occupation of farming on section 3, Roscoe township, was born in the state of New York, in 1835. His father, Cyrus Hopkins, was a native of Massachusetts, and served his country as a soldier in the war of 1812, becoming a quartermaster in the American army. He married Miss Charlotte Bissell, a native of Connecticut, and in the year 1855 they removed from the Empire state to Illinois, settling in Winnebago county. Mr. Hopkins followed farming throughout his entire life. In 1854 he had purchased seventy-one acres of land on section 3, Roscoe township, and the following year he removed his family to this state, where he continued to make his residence up to the time of his death, which occurred when he had reached the venerable age of eighty-three years. His wife lived to the ripe old age of ninety-four years. They were the parents of

twelve children, of whom four came with them to Illinois. The living are: Nelson F., a resident of Beloit, Wisconsin; Jennie, the wife of George Garrett, of Topeka, Kansas; Charles H.; John, a resident of Janesville, Wisconsin; and William, who makes his home in Redfield, South Dakota.

Charles H. Hopkins obtained his education in the public schools of his native state and remained a resident of New York until twenty years of age, when he came with his parents to Illinois. He has since followed farming in Winnebago county and is now the owner of his father's old homestead, comprising seventy-one acres in Roscoe township. His land is very fertile and productive and he annually harvests good crops. He is practical in his methods, systematic in all that he does and as the result of his discriminating labor has gained a satisfactory financial reward, being now numbered among the prosperous agriculturists of his community.

In 1876 Mr. Hopkins was married to Miss Emma L. Lund, a native of Buffalo, New York, and they became the parents of three daughters, Clara May, Nellie J. and Isadore A. In 1896 the wife and mother was called to her final rest, passing away at the age of fifty years, her death being deeply regretted by many friends as well as her immediate family. Mr. Hopkins and his daughters attend the Presbyterian church and his political support is given to the republican party. He has long lived in Winnebago county, where he now has a wide acquaintance and the qualities of his manhood have been such as to make him a most worthy and respected citizen of Roscoe township.

TOBIAS BURNS.

Tobias Burns, now living retired in Rockford, at one time extensively engaged in farming in Burritt township, is numbered among the early settlers of the county, having taken up his abode here in the spring of 1855. As the years passed by he labored persistently and with determination to acquire a competence, and at length gained a success which is ever the due reward of consecutive labor, guided by sound judgment. He is thus permitted in the evening of life to put aside active business cares and enjoy the fruits of his former toil.

Mr. Burns is a native of County Carlow, Ireland, where he was born seventy-five years ago, his parents being John and Julia (Shaughnessey) Burns, who came to the United States in 1850, bringing with them their family. They remained for about four years in New York, and thence came westward to Winnebago county, where they spent their remaining days, the father departing this life in October, 1873, and the mother in June, 1890. In their family were eight children,

but Tobias Burns was the only son. All of the sisters are now deceased, with the exception of Mrs. James Morrissey, of Belvidere, Illinois.

Tobias Burns spent the days of his childhood in the land of his nativity. He may well be called a self-made man, deserving all the honor and praise that that term implies, for when he came to Winnebago county he was in limited financial circumstances and without financial assistance he has worked his way steadily upward to a position of affluence. He was married July 3, 1860, in Rockford, to Miss Mary Doyle, who was born in County Kilkenny, Ireland, October 13, 1842, her parents being Timothy and Elizabeth (Ryan) Doyle, who were natives of County Carlow, Ireland, and crossed the Atlantic to the new world in 1850. The father had first visited America in 1848 or 1849, and the family home was established in Rochester, New York. Four years later they came to Rockford, Illinois, where the parents spent their remaining days, the father passing away in February, 1866, at the age of sixty-five years, while his wife survived until November 1, 1893, being seventy-six years of age at the time of her death. Mrs. Burns was one of a family of ten children, of whom four are now living: James, a farmer of Sarpy county, Nebraska; Michael, who is engaged in the catering business in Chicago; Catherine, the wife of Hugh McMahon, of Rockford; and Mrs. Burns, who was reared in Rockford until the time of her marriage and then went with her husband to a farm. In April, 1864, they removed to a farm on section 22, Burritt township, which continued to be their place of residence until March, 1902, or for thirty-eight years. Throughout this long period Mr. Burns was actively engaged in general agricultural pursuits, at one time operating five hundred acres of land. He therefore raised extensive crops and his business proved profitable. He worked earnestly and persistently day after day until success had crowned his efforts, and with a handsome competence he retired to Rockford, building a fine home at No. 704 North Winnebago street, where he and his wife are now quietly spending the evening of life in the midst of many friends and surrounded by all the comforts that go to make life worth living.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Burns have been born fourteen children: John H., a molder by trade, residing in Beloit, Wisconsin, was married to Miss Annie Redman, and has four sons and a daughter, Tobias, Gregor, Robert, Thomas and Ann; Mary is the wife of Thomas Doran, a resident of New Milford, Illinois; Charles is a farmer living in Burritt township; Timothy is also a farmer of that township; Elizabeth is the wife of William J. Doran, of New Milford; Robert, a practicing physician, of Freeport, Illinois, wedded Mary Cox, of this county, and has one child, Mary C.; James J. is the next of the family; William died

at the age of twenty years; Thomas and one other died in infancy; Thomas J. is the second of that name; Catherine A. is the wife of George Campbell, of Burritt township; Julia Mildred is at home; and the youngest child died in infancy.

In his political views Mr. Burns has been a democrat since becoming a naturalized citizen, and has served as school director and in other local offices. He and his family are communicants of St. Mary's Catholic church. In matters of citizenship he has always been loyal to his adopted land and he has never had occasion to regret his determination to come to America, for here he found business opportunities wherein labor finds its just reward and where earnest effort is not hampered by caste or class.

T. J. and James J. Burns, sons of Tobias Burns, are now carrying on business under the firm name of Burns Brothers, farmers and stock-raisers. They own a farm on section 10, Burritt township, of two hundred and forty acres. Both were born on the family homestead, the former on the 26th of June, 1880, and the latter on the 17th of March, 1873. In their political views they are democrats and socially connected with the Knights of Columbus, while their religious faith is that of St. Mary's Catholic church.

JOHN A. McCULLOUGH.

John A. McCullough, who follows farming on section 5, Rockford township, where he owns and operates an excellent tract of land of one hundred and nine acres, a part of which lies on section 6, is a native son of this township, having been born on the old family homestead here in 1858. His parents were Robert and Ellen (Thompson) McCullough. The former was a son of William and Mary (Falconer) McCullough, both of whom were natives of Rosshire, Scotland, and the latter was a daughter of Robert and Kate (McNeil) Falconer. Mrs. William McCullough spent her entire life in her native land.

Robert McCullough was but an infant when he lost his father and he was afterward cared for by his mother and an uncle, whom he assisted on the farm during his youth. He continued a resident of Scotland until 1847, and he bade good-bye to the lands of hills and heather and went to Liverpool, England, where he took passage on the sailing vessel, Kalamathew, bound for the harbor of New York. At length anchor was dropped in the American port and Mr. McCullough at once made his way westward to Winnebago county, Illinois, by way of the Hudson river to Albany, the Erie canal to Buffalo and the Great Lakes to Chicago, whence he continued his journey overland by team. The voyage across the Atlantic had occupied two months, and Mr.

McCullough was in rather limited circumstances when he had paid all of the expenses of his trip. For a time he made his home with his uncle, Robert Falconer, by whom he was employed on the farm. Saving his earnings, as the result of his industry and frugality, he was finally enabled to purchase the valuable farm on section 5, Rockford township, which is now owned by his sons, Henry and Charles. The land, however, at that time did not command such a high market price, for only a few acres had been broken and meager improvements made. In the course of years Mr. McCullough erected fine buildings. He also planted shade and fruit trees and equipped his place with all modern accessories and conveniences, developing one of the best farms of the county.

Robert McCullough was born in Rosshire, Scotland, November 7, 1821, and in January, 1857, he was united in marriage to Miss Ellen Thompson, whose birth occurred in Campbelltown, Argyleshire, Scotland, June 16, 1833. His death occurred upon the old home property in Rockford township, February 9, 1895, and his wife passed away July 20, 1898. The remains of both were interred in Rockford cemetery. Mrs. McCullough was a daughter of John and Mary Thompson, both of whom were natives of Argyleshire, where Mr. Thompson died. The mother afterward came to America in 1854 and spent her last years in Winnebago county. Mrs. Ellen (Thompson) McCullough came to America with her two brothers, John and Robert Thompson, in the fall of 1853. They embarked at Greenock on the sailing vessel Charlotte Harrison and landed at New York after a voyage of seven weeks and three days. There they immediately resumed their journey, making their way to Marietta, Washington county, Ohio, where they arrived on the 7th of July, there continuing until the spring of 1855. They then came to Winnebago county and it was here that Ellen Thompson gave her hand in marriage to Robert McCullough. This union was blessed with seven children: John A., whose name introduces this review; Kate, Mary, Charles, Henry and Hugh, all of whom are residing on the home farm; and Daniel, who married Miss Mary Kelly, a daughter of Robert Kelly, of Rockford township, and resides upon a farm in Winnebago township. Robert McCullough, the father of this family, was a prominent member of the Presbyterian church, and was a man held in the highest regard by all who knew him, so that his death was the occasion of deep and widespread regret.

John A. McCullough was reared upon the old family homestead and attended the common schools of the township. Although his advantages in youth were somewhat limited he has become a successful man and is to-day one of the leading

agriculturists of his community. He has always followed farming, at first purchasing seventy-nine and one-half acres of land, which was a part of the Alfred Champlin estate. To this he has added twenty-nine and a half acres a mile west. His farm is well improved and equipped with everything necessary to facilitate the work. He uses the best machinery to prepare his fields and harvest his crops, and in addition to the raising of cereals he is engaged quite largely and successfully in the raising and feeding of cattle. He is a man of indefatigable energy and determined purpose and whatever he undertakes he carries forward to successful completion.

In 1884 Mr. McCullough was united in marriage to Miss Lizzie Champlin, who was born on section 8, Rockford township, and is a daughter of Alfred H. and Alvira (Drake) Champlin, early settlers of this county. Her father died on the home farm in 1877, at the age of seventy-one years, and his wife passed away in 1890, at the age of sixty-six years, in McPherson county, Kansas. Mrs. McCullough is one of six children who reached adult age, namely: Sophia, who is living in McPherson, Kansas; Mrs. Susie Whitehall, who died in McPherson county, Kansas, in the fall of 1900; Mrs. W. P. Farnham, of Rockford township; Sadie, who is living in McPherson county, Kansas; Mrs. Lizzie McCullough; and Mrs. Clara Hamilton, of McPherson county. The father, Alfred H. Champlin, was twice married, and there were five children by his first union, as follows: Bradford and Joel, who were killed in the Civil war; Charles, who was twice wounded when a member of the Union Army and is now deceased; Alfred, who has also passed away, and Mrs. Kate Drake, who is residing in Texas.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. McCullough has been blessed with two children: Edith Lucille, who died in 1897, at the age of fourteen months, and Robert Champlin, now in his first year. The parents are members of the Presbyterian church, and Mr. McCullough is a republican in his political views. He is a worthy representative of a prominent pioneer family of the county and his own record has ever been in harmony with the reputation borne by those of the name, being characterized by fidelity to duty, enterprise in business affairs and faithfulness in friendship.

DANIEL SCOTT.

It is imperative that mention be made of Daniel Scott in this volume for his residence in Winnebago county probably antedates that of any other man now living within its borders. He has resided here since 1837, and upon the walls

of memory hang many pictures of pioneer life when this region was a vast undeveloped district, the land unclaimed and the natural resources of the country uncultivated. He has watched the building of homes, the introduction of business enterprises, the establishment of schools and churches and the growth which has been carried steadily forward until the county now has within its borders one of the rich, productive sections of the state together with agricultural, social and educational interests that are unsurpassed throughout the length of the Mississippi valley. Mr. Scott now resides on a farm on section 19, Guilford township, owning two hundred acres of valuable land, lying on sections 19 and 20. There are fine improvements here, including a large and substantial residence built in attractive style of architecture and commodious outbuildings.

Mr. Scott was born in Cattaraugus county, New York, in 1830, coming to Winnebago county when seven years old. His parents were Reuben C. and Ann (Johnson) Scott, who made their way to this county in 1837, spending their remaining days here. The father began farming upon a raw tract of land and his father, D. Johnson Scott, had previously taken up a claim on section 19, Guilford township, a part of which is now owned by Daniel Scott of this review. Both the father and grandfather were farmers, devoting their entire lives to the tilling of the soil. They became residents here in 1837, and the part which they took in the early development of the county entitles them to representation among its founders and upbuilders. Both the parents of Daniel Scott are now deceased. He had one brother and two sisters, of whom Mary, now the wife of N. C. Dean, of Colorado, is the only one living. His sister Elvira became the wife of Daniel Clay and both are now deceased, Mrs. Clay passing away about six years ago. Her son, Bert Clay, is married and resides in Guilford township, near Rockford. Sylvester died in the fall of 1903. He was a gardener, who resided in Winnebago county.

Spending his boyhood days in this county, Daniel Scott was reared amid pioneer surroundings. He attended the common schools and has remained upon the old farm homestead from his early manhood, but has extended the boundaries of his property until it now comprises two hundred acres of rich and productive land on sections 19 and 20. He is constantly striving to improve his property and his efforts have been very effective so that the farm is now valuable and presents a splendid appearance. Mr. Scott was united in marriage to Miss Nancy J. Hayes, who came from Canada with her parents to Winnebago county in 1838. Two children graced this union: Lu-



MR. AND MRS. DANIEL SCOTT.

ther, who is engaged in the operation of his father's farm, married Miss Ella Hill, of Rockford, and they have five children, Ralph, Blanche, Maud, Harry and Hazel, and with the exception of Ralph, who is mail carrier on route No. 4, all are yet at home. Anna Scott became the wife of Albert Rowley, and resides on section 19, Guilford township. They have two children, Edna and Clarence.

Mr. Scott was at one time a member of the Grange, which he joined on its organization but he is not connected therewith at the present time. He has always been an earnest republican since the organization of the party and he has filled some local offices. His life, however, has been quietly passed in the pursuit of farming and the duties which each day have devolved upon him have been faithfully and capably performed. Practical common sense has guided effective measures in the improvement and cultivation of his farm and now to-day a splendid property is the indication of his life of enterprise and thrift.

ROBERT BULL.

Although Robert Bull never resided in Winnebago county, he had a wide acquaintance here, for he made his home on a farm in Ogle county, near the Winnebago county line, settling thereon more than a half century ago. He was a native of Perry county, Pennsylvania, his parents being John and Jane Bull, also natives of the Keystone state. They came to the west at an early day in the development of this section of the state and resided on a farm in Ogle county until called to their final home.

Robert Bull attended the public schools in his youth and assisted his father in the arduous labor of cultivating and improving his land. He thus became familiar with all the duties that fall to the lot of the agriculturist and was well qualified to carry on farming operations on his own account when he married and settled in Byron township, Ogle county. At a later day he purchased another farm in the same township near the Winnebago county line, and to the cultivation of the fields he devoted his energies until his life's labors were ended. His farm was well improved and he used modern machinery in the care of his crops. Everything about his place was neat and thrifty in appearance, indicating the careful supervision of a systematic, practical and progressive owner.

In was in 1868, in Winnebago county, that Mr. Bull was united in marriage to Miss Ruth Sargent, who was born in Canada, in 1833, and is a daughter of Charles and Ruth (Mansur) Sargent, both of whom were natives of the same

country. In an early day they removed by wagon to Illinois, settling in the vicinity of Elgin, and in 1850 they took up their abode in Winnebago county, making their home in Winnebago township, where the father purchased land and engaged in farming until his death. He and his wife were well known and honored pioneer people of this locality, and he assisted in laying broad and deep the foundation upon which has been builded the present progress of this portion of the state. Three of their children are still living in Winnebago county, Mrs. Bull, Izora A. and Daniel M., the brother and sister both living with Mrs. Bull. Only one child was born unto our subject and his wife, Ella J., who has always resided at home and gives her time and attention to the care of her mother, who is now an invalid, having been in ill health for the past ten years. She still owns the old home farm of one hundred and eighty acres in Ogle county, and this brings to her a good rental. When they removed to Rockford Mrs. Bull and her brother purchased the residence at No. 827 Ferguson street, and the members of the household at the present time are Mrs. Bull and her daughter, Daniel M. and Izora A. Sargent. Both Mr. and Mrs. Bull held membership in the Presbyterian church and were active in its work, desiring greatly the growth and extension of its influence. Mr. Bull was a republican in his political views and a man of firm convictions, whose position upon any question of moment was never an equivocal one. He was always honest in expressing his views and his influence was ever on the side of justice, truth and right.

JOHN HUTCHINS.

John Hutchins was for a number of years connected with industrial pursuits in Rockford, conducting a blacksmith shop, but is now living retired. He was born on the Isle of Man in 1838. His father, Charles Hutchins, was a farmer and fisherman, and on his native isle reared a family of seven children, four of whom are now living, two being residents of Rockford, while Thomas makes his home in Wheeling, West Virginia. John Hutchins spent the first seventeen years of his life in the place of his nativity and then crossed the briny deep upon a sailing vessel, from which he landed at New York, being five weeks on the voyage. He learned the blacksmith's trade in Rockford and established a smithy on State street about forty years ago. He there worked at his trade for nearly four decades and in connection with blacksmithing he also carried on wagonmaking. As the years passed he won a comfortable competence and about twelve years ago he retired from active business to en-

joy the fruits of his former toil. In 1898 he built a beautiful home at No. 324 North Third street, where he now resides, and he also owns a store building and livery stable on State street. In 1868 Mr. Hutchins was married to Miss Hannah Black, a native of Canada, who came to Illinois with her parents in her girlhood days. Both her father and mother have passed away, but for a number of years the former was identified with agricultural pursuits in this county. Mr. and Mrs. Hutchins had two sons: Daniel, who married Lillian Congdon, and is engaged in the grocery business on East State street, while his residence is on North Second street, Rockford, and Charles, who was drowned in Alaska.

After coming to America Mr. Hutchins proceeded to inform himself concerning the political situation of the country and the questions and issues before the people, and, becoming in hearty sympathy with the object of the new republican party, he cast his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln. In more recent years, however, he has been a prohibitionist, for that party embodies his views on the temperance question. He belongs to Rockford lodge, No. 102, A. F. & A. M., and has also taken the degrees of capitular and chivalric Masonry, being identified with the chapter and commandery here. He and his wife are members of the Centennial Methodist Episcopal church on South Second street. Mr. Hutchins is a self-made man, who owes his prosperity to his own labors and the able assistance of his estimable wife, who has indeed been a faithful companion and helpmate to him on life's journey. He has crossed the ocean nine times, making the last trip in order to visit the Paris Exposition, and travel and experience have broadened his knowledge, making him a well informed man, and enriching his mind with many interesting anecdotes and reminiscences.

THOMAS BUCHANAN.

Thomas Buchanan, now deceased, who resided in Rockford forty years ago and was engaged in manufacturing here for a number of years, claimed Scotland as the land of his birth, having first opened his eyes to the light of day in that country of hills and heather on the 15th of May, 1826, Lanarkshire being the place of his birth. His father and grandfather were molders by trade and always lived in Scotland. Both parents of our subject died during the early manhood of their son Thomas. When a lad Thomas Buchanan acquired a fair education in the schools of Scotland, and while still a boy he worked with his father, learning the molder's trade, which he followed during his residence in his native coun-

try. He was first married there when twenty-one years of age, to Miss Jane Smith, a daughter of William Smith, who afterward came to America, and died in Woonsocket, Rhode Island. Soon after their marriage the young couple started for the United States, settling in Woonsocket, where Mr. Buchanan worked at the molder's trade for a few years. Believing that he might have still better advantages in the middle west he resumed his journey and took up his abode near Poplar Grove, Illinois, where he purchased a tract of land and engaged in general farming for some time. On putting aside the plow he came to Rockford, where he again worked at the molder's trade for a brief period. A stock company being formed with a capital stock of fifty thousand dollars for the purpose of manufacturing machinery, Mr. Buchanan became the owner of one-fifth of the stock and was active in the management of the business, but after several years the company failed and Mr. Buchanan thus lost six thousand dollars. He afterward took charge of a foundry here and remained as foreman for several years. During that time his health became impaired and he and his wife made a trip to Scotland, visiting for a short period in the land of his nativity among old friends and acquaintances of his youth. He then returned to Rockford and was again engaged in the foundry business until he was obliged to retire from active life because of illness.

It was subsequent to his arrival in Rockford that Mr. Buchanan was called upon to mourn the loss of his first wife, who died in this city on the 4th of August, 1873, leaving three children, Thomas John, whose death occurred July 22, 1902; Jennie, now Mrs. Howe; and Bertha, wife of a Mr. Dodge. In Belvidere, Illinois, Mr. Buchanan was again married, his second union being with Miss Mary Cunningham, also a native of Scotland, and a daughter of Hugh and Margaret (Anderson) Cunningham. Her parents came to America at an early day, settling in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, where the father engaged in business as a wholesale and retail clothing merchant. He imported clothing on an extensive scale and also dealt in domestic articles, conducting his store with success for a number of years, after which he retired from the trade and removed to Massachusetts, living for a short time there. He next came to the west, settling in Belvidere, Illinois, where in connection with his son and son-in-law he established a grocery store which he carried on for a few years. Later he formed a partnership with a man who proved to be dishonest and caused the failure of the business in 1861. Mr. Buchanan then joined his son and son-in-law in the establishment of a hardware store and after a few years he turned his attention to the grain business in Belvidere, but did



THOMAS BUCHANAN.

not meet with anticipated success in that venture. He then gave up all business interests and lived retired in Belvidere until his death. His wife also passed away in that city. Only three of the children are now living: Mrs. Buchanan; Mrs. Livingston, a resident of Belvidere; and James Cunningham, of Nova Scotia.

The death of Mr. Buchanan occurred March 4, 1898, when he was about seventy-three years of age. He was a member of the school board of Rockford for eight years and held other minor offices. In politics he was a staunch republican and fraternally was connected with the Masonic lodge of Rockford. He always took a deep, active and helpful interest in church work, both he and his wife being zealous workers in the Presbyterian church here, in which he served as elder for some time. His life was always in harmony with its principles and he advocated every measure which tended to uplift mankind or instill in the lives of those whom he met principles of integrity, morality and benevolence. Through long years he was most industrious and enterprising and by the careful husbanding of his resources and judicious investment he was enabled to leave his family in comfortable financial circumstances. More than forty years ago he built a residence where his widow now resides, at No. 1127 Buchanan street, that thoroughfare having been named in his honor. A Miss Norris resides with Mrs. Buchanan, assisting her in the work and acting as companion for several years.

KATHARINE ELIZABETH JAMES, M. D.

Dr. Katharine Elizabeth James, who was born in Middleburg, New York, in 1868, and is a daughter of Alanson Leonard and Katharine (Watson) James, is engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery in Rockford. During her early girlhood her parents removed to Gloversville, New York, where her father conducted business as an architect. He died in 1897, and is survived by his widow, who is yet living in Gloversville. They were the parents of four children, Katharine E., Hagar, Edgar and Wilmot.

Dr. James, having completed a course in the public and high schools of Gloversville, New York, afterward entered the Brookport Preparatory School, where she spent three years in qualifying for university work. She afterward engaged in teaching for two years, thus earning the money which enabled her to further continue her studies. In 1892 she went to Chicago and entered the Hahneman College, from which she was graduated with class of 1895. She likewise spent one year as an interne in the Hahneman Hospital and her broad experience there proved

an excellent training for her professional services since coming to Rockford. She located in this city in 1896 and has a well equipped office at No. 123 North Main street. She engages in general practice, making a specialty of the diseases of women and children, and during the early period of her residence here she served on the staff of the city hospital. She is now a member of the American Institute of Homeopathy.

HON. ARTHUR H. FROST.

Hon. Arthur H. Frost, serving for the second term as judge of the ninth judicial district of Illinois, with residence in Rockford, was born in St. Johnsbury, Vermont, May 12, 1856. In 1861 his parents removed to Illinois, settling in Rockford, where he acquired his early education in the common schools and passing through successive grades was eventually graduated from East Side high school. With the determination to make the practice of law his life work, he became a student in the office of the late N. C. Warner, a well known and able attorney of Rockford, and after thorough and systematic preliminary reading was admitted to the bar on the 19th of January, 1879. He has since been connected with the courts in the active practice of law or as a representative of the bench. In 1892 he was elected state's attorney, to which position he was re-elected in 1896 and again in 1900, resigning the office on the 24th of February, 1901, having been nominated for the position of judge of the circuit court of the ninth judicial district. He was elected on the 25th of February, and on the 1st of June, 1903, was re-elected. He has discharged the duties pertaining to the several judicial positions with distinction and fidelity, and enjoys the unqualified confidence of the bar and the people at large. He had practiced law as a member of the firm of Frost & McEvoy from December, 1888, until March, 1901, with marked success, being accorded a distinctively representative clientage and the extent and importance of his work is indicated by a glance at the records of the courts within this period. He has the faculty of discarding personal opinions, peculiarities and prejudices and with marked impartiality and thorough understanding of the principles of jurisprudence administering the law without fear or favor.

Socially Judge Frost is a member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity and of the Masonic order. On the 17th of May, 1883, he married Miss Ida Southgate, of Rockford, a daughter of William and Kathryn Southgate. Judge and Mrs. Frost became the parents of a daughter and three sons: Bertha Helen, nineteen years of age; Raymond

Southgate, seventeen years of age; and Arthur H. and Walter R., aged respectively twelve and seven years. The family residence is at No. 712 North Court street, and Judge and Mrs. Frost are prominent socially. Since attaining manhood his entire energies in the business line have been concentrated upon his profession, and his close application and earnest study have gained him prestige which numbers him among the leading members of the bar in this section of the state.

GEORGE MERRILL TAFT.

George Merrill Taft is an extensive landowner and one of the native sons of Roscoe township, his birth having occurred upon the old family homestead here in 1855. The Tafts trace their ancestry back to Robert Taft, a prominent citizen of New Hampshire, the family having been established in New England during an early period in the colonization of the new world. Levi M. Taft, the father, was born in the state of New York and was taken to Ohio by his parents when only six years of age. There the days of his childhood and youth were passed and when he had attained man's estate he came to Illinois, arriving in Winnebago county when a young man of twenty-one years. He found here a district largely wild and unimproved and from the government he entered a claim, thus securing a tract of one hundred and ninety acres upon which he spent his remaining days, devoting his undivided attention to agricultural pursuits. He was a hard-working man and his diligence and frugality were the basis of his success, for as the years passed he emerged from a limited financial condition and took his place with the more prosperous citizens of the community. He was likewise interested in general improvement and development of the county and was active and helpful in community affairs. He served as highway commissioner and in other offices of trust in his township and his political allegiance was given to the republican party, for he believed that in its platform were embodied the best elements of good government. He married Electa Gregory, also a native of the Empire state and his death occurred in 1880, when he was seventy years of age, while his wife survived until 1894, passing away at the age of seventy-nine years. In their family were four children, of whom two died in infancy.

George Merrill Taft, the only member of the family now living, was reared in Roscoe township and has always lived upon the old homestead which is endeared to him through the associations of his boyhood as well as those of later years. His father trained him in the work of

the farm and he became practical in his methods of caring for the fields and in all that promised substantial development here. He continued in active operation of the place until about two years ago, since which time he has rented most of his land. His possessions in this county aggregate more than five hundred and fifty acres and he likewise has farm property in other states. He has been very successful and his realty holdings are the visible evidence of a life of thrift, industry and capable business management.

On the 23d of November, 1876, Mr. Taft was married to Miss Cora B. Carpenter, who was born in Roscoe township and is a daughter of Newton Carpenter, a pioneer resident of this locality. Five children graced this marriage, of whom three are yet living. Helen is the wife of Nelson McColl and has three children, Donald, Mildred and Lawrence M. Edith and Edna are twins. The former married Ross Buchanan and the later is the wife of Harry Morse and has one child, Carroll.

As one of the native sons of Winnebago county Mr. Taft is very familiar with its history, having been a witness of the events which have shaped its policy through a half century. His life proves the value and force of industry and enterprise in wresting fortune from the hands of fate and by his persistency of purpose and careful investment he has become the owner of valuable and extensive landed interests.

THEODORE C. DECKER.

Theodore C. Decker, who, in his farming operations, has made a specialty of the growing of tobacco and of sugar beets, makes his home on section 3, Roscoe township. New York has furnished a large settlement to this part of the county, many of the leading and substantial representatives of Roscoe township being native sons of the Empire state. To this class Mr. Decker belongs, his birth having occurred in New York, in 1851. His father, Cornelius S. Decker, who was a native of New York, born in 1810, is now living in Janesville, Wisconsin, at the advanced age of eighty-six years. He married Miss Elizabeth J. Ashby, who was also born in the same state, and has now reached the age of eighty-four years. They have a farm of forty acres near Janesville, Wisconsin, making their home in that locality with two of their sons, Jonathan and John. In his political views the father was for many years a stalwart democrat, active in support of the party, and for a long period filled the office of supervisor of his township in a most acceptable manner. In his family were ten children, of whom five are yet living:

Jonathan, of Wisconsin; Frank, a resident of Nebraska; Theodore C., of this review; John, of Janesville, Wisconsin; and Anna, the wife of David Mould, a prominent attorney of Sioux City, Iowa.

Theodore C. Decker was a lad of only ten years when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Wisconsin. He was reared to manhood in Janesville, early becoming familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist, and he saw no reason to change his occupation when he had reached manhood and started out in life on his own account. In 1873, he bought twenty acres of land on section 3, Roscoe township, in the northern part of Winnebago county, bordering the boundary line between Illinois and Wisconsin. Here he has followed farming continuously since, and for twenty-one years he has made a specialty of the growing of tobacco, having ten acres planted to that crop, with which he has been very successful. He has also made a specialty of the production of sugar beets. Owing to his careful cultivation, the rotation of crops and the most improved modern methods of farming, he has been very successful in his work and possesses a comfortable competence that is the merited reward of his labor.

In 1871 Mr. Decker was married to Miss Mary McNamara, a native of Massachusetts, and they have one child, Frank D., who was born in Janesville, Wisconsin, and married Ora Turnay, a native of Beloit. Mr. Decker and his family attend the Congregational church and his political allegiance is given to the democracy, but while he keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day, as every true American citizen should do, he has never sought or desired office, preferring to give his undivided attention to his business interests.

JAMES H. KING.

James H. King, president of the Central Heat & Power Company of Rockford, one of the more recently organized business enterprises of the city, the utility and value of which is demonstrated in the liberal patronage accorded it, was born in Grafton, Worcester county, Massachusetts, in 1832. His father, John M. King, was a native of England and his early residence in this country was spent in New England, whence he came with his family to Illinois in September, 1846, making the journey with two covered wagons. They located in Stillman Valley, where the father spent his remaining days and he became the owner of two hundred acres of fine land there. The soil was alluvial and he developed an excellent farm. He was twice married

and by his first union had seven children, while three were born of the second marriage. Henry King, brother of our subject, lived for many years near King Station, where he owned two thousand acres of land.

James H. King of this review began his education in the schools of Massachusetts and afterward continued his studies in the public schools of Ogle county subsequent to the arrival of the family in this state. He remained at home until seventeen years of age, after which he worked out by the month until twenty-two years of age when, desiring that his labors should more directly benefit himself, he rented land and carried on farming for a number of years. He next removed to Iowa, where he filed a claim to one hundred and sixty acres of land and proved it up, paying a dollar and a quarter per acre to the government for this tract. Subsequently he traded it for another farm elsewhere in Iowa and eventually bought still another quarter section. He afterward purchased a half section at Stillman Valley for twenty-eight dollars per acre and when he disposed of the farm it brought seventy dollars per acre owing to the rise in land values and the improvements which he had placed upon the property. He resided there until 1883, when he removed to Rockford, where he has since lived.

In the meantime, in 1881, Mr. King established a bank in Stillman Valley, of which he is yet a third owner. On the ground where the bank building was erected he once used to plow as a little bare-footed boy dressed in overalls, working for eight dollars per month in the service of Joshua White, who was owner of a farm there. In Rockford he owns a fine residence at No. 622 North Main street and he likewise has valuable farms in Ogle county. In 1903 he became president of the Central Heat & Power Company of Rockford, operating a large plant in the manufacture of electricity for lighting buildings, while the steam from five mammoth boilers is piped to different parts of the city for heating purposes. Since the beginning an excellent business has been developed and the enterprise is now a leading one in Rockford.

Mr. King was married to Miss Mary Lewis, of Springfield, Illinois, who died leaving a daughter, Belle, the wife of Denton Taylor, of Lincoln, Nebraska, by whom she has two children. For his second wife Mr. King chose Henrietta Bardwell, who has also passed away. His present wife bore the maiden name of Lucy L. Condie and was born in the Hawaiian islands, her father, Daniel T. Condie, being a missionary there from this country. Three children graced this marriage: Lela, who is employed in the library in Rockford; Millicent, at home; and James Carroll, who is attending school.

The parents attend the Second Congregational church and Mr. King has been a stalwart republican since casting his ballot for Abraham Lincoln. At one time he served as supervisor in Ogle county for four years but has preferred to leave office holding to others that he might give his attention to his business affairs, in which he has met with very gratifying success. Where ambition is satisfied and every ultimate aim accomplished effort will cease and it is the men who are always looking forward to the improvement of existing conditions that are the forceful factors in the business world. In his farming operations Mr. King acquired a gratifying measure of success but not content with this he is now a factor in the industrial life of Rockford and has made a business record which any man might be proud to possess.

JAMES M. PATTERSON.

James M. Patterson, residing on section 33, Burritt township, is successfully following general agricultural pursuits, and is also interested in the Winnebago Lumber & Supply Company. He was born on the 8th of March, 1856, in Owen township, this county, and is a son of John M. Patterson, a native of Scotland, who was born in 1834. He came to the United States in 1849, and lived in New York city for a year, after which he made his way westward to Illinois, settling in Rockford, where he also spent one year. On the expiration of that period he took up his abode in Owen township, where for many years he followed the occupation of farming. He was united in marriage to Miss Lillian Stephenson, who was also born in Scotland, her natal year being 1838. She came to the United States in 1855, and made her way at once to Owen township, Winnebago county, Illinois, where she afterward gave her hand in marriage to Mr. Patterson. Her death occurred in St. Paul, Minnesota, in September, 1900. There were born of that marriage the following named: James M.; Nettie, who was born in November, 1857, and is now the wife of Joseph Brewster, of Owen township; Jennie, who was born in April, 1860, and is the wife of J. M. Stocks, a resident of Freeport, Illinois; Andrew, who was born in June, 1863, and is living upon the old homestead in Owen township; John, who was born August 21, 1865, and is a farmer of Owen township; and Lilly, who was born in 1867, and is the wife of Robert Geddes, a resident of Stillman Valley, Illinois.

No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for James M. Patterson in his boyhood days. He attended the

public schools, acquiring a good English education, whereby he was qualified for business duties and responsibilities, and under his father's direction he became familiar with all the work of the fields, so that he was prepared for farm work when he started out in life on his own account. He lived in his native township until twenty-six years of age, when he removed to Ogle county, where he resided for eight years. On the expiration of that period he took up his abode on his present farm in Burritt township, where he now has one hundred and sixty acres of land, carefully cultivated according to modern methods. He has followed farming practically all his life, and in his work is systematic and progressive. His labors have been attended by success because of his close application and untiring industry, and he is now one of the prosperous agriculturists of his community. He also has other business interests, being financially connected with the Winnebago Lumber & Supply Company, this being a farmers' stock company of about fifty members.

On the 20th of October, 1884, Mr. Patterson was united in marriage in Winnebago, Illinois, to Miss Barbara Hill, a daughter of Donald and Agnes Hill, early residents of Winnebago township. Mrs. Patterson was born September 17, 1858, and by her marriage has become the mother of four sons: John, born August 20, 1886; William, March 9, 1888; Ralph, September 25, 1890, and Donald, September 22, 1897, all living at home.

Mr. Patterson is a member of blue lodge, No. 745 A. F. & A. M., at Winnebago, and both he and his wife are active members of the Presbyterian church, to the support of which they contribute liberally, while in its various departments of labor they manifest a deep and helpful interest. Mr. Patterson has been clerk of the town school board for the last twelve years, and as a public-spirited citizen has supported many practical movements that have been of benefit to the community. His entire life has been passed in this county, save for the brief period spent in Ogle county, and his long identification with farming interests, as well as his carefully directed labors, make him a representative agriculturist.

REV. JAMES J. FLAHERTY.

Rev. James J. Flaherty, who, since 1885 has been rector of St. James (Catholic) church of Rockford and dean of the diocese since 1901, was born in Bureau county, Illinois, in 1853, and resided there until his ordination. Determining to prepare for the Catholic ministry he supplemented his early educational privileges by study in the Niagara University at Niagara Falls, New York,



MR. AND MRS. J. M. PATTERSON.

in which institution he was ordained to the priesthood on the 7th of June, 1879. On the 3d of July of the same year he was assigned to duty in the city of Chicago, where for six years he acted as assistant priest. He came to Rockford in 1885 and two years later was made immovable rector of St. James church, while in 1901 he was advanced to the position of dean of the diocese, the honors of the church being thus accorded him in recognition of his consecrated devotion to his work. Under his wise and economical administration of the affairs of this branch of the church the membership of St. James has more than doubled and every department of church activity has been placed upon an excellent working basis, so that splendid results are attained. A fine winter chapel and school have been built and all departments of the work are now in a flourishing condition. Father Flaherty is a man of scholarly attainments, unflinching zeal and strong intellectuality and his labors for the church and his parishioners have made him greatly beloved by his people and have gained him many friends in the city.

A. E. BARGREN.

Rockford is fortunately favored in having A. E. Bargren as chief of police, which official position he has held with eminent satisfaction to all for eleven years. Altogether he has been connected with the police department for a total of fifteen years with an efficiency and untiring zeal that has resulted in Rockford being an unrivaled law-abiding community. Chief Bargren is in the years when life is its best and has lived in the city for thirty-six years and is universally considered the best chief of police Rockford ever had. He is a man of large physique, commanding presence, keen perception and unusual executive ability, his acts tempered with mildness but sufficiently forceful as to leave no doubt as to his intentions. His constant watchfulness has been the direct means of bringing many notorious criminals to justice after having eluded the police in other cities. Rockford is justly proud of the achievements of Chief Bargren which have produced a moral condition not equaled by any other city in the state. His headquarters are on South Church street.

JOSEPH BARNES.

Joseph Barnes, a farmer and dairyman of Harlem township, residing on section 15, where he owns and operates two hundred acres of land, is a native of Washington county, Wisconsin,

born June 15, 1860, of German parentage. His father, Peter Barnes, was a native of Germany and died in Washington county, Wisconsin, 1899. His wife was born in Buffalo, New York, was of German lineage, and is now living at the old homestead in Wisconsin. All of the sons of the family are yet living, namely: Joseph, of this review; Mathias, of Kaukauna, Wisconsin; John, of West Bend, Wisconsin; Peter, of Newberg, Wisconsin; James, who is living in Campbellsport, Wisconsin; Henry, of Barton, Wisconsin; and Albert, of Rockford, Illinois. The daughters of the family are: Mrs. Margaret Wersheim, of Newberg, Wisconsin; Mrs. Mary Dingle and Mrs. Anna Gorman, both of West Bend, Wisconsin; Mrs. Bessie Weber, of Waukegan, Illinois; Mrs. Katie Bradley, of Newberg, Wisconsin, and Helen and Matilda Barnes, both of West Bend.

In taking up the personal history of Joseph Barnes, we present to our readers the life record of one widely and favorably known in this locality. He acquired his education in the common schools and remained with his father until eighteen years of age, when he started out in life on his own account, making his way to Harlem township, where he secured employment as a farm hand. He was thus engaged up to the time of his marriage, when he rented land and thus carried on agricultural pursuits for six years. On the expiration of that period, with the capital he had acquired through his industry and economy, he purchased the farm upon which he now resides, comprising two hundred acres of rich land on section 15, Harlem township. Here he carries on general agricultural pursuits and dairying, having a good herd of cows, and both branches of his business are proving profitable.

On the 2d of March, 1886, Mr. Barnes was married to Miss Isabelle Ralston, who was born in Harlem township, April 19, 1854, and is a daughter of Alexander and Mary Ralston, of that township. Her father was born in Argyleshire, Scotland, January 7, 1814, and, coming to the United States, landed at New York city on the 4th of July, 1842. He first located in Marietta, Ohio, whence he afterward made his way to Cincinnati. He lived in Ohio for eight years, and while in that state learned the carpenter's trade. In 1850 he came to Winnebago county, casting in his lot with the pioneer settlers of Harlem township, where he followed carpentering until 1852, when he purchased the farm upon which Mr. Barnes now resides. He continued to carry on agricultural pursuits throughout his remaining days, his death occurring February 26, 1894. His wife, who was born in Argyleshire, Scotland, June 29, 1836, came with her parents to the new world in 1850, and the family home was established in Cale-

donia, Boone county, Illinois, where she lived until she gave her hand in marriage to Mr. Ralston. She survived her husband for a number of years, and died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Barnes, on the 5th of May, 1903. The members of her family were as follows: Peter, who died in 1880; Mrs. Martha Griffiths, of Manchester, Illinois; Mrs. Janet Ralston, who is living in Caledonia, Illinois, and has two sons and three daughters; Mrs. Jeannie Potter, of Mason City, Iowa, who has two sons and three daughters; Mrs. Mary Ann Thornton, of Argyle, who has three daughters; and Elizabeth E., who is living with her sister, Mrs. Barnes. Two sisters of the family died in infancy.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Barnes have been born three children, but one son died in infancy. The others are: Ralph E., born April 8, 1862, and George R. born November 30, 1895.

Mr. Barnes belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp at Caledonia, Illinois, and in politics is a stalwart republican, having firm faith in the principles and policy of the party. Both he and his wife are members of the Willow Creek Presbyterian church of Argyle, and they are well known in this part of the county, having many friends who esteem them highly for their genuine worth.

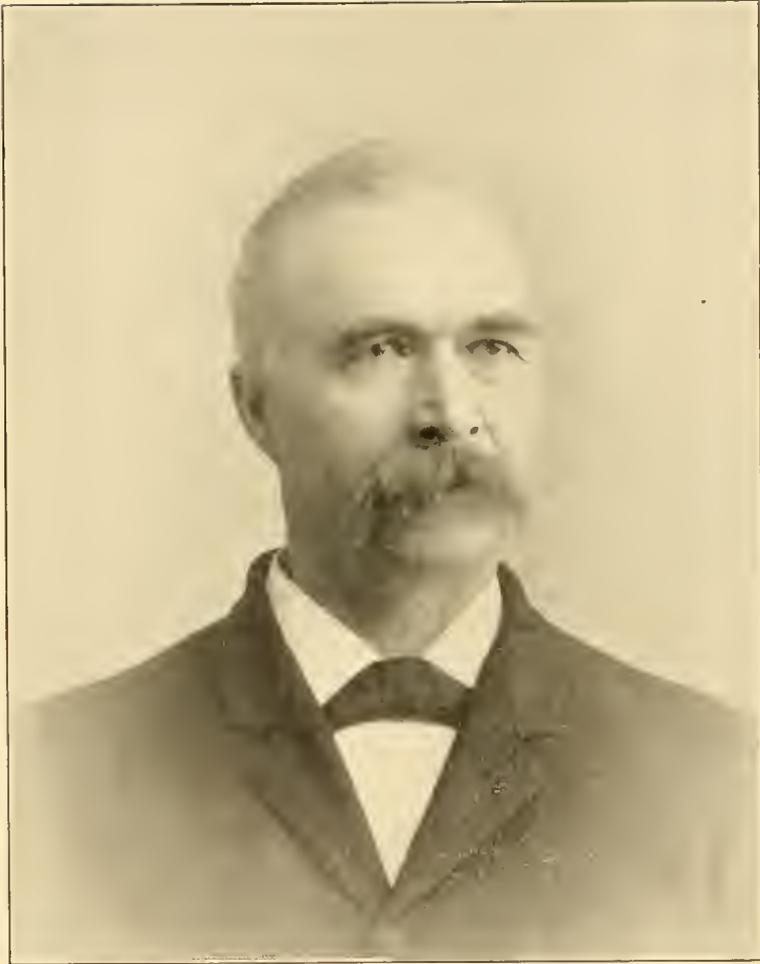
JOHN W. BEATSON.

John W. Beatson is living a retired life in Rockford but for many years was actively and successfully engaged in farming in Burritt township. His birth occurred in Scotland on the 20th of April, 1830, his parents being William and Elizabeth (Wilson) Beatson, who in 1843 came with their family to America, settling in Montgomery county, New York, where they resided until 1849, when they came to Winnebago county, Illinois. The father was a stonemason and worked at his trade in the Empire state. On coming to Winnebago county he entered eighty acres of land from the government in Burritt township and at once began to open up a farm, transforming the raw prairies into rich and cultivated fields. He was thus identified with agricultural interests until 1875, when he removed to Rockford, spending his remaining days in the city. His death occurred in 1882 and his wife passed away in 1893. To his original tract of eighty acres he had added forty acres, so that at the time of his death he was the owner of a good farm of one hundred and twenty acres. In the family were three sons and five daughters, namely: George A., now deceased; John W., of this review; Mrs. Jennette Wimple, living in Rockford; Nellie, who died in 1865; Mrs. Agnes Hickox, who is living on North Winnebago

street, Rockford; David, whose home is in Burritt township; Caroline Lillie, of Rockford; and Julia, who lives with her brother, John W. Beatson.

When but four years of age John W. Beatson was brought by his parents to America and in the public schools of New York state he began his education, which was continued in Burritt township. He remained at home until 1859 and then went to Colorado, where he was engaged in mining for a year, after which he again came to this state. He had made the journey overland to Colorado with teams, arriving there in April, 1859. It was not long after his return that he offered his services to the government as a defender of the Union cause. Hardly had the smoke from Fort Sumter's guns cleared away when he had joined the Union troops, enlisting on the 18th of April, 1861, as a member of Company D, Eleventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he served for three months at Bird's Point. He then re-enlisted in Company D, Seventy-fourth Regiment of the Illinois Infantry on the 7th of August, 1862, and served until the close of the war. He was in the Army of the Cumberland, doing duty in Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama and Georgia. For some time his regiment was under the command of General Buell, was afterward with Rosecrans and later participated in the movement of General Sherman's army. He took part in a number of hotly contested engagements, including those of Perryville, Stone River, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge and the Atlanta campaign, after which the regiment returned to Tennessee and was in the battles of Spring Hill, Franklin, Nashville and many minor engagements. Mr. Beatson took part in every engagement with his company. He was wounded at Missionary Ridge in the breast by a minie-ball and also in the foot and his clothes were pierced by seventeen bullets. He took a bullet out of his breast with his knife. At Nashville, on the 10th of June, 1865, he was honorably discharged under general orders from the war department, hostilities having been brought to a close. While in the army he served as first sergeant for six months, was made second lieutenant in April, 1863, and first lieutenant on the 23d of April, following, and from that time until the close of the war was in command of his company, his own valor often inspiring his men to deeds of bravery.

When the war was over Mr. Beatson returned to his home and began farming in Burritt township. In the spring of 1866 he was elected collector of the township and discharged the duties of that office in addition to his labors as an agriculturist. For three years he operated his father's land and then in 1869 purchased a farm of seventy-three acres in Winnebago county, which he



JOHN W. BEATSON.

further cultivated and improved until 1875, when sold the property and took up his abode south of the village of Winnebago, where he bought one hundred and twenty acres of land. Eventually he sold that and removed to Rockford in 1882. The following year he was appointed to a position on the police force of this city and acted in that capacity for six and a half years, while in 1889 he was elected county treasurer and remained the incumbent of the office for four years. In 1896 he was chosen alderman of the seventh ward for two years' term. He still owns one hundred and twenty acres of fine farming land in Marion township, Ogle county, together with a house on Cherry street, one on Winnebago street, a double house on Acorn street and his beautiful residence at No. 236 Avon street. Around this he has an acre of ground and the fine lawn is adorned with beautiful flowers and trees. In fact the home is one of the attractive residences of this part of the city.

On the 6th of December, 1865, Mr. Beatson was united in marriage to Miss Jennie Van Alstine, who was born in Montgomery county, New York, and was a daughter of Jacob G. Van Alstine, who came from the Empire state to Illinois and followed farming in Burritt township. For forty years Mr. and Mrs. Beatson traveled life's journey together and were then separated by the death of the wife, who passed away on the 26th of February, 1905, leaving a husband and four daughters: Rosella A., who is with her father; Daisy, the wife of James W. Miller, whose home is near Portland, Oregon; Margaret, the wife of Dr. W. S. Howell, of Trenton, Iowa; and Harriet, who married Leamon Woodruff, who lives on Avon street and, owning a team and wagon, is engaged in deliverings goods for D. J. Stewart & Company.

In his political views Mr. Beatson is a republican and takes an active interest in the work of the party, serving as a member of the republican township committee. In addition to the offices mentioned that he has filled he has had charge of tax books for two years and has handled two hundred and twenty thousand dollars each year. The trust reposed in him is well placed, for he displays unswerving fidelity to the public welfare. Mr. Beatson is a self-educated and self-made man and, desiring that his children should have good advantages, he has enabled them all to obtain good educations, one having been a student in Chicago, while all have attended the public schools of this county. In a review of the life history of Mr. Beatson we notice that while he is now the possessor of valuable property he started out for himself without financial assistance or the aid of influential friends but has utilized his opportunities and by good business ability has steadily worked his way upward until with a comfortable competence he is now enabled to live retired.

Mr. Beatson is a member of Nevius post, No 1, G. A. R., of Rockford, of which he has been senior vice commander for several years. He is also a member of the Masonic order, belonging to Star in the East lodge, No. 166, A. F. & A. M., Winnebago chapter, No. 24, R. A. M.; Crusader commandery, No. 17, K. T.; and Tebala Temple of the Mystic Shrine. Mr. Beatson is a member of the township republican committee and he attends the Grace Methodist Episcopal church.

WILLIAM P. FARNHAM.

William P. Farnham, following the occupation of farming on section 8, Rockford township, where he owns a well improved tract of land of ninety-seven acres, is a native son of this township, born September 14, 1856, and his parents were Sidney and Catherine (Jones) Farnham, early residents of Winnebago county. The father was born in the Empire state and the mother in Canada, and in early life they came to this county, where they were married. Sidney Farnham first wedded Dorcas Freeman, who died at Durand, Illinois, leaving five children, but only one is now living, Lanson Farnham, a resident of Sedalia, Missouri. After losing his first wife, Mr. Farnham wedded Catherine Jones, and they became the parents of seven children, of whom William P. is the eldest, the others being: Joseph H., who resides in New Wadena, Minnesota, where he follows farming; George, a farmer of Rockford, Iowa; Addie, who became the wife of Daniel Richards, and died in 1895; Benjamin, a resident of Independence, Iowa; Deborah, who died in 1882; and John, who is living in Rockford, Iowa. The father passed away in 1886, at the age of seventy-three years, the mother surviving until January 7, 1905, at which time she was seventy-eight years of age.

William P. Farnham was reared in Winnebago county upon the old farm homestead, save for the period of two years, 1876-77, spent in McPherson county, Kansas. Having arrived at years of maturity, he was married in this county, in the spring of 1876, to Miss Addie Champlin, and almost immediately afterward they started for the Sunflower state, but two years convinced them that they preferred a residence in Illinois. Her father, Alfred Champlin, who died January 2, 1878, resided upon a farm on section 5, Rockford township, which is now owned and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. J. A. McCulloch. He was born in Sullivan county, New York, June 19, 1806, and became a resident of Winnebago county in 1845, settling in Rockford township, where he purchased land. He was married three times. In 1833 he wedded Sophronia Gleason, who was born in Vermont, and died in 1835, while her two

children also passed away. The second wife, who bore the maiden name of Pauline Adams, was born in New York, and became Mrs. Champlin in 1830. She died in 1848, and of the five children of that union but one survives, Mrs. Kate Drake, who is now a resident of Pearlond, Texas. For his third wife Mr. Champlin chose Elvira Drake, who was born in New York, July 21, 1823, and died in April, 1890. There were six children of that marriage: H. Sophia, the eldest, born January 24, 1851, is now residing in McPherson, Kansas; Susan, born April 3, 1854, married William Whittle, a resident of Canton, Kansas, and died in December, 1900; Addie, born October 1, 1857, is the wife of William Farnham; Sarah, born June 26, 1861, is now a member of the McPherson County (Kansas) Abstract Company; Lizzie, born April 20, 1863, is the wife of J. A. McCulloch, represented elsewhere in this work; Clara, born June 24, 1866, is the wife of Frank Hamilton, of Canton, Kansas. Two sons of the family were killed in the army, and another son, Alfred, Jr., was accidentally killed in Rockford township about forty years ago. The soldier boys were Bradford, Joel and Charles, who was twice wounded, and the first two gave their lives in defense of the Union, while Charles was accidentally shot after returning from the army, his death occurring in 1890.

Mr. and Mrs. Farnham have four children: Mabel, born September 9, 1878; Harry, born April 20, 1881; Charles, December 24, 1885; and Etie, April 10, 1891, all at home. The family occupy a fine new residence which has been built by Mr. Farnham. In addition to his farming operations, he is a stockholder in the Winnebago County Telephone Company. In his business affairs he has prospered, and has now a valuable and attractive property. Politically, he is a republican, and has served as school director, but the honors and emoluments of office have had little attraction for him, as his labors have been concentrated upon his business affairs. His reputation in agricultural circles is a creditable one, for his name is a synonym of straightforward dealing.

ISRAEL SHOUDY.

Among the men who occupy a position in the foremost ranks of the business men of Rockford stands Israel Shoudy, who by reason of his intense and well directed activity—the embodiment of the spirit of the age—has gained a large measure of prosperity. One can not be long in his company without recognizing his energy and sagacity—his dominant qualities—and his operations as a member of the real estate firm of Shoudy & Melville have been extensive and important.

A native of Illinois, he was born in Lee county, in 1850, a son of Israel and Abigail (Allen) Shoudy. In the maternal line the ancestry is traced back to England, and the progenitor of the family was well known to history as a passenger on the Mayflower. In the '30s the father removed from the vicinity of Syracuse, New York, to Michigan, and later went to Rock Island, Illinois. He was a blacksmith by trade, and while in that city he made the first steel plow ever manufactured in Illinois. He remained in Rock Island for three years, and then removed to Lee county, where he purchased a farm, which he tilled up to the time of his retirement from active business life. He then rented the property and enjoyed a well merited rest until called from this life in 1892. His wife died in 1890. They were parents of six children, and by a former marriage the father had eight children.

Israel Shoudy, the third child of the second marriage, attended the public schools, and afterward pursued a course in a business college in Rockford in 1881. He then spent one year in the college as an instructor, followed by one winter spent in a similar position in Elgin, Illinois. He afterward spent one year as a teacher in the high school at Pawpaw, Illinois, and then renting the home farm gave his attention to agricultural pursuits until 1887. In that year he took up his abode in Rockford and began the manufacture of tank heaters. Later he organized a company for this purpose and continued the business for three years, when he withdrew from the company and turned his attention to real estate operations. He dealt at first in general real estate, made loans and built up an excellent business. In 1891 he was appointed agent to handle the lands of the Illinois Central Railroad Company, and in 1898 he formed a partnership with F. L. Melville, under the firm name of Shoudy & Melville. The firm is regarded as one of the most enterprising in the city. Mr. Shoudy owns valuable interests in farming lands at Belleville and Whitewater, Wisconsin, and Marengo, Illinois, and also three thousand acres in the Yazoo valley in Mississippi, and three thousand acres in Clark county, Wisconsin, and in addition to this the firm owns six thousand acres. They run excursions which are very popular throughout the year, doing everything possible for the comfort of the excursionists. They are most progressive in their methods, displaying many of the qualities of the pioneer in working out new methods for the advancement of their business, and as the years have passed their operations have constantly increased in volume and importance.

Mr. Shoudy was married in Rockford, in 1884, to Miss Belle E. Miller, a daughter of Cyrus Miller. His fraternal relations are with Ellis

lodge, A. F. & A. M.; Kent lodge, I. O. O. F., of which he is past noble grand; Modern Woodmen camp, No. 51, and the Knights of the Globe, and politically he is a republican. While he is continually forming new plans for the enlargement of his business, he is a man of action rather than of theory, and when his plans are once formulated, he is prompt and energetic in their execution. His judgment is rarely at fault in business transactions in the line of real estate dealing, and his position of prominence is well merited because of the enviable success he has achieved.

GEORGE W. SANBORN.

George W. Sanborn was one of the most prominent and respected citizens of Pecatonica, and his worth was so widely acknowledged that no history of this community would be complete without mention of his life record. He was born in Roxbury, Massachusetts, in 1828, and died in Pecatonica, April 20, 1903. His parents were Abram and Rebecca (Swallow) Sanborn, both of whom were natives of New England. The father died at the age of seventy-six years and the mother in early life. Abram Sanborn was twice married, George W. being of the first family, and also Rebecca and Eliza Ann, both deceased.

George Sanborn was about seven years of age when his parents removed to Canada, settling at Roxton, Shefford county, where he attended the public schools, completing his high school course in Frost Village, Canada. He afterward became a student at St. Albans Academy, St. Albans, Vermont, and when his own education was completed he taught school in Canada. Attracted by the greater opportunities of the United States, with the livelier competition and advancement more quickly secured, he made his way across the border, arriving in Illinois in 1850. Through the succeeding winter he engaged in teaching school at Sugar Grove, this state, and in the second winter he taught school at North Grove.

On the 9th of May, 1852, Mr. Sanborn was united in marriage to Miss Grata N. Emery, a daughter of David C. and Margaret (Savage) Emery. Her ancestry is traced back to Daniel Emery, who was born May 5, 1730, and died August 23, 1819. His son, Noah Emery, was born September 6, 1760, and died August 9, 1837, at the age of seventy-seven years, while his wife, who bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Philbrick, was born July 18, 1762, and died February 22, 1813, at the age of fifty-one years. In their family were fourteen children, of whom the eleventh in order of birth was David C. Emery, the

father of Mrs. Sanborn. He was born December 31, 1797, in Grafton, Vermont, and died in Pecatonica, Illinois, December 10, 1869. He married Margaret Savage. He lived with his parents until twenty-one years of age, when he went into the wilderness of Canada to make a home. He located in Shefford county, near Shefford mountains, on a tract of timber land, and worked hard at cutting timber and clearing the farm. He first lived in an old sawmill and later he built a log house. He continued clearing and improving his land until most of it was under cultivation, erecting a fine residence in 1840, and he resided thereon until 1851, when he sold his farm in Canada and came to Ogle county, Illinois, settling near Byron. He then purchased a farm of two hundred acres, and in addition a tract of ten acres of timber land. On the place was a small house, in which he lived until he could build a better dwelling. He broke the wild prairie and improved the farm, making his home thereon for about ten or twelve years, after which he engaged in the grain business in Pecatonica for one year in connection with his son-in-law, George W. Sanborn, having previously sold his farm. From this time on until his death he lived retired, spending his years in the enjoyment of a well earned rest. Both he and his wife attended the services of the Universalist church, and in politics he was a staunch and earnest republican. They were the parents of eight children, two sons and six daughters, but Mrs. Sanborn is the only one now living. Her sister, Jane F., who resided in Des Moines, Iowa, died when sixty-one years of age in Pecatonica.

Following the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Sanborn, they removed to Dubuque, Iowa, where he worked at the carpenter's trade until the following summer, when, on account of cholera, he left that city, returning to Ogle county. In the spring of 1853 he went to Osage, Mitchell county, Iowa, where he took up a claim of one hundred and sixty acres of land, with ten acres of timber land additional. He then built a house and broke some of his land, but two years later he returned to North Grove, where he lived for about two years, working at the carpenter's trade, and also conducting the farm belonging to his father-in-law, David C. Emery. On the expiration of that period he established his home in Pecatonica, where he was engaged in the grain business, continuing in the trade for about thirty years. He twice met with severe reverses, having his elevator destroyed by fire, also losing heavily by the great Chicago fire, which burned a quantity of grain which he had stored there, but he persevered, and as the years advanced he met with a gratifying measure of success that enabled him to live retired for about six years prior to his death.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Sanborn were born ten children, of whom two died in infancy, while three sons and five daughters are yet living. George C., the eldest, has been on the Board of Trade in Chicago for the past thirty years, and is a prominent business man and a promoter of a number of important enterprises. He is now the president of the Sanborn Lumber and Development Company, with capital stock of one hundred thousand dollars, with offices in the Journal Building, in Chicago, while the works of the company are at Sanborn in the state of Vera Cruz, Mexico. The company there owns nine thousand acres of heavily timbered land. He is also the president of the Mexican Mutual Planters' Company, conducting extensive business interests at Vera Cruz. He married Miss Cora Allen, of Shabbona, Illinois, whose father was a captain in the Civil war, and they have two children, Harold and Grata G. Margaret Sanborn is now the wife of Frank Stephens, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and they have two children, Mabel A. and Carroll. Addie who was formerly engaged in school teaching and stenographic work, is now living at home with her mother. May is the wife of Albert Van Antwerp, of Pecatonica, and has one son, Max. Lucy E., living in Fredericksburg, Iowa, is the wife of Frank Thorn, and has two daughters, Beth and Grata. Bertha, living in Belvidere, Illinois, is the wife of Dr. Frank A. Weld, and they have one son, Frank A., Jr. Charles, a resident of Des Moines, Iowa, formerly engaged in the grain business, but now living retired, married Miss Alice Lowery, and they have four children, three sons and a daughter, Lester, Clarence, Walter and Alice. Will, living at Merville, Woodbury county, Iowa, where he is engaged in the grain business, married Belle Sloan, and their children are Clifford, Florence, Willie, Frank, Grata and Neil.

Mr. Sanborn was well known in Pecatonica as a leading and influential citizen, whose worth was widely acknowledged and whose interest in public affairs was manifested in tangible support of many movements for the general good. He acted as president of the village board for two terms, and was a member of the school board for some time, the cause of education finding in him a warm and stalwart friend. He favored the Universalist church, and in politics was a republican until 1887, when he became a supporter of the prohibition party, with which he was connected up to the time of his death. He was known as the champion of intellectual development, the temperance cause and all that is right and honorable between man and his fellowmen, and his genuine personal worth gained him the unqualified respect of those with whom he was associated. He lived for many years in this county, passing away at the age of seventy-five years.

Unto his family he left not only the fruits of earnest labor, but also an untarnished name, which is rather to be chosen than great riches.

CALVIN A. HEMENWAY.

Calvin A. Hemenway, deceased, was a member of one of the early families of Burritt township, who settled in Winnebago county about 1837 and the old home farm is still in their name, being now owned by Mrs. Calvin A. Hemenway. Her husband was a native of Vermont, born January 13, 1822. His parents, Asa and Isabelle Hemenway, were likewise natives of the Green Mountain state and they had a large farm. In 1837 Mr. Hemenway and his children removed to the west, settling in Burritt township, Winnebago county, in what was then a frontier district, the work of improvement and progress having been scarcely begun. His wife had died in Canada, at the home of a daughter. After reaching their destination he purchased a tract of land and at once began its cultivation and improvement, continuing to engage in general farming until his life's labors were ended. Only two members of the family are now living, one being a resident of Canada and the other of California.

Calvin A. Hemenway was reared on the old farm homestead in Burritt township from the age of fifteen years and his education, which was begun in the east, was continued in the schools of this locality. He assisted his father in the arduous task of developing a farm and continued to reside upon the old homestead after putting aside his text-books. After his marriage he removed to the south and lived for one year at Memphis, Tennessee. Later he located at Lagonia, Arkansas, where he carried on farming and also engaged in teaching school for about six years. He then returned to his farm in Burritt township and placed his fields under a high state of cultivation, improved his buildings and kept everything about his place in splendid repair, being accounted one of the practical, painstaking and progressive agriculturists of his community until 1892, in which year he removed to Rockford and there lived retired until his death.

Mr. Hemenway was married, in Burritt township, to Miss Elizabeth Rodd, a native of England, born December 18, 1828, and a daughter of Richard and Mary (Caldwell) Rodd, who were likewise natives of that country. They became residents of Winnebago county, however, during an early epoch in its settlement and established their home in Burritt township, where Mr. Rodd carried on farming for a long period, both he and his wife dying on the old homestead there. Only two of their children are now living: Mrs.



MRS. C. A. HEMENWAY.



C. A. HEMENWAY.

Hemenway; and Thomas, a resident of Grundy county, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Hemenway became the parents of nine children, of whom three yet survive. William Henry, who married Laura L. Tush, has recently sold his flour and feed store in Rockford and is now living retired, his home being on Forest avenue. Libby is the wife of Kindred Wood, a resident farmer of Watertown, South Dakota. Rollo Asa married Annie McClish and is living on the old Hemenway farm in Burritt township. Those deceased are: Chester, Alice, Christina, Charles and two who died in infancy.

The death of the father occurred September 27, 1897. He had served as supervisor of Burritt township for several terms and was also township clerk, discharging his duties in a manner most creditable, prompt and reliable. His political views accorded with republican principles and he never wavered in his allegiance to the party or in his support of the cause which he believed to be right. Both he and his wife were members of the First Baptist church of Rockford and were interested in its growth and the extension of its influence. Mr. Hemenway was a great reader and became a well informed man, keeping in touch with measures of progress along all modern lines. This rendered him an entertaining companion and he had many warm friends who greatly enjoyed his society. His life, too, was characterized by honorable principles and worthy motives and although he attained a gratifying measure of success his business career was creditable and honorable. His widow still owns the old home farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Burritt township and she has a nice residence at No. 441 Forest avenue. This was built by Mr. Hemenway when he took up his abode in Rockford in 1892 and it has since been the family home.

WILLIAM H. C. MILLER.

William H. C. Miller, at one time engaged in the jewelry business in Chicago, is now residing at Rockford, where he is living retired. He was born March 28, 1833, in New Jersey, his parents being Isaac and Susan (Miller) Miller. The father was born June 15, 1791, and died August 8, 1869, while his wife, whose birth occurred September 1, 1793, departed this life on the 10th of April, 1874. In their family were nine children, five sons and four daughters, and there were no deaths among them for fifty years. Three generations of the family had previously been born in New Jersey, which indicates that the Millers were long connected with that state. Isaac Miller was a farmer and carpenter, and was

very progressive and enterprising in all that he did. The family is noted for longevity, and he passed away at the extreme old age of eighty-nine years, while his wife died at the age of eighty-one years. Those of their family yet living are: Mrs. Sarah P. Thomas, who, residing in New Jersey, is nearly eighty-eight years of age, but has never had to wear glasses; William H. C. and Isaac, of New York city, who was formerly a manufacturer of jewelry and later engaged in mining in New Mexico.

William H. C. Miller spent the days of his boyhood and youth in the east, where he acquired a public-school education, and on the 30th of April, 1856, he arrived in Illinois, settling in Chicago, where he became a representative of the jewelry trade. He had learned watchmaking while in New Jersey, and had afterward gone to Massachusetts, where he lived for a year, coming from the old Bay state to the middle west. At the time of his arrival Chicago contained a population of only about seventy-five thousand people. He lived there for sixteen years, or until the memorable fire of 1871, in which he lost nearly everything. He then traded his home for a fruit farm in the south, which he afterward sold, and in August, 1873, he took up his abode in Rockford, and has since lived at No. 749 Johns street. In 1882, however, he went to South Dakota, where he secured a government claim, which in 1901 he traded for property in this city.

On the 20th of January, 1863, Mr. Miller was united in marriage to Miss Adda Garrison, a native of New Jersey, who was born March 7, 1844, and is a daughter of Thomas and Electa (Walker) Garrison. Her father was a speculator and also engaged in the grocery business. He came to the west in September, 1853, bringing with him a capital of seventy-five thousand dollars, and, locating in Rockford, he bought property on Main street, where the Talcott property now stands. At one time he owned all of the northern portion of the city and was a very prominent and influential man here. In 1860 he went west to the Rocky mountains, and during the last ten years of his life he frequently visited that section of the country, his death occurring in Colorado in 1871, when he was fifty-seven years of age. His wife passed away in December, 1868. They were the parents of five daughters and one son: Mrs. Harriet N. Cedarholm, a widow, residing in Englewood, Illinois; Mrs. Elizabeth Garrison, who is living in Woodstock, Illinois; Mrs. Theodocia Cleveland, a resident of Evanston, Illinois; Mrs. Miller; Mrs. Anna Know, of Michigan; and Thomas J., who is also living in that state.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Miller was blessed with six children. Harry G., who was born December 17, 1863, is a machinist and inventor of

considerable prominence, living in Denver, Colorado. Edward W., born January 4, 1866, is conducting a restaurant in that city. Grace, born June 25, 1868, died in 1869. Mortimer R., born March 2, 1871, is superintendent of the city water works and also city engineer at Waukegan, Illinois. Ruth E., born January 11, 1876, died June 22, 1882. Mabel A., born June 10, 1879, is a stenographer for the Emerson Manufacturing Company of Rockford.

Mr. and Mrs. Miller are well known in this city, where they have now long resided. He owns here ten acres of very valuable land, the tract being favorably situated in one of the best residence districts of the city, so that it will command a high price. Always interested in questions of the day, he keeps well informed on political and general subjects. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, while his wife is a member of the Presbyterian church, and although he is now seventy-two years of age he presents the appearance of a man in his prime, being very active and vigorous. He has enjoyed remarkably good health throughout his entire life, and his continued interest in public affairs and in local progress makes him a congenial companion and a valued citizen of Rockford.

J. J. WELTY.

J. J. Welty, a retired farmer residing at No. 1410 Charles street, Rockford, was born in Perry county, Pennsylvania, November 19, 1841. His parents were John and Elizabeth (Linchart) Welty. The father was born in Fredericksburg, Maryland, in 1810, and in Pennsylvania was married to Miss Elizabeth Linchart, a native of Switzerland, whose birth also occurred in 1810. She came to this country with her parents in 1820. They left their old home in the month of June, and with a horse and wagon drove to Basil in 1826. There they spent the night, and then went across the mountains into France, where they had to pay the exorbitant price of sixteen cents per pound for bread. They continued on their way to Havre de Grace, France, a distance of six hundred miles, which was accomplished with horse and wagon, and from that port they took passage on a sailing vessel bound for New York, being thirteen weeks on the ocean. They encountered some very severe storms, including three whirlwinds, which took every sail off the boat three times for three different days. Their supply of provisions was exhausted, and they were nearly starved. The boat drifted helplessly here and there, but finally drifted to Theresa island, where they got bread, spending three days at that port. Finally they landed at Philadelphia on the 1st of November, 1826.

When only nine years old Mrs. Welty began working out, and later was paid fifty cents per week for her services. When seventeen years of age she learned dressmaking, at which she earned twelve and a half cents per day. When she was twelve years old she carried sap in a sugar camp, having two buckets suspended from a pole which she carried across her shoulders. She remembers, too, purchasing some fine calico for a Sunday dress at forty cents per yard. When fifteen years of age she started on foot with her father to Philadelphia, leading an ox from the blockhouse in the vicinity of their home to the city market, a distance of two hundred miles. The entire journey was accomplished on foot, and the last day they walked twenty-seven miles. Her father became ill with typhoid fever in the city, and Mrs. Welty then returned alone to her home over that entire distance. She became the wife of John Welty in Pennsylvania, and they drove with a wagon to Illinois in 1851, in which year the Northwestern railroad was being built to Rockford. They were five weeks on the way, and they located in Cherry Valley township, where Mr. Welty purchased one hundred and ninety-seven acres of land, for which they paid two hundred dollars. The second year they planted one hundred acres of corn. Mr. Welty paid twenty-five cents per bushel for seed wheat the first year. Some of the land which he bought was improved and a log cabin had been built, and with strong purpose and courageous hearts this worthy pioneer couple continued the work of reclaiming the farm for the uses of civilization. As his financial resources increased, John Welty kept adding to his possessions, until at one time he owned over one thousand acres of land in Illinois and eight hundred acres in Iowa. In all of his work he had the able assistance of his wife, who was a most capable helpmate, and who, in her management of the household affairs, contributed in large measure to the success which attended her husband. Mr. Welty passed away October 6, 1882, at the age of seventy-two years, and is still survived by his wife, who is now ninety-five years of age. Still strong in intellect, she related in most interesting manner the incidents given in this sketch concerning her childhood days in the old world and her early experiences in this country. Three of the children born unto them are yet living: Elizabeth, the wife of James Dawson, residing at No. 1410 Charles street, Rockford; Calvin, who lives near the city limits of Rockford; and J. J., of this review.

In the county of his nativity J. J. Welty spent the first ten years of his life, and then accompanied his parents on their removal to Winnebago county, where he continued his education in the common schools of Cherry Valley township, to which he had to go a distance of three miles.



MR. AND MRS. JOHN WELTY.

He assisted in the arduous labor of developing a new farm here, and continued at home until the Civil war broke out. In 1862 he responded to his country's call for aid, enlisting in Company A, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry, but was rejected on account of his youth. In 1863 he joined the Eighth Illinois Cavalry, of which General Farnsworth was then colonel. He served until June 17, 1865, when he was discharged in Missouri. On the return trip, which was being made up the river, and when they were near St. Louis, the boat sank and five of the men were drowned. Mr. Welty participated in the battles of Culpeper, Colfax Courthouse, Middlesbury, Malvern Hill, Antietam, Fredericksburg and others of less importance.

When the war was over Mr. Welty returned to his home, where he worked for some time, and later engaged in farming on shares. In 1878 he purchased two hundred acres of land in Iowa, retaining it in his possession until 1900, when he sold out. He now owns the home where he resides at 1410 Charles street, and his mother has two houses and lots in Rockford. He has never married, and his sister Elizabeth and her husband, James Dawson, reside with him. They have four sons: James Robert; Calvin, of Rockford; Emery, of Harvard, and John, who is living in Allen Grove, Wisconsin. Mr. Welty is a republican, staunch in his advocacy of the party, and is a member of Nevius post, No. 1, G. A. R., of Rockford, maintaining pleasant relationships with his old army comrades by attendance at camp fires. His parents were members of the Congregational church, and lived together as man and wife for over fifty years, celebrating their golden wedding in Rockford.

CHARLES WILLS.

Charles Wills, whose life history was a record of activity, and who, in the conduct of business affairs in Latham Park and Rockford became well known, was a native of Carbon county, Pennsylvania. His father, Adam Wills, spent his entire life in that county, and was an expert machinist, following his trade until seventy years of age, when he retired from active business life. He was a member in high standing in the Masonic order, and was always true to the teachings and tenets of the craft. Both he and his wife died in the Keystone state.

Charles Wills was indebted to the public-school system of his native county for the educational privileges he enjoyed and after finishing his school life he learned the machinist's trade under the direction of his father. He then entered the employ of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company

as fireman, and was afterward promoted to locomotive engineer, running upon that road for a few years. Subsequently he returned to his trade as a machinist, being employed in the shops of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company at Hazelton, Pennsylvania, and it was while he was working there that he was married. He continued in that service for a few years, and next sought a home in the west, settling at Janesville, Wisconsin, where he began as engineer in the employ of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad Company, his run being between Janesville, Rockford and Chicago. After acting as engineer for a few years, he gave up railroad work and removed from Janesville to the village of Latham Park, in Winnebago county, where he established a general store and also served as postmaster. When he had remained at that place for a few years, he took up his abode in Rockford and accepted the position of janitor and engineer in the Winnebago county courthouse, which position he held for six years. His health then failed and obliged him to resign so that he returned to his country home at Latham Park. Again he engaged in general merchandizing there, and was once more made postmaster, continuing in mercantile life and also as the incumbent in the office up to the time of his demise, which occurred October 29, 1897.

While living in Hazelton, Pennsylvania, Charles Wills was married to Miss Mary B. Blay, a native of Pennsylvania, and a daughter of Richard and Sarah Blay. Her father was an architect and builder and was prominent in Masonic circles. He died in Mauch Chunk, Pennsylvania, and his wife, after removing to Janesville, Wisconsin, died at the home of her daughter there. Mr. and Mrs. Wills became the parents of two daughters: Lilly, the wife of Frank Severance, a prominent citizen of Rockford and Esther May, who has always resided with her mother, who since the death of Mr. Wills has sold the property at Latham Park and removed to Rockford, purchasing her present home at No. 610 Bruce street. She has a cottage here, but intends soon to sell this place and build a larger residence in the northern part of the city on other lots that she now owns.

Mr. Wills cast his ballot in support of the men and measures of the republican party, and was always interested in its success, but aside from the position of postmaster, held no other office. He was a valued representative of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Rockford, and he had a wide circle of friends in this city. He was a man of domestic tastes, always spending his evenings with his family, for he found his greatest enjoyment at his own fireside, in the company of his wife and daughters. He was very tem-

perate, and his life was straightforward and upright, being guided by honorable, manly principles. Mrs. Wills and her daughter are members of the Court Street Methodist Episcopal church.

WILLIAM L. BURR.

William L. Burr, of Rockford, is a native of Wayne county, Ohio, born in 1831, his parents being James and Polly (Smith) Burr. His father was a native of Vermont, and owned a farm there, also conducting a sawmill. Following the death of his wife, he removed to Iowa, and he passed away at Cedar Falls, that state. In the family were nine children, of whom four are yet living.

W. L. Burr, of this review, remained a resident of Ohio until fifteen years of age, when he supplemented his early educational advantages by study in a school at Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He had continued his education for but a brief period there, however, when he put aside his text-books and began learning the jeweler's trade, which he completed in Waukegan, Illinois. He then went to Chicago, where he worked for ten months, at the end of which time he embarked in business in connection with his brother at Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, where they remained for twelve years, enjoying a good patronage and becoming leading and successful merchants of that city. On selling out there, Mr. Burr removed to Winona, Minnesota, where he was connected with merchandizing interests for ten years, when he traded his stock of goods for five hundred acres of land near the city and turned his attention to farming. After carrying on agricultural pursuits for several years in that locality he removed to Rockford and here he established his sons in business in the store adjoining the Chick House. He has not been active in mercantile life since, save for the assistance which he has rendered to his sons, and now he is living in well-earned ease, the fruits of his former toil making life pleasant for him.

Mr. Burr was married to Miss Lucetta J. McClure, a native of Ohio, and they became the parents of ten children, of whom eight are living. William J., who is engaged in the grocery business in Rockford, married Miss Ellen Wills, and with her one son they reside on National avenue. Charles D., a grocer residing at Burr Heights, married Miss Grace Switz, and has one son. Frank R., likewise connected with the grocery trade, and now living on Haskell avenue, is married and has two children, a son and daughter. Addison, who is engaged in the sporting goods business, and lives on Second street, Rock-

ford, is married, and has one daughter. Edwin, who is also a merchant dealing in sporting goods, and living on Chestnut street, is married and has two sons. Lee, engaged in the grocery business, is at home with his father. Mary Nettie is the wife of Theodore Baker, who is engaged in the stock business and mining, and they have one daughter, Jennie is the wife of N. D. Taylor, who resides at 522 Fisher avenue, Rockford, and manages the grocery business on the east side for the firm of Burr Brothers. Martha became the wife of Charles McGlashen, and left one daughter.

The firm of Burr Brothers own three stores in Rockford and carry a full line of groceries. Their business is now very extensive and important, constituting one of the most prominent commercial concerns of the city, and employment is furnished to sixty men. From a small store they have built up a mammoth trade. The father gave to his sons six thousand dollars and with this as the nucleus of their business they have developed an enterprise whose annual trade is represented by a very extensive figure. After some years the father sold his interest to his sons, but he now owns two large farms, one including a half section of land, and the other an entire section of very valuable land in Kansas. He also owns a fine home where he resides at No. 526 Chestnut street, Rockford.

Mr. Burr was reared in the faith of the whig party, and in early manhood became a staunch advocate of republican principles, having since given his support to the party organization, but without desire for office as a reward for his fealty. His wife is a member of the Congregational church. In a review of his record we note the manifestation of strong and forceful business elements, keen perception, ready adaptability and close application. All these have combined to make him a very successful man and the family has long been a prominent one in Rockford, because of the genuine personal worth of the father and his sons, the latter now ranking with the best business men of the city.

JOHN S. WATSON.

John S. Watson, deceased, was a prominent farmer of New Milford township, and his success and the honorable methods whereby it was secured won him the admiration and respect of his fellowmen. He was born in Coventry, England, in 1823, and spent the first seventeen years of his life in that land, after which he emigrated to the new world, taking up his abode in Indiana about 1840. There he lived for a few years, and in 1845 he came to Winnebago county, where he

filed a claim to a tract of land constituting the present home farm of his family. This has never been mortgaged nor has it passed out of the possession of the family since Mr. Watson received the deed from the government. In his native country he had learned the trade of ribbon weaving, following that pursuit until he crossed the Atlantic, and in Indiana he learned the blacksmith's trade, to which he gave his attention in that state. Subsequent to his arrival in Illinois, he engaged in farming. His educational privileges were limited, but he made the most of his opportunities and progressed along the line of intellectual development as well as of material progress. As the years went by, he made substantial improvements upon his farm, erecting good buildings, including a comfortable home, which replaced the little log cabin that had first furnished shelter to the family, following their arrival in the county. As his financial resources increased, he extended the boundaries of his place by the purchase of an additional tract of eighty acres, so that the farm now contains two hundred acres. It was wild and uncultivated when it came into his possession, but the arduous task of developing it did not deter him from setting resolutely to work to transform the place into productive fields, and his labors were crowned with success, for in the course of a few years he was gathering abundant harvests, where before the wild prairie grasses were found.

On the 9th of December, 1847, Mr. Watson was united in marriage to Miss Addie L. Stickney, who was born in Addison, Addison county, Vermont, in March, 1827, and removed to Rochester, New York, with her parents, the family there remaining until 1846, when they came to Winnebago county. The party constituted the father, mother and eight children. The father, Abial Stickney, secured a tract of land in New Milford township near the site of the present village of that name, but a year later removed to Ogle county, where he purchased a farm. He did not live, however, to make a home there but his widow afterward removed to the farm with her children and spent her remaining days upon that place, dying about thirty years ago. Subsequent to the mother's death the children removed to various localities and with the exception of Mrs. Watson none are now residents of Winnebago county. To her husband she proved a faithful companion and helpmate on life's journey and since his death she has conducted the farm, renting the land, however, largely to her children.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Watson were born three sons and two daughters: Robert S., born October 13, 1848, is a traveling salesman residing in Chicago. He served as a soldier during the lat-

ter part of the Civil war. He married Josephine Burdick, and their only child died when six years of age. Elizabeth L., born February 21, 1850, is the wife of James Strong, a resident of Allen county, Kansas, and they have three children, Edith, Walter and Curtis. Thomas F., born May 21, 1853, was frozen to death while crossing the mountains in California, February 5, 1876. Eva A., born March 24, 1859, is the wife of George Skinner, a farmer of New Milford township, who also operates a part of the old homestead farm. They have six children of whom four are living, Charles, Blanch, Vera and Herbert, while May and George are deceased. George C. Watson, the youngest member of the family, was born January 3, 1868, and is now operating the old homestead farm. He married Miss Laura L. Bryant, a native of England, who came to this country and settled near the village of New Milford with her parents, William and Mary Bryant, who are residents of Clarion, Wright county, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. George C. Watson have two sons, Robert C., ten years of age, and Emery J., aged four years.

The family are all republicans in politics and John S. Watson filled various township offices, to which he was called by his fellow citizens who recognized his loyalty to the general good and his capability. He was a Mason, belonging to Cherry Valley lodge, and in his religious views he was liberal. In his life he displayed many excellent traits of character in harmony with the teachings of the craft and he was well known as a prominent and enterprising farmer, his life being crowned with a high measure of success. The methods which he followed were straightforward and commendable and a definite plan of action and a close adherence to the course which he marked out were salient features in his prosperity. He was devoted to the welfare of his family, doing everything in his power to promote the comforts of his wife and children, and his death, which occurred in 1886, was also deeply regretted by many friends as well as his own household.

OLIVER A. PENNOYER.

Oliver A. Pennoyer, deceased, a factor in the public life of Rockford for many years, served through a long period as circuit clerk and also as deputy circuit clerk and maintained his residence here from 1857. A native of Groton, New York, he was born July 15, 1826. His parents, Justus P. and Elizabeth Pennoyer, were both natives of the east and throughout his entire life

the father followed farming near Groton, New York. His wife also died in the same locality. There are only two of the children now living, two sisters making their home near Detroit, Michigan. A brother, Hon. Sylvester Pennoyer, was at one time governor of Oregon.

Oliver A. Pennoyer, reared as a farm lad, attended the common schools of the east and worked in the fields when not occupied with the duties of the schoolroom. Having arrived at years of maturity he chose as a companion and helpmate on life's journey Miss Margaret L. Morris. Her parents were both natives of the east and her father died in Michigan during the early girlhood days of his daughter. Mr. and Mrs. Pennoyer became the parents of four children, Frank, Hattie, Mattie and Charles, but all died in childhood.

After his marriage Mr. Pennoyer resided in the east until 1857, when he came to Illinois, settling in Rockford. The same year he was appointed deputy circuit clerk, serving in that capacity for four years, when he was elected circuit clerk and filled the position for the usual four years' term. On the expiration of that period he was again appointed deputy and later he served as police magistrate for two years. He then went to Washington, D. C., where he occupied a clerical position in the treasury department for over seven years during President Grant's administration. On returning to Rockford he engaged in the abstract business for a few years but eventually retired on account of ill health. Indolence and idleness, however, were utterly foreign to his nature and he could not content himself without some business interest. He therefore accepted an insurance agency and gave his attention to that business until his death, which occurred December 13, 1882. He was also interested in the great political questions which divide the two parties and gave an unflinching support to republican principles. He was identified with Masonic lodge in the east and again in Rockford and he held membership in the Westminister Presbyterian church, of which his wife is also a member. Mr. Pennoyer was a very fine penman and a most rapid writer. He also possessed considerable artistic talent and although he never received instructions he produced some very excellent works of art, devoting his leisure time while in Washington to painting. A number of his works now adorn the home of his widow. He delighted in the beautiful and had a great appreciation for color and form so that his printings display a superiority much above the amateur. Mrs. Pennoyer now occupies an apartment in the residence of E. L. Herrick at No. 303 South Second street. She has resided

in Rockford during the greater part of the time for a half century and is well known here, the circle of her friends being extensive.

EMIL LOFGREN, M. D.

Dr. Emil Lofgren, who for the second term has served as commissioner of health of Rockford, where he is also engaged in the general practice of medicine, was born February 27, 1874, in Chicago, Illinois, his parents being Otto and Louisa Lofgren. The former emigrated from Sweden about 1872, made his way direct to Chicago, and after residing about two years there came to Rockford in the fall of 1874. Here he was employed by the Union Furniture Company, later the Skandia Furniture Company. In his family were two sons and three daughters, of whom Emil is the eldest.

Dr. Lofgren was only a few months old when brought by his parents to this city. Here he began his education in the public schools, and afterward attended Augustana College, at Rock Island, in 1891. In the fall of 1895 he commenced teaching at the Andover Orphans' Home and continued in that institution until 1897. In the fall of that year he matriculated in the Iowa University, where he remained for two years, or until the spring of 1899 as a student in the medical department. In the fall of 1899 he entered the medical department of the Northwestern University, at Chicago, and was graduated with the class of 1901. He then returned to Rockford, where he opened his office, and has since engaged in general practice.

In 1896 Dr. Lofgren enlisted in the Illinois National Guard as a member of Company F, Sixth Regiment, of Moline. He was afterward transferred to the hospital corps of the regular army, and was in Porto Rico under General Miles during the period of the Spanish-American war, being mustered out on Thanksgiving day of 1898. In 1903 he was appointed commissioner of health of the city of Rockford, and is now serving for the second term of one year each. He visits St. Anthony's hospital in addition to caring for the work of private practice, which is extended to him by those who recognize his professional skill and capability. He belongs to the Illinois State Medical Society, the Winnebago County Medical Society, the American Medical Association and the Spanish War Veteran Association, and of the last named he is post surgeon. He also has membership with the Zion Lutheran church, and in politics he is a republican. The field of business is limitless.



DR. EMIL LOFGREN.

and its prizes are many and yet comparatively few who enter the "world's broad field of battle" come off victorious in the struggle for success and prominence. This is usually due to one or more of several causes—superficial preparation, lack of close application or an unwise choice in selecting an avocation for which one is not fitted. The reverse of all these seems true of Dr. Lofgren, who although yet a young man, has made for himself a creditable position as a representative of the medical fraternity in Rockford.

ELIAS COSPER.

Among the men who have been builders of Rockford and promoters of its progress and prosperity Elias Cosper is numbered. Various business enterprises felt the stimulus of his energy, far-sighted sagacity and unflinching perseverance. He became a resident of Rockford in 1854 and for years thereafter figured prominently in banking and manufacturing circles. He was also the prime mover in the establishment of the Rockford public library, and many other interests of the city owe their existence in whole or in part to his efforts.

Mr. Cosper was born in East Union, Ohio, March 19, 1824, his parents being Daniel and Margaret (Marr) Cosper, both of whom were natives of eastern Pennsylvania. He followed general merchandising to a limited extent but his attention was chiefly given to agricultural pursuits in Ohio to which state he removed when a young man. He lived with his family in Fredericksburg, Ohio, where both he and his wife resided until called to their final home. Only one of their children is now living, Daniel, who has retired from business life and makes his home in Fredericksburg.

Elias Cosper acquired a good education in the public and private schools at Wooster, Ohio, and afterward began learning the watchmaker's trade there with a Mr. Sprague, being at that time about twenty-one years of age. Later he went to Lancaster, Ohio, where they engaged in watch manufacturing for six years, and on the expiration of that period Mr. Cosper sought a home in Chicago and conducted a jewelry business at No. 77 Lake street, remaining there until his removal to Rockford in 1854. His identification with the business interests of this city began as cashier of the banking house of Robertson, Coleman & Company. The business afterward changed hands and Mr. Cosper became one of the stockholders, his associates being Messrs. Robertson, Starr and Coleman, and their bank was the predecessor of what is now known as the Winnebago National Bank. Mr. Cosper con-

tinued to engage in the banking business for several years or until after the outbreak of the Civil war, when he put aside business duties in order to respond to his country's call.

Enlisting in the Union Army Mr. Cosper became captain of Company E, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry, under Colonel J. C. Morris. His command took part in many battles of importance and while at Nashville Mr. Cosper was assigned to office duty, being made first assistant provost marshal general, in which capacity he served both at Nashville and Stone River. Following the battle of Chattanooga he resigned his position as captain and was then made paymaster, in which capacity he rendered signal service to the army until the close of the war.

After receiving an honorable discharge in 1865, Mr. Cosper returned to Rockford, where he entered into partnership with John P. Many, now deceased. They dealt in reapers and other farm implements, conducting the business with success for several years, at the end of which time they organized a stock company and began the manufacture of tacks under the name of the Rockford Tack Company. Mr. Cosper continued his connection with that business throughout his remaining days. The enterprise grew and became a profitable concern and Mr. Cosper in the course of years was known as one of the wealthy men of the city. He owed his business advancement entirely to his own efforts and the utilization of opportunities. He possessed keen discernment and readily comprehended an intricate business situation and in all of his dealings he was notably prompt and reliable.

Mr. Cosper was married in Wooster, Ohio, to Miss Eliza McMonigal, a native of Wooster and a daughter of Andrew McMonigal, who was extensively engaged in farming in the Buckeye state. He also carried on general merchandising and in his later years he lived retired in Wooster, enjoying the fruits of his former toil. There both he and his wife died. Uno Mr. and Mrs. Cosper were born seven children, of whom five are now living. Frank is engaged in the printing business as a member of the Cosper Printing Company, of St. Louis, Missouri. Harry, residing in Chicago, is manager of the wholesale house of the Becken Jewelry Company. Mary, who has always resided with her mother is secretary and treasurer of the L. Peake Harness Company, wholesale and retail dealers in harness, saddlery and trunks at No. 116 West State street in Rockford. This is the largest concern of the kind in the city and Miss Cosper gives careful attention to the development of the business under her care. Charles A. is employed in a supply warehouse at Chicago. Laura Marr is the wife of P. A. McPherson.

who is a partner in the Brinkerhoff Manufacturing Company, manufacturers of pianos at Jackson, Michigan. Those deceased are Lizzie, who died at the age of eighteen years, just as she completed her course in the Rockford seminary; and Anna, who died in infancy.

Mr. Cospes was never an office seeker but gave an unfaltering support to the republican party. His habits and tastes were those of a student and he found great pleasure in the midst of his books. He was the prime mover in the establishment of the Rockford public library, worked hard to raise funds for this purpose and contributed books, time and money to the enterprise, until the library was an assured fact in 1872. He belonged to the Grand Army Post of Rockford and enjoyed in full measure the good will and respect of his fellowmen. His business career was such as any man might be proud to possess for he steadily worked his way upward making opportunity where none existed, overcoming the difficulties and obstacles that always beset a business career, and by his inherent force of character and strong purpose gaining the handsome competence that enabled him to leave his family in very comfortable financial circumstances. Mrs. Cospes is a member of the Congregational church. She owns a beautiful home at No. 134 Cospes Place, in the northern part of Rockford on the banks of the Rock river. Mr. Cospes at one time owned this addition to Rockford, comprising over thirty-seven acres, but most of it has since been sold in town lots. Mrs. Cospes, however, retaining possession of the family residence and one acre of land. He also owned other valuable property in Rockford. The family is very prominent here, occupying an enviable position in social circles, and their own home is noted for its gracious and cordial hospitality.

JOHN SCHMAUSS.

John Schmauss, passing from this life left to his family the priceless heritage of an untarnished name together with a handsome fortune that represented a life of honest purpose, of laudable ambition and indefatigable industry. Moreover he endeared himself to his fellowmen by those sterling traits of character which awaken regard and warm friendships, being very considerate, loyal, courteous and kindly, while in his home he exemplified all of the best elements of the devoted husband and father. His life record was an honor to the land of his nativity and the land of his adoption.

His birth occurred at Scheittach, not far from Nuremberg, Bavaria, August 14, 1830. His father owned and conducted a well established meat

market and his five sons, George, John, Joseph, Leonard and Wolf, all became experts at that trade. Joseph and Leonard were the first representatives of the family to seek a home in America and secured employment in Kettlewell's market, in Rockford. Seeing that there was a favorable opening for workmen of their nationality they urged their brothers, John and Wolf to join them here and the request was complied with when in 1855 these two brothers sailed from the fatherland for New York and a few days later reached Rockford. John Schmauss also entered the employ of Mr. Kettlewell, with whom he continued until after the discovery of gold at Pike's Peak, when he made his way to Colorado. He did not find the fortune he there anticipated and became convinced that he was as likely to win success in the business opportunities afforded in Rockford as in the gold fields of the mountain districts. He therefore returned to Rockford with a belief in her future, the infallibility of which was proven as the years went by. He realized that industry and thrift are the basis of all success and he worked persistently and energetically for the successful conduct of the business in which he engaged as a partner of Charles Schorn, the firm being established under the firm style of Schorn & Schmauss. This was in May, 1867, and for five years they conducted a profitable trade, at the end of which time Mr. Schorn established a meat market on Madison street, while Mr. Schmauss removed to a farm.

In 1871 Mr. Schmauss purchased the property known as the Twogood farm in Cherry Valley township. He was identified with the meat business until 1855, when the firm of Schmauss Brothers sold out to Leonard and Joseph Schmauss, sons of Leonard Schmauss, Sr. During the interval from 1871 until 1885 Mr. Schmauss had labored constantly to improve what had become a most valuable farm property and after he had retired from the market he drove almost daily down to the farm, comprising more than three hundred acres, giving to its development and cultivation his personal supervision and making it a valuable property. In connection with the tilling of the soil considerable attention was given to the raising of cattle and in all of his business he was practical, systematic and energetic. He seemed to use his opportunities to the very best advantage and his farm became a very paying investment. At the same time he did much to improve his beautiful home on East State street and here the first spring flowers and the last blossoms of autumn were seen, together with all the rare and beautiful plants nurtured through the summer months. He likewise had a garden which was his pride and indeed he had every reason to feel the utmost gratification. He raised



JOHN SCHMAUSS.

the earliest and best vegetables and his opinions concerning the cultivation of garden products were received as authority. His reputation as a far-sighted financier was widespread and his judgment was seldom if ever at fault in any business method. He readily comprehended intricate business situations and mastered difficult problems, so using existing conditions that the desired result was gained.

There were other sides to the nature of Mr. Schmauss, however, that awakened for him the warmest regard, while his business ability commanded the respect and excited the admiration of his contemporaries. A biographer at the time of his death said: "Mr. Schmauss did not think solely and incessantly of his work. He had a genial disposition and found great enjoyment in social life. As long as his health permitted he participated in social pleasures. His jovial, cordial nature made him always a welcome addition to a large and congenial circle of friends. He was one of the founders of the Germania Gesangverein, of which he was an honorary member."

If Mr. Schmauss had been questioned concerning the most important chapter in his life history he would probably have replied that it was the one which related to his home for he was pre-eminently a man of domestic tastes, displaying the utmost devotion to his family and considering no personal sacrifice on his part too great if it would enhance the welfare and happiness of his wife and daughter. He was married April 4, 1866, to Miss Anna Frohlich, of Waldsassen, Bavaria, Germany, and the relation that existed between them was a most congenial one, Mrs. Schmauss proving a most capable helpmate and companion to her husband on life's journey. She made it her object to share and lighten his care. Had the day been full of trials and annoyances the home was bright and cheerful and a welcome always awaited him. Had he worked past hours on his farm to return tired out, the home-coming was a satisfaction that made him forget his weariness. Mrs. Schmauss is pre-eminently a housewife, or "housemother" as the Germans put it and she studied constantly the wishes and desires of her husband and made it her work to minister unto these, thus contributing to the comfort and happiness throughout the long years of their married life. They had one daughter, Katharine, who has attained superior ability in various art lines, including needle work and painting. Among her laces there is a collar of the finest material for which she was offered two hundred and fifty dollars by Marshall Field & Company, of Chicago. Her reputation as an artist indicates the value of her marked talent in painting and she has a fine collection of oil and water colors in her home. Mr. Schmauss departed this life February 1, 1904, and his wife and daughter now reside in the

beautiful home which he has prepared for them at No. 821 East State street. His memory is enshrined in the hearts of all who knew him and were familiar with his many excellent traits of character, his kindly spirit, his generous sympathy and his devotion to the good, the true and the beautiful. While he has achieved a success that made him a notable figure in business circles this was not the end for which he was striving save as it gave him the means to minister unto his family and to take part in many good works. He was quick to recognize true manhood in others and he counted his friends not by what they possessed in worldly goods but because of their genuine worth of character. He was indeed one of the most prominent factors in the German-American citizenship of Winnebago county and his life record is indeed worthy of emulation.

GLEASON F. BRIGGS.

Gleason F. Briggs, now living retired in Winnebago, where for the past twenty years he has been engaged in loaning money, has resided in this county for sixty-seven years. He was born in Erie county, New York, near Buffalo, May 25, 1825, his parents being Albey and Zerviah (Jewell) Briggs, natives of Rhode Island and Massachusetts, respectively. Following their marriage they resided in the state of New York until 1838, and on the 2d of July of that year they arrived at Dixon, afterward locating at Westfield Corners. They had sold their farm in the east, and were accompanied on the westward journey by a family of old neighbors from New York. Mr. Briggs purchased two hundred and forty acres of land at Westfield Corners, and for thirty years owned the four corners there. He conducted the postoffice there for a long period. He devoted his energies to the tilling of the soil and raised stock and was very successful in his business affairs, the entire family being noted as money-makers, having the sound judgment and indefatigable energy which always results in the acquirement of prosperity. Mr. Briggs served as school director and also as a church officer, and the chapel at Westfield Corners was erected on his farm. He lived a very honorable, upright life and truthfully said that he never sued any man or was ever sued by any one—a fact which indicates a business career that will bear the closest investigation and scrutiny. He died December 8, 1878, at the age of eighty-six years, while his wife passed away August 28, 1870, when seventy-two years of age. G. F. Briggs, of this review, like his father, can say that he has never sued or been sued by any man. He has two brothers and three sisters: Paulina became the

wife of Horace Hudson, and died March 10, 1879, in the village of Winnebago, where they made their home. Irene married Levi Burch, and died December 27, 1877, in Byron township, Ogle county, Illinois. Mary Ann is living with her brother, Curtis Briggs, in Winnebago. Irvin died in 1840, at the age of nine years. Curtis, born in Erie county, New York, March 14, 1823, and now living in the village of Winnebago, owns a fine farm in Winnebago township. He married Rachel Wood, who died about 1880, and he afterward wedded Narcissa Fulson, who died in April, 1901. Byron W. Briggs, the next member of the family, was born July 14, 1838, soon after the arrival of his parents in this county. He lives in Winnebago and married Miss Jennie Leggett, whose father, Jacob Leggett, came to this county about 1850.

G. F. Briggs spent a portion of his youth in the Empire state, and the remainder in Winnebago county, whither he came with his parents at the age of thirteen years. He has always followed farming, and to a considerable extent has engaged in real-estate operations. In all that he has undertaken he has been successful, making judicious investments, and during the past twenty years he has loaned money. At one time he owned two farms, which he afterward sold, and he has recently disposed of the old home property.

Mr. Briggs was married to Rebecca Ann Hunt, who was born in Mount Pleasant, New Jersey, and is a daughter of Joseph Hunt, who went west, settling in Independence, Iowa, but soon returned to Rockford, and later purchased a farm near Byron, Ogle county, where he resided until he retired from business life, when he took up his abode in Byron about ten or twelve years prior to his death, there passing away when over eighty years of age. His widow still resides at Byron, and is now more than ninety-four years of age, making her home with her son, who is the postmaster there. In 1903 Mr. Briggs was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died June 17 of that year, in the sixty-eighth year of her age.

Studying the issues and questions of the day, Mr. Briggs has found that his views have long been in harmony with the principles of the republican party, which has always received the support of the family. He served as constable forty years ago, but has never been active as an office-seeker. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church of Winnebago, and his life has been actuated by its teachings. The residence of few men in the county antedates that of our subject, who during sixty-seven years has witnessed the changes that have occurred, as roads have been made, the land subdivided, farms cleared and cultivated, schools and churches built and business interests established. He has taken much

pride in what has been accomplished and has borne his part as a citizen of worth who desires the best good of the county. He is now over eighty years of age, and says he has never missed a meal.

WILL E. WATKINS.

Will E. Watkins, residing on section 20, Guilford township, owns a farm of three hundred and sixty-five acres, lying on sections 19, 20, and 29. He was born in this township, March 30, 1866, and is a son of N. W. Watkins. His boyhood and youth were spent on the old family homestead, where he early became familiar with all the work of the farm. After mastering the elementary branches of learning as taught in the common schools he continued his education in Carpenter's and Selsby's school in Rockford and thus well equipped for life's practical and responsible duties he entered upon his independent business career. He has always carried on general farming and his property of three hundred and sixty-five acres is one of the most valuable farms of Guilford township. He has not been active in farming operations for a number of years, but derives from his farm an income sufficient to supply him with all of the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. He also has a fine residence property at No. 838 North Church street, in Rockford.

Mr. Watkins was married in this county to Miss Mary Lacey, who was born in Winnebago county, and is a daughter of Miles Lacey, an old resident of Winnebago county. Mr. and Mrs. Watkins have one daughter, Catherine, now ten years of age. Their circle of friends in Winnebago county is extensive and is constantly growing as the circle of their acquaintance increases. Mr. Watkins has always been known for reliability in business affairs and in the management of his property interests displays keen discernment and capability, gaining thereby a comfortable competence.

It will be interesting in this connection to note something of the history of Mr. Watkins' parents. His father, N. W. Watkins, now living retired at No. 619 Oak street, in Rockford, was born in Cattaraugus county, New York, in 1838, his parents being N. W. and Julia (Brink) Watkins, who, in 1839, removed to Kalamazoo, Michigan. The father, however, was not long permitted to enjoy his new home for his death occurred there the same year. The mother and her son, N. W. Watkins, Jr., afterward came to Cherry Valley township, Winnebago county, where she resided with her sister, Mrs. Darius Fish, for several years. Later she made her home with a brother for sometime and subse-

quently she became the wife of a Mr. Dubois. She then resided in Belvidere until her death, which occurred in 1888, when she was about seventy years of age. She made the trip overland from New York to the state of Illinois, traveling after the primitive manner of the times before the era of railroad transportation and she was one of the well known pioneer women of this part of the state. By her second marriage she had a son, Louis Dubois, who is now residing in Los Angeles, California.

N. W. Watkins was reared in Winnebago county, but from the age of ten or eleven years has been dependent entirely upon his own resources for a living. He is justly entitled therefore to the praise indicated by the term, "a self-made man." He attended winter schools as he spring planting until crops were harvested in found opportunity until crops were harvested in the late autumn he was busy in the fields. It was his own frugality and industry that brought him the capital, wherewith he purchased a farm. He finally became owner of a tract of land just east of Rockford, in Guilford township, and there he successfully carried on general agricultural pursuits until 1894, when he retired and removed to Rockford. He then purchased and improved his present comfortable home and here he has since enjoyed a well earned rest.

N. W. Watkins was first married to Miss Mary Turner, a native of Guilford township, who died in 1898, at the age of sixty years. She was born on the farm where our subject now resides, a daughter of Melgar and Julia (Kelly) Turner, natives of New York and Ireland respectively, the latter coming to the United States with her father, James Kelly. The only child of the marriage of N. W. Watkins and wife is Will E. Watkins. Politically Mr. Watkins is a democrat, but the honors and emoluments of office have never had any attraction for him. Through many years he gave his undivided attention to his business affairs and now he is enjoying a well earned rest in his home in Rockford, where, surrounded by many friends he is enjoying all of the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

NAHUM F. PARSONS.

Nahum F. Parsons of the Winnebago Grain & Lumber Company, whose watchful attention to and utilization of opportunities has given him rank with the representative business men of this section of the county, who was born in Brimfield, Massachusetts, December 4, 1834, his parents being Luke and Tryphena H. (Fisher) Parsons, who came to Illinois in 1836 and 1839 respectively. The father located first at Byron,

then called Bloomingdale, and his wife made her way to the west from Westborough, Massachusetts. By trade Mr. Parsons was a hatter and not only became active in business life at Byron but was also influential in public affairs, serving as deputy county surveyor and in other local offices. He died in Byron in 1844, at the age of forty-six years, while his wife passed away in 1893, at the age of eighty-three years, having survived her husband for almost a half century. In the family were three sons and two daughters, namely: Luke F., residing in Salina, Kansas; Samuel E. of Brookville, Kansas; and Nahum F. of this review. The sisters are both deceased but Mr. Parsons has a half-sister and two step-sisters living, his mother having married Lucius Read, of Byron, after losing her first husband. Mr. Read passed away in December, 1864.

Nahum F. Parsons was reared in Byron, Illinois, being but four and a half years of age when the family arrived at that place. He was educated in the public schools of that locality and worked upon the home farm until he became a factor in the business life of Winnebago. Taking up his abode here, he entered the stock business in 1864, in connection with John K. Bingham, and later he extended his field of operations to the lumber trade in connection with D. C. Lewis in 1867. Subsequently he purchased the interest of Mr. Lewis, Mr. Bingham having previously retired. In 1871 he began handling grain and in 1890 he commenced dealing in coal. He built his grain elevator in 1879—the first one erected in this vicinity and he actively conducted the business alone until he decided to organize a company capitalized at twenty thousand dollars. The incorporation was effected in 1893 under the name of the Winnebago Grain & Lumber Company with John C. Compton as president and Robert Spottswood as secretary and treasurer. The board of directors included these officers together with Mr. Parsons and Elder Moore, all of Winnebago. Mr. Parsons had continued sole owner of the business until, wishing to retire and put aside the arduous duties that devolved upon him in connection with the control and management of interests that had already become extensive, he determined to incorporate and now for the past few years he has practically rested from business cares.

In 1873 Mr. Parsons was married to Miss Nancy, daughter of David B. and Maria (Stevens) Hendry, of Delaware county, New York, who had been a successful teacher in the public schools of Iowa prior to her marriage. They have three sons, Nahum H., a member of the firm of Parsons & Company conducting a lumber business on North Madison street in Rockford, married Harriet Ruezey, of Winnebago, and has one child, Nahum Vincent. George, a

graduate of Cornell University, at Ithaca, New York, is an electrical engineer in the Westinghouse shops at Pittsburg. Hugh G., who is a graduate of the high schools of Winnebago and of Rockford, is also pursued a business course in Rockford, is now associated with his eldest brother in the lumber business in the county seat and the father is likewise largely interested in the Parsons Lumber Company there.

Mr. Parsons joined the Congregational church at Byron when but thirteen years of age. At Winnebago, however, he has affiliated with the Presbyterian church. In politics he has been a staunch republican from the organization of the party, having voted for John C. Fremont, its first candidate. For two terms he served as supervisor of Winnebago township but his ambition has not been in the line of office-holding. In his business career he has been watchful of opportunities and of all indications pointing to success, has been alert and energetic and has so utilized the means at hand that his labors have brought a satisfactory reward. In 1876 he built his fine home in the southern part of the village of Winnebago, where he is now living in practical retirement from labor, having reached the Psalmist's span of three score years and ten with a handsome competence that supplies him with all of the necessities and comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

PLINY Z. NEWTON.

Pliny Z. Newton, who for the past twenty years has been engaged in the undertaking business in Winnebago, came to this county in 1852, first locating in Seward township, where he still owns a farm of one hundred and twenty acres. He is numbered among the worthy sons that the Empire state has furnished to this section of Illinois, his birth having occurred in St. Lawrence county, November 23, 1830, his parents being Ziba and Martha (Burnapp) Newton. The mother died in the Empire state about 1850 but the father afterward came to Winnebago county, arriving here in company with his son, Pliny Z. Newton, in 1852. He continued to make his home in this county until his death, which occurred about forty years ago. Mr. Newton of this review had two brothers and four sisters, who also came to this county and of these three sisters are yet living within its borders, namely: Mrs. Luella Wells and Mrs. Rozora Proctor, of Rockford; and Mrs. Susan Seeger, of Winnebago township. Winthrop resided here until his death, which occurred in Seward township several years ago.

Pliny Z. Newton was reared in the Empire state and had attained his majority when he

came to Illinois. His education had been acquired in the public schools and he had become familiar with farm work. He was then identified with general agricultural pursuits until he embarked in his present business. When he arrived in this county fifty-three years ago he settled in Seward township, where he still owns a farm of one hundred and twenty acres. He purchased it soon after he reached Illinois and has made all of the improvements thereon, it being now a splendidly developed property. About twenty years ago, however, he came to the village of Winnebago, where he established undertaking parlors, becoming the successor of O. E. Burdick, now residing in Chicago. The business had been purchased from Mr. Burdick by A. D. and J. E. Newton, sons of our subject, about a quarter of a century ago and they conducted it until 1885, when the father took charge.

Mr. Newton was married to Miss Martha J. Phelps, who was born July 21, 1838, and is a daughter of Silas and Clarinda (Williams) Phelps. Her father was one of the early residents of Seward township, who came from Ohio to this county in 1850 and here died a number of years ago. He had nine children: Josiah, Silas, William, Mrs. Orinda Shelden, Mrs. Sarah Burdick, and three who died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Newton have become the parents of three sons: J. E., who is now residing in Winnebago, where he operates a mill and thresher, married Jessie Seaton and has one child, Lloyd; A. D., who conducts the home farm in Seward township, married Carrie Brown and has one child, Viola; and Alva, who resides in Kirkland, is married and has one child, Leroy. He owns a farm near there but is now living retired, making his home in the village. There is also an adopted daughter, now Mrs. Augusta Mack, residing in Waterloo, Iowa, who has three children, Elmer, Lillian and Maybeth.

Politically a republican, Mr. Newton has served for several years on the town board of Winnebago township and he gives a public-spirited support to measures which he deems of benefit to the locality. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Winnebago and are well known in this city. His sterling traits of character and good qualities make him personally popular with a large circle of friends.

NELS T. THOMPSON.

Nels T. Thompson, who has been engaged in the tailoring business in Rockford since 1878 and has made his home here since 1860, was born in Sweden, April 22, 1833. The days of his boyhood and youth were spent in his native



MR. AND MRS. P. Z. NEWTON.

land but he was ambitious to enjoy better business privileges than could be secured in that country and, attracted by the reports which he had heard concerning America, he sailed for the United States in 1854. He had already acquired a fair education and had learned the tailor's trade, so that he came well equipped to make a creditable position for himself in the business world. He first located in Chicago, where he secured employment in the line of his chosen occupation but was obliged to discontinue his labors there on account of his health.

As before stated, he took up his abode in Rockford in 1860, six years after arriving in the new world, and, entering Thompson's repair shop, he was employed there for a number of years, after which he embarked in business on his own account in August, 1878. From the beginning he has prospered and a constantly growing trade has made him one of the leading merchant tailors of the city. He now employs a number of experienced workmen who are kept busy all the time. His stock of goods is thoroughly up to date and he receives orders from a large number of the best citizens here, for the clothing made in his shop carries with it a guarantee of good workmanship and of style.

In 1859, in Chicago, Mr. Thompson was married to Miss Johanna Vaul, who was born in Sweden and came with her husband to Rockford, where she died in February, 1862. He has since wedded Emma Peterson, of this city, also a native of Sweden and a sister of P. A. Peterson, of Rockford. Mr. Thompson has five children: Laura, the wife of Gus Hultquist, of Rockford; Willie; Marie; Hattie, and Blanche.

Mr. Thompson, giving careful consideration to the questions and issues of the day, became a champion of republican principles when he was made a naturalized citizen. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity. His reliability in business interests is a matter above question and his energy and strong purpose have been salient elements in a successful career. The hope which led him to seek a home in the new world has been more than realized, for he has not only established a profitable business but has also gained a good home and made many friends in the land of his adoption.

M. W. HAYWARD.

M. W. Hayward, owns, occupies and operates one hundred and twenty acres of land lying on section 3, Roscoe township, and constituting one of the well improved farms of the locality. He was born in Vermont January 27, 1849. His

paternal grandfather, Azel Hayward, was a native of New England and a cabinet-maker by trade. He married Polly Drake and they lived in Bridgewater, Massachusetts, for sometime but subsequently removed to the Green Mountain state. Their son, Edwin Hayward, father of our subject, was born in Bridgewater, Massachusetts, in 1803, and having arrived at years of maturity he was married in the Green Mountain state to Miss Lucy Ann Warner, who was born in Cornwall, Vermont, January 10, 1818. The father died at the age of fifty-two years, his last days being spent in Vermont, but the mother is now living in Chicago, Illinois. Following the death of her husband she came with her six children to the west in 1855, settling in Roscoe township, Winnebago county, and has since made her home in this state. Edwin Hayward was a man of prominence and influence in Vermont, doing much to mold public thought and action, and he was called to represent his district in the state legislature. Of the six children who came with the mother to Illinois five are still living, namely: Harriet F., Levi G., Laura A., M. W. and Susan M. The other son, Azel D., was a soldier of the Civil war, enlisting in the First Board of Trade Regiment of Chicago, Company B, Seventy-second Illinois Volunteers, and he died of illness contracted while he was in the army.

M. W. Hayward came with his mother to Illinois when a youth of only six years and was reared to manhood in Winnebago county, where he has resided continuously since, always living on the old homestead which became his mother's place of residence when she reached Roscoe township. He now has a tract of sixty acres on each side of the road, so that his farm comprises altogether one hundred and twenty acres situated on sections three and four. The land is rich and productive and the fertile fields yield golden harvests in return for the care and labor he bestowed upon them. In all of his farm work Mr. Hayward has been practical and at the same time progressive and he is quick to adopt improved methods which promise good results. He has modern machinery and everything to facilitate the farm work and his labors have brought to him a gratifying measure of success.

On the 2d of January, 1884, occurred the marriage of Mr. Hayward and Miss Lucy W. Wooster, a native of Vermont and a daughter of Benjamin P. and Hannah (Warner) Wooster. They have become the parents of four children: Olive M., Charles P., Marion F. and Lucy A. Mr. Hayward is recognized as a devoted husband and father, as well as an enterprising agriculturist and useful citizen. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity and the Modern Woodmen, and in politics he is a republican, having always supported the party, but he never seeks office.

preferring to give his undivided attention to his business affairs, whereby he provides a comfortable living and good home for his wife and children.

GEORGE A. CROWLEY.

George A. Crowley, following the occupation of farming on section 35, Shirland township, has a valuable property of one hundred and twenty acres and the rich and productive soil yields him excellent harvests. He was born in Victor township, Cayuga county, New York, December 12, 1852, his parents being Walker and Rosana (Camp) Crowley, both of whom spent their last days in Winnebago county. The father settled in what was then Howard but is now Durand township, purchasing a tract of land, and up to the time of his death he owned that farm, carrying on general agricultural pursuits. His political allegiance was given to the republican party from the time of its organization and when the country became involved in the Civil war he joined Company H, of the Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry, serving from 1862 until the close of the war or for almost three years. He then returned to engage again in general agricultural pursuits and remained a resident of this county until his death, which occurred June 13, 1905, when he had reached the advanced age of seventy-eight years. He had long survived his wife who passed away in 1855, when she was twenty-seven years of age. She left two children, George A. and Mrs. Nancy T. Cooney, of Harrison township. After losing his first wife, Walker Crowley was again married, his second union being with Miss Martha Campbell, of this county, who was born in the Empire state. They became the parents of four children: Mrs. Mary Jane Fritz, who is living in Harrison township; Henry, a farmer, who is married and has a farm, their home being in Laona township; David, who is married and carries on agricultural pursuits in Durand township; and Mrs. Ellen Baker, who is living in the village of Durand. Mrs. Crowley, the mother of this family, died about 1875, and for his third wife Walker Crowley chose Mrs. Lord, nee Campbell, a sister of his second wife, also of Winnebago county. They had two children: Walter, who died in infancy; and Frederick, a farmer, residing on the old homestead in Durand township.

George A. Crowley was reared in Winnebago county and pursued his education in the public schools. He has followed farming throughout the greater part of his life and now owns one hundred and twenty acres of land on section 35,

Shirland township, where he makes his home and another tract of two hundred and one and three-quarters acres in Harrison township. This is also well improved and is being operated by two of his sons, Robert and Leonard. Mr. Crowley resided in Harrison township until December, 1900, when he purchased his present farm in Shirland township and has since made his home thereon. It is an excellent tract of land and its productive soil makes his labors of good effect in the raising of crops. He is practical in all that he does, reliable in his methods and trustworthy in his business dealings.

Mr. Crowley has been married twice. He first wedded Mrs. Annie Cooney, who was born in Winnebago county and is a daughter of Robert Cooney, a pioneer settler of Harrison township. Her mother still resides in Durand township at an advanced age. Mrs. Crowley was reared in this county and died in October, 1898, at the age of forty-seven years, leaving the two sons, who are now operating their father's farm in Harrison township. For his second wife Mr. Crowley chose Mrs. Mary Black, nee Harvey, who was born in this county and is a daughter of J. Harvey, who came here at an early day. There is one son by this marriage, George A., three years of age.

Politically Mr. Crowley was formerly a republican but now gives his support to the prohibition party. He has served as commissioner and is interested in the public welfare to the extent of giving his co-operation for the support of many measures for the general good. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Shirland.

IRVIN FRENCH.

To know Irvin French was to respect and honor him, for his upright life, his kindly nature, his genial manner and cheery smile endeared him to all with whom he came in contact. He was a pioneer business man of Winnebago county, the family settling here in 1849, and when he was called from this life on the 8th of May, 1902, his death was the occasion of deep and wide spread regret.

Mr. French was born in Medina county, Ohio, on the 7th of May, 1833, and was a son of Everett and Mary (Skinner) French, both of whom were natives of Connecticut, whence they removed to Medina county, Ohio, at an early epoch in its development. There the father engaged in farming until 1849, when he brought his family to Winnebago county, Illinois, and purchasing land in Seward township was there



GEORGE A. CROWLEY.

engaged in farming for many years or until failing health caused him to put aside active business duties. He then traveled with the hope of benefiting his health and died in California, after which his widow made her home in Rockford with her son Irvin until her death.

Irvin French was educated in the common schools of his native county. When a boy it was his great desire to travel and learn the world and at the age of seventeen years in order that he might fulfill this wish, he joined a surveying party and carried the chain as the party traveled through the timber regions of northern Iowa, North and South Dakota and Minnesota. He continued with the surveying party for several years, during which time he became convinced that there was money to be made in the lumber business, so he returned to Winnebago county, settling in the town of Pecatonica, where he established a lumberyard. He would go north and buy large tracts of timber land, have it cleared off and the lumber sawed and shipped to the yards in Pecatonica. He endured all the privations of the lumber camp and by reason of his connection with the business he became familiar with it in all of its departments from the time the lumber was in the tree until it was finished and marketable commodity. He was identified with the lumber trade in Pecatonica until 1879 and his success grew year by year, making him one of the prosperous citizens of his community. At the time mentioned he came to Rockford and practically lived retired until his death.

On the 8th of March, 1860, Mr. French was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Whittlesey, a native of Brownhelm, Ohio, who died in Rockford, May 6, 1891. She was a daughter of Solomon and Sarah (Sherman) Whittlesey. There were three children of that marriage: Josephine, now the wife of Frank R. Brown, the president of the Nelson Knitting Company and one of the leading and influential business men of Rockford; Nell, the wife of W. B. Lowry, a representative of an old and prominent family here, where he engaged in business for several years but now resides in Denver, Colorado, where he is interested in mining; and Gertrude, who resides with Mrs. French. On the 22d of August, 1894, Mr. French was married to Miss Sara Foster, a native of Massachusetts and a daughter of Nahum and Mary (Cassidy) Foster, the former a native of Southampton, Massachusetts, and the latter of New Brunswick, Massachusetts. At an early day Mr. Foster removed to the west and later took up his abode in Pecatonica, where he spent his remaining days. Mrs. Foster resides in Rockford.

Although Mr. French came to Rockford with the intention of living retired he could not con-

tent himself without some business interest, having previously led a life of intense and well directed activity. He therefore engaged in loaning money and when the Rockford Watch Company failed he was appointed receiver and acted in that capacity until his death, making his last report to the circuit court during the January term. He was a staunch republican in politics, although he was reared in the faith of the democratic party, his father having been equally strong in support of the latter organization. Mr. French was a member of Ellis lodge, No. 17, A. F. & A. M., of Rockford, and the Knights Templar commandery, joining the organization during the early period of its existence. He was likewise a member of the Court Street Methodist Episcopal church, to which his widow now belongs, and he took a deep and helpful interest in church and temperance work. His widow and daughter are prominent in social circles here and Mrs. French owns a fine large brick residence at No. 204 North First street, where the family have remained since the removal to Rockford.

Although the educational privileges of Mr. French were limited he broadened his knowledge through his varied business experience and his extensive travels and became a well informed man. He looked at life from a practical and yet a humanitarian standpoint, rejoiced in the progress made by his fellowmen and in the advancement of county, state and nation along material and moral lines. He also did much to uphold the legal and political status of the community and his influence and co-operation could always be counted upon to further any movement which promised to promote the general good. He left to his family a very desirable fortune but more than that he gave to them the priceless heritage of a name that was respected and honored in business circles.

PATRICK REDDY.

Patrick Reddy, who is engaged in the livery business in Pecatonica, was born in Stephenson county, Illinois, March 10, 1862, and spending his boyhood days under the parental roof acquired his education in the public schools. His parents were Matthew and Bridget (Cuff) Reddy. The father was born in Ireland and the mother in Pecatonica township, Winnebago county, Illinois. Matthew Reddy came to this country on a sailing vessel, landing at New York city when about thirty-five years of age. He worked his way westward to Stephenson county and there obtained employment from a Mr. Hulce, with whom he worked until he had money

enough to purchase a yoke of cattle. Later he traded the cattle for eighty acres of timber land, on which he built a log house. He then cleared a part of the land and when he had thus far completed arrangements for a home of his own he was married in 1848. As the years passed he added to his land until he had between four and five hundred acres, a fact which indicates that his has been a prosperous business career. He not only provided for his own family but he also assisted his sisters to come to this country and settled them upon a part of his land. He likewise brought his father and mother to this country and his parents spent their last days here. In all of his business interests Matthew Reddy was practical as well as industrious and persevering. In connection with the cultivation of his fields he was extensively engaged in raising cattle, hogs and horses. At first he had only oxen when he began his farm labors here but eventually he purchased a team of horses which he used as the lead team with the oxen in breaking his cleared land. His life has indeed been a busy one and exemplifies the term "dignity of labor." He is now living a retired life, having in 1874 built a fine home in Stephenson county, where he resides with his wife and son John. He has never cared for public office but has always given his support to the democratic party. He was a school director for fifteen or twenty years and he and his family are communicants of the Catholic church. His life has been active and honorable, crowned with success and also the respect of his fellowmen. In his family were fourteen children, eight sons and six daughters, of whom six sons and five daughters are yet living, namely: William; Annie; Patrick; Matthew, who died at the age of twenty-three years; John; Mary; Katherine; Rosella; James; Nora; Morris; Julia, who died at the age of five years; Hugh, who died in infancy; and Charles.

Patrick Reddy spent his boyhood days upon the homestead farm, early becoming familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. He lived at home during his minority, working in the summer months on the farm, while in the winter seasons he attended the district schools. He was employed by the month as a farm hand between the ages of fourteen and twenty-six years and during that period he worked for eight years for his father-in-law. He then began farming on his own account, engaging in the tilling of the soil and in the raising of stock for thirteen years. He then held a sale in 1900, after which he purchased a livery stable from J. P. Dickson at Pecatonica. He was associated for a short time with a partner, William Mahan, but after a year sold his interests to his partner and then bought the old Strutz property, since which

time he has conducted a livery business on his own account. He has a well equipped barn, having good horses and a fine line of vehicles and he is accorded a liberal patronage by the public, who recognize his straightforward methods.

On the 4th of January, 1887, Mr. Reddy was married to Miss Ella May Elliott, a daughter of Giles S. and Betsy A. (Mitchell) Elliott. Her father was born in Ohio, October 1, 1838, and died February 14, 1886, but is still survived by his widow, who was born September 21, 1840, and now makes her home with Mr. and Mrs. Reddy. Mr. Elliott on coming to Illinois settled in Elgin, whence he afterward removed to Pecatonica. His father assisted in the building of the old Chicago & Galena Railroad, now a part of the Chicago & Northwestern system. Giles S. Elliott also assisted in the construction of this road and after its completion he and his father bought one hundred and seventy-four acres of land from the railroad company. They carried on farming together for about twenty-five years, after which Giles Elliott purchased his father's interest and continued to engage in active agricultural pursuits up to the time of his death, which was caused by the explosion of a lamp. In politics he was a republican but had no aspiration for office, preferring to give his attention to his business pursuits and he was widely recognized as an honest, industrious man, who received and merited the respect of all who knew him. He was quite extensively engaged in the breeding of fine cattle, making a specialty of short-horn Durhams and at the time of his death he had a herd of between forty and fifty head. He took great pride in raising the best grades of cattle and was justly celebrated for the fine stock on his place. In his family were four sons and a daughter: Charles W., Ella M., George H., Giles E., and William H.

Mr. Reddy gives his political allegiance to the democratic party but, he, too, is without aspiration for office. He is a worthy representative of an honored pioneer family and is well known in Pecatonica and the surrounding districts, where his capably directed business interests are winning him success.

EDWARD DUNWELL, M. D.

Dr. Edward Dunwell, who came to Winnebago county when a young man and settled in Cherry Valley township, was a well known physician in that part of the county and enjoyed a large practice there. Many contend that the profession of medicine is the most important to

which a man can direct his energies and all accord its great worth to the world. Dr. Dunwell, with a conscientious regard of the responsibilities and obligations that rested upon him in this connection, performed his professional services with a soundness of principle and a conformity to a high standard of professional ethics that won him the esteem and confidence of his brethren in the fraternity as well as of the general public.

A native of New York, his birth occurred August 4, 1836, his parents being William and Sophrona Dunwell, who were also natives of New York. On leaving that state they removed to a farm near Cleveland, Ohio, where the father engaged in the further cultivation of his land until he brought his family to this county, arriving here in 1853. Settling in Cherry Valley township, he resumed agricultural pursuits and for many years was an enterprising and successful farmer of his community but ultimately retired from active business life. He died in 1876 and was survived for several years by his wife. Four of their children are yet living: Chandler, a resident of Spencer, Iowa; Mrs. Sophia White, of Taylorville, Illinois; Mrs. Sutherland, of Fairdale, Illinois; and Mrs. Norman, of Irene, Illinois.

Dr. Dunwell acquired his early education in the schools near Cleveland and was a fellow student of James A. Garfield, afterward president of the United States. He later entered upon the study of medicine but with his parents came to the west and married Miss Mary Aldrich. After a short time, however, he returned to Cincinnati, where he completed his course in medicine and surgery and was there graduated. Going to the west he entered upon practice in Marysville, California, where he followed his profession for a few years and then returned to Illinois, opening an office in Gilman.

His wife died in Gilman a few years later, leaving a daughter, Alida, now the wife of Simon Hoff, of Winterset, Iowa. Dr. Dunwell continued to practice in Gilman for a short time and then removed to Cherry Valley, where he continued his professional labors to the benefit of his community for two years. Here he was again married, his second union being with Miss Rebecca Farley, a native of Washington county, Ohio, and a daughter of James and Ellen (Taylor) Farley, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of England. Mr. Farley resided for a few years in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, where he learned the trade of brickmaking and then went to Morgan county, Ohio, where he purchased a store, flour and saw mills, continuing their operation for seven years. On the expiration of that period he settled in Washington county, Ohio, where he carried on farming for five years, and in 1853 he came to Winnebago county, Illinois,

purchasing land in Cherry Valley township. Here he followed farming for fifteen years or until 1868, when he retired and took up his abode in the village of Cherry Valley, where both he and his wife spent their last days. In their family were ten children: Mrs. Kirkland, now living in Henry county, Illinois; Elizabeth, who is the widow of Benjamin B. Hovey, who died in July, 1905, leaving her an estate of eighty thousand dollars; Thomas, a farmer of Cherry Valley township; Mrs. Brooks, of Lawrence, Kansas; Mrs. Lewis Keith, of Rockford; Mrs. Dunwell and Mrs. Eckert, twins; Mrs. Frowe, of Wamego, Kansas; and Mrs. Heckman and Mrs. Carpenter, both deceased. Nellie Farley, now Mrs. David Eckert, was twice married, first to John Hicks, of Blair county, Pennsylvania, who was an army officer, serving as colonel in the volunteer service and afterward as first lieutenant in the regular army. He died in Louisiana, of yellow fever, in 1867. His widow afterward became the wife of David Eckert, of Burbank, Ohio, who was a hardware merchant there and in 1872 removed to Topeka, Kansas, where he lived for several years. He then became general agent for the Deering Manufacturing Company, of Chicago, and made his home in Dallas, Texas, for several years, after which he returned to Topeka, where he lived retired until his death. He was first married to Catherine Idleman, who died in Topeka, leaving two children, Franklin and William, both now residents of that state. Following the death of her second husband Mrs. Eckert returned to Cherry Valley, where she lived for one year and then removed to Rockford with her twin sister, Mrs. Dunwell.

Unto Dr. and Mrs. Dunwell two children were born, but the first died unnamed in infancy and Walter H. died at the age of eleven years and seven months. Following his second marriage Dr. Dunwell left Cherry Valley and removed to Coffeyville, Kansas, where he engaged in practice for six years. He then went to Chama, New Mexico, where he practiced and invested in mines. He had been there only a brief period, however, when he became ill and his death occurred February 4, 1880. He was a man of strong purpose and marked capability and wherever he went he left the impress of his individuality upon the public life. While in Marysville, California, he served as county superintendent of schools and while living in Coffeyville, Kansas, he was elected a member of the state legislature for the term of 1871-72. He took a very deep interest in political questions and gave earnest support to the democracy. He became a member of the Masonic fraternity while living in California. As a practitioner of medicine he was very successful and both he and Mr. Eckert became well-to-do. His worth was widely ac-

knowledgeed, and faultless in honor and fearless in conduct all who knew him entertained for him high and unqualified regard.

Following her husband's death Mrs. Dunwell returned to Cherry Valley, where she lived until 1903, when with her sister Mrs. Eckert, she came to Rockford and they purchased their present fine home at No. 136 South Prospect street, where they now reside. Mrs. Dunwell still owns her home in the village of Cherry Valley, and both she and Mrs. Eckert have fine farms in Kansas which they rent. They are both members of the Christian church of Rockford and the circle of their friends here is extensive.

JOHN J. CRILL.

John J. Crill, deceased, was a self-made man, whose enterprise, executive ability and perseverance constituted the basis of a prosperity which made him one of the leading and substantial farmers of Ogle county, Illinois. His home was just south of the boundary line of Winnebago county, and he had a wide acquaintance in Rockford and this county. His birth occurred in Oneida county, New York, May 12, 1825, his parents being Henry and Betsy (Brooks) Crill. The father was born in London, England, and after coming to America settled first in Connecticut. At the time of the Revolutionary war he served as a member of General Washington's body guard. In Connecticut he was united in marriage to Miss Brooks, a native of that state, the wedding taking place in 1818, after which they removed to the state of New York. On leaving the Empire state, Henry Crill took up his abode in Winnebago county, Illinois, settling first in New Milford township, where he engaged in farming for a year. He then removed across the border line to Monroe township, Ogle county, where he purchased fifteen hundred acres of land and was there engaged in general farming and dairying for many years. He prospered in his undertakings, and was one of the extensive land-owners of this part of the state. Taking up his abode in Rockford, he resided in the state for only a brief period, and then returned to the farm in Ogle county, whereon he and his wife spent their remaining days. They have one son, Harvey, who is still living in Rockford, his home being on North Main street.

John J. Crill was a young lad at the time of the removal of his parents to the west, and he acquired a good education in the schools of Ogle county. He early became familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist, and acquired a practical knowledge of the best methods of farm work. He married Miss

Margaret J. Keith, a daughter of Balsar and Lucy (Smith) Keith, both of whom were natives of Virginia. Removing to Monroe county, Ohio, the father there resided until 1835, when he continued his westward journey, settling near the old Shirley mill in Cherry Valley township, Winnebago county, Illinois. He resided at that place for a few years, after which he purchased two hundred acres of land in Ogle county, and was there engaged in farming. His wife died there in 1837, and he continued to reside upon that place until the fall of 1855, when he removed to Cedar county, Iowa, where he lived until called to the home beyond in 1874.

Mr. Crill was always a very busy and industrious man. When he attained his majority he began teaming, for there were no railroads at that time, and all products had to be taken by wagon to the markets. He hauled grain from Winnebago county to Chicago, and received a good price for his services. He was soon enabled to invest in land, and as his financial resources increased, bought more and more property, until he was the owner of nearly six hundred acres of fine farming land in Ogle county. He then gave his undivided attention to farming and stock raising, and for many years was recognized as a leading representative of that line of activity in this part of the state. He also traveled quite extensively over the country in the interests of his business. In 1886 he went to Chicago with a carload of stock, and upon his return he rode on top of the car. When the train reached Elgin he fell and was instantly killed, this deplorable accident occurring April 8, 1886. The county thus lost one of its active and representative business men, and his family a devoted husband and father. He had an extensive circle of friends, being held in high regard by those who came in contact with him through business or social relations.

Mr. and Mrs. Crill were the parents of three children: Michael J. married Amelia Houbshell, and they reside with her mother, Mr. Houbshell having now retired from active business life. They had four children, but one died in infancy; Ruth Ella is also deceased; and Maud A. died at the age of nine years; Nellie A. is the wife of J. J. Dresser, of Lynnville, Illinois, and the mother of two children, Armour Crill and Frances Margaret. Orlando F., the only son of Mr. and Mrs. Crill, married Julia E. Matthews, and is engaged in the real estate business in Rockford, his home being at No. 423 South Church street. Augusta L. Crill became the wife of C. Henry Hardy, who is also a retired business man, and their home is at No. 216 North Third street. Mr. and Mrs. Crill had an adopted son, Ellsworth E., who married Luna Kane, and resides in DeKalb, Illinois, where he is engaged in the drug business.



JOHN J. CRILL.



MRS. MARGARET J. CRILL.

Following her husband's death, Mrs. Crill resided in Monroe, Ogle county, Illinois, until 1903, when they removed to Rockford, and she purchased her present home at No. 222 North Third street, where she and her son and his wife all reside. They still own land in Ogle county. The Crill family are well-to-do and are prominent in Rockford and this section of the state.

RICHARD W. ROGERS.

There are men who because of an ability to command are held in awe, men who because of successful accomplishment are held in admiration, men who by reason of rectitude of character awaken respect, but it is the man of gentle nature, kindly spirit, deep interest in his fellowmen and unselfish devotion to their welfare that wins love of those with whom he is associated. Such a man was Richard W. Rogers, who was well known in Rockford and Winnebago county.

A native of Dudley, England, Mr. Rogers was born February 2, 1827, and his parents, Richard and Fanny Rogers, were also natives of that country. Both died in New York city shortly after coming to America. Their son Richard was only nine years of age when he was left an orphan and was then sent back to Dudley, England, where he was reared and educated by an uncle, who was a jeweler and watch repairer and with whom Mr. Rogers learned the trade. He also received a good musical education. He remained in England until twenty-one years of age, when with the desire to establish his home in the land where he had lived for a brief period he again crossed the Atlantic, this time settling at Bridgeport, Connecticut, where he began business for himself as a jeweler.

While living there Mr. Rogers was married to Miss Susan H. King, a native of that state. Her father died in Connecticut during her early girlhood and her mother afterward came west with Mr. and Mrs. Rogers and died at their home in Beloit, Wisconsin. Mr. Rogers continued to engage in the jewelry business and watchmaking in Bridgeport, Connecticut, for five years and in 1853 came to the Mississippi Valley, settling in Rockford, where he opened a store. He remained here, however, for only a year as he did not have capital sufficient to enable him to carry on the business in the manner he desired. He then removed to Beloit, Wisconsin, where he established a jewelry store on a smaller scale. His trade soon increased, however, and enabled him to enlarge his stock and as time passed he was accorded a very liberal patronage there. He continued in business in Beloit for twelve years and then removed to Freeport, Illinois, where he

conducted a jewelry store for three years. Again he was successful and this enabled him at the end of that period to once more identify himself with mercantile interests in Rockford. Here he began business but after a few years was obliged to discontinue the store on account of ill health occasioned by indoor life. He therefore sold out and turned his attention to the work of tuning pianos, which pursuit he followed in twelve different towns in the vicinity of Rockford. For several years he was thus engaged and was very successful, having many patrons in the various cities which he visited, so that his labors brought him a gratifying financial return.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Rogers were born six children, of whom four are living. Charles G. is a piano tuner residing with his mother in Rockford. Harriett C. is the wife of George W. Greene and they reside with her mother. They have one child, Richard. Mr. Greene, a native of England, learned the printer's trade in that country and is now employed by the T. W. Clark Company of this city. John is a resident farmer of South Dakota. Mary is the wife of Arthur Chubbuck, a newspaper man and postmaster at Ipswich, South Dakota. Those deceased are William, who died in 1886; and Frank, who died in infancy.

The death of Mr. Rogers occurred December 22, 1881, when he was fifty-four years of age. After becoming a naturalized American citizen he gave his political allegiance to the republican party, and he was a member of Ellis lodge, A. F. & A. M., of Rockford. He was also a communicant of the Episcopal church, to which all of his family belonged, and he took a very active and helpful part in the church work. For a few years he served as organist and the family, all of whom possess musical talent, have contributed in large measure to the attractiveness of the musical circles here. In fact at one time the choir was known as the Rogers choir. Mr. Rogers was a man of broad humanitarian principles and of kindly sympathy and these traits of character endeared him to all who knew him. He was also very industrious and energetic and never had an idle moment. When not connected with business or church duties he would work in his shop at home and, possessing superior mechanical ingenuity, he manufactured book cases and furniture of most attractive and pleasing designs. He took an optimistic view of life, believing that the world was growing better and doing his full share toward this end. He was charitable and generous and the poor and needy found in him a warm friend, but while he accomplished much in business and won the respect and good will of all with whom he was associated the best traits of his character were reserved for his family and his interests centered

in his home. Mrs. Rogers now owns a nice residence at No. 962 Grand avenue where she is now living with her son and daughter and in social and church circles in Rockford they are widely and favorably known.

FREDERICK A. COLLINS.

Frederick A. Collins, whose success in life and present creditable financial standing are the result of earnest and persistent labor through many years, is now following farming in Owen township. He was born in Chautauqua county, New York, February 19, 1837, and was brought to Winnebago county when twelve years of age by his parents, Albert G. and Emeline (Fairchild) Collins, both of whom were natives of the Empire state. The father was born in New York, June 30, 1811, and in early life learned the tailor's trade, which he followed in the east until 1849, when he made his way around the Great Lakes to Racine, Wisconsin, from which point he traveled by team to Winnebago county, for there were no railroads at that time. He first rented a farm near Roscoe for one summer and the following year removed to Owen township, where he purchased eighty acres of land, to which he afterward added a forty-acre tract, and eventually he further extended the boundaries of his property until he had one hundred and eighty acres of land. With characteristic energy he began its cultivation and improvement. He set out trees and fenced the place with a rail fence. He also built a house on the farm. His second home was a log cabin and later he erected a frame house in 1850. After following farming for many years he purchased a home in the village of Harrison, where he lived retired up to the time of his death. He was school director for many years and while in Chautauqua county, New York, served as town clerk. He manifested little aspiration for office, however, preferring to give his undivided attention to his farming interests whereby he won a comfortable competence that enabled him in his last days to enjoy rest from further labor. Both he and his wife attended the services of the Methodist Episcopal church although they were not members. Mr. Collins belonged to Rockton lodge, No. 74, A. F. & A. M., and was also an Odd Fellow, while his political support was given to the democracy. He died October 14, 1884, at the age of seventy-two years, three months and fourteen days. His wife, who was born April 25, 1818, died in September, 1862, at the age of eighty-two years.

This worthy couple were the parents of thirteen children. Charles Oscar, the eldest, enlisted at Belvidere, Illinois, in the Ninety-fifth Illinois

Infantry and died of measles while still in the army at Lake Providence, February 26, 1864. His birth had occurred December 15, 1834. Frederick A. is the second of the family. Amy R., born July 1, 1839, is the wife of Andrew Bingham, who was a member of a Michigan regiment during the Civil war. They have four children and are now living in Rockton. The fourth member of the Collins family died in infancy. Ellen, born November 24, 1842, died April 22, 1892. She was the wife of Charles Price and had four children, of whom three are now living. Jared H., born July 11, 1845, was a member of the Eleventh Illinois Cavalry during the Civil war and is now living in Iowa. He married Miss Mary Harper and has two children. William W., born December 24, 1847, died in infancy. Mary L., born March 24, 1851, became the wife of a Mr. Vernon and died May 17, 1891, at the age of forty years, two months and twenty-five days. Her husband is living in South Dakota and of their four children three survive. Laura J., born January 25, 1849, became the wife of Serenus Boone, who died sometime after his return from the Civil war. They had six children, all of whom are yet living. Following the death of her first husband Mrs. Boone became the wife of Louis Fairchilds and is living in Rockton. Albert N., born February 14, 1854, married Catherine Shrum, by whom he had a daughter. He was married the second time and is now living in Montana. By his second marriage he had a son. Elizabeth E., born November 12, 1856, died October 25, 1871. Harriet F. became the wife of William Littlejohn and had four children, of whom three are now living. Her second husband was William Gray and they are residents of California. There are six children by this marriage. Eva, the youngest of the family, born January 12, 1862, married Peter McLaren.

Brought to Winnebago county by his parents at the age of twelve years, Frederick A. Collins was reared in this part of the state and pursued his education in the public schools. He early began working on the Wisconsin and Mississippi rivers, rafting lumber down the river for one season. He afterward entered the employ of the Chicago & Northwestern Railway Company, in which service he took up the old strap rails between Footville and Magnolia, Wisconsin, replacing them with T chain rails. He was foreman of the iron gang which laid the rails from Magnolia to Madison, Wisconsin, and afterward he went to Iowa, where he laid the track from Toledo to Marshalltown. He next went to Springfield, Massachusetts, where he worked at the carpenter's trade until 1862, when he removed to Oil Creek, Pennsylvania, where he entered the service of the Oil Creek Railroad Company.



MR. AND MRS. F. A. COLLINS.

building bridges and buildings. In 1864 he again arrived in Winnebago county, where he purchased the old family homestead upon which he yet lives, and is to-day the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of land. His handiwork is seen in the fine modern residence upon his place. It is a commodious frame structure with stone basement built in attractive style of architecture and is one of the fine country homes of Owen township. He has also built a good barn and everything about his place is kept in excellent repair, showing his watchful care and mechanical ingenuity.

Mr. Collins was married to Miss Elmora G. Crittenden, a daughter of Leander and Hannah (Dwy) Crittenden. Her father, who was born April 16, 1817, is now living with Mr. and Mrs. Collins, but her mother, who was born April 19, 1830, passed away October 30, 1897. They were married July 6, 1845, and their children were as follows: Laura F., born January 2, 1848, died in infancy. Mrs. Collins was born September 8, 1851. Harmon B., born August 5, 1854, died in infancy. Laura M., born April 24, 1858, died in infancy. Izora, born November 5, 1859, is the wife of Frank Smith, of North Dakota, and has two children. William M., born December 15, 1861, and now living in Rockford, married Ella Rochester and has one child. Harmon L., born March 1, 1864, and now living in Rockford, married Florence Bennett, and had three children, of whom two are living. Robert D., born October 31, 1866, and also a resident of Rockford, married Alice Bennett and had four children, of whom three are living. Mary O., born January 16, 1870, is the wife of Gilbert Lake, of Rockford, and has two children. Lucy E., born September 26, 1872, is the wife of Andrew Hickey, of Egan, Illinois, and had four children, of whom three survive. Theodore G., born July 6, 1875, and now a resident of Rockford, married Lucy Bickford and has two children.

Leander Crittenden, father of Mrs. Collins, began his education in the pioneer schools of his boyhood days, but when about nine years of age stepped upon a thorn in such a manner that he was crippled for life. His opportunity of attending school was therefore very limited, but he has always been an extensive reader and has kept well informed on the issues and questions of the day. He was born in Greene county, New York, and in that state was married, after which he removed to Wisconsin in 1856, settling about two miles north of Juda in Green county. He followed farming for a number of years there and afterward removed to Calhoun county, Iowa, where he spent two years, on the expiration of which period he came to Winnebago county, where he has since been living with his children, now making his home with his daughter Mrs.

Collins. In politics he is a democrat and at the advanced age of eighty-eight years he regularly reads his newspaper, keeping up with the progress of the times, and he does not find it necessary to use glasses.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Collins was blessed with four sons and two daughters. Walter F., born November 4, 1873, married Miss Etta Kelley and they had five children, of whom four are living. He makes his home in Owen township and owns one hundred and thirty and a half acres of land in Winnebago township. Ben, born February 2, 1875, married Louisa Black and is living near his father's farm in Owen township, where he owns and operates two hundred and forty acres of land. He has one son. Alta M., born April 14, 1876, is the wife of Leonard Webb, a farmer of Harrison township cultivating one hundred and thirty acres. They have two daughters. Bessie E., at home, has been a public school student and also educated in music. Frankie, born November 15, 1875, died November 16, 1880. Robert, born January 31, 1887, completes the family.

Mr. Collins, interested in the public welfare and active in community interests, has been a helpful factor in many measures for the general good and while serving as school director for nine years the cause of education found in him an efficient friend. Although he usually votes with the democracy at local elections he does not consider himself bound by party ties and casts his ballot for the candidate whom he thinks best qualified for office. He is a member of Rockton lodge, No. 74, A. F. & A. M. The greater part of his life has been passed in Winnebago county and for more than forty consecutive years he has lived continuously upon the farm which is still his home. He owes his business advancement entirely to his earnest labors and his life has been one of untiring activity, now crowned with a gratifying measure of success.

GEORGE FALCONER.

George Falconer, whose valuable farming possessions comprise three hundred acres of very productive land on sections 5 and 32, Rockford township, his home being situated on the north piece of land, has in an active business career demonstrated the power of industry and enterprise as moving forces in the acquirement of success. He was born in 1860, on the farm which is yet his home, his parents being Robert and Jennett (Thompson) Falconer. The father and mother were born in Scotland and he was a blacksmith by trade. Coming to America in 1832 he followed his trade in the state of New York for

eight years and then made his way westward to Winnebago county, where he took up his abode upon what is still the Falconer home farm. He built a stone house which has since been torn down, being replaced by the present fine farm residence now occupied by our subject. While cultivating his fields he hauled his produce to Milwaukee and Chicago by team, and as the years passed his earnest labors were crowned with a fair measure of prosperity. He became a well known and highly respected citizen of his community and his death occurred here June 16, 1884, when he was about eighty years of age. He was known as a man of integrity and honor and accumulated his property through careful industry. He had long survived his wife who departed this life in 1864. They had but two children, George and Robert, Jr. The latter was for a number of years a reporter for the Register-Gazette, of Rockford, and died in 1891, at the age of thirty-three years.

George Falconer was reared in Winnebago county, where he has always made his home. He spent the days of his boyhood and youth with his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Robert McCullough, and divided his time between the duties of the schoolroom, the pleasures of the playground and the work of the home farm. He continued to assist his father throughout the period of his minority and eventually assumed the management of the old homestead which is now in his possession. He to-day owns three hundred acres of valuable land lying on sections 5 and 32, Rockford township, and devotes his attention to general farming and to the feeding and shipping of stock. He raises fine high grade cattle and hogs, favoring the Durham and short-horn cattle and the Poland China hogs. Each year his annual sales of stock add a considerable fund to his income and he is regarded as one of the prosperous agriculturists of this community. He has improved the farm by the erection of a fine home, in the rear of which stand good buildings for the shelter of grain and stock. These in turn are surrounded by well tilled fields and the entire farm presents an attractive appearance characterized by neatness and thrift. In addition to his agricultural interests Mr. Falconer became one of the seven promoters of the Winnebago Telephone Company, of which he is still a stockholder.

His political views accord with republican principles and he desires the success of his party without seeking office as a reward for party fealty. Socially he is connected with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 64, of Rockford, and with Rockford camp, No. 51, M. W. A., while his religious views are in accord with the teachings of the Presbyterian

church. He is known as an enterprising business man, alert and energetic and in the control of his farming interests is annually meeting with gratifying and deserved success. He has now rented his farm for a year and expects to take a well earned rest

CHARLES F. CLOVER.

Charles F. Clover, following the occupation of farming on section 17, Rockton township, was born in the village of Rockton July 18, 1850, and comes of English lineage. His father, John Clover, was a native of England, born in 1820, and there remained until he had attained his majority and was married. He wedded Miss Mary Clark, also a native of that country, and two children had been added to the family at the time of their emigration to the new world in 1844. Crossing the Atlantic, they did not tarry on the eastern coast but at once continued their journey into the interior of the country, settling in Rockton. In 1847 the father purchased land upon which Charles F. Clover now resides, entering a claim from the government and thereby securing one hundred and sixty acres. He at once began the arduous task of breaking the prairie and placing the tract under the plow and as the years advanced his labors brought to him a good return. In 1854 he began railroad contracting as a member of the firm of Frazer, Talcott & Clover and was thus engaged for sometime but subsequently he turned to his farm and was connected with general agricultural interests up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1864. His wife survived him until 1877, passing away at the age of sixty years. They were the parents of eight children, of whom six are now living, namely: John J., Henry W., Elizabeth A., Charles F., Emily J. and Edward C.

Charles F. Clover has always been a resident of Rockton, living on the old family homestead, where he has continuously followed farming from his boyhood days down to the present. In his youth he became familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil by assistance which he rendered his father during the summer months. In the winter seasons he attended school and was thus engaged until having put aside his textbooks he concentrated his entire attention upon his agricultural interests. He now owns one hundred and sixty acres, constituting a good farm well equipped and supplied with all modern facilities.

In 1878 Mr. Clover was married to Miss Viola D. Shores, a native of Rockford, Illinois, and a daughter of Orrin B. Shores, who was one of the early settlers of the county, arriving here about 1845, up to which time he had been a resident of

Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Clover have two sons and two daughters: Murray C., born in 1880, married Angie Palmer, of Rockford, and has one child, Lore Virginia; Pearl A., eighteen years of age; Essie Mae, sixteen years of age; and Fred W., fifteen years of age. All were born on the old family homestead. Mr. Clover belongs to Shirland lodge, M. W. A., gives his political allegiance to the republican party and served as road commissioner for three years. His co-operation can always be counted upon to further movements for the benefit of town and county and yet he has never sought the honors or emoluments of office, content to do his duty as a private citizen.

ARCHIBALD H. TYNDALE.

Archibald H. Tyndale, whose enterprise and industry proved a stimulating force in business circles in Rockford and whose labors were directed along lines of modern activity that pushed forward the wheels of progress, took up his abode here in September, 1873, and became manager of one of the large dry goods stores. A native of Paisley, Canada, he was born near Montreal, on the 28th of January, 1842, and was a direct descendant of William Tyndale, who was the first translator of the Bible into English. His parents were Mathew and Margaret (Scive-wright) Tyndale, both of whom were natives of Yorkshire, England, whence they went to Canada at an early day. The father owned a large farm near Paisley and at one time controlled all the stage and mail lines in that part of the country. He continued general agricultural pursuits there for a number of years and then removed to the city of Montreal, where he became one of the pioneers in a milling company manufacturing infants' food. That enterprise was successfully conducted for some time and eventually, with a handsome competence obtained through years of carefully conducted business affairs, he retired, making his home in Montreal until his death. His widow now resides there at the home of her daughter and is ninety years of age. They also have a son residing in that city.

Mr. Tyndale was afforded excellent educational privileges in the best schools in Montreal and was a college graduate and fine French scholar. It was always his desire to travel and at the age of twenty-seven years he left home, after which he spent much time upon the road, visiting many parts of the United States. He combined business with pleasure in this regard, going first to New York city, where he was employed as a salesman in various stores. He afterward visited all of the southern cities and

then made his way to the west, meeting the expenses of living and of his trips by occupying a position as salesman in various places. He ended his trip in Chicago in 1871 and secured a good position in one of the large stores there, acting as clerk until 1873.

Mr. Tyndale was married in that city on the 9th of October, 1873, to Mrs. Harriet A. (Holden) Ashley, a native of Prescott, Canada, and a daughter of James and Chloe M. (Wood) Holden, who were likewise born in Canada. Her father, however, was descended from an old Connecticut family of English ancestry. James Holden never engaged in any business because at the age of twenty-three years he became an invalid and he died in Canada at the age of thirty-five. His widow died at the home of her son in Nebraska when eighty years of age. Mrs. Tyndale was first married to William W. Ashley, a native of Vermont, who, on coming to the west, settled in Chicago, where he was associate press reporter for the Western Union Telegraph Company, residing there until his death in 1868. Mr. and Mrs. Ashley became the parents of two daughters: Florence, who died when five months old; and Emma M., who has always made her home in Rockford with her mother.

Following the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Tyndale they came at once to Rockford, and he accepted the position of manager in the dry goods store of L. Mothrope, with whom he was connected for two years and under his control the business grew in volume and importance. He then went to Central City, Nebraska, where he established a dry goods store of his own, intending to move his family there, but became ill and seeing that he could not remain in the country he placed his business in the care of his brothers, who are still conducting the store. Mr. Tyndale then returned to Rockford and accepted a position in the Aslton dry goods store, although he still retained the ownership of the business in Nebraska and made visits three or four times each year to Central City. While on a trip there in 1891 to look after his invested interests he became ill and died on the 19th of April. His remains, however, were taken back to Montreal for interment.

Mr. Tyndale voted with the republican party after becoming a citizen of the United States. He attained the Royal Arch degree of Masonry, holding membership with the lodge and chapter in Illinois, and he was also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen camp in Nebraska. He was a man of generous impulses and warm heart, kind to the poor and needy and considerate at all times of those with whom he came in contact. He held membership in the Episcopal church in Rockford, of which his widow and her daugh-

ter are also communicants. Mrs. Tyndale has recently erected a large, fine residence at No. 1126 Grand avenue and also owns considerable other property in Rockford, including a number of dwellings, the rental from which returns her an excellent income. She and her daughter are prominent in social circles in Rockford. Mr. Tyndale was very devoted to his family and he held friendship inviolable. Those who placed trust in him found that it was never betrayed and his business record was at all times unsailable.

BEADON R. LYDDON.

Beadon R. Lyddon, connected with the building interests of Rockford, is to-day one of the most prominent contractors of the city, and has probably done the largest amount of house building of any representative of the trade here. A native of England, he was born in Somersetshire in 1866, his parents being Benjamin and Elizabeth Ann (Withers) Lyddon, who were also born in the same country. The father died there on the 25th of March, 1874, when sixty-nine years of age. He was a tailor by trade, and had always followed that pursuit in order to provide for his family. Subsequent to his death, the mother and her three sons came to the United States, crossing the Atlantic in 1877. They located at Malta, De Kalb county, Illinois, reaching their destination on the 16th of March, and there Mrs. Lyddon made her home until the fall of 1890, when she removed to Rockford, where she now resides, at the age of seventy-six years. The sons are: Beadon R., of this review; Benjamin A., a contractor and builder of Rockford, who married Miss Anna R. McDougle, and has three sons, Forest A., Albert I. and Clyde O.; and Earnest E., who married Amanda Wright, and has a daughter, Eva Crystal. Their home is also in Rockford.

Beadon R. Lyddon spent the first eleven years of his life in the land of his nativity, and began his education in the public schools there. He then came with his mother to America and continued his studies in the schools of De Kalb county. When not occupied with the duties of the school-room his attention was given to the farm work, and he did arduous service in assisting his mother in improving the homestead farm on which she located upon her arrival in the new world. At the age of sixteen years he started out in life on his own account, going to Belvidere, where he began learning the carpenter's trade, for which he had displayed a natural predilection from his boyhood days, being very handy with the use of tools. He was not long in gaining a thorough and accurate knowledge of the busi-

ness; was recognized as a skilled workman, and even prior to his removal to Rockford he began contracting. In the fall of 1890 he took up his abode in this city, and has since been connected with its building operations as a contractor. He has erected on contract about one hundred and seventy-five houses here and has also built the Country Club building, numerous manufacturing plants and important business houses. He has made a specialty of flat buildings, and in 1904 he erected two large flat buildings in addition to twenty private residences. He has perhaps done the largest amount of house building of any contractor in the city, and employs on an average of twenty men, sometimes having as many as forty or fifty men in his employ. He also furnishes plans for buildings. He entered upon his varied duties with admirable equipment, being a practical builder, and has carried out his projects with such industry that he is credited with the erection of many of the best residences here. These are an ornament to their respective neighborhoods, pleasing to the eye and constructed with conscientious regard for real utility and thorough workmanship.

Mr. Lyddon was married in Belvidere, Illinois, to Miss Mary T. Bauman, who was born July 10, 1807, in Morris, Grundy county, Illinois, her parents being Andrew and Crescent (Read) Bauman, both of whom were natives of Germany, the father's birth having occurred in Wurttemberg, while the mother was born in Bavaria. Mr. Bauman died in March, 1877, at the age of fifty-three years, while his wife, who was born August 13, 1827, is now living in Knoxville, and is still a very active woman. Mrs. Lyddon has three brothers and two sisters, namely: John, who is engaged in the bakery business in Utica, New York; Casper C., a commercial traveler, residing at Cherry Valley; Joseph, who is also a traveling man; Louise, the wife of Louis Eagle, a baker conducting business at Knoxville, Iowa; and Frances R., the wife of J. H. Lawrence, who is engaged in the restaurant business at Exira, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Lyddon have three children: Gordon Robert, who was born at Belvidere, Illinois, May 12, 1890; Beadon Francis, born in Rockford, February 16, 1892; and Ella Mae, born in this city, April 13, 1894. All are attending school here.

Mr. Lyddon votes with the republican party, and his religious views accord with the teachings of the Baptist church, the services of which he attends. He is prominent in his fraternal relations, being a member of the Modern Woodmen camp, while in Masonry he has attained a high degree. He is now affiliated with Star in the East lodge, No. 106, A. F. & A. M.; Winnebago Chapter, No. 24, R. A. M.; Crusader Commandery, No. 17, K. T.; Telala Temple of the Mystic



B. R. LYDDON.

Shrine and the Order of the Eastern Star, of which Mrs. Lyddon is also a member. He is deeply interested in the growth of the craft, and in his life exemplifies its tenets and teachings. Like all successful business men he gives the greater part of his attention to the line of activity in which he has directed his efforts, and his work as a contractor has met with cordial and general appreciation, as is evidenced by the attractive edifices he has erected and the liberal patronage accorded him.

D. E. TURNER.

D. E. Turner, who follows farming in Guilford township, where he is also serving as road commissioner, has filled this office for twelve years, a fact which stands in uncontrovertible evidence of his capability, his fidelity to duty and the trust reposed in him by his fellow townsmen. He came to Winnebago county about forty-one years ago and is a native son of the middle west, exemplifying in his life the spirit of enterprise and progress which have been the dominant factors in the upbuilding of this section of the country. He was born in Waverly, Bremer county, Iowa, November 10, 1861, his parents being Thomas and Rebecca J. (Evans) Turner, who removed to this county about fifty-four years ago. Thomas Turner came from Canada to Rockford, but after a brief residence here he removed to Iowa, where he remained for seven years. He was a farmer by occupation and after his return to Winnebago county lived in Cherry Valley and Guilford townships, devoting his attention to the tilling of the soil. He died in the spring of 1904, at the age of seventy-seven years, and is still survived by his wife. They celebrated their golden wedding on the 12th of October, 1903. In their family were three sons and a daughter, but one son and the daughter died in childhood. E. T. Turner is now living on a farm near Waverly, Iowa, the land having been pre-empted by his father from the government when the family home was established in that state.

D. E. Turner, whose name introduces this record, was reared in Winnebago county, which has been his home for more than four decades, and in his youth he gained intimate knowledge of farm work through assistance which he rendered to his father in the fields and meadows. Having arrived at years of maturity he was united in marriage to Miss Ella O. Krans, who was born in Sweden and was brought to the United States when a young maiden, her parents being Gust and Fredericka Krans, who now reside in Rockford, her father being employed in one of the

factories there. Mrs. Turner was engaged in teaching in the Henry Freeman school of Rockford for several years and is a lady of culture and refinement. She has become the mother of two daughters, Lorene and Lucile, both at home.

Politically a republican, upon the party ticket Mr. Turner was elected road commissioner and by re-election has been continued in the office for the past twelve years. He has done much to secure good roads here and his labors have been attended with excellent results. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, his membership being in Cherry Valley lodge, and his life is in harmony with the spirit of the craft, which is based upon mutual helpfulness and brotherly kindness. From boyhood down to the present time he has so lived that his staunchest friends are those who have known him from his early youth. His business success has come as a legitimate result of well directed efforts, his life being another proof of cause and effect in the business world.

J. N. SAYLOR.

J. N. Saylor, a farmer located on section 19, Cherry Valley township, has resided in Winnebago county for more than six decades, having taken up his abode here in 1843. He was born in Tompkins county, New York, April 20, 1818.

C. JEROME ROBERTS.

C. Jerome Roberts, who was for many years a well known business man of Rockford, took up his abode in the city when it bore little resemblance to the metropolitan center which we find here to-day. He settled here in 1846, being at that time a young man of about twenty-one years. He was born near Montrose, Pennsylvania, November 8, 1825, his parents being Caleb and Mary Roberts. The mother spent her entire life in the Keystone state, where she died when her son Jerome was about twenty-one years of age. Later the father came to the west and departed this life in Rockford. One of their sons is still living in this city, Jacob W. Roberts, who is a retired shoemaker now residing with his son-in-law, G. R. Warren, at No. 831 North Court street.

Mr. Roberts of this review acquired a good education in the schools of the east, for after attending the public schools of his native town he was afforded the privilege of continuing his education in Montrose Academy at Montrose, Pennsylvania. He did not complete the full course there, however, because his health failed him and for this reason he came to the west in 1846, hop-

ing that a change of climate would prove beneficial. He made his way direct to Rockford, where he entered the bakery business in partnership with his cousin, Amos Roberts, on West State street. This relation was maintained for a few years, after which Mr. Roberts joined his brother in a partnership in the shoe business on West State street, following that pursuit for several years. Mr. Roberts then accepted a position as salesman and bookkeeper in the grocery store of W. G. King, but impaired health led him to seek outdoor work as he could not stand the close confinement of the store. He then began traveling over the country, buying butter for Mr. King, in whose employ he remained for several years, after which he began business for himself, opening a store on West State street near Main street. He there engaged in buying butter, eggs and cheese, which he shipped to Boston, New York and St. Louis, carrying on the business for several years. He was very successful in this undertaking, and he then returned to keeping books for a few years, after which he went upon the road as a traveling salesman, selling soap for sometime. Subsequently he accepted the position of bookkeeper for Mr. Sturtevant, of Rockford, with whom he remained for four years, but later he abandoned all business cares and retired to private life, spending his remaining days in the enjoyment of a well earned rest.

Mr. Roberts was married three times. He first wedded Mary J. Dewey, who died in Rockford. For his second wife he chose Mrs. Hettie Quackebush, of New York, who died in Rockford. There were four children of that union, but all died in early life with the exception of Carroll J., a painter residing in Chicago. For his third wife Mr. Roberts chose Miss Hortense Moore, who was born in Winnebago county, and was a daughter of Washington and Lucia (Holt) Moore, who were natives of the east, and came to Winnebago county in 1838, settling in Winnebago township, where Mr. Moore engaged in farming until his death in 1846. Mrs. Moore afterward married Clark Fisher, who conducted a sawmill in this county for many years, and both he and his wife died here, Mrs. Fisher passing away in 1895. There were three children born unto Mr. Roberts by his last marriage: Tracy M., who wedded Catherine C. McLaughlin and is a molder by trade, residing in Rockford with his wife and one son, Earle Jerome; Dena W., who has always resided with her mother; and Newell H., who married Genevieve A. Tuttle. They have one child, Clement, and they also reside with Mrs. Roberts. Mr. Tuttle is a painter by trade.

Mr. Roberts, in addition to his other business interests, was at one time a director in the old Forest City Bank of Rockford. About ten weeks before his death he became ill and was confined to

his bed. He passed away May 8, 1904, his demise being the occasion of deep regret to his many friends. In politics he was a republican, actively interested in the success and growth of the party, and he always kept well informed on the questions and issues of the day. He possessed a very retentive memory and was thoroughly informed concerning the important events in the history of Rockford and Winnebago county. He had a wide acquaintance among pioneer settlers here, as well as among later arrivals, and all recognized his honorable manhood and his genuine personal worth. He contributed to the improvement of the city by his indorsement of many measures for the general good and also aided in the material upbuilding by the erection of several houses. At one time he was the owner of a very fine residence on Rockton avenue, which he afterward sold, building the present home of the family at No. 316 Hinkley avenue. Mrs. Roberts and her children are all members of the Court Street Methodist Episcopal church.

W. M. LAWTON.

W. M. Lawton, who for the past three years has conducted a prosperous business in Rockford as an oil dealer, is a native of the Empire state, but has made his home in Illinois since about two years of age. He was reared and educated here, and in his boyhood days remained with his parents, who are now deceased. He entered upon his business career in Chicago, where he was employed for some time. Afterward he became an oil dealer in Capron, Boone county, Illinois, where he was located for several years prior to his removal to Rockford. Since 1902, however, he has been engaged in business in this city, and he now has a large storage plant, with a capacity of forty-four thousand gallons. He runs three tank wagons and also supplies seventeen towns besides Rockford, handling the best grade of Pennsylvania oil. He furnishes employment to three men, and devotes his entire attention to the business. He is the only one thus engaged in Rockford, aside from the Standard Oil Company, and he handles all refinery products. His honorable methods, promptness in attending to the wants of his customers, his unflagging enterprise and energy have brought him richly merited success.

In 1886 Mr. Lawton was united in marriage to Miss Carrie Cooper, a daughter of Arthur Cooper, and a native of Illinois, although she was reared near Mount Pleasant, Michigan. In his political views Mr. Lawton is a republican, and served as trustee of the village board while residing in Capron, Boone county. Socially he is



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a member of the Masonic fraternity at Capron and the Knights of Pythias at Delavan, Wisconsin, and was formerly identified with the Red Men and the Odd Fellows at Delavan. He is now connected with the Modern Woodmen of America, and his wife is a member of the Woman's Relief Corps of Rockford. They have a pleasant home at 1009 Horsman street, and although their residence in this city covers but a brief period, they have already gained many warm friends in Rockford.

PETER ABRAM.

Peter Abram, deceased, who was a mason contractor and became a resident of Winnebago county about 1880, was born in Southport, England, January 11, 1844. His parents always resided in that country and both died there. The educational privileges afforded the son were limited, and he had no special advantages of any kind to aid him as he started out upon his business career. While a young man he began to learn the trade of a brick-mason, which he followed while still in England.

Mr. Abram was also married in that country on the 16th of June, 1864. He wedded Miss Jane Ball, who died in Southport, March 27, 1866, leaving a daughter, Alice, who now resides in Iowa. On the 31st of December, 1866, Mr. Abram was married in England to Miss Hannah Price, who died in Rockford. They were the parents of eight children: Samuel, who married Ann Croucher and resides in Chicago; John, deceased; John, the second of the name, who was born August 28, 1872, and resides in Iowa; Elizabeth, who was born February 5, 1875, and is the wife of Henry Maxiner, a resident of Rockford; Mary Anna, deceased; Mary and Annie, twins, who were born June 18, 1878, the latter now deceased, while the former resides in Rockford; and William Henry, who was born November 7, 1880, and makes his home in Chicago.

Peter Abram, after his second marriage, resided for sometime in England, working at his trade, and then came to America, making his way into the interior of the country. He settled at Latham Park, Winnebago county, Illinois, where he lived for a short period and then removed to Rockford. It was subsequent to this time that his second wife died and on the 7th of November, 1893, he married Mrs. Martha Mary Ann (Stanbury) Tuckfield, who was born in England and is a daughter of Benjamin Stanbury, who died in that country during her early girlhood. There she became the wife of John F. Tuckfield, also a native of England, in which country he learned the miller's trade. On coming to the new world he settled in Rockford, and worked at the miller's

trade until his death. He left one son, Henry Francis Stanbury Tuckfield, who married Burdella Phillips and resides in Beloit, Wisconsin. He is a machinist by trade.

Mr. Abram worked at the mason's trade in Rockford for a number of years, and then began contracting along that line. He was accorded a liberal and important patronage. After following that business for several years he went to the west on account of his health, but only remained for three months, after which he returned to Rockford. Here he was taken ill and died May 3, 1905. He was a republican in his political views and fraternally was connected with the Modern Woodmen and also the Mason's Union. Both he and his wife were members of the Rebekah lodge, and he belonged to the Court Street Methodist Episcopal church, while his wife is a member of the Episcopalian church.

DANIEL B. REDINGTON.

Daniel B. Redington, whose prominence in community affairs and place in public regard is indicated by the fact that for seventeen years he has been supervisor of Rockford township, is now residing on his farm on sections 3 and 4. He was born in this township, July 24, 1844, and has practically spent his entire life on this same farm. His parents are Henry P. and Jerusha (Bradford) Redington, who came to Winnebago county, in 1836, from Keene, New Hampshire, and settled on a claim on section 4, Rockford township. With characteristic energy the father began the improvement of his place in the midst of the district where the work of civilization had scarcely been begun. His land is now a part of the three-hundred-acre farm owned by Daniel B. Redington. Throughout his entire life the father carried on agricultural pursuits and he held several minor offices, to which he was called by the vote of his fellow townsmen. He died on the old farm homestead, in 1888, when about seventy-three years of age, while his wife passed away in California, in 1881. They were both members of the Unitarian church. An older brother of our subject, C. H. Redington, is now living in Oakland, California, occupying the position of assistant treasurer with the Southern Pacific Railroad Company, having been associated with railroad interests from his youth to the present time. One sister is also living, L. A., who is now the widow of S. S. Montague, who was chief engineer for the Southern Pacific Railroad Company at the time of its construction, her home being still in California; and S. F., who is the deceased wife of Milton Morse, a native of Massachusetts, and a mechanic in his business pursuits, now residing in the old Bay state.

Daniel B. Redington was reared in Winnebago county, where his entire life has been passed. No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for him in his youth, and he enlisted in the Eighth Illinois Cavalry, a part of the First Independent Cavalry Corps of the Eastern Army, and was honorably discharged in 1865. He was never wounded, although he was frequently in the thickest of the fight, and made a creditable military record.

Subsequent to his return home Mr. Redington was united in marriage to Miss Louisa Steward, of this county, who was born in Owen township, and they now have two daughters, Alice and Leta, the latter at home. The elder daughter is now the wife of Charles D. Clifford, of Rockford, who is conducting the Superior Laundry of that city, of which he is part owner. They have one son, Harold. Almost continuously since his marriage Mr. Redington has followed the occupation of farming, and now living upon the old farm homestead is giving his time and energies to the tilling of the soil, his fields being well cultivated, so that rich crops are annually harvested. The place comprises three hundred acres of land, which is very valuable, constituting one of the good farms of Winnebago county, and in all his business dealings he is reliable and trustworthy, so conducting his affairs that he has made for himself an honorable name. Well known as an advocate of republican principles and prominent in the local ranks of his party he has served as supervisor of Rockford township for seventeen years. Socially he is connected with Nexius post, No. 1, G. A. R., and with Farmers' camp, No. 449, M. W. A. Both he and his wife hold membership in the Christian Union church, and their interests are centered in lines of activity, wherein the county is benefited and public progress is conserved.

ALONZO J. EDSON, M. D.

Dr. Alonzo J. Edson, who for many years devoted his life to the practice of medicine, following the profession for forty-seven years in Ogle and Winnebago counties, is now residing in the village of New Milford, where he has lived since 1868, and where he is now practically retired. He was born in Genesee county, New York, April 7, 1820, his parents being General and Hannah (Pollock) Edson, the former a native of New York and the latter of New Jersey. They removed to Ogle county, Illinois, in 1857, settling in Monroe township, where Dr. Edson and his father purchased a farm, and upon that place his parents both died, the father passing away in 1877 and the mother in 1864. They had four children: Elizabeth A., Lurista J., Malvina and Alonzo J., but Dr. Edson is the only one now living.

Until twelve years of age Dr. Edson worked upon his father's farm in New York. He then attended the common schools for the first time, but later he was afforded good educational privileges, becoming a student in the academy at Wyoming, New York, where he remained for two terms, mastering the branches of learning that constitute the curriculum in that institution. He afterward took up the study of theology, placing himself under the instruction of Elders Haril, McCuin and Fuller, who directed his reading and investigation for a year. It was his father's wish that he become a minister of the Christian religion, but owing to a division in the church regarding the slavery question, Dr. Edson put aside his original intentions of following his father's wish and took up the study of medicine, matriculating in Cincinnati Medical College, from which he was graduated with honors in the class of 1847. He then practiced in Genesee county, New York, until 1854, when he formed a partnership with Dr. Jacob DeLamater, of Batavia, New York, which relation was maintained until 1856. In 1858 he came to Illinois. He has practiced continuously since 1847, meeting with excellent success in his profession, and he has continuously studied and read to keep in touch with methods of modern practice, being quick to advocate any new idea that would prove of value in his chosen work, yet he never discarded hastily the old and time-tried methods whose value he had proven through long years of active work.

On the 1st of October, 1850, Dr. Edson was married to Miss Cornelia Howe, who died twelve years later, and on the 2d of January, 1865, he wedded Mrs. Mercy M. Pardee. They have four children: Curtis G. and Bertis S., twins, the former residing at New Milford, where he is employed as an engineer, while the latter resides on a farm in Ogle county; George A., who assists his brother Bertis in operating the farm; and Kittie M., at home. By her former husband Mrs. Edson had two children, one of whom, Roland C., resides in Monroe, Ogle county. He is now married and has four daughters, two of whom are school-teachers.

Dr. Edson is the owner of a good farm of one hundred and eighty acres, and he recently sold seven acres for the right of way for the Iowa, Illinois & Minnesota Railroad, now in course of construction. The farm lies partly in Winnebago and partly in Ogle counties, one hundred and thirty-three acres being in the township of New Milford, and the Doctor's practice has naturally extended into both counties. In November, 1868, he removed to the village of New Milford, where he purchased and improved his present comfortable home. He formerly owned several properties in the city of Rockford, but has disposed of these. Politically Dr. Edson is a republican, and

in religious faith his wife is connected with the Wesleyan Methodist church. Fraternally he was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Masonic lodge in New York, but has never affiliated therewith in the west. In the line of his profession he was identified with the New York State Medical Society and is now a member of the Illinois State Medical Society. He is a social, genial gentleman of genuine worth, whose life has been of benefit to his fellowmen, and he is yet the loved family physician in many a household. He has now attained a venerable age, having passed the seventy-sixth milestone on life's journey, but his era of usefulness is not yet over. Old age does not naturally suggest lack of occupation or helplessness, for there is an old age which grows stronger and better as the years go by and gives out of its rich stores of wisdom and experience. Such has been the career of Dr. Edson.

HENRY P. KIMBALL.

Henry P. Kimball as secretary of the County Agricultural Society and as a private citizen contributed in substantial measure to the welfare and upbuilding of Rockford and Winnebago county, and, while he started out in business empty-handed, in his later years he was classed with the prosperous citizens whose records prove the force and value of industry and integrity as factors in the business world.

Mr. Kimball was a native of New Hampshire, born in 1829, and his parents were Samuel and Hannah (Tasker) Kimball, who were natives of New England, spending the greater part of their lives in Kennebunk, Maine, where in his younger years the father followed the miller's trade. Both he and his wife died in Salmon Falls, New Hampshire.

Henry P. Kimball acquired a good education in the east. He was largely reared in Maine, and after mastering the elementary branches of learning in the public schools continued his studies in Colby University, of Maine, while subsequently he was graduated from Rochester (New York) University. He then turned his attention to the profession of teaching, which he followed for several years in the Pine Tree state. Attracted by the business opportunities of the great and growing west, however, he made his way to Winnebago county in early manhood, arriving in Rockford in June, 1852. He first taught school here for three years and then turned his attention to horticultural pursuits, owning twenty-six acres of land in the northern part of the city, now included within the main residence portion of Rockford. He also bought another tract and set out both places in fruit trees. He made a close study of

the needs and requirements of different kinds of fruit trees, and his opinions were largely regarded as authority on horticultural questions in this part of the state. He produced high grades of fruit and met with excellent success in his business career. He was also secretary of the County Agricultural Society, and put forth his best efforts to promote its interests, so that the farming class of Winnebago county owe him a debt of gratitude for what he accomplished in that direction.

In 1852, Mr. Kimball was united in marriage to Miss Ellen Haskell, a native of Massachusetts and a daughter of Dr. George and Eunice (Edwards) Haskell. Her mother was born in Acton, Massachusetts. Her father, Dr. Haskell, was one of the early physicians of Rockford and a graduate of Dartmouth College. Retaining his residence in New England for some time he practiced both in Maine and Massachusetts, and then removed to the west, settling first in Edwardsville, Illinois, whence he afterward went to Alton, remaining in active practice there for a few years. He afterward proceeded by boat up the river to Rockford, becoming one of the pioneer physicians of this city. Here he practiced with benefit to the community until his own health failed and he found it necessary to live an outdoor life. However, before following that course he purchased a small stock of dry goods and conducted a store for a few years after his retirement from practice. He found that he could not stand the close confinement and embarked in the nursery business, giving his attention largely to fruit trees. At a later date he removed to New Jersey, where he invested in land and spent his last days, but Mrs. Haskell died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Kimball, in Rockford. Dr. Haskell was a man of marked integrity of character, of unquestionable honor in all life's relations and one whose devotion to the public good was characterized by untiring effort and unselfishness of purpose.

Mr. and Mrs. Kimball became the parents of four children: Frank H., a practicing physician of Rockford, who is represented elsewhere in this work; Willis M., who married Isabelle Mears and resides on Haskell avenue, now representing the fourth ward on the board of aldermen, a position which he has filled for many years with marked capability; Carlton C., who wedded May Irish and is city collector, residing on Winnebago street; and Cora, who died at the age of four years. The death of Mr. Kimball occurred May 10, 1889.

He was a republican in politics and took an active and deep interest in the questions and issues of the day. He long ranked as one of the leading residents of his adopted city, and was closely identified with its upbuilding along varied lines. He was a gentleman of broad humanitarian spirit, of ready sympathy and unflinching

courtesy and always stood as a friend of educational and philanthropic measures. The consensus of public opinion concerning him was very favorable, and he had the happy faculty not only of winning friends, but of drawing them closer to him as the years passed by. In 1892 Mrs. Kimball built her present beautiful home at No. 527 Fisher avenue. The family are well known here and occupy an enviable position in social circles and public life.

A. B. MILLER.

A. B. Miller, a farmer and stock-raiser also engaged in the breeding of stock, is located on section 27, Shirland township, where he is largely engaged in the breeding of Jersey cattle and Berkshire hogs. He is to-day one of the most prominent representatives of farming interests in this part of the county, and his judgment concerning farm animals and products of all kinds is considered authoritative. He is a native of Orange county, Vermont, born in 1835, and was a lad of ten years when in 1845 he was brought to Winnebago county by his parents, Alexander and Mary (Mackey) Miller. The father was born at Ryegate, Vermont, and after his removal to the west settled in the village of Rockford, where he obtained employment in the salt works. Later he purchased the farm now owned by Frank Zahn in Shirland township, and for a time continued its improvement, but later sold out there and removed to Harlem township, where he resided for a number of years. He then again purchased a farm in Shirland township and devoted his time and energies to its development and improvement until he retired from active business life and took up his abode in the village of Shirland, where he made his home until his death, which occurred about fifteen years ago, when he was eighty-five years of age. His wife died about 1900, when ninety-two years of age. Both were very active up to the last. They were natives of Vermont and manifested the thrift and industry so characteristic of the New England people. In their family were twelve children, as follows: Mrs. Margaret Reckhow, of Rockford; John, a stock buyer of that city; Roger, who is engaged in the fruit business in Michigan; Edmund, a resident farmer of Owen township; Mrs. Fidelia Harley, who owns a fine farm in Shirland township and makes her home in the village of Rockton; Mrs. Henrietta Robinson, of Beloit; Mrs. Mary A. Lloyd, of Roscoe; Mrs. B. Jewett, of Harrison; A. B., of this review; one who died in infancy; Frank, who died in California; and William, who was a farmer of Shirland township and was accidentally killed by working about a thresher.

A. B. Miller spent the first ten years of his life in the place of his nativity, and from the age of ten years has resided in Winnebago county, while for forty years he has made his home upon his present farm. Here he has carried on general agricultural pursuits and stock breeding and raising. He devotes special attention to the breeding of Jersey cattle and Berkshire hogs, and he owns some fine pure bred Berkshires. He has bred these animals for thirty-eight years, has exhibited at various fairs and has won many prizes, often times carrying off the first prize. All of his cattle are eligible to record, and indeed most of them have been recorded. They average three hundred pounds in butter to each cow per year. That Mr. Miller is considered an excellent judge of farm animals is shown by the fact that he has often been chosen to act as judge of fowls, cattle and hogs at various fairs at Freeport and elsewhere, and also as judge upon flowers and plants. He owns and operates his farm of seventy acres, which is finely improved, and he conducts an extensive dairy, having a large herd of Jerseys. This branch of his business is proving very profitable, and indeed in all that he undertakes he wins success because he is practical, energetic and reliable.

Mr. Miller was married here to Miss Mary J. Rochester, who was born in Janesville, Wisconsin, and is a daughter of James Rochester, an early resident of this part of the state. The father resided in Rockford, and was a millwright by trade. Eventually, however, he removed to Kansas City, where he enlisted in the Union army, his death occurring while he was in the service. Mr. and Mrs. Miller have six children. Henry, agent at Shannon, Illinois, for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad Company, is married, and has six children. Edward, a farmer of Shirland township, is married and has one daughter, but has lost his wife. William is associated with his father in business. Clara is the wife of Henry Bennett, a resident farmer of Shirland township, and has one daughter. Mae is the wife of Fayette Stilwell, and has four children. Jennie is at home. Mr. Miller exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party, but has little aspiration for office, and has served only in a few minor positions. He was formerly identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, but he now concentrates his attentions largely upon his business affairs, and he is justly regarded as one of the most progressive agriculturists of this part of the county, being so thoroughly informed on the best methods of raising stock and farm products that his opinions are considered valuable throughout the entire locality.



A. B. MILLER AND FAMILY.

NELSON EUGENE BENOIT.

On Sunday, the 23d of March, 1902, there occurred an event which caused general mourning in the city of Rockford, the death of Nelson E. Benoit, who at the hour of 2:30 departed this life. He was a remarkable man in many respects. He achieved splendid success in business, and in him were embodied many virtues, including a steadfast purpose, unimpeachable integrity and devotion to the general good. Moreover, he possessed a nature which enabled him to shed around him much of the sunshine of life. This was perhaps his most distinguishing characteristic, as all who knew him were familiar with his intense good nature, his ready reply and his quick wit, but those who came within the closer circle of his friendship knew more of a kindly, generous spirit, a philanthropic purpose and a serious and philosophic insight into life, its duties and its possibilities. He was known in business circles of Rockford for many years as one of its leading merchants, first taking up his abode here in 1868.

Mr. Benoit was a native of Frelighsburg, Quebec, Canada, born in the 6th of March, 1841. His parents always lived in Quebec, where his father was a carriage-maker by trade. The son pursued his education in the public schools of his native county, and then became his father's assistant in the shop, there learning the trade, which, however, he followed for only a brief time. He afterward learned the art of photography in Canada, and followed it as a business pursuit until he came to Rockford in 1868. Here he secured a position in the paint shop of the N. C. Thompson Company, but when he had been thus employed for about two years he turned his attention to the jewelry business, securing a position in the store of Mr. Manning, with whom he worked for a few years. He afterward clerked for Mr. Freidman in his jewelry store for about a year, and in 1880 he purchased a stock of goods and began business on his own account at No. 310 West State street, where he carried a complete line of jewelry, watches, clocks, silverware and fine optical goods. At the beginning the new enterprise was attended with success. The safe, conservative policy which he inaugurated commended itself to all, and the public knew that it would receive fair and honorable treatment at his hands. He continued in the jewelry trade with constantly growing success until 1900, when he sold out to C. E. Axt, who still conducts the store.

Mr. Benoit was married twice. He first wedded Miss Julia P. Chaffee, who was born in Berkshire, Vermont, and died in Rockford in 1871. Seven years later, in 1878, Mr. Benoit wedded Mrs. Martha (Thayer) Hobart, the widow of Randolph E. Hobart, who came to Rockford and was employed in the shops of this city until his

health failed him, when he returned to Plymouth, Pennsylvania, where he died. Mrs. Benoit was a daughter of John and Maria Thayer, both natives of the state of New York. They came to Rockford in 1857, and Mr. Thayer, who was a carpenter by trade, assisted in the erection of many of the fine buildings of this city, including the Westminster Presbyterian church. He afterward engaged in the pump manufacturing business under the firm name of Springer & Thayer, conducting that enterprise with success for several years. He next removed to Dakota, and afterward visited California, and while on a return trip to Rockford he was taken ill, dying before he reached his destination. He was well known in this city, and many friends entertained for him warm regard. His widow, now aged eighty-seven years, makes her home in Rockford with her two daughters, Mrs. Benoit and Mrs. Tymesen, at No. 1003 Haskell avenue. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Thayer were born five children, of whom four are yet living, Mrs. Benoit being the third in order of birth. The others are Clara W., the wife of Harvey L. Tymesen, who is engaged in the express business in Rockford; Mrs. Frank Johnson, who is residing in Los Angeles, California; and Mrs. A. I. Manuel, of Denver, Colorado. The eldest daughter, Nancy, now deceased, was the wife of A. M. Manny, who was formerly a prominent business man of Rockford and now resides in Chicago.

Mr. Benoit disposed of his business interests in Rockford on account of ill health, and then went to California, where he spent about nine months. On the expiration of that period he returned to Rockford with the intention of going again to California and make that state his home, but while here he entered into partnership with W. H. Allen in the organization and control of the business of the Rockford Glass Company, Mr. Benoit managing the store, while Mr. Allen traveled upon the road selling their goods. In January, 1902, however, Mr. Benoit was taken ill. He somewhat recovered his health, but again became worse, and on the 23d of March, 1902, he passed away.

In his political relations he was a republican, and fraternally was a thirty-second-degree and Knight Templar Mason. He was also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and other fraternal societies. He and his wife attended the Christian Union church, and it was there that his funeral services were held. There were few men better known in Rockford and certainly none more popular. He was called "Benny," a term of good fellowship, popularity and affection. It is said that none ever heard an ill word spoken of him. He was to every one who came in contact with him a merry soul, brimming over with good nature and kindness and scattering

sunshine wherever he went. A local paper said of him: "His kindness of heart, his tolerance of the views of others, his sympathy for the weak and unfortunate were qualities which always abided with him, not ostentatiously, for it was only upon close acquaintance that his true nature became revealed. He was a lifelong republican in politics and was happy in his fidelity to his party's principles, though he was generous to a fault with those who held opposing views. The passing through knew him best as a wit, and in this regard he was unique. His sallies into the grotesque and ridiculous were always free from bitterness or malediction. His sayings and characteristic descriptions of places and incidents which came into his daily life never failed to arouse wholesome laughter. Had he placed his genius as a humorist more into the public eye thousands would now mourn for one who had brought sunshine into their lives. He will never be forgotten by scores of friends on whom his bright sayings were bestowed so prodigally. His genial ways made warm friendships among people of all ages and all classes of men. He was one of the best known business men in the city and was respected by all for his rectitude in his dealings. He was a type of merchant which the new order of things will not produce, for with him trade was a pleasant exchange not only of merchandise, but of good fellowship. A French-Canadian by birth, he was intensely loyal to his adopted country. He loved America, its progress, its catholicity of opinion and its democracy. The death of President McKinley was a great shock to him, for he idolized the martyred President. To those who knew him well the deep sincerity and philosophic mood which lay under his most excellent humor rounded out his nature into an ideal worthy of any man's affections, and a treasure for those who learned to appreciate his true worth."

Among the numerous tributes to Mr. Benoit's life and condolences received by Mrs. Benoit, is the following from one of his most intimate acquaintances, Frank C. Lander: "Dear Friend: Sympathy is but an empty name in the depths of a sorrow like yours, but I can not refrain from giving expression to the profound grief which is mine through the great loss you have sustained. I know as could few others the rare nobility of character, the loyalty in friendship, the almost womanly tenderness, the unselfish generosity, the charity for the weaknesses of others and the willingness to forgive and forget the blows received in the strife we call life which belonged to the departed one, and I loved him as I have loved no other man save my father. In lightening the burdens of others and increasing the happiness of all who came within the circle of his genial influence he found for himself the only enduring joy which

earth affords. None knew him but to hold him in the highest esteem, and in all the years I have been privileged to call him my friend I have never heard an ill word spoken of him in any connection. Rest and peace are his; while the rich heritage of his spotless name and honorable career are yours. I do not believe that ever man stood before the great white throne of eternal justice with cleaner hands or a purer heart than Nelson E. Benoit."

Mrs. Benoit is now residing with her sister and mother at No. 209 South West street, but has spent much of her time since her husband's death in traveling, mostly in the west, spending much time with her sisters in California and Colorado, and she intends soon to take up her permanent abode in California.

N. P. JOHNSON.

N. P. Johnson, conducting an extensive men's and ladies' tailoring establishment at No. 318 East State street, Rockford, was born in Skone, Sweden, in 1860, a son of Johannes Pearson. He spent the days of his boyhood and youth in the land of his birth, but the superior business opportunities of the new world attracted him, and in 1881 he crossed the Atlantic to America, making his way direct to Rockford in May of that year, where he has since remained, with the exception of a brief period of three months spent in Chicago. Following his arrival here he was employed for nine years by the Glove Manufacturing Company, and later he worked for three and a half years with the Globe Clothing Company as a salesman. He then began the tailoring business on his own account, and has since been engaged in this way. He carries the largest stock of woollens of any tailoring establishment in Rockford, and does all kinds of ladies' and men's tailoring, receiving a large patronage from the best people of the city and county, his business having reached such proportions that he is justified in the employment of from six to eight first-class tailors. His work is all guaranteed and gives uniform satisfaction and his establishment is thoroughly modern in all of its equipments.

In 1885 Mr. Johnson was united in marriage to Miss Ingrid Lindstrom, a native of Sweden, who came to America in 1885. They have two children, George and Albin. The family home is at No. 1528 East State street, where Mr. Johnson owns a beautiful residence, having lived here for eighteen years. He votes with the republican party, but is too busy to devote any time to political work. He belongs to the Modern



N. P. JOHNSON.

Woodmen camp of Rockford, and he and his wife are members of the Swedish Methodist Episcopal church. He is a man of fine appearance, of unflinching courtesy and genial disposition, and his business record is notable from the fact that he came to America without capital and but limited education. He, however, soon mastered the English language and with a mind that is continually broadening through reading and experience he has acquainted himself with the conditions of the new world and by ready adaptability to business life has worked his way steadily upward in the field of labor which he has chosen.

JAMES B. HARDY.

James B. Hardy, an agriculturist of Roscoe township, has for a number of years been actively engaged in the raising of cattle, horses and sheep and also conducts a dairy business, and the record which he has made as an agriculturist is a commendable one, having been characterized by successful accomplishment as well as straightforward methods. He was born in Roscoe township in 1854, and is a son of Seldon S. and Caroline Hardy, both of whom were natives of Maine. The Hardy family is of English lineage, but little definite history can be obtained concerning earlier generations of the family. Seldon S. Hardy came from the Pine Tree state to Illinois in the late '30s and settled in Roscoe, Winnebago county, where he followed mechanical pursuits. At a later date, however, he turned his attention to farming and continued to make his home in this county up to the time of his death, which occurred when he was sixty-four years of age. His wife passed away at the age of forty-five years. In their family were seven children, of whom three are living, the brothers of our subject being Harris W. and Nicholas.

James B. Hardy, the youngest of the family, has always resided in Winnebago county with the exception of a period of twelve years spent in LaSalle county, Illinois. He acquired his early education in the district schools, dividing his time between the work of the schoolroom, the pleasures of the playground and the duties of the fields, for under his father's direction he was trained to habits of industry and economy upon the home farm and early gained a practical knowledge of the best methods of cultivating land and caring for stock. When he had reached man's estate he resolved to make his life work the occupation to which he had been reared.

Mr. Hardy married Miss Amanda Porter, a native of Illinois and a daughter of Robert Porter. They had one son, Paul, who was born in Roscoe township and has married Gladys Newton, a na-

tive of Boone county, Illinois. Mrs. Amanda Hardy died at the age of thirty-two years, and for his second wife Mr. Hardy chose Laura Blair, also a native of Roscoe township and a daughter of Alva Blair, who was one of the early settlers of this county, of 1836, coming to Illinois from Buffalo, New York. He arrived in Winnebago county when Mrs. Hardy was only two years of age, and secured a tract of land which he developed. Mr. Hardy in recent years has purchased the interest of the other heirs in this property, whereon he now makes his home, having here one hundred and ninety acres of rich and productive land. He works it all, being one of the most active and energetic agriculturists of his community. He raises good crops, but pays more particular attention to stock-raising, keeping cattle, horses and sheep. He also does a dairy business and the product of his dairy finds a ready sale on the market.

Mr. and Mrs. Hardy are the parents of five children, all born in Roscoe township, namely: Kate, Ruth, Dora, Blair and Harold. Mr. Hardy gives his political allegiance to the republican party, and is a member of the Woodmen of America. He has a wide and favorable acquaintance in the county where his entire life has been passed and where he has so directed his labors that now a fine farm gives proof of his activity, energy and business discernment in former years.

ALLEN RICE.

Having in an active business career acquired a handsome competency, Allen Rice then retired to private life and was for a number of years a resident of Rockford, enjoying there the fruits of his former toil. He became a resident of Winnebago county in 1856, at which time he purchased a farm in Harrison township. A native of the Empire state, he was born in Washington county, New York, April 3, 1817. His father, Jonathan Rice, and his grandfather, Abraham Rice, were likewise natives of the same locality, and the latter served as a soldier of the war of 1812 in early manhood. He was united in marriage to Miss Eda Deuell, who was likewise born in Washington county, New York, and one of her brothers was a soldier with the American army in the second war with England. Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Rice always remained residents of the county of their nativity. Jonathan Rice, however, removed from Washington to Genesee county, New York. He always carried on general agricultural pursuits, and he died in Genesee county at the age of fifty-two years.

Allen Rice is indebted to the public-school system of Washington county, New York, for the early educational advantages he received, and in

1831, when a youth of fourteen years, he accompanied his parents on their removal to Genesee county. While living there he began learning the carpenter's trade, and soon became a skilled workman, following that calling until 1856, when he removed to the west. He had two brothers then living in Winnebago county, and this led him to seek a home here. Both brothers were farming at that time, but have now passed away. One sister, however, Mrs. William Kinney, the wife of a retired farmer, now resides in the village of Durand. As before stated Mr. Rice secured a tract of land in Harrison township, and with characteristic energy began the tilling of the soil, placing his farm under a high state of cultivation. There he worked persistently and energetically for eight years, after which he took up his abode in Rockford and purchased the Harlem Park farm at the north end of the city, the district that now constitutes Harlem Park. Mr. Rice there owned one hundred and seventy-five acres of well improved land near Rock river and continued its improvement and development until 1887, when he sold out to the park company and purchased a residence at the corner of Mulberry and Church streets. Taking up his abode there he lived retired until his death, but for several years he was in an invalid condition owing to a stroke of paralysis, and he passed away April 14, 1902.

Mr. Rice was married twice. He first wedded a Miss Miller, a native of New York, who died in that state leaving two children, Charles E. and Joseph A., the former now a farmer of Storm Lake, Iowa, and the latter a speculator of Chicago. Mr. Rice was again married in Genesee county, New York, his second union being with Miss Lydia A. Mead, a native of Montgomery county, born April 17, 1835, a daughter of Charles and Polly (Pierce) Mead, of Fulton county, New York. Her father was a millwright and carpenter by trade, and during a part of the time in the east worked for Mr. Rice. Both he and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. and Mrs. Rice became the parents of two sons, but Willie was drowned in Rock river on the 8th of September, 1865, when ten years of age. The surviving son, Harris H. Rice, was born July 10, 1859, and acquired a good education in the schools of Winnebago county. Following the removal of his parents to Rockford he obtained a position in the watch factory and soon became an expert watch case maker. He was later promoted to shop superintendent and acted in that capacity for several years, or until ill health forced him to resign his position, since which time he has lived at home with his mother.

Mr. Rice served as supervisor and was justice of the peace and also held minor offices while in Harrison township. He was actively interested in politics as a supporter of the democratic party.

He had a large acquaintance in this city and county, being known to all the pioneer residents of this portion of the state, for he located here a half century ago, and his death was deeply regretted by many friends as well as his family. Mrs. Rice has recently sold some of her property, but still owns a fine brick residence at No. 317 Mulberry street, where she and her son now reside. Her long residence in the county makes her familiar with its history, and during the fifty years in which she has lived in this part of the state she has gained many warm friends, her good traits of heart and mind endearing her to those with whom she has been associated.

ANDREW F. GRAHAM.

Andrew F. Graham, numbered among the successful farmers of Rockton township, living on section 31, was born in that township December 19, 1858. He traces his ancestry back to his great-grandfather, who was a native of the north of Ireland, and came with his family to America in colonial days. When the colonists could no longer endure the oppressive measures of the mother country he joined the American Army and fought for independence, and the maternal great-grandfather of our subject was also one of the heroes of the Revolution. The grandfather, Matthew Graham, was born in Pennsylvania, and his business pursuit was that of farming, whereby he provided the necessities and some of the comforts of life for his family. He came with the father of our subject to Illinois, but shortly afterward returned to his native state. His wife bore the maiden name of Martha Shannon and was likewise a native of Pennsylvania.

Henry Graham, father of Andrew F. Graham, was born in Northumberland county, Pennsylvania, and in early life learned the plasterer's trade, which he afterward followed along the Mississippi river for sometime. On going through the south and witnessing the abuse of slavery he became a very staunch abolitionist and because of his intense feeling against the custom of holding the negroes in bondage he awakened the antagonism of southern people, and for this reason was obliged to return to the north. He then settled in Rockton, Winnebago county, where he engaged in plastering, taking the contract to plaster the church in the village. He afterward removed to Rockton township, where he purchased the eighty acres of land on which his son Henry now resides. He had lived previously for a short period in Beloit, Wisconsin, but after coming to Winnebago county spent his remaining days here, and for quite a long period was actively and successfully identified with its agricultural interests. He mar-

ried Ellen Foster, a native of Ohio, and his death occurred in Rockton, in 1895, when he was seventy-one years of age, while his widow is still living in Rockford. They were the parents of eight children, of whom seven are living: Andrew F., Mrs. Elizabeth Smith, Mrs. Margaret Ruhl, Mrs. Rachel Keagle, Mrs. Jennie Haughey, Henry and Mrs. Lucy File.

Andrew F. Graham has spent his entire life in Rockton township, and was reared to the occupation of farming, which he has made his life work. He makes a specialty, however, of the dairy business and for this purpose keeps thirty Jersey cows, manufacturing from five to six thousand pounds of butter each year, which he readily disposes of to families in Rockford, because of the excellence of his product. He also owns a full-blooded bull by Brown Bessie Cadet, No. 57522, which is at the head of his herd. He has one hundred and forty acres of land which he purchased in 1881, and since that time he has made many modern and substantial improvements upon his farm until it is now one of the attractive features of the landscape.

In 1882 Mr. Graham was married to Miss Emma Domer, a native of Akron, Ohio, and they have three children: Frank H., Floyd N. and Gladys F. In 1902 Mr. Graham built a modern and beautiful residence, finished inside in light hardwood, supplied with hot-water heat and illuminated by acetylene gas. It is a lovely home, and Mr. Graham, who possesses much natural mechanical ingenuity, installed all of the plumbing and heating apparatus in his house. This beautiful home is a monument to his enterprise, and indicates his progressive spirit. In politics he is a republican and fraternally is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America. He and his wife are members of the Methodist church.

LEVI RHOADES.

Levi Rhoades, the extent and importance of whose business interests justify the use of the term "captain of industry" in connection with his life work, figured honorably and actively in industrial, commercial and financial circles of Rockford for many years. He was born in Hinsdale, Cattaraugus county, New York, and in 1836 removed from his native town to Troy, Wisconsin, with his parents, who settled upon a farm. During the summer months he aided in the work of the fields and when opportunity offered he attended school until seventeen years of age, when ambitious to become a factor in business life and lay the foundation for future success, he came to Rockford, where he accepted any employment that would yield him an honest living. In 1848 he en-

tered the cooper shop of Harry Landers, where he applied himself so diligently and assiduously that he not only thoroughly mastered the business in principle and detail, but also won the promotion that, bringing him a good salary, enabled him to purchase a half interest in the business at the end of three years. The partnership was maintained for three years with excellent success, and in 1853 Mr. Rhoades purchased Mr. Landers' interest and continued the business alone until 1884, the output of the factory finding a ready and profitable sale on the market. In the meantime he had extended his efforts to other fields of business, becoming in 1865 a partner of Isaac and C. M. Utter & Co. in the manufacture of paper, and was still at the head of the house at the time of his death. He brought to every business undertaking keen discernment, clear insight and indomitable purpose supplemented by an honesty of intent and action that was recognized by all with whom he had business dealings. When the People's Bank was organized he became one of its leading promoters, its heaviest stockholder and one of its directors. He was equally prominent in the organization of the Rockford Watch Company, was chosen its vice president and served as a member of its board of directors until his demise. He aided in the removal of the works of the watch case company from Racine to Rockford, thus adding another important productive industry to the city, and he became a stockholder in the Phoenix Furniture Company and the Rockford Boot and Shoe Company. Indeed at the time of his death he held responsible positions in many of Rockford's important industries, and was financially concerned in many more. He realized the value and force of close application and a thorough understanding of every business with which he became connected, and he had a wonderful capacity for detail work, at the same time capable of controlling the important interests of the concern with which he was associated. As the years passed by his financial interests continually increased until he became known as one of Rockford's wealthy men.

On the 24th of December, 1854, Mr. Rhoades was married to Mrs. Frederica (Reik) Rhoades, his brother's widow, and of their three children two are living.

Mr. Rhoades was popular socially, and while controlling extensive commercial and industrial concerns, he yet found opportunity for active cooperation in the political and moral development of his community. He was most generous in his contributions toward the building of the Court Street Methodist Episcopal church, contributing the sum of six thousand dollars toward its construction. He was long a member of the congregation, and felt a deep and abiding interest in its work and the extension of its influence. In

1876 he was chosen mayor of Rockford. His interest in the welfare and upbuilding of the city was very deep and sincere, and his was a well rounded character in which due and proportionate attention was given to business concerns, social relations and political and church interests. His success won him the admiration of his contemporaries, and those who came to know him personally entertained for him the warm regard which is given in recognition of genuine worth in the individual.

JOHN S. WILMARTH.

John S. Wilmarth, who never sought to figure in public life but in the every-day affairs of a business career won success and also an honorable name by reason of his straightforward methods, was a native of Gloucester, Providence county, Rhode Island. He was born June 23, 1828, his parents being Stephen and Hannah (Wade) Wilmarth, both of whom were natives of Rhode Island. The father removed to the west with his family in 1851 and settled in Ogle county, Illinois, not far from the boundary line of Winnebago county. There he purchased a tract of land and engaged in general farming. His wife died in Ogle county, and after a residence of fifteen years upon his farm there Mr. Wilmarth removed to Rockford, where for twenty years he lived in honorable retirement from active business cares, passing away in this city. He was deeply interested in political questions and gave a strong support to the republican party. In his family were four children who yet survive. The eldest, Alonzo B., is a retired farmer residing near Rockford. Charles M. is a prominent citizen of Ogle county. Lewis C., who left home at the age of seventeen years with a capital of only one dollar, entered Oberlin college and was graduated there. With six other students he then went to Topeka, Kansas, and the entire number aided in staking out the city. Lewis C. Wilmarth became the owner of considerable land there where the city now stands, and he afterward went to Ashland, Wisconsin, where he purchased timber land and at one time had thirty camps. He also opened one of the first banks of that place and at one time lost much that he possessed through a bank robbery. From Ashland he removed to Pennsylvania, where he invested in oil lands and he was very successful in his operations there. His life has been an extremely busy, active and useful one, his attention being given to varied interests which have been carefully managed by him, until to-day, as one of the wealthy men of Ashland, Wisconsin, he is now living retired. Susan

A. Wilmarth is now a resident of Rockford.

John S. Wilmarth, whose name introduces this record, was educated in the east and there learned the machinist's trade in the town of Foster, Rhode Island. He never followed that pursuit to any extent, and in 1851 he came to the west with his parents after which he resided on the home farm in Ogle county for a few years. He later purchased a farm in Winnebago county near the village of Roscoe, where he engaged in tilling the soil for a few years, after which he sold that property and returned to Providence, Rhode Island, where he spent two years. He next took up his abode in Tracey, Minnesota, where he purchased a farm and carried on agricultural pursuits until his return to Rockford. Here he spent his remaining days.

Mr. Wilmarth was married in the east to Miss Eliza Heath, of Providence, Rhode Island, who died while they were still on the Atlantic coast about six months after their marriage. After coming to Rockford Mr. Wilmarth lived a retired life, he and his sister making their home together at what is known as the old Wilmarth residence at No. 1234 Rock street, the sister still occupying this home. It was there that Mr. Wilmarth died March 16, 1895, and his remains were interred in the cemetery near the old home farm in Ogle county.

Mr. Wilmarth took little active interest in political questions but voted with the republican party. While in Providence, Rhode Island, he held membership in the Baptist church but never united with the church in the west. He was a very industrious man, having the faculty of so managing his business interests that success resulted. His path was never strewn with the wreck of other men's fortunes, for in all his dealings he was straightforward and reliable. Miss Susan A. Wilmarth still resides in Rockford, owning and occupying the old homestead here, and she is the owner of other valuable property in the city and of good farming land in Winnebago county. She has recently adopted a child, Miss Bessie Sandwick, who is now eight years of age, and whose mother died in Rockford a few months ago.

JAMES B. SKINNER.

James B. Skinner, deceased, was numbered among the men of prominence, who gave to Rockford prestige as a manufacturing center, and throughout an active business career he enjoyed the full confidence and trust of his contemporaries and made a business record which any man might be proud to possess. His path was never strewn with the wreck of other men's fortunes, for he was strictly just in his dealings and yet he advanced



JOHN S. WILMARTH.



STEPHEN WILMARTH.

from a humble financial position to one of affluence. A native of Barre Center, New York, he was born on the 19th of October, 1823, his parents being Stephen and Sophia (Butler) Skinner, both of whom were natives of the Empire state, and the mother was a relative of General Benjamin Butler. The family removed to the west in 1839, settling in Rockford, where the father, who was a blacksmith, followed his trade until he retired from active business cares in old age. Both he and his wife passed away here. They were people of the highest respectability, devoted members of the Congregational church, and at the time of his death Mr. Skinner was serving as one of its deacons.

James B. Skinner acquired his education in the schools of New York, and was also for one year a student at Willoughby, Ohio. He was thus well equipped by splendid and thorough mercantile training for the practical duties of life, and on putting aside his text-books he began work with his father in Rockford at the blacksmith's trade, which he thoroughly mastered, following that pursuit for a number of years. He possessed excellent mechanical ability and ingenuity, and his study and experiments along mechanical lines led to his invention of the sulky and gang plow and the sulky cultivator. His blacksmithing business soon became extensive, and he built a two-story blacksmith shop, having eleven forges, which were kept constantly in operation. A large trade made him successful and enabled Mr. Skinner to turn his attention to other departments of labor. As before stated he invented the sulky and gang plows, a walking and riding cultivator and the rolling coulter, and was also the inventor of other devices. He then formed a partnership with C. C. Briggs and I. A. Enoch, under the firm style of Skinner, Briggs & Enoch, and they built a large factory on the water power here, beginning the manufacture of the farming implements that Mr. Skinner had invented. The new enterprise was successful from the beginning, for the value of his plows and cultivators was soon demonstrated and became utility factors in farm life not only in the county, but throughout the country. They transacted an extensive business in the manufacture of agricultural implements, and Mr. Skinner was identified with the enterprise up to the time of his death.

In 1851 was celebrated the marriage of James B. Skinner and Miss Charlotte Leonard, a native of Vermont and a daughter of Benjamin and Lucy (Chandler) Leonard, who were also natives of the Green Mountain state, whence they removed to the west in 1850, settling in Burritt township, Winnebago county, the father a pioneer farmer of this locality, and continued to engage in agricultural pursuits until in advanced life he retired from business cares and made his home with his

son in Wisconsin until his death. His wife passed away in Burritt township. The Leonard family was represented in New England at a very early day, Benjamin Leonard, his father, Benjamin Leonard, Sr., and the grandfather all being born in the same house—one of the old-time dwellings which was built of bricks brought from England. The great-grandfather of Mrs. Keyt was an employe in the iron works at Raynham, Massachusetts, and spent his entire life in that town. Her grandfather was also an iron worker and lived and died in Raynham. He married Judith McCumber, who was of Scotch lineage, and their son Benjamin Leonard, Jr., when a young man went to Vermont, settling in the town of Ludlow, where he married Lucy Chandler. He afterward removed to Milton, that state, where he remained until 1850, when he came westward to Illinois by way of Lake Champlain to Whitehall, thence by the railroad and the Erie canal to Buffalo, New York, and from that port by way of the Great Lakes to Chicago. At the latter place he again boarded the train and proceeded to Elgin and on by steam to Rockford, the journey from Elgin to this county covering one and a half weeks. He then purchased a tract of land in Burritt township and was engaged in general farming until after the death of his wife, when he removed to Lake Mills, Wisconsin, where his last days were spent. Mrs. Leonard, whose birth occurred in Chester, Vermont, was a daughter of Thomas Chandler, Jr., probably a native of the same place. His father, Thomas Chandler, Sr., was the first supreme judge of the Green Mountain state. The grandfather of Mrs. Keyt was reared and educated in the place of his nativity, where he spent his entire life, being engaged in literary pursuits during the greater part of his time. He married Miss Asenath Adams, who belonged to the same family of which John Adams and John Quincy Adams were members. In advanced life Mrs. Chandler came to Illinois and spent her last days at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Robert Short, in Seward township, Winnebago county, while Mrs. Lucy Chandler, mother of Mrs. Keyt, died upon the homestead farm in Burritt township.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Skinner were born three children: Mary Charlotte, the wife of A. C. Gray, of Rockford; Fanny Sophia, the wife of C. F. Henry, the leading clothing merchant of Rockford; and Wilbur Theron, who died when but five days old.

Mr. Skinner continued to engage in the manufacturing business on an extensive and profitable scale up to the time of his death, which occurred April 15, 1872. The city thereby lost one of its representative business men, known and respected by all for what he had accomplished, his active business career being marked by consecutive advancement. In politics he was a staunch repub-

lican and in early life was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He held membership in the Court Street Methodist Episcopal church, took much interest in its work and filled all of its offices and his Christian faith was a permeating influence in his life.

In 1873 Mrs. Skinner became the wife of David Keyt, a native of Piqua, Ohio, born September 20, 1876. His father, John Keyt, was a native of New Jersey and in New York city learned the carpenter's trade, after which he became a resident of Ohio, where for sometime he was identified with building operations. He afterward went to Piqua, where he erected a house for Colonel H. D. Johnson, Indian agent at that place. He remained there until 1850, meanwhile carrying on his work as a carpenter and builder and in the year mentioned he went to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama, attracted by the discovery of gold on the Pacific coast. There his death occurred the following year. He had married Margaret Widney, a native of Pennsylvania, and a niece of Colonel H. D. Johnson. She died in Piqua in the spring of 1857. In the family were eight children, who reached adult age: Elizabeth, Mary A., John W., James R., David, Caroline, Stephen and Sarah J.

David Keyt spent the first twenty-one years of his life in the place of his nativity and at the age of eighteen years he began work with his father. In the spring before he attained his majority he commenced business on his own account as a contractor and builder, living at Piqua until 1857, when he arrived in Rockford and became connected with building operations here. The first contract which he secured was for the erection of the Second Congregational church and the excellent work which he executed established his reputation and brought him many other contracts. He was also superintendent of construction of the Brown Building, the Nelson Building and the Centennial and Court Street Methodist Episcopal churches, also designing the last mentioned. He developed considerable taste and talent in the line of architectural designing and ornamentation and he won for himself a prominent position as a representative of building operations here. He was an invalid for seven years prior to his death, which occurred on the 12th of February, 1896.

Mr. Keyt was twice married. In 1847 he wedded Lydia A. Sawyer, who was born in Dayton, Montgomery county, Ohio, her parents being Uriah and Sarah Sawyer, the former a native of Massachusetts and the latter of Ohio. Mrs. Keyt died in 1861 and twelve years later Mr. Keyt was united in marriage to Mrs. Charlotte (Leonard) Skinner. By his first marriage he had a daughter, Clara, who is now the wife of James H. Rhodes, of Chicago. Prominent in Masonic cir-

cles Mr. Keyt attained the Knight Templar degree and was also identified with other civic organizations here. He belonged to the Court Street Methodist Episcopal church, in which he served on the official board and in its work he took an active and helpful interest for many years. He was the builder of that church and architects of Chicago have stated that it is one of the finest in northern Illinois. Mrs. Keyt now resides in Rockford, at No. 125 North Main street, known all over the city as the Henry Block. The block is bounded by Main, State, Wyman and Mulberry streets and was at one time all owned by her first husband, Mr. Skinner. It is to-day one of the best business corners of Rockford. Recently Mrs. Keyt has sold most of this property to her son-in-law, C. F. Henry, and his wife, and Mr. Henry is conducting a large clothing store on this site and the remainder of the block is also built up with store buildings. Mrs. Keyt is a very active lady, who in early life taught school in Guilford township, two and one-half miles east of Rockford. She was of much assistance to her husbands, acting as bookkeeper for both, and she did other work for them and her excellent business and executive force is supplemented by the true, womanly qualities which in every land and clime awaken respect.

P. B. DICKERMAN.

In the quiet pursuits of farming, devoting his attention to the tilling of the soil and raising of stock year after year, P. B. Dickerman has accumulated a competence that now enables him to live retired and those who are familiar with his history know that his success has been worthily won. He resides at the present writing (1905) at No. 722 Kent street, Rockford, but still owns a fine farm in New Milford township. He came to Winnebago county in 1865, immediately after leaving the army. He is a native of the state of New York, his birth having occurred in Greene county in 1840. His parents were Joel and Eunice (Bailey) Dickerman, who arrived in this county, in February, 1866, and soon afterward the father retired from farm life, removing to Rockford, where he resided until his death in 1895, when he was seventy-seven years of age. His wife died in this city in the early '80s. In their family were five children: M. L., a retired farmer of New Milford township, now residing on Jilson avenue in Rockford; P. B., of this review; Mrs. Emert Bailey, who is living on Cunningham street in Rockford; Mrs. Ella K. McLarty, residing in New Milford township; and Mrs. Cora A. Blackstock, whose home is on Forest avenue in Rockford.



MR. AND MRS. P. B. DICKERMAN.



JOEL DICKERMAN.

P. B. Dickerman was reared in the Empire state and his early educational privileges were supplemented by a course of study in the seminary. He afterward engaged in teaching school for three years, but in 1862 put aside his business interests in order that he might respond to his country's call for aid, enlisting in August of that year as a member of Company F, One Hundred and Twentieth New York Infantry. He joined the army as a private, but his meritorious conduct on the field of battle won him promotion to the rank of lieutenant and he actively served until the close of the war. Although he participated in sixteen hotly contested engagements he was never wounded and yet he was often found in the thickest of the fight. It was in the same year of his return from the war that Mr. Dickerman came to Winnebago county, locating in New Milford township, where with his father, Joel Dickerman, he purchased a farm of over three hundred acres of land. The son improved and operated this place for the father soon afterward retired, and P. B. Dickerman continued to engage in the tilling of the soil here until 1898, when he took up his abode in his present home in the county seat. About two hundred and fifty acres of the original homestead is now owned by his son, E. B. Dickerman.

It was also in the year of his arrival in Winnebago county that Mr. Dickerman was united in marriage to Miss Emily F. Peck, who was born in Greene county, New York, a daughter of Munson and Mary (Peck) Peck, both of whom are now deceased. Both the Dickerman and Peck families were established in New York at an early day, representatives of the names going from Connecticut to the Empire state. Mrs. Dickerman, however, was the only one of her family that came to Illinois, her parents both returning to New England, their last days being passed in Massachusetts. Unto our subject and his wife have been born two sons and a daughter, who are yet living and they also lost one son at the age of fifteen months. Alfred G. Dickerman, born in Winnebago county in 1867, is now a farmer of New Milford township. He married Miss Fanny Holdridge, of this county, and they have two children, Harold and Lucia P. Mary E., born in this county in 1870, is the wife of Chris W. Hammond, who is residing in Rockford, and they have two daughters, Elizabeth and Frances. E. Burton, born in 1872 and now following farming in New Milford township, married Miss Della P. Hurd, a native of Ohio.

Mr. Dickerman maintains pleasant relations with his old army comrades through his membership in Nevius post, No. 1, G. A. R., and

his wife was formerly connected with the Women's Relief Corps. In politics he is a republican, of which party his sons are also advocates, and both he and his wife hold membership in the Methodist church. During a residence of forty years in this county he has gained a wide and favorable acquaintance and warm friendship, and high regard is accorded him by those who know him best. His business activity has been crowned with a competence and to him has been vouchsafed honorable retirement from labor in recognition of his diligence in former years.

ANTHONY COLLINS.

Anthony Collins was the founder of a business which has been conducted for more than a half century in Rockford under the name of the Collins Dray Line, and throughout the years of his residence here he was known as a trustworthy man who made the most of his opportunities and was always straightforward in his dealings. He was born in New York, June 1, 1831, and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Collins, were both natives of Ireland, whence they came to America at an early day, settling first in the Empire state. They afterward removed to Detroit, Michigan, and then took up their abode in Rockford in 1850. Here the father began in the dray business which he conducted for a few years, while later he removed to Iowa, settling near Cascade, where both he and his wife died. Of the children born unto them only three are now living, two being residents of South Dakota and the other of Dubuque, Iowa.

Anthony Collins had but little educational privileges in his youth. He was only four years old when his parents removed to Detroit, where they remained for a brief period. After he arrived in Rockford it was necessary that he assist his father in the draying business, and he thus continued to work until able to take charge of the business. With the growth of the city his patronage increased, and throughout his remaining days he was at the head of a large transfer line and dray business, receiving an extensive patronage and furnishing employment to a large number of men.

Mr. Collins was married to Miss Julia Sheehan, who died in Rockford. They were the parents of ten children, but only four are now living: Julia, who is the wife of Mr. Walsh, a partner of C. E. Collins in the Blue Line Transfer Company and now residing on North Winnebago street; Lucy, the wife of John Clifford, a resident of Dubuque, Iowa; Anthony, who is living in Des Moines, Iowa; and Charles E., who is manager of the Blue Line Transfer Company in Rockford and resides with his

stepmother. It was in this city that Anthony Collins was married to Miss Margaret Morgan, a daughter of Thomas and Catherine Morgan, both natives of Ireland, in which country they spent their entire lives. Anthony and Margaret Collins had one child, Catherine Frances, who died at the age of nine years.

Mr. Collins voted with the democratic party, and he was a communicant of St. Mary's Catholic church, to which his wife and children also belong. He died February 9, 1901, after having been a resident of this city for nearly a half century. His business had grown with the development of the city and he built a nice residence where his widow and son now reside at No. 412 South Court street. It stands as the visible evidence of his life of thrift, business integrity and unflinching diligence. He commanded the respect which is always accorded to him who wins success honorably and through his own efforts, and he passed away February 9, 1901, esteemed by all who knew him.

JOB ALEXANDER.

Job Alexander, a teaming contractor residing at No. 1600 East State street, was born in Cattaraugus county, New York, and spent the days of his boyhood and youth there. He became a resident of Illinois in 1861, making his way in the fall of that year to Cherry Valley, Winnebago county. During his younger years he engaged in clerking there and in Rockford, and he also bought stock which he shipped to Chicago. At one time he was proprietor of a meat market at Cherry Valley, and for ten years he resided upon a farm between that place and Belvidere, which property he still owns. The following five years were spent in Cherry Valley, and in May, 1860, he came to Rockford, where he has since engaged in business as a general teaming contractor, with stables on Twelfth street. He employs about a dozen teams and from twelve to twenty men. He was likewise engaged in a harness business for eleven years as a member of the firm of Wheeler & Alexander, this partnership being formed in 1880 and continuing until Mr. Alexander engaged in the teaming business. He also handles wagons, buggies and agricultural implements and both branches of the business are proving profitable.

Mr. Alexander was married at Cherry Valley to Miss Anna E. Gleason, daughter of William Gleason, who came to Winnebago county about the spring of 1834. He was truly a pioneer settler, of whom a biographical sketch appears elsewhere in this volume, and much of the land was yet wild and unimproved when he entered one thousand acres from the government in Guilford township, and he contributed in large and substantial meas-

ure to the early development of this part of the state. He was born in Worcester, Massachusetts, whence he removed to Vermont, and from the Green Mountain state he came to Cherry Valley. Here he was widely known as a prominent and popular citizen, and while his labors brought to him a very desirable financial return he also belonged to that class of men who while promoting individual prosperity likewise contribute to the general welfare. He died April 22, 1884, at the age of sixty-nine years. His daughter, Mrs. Alexander, is a native of Winnebago county, and by her marriage has become the mother of two children: Mrs. Frank Howe, who is now living in Monroe Center, Ogle county, and has two children, Maynard Alexander and Vera May; and Claire G., who is in the employ of the Hunter Hardware Company in Rockford.

Mr. Alexander votes with the republican party, having given to that organization his support since attaining his majority. Fraternally he is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Fraternal League Society, while his son Claire is a member of the Masonic lodge. Both Mr. and Mrs. Alexander attend the State Street Baptist church. During a residence of forty-four years in Winnebago county he has become well known, and his activity in business, his fidelity and friendship and his faithfulness in citizenship constitute him a representative man of Winnebago county.

MRS. EMILY MILNE.

Mrs. Emily Milne, living on section 22, Burrill township, was born February 22, 1848, in Rockford township, Winnebago county, her parents being William and Ann Dickinson. Her father was born in England in 1822, and when a young man came to Illinois, arriving in Winnebago county in August, 1845. He lived for about four years in Rockford and spent his remaining days in Burrill township on the old homestead, which he took up from the government in 1849. The land was entirely unimproved, and he tilled the first furrows upon the place, breaking the prairie until it was possible to plant the seed that in due course of time made productive fields out of the once barren tract. As the years passed by he continued his farming operations and became one of the well-to-do and respected agriculturists of his community. He married Ann Coward, who was born in England in 1823. They were married in that country and with her husband she came to the United States in 1845. She died in Burrill township at the home of Mrs. Milne in 1902, and Mr. Dickinson died July 13, 1895. In their family were the following named: Fred W. Dickinson, born May 12, 1850, is living in Rockford and has

two sons and two daughters. George W., born June 12, 1852, is living in Huron, South Dakota, and has two sons and one daughter. William died in 1882, at the age of twenty-four years. Charles died in 1885, when twenty-three years of age. Theodore P., born December 16, 1853, is living on the old Dickinson homestead, and has one son and one daughter. Rebecca, who died August 16, 1905, was the wife of W. W. Hooker, a resident farmer of Burritt township, and had four daughters and one son. Florence is the wife of Robert Robbins, a resident of Burritt. Annie is the wife of James Robbins, of Rockford, and has one son and one daughter.

Emily Dickinson spent her girlhood days in her parents' home and after completing her early education in the common schools continued her studies in Lounsbury Academy in Rockford. On the 1st of January, 1880, she gave her hand in marriage to Frederick A. Milne, who was born in Burritt township, January 2, 1854, and was a son of William and Fanny Milne. He had two brothers, Alfred and Lorin, aged forty-two and forty years respectively, and now living upon a farm which adjoins that of Mrs. Emily Milne. Unto Frederick and Emily Milne was born one son, Wendell P., who was born October 3, 1886, and is now operating the home farm for his mother.

In early life Mrs. Milne engaged in teaching school with excellent success for a number of years, and for the past twenty-eight years has been town treasurer of Burritt township. She has practically lived in this township throughout her entire life, and has a wide acquaintance here. She lost her husband on the 14th of January, 1892, and has since managed the home property, comprising eighty acres of land. She is a lady of excellent executive force, keen discernment and business ability, and, moreover, she possesses those true womanly qualities and social traits which render her popular with a large circle of friends.

THEODORE L. LEON DE TISSANDIER.

Theodore L. Leon de Tissandier, county surveyor of Winnebago county, is a descendant of a prominent French family. He was born in Dieppe, France, and received his first education through private tutors in that country. For political reasons, however, the family moved to Germany when Mr. de Tissandier was still very young and both his parents died there shortly after. His education was then under the guidance of a guardian and was continued and completed in the most thorough manner in the best educational institutions of Germany, of which country he became a naturalized citizen. Being gifted with very quick conception and an extraordinary zeal for learning and no means being spared to

encourage and push him along by aid of private tutors, he succeeded in passing through all the schools preparatory to and by law conditional for admission to the university so rapidly that he was enabled to enter the university of Jena for the study of mathematics at an extremely early age. Having spent one year there he continued his studies at the famous old University of Heidelberg until his prevailing taste for the applied sciences made him enter the Polytechnical Academy of Charlottenburg (Berlin) to study civil and mechanical engineering.

However, before he could finish the long and difficult course the war with France broke out in 1870 and he joined the German army as volunteer in a crack cavalry regiment. During the campaign he took part in numerous bloody engagements and was repeatedly wounded. The war being over and army life agreeing with him, he remained with the army for a number of years, being in turn promoted to second and first lieutenant, in which latter capacity he finally asked for his discharge in order to pursue his vocation as civil and mechanical engineer. Although the temptation to spend his free time in idle pursuits are very great for a young, wealthy officer in a crack cavalry regiment stationed in one of the great capitals of Germany with its brilliant social life, of which the officers' corps of the army virtually forms the center, Mr. de Tissandier never lost sight of his initial purpose in life and, although by no means denying himself all the pleasures to which his wealth and social standing entitled him, devoted much of his time to study, even enrolling again, while yet wearing the uniform, as student at the polytechnical academy, listening to such lectures as his military duties gave him time to attend. This zeal being well appreciated by his superiors, ample opportunity was afforded him during the many years of service in the army to gather practical as well as theoretical experience in his line. He was repeatedly detailed for service in different branches of the service, such as artillery, engineer corps, etc., and he took part in the triangulation of the country carried on by the military authorities for the purpose of furnishing military maps giving the minutest details. Consequently Mr. de Tissandier had the satisfaction of successfully passing the final examinations at the Polytechnicum and obtaining the degree of civil and mechanical engineer before quitting the military service.

Returning to civil life Mr. de Tissandier sought and found employment as civil engineer, first in subaltern but, pushing rapidly forward was soon given responsible positions with different railroads and other corporations of similar nature in different countries, being employed on construction, bridge, tunnel, canal work, etc. He thus he had occasion to travel over the greater part of

Europe, incidentally becoming acquainted with many languages, of which he masters six perfectly. After this, however, he gradually drifted more and more into the line of mechanical engineering, having a remarkable inventory vein. As mechanical engineer he found employment as designer with some of the most prominent machinery manufacturing concerns until he finally decided to invest his considerable fortune in a manufacturing enterprise of his own. Good luck only had hitherto favored him, but from this moment on fortune turned her face away from him. Through fire he lost nearly all he possessed. Undaunted he started anew and working a few years amassed quite a fortune but again luck was against him, bad times came on and the failure of a bank left him almost penniless.

Then, in 1866, he came to America, soon finding employment as designer with prominent firms in New York, Pennsylvania and Chicago, from where he finally drifted to and settled in Rockford. There he was at first connected with a manufacturing concern until through the death of Mr. Ebenezer Baldwin the office of county surveyor became vacant and he was called upon to fill this vacancy. Consequently he filled out the unexpired term and, having during this time amply demonstrated his ability and qualification, he was in 1904 by a majority of about seven thousand votes—in fact almost unanimously—elected county surveyor of Winnebago county. His liberal education, his broad travel and experience render him a most efficient officer.

JOHN LINDSAY.

John Lindsay, who for a quarter of a century was a well known grocery merchant of Rockford standing high in business circles because of his fidelity and straightforward and honorable principles, was a native of Ireland, born October 8, 1840, his parents being William and Elizabeth Lindsay, both of whom were natives of the Emerald Isle. They emigrated to America about 1853, settling in Amsterdam, New York, where the father engaged in business until his death. The mother still resides at that place with some of her children.

John Lindsay was not yet thirteen years of age when he bade adieu to the friends of his boyhood and his native country and sailed with his parents for the new world. He acquired his education in the schools of Amsterdam, but his privileges in that direction were somewhat limited, for his father died when the son was a young lad, and it was necessary that he earn his living. He worked at whatever he could get to do until after the Civil war broke out, when his patriotic spirit was aroused and he offered his

services to the government, enlisting as first sergeant of Company B, Thirty-second New York Infantry. He participated in several engagements of importance and was very fortunate in that he was never wounded. He remained with his company until the close of the war and was then honorably discharged. He was a faithful soldier, ever true to his duty even when it called him into the thickest of the fight or stationed him on the lonely picket line.

When the country no longer needed his services Mr. Lindsay returned to Amsterdam and remained at home until 1866, when he came to the west and took up his abode in Rockford. Here he worked as a laborer in different shops for a few years and he also spent one season as a farm hand near Rockford. He was economical and industrious and by saving his earnings he accumulated a capital sufficient to enable him to engage in business on his own account. He therefore established a grocery store in 1875 at No. 1102 South Main street, and continued in that line of business up to the time of his death. The neat arrangement of his store, his carefully selected goods and his earnest desire to please his patrons secured him a good patronage, and he constantly enlarged his stock in order to meet the growing demands of his trade. Although he began business on a small scale he was afterward enabled to employ several men, and his grocery store continued one of the well known business enterprises of the city up to the time of his death.

In 1886 Mr. Lindsay was united in marriage to Miss Mary C. Derstine, a native of Rockford and a daughter of Samuel Derstine, who was one of the early residents of this city. His birth occurred near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, November 30, 1820, and his father, Michael Derstine was also a native of that place. He represented one of the old Pennsylvania Dutch families that was noted for longevity. Michael Derstine was a blacksmith by trade, conducting a shop of his own for many years in Pennsylvania. He removed from Harrisburg to Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, where he was employed in a stove factory, and there his death occurred in 1846 when he was fifty-two years of age. In his political views he was a whig, and his religious faith was indicated by his membership in the Dutch Reformed church. He married Margaret Schaffer in Dauphin county, Pennsylvania. She, too, was born in that county and was of Dutch descent. Her death occurred in Bellefonte, in 1870, when she was in her seventieth year, and she too had been a faithful member of the Dutch Reformed church. Mr. Derstine enjoyed considerable reputation because of his musical talent, and on the outbreak of the war of 1812 he joined a com-



JOHN LINDSAY.

pany of soldiers as a musician, but because of his youth his father persuaded him to return home.

Samuel Derstine, the elder son and second member of a family of six children, was reared in the Keystone state, and after reaching adult age, was married in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, to Miss Susan Fye, who was born in Center county, Pennsylvania, in 1829. In 1856 he came to Rockford and entered the employ of Emerson, Talcott & Company, proprietors of the foundry, with whom he remained for twenty-seven years, and his capable service and devotion to the interests of his employers won him promotion from time to time, his wages being correspondingly increased. By economizing he was enabled to accumulate a competence that in his later years permitted his living in retirement from further business cares. His life exemplified the term "dignity of labor," and he justly merited the rest which came to him in his later years. In her early life Mrs. Derstine belonged to the Lutheran church, but after removing to Rockford became a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and lived a most earnest Christian life. She died here April 19, 1885, and was survived by Mr. Derstine until May 22, 1904. His political support was given the republican party. In his family were six children; Michael L., who died when four years of age; Charles H., who died when a year old; Mary, who married John Lindsay; David W., a machinist of Rockford, who married Fannie Higbee and after her death wedded Sarah Sexton; Ellen R., the wife of H. B. Bussing, of Chicago; and Minnie C., the wife of P. H. Barrett, a partner in the firm of Barrett Brothers, extensive wholesale dealers in confectionery in Rockford. They reside at No. 1003 Harlem avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. Lindsay became the parents of two children; Samuel John, who is now a salesman in Rockford; and William Walter, who is attending school. They are both with their mother. Mr. Lindsay served as alderman in the Rockford city council for one term, and was also supervisor, being elected to these offices on the Republican ticket. He was a staunch advocate of the party and did all in his power to promote its growth and insure its success. He held membership in Rockford post, No. 1, G. A. R., and also belonged to E. F. W. Ellis lodge, No. 633, A. F. & A. M., in which he was treasurer for several years. He was very successful in business here and became one of the leading merchants of Rockford. Steadily pursuing his way, undeterred by obstacles and difficulties in his path, he achieved creditable and gratifying prosperity. Steady application, careful study of business methods and plans to be followed, close at-

tention to details, combined with an untiring energy and directed by a superior mind, those were the traits of character which brought him success and made him one of the foremost men of Rockford. Mrs. Lindsay still owns the business property on South Main street, in which her husband conducted his grocery store. The Derstine estate, to which she is an heir, has not yet been divided, and consists of much valuable property in Rockford. She now resides at the old Derstine home at No. 1203 South Main street, which was occupied by her father for more than forty years.

JOHN C. SMITH.

John C. Smith is the owner of a finely improved farm of one hundred and twenty acres on section 6, Winnebago township, and has made his home in this county since the fall of 1854. Scotland has furnished a number of representative men to this county, including Mr. Smith, who was born in Argyleshire, on the 8th of May, 1831. His parents were Andrew and Elizabeth (Colville) Smith, who spent their entire lives in Scotland, both dying in Argyleshire, where the father had followed the occupation of farming. In their family were ten children, who reached adult age and four of the number came to America. Of these Robert died two years ago, while Archie resided in Harlem township, where his death occurred about seven years ago.

John C. Smith spent the first twenty years of his life in the land of his nativity, being reared to the occupation of farming, while in the public schools he acquired his education. As before stated, he reached Winnebago county in the fall of 1854, and established his home in the Scotch settlement in Harlem township. He first worked as a farm hand there, and afterward rented land in that locality for some years. He was associated in his early business interests here with his brother, Robert C. Smith. They had come together to the county, and in 1858 settled in Winnebago township, residing together for a year on the Keith farm. In 1859 Mr. Smith purchased his present farm, where he has made improvements and has carried on general farming with excellent success, his fields annually yielding him rich harvests. In all of his work he has been practical and enterprising, quick to adopt modern methods, which he readily recognizes, and his labors are bringing him a good competence.

Mr. Smith was married in this county to Miss Jeanie McNair, also a native of Argyleshire, Scotland, and a daughter of James and Anne (Johnston) McNair, both of whom died in Argyleshire. They have a large family of ten children, but Mrs. Smith and her brother, Robert McNair, were the

only ones who came to Winnebago county, and the latter died here about four years ago. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have become the parents of seven children, all of whom are living: James M., a farmer, residing in Winnebago township; Andrew D., who is a resident of Redwood Falls, Minnesota; Mrs. George Bridgland, living in Seward township, this county; Mrs. Elizabeth Greenlees, a resident of Sidney, Australia; Martha, at home; Mrs. Jessie Bagley, of Duluth, Minnesota; and David, at home.

In his political views Mr. Smith is a staunch prohibitionist, thoroughly in sympathy with temperance principles and doing all in his power to inculcate his temperance sentiment in the community in which he resides. He has filled some of the township offices and has done effective service in behalf of public education as a school director. He and his wife hold membership in the Presbyterian church, of Winnebago, contribute generously to its support, and are actively interested in its work and welfare.

ROLENZO B. SHUMWAY.

Rolenzo B. Shumway, now retired from active life, having recently sold the farm on which for many years he was engaged in general agricultural pursuits, yet resides near the village of New Milford and through a long period has been an active and influential citizen here. He was born in Lorain county, Ohio, May 25, 1835, his parents being David S. and Sallie (Greeley) Shumway, the latter a relative of the noted journalist, Horace Greeley. David Shumway was born at Jamaica, Vermont, on the 27th of March, 1803, and his wife's birth occurred in Andover, that state, February 8, 1806. They were married at Chester, Vermont, November 20, 1825, and after a brief residence in the Green Mountain state started for Ohio in the spring of 1828, locating in a pioneer district. They resided at what is now the city of Oberlin and David Shumway, being a carpenter by trade, was employed to build a church there. Soon afterward, however, they started back to Vermont, where they remained until April, 1831, but they found that the west had a stronger attachment for them than they believed and again they went to Ohio, this time settling in Lorain county, where they continued to live until April, 1836. Resuming their westward way at that time they traveled overland to Illinois, arriving at Fox River on the 24th of May, 1836, and five days later they reached Kishwaukee, establishing their home in a small log cabin near the Rock river. The next year the father built a sawmill on Killbuck Creek but the plant was later destroyed by fire. He afterward built a sawmill at South Bend on Kishwaukee

creek and there he sawed the lumber for the hotel which was erected in 1839. Mr. Shumway was closely connected with the early material progress of the county, his name being inseparably associated with many events which constituted the pioneer history of this section of the state. On the farm which he secured near Kishwaukee creek he continued to make his home until his death, which occurred July 22, 1870. His widow afterward removed to Rockford, where she made her home with the other members of the family until her death, which occurred there on the 18th of August, 1888. In public affairs Mr. Shumway was also prominent and he served as justice of the peace and in other positions of trust and responsibility. With keen insight into the needs of a pioneer district he so directed his labors that his efforts proved a tangible force in the work of public improvement. In his family were five sons, who reached mature years, while three daughters died in early life. Rosanna passed away in 1839, at Kishwaukee, when about twelve years of age. Romanzo G. is a banker residing in Polo, Ogle county, and is a very wealthy man, being interested in a number of banks in this part of the state. R. B. is the next of the family. Alvaro, who was born in 1838 at Kishwaukee, being one of the first native white children of that locality, died in Tacoma, Washington, November 5, 1819. Rosetta, who was born in 1840, at Kishwaukee, died in infancy. R. H., of Rockford, born in Kishwaukee in 1842, now pays the heaviest tax upon personal property of any resident of the city, a fact which indicates that his has been a prosperous career. Monroe, born in Kishwaukee in 1845, became a druggist of Arlington, Iowa, and died there in 1895. Rosalinda, born in 1848, at Kishwaukee, died in 1852.

R. B. Shumway was reared in New Milford township amid the conditions of pioneer life, sharing with the family in the hardships and trials and also in the pleasures incident to settlement upon the frontier. He has remained in New Milford township almost continuously with the exception of two years spent in Rockford. Here he engaged in farming and in buying and shipping stock, making shipments from Rockford, Stillman Valley and New Milford. He is an excellent judge of stock, so that his purchases were carefully made and his sales brought to him a good profit. In the development of the fields too he displayed a thorough and practical knowledge of the business and as the years passed he has gained a comfortable competency that now enables him to live retired in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former toil.

Mr. Shumway has been married twice. He first wedded Sarah Hall, who died in 1883, leav-

ing the following children, all of whom were born in New Milford township. Alva E., who was born January 1, 1859, is engaged in merchandising at Newell, Iowa. Carrie F., born March 17, 1860, became the wife of John McEvoy, now a policeman of Rockford and her death occurred July 7, 1889. Hattie M., born December 2, 1861, became the wife of William Homer and died in Indianapolis, Indiana, July 14, 1890. Nora J., born August 11, 1863, is the wife of George Graham, a resident of New Milford township. Minnie C., born April 17, 1869, is the wife of Arthur Erickson, who resides at Rockford, where he is employed in the watch factory. Harry E., born September 1, 1874, was formerly engaged in merchandising at Monroe Center, Ogle county, but is now employed in the store of Mr. Kinson at New Milford.

He was again married, November 26, 1884, to Lovina Sherman, widow of Robert B. Holdridge. Mrs. Shumway was born October 4, 1835, in Troy, New York.

Mr. Shumway has been very active and influential in public affairs and his opinion has carried weight in councils of the republican party in this county. He has been honored with a number of local offices. For fifteen years he was clerk of the board of school trustees of New Milford and in 1873 he was elected assessor of his township, in which office he has continued to the present time, now covering thirty-two years. He was also elected treasurer of the school trustees but resigned that position in 1883, when he removed to Rockford. In January, 1885, he was chosen treasurer of the Guilford Mutual Fire Insurance Company and has acted in that capacity to the present date, being also one of its directors. He likewise handles the policies of the Rockford District Tornado Insurance Company. He is a man of strong determination and sturdy purpose, successfully accomplishing whatever he undertakes. He realizes that persistency of purpose and honorable effort can overcome all difficulties and in his business career he has allowed nothing to deter him in his onward march to success. The community recognizes his worth of citizenship and he justly deserves mention in this volume.

LOREN S. ALLEN, M. D.

Dr. Loren S. Allen, remembered by many as a pioneer physician of Winnebago county of marked professional skill and personal worth that gained him the friendship and regard of the best citizens of this portion of the state, came to Rockford in 1851. He was a native of Heath, Massachusetts, born July 28, 1811, and his parents were Elijah and Rhoda (Thompson) Allen, both of whom were born in the east and always resided

in the vicinity of Heath, where the father devoted the greater part of his life to farming. They reared a large family and two of their sons, Loren S. and S. T. Allen, came to the west. The latter, Rev. S. T. Allen, now deceased, was a minister of the Episcopal church in Aurora, Illinois, where his death occurred and where his family now reside.

In his boyhood days Dr. Allen of this review was notable among his companions because of his energy, enthusiasm and industry and from an early age was his father's able assistant on the home farm. He attended the country schools near his native town and then, becoming imbued with the desire to enter professional life, he resolved to become a member of the medical fraternity and was sent by his parents to a medical college in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, where he graduated in 1829. Having become equipped for practice, he located in South Deerfield, Massachusetts, and entered upon the work of the profession, soon demonstrating his capabilities in the success which attended him in the administration of remedial agencies.

It was while living in South Deerfield that Dr. Allen was married, in 1839, to Miss Sarah Mather, a native of Windsor, Connecticut, and a daughter of Alyn M. and Parthenia (Huntington) Mather, the latter a cousin of Bishop Huntington, of central New York. The father was a native of Windsor, Connecticut, and became a merchant in the town of Windsor, being thus identified with its commercial interests during the greater part of his life. Both he and his wife died there.

Dr. Allen resided in the east until 1851, when he came to Illinois, settling in Rockford, where he remained for a brief period engaged in active practice of his profession, with office on North Second street over Kettlewell's meat market. He then removed to Polo, Ogle county, and purchased a large tract of land near there, which he subsequently divided into farms. He devoted his attention to the practice of medicine and the loaning of money, until about 1867, when he returned to Rockford. He then no longer made professional visits but was frequently called in consultation. In 1882 he and his wife went to make their home with their daughter, Mrs. Warren, on the west side in Rockford, with whom they remained until called to their final rest. Having resolved to devote his life to a calling demanding intellectual force, keen discrimination and unflinching devotion, Dr. Allen so directed his labors that his professional services were for many years in constant demand by the best families of the locality and at all times his practice was actuated by a humanitarian spirit. He came of a distinguished New England ancestry and throughout his life manifested the strong and sterling traits charac-

teristic of the people of that country. More-over he was imbued with the progressive spirit of the middle west, which fact was noticeable in his professional work as well as in other relations of life.

Unto Dr. and Mrs. Allen were born two daughters and a son: Julia P., Charles H., and Sarah Elizabeth, but the last named died in Rockford at the age of five years, and Charles H., passed away in June, 1901. He had married Carrie Friedman, of Rockford. In his service in the Union army during the Civil war he contracted a disease which disabled him for the remainder of his life. He was only twenty years of age when the war ended. From Rockford he removed to Oak Park, Illinois, but after a brief period went to New York city, where his last days were passed. The surviving daughter, Julia P., is the widow of Moses Warren. Dr. Allen passed away October 26, 1890, and his wife departed this life November 22, 1903.

Moses Warren was never a resident of Rockford but his family are well known and prominent in this city. He was born in East Lyme, Connecticut, October 25, 1826, and is of the fourth generation bearing that name. The ancestry of the family can be traced back to William the Conqueror, the first Norman king of England, and in America the family was through colonial days and through the Revolutionary period prominent and influential in affairs that shaped the history of New England. The great-grandfather of Moses Warren of this review was a colonel of the Revolutionary war. His parents, Captain Moses Harris and Mary (Mincer) Warren, were both natives of East Lyme, Connecticut. Moses Harris Warren was a surveyor, following the profession throughout his entire life, and he was also recognized as a leading political worker in early days. Both he and his wife remained at East Lyme until called to the home beyond. Their son, Moses Warren, acquired a good education in the schools of his native state and there learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed until 1849, when attracted by the discovery of gold in California made the previous year he determined to visit the Pacific coast and went to the far west on a sailing vessel. There he became the founder and builder of the town of Georgetown and for sometime owned most of the property but in 1857 that place was entirely destroyed, a great conflagration wiping it out. He remained, however, in California, paid all of his financial obligations and then rebuilt the town, after which he continued to reside there for a few years. Later he returned to his native state.

He was first married to Miss Flora Whiteside, a native of New York state, who died after two years leaving one child, John, who died at the age of six years in the home of his aunt in East

Lyme, Connecticut. Moses Warren then came west and on the 23d of June, 1860, was married in Rockford to Miss Julia P. Allen, the elder daughter of Dr. Loren S. Allen. Three children were born of this marriage but the eldest died unnamed in infancy. Claire Louise, who is a graduate of Wellesly and the Chicago University, has always resided with her mother in Rockford, while Moses Allen Warren is an attorney in New York city. He acquired his early education in Rockford and Chicago and later graduated from Yale University in 1890. He then became a student in the law office of Eaton & Lewis, prominent attorneys of New York city, with whom he studied during his course at the New York Law School, where he completed his course. Entering upon practice in the eastern metropolis, he is now a member of the law firm of Thompson & Warren with offices at Nos. 49 and 51 Wall street, New York city.

After his marriage Moses Warren went to Chicago to make that city his home and was the western agent for the publishing house of D. Appleton & Company and also for Charles Scribner & Sons, having offices at the corner of State and Washington streets. He was engaged in book publishing until his death, which occurred in Chicago on the 10th of October, 1881, when his remains were brought to Rockford for interment.

Neither Dr. Allen nor Mr. Warren were ever office seekers and both were independent in their political affiliations in early days, while later both voted with the republican party. Dr. Allen was a member of the Congregational church of Rockford and Mrs. Warren and her daughter are now connected with the membership of that organization. In the spring of 1882 they returned from Chicago to this city to make their home and Mrs. Warren built one of the most palatial residences here at No. 711 North Main street. Both are very prominent in society circles and the social functions of their home are notable events in Rockford. Mr. Warren always interested in literary subjects and various publications and was a man of broad culture as well as of excellent business capacity, enabling him to control and develop extensive and important interests, while Dr. Allen, known and honored for his professional skill, won and retained the friendship of many through a genial nature and kindly spirit that was nevertheless accompanied by a dignified manner that ever awakened respect.

MRS. HELEN V. LEVINGS.

Mrs. Helen V. Levings, owning and occupying a valuable farming property of eighty acres in Rockford township, is the widow of George W. Levings, who was for many years actively con-



GEORGE W. LEVINGS AND FAMILY.

nected with agricultural pursuits and who died upon the home farm May 2, 1904. He was born in New York, June 25, 1839, his parents being Peter R. and Anna (Nunn) Levings, and in early life he learned the carpenter's trade but followed farming through much of his active business career, giving undivided attention to that pursuit after his marriage. He was only three years of age when brought by his parents to Winnebago county, the family home being established here in 1842, when it was largely a pioneer district. He was thus reared amid the scenes of frontier life and in his youth assisted in the arduous task of developing a new farm, while in the public schools he acquired his education. George W. Levings was married June 29, 1869, to Miss Helen V. Kimball, who was born July 4, 1835, in Ohio, and came to Illinois in early life. She was an adopted daughter of Edson A. Kimball, of Elgin, and her girlhood days were spent in this state, her education being acquired in the schools of Rockford. She went south in 1864 to act as a teacher among the freedmen. The old medical college at Memphis was turned over to Mrs. Levings for her school. At times she had four hundred pupils. The grandmother, mother and child were often members of the same class. She was assisted in her work by four lady assistants furnished by the American Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal church. She followed that professional work among the colored people for five years. She was in Memphis at the time of General Forrest's raid. She remembers very well how frightened every one was when the General with his command rode into the city. She with many others took refuge at Fort Pickering. She then returned to Illinois in 1869, and on the 29th of June, of that year, gave her hand in marriage to Mr. Levings, the wedding being celebrated in the village of Roscoe, for she was then residing there in the home of Rev. Stuff. Mr. Levings had also been in the south, having enlisted in 1864 in the Eleventh Illinois Cavalry, with which he remained until mustered out at the close of the war in 1865. He served in the Western Army. The regiment was at the battle of Shiloh, in the siege of Vicksburg and on the Red River expedition and engaged in chasing the cavalry forces of Generals Smith and Forrest through Arkansas, Tennessee, Texas, Mississippi and Louisiana. He was a faithful soldier, ever loyal to his duty, and his valor was manifest on more than one battle-field of the south.

Following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Levings located on a farm and continued residents of Rockford township for many years. Five children were born to them: Frank M., born August 11, 1870, a graduate of the Rockford high school and prominent in athletics, is now engaged in the stock business in Mitchell, South Dakota.

Annie, born December 28, 1875, is the wife of Henry H. Coffin, of Rockford and has one son, Lawrence H. Nellie F., born September 4, 1877, is employed by the American Insurance Company of Rockford. Ralph S., born October 4, 1881, and Golden Winifred, born June 9, 1884, are at home.

In politics Mr. Levings was a republican, giving his support to that party from its organization until his death. He was also enthusiastic in temperance work and in fact was interested in all movements for the betterment of mankind and for the promotion of general progress and improvement. He held membership in Rockford camp, No. 51, M. W. A., and also in Nevius post, No. 1, G. A. R., of Rockford, while his wife has long been a member and officer of the Women's Relief Corps of Rockford. She likewise belongs to the Court Street Methodist church. In manner Mr. Levings was unassuming, free from ostentation and yet his worth was recognized by all who came in contact with him either socially or through business affairs, and in a review of his history it will be seen that he possessed many excellent traits of character which endeared him to family and friends and made him a representative citizen of Winnebago county.

CHARLES A. CHURCH.

Charles A. Church was born in Chemung, McHenry county, Illinois, July 21, 1857. He was the oldest of three sons born to Dr. Richard C. and Eliza A. Church, and a grandson of Dr. Charles Church, who settled in Guilford township in Winnebago county, in 1844, and later removed to Belvidere. Mr. Church's father died when he was eight years of age. In 1873 he entered the office of the Belvidere Standard and began the printer's trade. In two years from that time he made regular contributions to the editorial as well as to the local department of the paper. He remained with the Standard until April 1, 1878, when he became city editor of the Rockford Journal, of which Hiram R. Enoch was proprietor.

Mr. Church remained in Rockford until the autumn of 1878, when he returned to Belvidere and purchased an interest in the Semi-Weekly Recorder, which he published with C. E. Kelsey until October, 1881, when he assumed entire management of the paper and made it a weekly. He continued its publication until 1883, when he sold the business and good will.

Mr. Church in 1884 again made his home in Rockford, where he has since resided with the exception of a few months spent in Savanna, Illinois. In 1887 he became foreman and assistant editor of the Golden Censer, which position he

retained until 1802. In that year he organized the Spectator Publishing Company, in connection with A. E. Smith and others. It was the highest grade literary paper ever published in this city, but it was continued in this form only one year.

In 1807 the Calvert Brothers purchased the Golden Censer and Mr. Church was chosen its editor. In 1808 he became editor and proprietor, and published the Censer until the subscription list was sold to the Ram's Horn. Since 1901 Mr. Church has been on the staff of the Register-Gazette.

In 1887 Mr. Church was appointed evening assistant at the Rockford public library, and he has served in that capacity eighteen and one half years. No other person ever on the library staff has served so long a time, with the single exception of Mr. W. L. Rowland.

In January, 1804, Mr. Church was licensed to preach by the State Street Baptist church. Since that time he has supplied more than thirty churches in northern Illinois. He spent portions of 1804 and 1805 in divinity work in the University of Chicago. Among his instructors were President Harper and Professor Alexander B. Bruce, the famous Scotch author and theologian. Mr. Church graduated in the Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle in the class of 1880.

In 1900 Mr. Church's History of Rockford, from 1834 to 1861, was published and is the recognized authority on local history. In 1902 he wrote the life of General Allen C. Fuller, the war admant of Illinois, and delivered an address upon him before the Chicago Historical society.

May 22, 1878, Mr. Church was united in marriage to Hattie M. Lake, daughter of Dr. L. L. Lake, one of the earliest practitioners in Belvidere, and surgeon in the Civil war in the Fifteenth Illinois Infantry, and in the Thirteenth Cavalry. Mr. and Mrs. Church have four children: Holland L., advertising manager for the Ashton Dry Goods Company; Lorena M., a graduate of Rockford College; Gertrude M.; and Ruth A.

EDWIN MORTON REVELL.

Edwin M. Revell, whose name stood as the synonym of success and honor in business circles in Rockford, where for many years he was known as a real-estate dealer and operator, was born in Stillman Valley, Illinois, August 13, 1854. His parents, William and Mary A. (Morton) Revell, were both natives of Canada and the father, a tailor by trade, followed that pursuit in Canada until his removal to Stillman Valley, where he purchased a tract of land and engaged in general farming throughout his remaining days. Both he and his wife died upon the homestead farm there. Four of their chil-

children are now living, one daughter being a resident of Nebraska, while a son is the postmaster of Stillman Valley. Those now living in Rockford are Timothy H. and Mrs. James Graham.

Edwin M. Revell spent the days of his boyhood and youth in his father's home, where he remained until 1875. Then at the age of twenty years he came to Rockford to attend the public schools here, but after a short time he put aside his text-books and secured a position as salesman in the dry-goods store of G. H. Demmett, with whom he remained for about five years. He afterward engaged in clerking in the dry-goods store of Andrew Ashton for four years and on the expiration of that period he accepted a clerical position in the real-estate office of J. G. Penfield, with whom he remained for some time. In 1882 he embarked in the real-estate business and the following year entered into partnership with R. F. Crawford, an attorney of Rockford, and they engaged in the real-estate business together until Mr. Crawford removed to California. Mr. Revell then continued business alone and devoted the remainder of his life to real-estate operations. He had a very extensive clientage and the realty transfers which he annually negotiated represented a very large figure. He organized the Randolph Revell Land Association and platted what is now known as Highland in the eastern part of Rockford. He named all of the streets in that subdivision of the city and did much to promote real-estate activity. He personally owned property all over Rockford and likewise engaged in the real-estate business, carrying on both pursuits up to the time of his death. He was also the president of the Real Estate Exchange of Rockford at the time of his demise.

In 1880 Mr. Revell was united in marriage to Miss Helen M. Penfield, a native of Rockford and a daughter of John G. and Mary E. (Crosby) Penfield. The mother is now deceased, but the father still resides in Rockford, where he is engaged in the real-estate business. The Penfield family was an old and prominent one here. Three children were born unto Mr. and Mrs. Revell, Constance E., Mildred Penfield and Edwin M., all of whom are at home with their mother.

Mr. Revell voted with the Republican party, but never sought or desired office. He was a member of the State Street Baptist church, to which all of his family belong. He took a very active and helpful part in church work, serving as one of the church trustees, contributing generously to its support and doing everything in his power to further the cause of Christianity. He was likewise secretary of the Sunday school and was serving as assistant superintendent at the time of his death and his influence was a potent



EDWIN M. REVELL.

factor for good. He was spoken of as a "Christian business man," a term which indicates the strict integrity and honor with which he carried on all business transactions. His name became the synonym for honesty in business life and he was never known to take advantage of the necessities of his fellowmen in any business transaction. His death occurred very suddenly on the 16th of July, 1891. He was one of the original members of the Young Men's Christian Association and was treasurer for many years. He earnestly desired the uplifting of his fellowmen and co-operated as far as possible in movements for the moral development of his race. He stood at the time of his death, when clothed with the honor of wealth and host of friends his life work had won, just where he stood in early manhood when beset with difficulties because of his limited financial condition—the champion of the best elements of Christian progress, of education, of temperance, absolute justice, the dignity of manual labor, the Bible, the church and the spread of the gospel. Such lives are well worthy of study. Mrs. Revell now owns a fine residence at No. 1226 East State street, where she and her children reside and she also has other valuable property in the city.

MAJOR FRANK F. PEATS.

Major Frank F. Peats, deceased, was well known in business and political circles in Rockford and Winnebago county. He held a number of offices, both elective and appointive, and he did an appreciable amount of work in connection with the republican party, his labors being practical and effective. Moreover, he was always actuated by a spirit of devotion to the public good and his political service was of much value to the interests which he represented. In his business career his work was also characterized by ability and skill and his methods were ever honorable.

Major Peats became a resident of this county in 1855. He was born in New York city, October, 21, 1834, his parents being Alfred H. and Margaret Peats, also natives of the eastern metropolis, whence they removed to the west in 1846, settling in Chicago, where they resided until 1855. In that year they came to Rockford and the father died soon afterward, at the residence of Captain Weldon. The mother also died in this city.

In the public schools of Chicago Major Peats completed a fair English education, and while living in that city he began learning the trade of a sign writer. Following the removal of his parents to Rockford, he began business here at painting, decorating and sign writing, and followed that pursuit until the inauguration of the Civil

war, when in May, 1861, he responded to the call of his country in her hour of peril and enlisted in the Seventeenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry under Colonel Ross. He was then made captain of his company and thus served until April, 1862, when he was promoted to the rank of major, in which capacity he remained until mustered out in June, 1864. He went on every march with his command, participated in every engagement and rendered valuable service in the preservation of the Union, his own valor and loyalty inspiring his men to deeds of valor. He took part in the battles of Pittsburg Landing, Shiloh, Vicksburg and many others of importance, and he was especially noted as a superior drill master. He made a most creditable record, and his military life is one of which his family have reason to be proud.

Following his discharge, Major Peats returned to Rockford and again took up his trade of sign writing, painting and decorating, and did much fine work in the city. In 1872 he was elected sheriff of Winnebago county and held that office for eight years, or four terms, under the old law. In 1890 he was elected chief of police of Rockford, but only served for a brief period, resigning in August of that year in order to accept the office of adjutant of the Soldiers and Sailors' Home at Quincy, Illinois, after which he removed to that city, continuing in the office until April, 1894, when he was replaced by a democrat. He had many friends there among the old soldiers, who felt great regret at seeing him depart. He then returned to Rockford and not long afterward succumbed to the illness which terminated fatally, on the 20th of March, 1895.

In 1861 Major Peats had married Miss Bessie R. Tew, a native of Connecticut and a daughter of Mrs. B. C. Tew. Her father had died in Connecticut, and in 1852 the mother came with her daughter to Rockford, where she conducted a boarding house for many years. She was well known here and died in this city. Mr. and Mrs. Peats became the parents of a daughter, Mabel, now the wife of E. J. Bloodgood, who is traveling auditor for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company. They reside at Oak Park, a suburb of Chicago, and they had one child, Frank Peats Bloodgood, who died in infancy.

Major Peats had a wide and favorable acquaintance in Rockford, where he made his home for the greater part of the time through four decades. He was well known as a leader in republican ranks here, and in addition to the offices already mentioned, he served as a clerk in both the house and senate at Springfield. His opinions carried weight in the local councils of his party. He was a member of the Masonic lodge at Rockford and of Nevius post, No. 1, G. A. R., aiding in its organization and taking an active interest in its work. He always delighted in the gatherings of his old army

comrades and in the expressions of patriotism. He was an entertaining companion, and was noted for his gifts of story telling. His political and military career, his business record and the strong traits of his private life made him a man worthy of high regard, and his death occasioned sincere sorrow among his large circle of friends. Mrs. Peats is a member of the Court Street Methodist Episcopal church, and resides in an attractive residence at No. 611 Peach street, which was built and improved by her husband.

CHARLES M. CLARK.

Charles M. Clark, 1302 East State street, Rockford, was born February 11, 1854, on a farm in the town of New Milford. Mr. Clark's whole life has been identified with Winnebago county, and since he was eight years of age with the city of Rockford, where he received his education and grew to manhood.

In 1874 he was married to Jennie E. Lake, a daughter of John Lake, who was one of the early settlers of the county, as was also Mr. Clark's father, James H. Clark, who settled in the town of New Milford in 1844 on a farm, removing to Rockford in 1862.

Mr. Clark identified himself in business with a former classmate, Robert Rew, and for a good many years conducted a large and successful real-estate business under the firm name of Rew & Clark. Mr. Clark has been quite successful; has an elegant home, and, having retired from business, is enjoying the fruits of his labors.

Mr. and Mrs. Clark have one child, a daughter, Alice E., wife of Max Holliger, assistant manager of the Rockford Edison Electric Light Company.

JOEL B. WHITEHEAD.

Joel B. Whitehead, who is engaged in the real-estate, loan and insurance business in Rockford, is a native of Montgomery county, Illinois, his birth having occurred on a farm near Hillsboro, January 31, 1864. His parents were Jacob and Elizabeth Ann (Paisley) Whitehead, the former born in New Jersey in 1815, and the latter near Hillsboro, Illinois, in 1830. The mother's people were originally from Scotland, and came from Guilford Courthouse, North Carolina, to this state. The father was descended from English ancestry and was born shortly after the arrival of the parents in this country. He came to Illinois in 1837, and was a farmer and blacksmith, following the dual pursuit until he retired from active business life. He died in 1900, at the advanced age of eighty-five years. They had seven children,

who reached mature years—four sons and three daughters. One brother, John M., is an attorney and now a state senator of Wisconsin, while another brother, Jacob P., is a minister and pastor of the First Presbyterian church at Newport, Kentucky. Charles W. died in Rockford in 1887.

Joel B. Whitehead, the youngest son, acquired his early education in the country schools and at Hillsboro, and afterward attended Beloit College for two years. He put aside his text-books in 1886 and has since been a resident of Rockford, where for the first five years of his residence he had charge of the wholesale glove and mitten stock of Henry W. Price. On the 1st of January, 1891, he opened his office in the real-estate, loan and insurance business, and for fifteen years has been a leading representative of this department of activity, his office being now located at Nos. 408 and 409 William Brown Building. He was one of the organizers and has been continuously on the board of directors of the Insurance Company of the State of Illinois, one of the leading fire-insurance companies of the west. He is also a director of the Rockford National Bank, one of the strong financial institutions of Rockford.

Mr. Whitehead is interested in many other public concerns of this city, and is a man of influence, having assisted materially in molding public thought and action in recent years. He is a director of the Rockford Chautauqua Association, and was secretary and manager for nine or ten years of the Winnebago County Agricultural Society, and took a leading part in promoting its affairs. He is now serving his third term as a member of the county board of supervisors, and during the erection of the Soldiers and Sailors' Memorial Hall he was the secretary of the building committee, and when the hall was dedicated on June 3, 1903, he had general charge of the arrangements for the reception to President Roosevelt, who delivered the dedicatory address on that occasion. He has served on the Rockford school board, and in all of these positions as a servant of the people, he has had the confidence and respect of all. In politics he is an ardent republican, and he has always been active in promoting its interests.

On the 20th of May, 1890, occurred the marriage of Mr. Whitehead and Miss Emma A. Leech, a daughter of Shepard and Phoebe A. Leech, of Rockford, her father being one of the old settlers of Winnebago county. Mr. and Mrs. Whitehead became the parents of two daughters and a son: Ruth, who died in August, 1904, at the age of twelve years; Grace, who died in infancy; and Loren L., who was born September 28, 1897, and attends the Lincoln school. Since the death of their daughter Ruth they have taken two sisters into their home, Gladys and Ethel, aged eleven and eight years, as a memorial to their

lost little ones. Their home is at No. 848 North Main street, where they have a fine residence. Mr. Whitehead is a member of the Second Congregational church, and has been chairman and treasurer of the board of trustees for a number of years, but retired from the board some time ago. His interest in the work of the church is deep and sincere, which has been manifested by his active co-operation in its various activities. He figures prominently in connection with public affairs at Rockford, and is a popular citizen, alert, enterprising and progressive.

ALBERT J. ATWOOD.

Albert J. Atwood is living in the village of Pecatonica, but is justly regarded as a leading and successful representative of agricultural interests in the county, where he is engaged in general farming and stock raising. He has spent his entire life in this county, and in recent years has been prominent in the public affairs of the village in which he makes his home, having retired from the office of mayor on the 1st of May, 1905.

He was born May 10, 1848, in Burritt township, Winnebago county, his parents being Thomas J. and Lois (Cable) Atwood. His father was born in Vermont, May 26, 1818, and died July 4, 1898, in the eightieth year of his age. He came to Winnebago county in 1840, having been preceded by his parents two or three years. He was educated in the public schools of Rutland, Vermont, and afterward clerked in a store at that place. When twenty-two years of age, however, he came to the west, and after reaching Winnebago county entered one hundred and sixty acres of government land, thus making arrangements for carrying on farming on his own account. Later he sold that property and entered another quarter section, on which he built a house. He was married here in Pecatonica township, May 4, 1847, to Miss Lois Cornelia Cable, who was born in Stratford, Connecticut, November 19, 1816, and came to Illinois with her parents in 1837. The young couple began their domestic life upon the claim which he entered, and he commenced the improvement of his farm by breaking the raw prairie and fencing it with the rails which he split himself. He was a typical pioneer, bravely bearing the hardships and labors that fall to the lot of the frontier settler. He capably performed the arduous task of developing a new farm, and later he added to his land from time to time until he had about four hundred acres. He was a prosperous, successful farmer, raising cattle, hogs and sheep in addition to the cultivation of the fields. He carted his wheat to the Chicago markets in early days, and later, when the railroad was built, he used that means to get his farm products to

the city markets, but he was a resident of this locality for fourteen or fifteen years before the railroad was constructed. He led a very busy and useful life, and his history proves that earnest labor will eventually win success when supplemented by sound business judgment. He continued upon his farm until within twelve years of his death, and during that period lived retired, enjoying a well earned rest. He was active and influential in public affairs, serving as supervisor of the township of Burritt, and for many years as school director, while in other ways he contributed to the general good, being the champion of all measures that tended to benefit his community. He held membership in the Odd Fellows society, and both he and his wife were devoted members of the Congregational church, in which he acted as deacon for many years, holding the office up to the time of his death. He was survived by his wife for about three years, her death occurring November 21, 1901, when she was in her seventy-sixth year. In the family of this worthy and honored couple were six children, four sons and two daughters, namely: Albert J.; Rollin C., who died at the age of twenty-one years; Emma C., the wife of Harris Neadman, a resident of Fonda, Iowa, by whom she had a daughter, Nellie, who is now married and resides in that state; Ella, who died at the age of nine years; and Ezra and Amos, twins, who died in childhood.

Albert J. Atwood, whose name introduces this record, was reared upon his father's farm, where he worked through the summer months, while in the winter seasons he attended school. His early education was acquired in the township schools, and he afterward continued his studies in the Rockford Business College, where he completed his course in April, 1868. He then returned home and assisted his father in the operation of the farm from that time until the spring of 1870, when he began farming on his own account, not only cultivating the soil, but also raising cattle, horses, sheep and hogs. He was practical in his methods, industrious in all that he undertook, and his well directed labors brought him a gratifying measure of success. He continued active in the business until 1894, when he removed to the village of Pecatonica, where he has since made his home. He was here engaged in the ice business for seven years, but on the expiration of that period he resumed his farming operations and is now conducting a farm of two hundred acres of rich and productive land, and he also has forty acres which he rents. His long experience in agricultural pursuits, his keen sagacity in business matters and his unflinching diligence make him one of the leading and successful representatives of farming interests here.

On the 26th of September, 1870, Mr. Atwood was united in marriage to Miss Caroline M.

Bierer, a daughter of David and Amanda M. (Hitchcock) Bierer. Her father was born in Uniontown, Fayette county, Pennsylvania, July 20, 1820, and was the second in a family of ten children. He came west when a young man, located in Rockford in the fall of 1830, and the following year he built the first brick store in East State street, near Second street. There he embarked in the dry goods business in 1840, and for twenty years was connected with mercantile interests of the city, being one of its early and prominent representatives of commercial life there. He married Miss Amanda Hitchcock, in 1840, and he spent his last twenty years on the farm of Mr. and Mrs. Atwood, living a retired life. He was a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and passed away December 11, 1904, death thus claiming one of the honored pioneer residents of Winnebago county. He is still survived by his wife. In their family were the following named: Everett H. died at Templeton, California, December 25, 1904, at the age of sixty-three years. Mrs. Atwood is the second in order of birth. Helen J. became the wife of J. W. Smith, of Rockford, Iowa, and they spent the first year of their married life in traveling, he being quite wealthy. They then took up their abode in Rockford, Iowa, where Mrs. Smith taught physical culture for fifteen years. They then traveled through Canada, for she was in ill health, and every effort was put forth to restore her health, but without avail. She died December 11, 1889, in the faith of the Congregational church, her membership being with the Second Congregational church, of Rockford. Benjamin B., now living in Templeton, California, is married, and has one child, Zella. Willie died in infancy and an infant died unnamed.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Atwood were born five children, of whom four are yet living: Clarence A., who is a graduate of the dental department of the Northwestern University at Chicago of the class of 1868, and is now engaged in practice in Durand, married Hattie L. Waggoner and has one child, Florence L. Algernon A. Atwood, who completed a course in dentistry in the Northwestern University with the class of 1867, and is now practicing in Pecatonica, married Hortense A. Van Valkenburg, and has two children, Ceed G. and Harry A. Florence A. Atwood died when twenty-one years of age. She was a young lady of most sunny disposition and kindly spirit, and her death caused profound sorrow among her many friends as well as in her family. Zella A. Atwood is at home. Viola X. is the wife of Claude A. Colby, who is with the Rockford Register-Gazette.

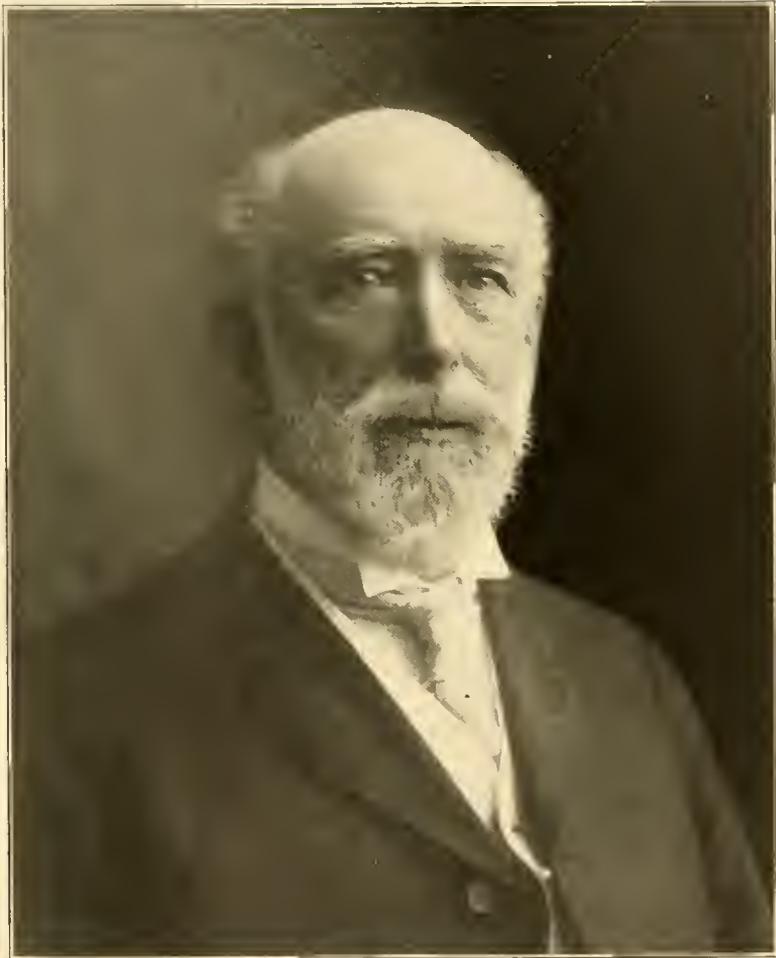
Mr. Atwood has been very prominent and influential in public affairs relating to the material welfare and the fraternal, political and moral in-

terests of the community. He was a member of the school board in Burritt township for eighteen years, and was one of the trustees of the village of Pecatonica for six years. In 1903 he was chosen president of the village, continuing in the office until May 1, 1905, when he retired, having complied with the law in the performance of his duties, both in the letter and spirit, giving a public-spirited, practical and beneficial administration. He was strict in the enforcement of all the city ordinances and also introduced many progressive measures.

Prominent in Masonry, Mr. Atwood has progressed from the entered apprentice degree to the thirty-third degree of the Scottish rite, belonging to A. W. Rawlson lodge, No. 145, A. F. & A. M.; Rockford chapter, No. 24, R. A. M.; Crusader commandery, No. 10, K. T., of Rockford; Freeport consistory, S. P. R. S.; and Tebala Temple of the Mystic Shrine. He also belongs to the Elks lodge, No. 64, at Rockford, while his wife and two daughters are members of the White Shrine at Freeport and the Eastern Star lodge at Pecatonica, while Mrs. Atwood is also connected with the Rebekah degree of the Odd Fellows society at Pecatonica, and she and her daughter Zella are members of the Relief Corps. The family is one of prominence socially and Mr. Atwood has long been numbered among the representative citizens of the village and township of Pecatonica, his labor in behalf of public interests proving far-reaching and beneficial.

DANIEL GOODLANDER.

Daniel Goodlander, a resident of Rockford since 1865, has long been a representative of its manufacturing interests, being still with the well known Emerson Manufacturing Company, successors to the Emerson Talcott Company. He was born in Milton, Pennsylvania, in 1828. His parents were Christopher and Mary (Osborne) Goodlander. The father, a lumberman, died in 1857. Daniel Goodlander, reared and educated in the east, came to the middle west in 1850, settling in Rushville, Illinois, and the following year he went to California, where he was in the government employ in the custom house at San Francisco. In 1854 he went east to Pennsylvania, and in 1857 he came to Freeport, Illinois, where he was engaged in manufacturing. The year 1865 witnessed his arrival in Rockford, where he became connected with F. H. Manny in manufacturing interests, this relation being maintained until 1876, when he became vice-president of the firm of Emerson & Talcott. The business was changed to Emerson Manufacturing Company in 1885, and Mr. Goodlander has continued with the house as



DANIEL GOODLANDER.

superintendent of agencies. He is well known in trade circles in this city, and his conscientious performance of every duty, his effective labor for advancement, and the broadening out of activity for the houses which he has represented have made his efforts of value.

Mr. Goodlander was married to Miss Catherine F. Rogers, of Rushville, Illinois, and they had three daughters, Emma, Alice and Mabel. The mother died in 1882, and in 1885 Mr. Goodlander married Mrs. Etta Bair, of Rockford. He is well known in Masonic circles, belonging to Star in the East lodge, A. F. & A. M., also to the Knight Templar commandery and the consistory. In his political views he has been a staunch republican since the organization of the party, and he is a member of the Congregational church. His is a well rounded character, in which his attention has been proportionately given to the varied interest which make for an honorable manhood, and render one of use in the world to his fellowmen, because of his good citizenship and consideration for the rights and privileges of others.

THOMAS J. ABBOTT.

Among the men to whom has been vouchsafed an honorable retirement from labor in recognition of activity, earnest purpose and successful accomplishment in former years Mr. Abbott is numbered. He makes his home at No. 448 North Avon street, Rockford, and is a native of Rockland county, New York, born January 11, 1839. His parents were Thomas and Nancy (Blauvelt) Abbott. The father, who was born in Rockland county, New York, was of English descent, and his father, John Abbott, was likewise a native of Rockland county. In the year 1856 Thomas Abbott came to the west, establishing his home in Rockford, where he followed the occupation of farming, although in the east he had learned the shoemaker's trade. Here he became the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land in Rockford township, whereon he resided until 1878, when he sold out and took up his abode at Eldora, Hardin county, Iowa. He was also a preacher and exhorter. He had twenty-one children by his two wives, ten of whom are now living, but Thomas J. Abbott is the only one residing in Winnebago county. The father departed this life in July, 1904, at the very venerable age of ninety-three years, while the mother of our subject passed away in 1853.

Thomas J. Abbott pursued his education in the public schools of New York and Illinois, and when not busy with his text-books his time was devoted to the labors of the farm, and he continued to assist in the cultivation of the fields upon his father's land until after the inauguration of the

Civil war. He watched with interest the progress of events in the south, noted the indications of the oncoming storm, became a champion of republican principles and cast his ballot for Abraham Lincoln in 1860. When war broke upon the country he announced his allegiance to the Union, and on the 1st of August, 1861, he enrolled as a member of Company G, Forty-fourth Illinois Infantry. The company was organized by Major Hobart, and the first captain was M. L. Sabin. The Forty-fourth Illinois was formed at Chicago, and its commander was Colonel Charles Knoblesdorph. Mr. Abbott served continuously until September 25, 1865, having re-enlisted January 1, 1864, at Blains Crossroads, East Tennessee, becoming a member of the same company and regiment. He served as a private until December, 1864, when he was promoted to sergeant and afterward to first lieutenant, while at the time he was mustered out he was holding the rank of adjutant. He was twice wounded, being shot in both hips at Adairsville on the 17th of May, 1864, carrying the bullet until September, 1865, while six years passed before the wound healed. He now has in his possession this bullet, which for nearly two years was imbedded near his spine. Always in active duty, he proved a brave and valiant soldier. His regiment first went in pursuit of Price in Missouri, being thus engaged from September, 1861, until the fall of 1862, after which they participated in the siege of Corinth, Mississippi, and thence proceeded to Cincinnati, Ohio, and again crossed the river to Covington, Kentucky, being attached to the Army of the Cumberland. The first battle in which Mr. Abbott participated was at Pea Ridge, and later he was in the engagements of Perryville, Stone River, Chattanooga, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, the siege of Knoxville, the Atlanta campaign and the battles of Franklin and Nashville. The regiment went to eastern Tennessee and was afterward sent down the Mississippi river to Texas, where it remained until mustered out. Mr. Abbott also had three brothers in the army, one of whom gave his life in defense of the Union cause.

When the war was over and the country no longer needed his aid Mr. Abbott returned to the north with a military record of which he had every reason to be proud. He engaged in farming in Rockford township until 1888, and afterward was connected with other business interests, but since 1898 has lived retired. He now owns two houses and lots in Rockford, one where he resides and one adjoining, and his property stands as the visible evidence of his life of industry and thrift.

On the 29th of March, 1864, Mr. Abbott was married to Miss Adefine E. Kilburn, who was born in Rockford in 1846, and is a daughter of the late Milton Kilburn, the first probate judge of

this county, who came here from New Hampshire in 1835. The Kilburns were among the oldest families of New England, the first representatives of the name in the world having come to America on the Mayflower. Judge Kilburn was very prominent and influential in Winnebago county, and his efforts in behalf of public progress were far-reaching and beneficial. In the east he had conducted business as a druggist, but after his removal to the west was identified with farming interests in Rockford township. Mr. Abbott was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife in 1902, her death having occurred on the 1st day of December of that year.

In politics he has been a republican since the time when he voted for Abraham Lincoln, and he has served as highway commissioner, constable, sidewalk inspector and health officer, and in all these offices has been prompt and faithful in the discharge of his duties. He is a valued representative of several fraternal organizations, including Nevius post, No. 1, G. A. R., of Rockford, in which he is now quartermaster. He likewise has membership relations with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Red Men, and is a very prominent Mason, belonging to Star in the East lodge, No. 106, A. F. & A. M.; is past high priest of Kishwaukee chapter, No. 24, R. A. M.; is a member of Crusader commandery, No. 17, K. T.; has attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite in Freeport consistory, S. P. R. S., and is a noble of Tebala Temple of the Mystic Shrine. Mr. Abbott is a man of genuine worth, ever loyal in all life's relations, commanding the respect and good will of all with whom he has been associated, his record in days of peace being equally commendable with his record as a soldier.

A. C. LANSING.

A. C. Lansing, to whom has been vouchsafed an honorable retirement after many years of active business life is now residing at No. 1517 East State street. He has been a resident of the city for thirty-five years and during much of that period represented commercial interests here. He came to Illinois from Montgomery county, New York, and is a native of Saratoga county, that state, his birth having occurred there in 1840. His parents were Cornelius and Lydia (Reed) Lansing, both of whom were natives of the state of New York, the father following the occupation of farming there throughout his entire life. They passed away many years ago, Mr. Lansing dying in December, 1870, at the age of seventy-one years, while his wife died about 1880, when seventy-seven years of age. They had a large family, of whom

five are yet living, four sisters being residents of the Empire state.

A. C. Lansing was reared in New York and in 1852 accompanied his parents on their removal from Saratoga to Montgomery county, where he resided continuously until 1870. He was educated in the common schools and was early trained to habits of industry, economy and integrity upon the home farm. Believing that he might enjoy better business privileges in the younger but rapidly growing west he came to Rockford in 1871 and has here lived for thirty-four years. He established a feed store here at No. 416 East State street, where he conducted business for eighteen years, and then retiring from that line of trade, he devoted his attention to the conduct of a grocery store at No. 517 East State street, being proprietor of the latter for seven years. On the expiration of that period he retired to private life and is now enjoying a well earned rest. He began business in Rockford on a small scale but gradually his patronage increased and as time passed, saving some from his income each year, he was at length the possessor of a handsome competence which now permits him to put aside business cares altogether.

Mr. Lansing was married ere his removal to the west, Miss Sarah Elizabeth File, of Montgomery county, New York, becoming his wife, while he was still a resident of that state. Their only child, George R., died in 1882, at the age of eleven years. He owns a fine home at 1517 East State street where he and his wife are now living. They are well known in Rockford and the hospitality of many of the best homes of the city is freely accorded them. They hold membership in the Centennial Methodist Episcopal church and in his political views Mr. Lansing is a prohibitionist, which indicates his ideas concerning the temperance question. By example, as well as precept, he has always endeavored to further the temperance movement and is ever found as the champion of all measures that tend to the betterment of mankind. His life has ever been an exemplification of honorable principles and he is always found on the side of justice, truth, right and kindly consideration for others.

G. S. BROWN.

G. S. Brown, a retired farmer of Owen township, residing at No. 324 North Rockton avenue, was born June 23, 1830, in the city of Rockford, his birthplace being a part of the Beatty home near the water-works, which is still standing and is yet occupied. His parents were Mowry and Lucy M. (Pease) Brown. His father was a native



MR. AND MRS. A. C. LANSING.

of Rhode Island, and his mother of the Empire state. The Brown family is of English lineage, while the Pease family is of Dutch descent. In May, 1838, Mowry Brown arrived in Winnebago county, taking up his abode in Rockford, where he resided for two years, when he purchased a claim in Owen township, upon which he spent his remaining days. As he prospered in his undertakings he wisely invested in land and became the owner of a valuable tract of two hundred and forty acres. He voted with the republican party, for it embodied his ideas concerning the best elements of government, and both he and his wife were for many years members of the First Baptist church, but later he united with the Christian Union church. He died June 4, 1878, while his wife passed away on the 7th of April, 1897. In their family were eleven children, of whom six are now living in this county, namely: G. S., of this review; Charles E., who is living in Rockford township; Mrs. Mary E. Phelps, whose home is on School street in Rockford; Henry A., of this city; Fred O., who is living in Harlem township; and Richard E., also residing in Rockford.

G. S. Brown was educated in Owen township in the common schools and remained at home until twenty-two years of age. In the meantime he learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed with his father for five years, and in 1865 he bought one hundred acres of land, which he still owns. He added to this from time to time as his financial resources permitted until he became the owner of two hundred and sixty-five acres, but has sold some of this to a company establishing a brickyard, and also to the railroad company, so that his holdings in Owen township now comprise two hundred and thirty-two acres. He also has three hundred and thirty-two acres in Ogle county and thus has valuable and extensive landed possessions in this part of the state. He continued farming until 1903, and in the following year removed to Rockford, where he purchased a fine home, and is now enjoying a well earned rest. While on the farm he raised stock, making a specialty of both cattle and hogs, and that branch of his business proved very profitable.

In February, 1868, Mr. Brown was united in marriage to Miss Jennie Rogers, a native of England, who was born March 8, 1847, and is a daughter of John and Jane (Meagher) Rogers, who came to America in 1852, settling in Guilford township, Winnebago county. Her father was a farmer and stone-cutter by occupation, and followed that pursuit in order to provide for his family, becoming owner of one hundred and thirty-two acres of land, which he carefully cultivated, transforming it into a richly productive property. He died in 1893, at the age of eighty years, while his wife passed away in 1872. In their family were five children, but Mrs. Brown is

the only one now living in this county. She has a sister, Mrs. Anna M. Spink, who is living at Davis Junction, Illinois, while her brother, Hon. William Rogers, formerly of Kansas, is now a resident of Lincoln, Nebraska. He was a prominent factor in the public life in the former state, and left the impress of his individuality upon its legislation, serving as state senator of Kansas for four years, also as a member of the house of representatives for two years, and as one of the regents of the university, and while in the legislature he was chairman of the ways and means committee. At the time of the Civil war he espoused the Union cause, enlisting in 1861 as a member of Company E, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry under Captain Cosper. He served for four years and was promoted to corporal, and during an engagement he was shot through the left arm. He is a self-made man, who has made a notable military and political record, and for a number of years was classed with the distinguished citizens of Kansas, while at the present writing he is a prominent resident of Nebraska. The other members of the Rogers family are: Mrs. Lizzie Ruby, living in Nebraska; and John G. Rogers, who resides at Mason City, Iowa.

Mr. and Mrs. Brown have become the parents of eight children: William R., who married Adelaide Griggs, a daughter of Dr. Griggs, and lives at Stillman Valley; Flora J., the wife of Fred Johns, of Rockford; Edith, who died in 1895; Lucy A., the wife of Thomas Shimmin, residing in Bloomington, Illinois; George W., who lives on the old home farm; Jessie G., Ruby K., and Norma G., all living at home.

Mrs. Brown and the children are all members of the Court Street Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Brown votes with the republican party, and for nine years was road commissioner of Owen township. He owes his success entirely to his own efforts and the assistance of his estimable wife, and their career may well be termed a prosperous one, and is equally honorable because in all their business dealings they have been reliable and upright, conducting their affairs with strict regard to a high standard of business principles.

JOHN P. MANNY.

In preparing the history of the men, past and present, who have been prominent in the upbuilding and improvement of Rockford, it is imperative that mention be made of John P. Manny because of his activity in business affairs and his co-operation along lines contributing to the intellectual and moral development of his community. He was likewise a pioneer citizen of Rockford, having settled here about 1853 and for many years

as a manufacturer of knife sections and inventor and manufacturer of reapers and mowers he was well known throughout the state. Mr. Manny was born in Amsterdam, New York, March 8, 1823, his parents being James and Hester (Marcellus) Manny, both of whom were natives of the Empire state, and there resided until about 1842, when they removed to the west, settling on a farm at Waddams Grove, Stephenson county, Illinois, where the father devoted his attention to the tilling of the soil for a number of years. In his later life he took up his abode in Rockford, where he lived retired, making his home with his son John until his death. His wife also passed away in this city.

John P. Manny was educated in the common schools of his native county and in Stephenson county, and when not engaged with his text-books he assisted in the farm work, early becoming familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. He continued to work with his father until early manhood, when he engaged in the manufacture of knife sections for John H. Manny, who was then engaged in the implement manufacturing business both in Freeport and Rockford. Possessed of natural mechanical ingenuity, his inventive mind and skilled hands wrought along original lines and he was continually studying and experimenting for the improvement of reapers and mowers.

John P. Manny manufactured his reapers and mowers for the territory east of the Mississippi, while N. C. Thompson manufactured them under a royalty west of the river.

While living in Waddams Grove John P. Manny was married to Miss Eunice Hicks. They were the parents of five children, all of whom passed away in early life with the exception of George Manny, who married Kitty Dwight. He is now deceased, but his widow resides in Rockford. In 1868 Mr. Manny was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Florida L. (Starr) Brown, the widow of Lieutenant-Colonel Addison Brown, of the Sixth Vermont Regiment in the Civil war. Her parents were Melancthon and Lucretia (Nevins) Starr, the former a native of Albany, New York, and the latter of Connecticut. Her father was one of the honored pioneer settlers of Rockford, having arrived here in 1850, after which he became a leader in financial circles. Associated with others, he established the Winnebago National Bank and his sons are still connected with the institution. Mr. Starr was cashier and vice-president and continued in the business until his death, inaugurating a safe, conservative policy, which has made this one of the leading moneyed concerns of the county.

With Mr. Manny and his second wife were born five children: Mary, now the wife of Charles T. Sackett, who is now in the insurance business

in Rockford; Lucretia, who died in childhood; J. Starr, who resides in Florida; Henry, who is living in New York city, and Mrs. Virginia Larkin, also of that city.

Mr. Manny lived retired from the time he disposed of his business interests until his death, which occurred in Rockford, November 16, 1897. He was never an office seeker, but served as alderman for one term and in politics was a staunch Republican, believing firmly in the principles of the party as most conducive to good government. For several years he was president of the Rockford Cemetery Association and the extent and importance of his business interests, his activity in citizenship and co-operation in beneficial public interests, combined with his loyalty to the ties of friendship and of the home have made him a man well worthy of the high esteem which was uniformly accorded him. The Manny and the Starr families are numbered among the oldest and best known families of Rockford, the names being prominent for a long period in business and society circles.

ALEXANDER COLLIER.

Alexander Collier, whose name appears on the roster of county officials of Winnebago county in connection with the office of sheriff, is a native of Chenango county, New York, his birth having occurred in Smyrna in 1849. He is a representative of one of the old families of Mohawk Dutch stock. His parents were William and Barbara (Vosburg) Collier. The father was a bridge builder and carpenter and lost his life by accident, when his son Alexander was a small boy. He always made his home in the Empire state, and there were born the six children of the family, namely: Jane, Isaac, Henry, James, Maggie and Alexander. Following the death of her first husband, Mrs. Collier was married to John Sherman, and they had two sons, Orvil and Oliver.

Alexander Collier remained a resident of the Empire state through the period of his minority, and when twenty-one years of age came west to Illinois, settling in Koscoe, where for fourteen years he worked at the miller's trade, which he had learned in earlier life. When his untiring labors and economy had brought him sufficient capital to justify the purchase of a farm he became the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of land, upon which he resided from 1884 until 1890. During that period he successfully carried on agricultural pursuits on his own account. In 1891 he removed to Rockford, and when the supervisors sought a trusty superintendent to take charge of the poor farm the position was tendered Mr. Collier. He accepted it and acted

in that capacity through the succeeding eleven years, his service being entirely satisfactory to the general public and to the unfortunate class of citizens who are thrown upon the county's bounty.

Previous to this time Mr. Collier has been recognized as a worker in the ranks of the republican party, and had served as supervisor of his township for three years while living upon the farm. In 1902 many of his friends requested him to become a candidate for the office of sheriff, and he concluded to stand as a nominee. Elected by popular suffrage, he entered upon the duties of the position in January, 1903, and is yet serving in that capacity. A contemporary publication said of him, "During his term of office the people that have necessarily come under his care have found the iron hand of justice covered with the glove of sympathy." He never falters in the performance of his duty, and yet he would do everything in his power to enable the law-breaker to become a law-abiding citizen. His son, Charles S. Collier, acts as his deputy, and proves very efficient in the office.

In 1876 Mr. Collier was married to Miss Eliza McMullen, a daughter of William and Nancy (Mesmore) McMullen. The father was born in the Mohawk Valley, in Herkimer county, New York, and died in Belvidere, Illinois, in January, 1881, at the age of fifty-eight years. He was descended from Scotch ancestry, and in his life displayed many of the sterling characteristics of that people. By trade he was a blacksmith, which pursuit he followed in Herkimer county, New York, until his removal to the west, at which time he settled in Ogle county, Illinois. He was married in this state near Byron, and, entering government land, he became one of the pioneer settlers of Winnebago county, where he spent many years, his attention being given to agricultural pursuits. In the care and cultivation of his farm he acquired a comfortable competence, so that he was enabled to live retired in his last years, which were spent in Belvidere. He was prominent in local affairs, acted as road commissioner, and was school director for many years. In politics he was a republican, and he favored the Methodist Episcopal church. His wife was born in Canada, and came to the United States when eight years of age with her parents. Her death occurred in Belvidere in 1866, when she was thirty-six years of age. In their family were five children: Mrs. Collier; Eugene, who died at the age of thirty-nine years; Charles W., who died at the age of twenty-eight years; Fred R., who died in infancy; and Ida E. After the death of his first wife Mr. McMullen was married to Margaret Bear.

Mr. Collier is well known in Winnebago county, and is held in high regard because of the

faithfulness which he has displayed to every public trust reposed in him. He discharges every duty with conscientious obligation, and has made a creditable record.

WILLIAM POLLARD.

William Pollard, following the occupation of farming on section 22, Winnebago township, where he owns and operates one hundred and seventy acres of land, has been a resident of Winnebago county since 1881. He came to America from England, his native country, his birth having occurred in Cambridgeshire in 1854. His parents were Jabez and Sarah (Taylor) Pollard, who spent their entire lives in England. In their family were thirteen children, three of whom came to America and are still living.

William Pollard was reared to manhood in his native country and was educated in the public schools there. When a young man of twenty-seven years he determined to seek his fortune in the United States for he believed that better opportunities might be enjoyed in this country. Accordingly he crossed the Atlantic and made his way direct to Rockford, where he arrived in 1881. He had been married in England to Miss Rebecca Lambert, also a native of Cambridgeshire. They had little capital when they arrived in America but by earnest labor, business tact and indefatigable energy Mr. Pollard has gained a fine property in Winnebago township, in addition to which he owns extensive landed interests in South Dakota. The place which he now has comprises one hundred and seventy acres and was formerly known as the Kerns farm. Many of the present modern improvements have been placed thereon by Mr. Pollard, who has erected a residence and commodious outbuildings. He has also placed scales upon his farm and various facilities for the successful conduct of his place. He became the owner of this land in 1893 and personally cultivated the place until the present year, 1905, when he turned over the active work of the farm to his sons.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Pollard have been born ten children, of whom six are living: Emma, a resident of Rockford; Ethelbert, a farmer of South Dakota, who married Emma Layng and has two children, Wayne and Jane; Wilfred, who is living on the home farm and married Addie Guynn, by whom he has one child, Winifred C., born in July, 1905; Isabella, the wife of Harry Gillett, and the mother of one child, Audrey; H. Jackson, at home; and Rosa Mae, who is the wife of Earl Andrews, a farmer of South Dakota. The others all died in early childhood, two in England and two in this country.

Politically Mr. Pollard is a republican, having supported the party since becoming a naturalized American citizen. He has served for six years as road commissioner and has been interested in the material development and progress of his community. The family attend the Episcopal church and the members of the household are esteemed for their genuine worth. He is thoroughly representative of that class of citizens who in the new world have taken advantage of business conditions here and through earnest, persistent and honorable labor have worked their way upward to success.

JAMES G. TETLOW.

James G. Tetlow, who in the practice of law has been accorded a good clientage that is an indication of his professional standing, was born on a farm in Columbiana county, Ohio, March 24, 1869. His parents were Zachariah and Elizabeth (Chappell) Tetlow, the latter a daughter of James Chappell, a man much respected for his sterling qualities. Zachariah Tetlow was a native of England, where he spent his boyhood days and acquired a common-school education. Emigrating to the United States he made his way into the interior of the country and in Ohio was married and settled on a farm, devoting his time to agricultural pursuits for some years. Later he became connected with the coal interests of that part of the country and was superintendent of the Cherry Valley Coal & Iron Works, in Leetonia, Ohio, for a period of thirty years. He died in 1901, and his wife passed away in March, 1905. She was born in England and had passed the Psalmist's three score years and ten.

James G. Tetlow was educated in Washingtonville, Ohio, where he was graduated from the graded schools. He afterward entered the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, Ohio, where he continued as a student for three years and then matriculated in the State University Law School at Columbus, Ohio, from which institution he was graduated with the class of 1895. Coming west to Rockford, Illinois, he again read law and was admitted to the bar in this state, though he had previously been admitted in Ohio. He then entered upon his practice in Rockford and now devotes his entire attention to his professional duties. The consensus of public opinion in regard to his ability is favorable and he has been engaged with much of the important litigation tried in the courts of his district. In addition to civil litigation he has been conspicuously successful in some very important criminal cases, notably the Sadwater grand larceny case and the Haight assault with intent to commit

murder. He is a forcible speaker, logical in argument and his ambition to attain success prompts earnest devotion to the interests of his clients and careful preparation of his cases.

Mr. Tetlow takes great interest in military affairs, and in 1898 he enlisted as a member of Company K, Third Illinois Volunteer Infantry, Colonel Fred Bennett commanding. In the Spanish-American war he took part in the expedition to Porto Rico and served for several months on the islands. With his regiment he returned in January, 1899, and soon afterward was commissioned by Governor Tanner second lieutenant of the National Guards of Illinois and is now captain of Company H of that regiment. For two years he was secretary of the Rockford Merchants' and Business Men's Association, and his fraternal relations are with the Star of the East lodge, No. 166, A. F. & A. M., and Kent lodge, No. 689, I. O. O. F. He takes a deep interest in the Young Men's Christian Association, of which he has been a member for over eight years, and has been an usher in the gallery of the Court Street Methodist Episcopal church for over four years.

In politics Mr. Tetlow is a pronounced republican and was a delegate to the state senatorial convention. He also took an active part in the gubernatorial contest of 1904 and did some able work in behalf of Richard Yates. He also gained considerable notoriety in an able speech made at Owen in the last McKinley campaign. He is a man of energy, strong purpose and laudable ambition and has gained more than local reputation in political circles, while in military and legal circles he has won the respect of those who are acquainted with his career.

HOSMER P. HOLLAND.

Hosmer P. Holland, a member of the Rockford bar since 1861 and a resident of the city since May, 1846, was born in Millersburg, Ohio, on the 15th of January, 1838. His parents were John A. and Maria L. (Curtis) Holland, the former a lawyer by profession, practicing first in Ohio and afterward in Illinois. His son, Hosmer P. Holland, brought to this city when a youth of eight years, was here reared to manhood and his early educational privileges were supplemented by study in Antioch College, Ohio, and Union College, New York. Taking up the study of law, he was admitted to the bar in 1861 and entered upon practice in Rockford, but on the 4th of September, 1862, he put aside professional duties in order to aid in the preservation of the Union, enlisting in the Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry,



JAMES G. TETLOW.

with which he served until November, 1864. He has been master in chancery of Winnebago county for one term, but has mostly confined his attention to the active duties of his profession.

He was secretary of the Rockford Watch Company for the first fourteen years of its existence and has encouraged and promoted various enterprises that have contributed to the material and intellectual progress of the city. In regard to his political belief Mr. Holland says he is a democrat, if to be a democrat is to believe in the gold standard and tariff for revenue only. For the past four years he has served as a member of the board of review. While thoroughly informed on the questions and issues of the day, he has been without political aspiration, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his law practice.

Mr. Holland was married in Rockford, November 21, 1865, to Miss Laura Blinn and their sons and daughters are as follows: Louise, now the wife of Daniel McMullen, of Western Springs, Illinois; Aurilla, the wife of Dwight Allyn, also of Western Springs; Kate, the wife of Goldwin S. Patton, of New York City; Eleanor, of Rockford; and Gny. of Zamboango, Mindano, Philippine Islands.

SPENCER S. WELDON.

Spencer S. Weldon, now retired from the active management of his farm, which lies in Winnebago township, but who still makes his home thereon, was born at Keene, New Hampshire, January 26, 1825, his parents being Jonathan and Mary (Davis) Weldon, the latter a cousin of Jefferson Davis, president of the Southern Confederacy. Her father and his six brothers were all soldiers of the Revolutionary war. One of the brothers afterward established his home in Kentucky and became the father of Jefferson Davis.

Jonathan Weldon brought his family to Illinois in pioneer times, traveling the entire distance from Providence, Rhode Island, to Ottawa, Illinois, with team and wagon. After two months on the road they arrived at their destination on the 6th of December, 1834, and spent one season at Ottawa, Mr. Weldon planting a crop there, but owing to the prevalence of fever and ague among the inhabitants of that district he decided to remove to Winnebago county. He arrived at Rockford May 25, 1836, at which time he found a mere hamlet containing no frame houses. There were two log houses on the east side and three on the west side of Rock river. Jonathan Weldon very soon located a claim in what is now the southeast part of Winnebago township and it remained his home until 1854, when he took up his abode upon the farm which is now owned and occupied by our

subject, there continuing to reside up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1873, when he was seventy-eight years of age. His wife died in 1871. Mr. Weldon, as one of the pioneer settlers of the county, took an active and helpful part in its progress and improvement. He had taught two winters in his own log cabin and this was one of the earliest schools conducted in what is now Winnebago township. He was always interested in educational development and delighted in the progress that was made in the county along intellectual and other lines as the years passed by. The claim which he entered from the government in early pioneer times remained in possession of the family until about 1902, when it was sold.

Spencer S. Weldon was a youth of nine years when he accompanied his parents to Illinois and was eleven years old when the family located in Winnebago county. He has resided for the past sixty-nine years in the same school district in Winnebago township. A picture of pioneer times gives a correct idea of his environment in youth. He taught about the first winter school after old district No. 2, now district 100, was established. It was conducted in the back kitchen of a log dwelling. There had been a school taught in the district the previous summer by a lady, but Mr. Weldon was the first male teacher. He followed the profession for two winters, one term in Fuller district, on the river, but did not continue that line of work, as he considered farming more congenial and more profitable. Throughout his entire life he has carried on general agricultural pursuits and stock raising and has been very successful. There has been erected on his farm a large and attractive dwelling of modern style of architecture, standing in the midst of a well kept lawn. In the rear are good barns and outbuildings, all most ample for the shelter of grain and stock. He uses the latest improved machinery in carrying on the place and everything about the farm is neat and thrifty in appearance. It is now being conducted by his sons, John E. and Lincoln S. Weldon, who handle well-bred stock, making a specialty of horses and cattle. For the past twenty years they have raised pure bred Percheron and French coach horses and their business in this direction has become extensive and profitable.

In 1854 Spencer S. Weldon was married to Miss Agnes Kelley, who was born in Campbelltown, Scotland, May 29, 1825. Her father was Peter Kelley, who married Miss Catherine Stuart. Mrs. Weldon came to Winnebago county from Scotland in 1852 and resided here until her death, which occurred February 23, 1901. There were eight children by this marriage, all born on the old home farm in Winnebago township, namely: Mary, born February 8, 1855, resides at home. John E., born April 19, 1856, living on the home

farm, married Adell Hennessy June 8, 1880, who died in 1884, leaving two children—Earl G., born September 18, 1881, and Adell, born March 10, 1884, and died in 1889. For his second wife John E. Weldon chose Ida M. Briggs, of Rockford, to whom he was married in 1890. Samuel, born October 22, 1857, is engaged in the real-estate business in Portland, Oregon. He married Mary Whitney in September, 1899, and they have one child, Kenneth W. Peter, born October 19, 1859, a farmer residing near Portage, Wisconsin, married Mary Scott in February, 1897, and they have one child, Ray, born in November, 1900. Catherine, born March 17, 1863, died in childhood. William, born May 23, 1861, a retired farmer residing near Portage, Wisconsin, married Bertha I. Olson in October, 1896, and they have one child, Clarence B., born October 31, 1898. Lincoln S., born July 3, 1865, associated with his brother John in the conduct of the old home farm, married Margaret Tefft in October, 1895. Marguerite, born November 8, 1867, died in 1900, at the age of thirty-two years.

Politically Mr. Weldon is a republican without aspiration for office. In his religious views he is liberal, being unhampered by creed or dogma, yet is a thorough believer in the Christian religion. He is now more than four score years of age and has led a useful, active and honorable life, characterized by devotion to duty and by strict adherence to justice and truth at all times. He well deserves the respect which is uniformly accorded him and which makes him one of the valued citizens of this part of the state.

CARLTON WILLIAMS SHELTON.

Carlton W. Sheldon, the subject of this article, was born on a small farm in the town of Victor, county of Ontario, in the state of New York, on the 14th day of March, 1828. He was the fourth child of Gad Sheldon and Eunice Williams Hosford, who were united in marriage in said county in the year of 1820, and to whom were born six children whose names in the order of their birth are as follows: Mary Edna, Alexander, Charles H., Carlton W., Porter and Ogilvie H. Gad Sheldon was born in Massachusetts and was the third and youngest son of Ezra Sheldon and Sally Perry, a relative of Commodore Perry of Lake Erie fame. Ezra Sheldon was a deacon in the Presbyterian church at the time of his marriage to Sally Perry, and hence gave all three of his sons biblical names. The first he named Ezra, the second Asaph and the third and youngest, Gad. The latter was a soldier in the war of 1812 and fought at the battle of Sackett's Harbor, where many of his comrades were killed or wounded.

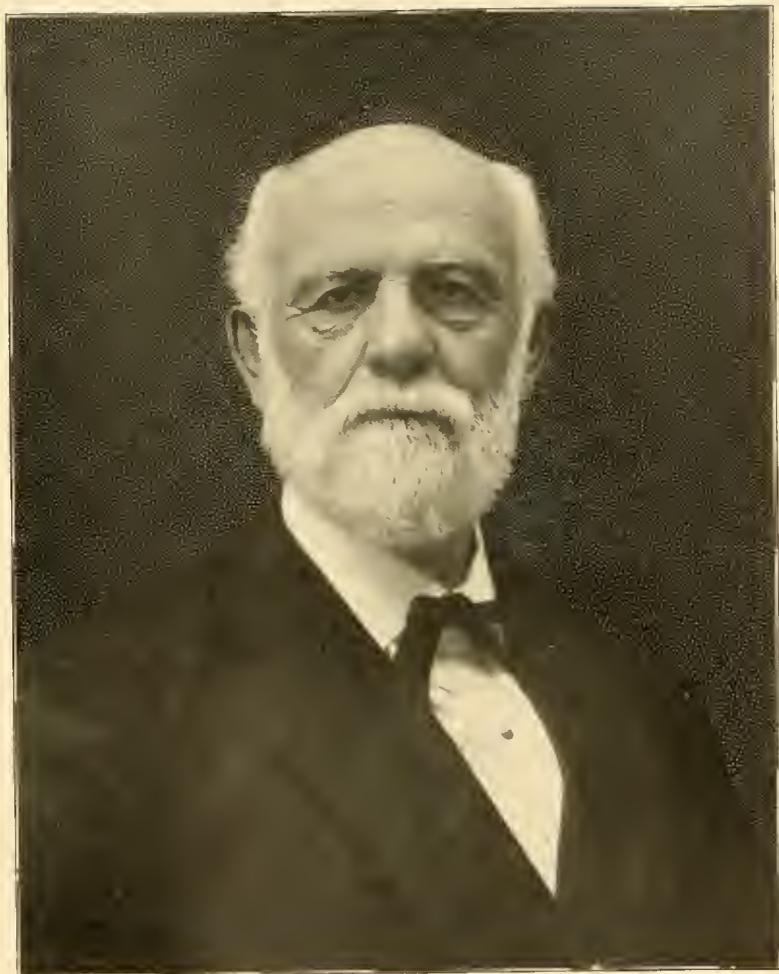
Joseph Hosford, the father of Carlton's mother, was a much older man than his grandfather Sheldon. He went into the Revolutionary war of 1776 as a drummer boy, and afterward as a private fought with musket and bayonet during the whole seven years of that bloody struggle for American Independence and before its close was raised to the rank of major. He was the co-patriot of Washington and of Warren, of Ethan Allen and Israel Putnam and of all that army of heroes who were finally crowned with victory and brought a new republic above the horizon to the astonished view of the kingdoms of Europe, to be looked upon by its rulers with dislike, but by their subjects with love and admiration down to the present time.

In 1834 the parents of Mr. Sheldon, with their six young children, removed to South Bristol in the same county on to a small farm of fifty acres that the father had managed to purchase. It was located only four miles north from the beautiful village of Naples that nestled in a valley at the head of Canandaigua lake and was surrounded by hills and mountains on all sides but one, and on that side were the beautiful waters of the lake that reached north to the city of Canandaigua. The western shore of said lake was but two miles east from this new home.

In the fall of 1840, General William Henry Harrison, the grandfather of Benjamin Harrison, was the old whig candidate for president and was elected. As Carlton's father was a whig, so of course was the son and he tells us he shall never forget that happy day when he hied himself to the west shore of that lake and joined the great whig procession, which, with log cabins on wheels and hard cider barrels, were on their way up from the city of Canandaigua to the village of Naples, where the great whig mass meeting was to be held. He remembers as though but yesterday the speech that was there made by the Hon. Francis Granger, of Canandaigua, who after the election, became postmaster general in Harrison's cabinet.

At the early age of sixteen our young whig friend left his father's home and his mother's care to go out into the world to make his own living. He made his first halting place with a farmer who lived about a mile from the small village of East Bloomfield in the same county, at which place there was a very good academy, of which Professor S. W. Clark was the principal. Here around this town he worked for different farmers during the working seasons and attended the academy during the winter months.

The year he went to Bloomfield was the fall of 1844, when another presidential election was on, and where he hurraed for Henry Clay, but who was defeated by James K. Polk, of Tennessee.



C. W. SHELDON.

The winter he was eighteen he attended a district school in the neighborhood where he lived, and the succeeding winter he taught the same school, having for pupils the same scholars that had been his school fellows of the year before, and so every year thereafter until 1851 he worked for farmers during the spring and summer months, attended the academy in the fall and taught some district school in the county during the winter, giving to his parents each year all he could spare of his wages and making them visits as often as possible.

Having at that time an uncle who was a large farmer living near Woodstock in this state, whose wife was a sister of his mother and who had moved from South Bristol to Illinois several years before, he concluded he would now follow his uncle to this state. So in the fall of 1851 he bade his parents a sorrowful good-bye but with a hopeful heart he took the cars at Canandaigua for Buffalo and thence by boat around the Great Lakes and landed at a place then called Southport, in Lake county. From there he went to his uncle's home near Woodstock, where after visiting a short time his uncle took him to the then small village of Woodstock, the county seat of McHenry county, where he was introduced to the law firm of Church & Willard, whose office he then entered as a student. Not having funds to carry him through the winter he engaged with Neal Donnelly and Richard K. Todd, two of the directors of the village school at Woodstock, to teach the winter term of 1851 and 1852, who, at the close of the winter term, employed him again to teach the spring term of 1852.

While teaching at Woodstock he heard much about the growing little city of Rockford and its beautiful river and thinking it would prove a more desirable location than Woodstock, he changed his residence to that then small city of four thousand inhabitants, where he arrived on the 12th day of August, 1852. Having in his pocket a letter of introduction from Church & Willard to the law firm of Marsh & Wight, of Rockford, he went at once to their office and on the same day was admitted as a student. The young man soon found out that he would have to teach again for the coming winter of 1852 and 1853 and so secured a district school at a place then known as the "Enoch Settlement." Among the pupils who attended his school were David Hunter and Amasa Hutchins; the former became in after years a state senator, serving the people of this district many terms, while the latter many years after became sheriff of this county and later mayor of Rockford. Both these gentlemen are still living in this county and known and honored throughout the state. After his school

was over in the spring of 1853, he resumed his studies with Marsh & Wight and with such diligence that in July following he secured his license from the supreme court to practice law in any of the courts of this state. Shortly after he commenced his practice in Rockford he formed a partnership with the late Judge Brown under the firm name of Brown & Sheldon, which continued he thinks until the former was elected states attorney for this then judicial circuit.

On the 20th day of December, 1855, at Rockford, Illinois, Carlton W. Sheldon and Harriet J. Hathaway were united in marriage and from that union were born six children, two of whom, Edward and Edna, died in infancy and the remaining four are still living and whose names in the order of their birth are: Charles E., born July 29, 1857; George P., born July 27, 1859; Dora Sheldon Hart, born March 7, 1868; and Ethel A. Montgomery, born September 27, 1878.

Harriet J. Hathaway was the daughter of Leonard W. Hathaway and Caroline M. Thompson, all of whom were born in the state of Massachusetts and afterward moved to Chicago in 1837, when Harriet was two years of age, and then from Chicago to Rockford in 1845. Her father died at Rockford in the spring of 1852 and her mother died at the home of her daughter, with whom she lived on North Second street, on the 1st day of August, 1898, at the advanced age of eighty-four years.

Charles E. Sheldon is the present successful western manager of the American Insurance Company of Newark, and has acted in that capacity for many years.

In the winter of 1857, Porter Sheldon, who had previously been in the practice of the law at Jamestown, New York, with his eldest brother Alexander Sheldon, came to Rockford and formed a partnership with his brother Carlton under the firm name of Sheldon & Sheldon, which continued for several years.

Soon after the war commenced Porter was elected city attorney, while at the same time Carlton was serving the city as alderman from the first ward, he residing at that time on the southwest corner of North Second and Hill streets, to which location he had moved in June, 1858, and where all his children were born except the oldest, and where he has ever since lived. In the year 1893 he moved his old house back to the rear part of the lot and built on the old site a large and commodious residence in which he now resides.

Before the close of the war Alexander Sheldon died at Jamestown and Porter left Rockford at once to attend his funeral and close up the business of the estate. While there he was persuaded by the citizens of Jamestown to move his family

back to that city and take up the practice that his brother had left, which he did, and within one year thereafter he was elected from the Jamestown district a member of congress to succeed Reuben E. Fenton, who had just been elected governor of the state of New York. Porter Sheldon was a man of marked ability as a lawyer and had great genius as an inventor, having patented several inventions, among which was one for the manufacture and preparation of a paper designed for the special use of photographers in the making of pictures, visiting Germany once to make his patent perfect and secure. He built many large buildings at Jamestown for his plant and after making about half a million dollars for himself in the business he finally sold out the whole plant, including his patents, to an eastern syndicate, who paid him five hundred thousand dollars in cash therefor. Being then a millionaire he retired wholly from business, purchased a plantation in Virginia, where he and his wife spend their winters, while their summers are spent at their home near the beautiful Lake of Chautauqua, on whose shores Bishop Vincent started his first meetings and from which lake the name of "Chautauqua" has gone forth throughout the land and become famous.

Carlton's mother was a Hosford but her mother was a Williams, who had a nephew by the name of Carlton Williams. This young man while rowing in a boat with a comrade above Niagara Falls was drawn into the rapids and went over the falls and both were drowned, and it was in memory of this unfortunate young man that the subject of this sketch was named.

In 1870 Mr. Sheldon was called upon several times by the secretary of the Rockford Insurance Company to settle difficult losses for that company, until he finally declined going out so often, as it took him too much away from his office. Finally they asked him what he would charge a day to settle all their losses from that time on and have all his expenses paid. He said he would do it for eight dollars per day, which terms they at once accepted and from that time until July 1874, he adjusted all their losses in this state and Missouri. During this time he gave up his law practice and ran a large local agency under the name of Sheldon, Iretton & Company, his son Charles E., then only fourteen years of age being the company.

In July, 1874, Gilbert Woodruff, then president of the Rockford National Bank, and some of his co-directors urged him strongly to organize a new insurance company to be called the Forest City Insurance Company, and to be in the interest of the Rockford National Bank as the Rockford Insurance Company had been of the Second National Bank, to which he finally con-

sented and became its secretary. This company he continued to run with great success for the period of over five years when on the 7th day of November, 1879, he very suddenly resigned, to the great surprise of all his fellow directors, including the president. The cause of such resignation he fully gave in an "open letter" to the president on the 17th day of December, 1879, which letter was printed in one of the city papers and he afterward struck off one thousand copies in pamphlet form which he had intended to distribute throughout the state but owing to the urgent entreaties of some of his late associates (who had not yet sold their stock as he had done) to suppress this edition, he finally promised them to do so, as he knew if he did circulate them in the state it would probably kill the company and entail great loss on some of his friends as they claimed. The reasons for his resignation were very fully given in this remarkable letter. He then at once opened a law, loan, and insurance office on the east side of the river where he has been steadily in business for the past twenty-five years and at no time since said resignation, except the first year, has he received less in fees and commissions per annum than had been his former salary and in many years more, while at the same time, so to speak, he has been "his own master."

He has now reached the "advanced age" as the papers would say, of seventy-seven years and has not yet retired. According to Osler he should have died, or retired seventeen years ago. He does not agree with Dr. Osler in this, but rather with Russell Sage, who now at ninety, attends his office daily and says that "frequent vacations are not necessary to health. Nor does racing back and forth through the crowded streets of a city in a huge life destroying automobile add anything to the prosperity or happiness of the people."

EARL D. REYNOLDS.

Earl D. Reynolds, one of the members of the Winnebago county bar, who since 1896 has engaged in the practice of law in Rockford, was born in Hancock county, Ohio, in 1866, his parents being Volney and Christiana (Smith) Reynolds. In 1867 the father left his farm in Ohio and removed to the vicinity of Waldron, Hillsdale county, Michigan, there securing a tract of land. He devoted his attention to general farming and stock raising and still resides in that locality.

No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for Mr. Reynolds in his youth. He worked in the fields and meadows and gained an intimate knowledge of the best methods of caring for stock and the crops. In

the winter months he attended the district schools and later became a student at Hillsdale College, Michigan, where he completed his course by graduation with the class of 1891. When eighteen years of age he began teaching and followed that profession at intervals while attending college. He taught for several years in North Adams school in Hillsdale county, ultimately becoming its principal, and with a view to engaging in the practice of law, he matriculated in the law department of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor and was graduated therefrom in 1896. In the autumn of the same year he came to Rockford and entered upon practice. He now has a large library in his office on East State street over the Manufacturers' Bank. His clientage has steadily increased and his practice is now of a large and important character. He prepares his cases with thoroughness and in presenting his cause before court or jury he is logical and forceful in his reasoning and seldom, if ever, at error in citing a similar case or quoting an authority.

In 1891 occurred the marriage of Mr. Reynolds and Miss Florence Keith, of Boone county, Illinois, a daughter of Lewis and Louisa Keith, who are represented on another page of this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds have four children—Keith, now twelve years of age; Lorenzo, nine years; Dorothy, five years; and Lois, eighteen months.

Mr. Reynolds has always been interested in the cause of education and has rendered effective service for the schools of Rockford while acting as a member of the board, being elected over five years ago, and is the present incumbent. Fraternally he is connected with Rockford lodge, No. 102, A. F. & A. M., and is also affiliated with the Elks and the Modern Woodmen of America, and is the attorney for the last named. Throughout his professional career he has lived in Rockford, where he is steadily working his way upward by diligent effort and devotion to the interests of his clients. During the last year and a half he was assistant attorney-general of the state under Attorney-General H. J. Hamlin.

SILAS W. SHIRLEY.

Silas W. Shirley, who has retired from active business life and resides in the village of Cherry Valley, was for many years actively connected with agricultural interests and now owns two farms, one lying in Boone county and the other in De Kalb county, but both near the village in which he makes his home. His landed possessions aggregate seven hundred and fifty acres and the places are well improved and valuable.

Mr. Shirley is a native son of Boone county, his birth having occurred about two miles from Cher-

ry Valley, in 1846, his parents being Lewis and Lucinda (Keith) Shirley, both of whom are now deceased. The father was born in Ohio, March 1, 1820, and when twenty years of age came to Illinois with his parents. His father, Joseph Shirley, was born in 1793 and located in Cherry Valley township, where he resided for a number of years, removing later in life to Iowa. His last days were spent in Black Hawk county, that state, where he passed away August 11, 1864. His wife, who was born April 11, 1797, died October 5, 1868, in Black Hawk county. After coming to this state Lewis Shirley located on a farm in Boone county in Cherry Valley, and this land is now owned by his son Silas. There he carried on agricultural pursuits for many years, but later took up his abode in the village of Cherry Valley, where he died on the 13th of May, 1898. His wife, Lucinda (Keith) Shirley, was also from Ohio, arriving in this section of Illinois in 1839. She was born September 15, 1820, and died November 1, 1888, in Cherry Valley township. In their family were six children—Elizabeth, who was born October 31, 1844, is the wife of Captain Van Wort, a resident of De Kalb county. Silas W. is the second. Lucretia, born January 6, 1849, is living in Cherry Valley. Phoebe Jane, born April 2, 1851, is the wife of William Thompson, a resident of Kirkland, Illinois. G. B., born November 28, 1855, is a farmer of Cherry Valley township. L. E., born March 13, 1860, is an insurance agent, residing in Cedar county, Iowa.

Silas W. Shirley spent his boyhood days in the vicinity of the village in which he now makes his home and throughout his active business life carried on farming. He was married here October 22, 1873, to Miss Julia E. Taylor, a native of Noble county, Ohio, and a daughter of James and Rosella (Roach) Taylor, who took up their abode in Boone county, Illinois, in 1865, settling in Flora township. They were farming people and both are now deceased. The father, who was born in England, October 9, 1810, came to America in 1817, at which time he settled in Ohio, his death occurring in Boone county, July 22, 1893. His wife, who was born in Ohio in 1817, died in Boone county November 29, 1874. Mrs. Shirley was one of a family of eleven children, all of whom were born in Ohio, while five are yet living. The family record is as follows: Harriet, the deceased wife of William Lee; Hulda, the wife of Daniel Cronkhite, who follows farming near Kirkland, De Kalb county; Mrs. Hannah Mason, living in Wirt county, Virginia; Mrs. Shirley; Beulah, twin sister of Julia, who died in infancy; Walter S., who resides on the old homestead in Boone county; Charles R., a farmer of De Kalb county; Irene, who died in Ohio; Elvin, who died in Illinois; Lily, the deceased wife of Charles Clinite; and Willard, who died in infancy.

Mr. and Mrs. Shirley have two sons—Eugene, born November 28, 1874, and now living in De Kalb county, married Dora Mack, and has a daughter, Ruth; and LeRoy, born May 11, 1877, is a pattern-maker living with his parents. In politics Mr. Shirley is a republican and served as trustee of Cherry Valley at the time the village was incorporated. He belongs to the Masonic lodge there and his son LeRoy is a thirty-second-degree Mason and a Shriner, belonging to the commandery of Rockford. For many years Mr. Shirley worked persistently and energetically in the conduct of his farm and as the years passed he added annually to his income until now, with a desirable competence to supply him with the comforts of life, he is living retired in Cherry Valley, having many warm friends there.

JOHN R. PLACE.

John R. Place, now deceased, was born in Columbia county, New York, September 27, 1841, his parents being John and Ann (Cowse) Place, and when a lad of ten years was brought by his parents to the west, the family settling in Durand township, Winnebago county, upon a farm on section 28. Two sons of the family are yet living in Durand: David, who is married and has a son and daughter, and Marsden, who is married and has two sons. The sister of Mr. Place is Mrs. Samantha Davis, the wife of George Davis, of Burritt township, and they have five sons and two daughters living.

John R. Place was reared to farm life and acquired his education in the public schools of the locality. He early became familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for stock and throughout his active business career carried on agricultural pursuits with excellent success. He was also a capable schoolteacher in early manhood.

On the 22d of June, 1865, Mr. Place was united in marriage to Miss Amanda Morris, of Durand township, a daughter of William and Mehetable (Riche) Morris. Mrs. Place was born in Montgomery county, Indiana, May 6, 1840, and in 1842 was brought by her parents to Durand township. Her father was a native of Pennsylvania, born September 27, 1807, and when young went with his parents to Indiana, where he was married to Mehetable Riche on the 29th of August, 1833. They remained in the Hoosier state until 1842 and then cast in their lot with the pioneer settlers of Winnebago county, where Mr. Morris carried on general agricultural pursuits until his death on the 16th of March, 1858. His wife, who was born October 28, 1812, in the state of New York, died at the home of her son in Durand township, January

8, 1903, having for almost forty-five years survived her husband. Mr. Morris was a soldier of the Black Hawk war and was a prominent pioneer settler, aiding in laying strong and deep the foundation for the present prosperity and progress of the county. Mrs. Place has three brothers—Andrew J. Morris, who is living in Davis, Illinois, and has two sons and two daughters; L. J. Morris, of Durand, who has two daughters; and S. H. Morris, of Portland, Oregon, who has one son.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Place were born three daughters and two sons. Andrew M., born in Durand township, June 9, 1876, is now living on the old homestead farm. He was married May 31, 1899, to Cora Belle Bleakley, of Mount Carroll, Illinois, who was born in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, January 13, 1875, and is a daughter of James and Anna (Blaney) Bleakley. Andrew M. Place and his wife have one daughter, Gladys M., born February 8, 1902. Alva J. Place, born December 7, 1882, is living in Durand township and married Myrtle Atkinson, of Shirland township, by whom he has one son, Morris G. Lottie, born June 24, 1866, is the wife of Charles Thomas, of Avon, Wisconsin, and has seven sons and four daughters. Kittie E., born November 2, 1877, is the wife of Thomas Tierney, of Irvington, California. Eva A., born October 16, 1868, became the wife of Elmer Harris, of Durand township, and died December 23, 1898, leaving a son and two daughters, one of whom died in infancy.

Mr. Place departed this life on the 24th of August, 1890, after living for thirty years upon the old home farm, which he left to his family. He was an active member of the Patrons of Husbandry, was a republican in politics and held many township offices, the duties of which he discharged with promptness and fidelity. In business he was trustworthy and reliable and in all life's relations commanded the respect and confidence of those with whom he was associated. Mrs. Place now manages the property, comprising two hundred and eighty-three acres on sections 12, 13 and 14, Durand township. She has long been a resident of the county and the circle of her friends is an extensive one.

S. A. NEMETH.

S. A. Nemeth, proprietor of a tailoring establishment in Rockford, was born in Omaha, Nebraska, in 1870, and is a son of Martin and Mary (Loss) Nemeth. The father, a native of Austria, came to the United States in the '60s and made his way direct to Omaha, Nebraska. In that locality he purchased land and carried on farming until 1882, when he removed to South Bend, Indiana,



MR. AND MRS. JOHN R. PLACE.

where he lived retired until his death, which occurred in 1893. His widow still survives him and is yet a resident of South Bend. In the family were five children, of whom two died in infancy, the others being: S. A., of this review; Michael, a cutter, who is living in Cincinnati, Ohio; and Rose, who is with her mother in South Bend.

S. A. Nemeth was a district-school student in Nebraska and completed his education in Notre Dame University, Indiana. About the same time he learned the tailor's trade, becoming a cutter. He was graduated from the university in 1891 and immediately afterward went to Battle Creek, Michigan, where he secured a position as cutter, acting there in that capacity for three or four years. In 1894 he went to Jackson, Mississippi, where he spent three years, and in 1897 he located in Lafayette, Indiana, where he was employed at his trade for four and a half years. The year 1901 witnessed his arrival in Cleveland, Ohio, where he was a cutter for G. S. Rogers, one of the prominent tailors of that city. He came to Rockford on the 18th of August, 1902, and entered the employ of the E. & W. Clothing Company, which he represented as a salesman until the spring of 1905, when he opened a tailoring establishment of his own at No. 313 North State street, where he now carries a fine line of men's tailoring goods and has already secured a good patronage, the public having become acquainted with his work during the previous years of his residence here.

Mr. Nemeth was married on the 10th of September, 1902, in Belvidere, Illinois, to Miss Dora A. Jarvis, of Independence, Iowa. They have one daughter, who was born November 20, 1904. Fraternally Mr. Nemeth is connected with the Knights of Pythias of Cleveland, and with the Elks and Eagles at Rockford. He has met success in business since his residence here and has gained the favorable regard of many with whom he has been brought in contact. He possesses the force of character which realizes that success depends upon the individual and not upon environment, and by thorough mastery of his trade and capability in his workmanship he has advanced steadily and is now the proprietor of a growing business in his adopted city.

RUFUS H. BURRITT.

Among the residents of Rockford formerly engaged in farming but now living retired, is Rufus H. Burritt, a native of the Empire state, whose birth occurred in Ira, Cayuga county, September 23, 1842. His parents were Charles and Laura M. (Remington) Burritt. The father was born near Roxbury, Connecticut, January 9, 1813, and was a son of Lewis Eben and Polly (Warner) Burritt. After starting out upon his business ca-

reer he followed the occupation of farming and later engaged in the hardware and furniture business in Weedsport, New York, where he resided until he came with his family to Rockford, in 1854. He spent the following winter in the city and then purchased a tract of land of one hundred and sixty acres in Owen township, upon which he spent his remaining days, developing there a good and well improved farm. In his family were four sons and three daughters, namely: Mrs. Lucy Ann Moore, who is living in Redlands, California; George A., who died leaving a family in Owen township; Rufus H.; Frances M., the wife of Charles Brown, of Rockford township; Dwight N., of Los Angeles, California; Ida M., the wife of Fred Knapp, of California, and Charles L., living at Compton, California.

Rufus H. Burritt was educated in the common schools of Owen township, having been brought by his parents to Winnebago county in early youth. He was one of the soldiers that Illinois furnished to the Union, for he enlisted in 1864 as a member of Company M, Eighth Illinois Cavalry, serving for a year and a half, or until the close of the war. He was kept in Washington doing picket duty and participated in several skirmishes in the vicinity of the capital city. Following the close of hostilities he returned to his home and was engaged in farming. He rented land for three years and then purchased one hundred and sixty acres in Owen township, which he continued to cultivate and improve until January, 1886, when he removed to Rockford, where he has since resided and is now living a retired life. He owns a fine residence on Summer street and his wife owns an attractive dwelling where they reside at No. 624 Ashland avenue.

Mr. Burritt was married May 28, 1862, to Miss Mary Jane Rorebeck, who was born in the state of New York and came west when a child. Her father, Edwin F. Rorebeck, was a farmer. Mr. and Mrs. Burritt became the parents of seven children, of whom five are yet living: Fred E., who married Gertrude M. Patterson, and lives in Pullman, Illinois; Rena Alice, the wife of Fred J. Corry, a resident of La Crosse, Wisconsin; Walter Roy, who married Ida Erffmeyer and lives on a farm in Kishwaukee township; Leta Mary, the wife of Roy R. Skinner, who is with Burr Brothers, of Rockford; and Bert N., who married Maud Cain, and resides in Rockford. One daughter, Eva L., became the wife of A. G. Steward and is now deceased, while Mr. Steward resides in Owen. Mrs. Burritt was called to her final rest September 18, 1897, and on the 18th of June, 1903, Mr. Burritt was married to Mrs. Mary J. Hall, a daughter of John Hamilton and Mary (Agnew) McEvoy. By her first husband she had four children: Vernon J., who is a professor of chemistry

in the Northwestern University at Evanston, Illinois; Clare H., who lives in Cincinnati, Ohio; Willis W., of Chicago; and Mary F. Hall, who is living with her mother.

Mr. Burritt is a republican, who has served as road commissioner and was also town clerk for three years. He belongs to the G. L. Nevius post, No. 1, G. A. R.; the Royal Arcanum, the Home Fraternal League and the Knights and Ladies of Security, and his wife is a member of the Congregational church. Having sold his farm, Mr. Burritt purchased city property. When he had his country home it was characterized by the utmost neatness in every department and he has ever been systematic and methodical in his work. The same splendid appearance is indicative of his city home and gives evidence of his careful and painstaking supervision. His work has been crowned with a merited measure of success and with a desirable competence, he is now enjoying the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

RICHARD JOHNS.

Among those to whom has been vouchsafed an honorable retirement from labor in recognition of active and successful toil in former years is Richard Johns, now living in Rockford. A native of England, he spent the days of his boyhood and youth in that country. He is a son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Lightfoot) Johns, who were also natives of that country, whence they came to America two years after the arrival of their son Richard. The father died at the age of seventy-six years, while his wife passed away at the age of eighty-two years. Both were consistent members of the Methodist church.

When a young man of twenty-two years Richard Johns, desirous of benefiting his financial condition by taking advantage of the better business opportunities of the new world, bade adieu to friends and native land and on a lumber vessel crossed the Atlantic to Quebec, Canada, reaching his destination after a six weeks' voyage. He did not remain in the Dominion, however, but at once resumed his journey across the country to Illinois, settling in Rockford, in 1850, where for three years he was a representative of the butchering business. On the expiration of that period he returned to his native country and in Cornwall, England, was united in marriage with Miss Jane A. Hocken, a native of that county, descended from Cornish ancestry. The young couple at once started for the United States and after ten weeks spent upon the ocean reached the shores of the new world. Mrs. Johns'

parents always continued residents of England and her father, John Hocken, was accidentally killed by the premature discharge of a gun when forty-two years of age. His wife, long surviving him, was in her seventy-seventh year when called to her final rest. They were members of the Independent church of England, and Mrs. Johns was the second of their ten children.

On again reaching Winnebago county Mr. Johns took his bride to a farm and for a number of years prior to their removal to the city of Rockford they lived in Rockford township, where he devoted his time and energies to the tilling of the soil and to the raising of stock. He started out in life empty-handed but has gradually worked his way upward, brooking no obstacles that could be overcome by persistent and honorable effort. He found that labor is the basis of all success and by his untiring efforts and capable management he became the owner of valuable property, formerly owning five hundred and forty acres of rich land and now one hundred and thirty-five acres near the city, which brings to him a splendid rental and supplies him with all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. The land is not only productive but is also underlaid with a splendid grade of stone, so that a quarry has been opened and successfully operated.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Johns have been born eight children: Emma, who became the wife of Walter H. Morey, of Spencer, Iowa, and died leaving five sons; Nathaniel, who wedded Minnie Safford and is engaged in general farming in Rockford township; Will R., who married Carrie Rowe and resides near this city; Nellie, the wife of John D. Safford, a resident farmer of Rockford township; Frank, who married Ada Sauber and carries on general farming in Rockford township; Minnie, the wife of Henry E. Sauber, who is connected with a furniture company in Rockford; Flora H., the wife of George Sauber; and Albert C., now in Denver, Colorado, who married Nellie Poarcher.

Mr. and Mrs. Johns have now traveled life's journey together for fifty-two years, sharing with each other its joys and sorrows, its adversity and prosperity. The energies and labors of the husband have been supplemented by the careful management of the wife, and together they have acquired a goodly share of this world's possessions, so that they are now living in comfort and ease in Rockford, having a pleasant home at No. 528 Palm street. They have gained many friends in the city and they also have a large circle of acquaintances in Rockford and other townships because of their long residence in the county and their genuine worth. Mr. Johns has never had occasion to regret his de-



RICHARD JOHNS.



MRS. RICHARD JOHNS.

termination to seek a home in the new world, for here he has found the opportunities he sought, which by the way are always open to ambitious young men and through the use of his advantages he has become a substantial citizen, possessed of a gratifying competence.

ABRAHAM L. COMLY.

Abraham L. Comly, a representative farmer of Seward township, was born in Pennsylvania, September 18, 1852, his parents being Charles and Mary (Ludwig) Comly. The father was born in Milton, Northumberland county, Pennsylvania, October 22, 1814, a son of Thomas and Catherine (Hunter) Comly. Thomas Comly was born in Chester county, Pennsylvania, August 17, 1789, and was a son of Ezra and Hannah (Wedell) Comly and a descendant of one Henry Comly, who in 1682 accompanied William Penn from England to the new world. This Henry Comly was married to Agnes Heaton on the 17th of August, 1695. Thomas Wedell emigrated from England to the United States in 1700, and was married April 9, 1705, to Rebecca Williams.

Ezra Comly, great-grandfather of our subject, was a lumber merchant and died in Northumberland county, Pennsylvania, when eighty years of age, while his wife's death occurred there when she was in her eighty-fourth year. Their son, Thomas Comly, married Catherine Hunter, who was born July 6, 1799, in Northumberland county, Pennsylvania, and spent her last days in Lycoming county, that state, where she died at the age of seventy-six years. She was a daughter of David and Isabella (Patterson) Hunter, and her father, a native of Ireland, died in Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, at the age of sixty-eight years, leaving a wife and seven children. His wife, Mrs. Isabella Hunter, was born in the Keystone state and died in Lycoming county when sixty-six years of age. She belonged to the Patterson family, who were of Scotch-Irish descent, while the Comlys were among the old and prominent families of the United States.

Charles Comly, father of our subject, remained at home until twenty-two years of age, and on the 8th of December, 1856, was married in Union county, Pennsylvania, to Miss Mary Ludwig, whose birth occurred in Berks county, Pennsylvania, January 5, 1816, her parents being Abram and Hannah (Bower) Ludwig, natives of the Keystone state, but who died in Laporte county, Indiana, at the ages of seventy-eight and eighty years respectively. The Ludwig family were of German lineage, and the first ancestors in America settled in Pennsylvania at an early day.

Following his marriage Charles Comly worked by the month for four years, and then operated rented land for three years, after which he purchased sixty-four acres in Pennsylvania, continuing its cultivation until 1854. He then sold his property in the east and came to Winnebago county, Illinois, settling on a partially improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres, on which he long made his home. He placed excellent buildings there, developed the fields and carried on his farm work along modern, progressive ideas, becoming known as a model agriculturist of the community. In his later years, however, he lived retired, passing away in 1901 at the advanced age of eighty-seven years, while his wife died in 1904, when eighty-four years of age. In politics Mr. Comly was a democrat, but never cared to hold office, although he acted as road commissioner and was school director for a number of years. He preferred to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs, and at one time was the owner of four hundred acres of valuable land, but eventually he removed from the farm to the village of Pecatonica, where he spent the last six months of his life. He retired from active business about fifteen years before leaving the farm. Mr. and Mrs. Comly were the parents of eleven children: Lucy, who died at the age of thirty-five years; Isabella P., the wife of E. Anderson, of Pecatonica township, by whom she has four living children; Caroline, the wife of Daniel Sears, of Iowa, by whom she has seven living children; Hannah M., a resident of Pecatonica and the widow of Henry Maley, who died at the age of forty years, leaving four children, of whom one, Mrs. John Anderson, has since died; Catherine, the widow of Peter Connell, who died in 1896; Mary E., the wife of Ambrose Searls, of Sanborn, Iowa, who has two living children; Thomas, residing in Pecatonica; Abraham L., of this review; Charles Hunter, of Iowa Falls, Iowa, who married Fannie Mitchell and has one child; John B., who is married and lives in Laddell, South Dakota; and Edwin D., who married Jennie Lincoln and resides in Seward township and has three children.

Abraham L. Comly was educated in the public schools, and through the periods of vacation worked upon the home farm until twenty-one years of age, when he went to California, spending two years on the Pacific coast. He followed teaming and farming in Sacramento valley, and also tried mining for a time. Upon his return to Illinois he settled in Seward township, where for three years he operated rented land and then purchased eighty acres, to which he has added as his financial resources have increased until he now owns about three hundred and fifty acres. He has carried on general agricultural pursuits, and is

also buying and feeding cattle, handling about three carloads each year. He buys cattle to feed in the Chicago market. He is also a dealer in mules and horses, which he purchased by the carload.

On the 4th of December, 1803, Mr. Comly was married to Miss Mary A. Marks, a daughter of Nathaniel and Mary Ann (Miller) Marks, the former born in Northumberland county, Pennsylvania, April 26, 1834, which the latter was born in Berks county, Pennsylvania, October 16, 1829. She is still living, making her home in Pecatonica with her daughter, but Mr. Marks departed this life in 1903, at the age of sixty-nine years. He came to Winnebago county in March, 1861, and bought eighty acres of land, which he afterward sold in 1864 prior to his removal to Iowa, where he lived until the spring of 1866, when he went to Missouri. There he carried on farming until 1871, when he again came to this county, where he resumed agricultural pursuits, at one time owning and cultivating two hundred and twenty acres of land. He devoted his energies to the raising of crops and stock, and bred and raised some fine Durham cattle, having at times from thirty to fifty head in his herd, and he sold many fine animals. He was interested in community affairs, and acted as school director for a number of years. The last five or six years of his life were spent as a retired farmer. In politics he was a republican, and favored the Methodist Episcopal church. Unto him and his wife were born seven children: Kate; Hunter C., who died in 1864; John M.; Mary A., now Mrs. Comly; C. Wesley; Isabelle, who died in childhood; and Sarah A.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Comly, celebrated December 4, 1903, has been blessed with two children, Minnie and Charles E. In politics Mr. Comly is a democrat. He has contributed to the support of various churches, and is interested in progressive measures for the progress and up-building of his county, where in his farming operations he has met with very desirable success.

WILLIAM L. HARTLEY.

William L. Hartley is now living a retired life in Durand township, while for many years he was actively engaged in general agricultural pursuits, owning and operating one hundred and forty acres of land on sections 22 and 27. He is a native of Massachusetts, his birth having occurred in Taunton on the 3d day of May, 1850. His paternal grandparents were natives of England, and the grandfather died in Taunton, Massachusetts, after which the grandmother came to Winnebago county and died upon the old Hartley homestead in Durand township.

William Hartley, father of William L. Hartley, was born in England in 1819, and spent his minority in the land of his birth. When twenty-one years of age he sailed for the United States, landing at Philadelphia, where he remained ill in a hospital for a short time. Upon recovering his health he went to Taunton, Massachusetts, and secured employment at his trade in the locomotive works. There he remained until about 1854, when he brought his family to Winnebago county and settled upon a farm in Durand township. Having installed his wife and children in their new home, he then returned to Taunton, Massachusetts, where he accepted the position of foreman in the William Mason Locomotive Works. After many years his wife died, and he then returned to England, where his death occurred in November, 1887. Mrs. Hartley bore the maiden name of Julia Redfern, and was born in England in 1818, while her death occurred upon the old home farm in Durand township in 1884. The members of her family were as follows: Everett C., born in 1855, is now a practicing physician at Carver, Minnesota, and has three sons and one daughter. Edward A., who enlisted in the One Hundred and Fifty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry for service in the Civil war, died in a hospital at Memphis, Tennessee. Scott R. S. died January 9, 1890, on the old homestead in Durand township at the age of forty years, leaving a widow, Mrs. Emily (Barningham) Hartley and a daughter, Ethel Julia Hartley. Julia A. Hartley became the wife of Amenzo Moyer, of Tacoma, Washington, and has two sons. Jane married William Derwent, of Minneapolis, Minnesota, and died, leaving a son and daughter. Amelia E. became the wife of John Nelson, of Carver, Minnesota, and died leaving a son and daughter. Olive E. died at the old homestead in June, 1875.

William L. Hartley was only four years old when brought by his parents to Illinois, and has resided in Durand township continuously since, with the exception of two years—1874 and 1875—in Charles City, Iowa. He has always carried on general agricultural pursuits until the present year, 1905, when he retired from active business life and rents his farm, which comprises one hundred and forty acres of rich and productive land on sections 22 and 27, Durand township.

On the 12th of February, 1874, Mr. Hartley was married to Miss Sona A. Scott, a daughter of Henry C. and Mary C. (Muffit) Scott, of Burritt township. Her father was born in Ohio in 1827, and in 1840 accompanied his parents to Burritt township, where he resided continuously until 1875, when he removed to Rockford, Iowa, living there until 1888, when he took up his abode in Rockford, Illinois. He now makes his home in the latter city, where he is engaged in the real estate business. His wife, who was a native of

New York state, died in Rockford, Illinois, November 29, 1904. In their family were seven children. Horace T., born December 22, 1852, is now farming near Rockford, Iowa, and has one son and two daughters. William Henry died at Cedar Falls, Iowa, leaving a wife and two sons. Hattie E. is the wife of N. C. Oleson, of Cedar Falls, Iowa, and has one son. Della C. is the wife of Walter Davis, of Waterloo, Iowa. Stella is the wife of Seth Hanchett, of Estherville, Iowa, and has a son and daughter. Jessie M. is the wife of LeRoy Shumway, of Rockford, and has one son.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hartley have been born three children: Edward Everett, born July 3, 1875, and now living in Chicago, married Rose Lauburg, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and has a son, Wilfred Everett, born June 9, 1905. Edward E. Hartley is now city salesman for the Nichols Coal Company; Chester H., born November 27, 1877, is at home. Vera Maude, born June 25, 1880, is engaged in teaching in the public schools.

Mr. Hartley is a member of Camp No. 69, M. W. A., of Durand, and Durand lodge, No. 302, A. F. & A. M. In politics he is a stalwart republican. He and his wife are members of the Episcopal church, and are well known for the possession of characteristics that commend them to the trust and confidence of all who know them. For more than a half century Mr. Hartley has resided in this county, a witness of its wonderful growth and development, and through an active business career has gained a comfortable competence that now enables him to live retired.

COLONEL ALFRED R. CHAPIN.

Colonel Alfred R. Chapin, who was a commander of the Tenth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry during the Civil war, spent his last years in Rockford, and his widow now resides in the old family homestead which belonged to her parents, and which is one of the most attractive residences of Rockford. Colonel Chapin was a native of Hartford, Connecticut, born July 30, 1825. His parents were also born in the east, but both died in Chicago. He acquired his education in the district schools near Rochester, New York, and in 1839 came with his parents to the middle west, settling in Chicago, which had been incorporated only two years before and which was still a village. There he began learning the tinner's trade, and soon became an expert in making tea-kettles and winning a good salary at piece work. His strongest interests, however, were in the drama and in military life, and he organized in Chicago a military company, devoting each leisure moment to drilling the boys of that command. Among the number were General Frank Sherman,

of Chicago, and others, who became distinguished in the Civil war. Colonel Chapin worked at his trade in Chicago for two years, and about that time, the actor, Brutus Booth, filled an engagement in that city. One of the leading members of his company falling ill it was suggested that he send for the boy Alfred Chapin. A message from Booth was to Colonel Chapin like a royal demand—not to be disobeyed. He went and filled the part of the actor so acceptably that he was offered a permanent position, traveling with Booth and his company throughout the remainder of the season, in which time his troop visited all the large cities in the southern states. Upon his return to Chicago Colonel Chapin left the stage at the desire of his parents. He then enlisted for service in the Mexican war, but was not called forth for active duty. After being honorably discharged he went to Port Washington, Wisconsin, where he engaged in the commission business for three years, and later he went to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he was also a commission merchant, conducting important and extensive business interests there.

His time was thus occupied until after the inauguration of the Civil war, when in April, 1861, he responded to the country's call for troops. He had watched with interest the progress of events in the south, and his patriotic spirit was aroused at the attempt to overthrow the Union. He offered his aid to the government and was commissioned adjutant of the First Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. On the 9th of June the regiment left Milwaukee, going direct to Maryland, and later Colonel Chapin was promoted to colonel of the Tenth Wisconsin Infantry. He participated in many important engagements. Many nights he lay upon the battle-field in the pouring rain, and the exposure and hardships of war undermined his health, but he would not give way to disease and remained with his regiment, continuing in the service for three years, although he suffered much of the time. On the expiration of that period he put aside the uniform of his nation and the insignia of his rank and returned from Virginia to his home in Milwaukee. He never recovered his health, remaining an invalid until his death.

After a brief period spent in Milwaukee, Colonel Chapin removed to Rockford because of the fact that his wife's parents were living there. He then purchased the residence in which his widow now resides, and it continued to be his home until his death. It was in Chicago on his twenty-fourth birthday that he was united in marriage to Miss Sarah H. Twogood, a native of New York and a daughter of William and Sarah (Vandercook) Twogood, a representative of the old Vandercook family of Holland. Her ancestors resided in New Jersey at a very early period in its colonization,

and her grandfather was one of the early settlers of the east. He removed from New Jersey to Troy, New York, where his last days were passed. William Twogood, father of Mrs. Chapin, was born near Utica, New York, and served his country in the war of 1812. Later he started westward with his family, traveling in a carriage, and they first settled in Michigan City, Indiana. They soon came to Winnebago county, Illinois, being among the pioneer residents of this part of the state. Mr. Twogood brought with him a considerable sum of money, all in gold, and this he invested in property, purchasing two sections of land in Cherry Valley township, going to Galena, Illinois, to pay for the same. The region was wild and unimproved, but with keen foresight he believed in its future development and progress. He built a log house upon his land and began making improvements, and for seven years he resided there and engaged in farming, after which he removed to Chicago to educate his children. He still retained the ownership of his land in Winnebago county, however, and often visited this district in order to superintend his property interests here. In Chicago he purchased a lot on Michigan avenue, near old Fort Dearborn, and built a house, which he occupied for several years. Subsequently he returned to Winnebago county and settled in Rockford, where he lived retired until his death. His wife also passed away in this city. The family was very prominent here at an early day, and Mr. Twogood was a promoter of the moral progress and prosperity of the county. In his family were the following children: Mrs. Chapin; Mrs. Satterlee, who resides at No. 2704 Michigan avenue, Chicago, and is the widow of M. L. Satterlee, who owned the first wholesale grocery house in that city and died there, but was buried in Rockford; Mrs. James E. Hervey, residing at 2053 Michigan avenue, Chicago; Mrs. S. P. Jones, of Jacksonville, Oregon; James H. Twogood, of Boise City, Idaho; William S. Twogood, of Los Angeles, California; and Captain Orestes B. Twogood, who commanded a company in the Civil war and died at Ottumwa, Iowa, on the 14th of December, 1863.

Colonel and Mrs. Chapin had but one child, Carrie, who is now the wife of A. R. Coonradt, a very wealthy and prominent citizen of Rockford, and they reside with her mother. They have two children who are great favorites with their grandmother—Alice T., who is a graduate of Rockford College, and Arthur C., who completed a course in civil engineering and was graduated at the university in Pasadena, California, in 1905, at the age of seventeen years.

Coming to Rockford with his family, Colonel Chapin continued a resident of this city until his death, but he never recovered his health and passed away on the 20th of December, 1866. Dur-

ing that time he had gained many warm friends who greatly deplored his loss. A flag that had been presented him by G. D. Norris, of Milwaukee, was tenderly and reverently laid upon his casket, and thus under the stars and stripes, for which his life had virtually been given, his remains were interred in the city cemetery on the west side. The funeral services were held under the direction of the East Side lodge, A. F. & A. M., of which he was a faithful member. His political views were in accordance with republican principles, and he was a member of the Unitarian church at Milwaukee and contributed generously toward the erection of the house of worship. That he believed in honorable principles and upright conduct was indicated by his daily life, and in every relation in which he was found he was true to his duty. He possessed excellent business and executive force, and undoubtedly had he remained upon the stage he would have won fame because of his superior talents as an actor. He was equally prominent and distinguished in his military career, and he won the worthy respect of his superior officers and the boys who served under him.

L. M. DALE.

Lycurgus M. Dale, a member of the firm of Dale & Seaton, land agents at Pecatonica, who in previous years was actively engaged in agricultural pursuits in Winnebago county, is a native of Livingston county, New York, where his birth occurred July 4, 1850. His parents were Thompson and Adelia E. (Satterley) Dale, also natives of the Empire state. The father came to this county with his family in 1856 and located one mile north of the town of Pecatonica, where he lived for a year, when he removed to a farm about five miles northeast of the town, making his home thereon for seven years. He next took up his abode at Elton, Illinois, where he resided up to the time of his death. He was a cabinet-maker by trade and conducted a shop in Cuylerville, New York, manufacturing furniture and coffins. He did all of the work in those days in connection with the manufacture of furniture, including the painting and decorating, and he made all of his own furniture which he used after his removal to the west. He likewise did some cabinet work for others and followed painting to some extent, but his attention was chiefly given to agricultural pursuits and to the raising of grain, cattle, horses and hogs. He had one hundred and twenty acres of land, which he placed under a good state of cultivation. While actively engaged in painting he ground his own paint dust and was poisoned from its fumes, which no doubt shortened his life, and



GILBERT DALE.



CLIFTON, L. M., ORVINNIE, ELEANOR
NETTIE, MRS. L. M. AND VIOLA DALE.

during his last eight years he was in poor health. He held membership in the Odd Fellows' lodge and rather favored the teachings of the Baptist church. His political views accorded with Jeffersonian democracy. He died September 20, 1870, at the age of fifty-four years, while his wife passed away April 6, 1899, at the age of seventy-seven years. In their family were eight children. Dallas died in infancy. Homer T., living at Carthage, Missouri, is married and has one daughter. Philetus L. resides in Emporia, Kansas. Lycurgus M. is the fourth of the family. Lillie R. died at the age of nine years, three months and three days. Chauncey C. died at the age of two years. Alexander, a twin brother of Chauncey, and a resident of Emporia, Kansas, now has his second wife, and they have five living children. Perry died at the age of eighteen months.

Lycurgus M. Dale remained at home until the age of nine years, when he went to work. He followed the men mowing hay and turned the hay all day for ten cents. He worked in that way for three years and at the age of eleven years he was earning six dollars per month. As his age and strength increased and he was able to do more labor his wages were proportionately increased. He was employed as a farm hand for thirteen summers and during the last year received twenty-five dollars per month. In the winter seasons he attended school until fifteen years of age and the winter that he was sixteen years old he and his brother, who was two years his senior, chopped one hundred cords of wood. Other winters he engaged in teaming as well as wood-chopping. At the age of eighteen years he went to Iowa, but returned to Illinois, where he worked in a mill and as a farm hand by the month until twenty-five years of age, when he began farming on the shares, being thus engaged for seven years. He then bought and sold stock in 1882, after which he went to Kansas, carrying on general pursuits near Emporia for three and a half years, but preferring Illinois as a place of residence, he again returned to Winnebago county and commenced farming on a tract of eighty acres, on which he lived until the spring of 1903, when he purchased of John D. Jackson a fine home in Pecatonica, surrounded by five acres of land. Since that time he has himself been a land agent and as a member of the firm of Dale & Seaton, his partner being W. S. Seaton, is now doing a good business.

On the 28th of September, 1875, Mr. Dale was married to Miss Chio Gates, a daughter of Lorenzo and Nancy J. (Thompson) Gates. Her father was one of the early settlers of Winnebago county, coming here when thirteen years of age. He broke the raw prairie and hauled his wheat to Chicago, also hauled dressed hogs to

Galena. He was identified with many of the early events which constitute the pioneer annals of this part of the state and was widely recognized as a most enterprising agriculturist of his community. He lived to see a wonderful transformation in the appearance and advantages of the county and passed away September 26, 1901, at the age of seventy-four years, while his wife died in February, 1897, in the sixty-fifth year of her age. Mr. Gates was a charter member of the Eureka Camp, No. 50, M. W. A., and his political allegiance was given to the republican party. Unto him and his wife were born two children. The son, Olus, living in Emmet county, Iowa, married Miss Martha Weaver after losing his first wife, and they have one daughter. Mr. and Mrs. Dale are the parents of seven children: Clifton, of Pecatonica; Orvinnie, the wife of Byron McGraw, and the mother of one daughter; Eleanor, at home; Nettie, the wife of G. Phelps, of McHenry county, North Dakota, by whom she has four children, three sons and a daughter; Viola and Gilbert, both at home; and Rennie, who died in infancy.

Mr. Dale has served as school director for three years and gives his political support to the republican party. He is a member of Eureka Camp, No. 50, M. W. A., in which he has affiliated since 1887. His wife is a member of the Fraternal League and she and their daughter Eleanor are members of the Woman's Relief Corps. Mrs. Dale was a school director for two years in Durand township and Mr. Dale was for three years in the same township. They are people of the highest respectability, enjoying the favorable regard of many friends, and Mr. Dale has led a most busy life since starting out for himself at the early age of nine years. Whatever success he has achieved is due entirely to his earnest labors and persistency of purpose.

JOHN HENRY FROST, M. D.

Among the members of the medical fraternity in Rockford Dr. Frost has gained a creditable position, having a comprehensive knowledge of modern methods of practice. He was born November 8, 1866, in Morrison, Illinois, and is a son of John and Julia Deming (Webb) Frost, of Ogle county. The maternal grandparents were Martin and Fannie Webb, who came from New York to Illinois at an early period in the development of this section of the state. John Frost, who was of English lineage, was born in Massachusetts, and following his removal to the west became connected with the Rock River conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, devoting his life to the work of the ministry. His last appointment

was at Morrison, Illinois. He was married in Creston, Illinois, and died in 1867. His widow still survives him and is a resident of Ann Arbor, Michigan. They had three sons: Herbert, who was a graduate of the Michigan State University of the class of 1890, became a teacher of Latin and Greek in the high school at Saginaw, Michigan, and was occupying that position at the time of his death, which occurred in 1890, when he was twenty-eight years of age. William S. Frost, who completed the law course in the Michigan State University with the class of 1888, is now engaged in the commission business at Bristol, Tennessee.

Dr. Frost pursued his education in the public schools of Creston and was also a high-school student. In 1884, at the age of eighteen years, he entered the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, where he took up the study of pharmacy and medicine, completing a course in the former in 1889 and in the latter in 1894. Following his graduation Dr. Frost entered upon the practice of medicine in Iowa, where he remained for about a year, and in December, 1895, he came to Rockford. Here he became associated with Dr. Green as a member of the firm of Green & Frost, and is enjoying a large general practice. He also serves on the staff of the City Hospital and belongs to the Winnebago County Medical Society and the Illinois State Medical Society. His professional skill is attested by the excellent results which have followed his labors and his ready adaptability of the principles of medical and surgical practice to the needs of his patients.

Dr. Frost was married on the 14th of June, 1899, to Miss Emma Lewis, a daughter of Mrs. Sarah A. Lewis, of Cadillac, Michigan, and they have one child, Richard Walker, who was born October 29, 1902. The parents are members of the Second Congregational church of Rockford, and in his political views Dr. Frost is a republican.

JAMES P. EDIE.

James P. Edie, for a third of a century a resident of Rockford, was well known in the city as a man of activity and reliability in business affairs, and of unflinching courtesy and geniality in social life, so that he gained in high measure the esteem and good will of those with whom he was associated. He was born in Pennsylvania, August 24, 1818, and his parents were Alexander and Eleanor (Phillips) Edie, both of whom were natives of Scotland, whence they came to America at an early day. They settled in Pennsylvania, where the father carried on farming as a means of livelihood for the support of himself and family. He died in the Keystone state on the ninety-

third anniversary of his birth, and his wife passed away at the age of eighty-seven years. All of their children are now deceased, James P. Edie having been the last surviving member of the family.

In the public schools of his native state James P. Edie obtained a good education. Thinking that he might have better business opportunities in the west, where competition was not so great, and yet where the rapid growth afforded excellent business conditions, Mr. Edie came to the Mississippi valley. He first settled in Maquoketa, Iowa, where he engaged in teaching school for two years, but his health began to fail, and, thinking that he might be benefited by outdoor life, he engaged in railroad surveying for a year. He then removed to Bellevue, where he taught school for two years, and during that time also acted as county superintendent of the schools of Jackson county. He afterward took up his abode in Sioux City, Iowa, where he was employed as public receiver in the register's office for about two years, or until 1863, when he became a resident of Rockford. Here he accepted the agency for the Equitable Insurance Company, and was engaged in that business throughout the remainder of his life. The policies which he wrote annually represented a large figure, and his business steadily increased, bringing to him a good financial return. The secret of his success lay in his close application, his strong purpose and laudable ambition.

Mr. Edie was married in Crawford county, Pennsylvania, to Miss Elizabeth S. Brakey, a native of Cortland, New York, born January 20, 1827. Her father, Mr. Brakey, followed farming throughout his entire life, and in early manhood removed from New York to Crawford county, Pennsylvania, where for some time he lived retired from active business cares. Eventually he removed to Kansas, where he made his home with his daughter until his death. Mr. and Mrs. Edie became the parents of seven children, of whom four are now living: John M., a canvasser, residing in Des Moines, Iowa; Robert A. B., a printer, of Springfield, Illinois; Harry, who is foreman of a shoe factory in Menominee, Michigan; and Florence B., the wife of Gavin A. H. Reid, who for two years has resided in Rockford. He was born in Harlem township, Winnebago county, August 12, 1863, and engaged in farming in both Winnebago and Boone counties, following that pursuit until 1903. He is now living retired, but still owns his farm, and he and his wife make their home with Mrs. Edie. They have one child, Catherine Elizabeth. Mr. Reid is a republican in his political views, and socially is connected with the Modern Woodmen, the Maccabees and the Mystic Workers, all of Rockford.



JAMES P. EDIE.

Mr. and Mrs. Edie also lost three children: Willie Howard, Willie Alexander and Mary Eleanor, the last named the wife of James H. Patterson.

On the 3rd of March, 1896, Mr. Edie was called to his final rest. He had given his political support to the republican party, and he was a member of the Westminster Presbyterian church of Rockford, to which his widow and also Mr. and Mrs. Reid belong. He suffered from ill health for several years prior to his demise, and for two years was totally blind. He was a man of unfaltering industry, successful in what he undertook, and throughout his life he displayed many of the sterling characteristics of his Scotch ancestry. His position was never an equivocal one. He stood firm in his support of what he believed to be right, and his entire life was actuated by honorable principles. He was for a long period a resident of Rockford, and was well known as one of its valued citizens. His wife resided for some time at the old family home, and still owns that property, but has recently gone to live at No. 1905 East State street.

ELIZABETH C. MAAS, M. D.

Into no field of activity into which woman has entered have her services been of greater value or her adaptability more pronounced than in the study of medicine. Dr. Maas is a member of the medical fraternity of Rockford and has won a creditable position and desirable success. A native of Kenosha, Wisconsin, she is a daughter of Francis and Catherine (Smith) Maas, who were married in Kenosha county. The Maas family is of German lineage and the father removed from Buffalo, New York, to the west, becoming a manufacturer of farming implements at Kenosha, where he carried on business for many years. His death occurred in 1899, and his wife survived until 1901. In their family were six children: Caroline, Amelia, Mary, Elizabeth C., Frank and William.

Dr. Maas, entering the public schools, passed through successive grades until she had completed a high-school course and later she pursued special work in the University of Wisconsin at Madison. Determining to engage in the practice of medicine, she matriculated in the Hahnemann Medical College of Chicago in 1890 and was graduated in 1894. Her theoretical knowledge was then put to the practical test by one and one-half years' service in the Hahnemann Hospital, during which time she gained broad and thorough experience that well qualified her for the duties of a general practice. In 1896 she came to Rockford and now occupies offices at No. 129 North State street, making a specialty of the diseases of women and children. She also serves on the staff of the City

Hospital and has been accorded a liberal and well merited patronage. She is most conscientious and earnest in her work and her thorough preparation and continued research have kept her in touch with the most advanced methods followed by the medical fraternity. She belongs to the Illinois State Homeopathic Medical Society, the American Institute of Homeopathy, Northwestern Homeopathic Society and the Clinical Society of Chicago. She has been very successful and professionally and socially is prominent.

GIRDEN O. WILLIAMS.

Girden O. Williams, a member of the bar and president of the Rockford Abstract Company, well known in business circles and as a representative of his profession, was born in Oakland county, Michigan, January 25, 1852. He is a son of Seth Williams, whose birth occurred in New York on the 30th of January, 1818. The father was a hotelman, conducting a hotel on Woodward avenue, Detroit, where our subject was born. He located in that city in 1829. He married Miss Eleanore Moore, of Utica, Michigan, who was born at Hope, Orange county, New Jersey, in 1823, and was a daughter of James Moore. Mr. Williams died August 21, 1896, and his wife passed away August 28, 1899. Joseph B. Moore, chief justice of the supreme court of Michigan, is a cousin of our subject.

Girden O. Williams was a student in the district schools near Detroit in his early youth, and when he had completed his course there entered the State University of Michigan at Ann Arbor as a law student, completing the regular course. He was graduated with the class of 1877, and the same year located for practice in Rockford. He has since been an active representative of the legal fraternity here, giving considerable attention to law practice, especially to that department relating to real-estate transactions or transfers. His energies, however, have been divided between the claims of his law clientage and his patrons in the abstract business. In 1881 he completed a set of abstract books of Winnebago county, and in 1889 he organized the Frank S. Regan Abstract Company, of which he was elected president, since occupying that position. The company now enjoys an extensive business, being widely and favorably known in this line of activity. Mr. Williams is prominent in the walk of life which he has chosen, as is indicated by the fact that he is now president of the Abstractors' Association of the state of Illinois.

On the 21st of December, 1881, occurred the marriage of Girden O. Williams and Miss Lima G. Chapman, of Utica, Michigan, a daughter of

John B. and Caroline (Rice) Chapman. They have two daughters, Caroline and Agnes, who are students in the public schools of Rockford, and the family home is at No. 413 Park street. Throughout the period of his residence in Rockford, covering almost thirty years, Mr. Williams has displayed the enterprising spirit which has been the dominant factor in the upbuilding of the middle west. His close application and persistency of purpose in business have constituted the foundation of his prosperity, and are traits of character such as may be cultivated by all. Whenever he is found he is a social, affable, genial gentleman, making friends wherever he goes.

ISAAC COOK.

Isaac Cook, who follows farming, his home being at the corner of Rome and Greenwood avenues, was born in Harlem township, Winnebago county, in 1841. His father, Samuel Cook, came to this county from Virginia in 1835, and followed farming in Harlem township, where he owned and operated five hundred acres of land. He was deeply interested in political questions and gave his support to the whig party. In pioneer times he held the office of constable and was also a member of the school board. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Mary Wagner, was a native of Pennsylvania. He died in 1850 and was long survived by Mrs. Cook, who passed away in 1880.

Isaac Cook was educated in one of the old-time log school houses common on the frontier. He had little opportunity to attend school save in the winter months, when the work of the farm was practically over. He remained at home until twenty years of age, and then began working in Rockford, where he was employed until he enlisted in the army, responding to the country's call on the 15th of January, 1863, and placing his name on the roll of members of Company D, Fourteenth Illinois Cavalry, with which he served until honorably discharged after the close of hostilities on the 30th of July, 1865. The regiment marched through Kentucky and followed Morgan into Ohio until his capture. Mr. Cook afterward went with his command to Kentucky and on to Knoxville, Tennessee, and participated in the siege of that city and in the battle of Kenesaw Mountain. He was also in the engagement at Strawberry Plain and was with Sherman in his great campaign until the capitulation of Atlanta. He was also under command of that great leader at the time of Stoneman's surrender with forty thousand cavalymen, and was with his regiment at the time that Morgan was killed in Tennessee. At one time Mr. Cook was also under command of General Harrison. He participated in the battles of

Nashville and Franklin, where they drove Hood back, and he received his discharge at Pulaski, Tennessee.

Following the close of the war Mr. Cook came to Rockford, where he began threshing, and the following year he farmed near Latham. In the succeeding year he again settled in Rockford, where he was employed for four years, and later he operated a farm on Whig Hill for four years. Subsequently he purchased the home which he now owns and occupies, and it has since been his place of residence. He has a nice little dwelling in the midst of a good tract of land, and the improvement and cultivation of this property claim the greater part of his time and attention.

Mr. Cook was married in 1866 to Miss Lucy Wilcox, and after traveling life's journey together for twenty-two years they were separated by the death of the wife. In 1903 Mr. Cook wedded Josephine Houser, a native of New York and a daughter of Draper Houser. In his political views Mr. Cook is a republican and has been called to serve in several local offices. He was constable and was collector for two years in Guilford township and school director for two years in Burritt township. He now belongs to Nevius post, No. 1, G. A. R., of Rockford. He was formerly identified with the Methodist church, but now attends the meetings of the Salvation Army. In all matters of citizenship he is as loyal to his country to-day as when he followed the stars and stripes on southern battle-fields, and he takes great pleasure in meeting with his old army comrades and in recalling the scenes and events of the war.

JOHN W. MURPHY.

John W. Murphy, a representative farmer of Winnebago township, living on section 10, owns and operates a farm of two hundred acres, which in its attractive appearance indicates his careful supervision and progressive methods. He is a native of the village of Winnebago, born December 15, 1863. His father, John Murphy, was a native of Wexford, Ireland, in which country he was reared and married, the lady of his choice being Miss Ellen Braham, also a native of Wexford. Crossing the Atlantic to America, they made their way to Rockford in the early '50s and Mr. Murphy was for a long time employed by the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company, while later he was for sixteen years section foreman on a division between Winnebago and Rockford, making his home in the former place. At length he gave up railroad work and removed to a farm on section 10, Winnebago township, where he carried on general agricultural pursuits with gratifying success for a number of years. When he had acquired a comfortable competence he retired from

active farm life and removed to Rockford about 1890, making his home there up to the time of his death, which occurred May 29, 1892, when he was sixty-three years of age. He had been very prosperous in his farming pursuits and owned at his death a valuable and productive tract of land of two hundred and eighty acres. He was reputed to have been the best section foreman ever located at Winnebago. In politics he was a staunch democrat, unswerving in his advocacy of the party. In his family were four daughters and two sons: Anna B., who is now a widow, residing at No. 1215 Green street in Rockford; Thomas, a resident farmer in Winnebago township; Mrs. Mary O'Brien, of Burritt township; Mrs. Ellen McDonald, of Seward township; John W. and Katie, deceased.

John W. Murphy was reared from infancy upon the farm which he now owns and operates. He early became familiar with the duties of field and meadow, assisting his father materially in the farm work when not occupied with the duties of the schoolroom, his education being acquired in the public schools of the locality, which he attended through the winter seasons, while in the summer months he aided in the farm work. He now owns two hundred acres of rich land, which annually yields good harvests in return for the care and labor which he bestows on the fields. His labors are practical and resultant and he is to-day justly accounted one of the leading agriculturists in his community.

Mr. Murphy was married to Miss Theresa Murphy, whose birth occurred in Byron township, Ogle county, and who is a daughter of Thomas Murphy, a farmer, and one of the early residents of that part of Illinois. He died in 1888, at the age of sixty-seven years, while his wife passed away in October, 1904, at the age of seventy-four years. They were the parents of six children: Mrs. Elizabeth Gallaher, who is living at No. 326 Stanley street, in Rockford; Thomas, residing at No. 1212 Chestnut street, in Rockford; James, a farmer of Seward township; John, who is living upon a farm near Leaf river, in Ogle county; Mrs. Murphy; and William, who is employed by the Emerson Manufacturing Company at Rockford. Unto our subject and his wife have been born six children: John, Irene, Harold, Theresa, Leo and Mary, all at home.

Mr. Murphy's farm is improved with excellent buildings and in fact none of the equipments of a model farm are lacking. Associated with his brother Thomas, he operates in all three hundred and forty acres of land and is justly accounted one of the enterprising and successful agriculturists of his community.

He gives his political allegiance to the democracy and has served as school director. Socially he is connected with the Modern Woodmen camp,

No. 51, and the Knights of the Globe, No. 25, in which he has held office. Both he and his wife are members of St. Mary's Catholic Church of Rockford.

FRED BARLOGA.

Fred Barloga, a representative farmer of Pecatonica township, was born in Greenfield county, Wisconsin, March 28, 1856, his parents being John and Rosa (Muhlenberger) Barloga, both of whom were of German birth, the former having been born in Hanover and the latter in Baden. From his native country the father came to the new world on a sailing vessel, landing at New York city. This was in the early '40s and the voyage was a long and tedious one. From the eastern metropolis he made his way westward to Detroit, Michigan, overland, but he remained long enough in the state of New York to earn the money necessary to meet the expenses of the journey and with which to purchase a cow at Detroit. He led the animal from that city across the country to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, which at that time was but a village. He was a poor man and anxious to earn a living in any way that he could and worked for twenty-five cents per day until he could gain a start. Later he entered land in Greenfield county, Wisconsin, about five miles from the city of Milwaukee, and he worked on the Illinois & Michigan Canal at Chicago. Three times he walked between the two cities, a distance of eighty-five miles, when the country was wild prairie or timber land, there being few settlers along the entire distance. Mr. Barloga cut the timber with which he built his log house containing three rooms. That was a very commodious dwelling for the time and district and he had one of the notable homes of the locality. He made wooden hinges for the doors, split the shingles out of timber with which to roof the building, made three windows and in fact did all of the work himself for the construction of the pioneer cabin. He was one of the early settlers of the community who shared in all the hardships, trials and deprivations incident to frontier life. He cut timber and split rails for fencing his land and with marked energy carried on the work of the farm. Later he erected a frame residence and good barns and other substantial outbuildings. Subsequently he purchased one hundred and eighty acres of land in Winnebago county, Illinois, lying in Pecatonica township, known as the Dr. Emery farm. He was for many years a most active and energetic agriculturist, but during the last five or six years of his life, although he gave personal supervision to the work of the farm, he took no active part in the labors of the fields. He con-

tinued to reside upon the old homestead in Wisconsin until called to his final rest. His life record shows what may be accomplished through determined and earnest purpose, for he was almost penniless when he arrived in this country and gradually by untiring effort and able management he worked his way upward until he became the possessor of desirable property and was known as one of the substantial farmers of his community. In politics he was a republican. He passed away on the old homestead in 1881, at the age of seventy-eight years, and his wife died on the same farm in 1868, at the age of eighty-three years. They were the parents of five children—John, Herman, Fred, Henry and Eliza.

Fred Barloga in his boyhood days devoted his attention to work on his father's farm through the summer months, while in the winter seasons he attended the district schools and thereby acquired a good practical education. He early became familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist, so that when he started out in life on his own account at the age of twenty-four years he had practical experience to guide him in his farming operations. He and his brother farmed together until 1883, when they divided their business interest and Mr. Barloga has since been alone in the conduct of his agricultural pursuits. He is to-day the owner of a valuable farm property comprising two hundred and twenty-one and a half acres of splendidly improved land, on which he has erected a fine residence, in the rear of which stand commodious barns and outbuildings. He is particularly well known as a stock dealer and keeps from forty-five to fifty head of cattle and from seventy-five to eighty head of hogs. He always raises good grades of stock and therefore finds a ready sale on the market, commanding the best market prices.

On the 19th of December, 1883, Mr. Barloga was married to Miss Eliza Barg, a daughter of John and Sophia (Rieckhoff) Barg. Her parents were natives of Hanover, Germany, and, crossing the Atlantic to America, became residents of Ohio in 1853. They were eight weeks in making the voyage to New York city. The father worked for three years in a coal mine and then removed to the vicinity of Milwaukee, Greenfield county, Wisconsin, where he purchased a farm of forty acres. Later he secured an additional tract of forty acres and spent his remaining days in the cultivation and improvement of that property, his death occurring on the old homestead when he had reached the age of seventy years. His widow still resides on the old home farm with her youngest son, William. They were adherents of the German Lutheran Church and Mr. Barg gave his political support to the republican party. In their family were eight children: John, Fred, Eliza,

Minnie, Bertha, Henry and William. One daughter, Mary, the fifth member of the family, died at the age of sixteen years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Barloga have been born six children: David, John and George, who died in infancy; Celia, Homer and Floyd.

Mr. Barloga gives his political allegiance to the republican party, but has never sought or desired the honors and emoluments of office, preferring to give his undivided attention to his business affairs that he may thereby provide a comfortable living for his family. He has worked hard from early boyhood days down to the present and his excellent farm is an indication of his well-spent life and carefully directed labors.

JAMES M. REID.

James M. Reid, secretary and manager of the Holland-Ferguson Abstract Company, of Rockford, is a native of Winnebago county, his birth having occurred on a farm in Harlem township in May, 1876. His paternal grandfather, Hugh Reid, was a native of Scotland and after emigrating to America cast in his lot with the early settlers of Harlem township, Winnebago county. There in the midst of a district largely wild and unimproved he opened a farm which he placed under a high state of cultivation. His son, James S. Reid, the father of our subject, has always followed in his footsteps and is now a prosperous agriculturist of Winnebago county. He wedded Mary Breckenridge, who died twenty-nine years ago.

James M. Reid was reared on his father's farm and in the winter seasons attended the district schools, while in the summer months he performed such service for his father as his age and strength permitted. Later he became a student in the high school of Rockford, from which he was graduated with the class of 1895. Agricultural life did not prove altogether congenial to him and he sought a position elsewhere. In 1901 he was appointed secretary and manager of the Holland-Ferguson Abstract Company, taking charge of the abstract business, which has grown to extensive proportions. The company is regarded as a most responsible one and is widely known. It is accorded a large clientage, and under the direction of Mr. Reid the business has been carried successfully forward and he has proved an efficient officer, capable, alert and enterprising. The company's offices are located on the southeast corner of State and Main streets, where they have a well equipped suite of rooms and a complete set of abstract books.



JAMES M. REID.

Mr. Reid was happily married, in June, 1904, to Miss Inez B. Thompson, of Rockford, a daughter of E. A. and Catherine Thompson. Socially they are well known in this city, and their circle of friends is continually increasing as the circle of their acquaintance widens.

WILLIAM C. PRATT.

In the history of the men who have contributed in substantial measure to the material improvement of Rockford and its commercial development William C. Pratt, now deceased, is worthy of mention. He became a resident of this city in 1854 and for a number of years figured prominently in commercial circles as a dealer in fruit and confectionery. A native of Vermont, he was born in Manchester, Bennington county, on the 24th of February, 1838, and represented one of the old families of that state. His parents were Chester and Almira (Collins) Pratt. The father was a native of Marlborough, Vermont, and spent his boyhood days upon a farm there. His death occurred when he was fifty-six years of age. His wife was a native of Cambridge, New York, and after his death she was married twice, her last years being spent in Brooklyn, Michigan. But two of the children of the family are now living: Mrs. Betsy Hatch, who resides in Windsor, Vermont, and Mrs. Julia F. Shepherdson, a resident of Brattleboro, Vermont. All were educated in the schools of the Green Mountain state.

William C. Pratt, when not busy with his textbooks worked upon his father's farm in the east until 1854, when, believing that he might enjoy better business opportunities in the west, he came to Illinois, being at that time sixteen years of age. He made his way direct to Rockford and soon secured a position as a farm hand in Rockford township in the employ of Solomon Wheeler, who was a pioneer farmer there. Mr. Pratt continued to work for Mr. Wheeler for a few years and afterward turned his attention to general agricultural pursuits until 1862, when he removed to the city of Rockford. Here he engaged in teaming and he hauled all of the stone that was used in the construction of the First Congregational church, the Utter paper mill and the Jacoby home. He continued teaming for several years and then accepted a position as a clerk in the F. J. Leonard store, where he remained for five years. In 1872 he entered into partnership with N. C. Burroughs and opened a confectionery store, which they conducted for a few years, when in 1877 Mr. Pratt began business by himself. He dealt in both fruit and confectionery at No. 415 East State street, also in ice creams and ices, carrying on

both a wholesale and retail business. His patronage steadily increased and he enjoyed a large trade, which through a number of years returned him a very gratifying income.

Mr. Pratt was married near Rockford to Miss Julia F. Spink, a native of New York, born near the Vermont state line. Her parents were Robert and Julia (Warner) Spink, both natives of Rhode Island, whence they removed to the Empire state, where the father engaged in business as a contractor and builder until 1852. In that year he removed westward, settling in Winnebago county, Illinois, and for a few years he was engaged in farming in New Milford township. Later he took up his abode in Seward township and cultivated his land with success for several years. He afterward retired from active business life and he and home with their son-in-law, Mr. Pratt, until they were called to their final rest. When a young lady Mrs. Pratt taught school in New Milford township. Five children were born of the marriage of our subject and his wife, of whom three are now living: Andrew W., who married Edith Tanner, and resides at No. 312 North Horsman street, Rockford, looking after his mother's estate, and is a traveling salesman; Robert W., who married Myrtie E. Lewis, and is a salesman for the Produce Commission Company of Rockford; and Fannie A., who resides at home with her mother; George and Edwin died in infancy.

The death of the husband and father occurred March 9, 1892. He voted with the republican party, but was never an office seeker, preferring to give his undivided attention to his business interests. He belonged to the Masonic lodge and also to the Centennial Methodist Episcopal church. He was a man of rugged constitution and his great physical energy enabled him to give unremitting attention to his business interests. As the years passed by he prospered in his undertakings, displaying all the qualities of a successful merchant, who quickly recognizes and utilizes an opportunity. He was a great lover of fine horses and owned many at different times. In 1872 he built the residence where his widow and daughter now reside at No. 215 South Third street. She also owns other property on South Second and East State streets and she and her family are members of the Centennial Methodist Episcopal church. The sterling qualities which Mr. Pratt displayed commanded the respect and confidence of all and secured for him the high regard of a large circle of friends. To a student of human nature there is nothing of greater interest than to examine into the life of a self-made man and analyze the principles by which he has been governed, the methods he has pursued, to know what means he has employed for advancement and to study the plans which have given him prominence, enabling him

to pass on the highway of life many who had a more advantageous start. In the history of Mr. Pratt there is deep food for thought, and if one so desires he may profit by the obvious lessons therein contained.

MAJOR WILLIAM H. SARVER.

Major W. H. Sarver, a veteran of the Spanish-American war, well known in military circles in Illinois, having for sixteen years been a member of the National Guard, now follows farming on section 9, Rockford township, where he owns and operates two hundred and eleven acres of arable land. He is also engaged in the buying, feeding and shipping of stock and finds it a profitable source of income.

Major Sarver is a native of Owen township, Winnebago county, born on the 12th of August, 1871, and his parents were Alexander and Sarah (Fell) Sarver, both natives of Winnebago county. He was reared to the occupation of farming, spending almost his entire life upon this place, and in the public schools he acquired his education, being thus well equipped for practical and responsible duties that devolve upon the individual who puts aside his text-books and enters business life. He became a member of the Illinois National Guard in November, 1888, joining as a private Company H, Third Infantry, with which he was connected until the outbreak of the Spanish-American war. He then enlisted in the service of the government on the 7th of May, 1898, as a second lieutenant of Company H, Third Illinois Regiment of Volunteers. The command was organized at Springfield and went at once to Chickamauga Park. On the 15th of July, 1898, Mr. Sarver was promoted to the rank of first lieutenant and on the 28th of the same month he sailed on the St. Louis for Porto Rico from Newport News, Virginia, landing at Aroyo on the 2d of August. He was then under fire until the 13th, taking an active part in the subjugation of the island. He was sent to the hospital on the 25th of September and returned to the United States on the hospital ship Missouri, which reached New York city on the 29th of October. His regiment left the island on the 3d of November, and arrived at Rockford, November 11, 1898. Mr. Sarver was mustered out January 16, 1899, and on the 15th of May, following, he reorganized his old company—Company H, of the Third Illinois National Guard, and was with that command until July 2, 1904. He was then elected major, and he is now retired with that rank, having for seventeen years been an active member of the National Guard, winning promotion because of meritorious con-

duct and thorough understanding of military tactics. The reason of Major Sarver's retiring from the Guard is best told in this place. In January, 1903, he was running a hay press, when the fly wheel, of five hundred pounds weight, burst, the Major receiving the full impact of the flying metal, which entirely destroyed the bones of his left leg, necessitating amputation. About three weeks after he had left the hospital he visited the armory on inspection night. After Major Cecil had finished inspection he stepped forward, shook hands with Major Sarver, saying: "Captain, I am very, very sorry that your military career has so unceremoniously ended." This, of course, closed the Major's connection with the National Guard. He was Captain of Company H when hurt, but was retired as major about August 1, 1904.

Major Sarver was married to Miss Dora Allen, who was born and reared in Rockford, and is a daughter of William and Sarah (Sheffield) Allen. They now have four children: Everett, thirteen years of age; Carlton, eleven years of age; Frank, a youth of ten years, and Birdie, who was born on the 2d of July, 1897.

The family home is on section 9, Rockford township, and the farm is located on sections 9 and 5. It comprises two hundred and eleven acres, of which a part was timber land when it came into his possession, but he has since cut down the trees, selling it in wood and lumber. During the past few years he has been engaged in buying, feeding and shipping stock, often shipping from four to six carloads per week, and he employs two, three or more men to conduct the business of the farm. He is energetic, alert and enterprising, and in all of his dealings is notably prompt and reliable.

Politically he is independent, and socially was at one time connected with the Woodmen. His interests, however, have centered in his business affairs, and in his military connection Major Sarver was always deeply interested in what has been accomplished by the National Guard, keeping his own command up to the standard of excellence as represented by the entire military organization of the country.

HENRY ULRICI.

Germany furnished to Rockford many of its citizens who have been prominent in its business development and consequent prosperity and to this class belongs Henry Ulrici, who is now living retired. His birth occurred in Hanover, Germany, in 1832, and he spent the first twenty-one years of his life in the fatherland. The reports which he heard concerning the business oppor-



MAJOR AND MRS. W. H. SARVER.

tunities and conditions of the new world awakened his desire to become a factor in business circles here and in 1853 he crossed the Atlantic to the United States, locating in New York city. He had been educated in the public schools of his native land and had learned the trade of book binding, and it was to that field of endeavor that he turned for a position when he reached the new world. For a year and a half he was employed in New York and then made his way westward to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he worked at his trade for three years, and on the expiration of that period he went to Beloit, where he followed book binding for seven years. In 1864 he arrived in Rockford, where he embarked in business on his own account, establishing a book bindery, which he conducted for about thirty years. In 1885 he established a paper box factory in connection with the bindery and carried on the enterprise at that location until 1887, when he built a factory for the manufacture of paper boxes at No. 1008-10 Mulberry street, the building being forty by one hundred and sixty feet and one-story with basement. This is the only concern of the kind in Rockford and thirty people are employed here. The enterprise has been a success from the beginning and is a valuable addition to the industrial life of the city. In 1887 Mr. Ulrici sold the bindery to his son Douglass, who is now conducting it, and in 1899 he sold the box factory to his son Fritz, who is now proprietor and successful manager of the concern. The father then retired from all active business pursuits to enjoy the fruits of his former toil in a well earned rest, surrounded by the comforts and conveniences which go to make life worth the living.

In August, 1854, Mr. Ulrici was united in marriage to Miss Caroline Bock, who was born in Germany, and died in 1892, at the age of fifty-eight years. They were the parents of nine children, of whom five are living: Anna, the wife of John Collier, a traveling salesman, residing in Belvidere, Illinois; Douglass, the proprietor of the book bindery, which was established by his father; Henry, an optician of Aurora, Illinois; Carrie, who is bookkeeper in the Gregorian Hotel in New York city; and Fritz. In 1893 Mr. Ulrici was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Barnes, who died in 1900, and in 1902 he wedded Alma L. Pond, with whom he is now living in Rockford. He is a member of the First Presbyterian church and in politics is a republican, but he has always been too busy to enter actively into political work, nor has he had any aspiration for office. He has based his business principles and actions upon strict and unswerving integrity, upon unfaltering perseverance and indefatigable energy and with these as a foundation the superstructure that he has reared has been one of prosperity and gratifying success.

Fritz Ulrici, born in Rockford on the 4th of April, 1875, in an old frame building on South Main street, adjoining what was then known as the Holland House, is indebted to the public schools of this city for the intellectual training which he received, while his business training was received under his father's correction. After putting aside his text-books he entered the paper box factory, where he thoroughly learned the business, becoming conversant with it in principle and detail and knowing all the practical workings of the trade. When twenty-one years of age he purchased a half interest in the concern and is now sole owner, doing business under the name. This is the only fine paper box factory in the city catering to high-class work and its output is in demand, the product finding a ready and profitable sale on the market. Fritz Ulrici is one of the most successful young business men of Rockford and his success is due entirely to his own industry and well directed efforts.

On the 12th of November, 1904, Mr. Ulrici was married to Mrs. Alma Leila Feudel, a daughter of John L. and Marion Wrigat. She comes of a family of artistic skill, taste and talent and has herself won an enviable reputation as an artist in oils, many of her paintings being exhibited in the Chicago Art Institute and also at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, held in St. Louis. Mr. and Mrs. Ulrici are members of the Court Street Methodist Episcopal Church and his political views are with republican principles. Fraternally he affiliates with the Modern Woodmen of America and socially with the Country Club and the 1900 Outing Club. A young man of good business ability, continually studying the conditions in the trade world and its possibilities, he is now in control of an important productive enterprise of his native city.

MISS MARY C. SPOTTSWOOD.

Miss Mary C. Spottswood, deceased, figured prominently for a number of years in educational circles in Rockford and was one of the most competent teachers that has ever been connected with the school system of this city. Her parents, Robert and Mary C. (Graham) Spottswood, were natives of Scotland, and in their family were nine children, namely: Mrs. Robert Simpson, of Rockford township; Mrs. Edwin Ware, of Winnebago township; Elizabeth, who resided in Winnebago county; Margaret, who is employed in Stewart's department store in Rockford; Robert, of Winnebago city; and three who died in infancy.

The other member of the family, Miss Mary C. Spottswood, acquired her early education in the district schools and for a few months was

a country school teacher, but having a desire to prepare herself for a better position she entered the State Normal School near Bloomington, Illinois, and was graduated with high honors with the class of 1883. She accepted a position in Metropolis, Illinois, where she remained for a year, and then began her work in Rockford the following year. Here she remained continuously as a most capable and successful teacher until March, 1902. She taught first in the Kent school, was afterward transferred to the Lincoln school, and subsequently was elected its principal, teaching altogether in Rockford schools for eighteen years. She was ever thoughtful, sympathetic, just and helpful, and was a real friend of the pupils, encouraging each one to put forth his best efforts that he might make the most of his opportunities. She inspired many with her own zeal and interest in the work, and she still lives in the lives of her pupils and friends. Who can know when or where such an influence may end, but it is none the less a potent force, and one whose good effects will be long felt.

A severe attack of pneumonia, from which she suffered in the winter of 1901, left Miss Spottswood in a very weak condition, and, being unable to return to her duties in the schoolroom, she went south as soon as possible, her place in the schoolroom being taken by her assistant, but after a short stay at Tucson, Arizona, she died July 30, 1902. Professor Walker, superintendent of schools at Rockford, said to her: "She was one of the best teachers we ever had in the city. She was well equipped for her profession and made a success of her work, as is evidenced by the long period in which she was retained in the schools. We have lost a valuable member of the teaching force. Well educated and naturally well qualified for her work and a good disciplinarian, she gained the confidence and affection of her pupils and the teachers under her control." She served long and faithfully, and there was genuine regret when the teachers and pupils learned their chief had gone beyond. The following beautiful tribute to her memory was paid: "The teachers of the city schools through a committee have expressed their appreciation of the worth of the late Mary Spottswood. She was a teacher of superior natural endowment, together with excellent special training. We who were associated with her as teachers, principals and superintendent recognized her keenness of intellect, her broad conceptions of the teacher's duty, her willingness to do all in her power to promote the best interests not only of her own school, but to assist others, as well as to advance the cause of education in our own city, state and county. She possessed a deep sense of justice, a generous spirit, great sympathy and excellent power to discern character, a fertile mind and high moral and religious principles. We

mourn her departure and shall miss her wise counsel and sincere loving friendship. She lives in the lives and works of those on whom she has left the impress of her skill and faithfulness, and will live for generations to come."

JOHN J. ANDREW.

John J. Andrew, having reached the eightieth milestone on life's journey, is now living a retired life in Rockford. For many years he controlled business interests of importance in Rockford, and his close attention, careful direction and recognition and utilization of opportunities made him a successful man. Still in possession of his faculties, seeming, in spirit and interests, yet in his prime, he is one of the respected, venerable and honored citizens of Winnebago county.

He was born in Argyle, Scotland, in 1825, a son of David and Jennet (Huie) Andrew. The father, a farmer by occupation, came to America in 1842, settling in Washington county, Ohio, whence he removed to this county in 1843, locating in Guilford township, where he purchased one hundred and seventy-three acres of land, on which he carried on general farming until his death. He passed away March 23, 1868, and his wife survived him until March 28, 1873.

In their family were thirteen children, of whom one died in Scotland, while another died in Ohio, in infancy. John J. is the eldest. David, a machinist by trade, died April 14, 1901. Jane is the wife of Lynns Knight, of Nebraska. Robert, a miller, who lived for many years in Milford and in Rockford, died December 14, 1901. James died about 1805. Mathew is principal of the public schools of Carthage, Illinois. Jennet died in Scotland. Archibald, who was a soldier of the Civil war and was with McClellan's command, was a teacher and county superintendent of schools in Winnebago county, Illinois, and is now living a retired life in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Jennet, born in August, 1838, is the wife of Donald Silvers, a farmer of Argyle, Illinois. Maria is the wife of Andrew Reed, a farmer near Springville, Iowa. William was born and died in Ohio. William, the second of that name, born in 1844, lives on the old homestead farm in Guilford township. Elizabeth, the wife of William Chapman, of Rockford, died October 25, 1880.

John J. Andrew acquired the greater part of his education in the schools of Scotland but afterward spent one summer as a student in Beloit College. He came with his parents to America, reaching Winnebago county when eighteen years of age, and he assisted in the work of the home farm until more than twenty years of age and during three winters he taught district and sing-

ing schools, being thus engaged until 1853, when he was married and removed to Rockford. He then engaged in the meat business, conducting a market for twenty-five years at No. 433 West State street, at the end of which time he sold out to Mr. McPherson. That he continued in the trade so long is proof of the success that attended his efforts. He afterward engaged in the manufacture of soap for twenty years, having his factory at what is now Riverside. In 1903, however, he sold the plant and retired from active business life. He was ever watchful of the indications pointing to success and every step was carefully and thoughtfully made, and with earnest labor as a foundation, he builded thereon the superstructure of a handsome competence.

Mr. Andrew was married in 1853 to Miss Mary J. Enoch, of Guilford township, a daughter of Henry and Mary (Hall) Enoch, her father a farmer of this county. She was born in Butler county, Ohio, and represented one of the old families of that state. She traces her ancestry back to England to the Rev. Henry Hall, who in 1698 came to America, representing the English government as a minister of the church. His son, known as Major Henry Hall, was born March 12, 1702, and was an officer of the British army, attaining the rank of colonel. His eldest son, Major Henry Hall, Jr., generally spoken of as Major Harry, also belonged to the British Army in colonial days, and he was the father of William Hall, who was an adjutant in the Revolutionary war. His daughter, Mary Hall, born July 14, 1790, was married September 5, 1813, to Henry Enoch, who came of almost equally remote and distinguished ancestry. The first ancestor in this country being Colonel Henry Enoch, Sr., who was a member of the militia of Washington county, Pennsylvania. His grandfather left Holland on account of religious persecution. Colonel Henry Enoch, about 1770, was a grantor of patents for Virginia and he was a delegate, on June 16, 1775, to Fort Pitt, where an important convention was held. His son, Henry Enoch, Jr., located in Warren county, Ohio, and afterward removed to Winnebago county, Illinois. He had previously married Mary Hall, and then after living for a time in Ohio they established their home in Guilford township, this county, in 1835, the father entering a claim from the government. He followed farming throughout his entire life. Unto him and his wife were born seven children: William Henry and Richard Hall, who died in 1837; Martha, who died in 1856; John T., who died in 1857; Abraham L., whose death occurred April 30, 1883; Hiram R., who died in 1890; and Mary J., born September 1, 1831, who married John J. Andrew, and died in 1905. The father died September 8, 1858, and the mother July 28, 1859.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew was blessed with seven children. John D., the eldest, assistant surgeon of the Northwestern Railway Company at Chicago, was married to Annie Tilton, of that city, and has two children, Dorothy and Margaret. Henry D., who for seven years was with Marcus Daly in Montana as a salesman and is now living in Rockford, married Anna A. Baume, of Galena, Illinois, and had two children—Marion, now deceased, and Harry L., who was born May 12, 1895, and is now attending school. Mary Adele died in 1864. Frank, living in Chicago, city salesman for the Armour Soap Company, was married to Miss Addie Swartz, of Rockford. Minnie is at home. Blanche died in 1867. Frederick, with the Haddorf Piano Company and living in Rockford, married Emma Davenport, of this city. The mother of these children died May 14, 1905, the second day after her fifty-second wedding anniversary.

Mr. Andrew has long been a devoted member of the Court Street Methodist Episcopal church, was treasurer and a member of the board of trustees for a number of years and for fourteen years was chorister in the Sunday-school. His contribution to its support and his co-operation in many of its activities have promoted the growth and extended the influence of the church. He was a whig in his political affiliations in early life and since the organization of the republican party has followed its banners. With a retentive memory and a mind remarkably keen and active, he yet keeps in touch with the world's progress and with local advancement and is yet a valued and prominent citizen in the county, where he has so long lived and labored, making a life history that will bear the closest investigation and scrutiny.

ROBERT B. JEWETT.

Robert B. Jewett, interested in general farming on section 23, Harrison township, was born upon this place in 1862, his parents being John R. and Elizabeth M. (Gilmour) Jewett, who were married in this county. The father was born in Windom, Connecticut, August 22, 1815, and came alone to Winnebago county, Illinois, in 1838, being then a young man of twenty-three years. He made his way westward by way of Buffalo and Chicago and ultimately reached his destination—Winnebago county, where he became identified with agricultural interests. He was a millwright and blacksmith by trade, however, and followed those pursuits until 1850, when he turned his attention to farming and was thus engaged up to the time of his death. In 1847 he entered from the government the land now owned by his son Robert, walking to Dixon, Illinois, in order to

secure the patent which is still in possession of our subject. The farm has never been out of possession of the Jewett family. On the 22d of May, 1851, John R. Jewett was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth M. Gilmour, who was born in Kentucky, September 4, 1831, and in 1847 came to this county with her parents, who located in Harrison township, where they purchased land and followed farming. Mr. Jewett was not only active in business life but was also a man of considerable influence in his community, where he served for several years as justice of the peace and roadmaster. He was a member of the Grange and the Patrons of Husbandry, and his wife belonged to the Congregational church at Harrison. In their family were six children: Clara A., who died in 1871; John R., a contractor and builder living at Wood River, Nebraska; Ella, who died in 1868, at the age of fifteen years; George L., a contractor and builder of Shirland, Illinois; Robert B., of this review; and Mrs. Abbie E. Craig, a widow, living at Shirland.

Robert B. Jewett was reared upon the old family homestead where he yet resides, the farm comprising one hundred and sixty acres, of which one hundred and twenty acres lie on section 23, Harrison township, while the remaining forty acres are in Shirland township. Here he devotes his time and energies to the tilling of the soil and to the raising of some stock, and his farm presents a well cultivated appearance, the green fields giving promise of golden harvests in the autumn. Everything is neat and attractive in appearance and an air of system pervades the place.

Mr. Jewett married Miss Winnie McMahon, who was born July 4, 1860, and is a daughter of John and Ann (Higgenbottom) McMahon. Her father still resides in Harrison township but her mother died March 31, 1904, when almost seventy years of age. Mrs. Jewett was one of eight children, all of whom are living: Mrs. Eunice Weatherhead, a resident of Harrison township; Edward, living in the same township; Mrs. Lizzie Crowley, of Laona township; Allen, of Harrison township; Mrs. Jewett, of Harrison township; Mrs. Mary Eick, of Durand township; Mrs. Mattie Sheppardson, of Harrison township; and Mrs. Annie Gummow, of Rockton township. Mr. and Mrs. Jewett have two living children: John R. and Frances A., aged respectively fourteen and eight years. They lost their second son, Graham M., who died at the age of two years and six months.

Politically Mr. Jewett is a republican, interested in the success and growth of his party, and is now serving as township clerk, which office he has filled for six or seven years. He has also held other local positions and is respected for his reliability in all positions of public trust. His fraternal relations are with the Royal Neighbors

and with Harrison camp, No. 684, M. W. A. His wife is also connected with the former and is a member of the Congregational church at Harrison.

JACOB VAN DE MARK.

Jacob Van De Mark, now deceased, was connected with manufacturing interests in Rockford for many years and was a stockholder in the Rockford Manufacturing Company at the time of his death. Through his own efforts he advanced to a prominent position in connection with the leading productive industries of the city. Though no land is richer in opportunities of affords greater advantages to its citizens than America, success is not to be obtained through desire, but must be persistently sought. In America "labor is king" and the man who resolutely sets to work to accomplish a purpose is certain of success if he has but the qualities of perseverance, untiring energy and practical common sense. Mr. Van De Mark was one whose career excited the admiration and gained the respect of all, for through his diligence he won a leading place in manufacturing circles in Rockford, where he located in 1867.

Mr. Van de Mark was born near Albany, New York, January 22, 1833, and was a son of Ebert and Fannie (Wentworth) Van De Mark. He was a farmer all his life and resided upon a tract of land near Albany for more than half a century, being one of the leading agriculturists of that locality. He was also throughout the entire time, a deacon in the Wisqua church and both he and his wife resided in that locality until called to their final rest. Ebert Van De Mark departing this life at the advanced age of ninety-five years. Of the nine children in their family, there are now six living.

In the district schools near Albany, Jacob Van De Mark acquired a good practical education and then assisted his father on the old home farm until he became of age, when he went to Rochester, New York, where he began business on his own account. Entering into partnership with his brother-in-law, they began dealing in coffee and spice, in which they continued for several years, or until 1867, when Mr. Van De Mark removed to the middle west, settling in Rockford, where he also established a coffee and spice store, which he conducted for a year. He then turned his attention to manufacturing interests and for several years was engaged in the manufacturing of pumps after which he assisted in organizing the Rockford Manufacturing Company, which is now one of the most extensive and important manufacturing concerns in the city, the output including all kinds of agricultural implements.



JACOB VAN DE MARK.

Mr. Van De Mark became one of the large stockholders in the new enterprise, but did not take an active part in its management, although he was financially interested therein until his death. Every step in his business career was thoughtfully made. He carefully considered each plan and opportunity bearing upon his interests and when once he had determined upon a course was prompt and decided in action, while at all times his course was in strict conformity with high commercial ethics.

While engaged in business in Rochester, Mr. Van De Mark was united in marriage to Miss Jane Henderson, a native of Newcastle, England, and a daughter of Thomas and Mary (Wilkinson) Henderson, both natives of Yorkshire, England, the father engaging in business as a contractor in Yorkshire and Newcastle. His death occurred in the latter place during the infancy of his daughter and Mrs. Henderson, afterward married William Lord, a shoemaker by trade. They removed to Rochester, New York, where her husband followed his chosen pursuit, and both died in that city. Mr. and Mrs. Van De Mark became the parents of three children, but the first born died unnamed. Cora E., who has a very wide acquaintance in Rockford, was a teacher in the high school here for several years and was also money-order clerk in the postoffice of Rockford for some time. She is now the wife of Charles T. Marsh, United States gauger and storekeeper at Rockford. Theodore W., married Mabel Davis and resides in Rockford, where he is occupying a good position in the Ashton dry goods store, where he has been employed for several years.

The death of Mr. Van De Mark occurred June 8, 1893. His early political support was given the republican party and later he endorsed prohibition principles and was an advocate of the party embodying his views on the temperance question. He was strictly temperate in his habits and thus by example as well as precept endeavored to further a cause which he believed affected in large measure the prosperity and happiness of the race. He belonged to the Ancient Order of United Workmen, of Rockford, and the Westminister Presbyterian church and Mrs. Van De Mark is now a member of the First Congregational church. Viewed in a personal light he was a strong man, of excellent judgment, fair in his views and highly honorable in his relations with his fellowmen. His position regarding any question of vital interest, political, social or moral, was never an equivocal one, and he never swerved from a course which he believed to be right. Mrs. Van De Mark is still one of the stockholders in the Rockford Manufacturing

Company, whereby she derives a good annual income, and she owns and occupies a large residence at No. 1229 Charles street.

JOHN SCHOONMAKER.

John Schoonmaker, who was formerly identified with agricultural interests in Winnebago township, but is now living retired at No. 824 Montague street, Rockford, was born April 2, 1842, in the township where he formerly farmed. His grandfather, Henry Schoonmaker, was a native of the state of New York. He is a son of Henry and Mary Schoonmaker, the former born in Albany county, New York, April 16, 1808, while the latter was a native of Schoharie county, New York. The father came to Winnebago county in 1838, at a time when there were only two log cabins standing upon the present site of the city of Rockford. He helped to put in the first dam and also the first bridge at Rockford and received the first deed to land in Winnebago township, entering his claim from the government. Money was scarce in the west at that time and Mr. Schoonmaker returned to the east where he obtained the gold with which to pay for his property. He spent the remainder of his life here and met his death by falling from a load of hay, when sixty-four years of age. In his family were four sons and four daughters, seven of the number yet living: Mrs. Cornelia Hobson, who resides near the old homestead in Winnebago township; Mrs. Emily Branagh, who is living in Chicago Heights, Illinois; John, of this review; David, who resides at Stincton, Dewey county, Oklahoma; William, who resides on the old homestead; Mrs. Margaret N. Warner, who died leaving two children, Mrs. Lewis Mitchell, who resides at Harvard, Illinois, and Mrs. Maggie Stacy, who is living at Rochelle, Illinois; Charles E., who owns eighty acres of the old homestead farm in Winnebago township; and Mrs. Mary E. McDonald, who lives at Hawarden, Iowa. The parents have both passed away and the father was owner of three hundred and thirty-seven acres of land at the time of his death.

John Schoonmaker was educated in the common schools and enlisted in the military service of his country when twenty years of age, being assigned to duty with the boys in blue of Company E, Seventy-fourth Regiment of Illinois Volunteers. He served for five months and was then honorably discharged on account of disability. The only battle in which he participated was at Perryville, Kentucky. Returning to his home, he remained in this county for a year and then offered his services to the Union, re-enlisting as a member of Battery G, Second Illinois Light Ar-

tillery, with which he remained for twenty months. He participated in the battle of Tupelo, Mississippi, July 14, 1864, opposing the Confederate troops under General Forest, Oldtown Creek, July 15, 1864; and Hurricane Creek, August 13, 1864. He was with the Sixteenth Army Corps and helped to drive the rebel general, Price, out of Missouri in the fall of 1864. He was also in several skirmishes and the battle of Nashville, Tennessee, December 15 and 16, 1864, and the siege of Mobile from the 27th of March until the 12th of April, 1865, resulting in the capitulation of the forts. He afterward started with his command for Montgomery, Alabama, being in the march at the time word was received of the surrender of General Lee. He was then discharged at Springfield, Illinois, September 4, 1865.

Following his return home, Mr. Schoonmaker began farming, operating rented land for several years until his labors had brought him a capital sufficient to enable him to purchase a farm. After that he cultivated and improved his own land with gratifying success until 1892, when he retired to private life, and took up his abode in Rockford. He now owns two fine residences on Montague street in this city and eighty acres of land in the county.

Mr. Schoonmaker was married in 1868, to Miss L. L. M. Posson, who was born in the state of New York in 1849 and is a daughter of Daniel and Angelica (Houghtelling) Posson. Her father was a farmer, who owned and operated two hundred acres of land in the state of New York. He came to the west in 1864 with his family and after living in Winnebago county for some time removed to Missouri, where he purchased a farm upon which he lived eleven years. On selling that property he returned to Illinois and bought the farm on which he was living at the time of his death on the 17th of May, 1892. His widow still survives him and is living with Mrs. Charlena Clilkman in the village of Winnebago. Mr. Posson was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, to which his widow still belongs, and he took an active part in the church work, doing everything in his power to promote its growth and extend its influence. He served as steward of the church and was also deacon for many years. In his family were four children, all of whom are yet living: Mrs. Schoonmaker; Mrs. Isabella Patterson, who resides at New Milford; Arthur, who is living at Windsor, Missouri; and Mrs. Clilkman, a resident of the village of Winnebago.

Mr. and Mrs. Schoonmaker have become the parents of three daughters: Ella, born June 23, 1869, is the wife of Stricker Mitchell, a farmer living in Winnebago township, and they have three children, Homer, Ollie and John. Fannie Schoonmaker, born September 14, 1874, is the

wife of Alonzo Mitchell, who is living upon her father's farm, and they have three children, Irene, Pearl and Everett. Maggie, born January 17, 1877, is the wife of Frank Sheldon, a farmer residing in Seward township, and they have two children, Harold and Lorraine. The parents are members of the Congregational church and Mr. Schoonmaker belongs to Nevius post, No. 1, G. A. R. He votes with the republican party and for six years he served as school director, the cause of education finding in him a warm friend. He has, however, never given much time to office seeking or office holding, content to do his service for the public as a private citizen. He has been very successful in his business and is now one of the substantial and respected residents of his native county, enjoying the comforts of life in a pleasant home, whose hospitality makes it a favorite resort with his many friends.

EDWARD O. CAMPBELL.

Edward O. Campbell, actively and successfully engaged in general farming in Owen township, was born in Winnebago county, January 6, 1861, and is a son of John and Mary (McNeal) Campbell. The father was a native of Ireland, born in 1810, while the mother's birth occurred in Canada in 1824. They were married in the latter country and their three eldest children were born there. Removing to Winnebago county in the '50s, Mr. Campbell settled in Owen township, where he entered one hundred and sixty acres of land from the government. He at once began to break the wild prairie and in course of time transformed the unimproved tract into a highly productive farm. In the early days, however, he bore all the hardships and privations incident to pioneer life and performed the arduous labor that fell to the lot of the frontier settlers. There was no market nearer than Chicago and he had to haul his meat to that place, it often taking him from eight to twelve days to make the round trip. Later Belvidere offered market when then old Chicago & Galena Railroad was built through that place. It is now a part of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad system. Mr. Campbell continued farming throughout his entire life and also raised some stock, and he contributed in no unimportant manner to the early substantial developments of the county. He died on the old farm homestead in 1883, having long survived his wife, who passed away in 1866. They became the parents of twelve children, of whom five are now living: Sarah, the wife of John Rose, a resident of Sac City, Iowa, by whom she has one child; Rachel, who married William Houffiman, of Canada, by whom she has two



MRS. E. O. CAMPBELL.



E. O. CAMPBELL.

children; Hannah, who is the wife of Z. Miller, of Rockford, and has five children; Edward O.; and James E., who married Hattie Steward and has four children. Their home is in Owen township.

Edward O. Campbell spent his boyhood days under the parental roof and acquired a knowledge of the common branches of English learning by attending the public schools of the neighborhood. He worked upon his father's farm until he had attained his majority and then started out in life on his own account as an agriculturist, purchasing the interests of the other heirs in the farm which formerly belonged to his maternal grandfather. He now has six hundred and thirty-six acres of as fine land as can be found in the county, constituting a splendidly improved property. Upon the place he has at the present time sixty-five head of cattle and one hundred and fifteen head of hogs. He ships one or more carloads of cattle to the Chicago market each year and both branches of his business are proving profitable, bringing him a satisfactory financial return. A part of the old McNeal house, which was built and owned by his grandfather, is still standing near the new home of Mr. Campbell, which he erected in 1900. This residence is of modern style of architecture, supplied with hot and cold water and equipped with all modern improvements. It is tasteful in its furnishings and most attractive in its hospitable cordiality. Mr. Campbell has always carried on general farming and stock-raising and as the result of his well directed efforts and unremitting diligence is now one of the prosperous citizens of his community.

On the 2d of February, 1881, occurred the marriage of Mr. Campbell and Miss Eliza J. Black, a daughter of Charles and Eliza (Hall) Black, who are mentioned in connection with the sketch of John Black on another page of this work. Mr. and Mrs. Campbell have become the parents of nine children: George M. born November 9, 1882; one who died in infancy; Ray W. born August 8, 1884; a fourth, who was born February 26, 1887, and died in infancy; Ralph E., born November 28, 1890; Nellie G., born March 31, 1892; Clarence C., who was born January 12, 1895, and died December 1, 1896; Floyd, born July 17, 1897; and an infant, who was born on the 9th of May, 1900, and died March 28, 1901.

Mr. Campbell has been a member of the school board for six or seven years and he gives his political allegiance to the republican party. He and his wife are members of the Episcopal church and are well known and highly respected citizens of Owen township. He is classed with the successful men whose labors have been the basis of

their prosperity for his close application, enterprise and diligence have proved the foundation upon which he has builded the superstructure of a handsome competence.

JOHN A. STILES.

John A. Stiles, following the occupation of farming on section 19, Rockford township, was born on this section on the old Stiles homestead, August 10, 1851, his parents being Richard S. and Sarah (Stilson) Stiles, who were married in Winnebago county, December 10, 1846. The father was born at Keene, New Hampshire, August 15, 1811, and is of English lineage. He remained at the place of his nativity until the spring of 1837, when he came to Winnebago county and soon afterward settled on a farm on section 19, Rockford township—the place now owned by his son, Amos D. Stiles. He at once began to clear and improve the land, transforming it into productive fields, and here he continued to follow farming until his death. He owned about two hundred and fifty acres of land all yet in possession of the family. In politics he was a strong republican and was a highly respected citizen. He held membership in the Second Congregational church and his life in harmony with his professions made him a citizen of value and a gentleman of genuine personal worth. His wife was born in Lobo, Canada, in October, 1822, and was of Scotch lineage. She came with relatives to this county and here gave her hand in marriage to Richard S. Stiles, in 1846. She then went with him to the home farm and resided thereon until her death, January 4, 1889. She, too, was a member of the Second Congregational church and she was survived by her husband for about one and a half years, his death occurring on the 2d of September, 1890.

They were the parents of five children: John A. is the eldest. Lucy A. is now residing in Tennessee. Richard L. was formerly engaged in the milk business but is now carrying on general farming in Tennessee. Luther A., of Rockford, is connected with the City Railway Company. He was married, February 21, 1884, to Miss Clara Cole, who came from Pennsylvania to Illinois. They have two living children, Charles R., born February 21, 1885; and Helen A., born August 21, 1886. The mother died April 24, 1905. Amos D. Stiles owns a farm on section 19, which was once the old homestead. He married Donelda McGeachie on the 7th of April, 1892. She was born in Winnebago township and is a daughter of Peter McGeachie, who resided in the township. They have two children: Amos E., born December 10, 1893; and Ellen L., born September 4, 1896.

John A. Stiles has spent the greater part of his life in this county, being reared to the occupation of farming, and since 1900 has made his home on his present farm. He has lived, however, in Winnebago township since 1884 and is regarded as one of the enterprising agriculturists of his community, working industriously day after day in the management of his home place which annually produces good crops because of the care and cultivation which he bestows upon the fields.

On the 5th of June, 1884, Mr. Stiles was united in marriage to Miss Ella J. Hall, who was born in Prospect, New Haven county, Connecticut, March 26, 1858, and was brought to the west by her mother when only a few months old. She resided in Winnebago township until fifteen years of age and was educated in the public schools. Mr. and Mrs. Stiles have become the parents of two children: Clinton J., who was born April 26, 1885, and died May 14, 1887; and Loly B., born July 29, 1887, and now with her parents.

In his political allegiance Mr. Stiles is a republican. Socially he is connected with the Masonic fraternity, belonging to Star in the East lodge, A. F. & A. M., of Rockford, in which he has filled some of the chairs. Both he and his wife are members of the order of the Eastern Star and Mrs. Stiles has been worthy matron of Rockford chapter, No. 53, in which her sister Aena now holds that position. In the locality where they reside and in Rockford, as well, Mr. and Mrs. Stiles have many acquaintances who entertain for them warm regard and good will.

URIAH STOTT.

Uriah Stott, deceased, became a resident of Rockford in 1886. He was born in Uddersfield, Yorkshire, England, July 2, 1815. His parents always resided in that country, and both died there, the father having followed farming as a life work. Uriah Stott was educated in the common schools of England. In 1842 he sailed for America, hoping that he might have better business privileges and opportunities in the new world. He first settled in Cook county, Illinois, sixteen miles northwest of Chicago, and there he purchased a farm and also built a store, carrying on general merchandising. He learned the tailor's trade in his native land, and followed that pursuit in connection with his other business interests, frequently making clothes for his neighbors, who would do farm work for him in return. He remained in his store on the farm for several years, but afterward returned to England. In a short time, however, he again came to America and settled in Barrington, Illinois, where he established a general store. He dealt largely in cloth-

ing and groceries for several years, after which he gave that store to one of his sons and removed to Genoa, Illinois, where he established another general store. Later he gave that store to his other sons and removed to Rockford.

Mr. Stott was married first in England to Miss Elizabeth Thornton, who was born in that country March 1, 1814. Her parents spent their entire lives in England. While on a visit to Des Plaines, Illinois, Mrs. Stott was killed by being thrown from a buggy in a runaway in August, 1884. There were six children born of that marriage; William, who died in 1904; James, who is engaged in the real-estate business and is the present mayor of Genoa, Illinois; Joseph Uriah, an undertaker of Des Plaines, Illinois; Charles, who is now a merchant clerk in a grocery store in Chicago; Elizabeth Anne, who died at the age of thirteen years; and one that died unnamed in infancy.

Mr. Stott was again married on the 6th of June, 1886, in Rockford, his second union being with Mrs. Mary E. (Milner) Cowles, who was born in Yorkshire, England, September 5, 1836, her parents being Joseph and Ann (Peacock) Milner. Her father was a farmer of England and died in his native country, after which his widow came to America in 1849 and resided on a farm near Chicago with her brother. She then came to the home of her daughter, Mrs. Stott, and died in 1892. Mary E. Milner was first married to Daniel Cowles, who was born in the Isle of Man in 1836. They came to Rockford at an early date, and her husband engaged in blacksmithing here, being a reliable and trustworthy business man long connected with industrial interests in this city. He died June 22, 1882, in the home where his widow now resides. There was one child by that marriage, Joseph Daniel, who died in infancy. There were no children born to Mr. Stott by his second marriage.

After coming to Rockford he divided his property among his wife and children and afterward lived retired until his death, which occurred January 13, 1892. While in Cook county, Illinois, he held several political offices, and was always prompt and faithful in the discharge of his duties. Both he and Mr. Cowles were republicans in politics, and Mr. Stott took a very active and helpful interest in the work of his party. He was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in England, but never united with any fraternal organization in this country. Mr. Cowles, however, was a member of the Masonic lodge in Rockford. Mrs. Stott is a member of the Centennial Methodist Episcopal church here, to which both of her husbands also belonged. Her cousin, William Peacock, resides with her and is a retired farmer, who looks after the estate and farm in Cook county, Illinois. Mrs. Stott owns a beauti-

ful home at No. 405 East street, which was built by her and Mr. Cowles. She is well known in Rockford as a lady of many excellent traits of heart and mind, and her circle of friends is almost co-extensive with the circle of her acquaintance.

FAY LEWIS & BROTHERS COMPANY.

Fay C., Herbert and Harry Lewis are the three brothers who are at the head of the firm of Fay Lewis & Bros. Company, which was incorporated January 18, 1898, the business, however, having had a continuous existence from 1875, when it was established by Fay Lewis. The house is one of the best known in the tobacco trade and the reputation sustained by the firm is beyond reproach.

Deacon David Lewis, the grandfather, came from Massachusetts at an early day and settled in Black Walnut Grove, Winnebago county, Illinois. Later he conducted a starch factory in Rockford but it was eventually destroyed by fire. The family, however, thus early became identified with the business life of the city and has since figured prominently. Charles F. Lewis, the father, began business in Rockford in 1848 as a general merchant of the firm of Vaughn & Lewis. He was a native of Massachusetts and for many years was well known in connection with the commercial interests of the city. He married Miss Frances J. Wheelock, a daughter of Judge Wheelock, one of the early settlers of Ogle county, who in early life engaged in teaching school in Byron. She makes her home with her children.

The brothers were all born and schooled in Rockford, being products of the city schools here and they have fully sustained the reputation of the father and grandfather in connection with the trade interests of the city, contributing in substantial measure to the business development of Rockford. In 1875 Fay Lewis established a cigar and tobacco business and for sometime conducted the enterprise alone but was eventually joined by his brothers and in 1898 the business was incorporated under the present name of Fay Lewis & Bros. Company. They have three wholesale stores and eight retail, four being in Milwaukee, two in Rockford and two in La Crosse, Wisconsin. Their Roster includes more than a half hundred employes and they are represented on the road by about fifteen traveling salesmen, covering Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin. Their principal brands are the Tom Moore, La Azora, Optimo and Flor De Fay, ten cent cigars, and the Henry George, Little Tom, Masterpiece and Thomas Paine, five cent cigars. The Tom Moore, Flor De Fay, Optimo and La Azora are manu-

factured in about eighteen different sizes and the Flor De Fay is a private brand owned by the firm and is their leading clear Havana cigar. It was named for the senior member of the firm, Fay Lewis. The main store in Rockford is at Nos. 312-14 West State street, where they occupy two floors with the offices on the second floor and at Nos. 208-10 South Main street they have a second store, where they also conduct a billiard and poolroom. They have the largest cigar business in the state outside of Chicago, carry the finest line of goods and are the largest distributors of cigars in Illinois. Their business has long since reached extensive and profitable proportions but they confidently expect their sales will amount in the present year, 1905, to more than a million dollars.

Fay Lewis is prominent in the public interests of the city as well as in business life and has for many years been superintendent of the Winnebago County Branch of the Illinois Humane Society. In politics he is a utilitarian and maintains a close interest in every movement for the improvement of social and economic conditions.

FRED N. KNAPP.

Fred N. Knapp is the owner of a valuable farm of more than one hundred and seven acres lying on section 2, Burritt township and section 35, Harrison township, and he is known not only as a progressive agriculturist of the community but also as an active and helpful factor in public life and is now serving as commissioner of highways. His birth occurred in Harrison township, February 13, 1869, his parents being William M. and Lois (Ellis) Knapp. The father was born in Vermont, November 14, 1836, and when ten years of age was brought by his parents to this county. He was married on the 23d of January, 1864, to Mrs. Lois (Ellis) Conklin, who came to Winnebago county in 1846 and who was born in Canada, May 29, 1828. When the father arrived in this county in 1846 only a few farms had been developed, and one could drive for miles over the prairie without a fence to intercept his progress. For a long period he carried on general agricultural pursuits, but is now living a retired life among his children. His wife died at the home of their daughter in Shirland township April 23, 1905.

Fred N. Knapp, spending his boyhood days in his parents' home, acquired his education in the common schools, and afterward enjoyed the benefit of instruction in Rockford Business College. The occupation to which he was reared he has made his life work, and he now carries on general farming, having his place of one hundred and

seven acres under a high state of cultivation. The fields are well tilled, and he also has good stock upon his place and the farm is well equipped according to modern ideas.

Mr. Knapp was married November 14, 1880, to Miss Agnes J. Gilmore, who was born in Astoria, Long Island, New York, January 9, 1871, and during her infancy was brought to Illinois by her parents, Thomas and Margaret H. Gilmore. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Knapp have been born three sons: Thomas W., born November 23, 1891; Willis F., April 28, 1895; and Harley C., June 4, 1901. All were born in Harrison township.

Mr. Knapp exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the republican party. He has served as school director, and has been township collector for two terms, while at the present time he is occupying the position of commissioner of public highways. In the discharge of his duties he is ever prompt and faithful, and his ability well qualifies him for the interests entrusted to his care. For fourteen years he has been a member of Harrison camp, No. 684, M. W. A., and his wife is a member of the Congregational church.

JOHN FALLON.

John Fallon, in whom the public reposes confidence, as is indicated by his incumbency in the office of assessor in Cherry Valley township, has for half a century resided in Winnebago county, arriving here in April, 1855, after traveling westward from Steuben county, New York. He was born in Goshen, Orange county, New York, in 1845, his parents being Patrick and Bridget (Turley) Fallon, both of whom were natives of County Roscommon, Ireland, and came to the United States in early life. The father first located in Massachusetts, while the mother took up her abode in Orange county, New York. It was in the latter locality that they became acquainted and were married, and during their residence there Patrick Fallon followed railroading. His wife died in Corning, New York, and her remains were interred at Painted Post, in that state. He afterward removed to the west, reaching Winnebago county in March, 1855, about a month before the arrival of his son John and the other members of the family. He purchased a farm, now owned and occupied by John Fallon, and made his home thereon from 1861 until his death, which occurred on the 12th of February, 1893, when he was about eighty-one years of age. He followed general agricultural pursuits throughout his entire life, and the term, "dignity of labor," found exemplification in his record. In his family were

two sons and a daughter: John, of this review; Sarah, who died in 1867, at the age of twenty-five years; and Joseph, who is residing in Chicago, where he has been a member of the police force for over twenty-two years. For the past eight years he has been sergeant of patrol at the Warren-avenue station.

John Fallon was reared in Orange county, New York, and attended school there in his boyhood days. As before stated, he arrived in Winnebago county in April, 1855, and he has always followed farming, being now the owner of one hundred acres of land which his father purchased many years ago. This is a well improved property, indicating the careful supervision of the owner, who is practical in all of his methods and conducts his farm along progressive lines. He left the plow at the time of the Civil war, however, enlisting in this county as a member of the Eighteenth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, which was assigned to the Third Division of the Fifteenth Army Corps. He also spent some time with the Army of the Tennessee, and participated in the battle of Shiloh and in many other important engagements, but was never seriously injured. His first enlistment was in January, 1862, and he afterward re-enlisted in the same company and regiment, remaining with that command until mustered out after the close of the war, on the 18th of July, 1865, at the time his command was with the western army. He enlisted as a private and was sergeant at the close of the war.

Mr. Fallon returned to his home when the country no longer needed his aid, and resumed farming. He was married here to Bridget Dolan, a native of County Galway, Ireland, and a daughter of Michael and Mary (Dond) Dolan, who came to Massachusetts in 1854, and remained at Boston for a few months, after which they continued their journey westward to Winnebago county, arriving here in 1855. They settled in Cherry Valley township, where the father carried on agricultural pursuits, but both he and his wife are now deceased, the former having died in September, 1898, when seventy-one years of age, while the latter departed this life in 1893, at the age of seventy years. Mrs. Fallon has three brothers and two sisters living: Patrick, who is a farmer of Cherry Valley township; Thomas and James, who are following farming in the same township; Evaline, who resides upon the old farm homestead, and Mrs. Anna McMahan, of Rockford.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Fallon has been blessed with thirteen children, ten of whom are living: William P., now deceased, was a soldier of Company K, Third Illinois Infantry, enlisting at the outbreak of the Spanish-American war. With his command he went to Porto Rico, where he remained until the close of hostilities,



MR. AND MRS. JOHN FALLON.

but he contracted fever which terminated his life in the Presbyterian hospital of Chicago on the 29th of December, 1898. Sarah died in childhood. Mary is the wife of David Lynch, a resident of Rockford. Nellie is the wife of Thomas Haley, of Cherry Valley, and they have three children, John, Lucile and Francis. Michael, who served in the Philippines as a member of Company K, Thirty-fifth United States Volunteer Infantry, is now farming in Cherry Valley township. Joseph is at home. Catharine and Elizabeth, twins, are at home. Julia, John, Thomas and Alice are yet with their parents. Francis died at the age of six months.

Mr. Fallon has always been an advocate of republican principles, and for more than twenty years has served as school director. He belongs to Nevius post, No. 1, G. A. R., and to the Knights of Columbus, at Rockford, and he likewise has membership relations with St. James' Catholic church. In all matters of citizenship he is as devoted to the welfare of his country as when he wore the blue uniform and followed the starry banner of the nation on the battle-fields of the south.

JOHN M. FRALEY.

John M. Fraley, a retired druggist and a veteran of the Civil war, making his home at No. 118 North First street in Rockford, is a native son of Illinois, his birth having occurred in Mercer county, April 17, 1842. His parents were John and Martha (Shields) Fraley. The father was a native of Switzerland, born in 1817, and when a young man came to this country. Here he was married to Miss Shields, a native of Virginia, whose grandfather had come to the new world from the northern part of Ireland. He was Richard Shields, who crossed the Atlantic during the period of the Revolutionary war, and his son was John Shields, father of Mrs. Fraley. John Fraley, Sr., came from Switzerland by driving six hundred miles across France to Havre de Grace, where he took passage on a sailing vessel that was thirteen weeks in reaching the harbor of New Orleans. He then made his way up the Mississippi river to Kentucky and later went to Indiana. He was a tailor by trade and in 1848 he made his way from the Hoosier state to Winnebago county, where he spent his remaining days as a resident of Rockford. His first wife died during the early boyhood of her son John A., leaving beside a daughter, now Mrs. Martha Woodruff. The father afterward married again, his second union being with Naomi Willetts, who died in 1896, while his death occurred in 1894.

John M. Fraley, educated in the schools of Rockford and spending his boyhood days in the

usual manner of lads of that period, remained at home until after the outbreak of the Civil war, when on the 6th of August, 1862, he offered his services to the government and became one of the boys in blue of Company K, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry, with which he served for three years. He was a loyal soldier, displaying valor upon the fields of battle and when the war was over he was honorably discharged and returned to his home. He then began learning the drug business and after remaining in the employ of others for sometime he embarked in business on his own account, successfully conducting his store for many years and becoming recognized as one of the leading merchants of the city. Eventually he sold out and was with the Utter Manufacturing Company until 1898, when he retired from business. He now owns the home where he resides at No. 118 North First street and is enjoying a well earned rest, having for many years figured prominently in business circles of the city.

In 1866 Mr. Fraley was united in marriage to Miss Mary Utter, who was born in Warsaw, New York, in 1844, and was a daughter of Isaac and Eliza (Smith) Utter. Her father was one of the most prominent representatives of industrial interests in Rockford for many years. Mr. and Mrs. Fraley have lost three children. He belongs to Nevius Post, No. 1, G. A. R., in which he has long been an active and helpful member, and he likewise holds membership relations with the Masonic fraternity and the Royal Arcanum. He has in his possession a Confederate almanac published in 1862, few of the kind being now in existence, and he also has an old map of the United States showing the length of railroads, canals, rivers, post routes and wagon roads. He and his wife attend the First Congregational church and are highly esteemed by many friends because of their genuine worth, the hospitality of the best homes of Rockford being cordially extended to them.

WILLIAM A. ROTHWELL.

William A. Rothwell, following farming on section 32, New Milford township, was born in Marion township, Ogle county, Illinois, February 19, 1838, his parents being Robert and Susan (Andrus) Rothwell, who came to Winnebago county in March, 1837. Few settlers had at that time sought homes within the borders of this county. Mr. and Mrs. Rothwell took up their abode on a farm in Ogle county, but about 1843 returned to Winnebago county, settling on section 32, New Milford township, not far from the farm upon which William A. Rothwell now resides. The father was a native of Manchester, England, and in his active business life displayed many of

the strong and sterling characteristics of his English ancestry. His boyhood and youth were passed in his native country and in early manhood he crossed the Atlantic, arriving in Massachusetts in 1820. There he followed his trade of calico printing and for five years remained in the Old Bay State, after which he spent a similar period in Ohio and then came west to Illinois. He was an active church man, being at one time a local minister of the Wesleyan Methodist denomination. He was also a staunch abolitionist and prior to the Civil war his home was a station on the celebrated underground railroad, whereby he assisted many a fugitive negro to proceed northward on his way to freedom. In his fraternal relations Mr. Rothwell was an Odd Fellow and his life manifested many humanitarian traits, his good service to his fellowmen being greatly appreciated. He died June 14, 1884, at the advanced age of eighty-one years and twelve days. He married Susan Andrus, who died June 17, 1882, at the age of eighty-five years, six months and four days. She was born in Berkley, Massachusetts, and was a daughter of the Rev. Thomas Andrus, who for forty-six consecutive years was pastor of the church there, and later served for several years intermittently.

He was among the first to enter the Continental Army during the Revolutionary war, serving from 1775 to 1781, when he was captured by an English frigate and imprisoned on the old Jersey prison ship in New York harbor. This was prior to his entering the ministry. It was at Berkley, Massachusetts, that Mrs. Rothwell spent her girlhood days and was married. There were but two sons in the family, Thomas dying at the age of four years.

The other son, William Rothwell, was one of the first three white children born in this section of Illinois and he has spent most of his active business life here, devoting many years to bridge building. At the time of the Civil war he espoused the Union cause, enlisting in 1862 as a member of Company K, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry. He served for almost three years and participated in more than thirty battles and engagements in which his regiment took part. He was twice slightly wounded and was mustered out on the 27th of June, 1865, having been a loyal and devoted advocate of the Union cause.

When the war was over Mr. Rothwell returned home and resumed farming. He had been married in 1858 to Miss Nancy A. Bartleman, who was born September 1, 1838, near Prescott, Canada, and left there when sixteen years of age, coming with the family to Winnebago county. She was a daughter of George and Jennie (Kirkwood) Bartleman, the former born near Edinburg and the latter in Glasgow, Scotland. They came to Canada as children and were married there. Both

died in the West, the mother departing this life at Lawrence, Kansas. Mrs. Rothwell has a brother and sister living: Benjamin, who makes his home in Estherville, Iowa; and Anna Lyon, of Chicago. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Rothwell was blessed with a daughter and son: Mrs. George Stevens, and Lester Robert, who is operating the home farm.

Mr. Rothwell exercises his right of franchise in support of republican principles and the men who stand for the party as its candidates. He has served for eight years as supervisor and also as justice of the peace and his political duties have been discharged in prompt and able manner. His wife is a member of the Wesleyan church. Both Mr. and Mrs. Rothwell enjoy the warm regard of many friends and are widely known in this county.

ADONIRAN J. SWEZEY.

The broad prairies of Illinois furnish splendid opportunity to the horticulturist as well as the agriculturist and Mr. Swezey is numbered among the citizens of Winnebago county who have successfully engaged in the raising of fruit. His attention is largely given to this industry at the present time, his home being on section 16, Guilford township. He was born in Harmony, Chautauqua county, New York, February 22, 1836. His grandfather, Daniel Swezey, was a native of Suffolk county, Long Island, New York, his natal day being in June, 1753. He was a son of Christopher Swezey and a grandson of Stephen Swezey, who was one of six brothers living in Swezeytown, Suffolk county, Long Island. Stephen Swezey spent his entire life there, as did also Christopher Swezey, and Daniel Swezey was there reared and married. He, however, left the old homestead and sought his fortune elsewhere, going in 1796 to Norway, Herkimer county, New York, where he purchased four hundred acres of land, on which he erected a log cabin, later giving his attention to the cultivation and improvement of his farm. The date of his birth was December 25, 1778, and he was therefore eighteen years of age when he became a resident of Herkimer county, where he continued to make his home until 1836. In that year he removed to Chautauqua county, where he purchased a tract of land, upon which he spent his remaining days. He married Miss Clarissa Sperry, who was born in New Haven, Connecticut, September 15, 1780, and was descended from an old colonial family of English origin founded in Massachusetts in 1635.

Darius A. Swezey, father of our subject, was born in the town of Russia, Herkimer county, New York, August 15, 1808, and in 1833 went



A. J. SWEZEY.

to Chautauqua county, settling there among its pioneer residents. The western part of the state was at that time little improved and he purchased a tract of timber land, on which he erected a substantial log cabin—the home in which A. J. Swezey first opened his eyes to the light of day. There the father carried on agricultural pursuits until 1845, when he removed to Erie county, Pennsylvania, where he purchased land, residing thereon until 1851. That year witnessed his arrival in Winnebago county, Illinois, and he purchased the land upon which our subject now resides, making it his place of residence until he was called to his final home. He married Miss Esther Brooks, who was born in Cortland county, New York, September 30, 1815, and was a daughter of James and Rhoda Brooks. Her father's birth occurred near Marlboro, Berkshire county, Massachusetts, and when a young man he went to New York, residing in Cortland county until 1827, when he removed to Chautauqua county, where he lived until 1854. In that year he sold his property in the Empire state and took up his abode in Erie county, Pennsylvania, where he spent his declining years. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Darius Swezey were six children, one of whom, Edward, enlisted for service in the Civil war as a member of the Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry. He was afterwards transferred to the One Hundred and Thirty-fourth Regiment of Illinois Volunteers and died nine days after being discharged.

A. J. Swezey acquired his early education in the public schools of Chautauqua county, New York, and Erie, Pennsylvania, and later pursued a more advanced course at Waterford Academy in Pennsylvania and the National Normal School at Lebanon, Ohio. When a young man he began teaching and followed that profession up to the time of his marriage. During the latter part of his connection with that work he occupied the chair of languages and literature in Elgin Academy, but on his marriage he resigned his position and settled on the old home farm in Guilford township. He then began its further development and improvement and for a number of years engaged in the cultivation of the cereals best adapted to the soil and climate, but in recent years he has given his attention largely to horticultural pursuits, raising each year large amounts of fruit, for which he finds a ready sale on the market.

In 1866 Mr. Swezey was married to Miss Malinda Bruner, who was born in Canada and is a daughter of Philip Bruner. Mr. and Mrs. Swezey are members of the State Street Baptist church of Rockford. He was formerly identified with Grange No. 6 and for three years he managed a store in the interest of the Grange. He has

been a strong advocate of temperance principles through many years and since 1884 has affiliated with the prohibition party. In 1889 he was candidate of that party for state legislature and ran two thousand votes ahead of his ticket. Mr. Swezey is a public-spirited and progressive citizen, prominent and influential, and has the regard of all with whom he comes in contact. For the past twenty years he has been secretary of the Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company of Guilford, of which successful institution Robert Simpson is the president and R. B. Shumway is treasurer.

Four children were born unto Mr. and Mrs. Swezey. Esther Mary, the eldest, is the wife of Dr. Robert E. Coy, of Rockford, and they have an infant daughter, Isabella. Professor Otto H. Swezey was graduated from Lake Forest University with the degree of Bachelor of Arts and the Northwestern University at Evanston with the degree of Master of Sciences. He has taught at Evanston and in the State University of Ohio at Columbus and is now professor of entomology and biology at the experimental station of the Hawaiian Sugar Planters' Association at Honolulu. He married Miss Mary Walsh, a teacher in the Cleveland (Ohio) schools and formerly an instructor in Evanston, Illinois. They now reside in Honolulu. Mrs. Otto Swezey possesses much artistic talent, and draws many of the cuts of the insects handled by her husband. Royal E. Swezey is at home. Anna, who completes the family, is a graduate of the cooking school of Battle Creek, Michigan, and is now superintendent of the culinary department of the sanitarium at Madison, Wisconsin.

ELISIA C. DUNN.

In the line of history, science and religion, this gentleman possesses an inexhaustible fund of information, and as a lecturer has won a national fame. He has a practical knowledge of every country, its people, politics and religion, and has been a thorough student of languages, speaking several different tongues with fluency. A man of fine physique with military carriage and genial face, he has a welcome grasp of the hand for his many friends and is most companionable. Of recent years, he has given special attention to the study of the sagacity of the lower animals, particularly the horse and dog, and not long since edited a remarkable work, published by a Boston firm, entitled the "Sagacity of Dogs." The volume is beautifully illustrated and is so arranged with attractive stories as to be a most popular juvenile work.

Now retired from the active duties of life, Dr. Dunn resides in his palatial home at No. 800 West State street. This residence, which was erected by an architect from New York, is of an oriental design of architecture externally, with an interior Queen Anne finish, and is a model of elegance, fitted with the most complete modern improvements, such as steam heating, gas and water accommodations. The parlor is finished in ebony and gold, and is furnished with light through double French plate glass windows. The octagon dining room is finished in walnut and cherry, and the windows are of opalized glass, while the other rooms contain all of the conveniences desirable. The residence is a delightful combination of comfort and magnificence and is an important addition to the architectural beauty of the Forest City.

The Doctor has made his home in Rockford since 1863, although many of the intermediate years have been spent either in the lecture field or in travel. He has lectured on scientific and political subjects, and on the human anatomy and diseases and has addressed audiences as small as twelve people (in Saugatuck, Michigan) and as large as five thousand people (in Prince Albert's Hall, London, England). He often relates in a bright and interesting manner stories of his travels, which have extended into every habitable country of the globe, except in the Arctic regions, and he has lectured in most of the large cities of the world. While abroad he collected gems and precious stones, some of which, worth at least nine thousand dollars, were destroyed in a museum in the great fire at Chicago. He has come in contact with many of the greatest minds of the world, and numbers among his friends many of the leading men of different kingdoms.

In social organizations the Doctor has for years been very prominent. He is an aide-de-camp of the supreme commander, General Carnabin, of the Knights of Pythias, and meets with the order in their state and national conventions. He is also a Knight Templar, belonging to Crusader commandery, No. 17, and is well known to the members of the state and national lodges. In the Independent Order of Odd Fellows he takes an equal interest and is a member of the encampment at Rockford.

While visiting in Palestine with the intention of collecting material to assist him in his lectures against religion he became thoroughly convinced of the divinity of the life of Christ, and has since been a consistent and faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He advocates prohibition principles and has never drunk liquors or used tobacco in any form. In his political belief he adheres to the principles of the republican party and takes the stump in its behalf whenever necessary.

When seventeen years old and a wild, reckless lad, our subject was taken into the home of Dr. Peebles, whom he calls his benefactor, and was given a thorough education, being a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania. He remembers his benefactor with an affection which will last as long as life itself, for he owes him a debt of gratitude which naught can efface. He was young when he began to study medicine, and soon afterward was able to support himself, although he was associated and traveled with Dr. Peebles for fifteen years. Although a native of New York, he spent only a few years of his life there, and he has resided in Illinois during the most of his life.

In Marshall, Michigan, the Doctor was united in marriage with Miss Carrie Etts, a native of the Empire state and a member of a worthy family. Early in life she displayed great ability as an artist and in later years executed some very fine pieces, which in style and coloring are far superior to the work of amateurs. Her work has received the commendation of the best artists, and her last effort, "Pythias Before the Block," a painting six feet by four and six inches, is valued at more than one thousand dollars. She devoted much time to her artistic studies and was a lady of dignity of presence and noble character. She died in May, 1893, and was buried in the West Side cemetery. Dr. and Mrs. Dunn were the parents of two children: Aeola, wife of Richard Hamlyn, who resides in Rockford, where her husband is a member of the firm of Hamlyn & Biggam in the meat-market business; and James, who married Emma Paterson and resides in Rockford.

Dr. Dunn is a man of sterling worth, possessing those characteristics so essential not only to genius, but to chivalrous American manhood, and he is honored and respected by all who know him. He has been an important factor in the intellectual, artistic and material development of his adopted city and no history of Rockford and Winnebago county would be complete without exclusive mention of this genial gentleman. For two years he served as alderman of the fourth ward, and is now superintendent of parks.

ISAAC UTTER.

Isaac Utter, who died on the 7th of May, 1881, was a pioneer settler of Rockford, whose activity contributed in substantial measure to the upbuilding of the city through many years, and hardly an enterprise of importance had been established here in which he was not financially interested or to whose success he had attributed by his wise business counsel and co-operation. He was born in Eaton, Madison county,

New York, January 17, 1809, and resided there until 1837, when he removed to Angelica, New York, which remained his place of residence until 1840. He then took up his abode in Warsaw, Wyoming county, New York, where he built a woolen mill and was engaged in the business of manufacturing cloth until 1850. During the succeeding two years he was not actively connected with business enterprises, but in 1852 he came to Rockford and from that time until his death was a most valued factor in industrial and commercial circles of this city.

Here he first formed a partnership with Orlando Clarke in Rockford Iron Works and they continued in business for years, conducting a foundry and machine shop. The partnership was maintained until 1876, at which time Mr. Clarke withdrew and the Utter Manufacturing Company was formed. In the meantime Mr. Utter had become interested in other business enterprises. In 1865, associated with Levi Rhodes and his son, Charles M. Utter, he built the Rockford Paper Mills and in the spring of 1866 began the manufacture of paper, the plant being successfully and continuously conducted since that time. During his business career he invested in various Rockford enterprises. He was one of the original stockholders in the watch factory, a stockholder in the tuck factory and in the People's Bank, and in the last two was a director. He was also a stockholder in the Second National and the Winnebago banks, in the silver-plate works and was president of the Utter Manufacturing Company. At his death he left an estate valued at about one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, which was equally divided among his wife and children. He owned about thirty-seven acres of land north of the old camp grounds, which was a valuable tract, and he also had a farm in Iowa and a comfortable home on South Winnebago street. He was an enthusiast in anything pertaining to machinery and was always at work over some device. He invented a number of implements in connection with his manufactory, although he never attempted to secure a patent on these.

His was a business record which any man might be proud to possess, as it awakened the admiration and respect of his contemporaries, who knew him to be a man of unflinching honor and unflinching integrity. Mr. Rhodes, so long his partner, said of him: "He was a good man, upright and sincere. I could not ask a better partner. For twenty-three years we were associated in the paper mill and in all that time there was never a word of difference or a misunderstanding or any antagonism as to the plans and details of the business." One of his most marked and commendable characteristics was his deep interest in the success of other business men, and he generously gave counsel and often financial as-

sistance to those who became factors in Rockford's business circles. When those prominent in business for many years passed away Mr. Utter regarded it as a personal loss, for he entertained the warmest esteem and friendship for those with whom he was so long associated.

On the 14th of January, 1832, Mr. Utter was married to Miss Eliza Smith, who was born in 1810 and who died October 28, 1871. They became the parents of six children, of whom four are now living: Mrs. W. E. S. Trowbridge, who resides at Downers Grove, Illinois; Horace B., a resident of Danville, this state; Mary E., the wife of John M. Fraley, of Rockford, and Fidello L., also living in Rockford. On the 18th of January, 1873, Mr. Utter was again married, his second union being with Miss Lydia Rush, a native of Pennsylvania, who still survives him, and is a most estimable lady, whose devotion to her husband made his last years filled with comfort and happiness.

He lived beyond man's allotted time and death came to him as one "who wraps the drapery of his couch about him and lies down to pleasant sleep." His was an unassuming, straightforward, honest nature, and he was a man who believed in doing all things well. He worked earnestly, yet unostentatiously, for the welfare of Rockford and without invidious distinction could well be called one of her foremost men. He commanded the warmest reverence and affection of his children, to whom he was ever loyally devoted, and he was altogether worthy and honorable in every relation of life, so that his memory is cherished by those who knew him and who came within the circle of his business acquaintance, his friendship or his home life.

HON. CHARLES E. JACKSON.

Hon. Charles E. Jackson is essentially a typical representative of the middle west, alert and enterprising. His labors into whatever channels directed are resultant factors in accomplishing the end desired, and in business and political circles in his community he is prominent, his popularity being well deserved, for in him are embraced the characteristics of an unbending integrity, unabating industry and energy that never flags. As chief executive of Rockford he is to-day giving to the city an administration in which are combined the qualities of the successful business man, whose efforts are permeated by public-spirited citizenship and a sincere and earnest desire for the general welfare.

Charles E. Jackson was born upon a farm in Boone county, Illinois, about four miles from Belvidere, on the 30th of November, 1867, but when he was only four months old his parents removed

to Rockford, where he has since made his home. His education was that afforded by the public schools of this city and its practical, thorough training well equipped him for the duties of life that came when his text books were put aside. He entered upon his business career as a salesman in a retail clothing store and after becoming familiar with methods of merchandizing he went upon the road as traveling salesman, giving efficient service in that capacity for several years. Naturally ambitious to enter upon an independent business career that his labors might more directly benefit himself, he established the wholesale portrait and frame business in 1801 that he has successfully conducted from that time to the present, his sales extending to every state in the Union and into foreign countries. He has wrought along modern business lines and has wrested success from the hands of fate. Belonging to that class of typical American men whose business labors result in public benefit as well as individual success, he has exerted his influence strongly and beneficially to promote the commercial supremacy of Rockford, and his effective work led to his selection for the presidency of the East State Street Business Men's Association.

His marked qualities of leadership in that regard caused him to be mentioned as a candidate for alderman in his home ward and to that position he was elected. A contemporary publication said: "In his new office he surprised his best friends by his temperate demeanor in debate, his uniform courtesy toward his colleagues and the clear-cut manner in which he cared for the interests of the people. During the two years' service as alderman he became the central figure of a movement to modify the existing ward lines of the city so that all the voters could be equally represented in the council. The successful termination of that movement made him the logical candidate of a majority of his fellow citizens for the mayoralty, and his support was even more greatly increased as election day drew near." Chosen to the highest office within the gift of his fellow townsmen, he entered upon the discharge of his duties with a determination to make Rockford better through progress in material lines and through methods of reform and upbuilding. The same energy, close application and keen discrimination which constituted the basis of his business success are now manifest in the exercise of his official prerogatives, and already Rockford has felt the stimulus of his efforts and public sentiment has been aroused in favor of practical, progressive movements. Quoting from the same source from which the previous extract was taken, we add: "If Mr. Jackson has ambitions of a political nature other than those which make for good city government, he has not disclosed

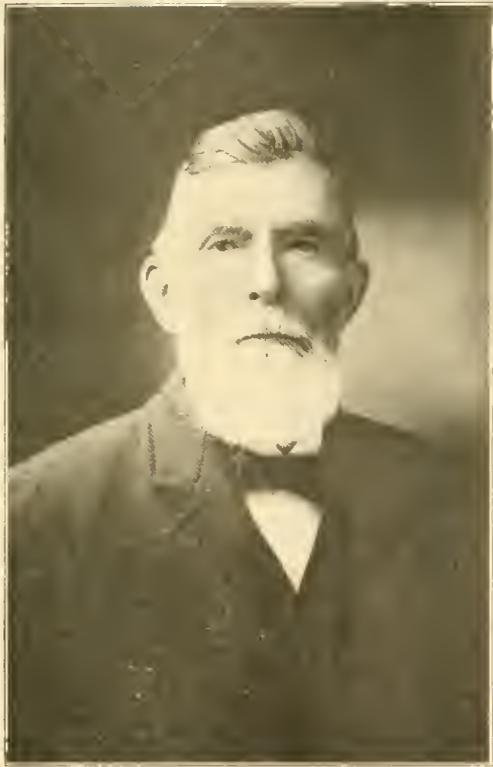
them even to his closest friends, and the belief obtains that his foremost aim is to see the best interests of Rockford developed along broad, peaceful and permanent lines."

In 1898 Mr. Jackson was married to Miss Nellie L. Brown, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Brown, of this city, and their position in social circles is assured wherever culture and intelligence are received as the passports into good society. His fraternal relations are with the Royal Arcanum, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and he is thoroughly in sympathy with the basic elements of these organizations. Mr. Jackson is yet a young man and there has been nothing startling in his history, yet he is a citizen of whom Rockford has reason to be proud. The advantages which he has enjoyed along educational and business lines were those which the city afforded and he has found ample opportunity in its conditions and possibilities for the exercise of native talents which have made him a strong and successful business man and a reliable official.

MINER CLIKEMAN.

Miner Clikeman, a retired farmer living on Kilborn avenue, in Rockford, was for many years closely associated with agricultural interests in Winnebago county and in his life displayed the many sterling characteristics of his German ancestry. His paternal grandfather, Lawrence Clikeman, came to America from Germany, in 1776, in the employ of the British army and during the war was taken prisoner. On being liberated he announced his allegiance to the United States, becoming a citizen of the new republic. His son, Peter Clikeman, was born August 27, 1798, in Albany county, New York, and was a farmer throughout his entire business career. He earned a living for himself and family in the early days among the hills and rocks of his native county. Having arrived at years of maturity he wedded Jane Hilligass, who was also a native of that county, born June 21, 1798. They became the parents of five sons and four daughters: Mary Ann, born January 9, 1824; Magdaline, born October 5, 1826; John F., born December 10, 1828; Hannah, February 25, 1830; Miner; Eliza, March 18, 1834; Seneca, November 8, 1836; Jacob, January 30, 1838; and Peter H., February 26, 1840. The father's death occurred April 15, 1875, and the mother passed away February 26, 1840.

Miner Clikeman was born February 26, 1832, upon his father's farm about twelve miles from Wright, in Schoharie county, New York, and pursued his education in the subscription schools.



MR. AND MRS. MINER CLIKEMAN.

He spent his youth and early manhood in the east and came first to Winnebago county, Illinois, in 1857, but at that time remained for only about six months. He then returned to the Empire state and in 1861 he again spent six or eight months in this county. In 1862 he brought his family and made a permanent location in Winnebago county, taking up his abode in Owen township, where he worked at carpentering, being engaged in the building of houses and barns for some time. In March, 1868, he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of raw prairie land, which he at once broke and upon the plowed ground scattered the seed that in due time brought forth good harvests. He also further improved his place by the erection of a house and barn and the planting of trees. He planted two orchards upon his place and his son Charles is now setting out the third one. In the '70s he bought another tract of land of one hundred and forty acres so that his farm now comprises two hundred and sixty acres, all of which is well improved, constituting one of the best properties of the township. While carrying on agricultural pursuits Mr. Clikeman also worked at his trade in different states and many evidences of his handiwork are seen in Winnebago county.

In 1852 Mr. Clikeman was married to Miss Ann Elizabeth Allen, a daughter of William and Elizabeth (Angle) Allen. Her father was a carpenter by trade and provided for his family by following the builder's art. He spent his entire life in the Empire state and died in Bern, Albany county, New York, where his birth had occurred eighty-two years before. His wife passed away June 29, 1879, at the age of sixty-two years and ten months. In their family were seven children: Ann Elizabeth, born June 24, 1832; Margaret; Richard; Liddy S.; Joseph; Everett; and Isaac M. Mr. and Mrs. Clikeman were married in Bern, Albany county, New York, June 4, 1852, and became the parents of seven children, five of whom are natives of the Empire state, while the other two were born in Winnebago county. Charles, born December 12, 1853, wedded Mary Cundiff and they have four children, their home being on the old farm belonging to his father. Sidney D., living in Jackson county, Minnesota, was born March 2, 1855, and married Miss Hattie Oliver, by whom he has five children. Austin, who was born September 25, 1856, and lived at Greene, Butler county, Iowa, married Julia Carpenter and has one child. Verna, born June 30, 1858, is a resident of Rockford. Laura, born February 15, 1860, died on the 21st of the same month. Adela, who was born October 9, 1864, died February 23, 1870. William C., born April 23, 1868, married Bird Sheley and is a barber of Chicago.

After many years' connection with agricultural pursuits Mr. Clikeman retired from business life and is now enjoying a well earned rest in Rockford. He has served as school director for twelve years and has always been interested in the cause of education, exercising his official prerogatives to advance the standard of the schools. His political allegiance has been given to the republican party since age gave to him the right of franchise. He has led a very busy life and his own labor has been the basis of his success. In an analyzation of his character we find that the strong elements are persistent purpose and a thorough mastery of whatever duty has devolved upon him.

JAMES A. GIBSON.

The home farm of James A. Gibson is a well-improved property of two hundred acres on section 32, Rockford township, and in addition to this he owns a tract of timber and pasture land of one hundred and five acres. His activity in business affairs is well known to those who are at all acquainted with his life record and it is typical of his Scotch ancestry, from whom he inherited an industrious and enterprising disposition. A native of the land of hills and heather, he was born in Kirkcudbrightshire, Scotland, February 5, 1856, his parents being Samuel and Margaret (Adamson) Gibson, who in 1860 came to America and located in White Rock township, Ogle county, Illinois. Both have now passed away, the father in 1901 and the mother in 1881. James A. Gibson has three brothers and two sisters, who are yet living: John and Robert, who resided upon parts of the old homestead; and Samuel, who resides at Kings, Ogle county, where he operates the elevator and is also the owner of farming lands in that county and in South Dakota; Jane, the wife of H. B. Hazelton, of Carroll county, Iowa; and Agnes, the wife of W. C. Prill, of Glidden, Iowa, now retired.

James A. Gibson was only four years old when brought by his parents to Illinois, and was reared in Ogle county, where he remained until about twenty-five years of age. He has since lived in Winnebago county, spending eight years in the Scotch settlement near Argyle, where he took up his abode in the spring of 1885. He afterward lived for nine years in Cherry Valley township, renting a farm owned by John Schmauss, and in the fall of 1901 he purchased his present farm, which is one of the old settled districts of the county. On it stands one of the most picturesque farm houses of this part of the state and Mr. Gibson has made improvements there to the value of more than four thousand dollars. He keeps

the place in excellent condition, carrying on general agricultural pursuits and stock raising, his specialty being shorthorn full-blooded and high-grade cattle, of which he now has one hundred and seven head. He also raises Poland China hogs, of which he has about fifty head. An excellent judge of stock, he always makes his purchases carefully and thus realizes considerable on his sales.

The home place is known as the old Leach farm and is one of the most attractive of Rockford township. Not only is the greater part of the home place of two hundred acres under a high state of cultivation, but in addition to this he has one hundred and five acres partially covered with timber, while the remainder is good pasture land, affording excellent grazing ground for his stock.

On the 14th of April, 1886, Mr. Gibson was united in marriage to Miss Mary, daughter of James and Ann (Gilechrist) Fleming. She was born in Glasgow, Scotland, February 10, 1850, and was brought to America when twelve years of age, locating with her people at Argyle, Winnebago county. Eight children have been born of this union, all natives of Winnebago county: James Arthur, born October 1, 1888; Anna Isabella, born August 25, 1890; Samuel Lester, born October 31, 1891; Margaret Alveda, born September 5, 1893; William Ernest, born June 9, 1897; Mary Mildred, born December 13, 1898; and two who died in infancy.

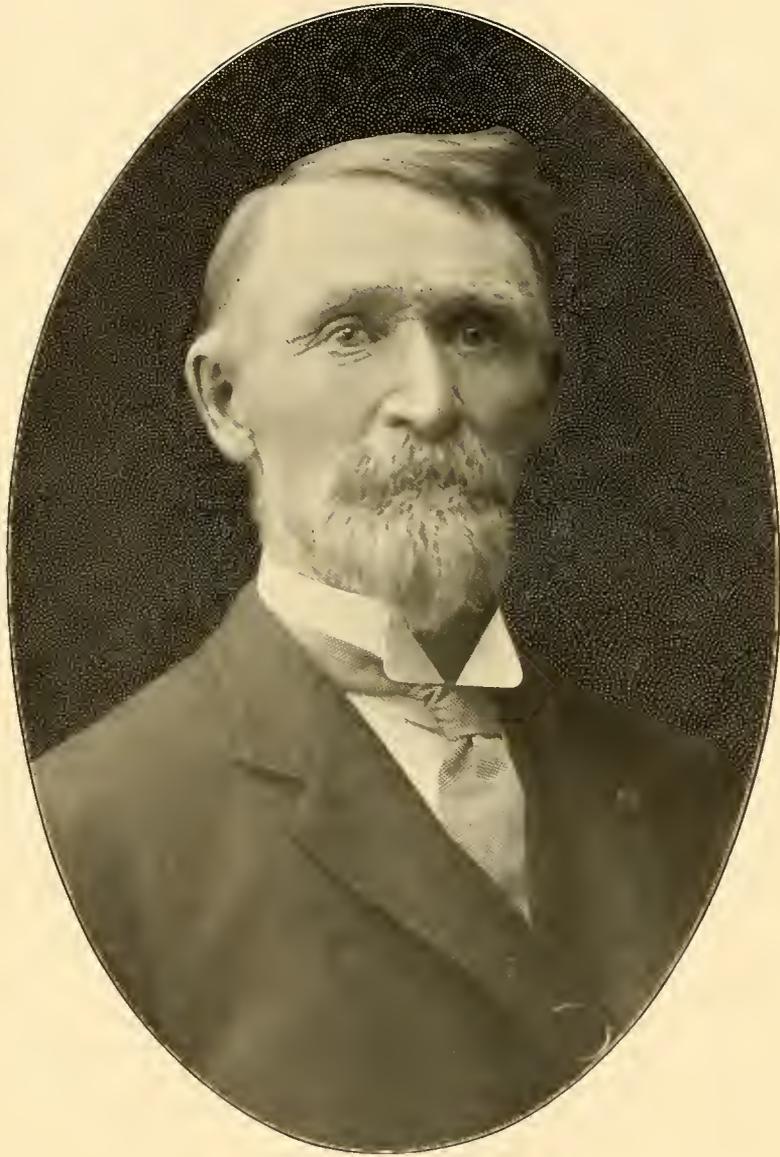
Fraternally Mr. Gibson is connected with the Knights of the Globe, with the Modern Woodmen camp of Cherry Valley and the Mystic Workers, and his wife is a member of the Presbyterian church. Since age gave him the right of franchise he has been a stalwart republican, never faltering in his allegiance to the party, but he has no time nor desire for public office, his interests being centered upon his business affairs whereby he is enabled to provide a comfortable home for his family. In the county where almost his entire life has been passed he is well known as a worthy citizen and reliable business man.

THOMAS G. LEVINGS.

Thomas G. Levings, who follows farming just west of the city limits of Rockford, and in the application of his energies to the development of the natural resources of the state has won gratifying prosperity, was born in Sherman, Connecticut, in April, 1842, his parents being Peter R. and Anna (Nunn) Levings, both of whom are now deceased. The father came to Winnebago county, in September, 1842, and located in Winnebago township on the boundary line of Rockford township. There he entered a claim upon which not a furrow had been turned

nor an improvement made, but his labors resulted in the development of a good farm upon which he resided until, retiring from active business life, he took up his abode in South Rockford, in April, 1870. There he spent twelve years in the enjoyment of a well earned rest before he was called to the home beyond, his death occurring in Rockford, in 1882, when he was eighty-two years of age. From the organization of the party he was a staunch and earnest republican, active in politics and doing all in his power to promote the growth and insure the success of his party. He was deeply interested also in the local improvement and development of his adopted county, and as a co-operant factor in many measures for the general good his labors proved far-reaching and beneficial. He was popular as a man, prominent as a citizen and was respected and esteemed by a large circle of friends. His wife was one of the charter members of the Congregational church here. His birth had occurred in Connecticut, and he represented an old family of English lineage, while his wife was of German descent and was a native of the state of New York. She died in Winnebago county, about 1868, at the age of sixty-eight years. In their family were three sons, the brothers of Thomas G. Levings being Alfred H. and G. W. The former is a physician of Milwaukee, prominent in his profession, being head surgeon of the hospitals there, and one on whose opinions are largely regarded as authority in the line of his profession in his locality. The other brother, G. W. Levings, who was engaged in farming in Rockford township, died May 2, 1904. There are also two sisters, Mrs. H. E. Pease, who resides in Winnebago county, though spending much of her time in California; and Maggie, who lives in Rockford.

Thomas G. Levings was reared in Winnebago county, being only a few months old when brought by his parents to the west. He can remember various conditions of pioneer life which existed here during his boyhood days, for the homes were then widely scattered over the prairies and many of the now thriving towns and villages had not yet sprung into existence. Rockford, too, was a small place of little importance, but there came to the west men of strong purpose, anxious to find homes for themselves and families and desiring a progressive civilization, so that they put forth earnest effort for substantial advancement and permanent improvement. Mr. Levings has always been interested in what has been accomplished, and has given his aid to many measures for the general good. Since 1873 he has resided in his present fine home, and farming has been his life work. He now owns three hundred and sixty acres of land in Harlem township, in addition to his home



T. G. LEVINGS.

farm of one hundred and forty acres in Rockford township, and his extensive holdings return him a splendid income because of the care and labor which he bestows upon his fields.

Mr. Levings had charge of the roads of his township for twenty-one years, and to him is due much credit for their excellent condition. When he was first elected road commissioner there was little more than a mile of paved road, but when he retired from the office there were seventy-eight miles of finely macadamized roads. He was also the prime mover in securing the free rural mail delivery, and sent in the first petition from Winnebago county for this purpose.

Mr. Levings was married to Miss Lucy Ellen Fuller, a representative of the prominent Fuller family of this county, but her death occurred October 14, 1903, when she was fifty-four years of age. Fraternally he is connected with Nevius post, No. 1, G. A. R., of Rockford, to which he is entitled to membership because of the fact that he enlisted in 1864 in Company I, Eleventh Illinois Cavalry, thus serving until the close of the war. He has always voted for the republican party, which stood as the defender of the Union during the hour of the country's peril, when the stability of the Union was threatened by the secession movement of the south. He has ever regarded it as the party of improvement, reform and progress, and those are causes which have always elicited his interest and endorsement. His religious views are indicated by his membership in the Congregational church.

AMOS W. WOODWARD.

Amos W. Woodward, inventor and manufacturer of Rockford, was born in Winthrop, Maine, in 1829, his parents being Amos and Nancy (Muzzy) Woodward, the former born in Newton, Massachusetts, in 1786, and the latter in Spencer, Massachusetts, in 1793. Both families were represented in the American army at the time of the Revolutionary war. The paternal grandfather served in the battles of Concord and Lexington, and hauled powder to the troops at Bunker Hill, and the maternal grandfather also rendered signal service to the cause of independence. The Woodward family was founded in the new world in 1634, when John Woodward crossed the Atlantic and settled in Massachusetts, where his descendants remained until the grandfather of our subject removed from his home in Newton, Massachusetts, to Maine. His wife was a sister of General Jackson, of Revolutionary fame. Most of the family followed farming, and Amos Woodward, Sr., was not only identified with agricultural pursuits, but also operated a cotton mill at Gardner, Maine, in 1820. Selling that property,

he took up his abode on a farm. His death occurred in 1868, and his wife passed away in 1885, at the advanced age of ninety-two years. They were the parents of six children, of whom four reached adult age: Franklin M., Henry, Amos W. and Priscilla.

Amos W. Woodward was educated in the public schools of the Pine Tree state, and afterward learned the trade of a machinist in a plant manufacturing machinery for cotton mills at Lowell, Massachusetts. He began that work in 1849, serving a three-years' apprenticeship, and later went to Worcester, Massachusetts, where he was engaged in the manufacture of machinists' tools until 1856. In that year he came to the middle west, with the intention of going to Minnesota, but instead made a location at Rockford. He afterward began working for the firm of Talcott & Emerson, on the present site of the Woodward Governor Works, remaining in that employ for a year. He next worked for F. H. Manny and later for M. C. Thompson, being thus engaged until November, 1872, when he began business on his own account—a step made possible by his industry and frugality. With the exception of a year and a half when he was associated with Will Ross, under the firm style of Ross & Woodward, he was alone in business for many years. His partnership with Mr. Ross was in 1875, and then, purchasing his interest, Mr. Woodward continued the business as sole proprietor, manufacturing pumps. In 1870 he invented a governor for use on water wheels, the first one he made being used on a Thompson wheel. To this branch of business he then directed his energies exclusively and continued under the name of A. W. Woodward until 1902, when the business was incorporated under the name of the Woodward Governor Company, with A. W. Woodward as president and Elmer Woodward as vice president and secretary. They conducted business on the site of the woolen mill until 1893, when they removed to No. 660. Race street, occupying a factory one hundred by seventy feet. They use the first floor in the conduct of their business, manufacturing governors for exclusive use on water wheels and hydro-electric plants. They employ seventeen people, and the enterprise has become one of the leading productive industries of the city, paying a good return to the stockholders upon their investment.

Mr. Woodward was married to Miss Mary A. Sealy, of Rockford, a daughter of Richard Sealy, one of the early settlers of this city, coming here about fifty-five years ago from the state of New York. Prior to that time, however, they lived in England, in which country Mary A. Sealy was born. She had three brothers in the Civil war, Robert Sealy holding the rank of lieutenant colonel at the time of his discharge. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Woodward, celebrated in 1861, was

blessed with four children: Cora, who died in 1903; Elmer, who is vice president of the Woodward Governor Company and is married and has four children; Frank, who is engaged in portrait work in Chicago; and Minnie, the wife of G. W. Taylor, of Rockford, now living in Canton, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Woodward now make their home at No. 603 Pearl street. They are members of the Baptist church, of which he has been a deacon for the past twenty years, and in politics he has been an unflinching republican since casting his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln. His advancement in business circles has been made at the cost of strenuous and self-denying labor, and his career exemplifies the old saying "through struggles to success." The men who have known him—and they have been many—respect him, and those who have come within the closer circle of his friendship appreciate his many good qualities of heart and mind.

JOSEPH B. MERRITT.

Joseph B. Merritt, the efficient superintendent of the Winnebago Paper Mill at Rockton, a valuable industry, furnishing employment to a large number of workmen and thus contributing in substantial measure to the general prosperity, was born in Clinton, New York, January 31, 1830. His father, Artemus Merritt, was a native of Massachusetts, and on leaving New England went to New York and thence to the West, casting his lot with the early settlers of Indiana, where he established his home about 1840. He married Maria Bradner, and they died at the ages of seventy-two and seventy-three, respectively. In their family were eight children, of whom Joseph B. is the eldest and the only one now living in Winnebago county.

Mr. Merritt of this review spent the first five years of his life in the Empire state and then was taken by his parents to Indiana, but when still a young lad he returned to the home of his grandparents in New York and after he had reached adult age he entered upon his business career as a clerk in a store in Danville, New York, where he was employed for several years. He believed, however, that the west would furnish him better business opportunities and that advancement might be more quickly secured. Accordingly he made his way to Illinois in 1856, settling first in Chicago. The following year, however, he was sent to Rockton by the firm of Bradner, Smith & Company, of Chicago, to look after their paper mill at this point and has since been superintendent of the industry. Mr. Bradner of the firm was his uncle and it was this fact that induced Mr. Merritt to come to Illinois. In the control of the business here he has showed

thorough mastery of the trade and capability in handling a large working force. For a number of years the product of the plant was wrapping paper of all kinds, but during the last three years Mr. Merritt has engaged in the manufacture of strawboard. The plant is well equipped with all modern machinery and employment is furnished to thirty-five operators—a fact which makes the industry of much value to the village.

Mr. Merritt made his home in Rockton until about fifteen years ago, when he removed to Beloit, Wisconsin, where he still maintains his residence although he has his business interests in Rockton. He was supervisor of Rockton township for two years and was a member of the village board at the time of the incorporation. He has also served on the school board, has been active in public affairs of township and county and during his incumbency in the position of supervisor the court house at Rockford was built. His political allegiance has ever been given to the republican party and he is thoroughly in sympathy with its principles and policies.

On the 1st of December, 1858, occurred the marriage of Mr. Merritt and Miss Frances E. Mellen, a native of New York. They have one daughter, Fannie, now the wife of H. L. Hollister, and the mother of one child, Frances. In 1901 Mr. Merritt was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who passed away in October of that year at the age of seventy-two years. Coming to the west at a period when industrial and commercial progress was in its infancy, he contributed to the upbuilding of Rockton in the successful control of one of its leading business concerns and at the same time he made his services of such value in the company which he represented that he commanded an excellent salary, while his frugality and industry in the passing years have brought him a comfortable competence.

W. R. KEYT.

W. R. Keyt, an architect and builder, whose labors have contributed to the improvement of Rockford, was born in Piqua, Miami county, Ohio, in 1850, his parents being John W. and Rachel (Barrington) Keyt. His parents were also natives of Ohio, and the father was a farmer by occupation, following that pursuit up to the time of his death, which occurred when he was seventy-five years of age. He had five children, two sons and three daughters: John W., who died in 1901; Jane Sarah, who is living in Ohio; Caroline, also of Ohio; Emma Elizabeth, who died in December, 1904; and W. R., of this review. The mother passed away in 1860.

At the usual age W. R. Keyt entered the public schools of Piqua, Ohio, passing through successive grades until he completed the high-school course by graduation with the class of 1869. He then removed to the farm and later he engaged in clerking for a time in a dry goods store. When he had been employed in that way for three years he went to Dayton, Ohio, where he attended a commercial school, and in February, 1877, he came to Rockford. Here he learned the carpenter's trade under the direction of his uncle David Keyt, who took up his abode in this city in 1856 for the purpose of building the Second Congregational church here. He was a contractor and builder and was identified with the substantial improvements of Rockford for a long period.

W. R. Keyt not only mastered carpentering, but also studied architecture. He was with his uncle in contracting for four years, and he also did drafting on his own account. He then formed a partnership with W. A. Keyt, a cousin, under the firm name of W. R. & W. A. Keyt, contractors and builders. This relationship was maintained for eleven years, from 1887 until 1898, and in one year they built the Lincoln school, the addition to the Garrison school, the Freeman, Highland and Brown schools and the Christ Henry Block. Mr. Keyt of this review also had charge of the rebuilding of the Second Congregational church after the fire. In 1898, on account of a sprained knee, he quit the work of building and decided to enter the employ of The Marsden Company as a millwright foreman. To that work he devoted his energies for two years and a half, spending six months of that time in Kentucky. He afterward went to Peoria, where he became superintendent of construction for the largest plant at that place. He spent a year and a half in Peoria, and in 1900 returned to Rockford, where he opened up an office, since which time he has given his attention to architecture, and has secured a liberal patronage. He built the Gas Stove Works, the Armory building, Andrews Iron & Wire Works, an addition to the tannery for the Hess & Hopkins Leather Company, and a large number of residences, and during the past two years he has had charge of the works of the Interurban Railway Company. He is likewise connected as a director with the Rockford Concrete Construction Company.

Mr. Keyt was married December 21, 1880, to Miss Alice L. McKinley, of Rockford, a daughter of William McKinley, who is now ninety-two years of age. They have two children: Eva J., who is living at home; and Maurice B., who is attending high school. The family residence is on the Traskbridge road, a mile and a half north of the city, where Mr. Keyt owns several acres of land, largely planted to fruit. In view of the fact that he commenced his business career empty

handed, his success is the more remarkable, and his record should prove an inspiration to many young men now starting out as he did a few years ago, with no capital save brains, integrity, determination and perseverance, which after all constitute the best capital and without which wealth, influence and position amount to naught.

GEORGE E. KING.

By the death of this honorable and upright citizen the community in which he lived sustained an irreparable loss and was deprived of the presence of one whom it had come to look upon as a guardian, benefactor and friend. Death often removes from our midst those whom we can ill afford to spare, whose lives have been all that is exemplary of the true and thereby a really great citizen. Such a citizen was Mr. King, whose whole career, both business and social, served as a model to the young and an inspiration to the aged. He shed a brightness around everything with which he came in contact, and his memory is now enshrined in the hearts of many friends who felt the deepest regret at his taking off.

Mr. King was a native of Wappingers Falls, Dutchess county, New York, his natal day being April 30, 1844. His parents were William G. and Elizabeth (Orr) King. The mother died in the Empire state during the infancy of her son George and the father afterward married again. With his second wife and his children he removed to the west, settling first in Wisconsin, where they resided until May, 1856, when they came to Rockford. Here the father and his son George entered in the grocery business on South Main street, the partnership being maintained until the father's death. His second wife also continued a resident of Rockford until called to her final rest.

George E. King began his education in the east and continued his studies in the schools of Wisconsin and of Rockford, being thoroughly equipped with thorough manual training for life's practical and responsible duties. At the age of eighteen years he entered upon his business career in connection with his father, conducting a grocery store on South Main street under the firm name of William G. King & Son. In 1864 he became connected with the Second National Bank as a clerk, and his efficiency won him promotion to the position of bookkeeper. He finally became one of the stockholders of the institution and was connected with it until its failure about 1895. At one time he was the foremost business man of the city, and no man in Rockford enjoyed a wider acquaintance or had the confidence of the community to a larger extent. He was consulted in matters of investment and the disposition of estates, and was regarded

as a man of unusually keen and sound judgment. The collapse of the Second National Bank destroyed the structure and worth of a lifetime, but though some were led to blame the stockholders and officers of this concern his friends and those who knew him best and were acquainted with the business affairs of the bank had the utmost faith in the integrity and honesty of Mr. King. With fortune gone, he went to the far northwest to regain his lost possession, accompanied by his wife, who was ever a most faithful companion and helpmate to him on life's journey. Making his way to Alaska he first lived at Circle City, where he managed a supply store for Ware & Company, but for several years he made his home on an island a few miles from Ketchikan, Alaska, where he engaged in the fish packing business. Early in the winter of 1904-5 Mr. and Mrs. King went to Seattle to spend the cold winter months there, and becoming ill he was taken to a hospital for treatment. He suffered from typhoid fever, but for a time seemed to recover. Heart trouble, however, was afterward manifest in his symptoms, and he passed away on the 28th of April, 1905.

After becoming a resident of Rockford Mr. King was wedded to Miss Alice E. Fisher, a native of this city and a daughter of Henry Fisher, who was born in Vermont. Coming to the west he resided in Michigan, but after a short time removed to Rockford, establishing his home among the early residents of the city. Here he engaged extensively in the lumber business and he owned sawmills all over this part of the state. Both he and his wife resided in Rockford until their demise. Mr. and Mrs. King had but one child, Alma E., who was an unusually gifted and beautiful girl. She was taken ill of diphtheria during her student days at Rockford College, and her death resulted. This blow was one from which Mr. King never recovered and it marked the beginning of his decline in life.

Public-spirited and progressive he assisted materially in promoting the welfare and upbuilding of Rockford. He held many city offices, representing his ward on the board of alderman and he was also a member of the school board. He was known as the champion of every measure that had for its basis the material, intellectual, social or moral progress of his community and his connection with the city's growth and development and with the work of improvement was largely instrumental in placing Rockford in the prominent position it to-day occupies. He voted with the republican party and he held membership in the Masonic fraternity, attaining the Knight Templar degree of the York Rite. He belonged to the Episcopal church, of which his family are also members. In all his personal relations he stood as a high type of American manhood, and honored by

many friends his death was deeply deplored by all who knew him. Mrs. King owns a home at No. 121 South West street in Rockford, known as the Fisher place, and spends her winters here, while her summers are spent in Chomley, Alaska.

DR. WILLIAM HENRY SHAW.

Dr. William Henry Shaw, now living retired on his farm on section 27, Roscoe township, has reached the eightieth milestone on life's journey and the period of ease and rest which he is now enjoying has been well earned. He was born in the state of New York, July 4, 1825, and is descended from English ancestry. His paternal grandfather, William Shaw, was a native of England and came to America when quite young. He was a well-to-do man and owned a stable of fine racing horses where Jerome Park now carries on business. He was noted as a sportsman of the early days and was very prominent and popular in his locality.

William Shaw, father of Dr. Shaw, was born in New York state and there he died at the advanced age of eighty-five years, having followed farming throughout his active career in order to provide for his family. He married Sarah Bullock, also a native of the Empire state and her death there occurred when she was seventy-five years of age. They had a large family of fifteen children, but only three are now living: William Henry; Comer, who is a resident of Lockport, New York; and Abraham, living in Lockport.

Dr. Shaw acquired his early education in the public schools of Lockport and after preparing for college was matriculated in Genesee college, at Lyman, New York, where he completed a full course of study by graduation in the class of 1849. He then entered upon the profession of teaching school, which he followed for fourteen years in the Empire state. During a part of that time he also studied medicine in Buffalo, New York, becoming imbued with the desire to engage in its practice as a life work.

In 1852 Dr. Shaw was married to Miss Mary Pool, who was born and died in New York, passing away in 1854 when only twenty-one years of age. The following year he wedded Catherine B. Woods, a native of New York and a daughter of Ely and Nancy (Gary) Woods. There has been a daughter and son born of the second marriage. The former, Carrie, is now the wife of W. H. Bradley, of Beloit, Wisconsin, and has two children, Frances M. and Catherine C. Clarence F. was born in the state of New York and wedded Grace Ransom, a daughter of the late Dr. Ransom, of Roscoe, and they have two children, Catherine M. and Ruth.



DR. W. H. SHAW.



MRS. W. H. SHAW.

Dr. Shaw became quite well known in New York as a successful teacher and was principal of the high school at Attica, that state, when his second wife was teaching there. She taught for eight years in New York and then gave her hand in marriage to Dr. Shaw. In 1864 they removed to Illinois and in 1867 he purchased and settled upon the farm where he now lives, having here one hundred and twelve acres of rich and valuable land. In 1865 they had arrived in Roscoe township. Dr. Shaw devoted his energies to agricultural pursuits for some years and in 1882 he entered Columbia Medical College of New York city, from which he was graduated from the veterinary department with the class of 1883. He then returned to Roscoe and followed his profession in the township and county until 1903, when he retired and again took up his abode upon the farm but he now rents his land.

He is a prohibitionist in his political views, having long been a staunch advocate of the temperance cause and for thirty years he has been an exemplary member of the Masonic fraternity and is a past master of his lodge. His wife holds membership in the Congregational church of Roscoe and he attends and contributes toward its support, and they are people of most genuine worth, being held in the highest regard by all who know them. Dr. Shaw has led a busy life and one that has been of benefit to his fellow-men. A gentleman of strong intellectuality, his mental faculties are unimpaired and in spirit and interest he seems yet in his prime, keeping in touch with modern thought and progress and manifesting genuine interest in the welfare and upbuilding of his adopted county.

JEREMIAH CAMPBELL.

Jeremiah Campbell, who has passed away, was for many years regarded as a citizen of worth in Durand township, where he was long connected with agricultural interests. The ancestral history of the family has been connected with America through many generations, coming from Scotland to the new world and among the relationships were found those who loyally aided in the early wars of the country, one member of the family being a noted captain in the war of 1812. Samuel and Grace (Plumb) Campbell, parents of Jeremiah Campbell, were natives of Grand Isle, Vermont, and there the death of the mother occurred about 1828. The father removed westward to Winnebago county, Illinois, and here spent his remaining days, passing away in 1844, at the venerable age of eighty-two years. One of his sons had come to the county before the father's removal from New England.

Jeremiah Campbell was born in Grand Isle, Vermont, April 5, 1818, and spent the days of his boyhood and youth in the Green Mountain state, but when a young man of nineteen years started for what was then the far west, arriving in Winnebago county in 1837. He drove across the country with an ox team in company with his father, and they entered land from the government, becoming pioneer residents of this portion of the state. There were only three houses in Rockford at the time of their arrival here, and the entire country-side presented the appearance of nature's handiwork, with none of the improvements or cultivation inaugurated by man, the prairie being covered with its high grasses, while in certain districts stood the forest trees amid which the sound of the woodman's ax had not been heard. Jeremiah Campbell entered his claim at the land office in Dixon and built thereon a log house, which was afterward replaced by a frame residence. He hauled his grain to the Chicago market and on one trip to that city the entire expense of the journey was twelve cents, which sum he paid for milk. In connection with general farming he engaged in the manufacture of cheese, which he sold at Mineral Point, Wisconsin, and also at Galena, Illinois. For years he carried on the work of the fields, and as his financial resources increased he bought more land until at one time he was the owner of a valuable tract of four hundred acres, which he afterward sold to his son Frank.

Mr. Campbell was first married June 30, 1839, the lady of his choice being Miss Lois B. Hoyt. There was one child of that marriage, Edward S., who was born December 11, 1840, and wedded Kate Smith, who died at the age of fifty-eight years, leaving three children. On the 19th of October, 1843, Jeremiah Campbell was again married, wedding Miss Cynthia E. Hoyt, a sister of his first wife. She was born in St. Albans, Vermont, November 11, 1828, and was a daughter of Heman and Susan (Franklin) Hoyt. Her paternal grandparents, Jonathan and Lois (Bradley) Hoyt, were natives of Connecticut, and became pioneer settlers of St. Albans, Vermont, where they spent their remaining days. Heman Hoyt, however, removed from the Green Mountain state to Illinois, taking up his abode in Winnebago county on the 3d of January, 1837, his family having arrived here in October of the preceding year. He died in this county near the place of his first settlement at the age of seventy-three years, and his wife died there when fifty-six years of age. Unto the second marriage of Mr. Campbell there were born four children: Romeo H., who was born September 15, 1844, was married, had five children and died at the age of fifty-seven years. Frank B., born July 25, 1846, and now one of the extensive landowners of the county, living in Pe-

catonica township, is represented elsewhere in this work. Emma L., born June 10, 1850, died April 15, 1894. Eva M., born December 21, 1854, is the wife of Louis Goodrich, a resident of Fairmont, Nebraska.

In his political views Mr. Campbell was a republican, but never sought office as a reward for his party fealty. He held a place so high in the esteem of his fellowmen that his death, which occurred April 25, 1884, was the occasion of deep and wide spread regret. He is still survived by his widow, who makes her home in Durand township, and the family is much respected in the community. No history of the county would be complete without the mention of Jeremiah Campbell, who was one of the first settlers here, and aided in reclaiming the wild district for the purposes of civilization, undergoing all the hardships and privations of pioneer life in order that he might make a home and gain a comfortable living for his family. At all times and under all circumstances he was loyal to justice, truth and the right, and his genuine worth made his an honored name.

THOMAS W. DERWENT.

Thomas W. Derwent, who, after long connection with agricultural interests, is enjoying a well earned ease and the comforts that go to make life worth living, his home being in Rockford, was born in Duttonfield, England, May 22, 1832. He was nine years of age when brought by his parents to America, the family sailing from Liverpool to New York city on a sailing vessel, which was four weeks in completing the voyage. They spent five or six months in the east and then made their way westward to Rockford, Illinois, where they also remained for a few months. The year 1842 witnessed their arrival in Winnebago county. The journey westward was made by way of the lakes and canal and after reaching Chicago the father and grandfather purchased horses and drove across the country to this county. The grandfather bought a claim of James Colton in Durand township, and later paid the government for the tract.

Thomas W. Derwent, reared amid pioneer surroundings, assisted his father in his boyhood days when not engaged with the duties of the school room, his education being acquired in a select school, taught by Newman Rowley. He lost his father in 1847, when fifteen years of age, after which he continued to live with his mother on the old home farm until twenty-three years of age. He then purchased his mother's and sisters' interests in the place and began raising cattle, hogs and wheat on his own account. He hauled his wheat to Chicago and marketed his pork in Mil-

waukee and Racine. It would require from six to nine days to make the trip and upon his return he would haul lumber, salt and also goods for the merchants at Rockford. In the early days his financial resources were limited, but year after year added to his success and as his capital permitted he would invest in land until he became the owner of five hundred acres in Pecatonica and Durand townships. Mr. Derwent relates many interesting incidents of the early days here, being a typical pioneer settler, familiar with the progress of the county from its early development down to the present. When a boy he attempted to cross the Pecatonica river with two companions for the purpose of seeing a countryman hanged. This man was the murderer of Sheriff John W. Taylor. The raft on which they had expected to cross would not hold the boys, however, and so they swam back to shore and did not complete the errand on which they started out. When but a boy Mr. Derwent drove six yoke of cattle to a plow to break the raw prairie, for there were large tracts of land throughout Winnebago county, on which not a farrow had been turned nor an improvement made. He also planted the trees which are now seen upon his farm and at the northwest corner stands a very large elm, which he set out when a mere boy. Industry and enterprise have characterized his entire life, and after taking possession of the old homestead he made splendid improvements there, including the erection of a fine residence which is surrounded with fruit and shade trees of his planting. He purchased the latest improved machinery to facilitate his farm work and he kept his land under a high state of cultivation, so that rich crops were annually harvested. He also bought land in Iowa, which he improved, and which he now rents, receiving a good income from four hundred acres there. He likewise bought nine hundred and sixty acres in South Dakota, which he has improved and rents, and he owns between four and five hundred acres of land in Durand and Pecatonica townships, the income from which adds materially to his capital each year. About seven years ago he retired from the farm and took up his abode in the village of Pecatonica, where he has lived to the present time, but recently he has purchased a home in Rockford, where he is now located.

In 1883 Mr. Derwent was married to Miss Emma E. Foster, a daughter of Nahum and Mary J. (Cassidy) Foster, the former a native of Southampton, Massachusetts, and the latter of St. Johns, New Brunswick, in which place they were married. There were nine children in their family, of whom seven are now living, namely: Flora L. Foster, a resident of Rockford; Sarah J., the widow of Irvin French, a resident of Rockford; Mrs. Derwent; Georgia A., the wife



MR. AND MRS. T. W. DERWENT.

of Frank McLain, who is living in Laona township; Roscoe L., who married Helen Bowman, and makes his home in Rockford; Dolly J., the wife of James H. Smith, of Harlem township, and Edith V., the wife of Thomas R. Puddicomb.

Mr. and Mrs. Derwent are the parents of one son, Everett, who was born September 19, 1884, and has pursued his education successively in the district schools, the Pecatonica high school and the State University at Champaign, where he is studying civil engineering, and will complete his course in June, 1906. Mr. Derwent has been road commissioner and school director and has ever championed progressive measures that have been for the general good. He belongs to the Odd Fellows society and his wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he has served as trustee and to the support of which he has generously contributed. His residence in the county covers more than sixty years, during which his labor has found merited reward in a handsome competence, making him one of the substantial citizens of this part of the state. In the evening of life he is enabled to enjoy its comforts and its luxuries and yet he can look back to the time when it required great effort on his part to gain the necessities of life, and he also had to endure many of the hardships and difficulties incident to maintaining a home in a frontier district.

HERBERT L. NORTON.

Herbert L. Norton, living in the village of Durand, a capitalist with extensive landed interests in this county and in North Dakota, also farming and dealing in horses, was born in Laona township, July 10, 1845, a son of Eliakim and Grace (Crowder) Norton. They were natives of Canada, the former born February 18, 1801, and they were married on the 1st of November, 1829. They came to Winnebago county about 1844 and were therefore early settlers. The father secured a tract of land in Laona township and began the development of a farm, whereon he made his home until his death, which occurred in 1893, while his wife passed away on the old homestead farm in 1884. They were the parents of four sons: Herbert L.; James H., who is living in Charles City, Iowa, and has two sons and five daughters; Daniel D., who resides at Devils Lake, North Dakota; and Louis H., who has a large family and makes his home in Wisconsin.

Herbert L. Norton at the usual age began his education in the public schools and when not busy with his text-books aided in the labors of the home farm. He continued a resident of Laona township until 1879, when he removed to North

Dakota, settling near Pembina, where he was engaged in dealing in horses, in conducting a hotel and in speculating in land. He was quite successful in his various undertakings. Settling at Hamilton, he conducted a hotel at that place and not only carried on business interests there, but also became a prominent factor in public life and left the impress of his individuality upon measures and movements of benefit to the commonwealth. He was elected a member of the legislature in 1888 and served for one term. Returning to Illinois, he settled in Durand in 1892 and has since made his home in the village, where he has large property interests. He also owns considerable property in the vicinity of Hamilton, North Dakota, and he is interested in general agricultural pursuits and in dealing in horses. He is an excellent judge of stock and is thus enabled to make judicious purchases and profitable sales.

On the 11th of March, 1884, Mr. Norton was married to Miss Elizabeth Davies, of Durand township, a daughter of John and Emily (Webster) Davies, early residents of this county. Her father was born in Glamorganshire, Wales, March 9, 1832, and spent his childhood and youth in that country. Desiring to better his condition, he sailed for the United States in 1853 and located in Washington, D. C., where for a year he worked at his trade of shoemaking. He then removed to Chicago, where he also spent one year, and then came to Rockford, where he remained for eighteen months. He removed to Durand in 1857 and on the 12th of October of that year launched into business on his own account, in the manufacture of boots and shoes. He erected the building now occupied by R. Webster and afterward enlarged his business by adding a stock of clothing and men's furnishing goods, conducting the store up to his last illness, his death occurring November 6, 1897. He married Emily Webster, who was born June 24, 1838, a daughter of Solomon Webster, who came by wagon to this county from the state of New York. Mrs. Davies died March 7, 1874. The daughters of the family were Mrs. Norton; Mrs. B. Morey, of Durand; Hattie, the wife of John Chisholm, of Pembina, North Dakota, and the mother of four sons; Bella, the wife of F. B. Smith, of Durand; and Mattie Davies, who is living in Pembina, North Dakota.

Mrs. Norton was born in the village of Durand, September 19, 1860, and there spent her girlhood days with her parents until her marriage, to which has been born a son and daughter: Wayne L., born in Hamilton, North Dakota, December 18, 1887, and now a student in the Highland Park (Illinois) Military Academy, and Emily Grace, born January 20, 1894. Mr. Norton is a member of the Masonic fraternity and he usually votes the democratic ticket. His business

interests have always been carefully managed and his sound judgment and discrimination have brought him success in many business transactions until he is now numbered among the capitalists of Durand.

ANDREW J. LOVEJOY.

Andrew J. Lovejoy, one of the most prominent representatives of stock-raising interests in Winnebago county, and now president of the American Berkshire Association of Springfield, Illinois, vice-president of the International Live Stock Association of Chicago and a member of the central committee of the National Live Stock Association of Denver, resides in Harlem township, owning three hundred and twenty acres of valuable land on sections 4, 8 and 9. He was born December 5, 1845, on the site of his present home. The family is of English lineage and was founded in New Hampshire prior to the Revolutionary war. His father, Nathan J. Lovejoy, was born in Sanbornton, New Hampshire, August 8, 1818, and in 1837 came to Illinois, settling in Winnebago county, where he pre-empted a tract of land which is now owned by our subject. Nathan J. Lovejoy was accompanied to the west by his father. In 1844 he wedded Harriet E. Platt, at Tremont, Tazewell county, Illinois. His death occurred February 23, 1897, at Roscoe, when he was seventy-nine years of age, while his wife passed away June 22, 1866. The members of their family are as follows: Leslie A. Lovejoy, born December 2, 1847, and now living in Alma, Norton county, Kansas, has two daughters and one son—Grace, Sue and Leonard, but the second daughter has been adopted by Mr. Lovejoy of this review. Henry Stillman Lovejoy, born in 1861, is now living in Jacksonville, Illinois. Mary is the wife of C. E. Vaughan, a resident of the province of Alberta, Canada, and they have one son, C. L. Vaughan, and a daughter, Adelaide Vaughan.

Andrew J. Lovejoy remained at home until about twenty-one years of age and pursued his education in the common and high schools. He also assisted his father in the operation of the home farm, but on attaining his majority accepted a position in a wholesale notion house of Rockford, driving over the country with a two-horse wagon and selling their goods to small dealers throughout northern Illinois. Twelve years later he accepted a position as traveling salesman with a wholesale house of Chicago and remained upon the road for twenty-seven years, when, in 1893, he retired from commercial life. He had been very successful, having the ready adaptability so necessary to the traveling salesman, and he se-

cured many patrons for the house which he represented, so that his service was valuable and his remuneration gratifying. While thus engaged he had invested his savings in the old family homestead, to which he removed in 1893, and he has since carried on general farming and has also become widely known as an extensive breeder of registered blooded stock, making a specialty of English Berkshire hogs and Shropshire sheep, for which he finds a market in all parts of the world. He has the latest improved facilities for caring for his stock and is to-day one of the most prominent representatives of stock-raising interests in Illinois. His reputation in this connection extends far beyond the boundaries of the state and he has done much for the improvement of stock-raising interests here in recent years. He is now the president of the American Berkshire Association of Springfield, Illinois, and the vice-president of the International Live Stock Association of Chicago, also serving as a member of its executive committee and the board of directors. He is likewise a member of the central committee of the National Live Stock Association of Denver, Colorado, and was a member of the State Board of Agriculture. Of the latter he was vice-president and general superintendent from 1894 until 1902, and at the same time was president of the Interstate Fair Association of Beloit, Wisconsin. He was president of the Winnebago County Agricultural Association and its secretary when its grounds were turned over to the city of Rockford for park purposes. He is a student of the conditions affecting agricultural and stock-raising interests and has been the promoter of many progressive measures of benefit along these lines.

On the 27th of August, 1867, Mr. Lovejoy was united in marriage to Miss Eliza J. Wyman, of Roscoe, Illinois, a daughter of Alfred and Hep-sibeth Wyman, and a native of Roscoe township, born July 12, 1846. They have one son, Wyman N. Lovejoy, who was born March 6, 1871, and since 1888 has been the partner of his father in his farming and stock-raising interests, while in 1893 he succeeded him on the road as traveling salesman, but since 1902 has been actively engaged in the live stock business with his father. He married Ruby Curtis, a daughter of H. B. Curtis, of Roscoe.

Mr. Lovejoy is a member of the Masonic lodge at Roscoe, the Royal Arch chapter at Rockton, Illinois, and Rockford lodge, B. P. O. E. In politics he has always been a stalwart republican and has taken an active and beneficial interest in state and county affairs relating to the party's growth and development and is a member of the county central committee. He was appointed game commissioner by Governor Yates and when he entered upon the duties of the office there were no funds on hand, but he organ-

ized the work, secured the assistance of one hundred and twelve subordinates and turned the office over to his successor with a fund of sixty-nine thousand dollars. He was also appointed registrar of the state grain inspection department with offices at Chicago and is now the incumbent in that position. He is likewise a director of the Winnebago National Bank of Rockford and for eight years he served as supervisor in Harlem township. In him are displayed the sterling qualities of unabating energy, untiring industry and diligence that never flags. He has thus become a prominent factor in stock-raising interests of the country, in political circles of the state and in public affairs of his native county. His life has won him the respect and admiration of many, but at home where best known he has gained the warm personal regard of many friends.

GODFREY HILDEBRAND.

Godfrey Hildebrand was formerly known as an active, energetic agriculturist of Winnebago county and now with a comfortable competence is living retired in Rockford. He was born February 17, 1845, in Germany and reared in Montgomery county, New York, his parents being Lewis and Catherine (Jordan) Hildebrand, both of whom were also natives of Germany. The father, born in 1808, came to America and as the years passed engaged extensively in farming. He owned one hundred and twenty acres of land at the time of his death, having previously given some of this to his sons. In May, 1855, he came to the west with his family, settling in Ogle county, Illinois, where he purchased a farm, spending his remaining days thereon. He had seven sons and one daughter, who reached adult age and four are yet living.

Godfrey Hildebrand was educated in the common schools of Ogle county and when eighteen years of age espoused his country's cause, joining the Union army in 1863 as a member of Company F, Forty-fifth Illinois Infantry, with which he served until the close of the war. He was with Sherman on the celebrated march to the sea and in the Carolina campaign, and his brother Henry was a member of Company K, Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. While on active duty with his regiment he was wounded in the head and shoulder in Georgia. Another brother, Theodore, was a member of the Forty-fifth Regiment, to which our subject belonged, and was killed near Kenesaw Mountain, Georgia. Godfrey Hildebrand took part with his command in eighteen engagements, was mustered out at Camp Douglas and received a final discharge in

Chicago on the 20th of July, 1865. He had been a true and loyal soldier and his valor was demonstrated on many battle-fields of the south.

In 1871 Mr. Hildebrand came to Winnebago county and while making the American Hotel his headquarters he worked by the month for three years. The careful husbanding of his resources and his unremitting diligence brought him the capital which enabled him to purchase the farm of eighty acres which he now owns and upon which he resided until 1901, when he removed to Rockford, Illinois. He now has two hundred acres of excellent and well improved land in Winnebago township and in Ogle county and placed all of the modern equipments upon the farm himself. There are fine buildings, well kept fences and considerable fruit in addition to well tilled fields. The farm lies near the county line, the new railroad has been built across the land and a depot has been established upon the place. The fields are devoted to general agricultural pursuits and there is also good pasture land for stock, and he now has eighty head of cattle, fifteen head of horses and sixty head of hogs on his place. He owns a fine home in Rockford at No. 117 Auburn Place and other lots and a residence on Summit street.

In 1870 Mr. Hildebrand was united in marriage to Miss Mary Gless, of DeKalb county, Illinois, with whom he traveled life's journey for about twenty-seven years, when, in 1897, Mrs. Hildebrand was called to her final rest. They had become the parents of six children: DeForest, who married Mona Baker and lives on his father's farm; Ed, residing in Montana; Samuel, living at Fairdale, Illinois; Lillie, Rosetta and Arthur, all at home.

Since casting his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln in 1864 Mr. Hildebrand has been a staunch advocate of the Republican party, and he attends the camp fires of Nevius post, No. 1, G. A. R., of which he is a valued member. He belongs to the Trinity Lutheran church and his salient characteristics as indicated by his church and social relations, have made him one of the representative and respected residents of Rockford.

JAMES H. JOHNSON.

As long as memory remains to the American people so long will the history of the soldiers of the Civil war be cherished by loyal citizens of the republic. James H. Johnson was among the number who donned the blue uniform of the nation and fought for the Union cause. In Rockford he was known for many years as a successful liveryman, and in earlier days he was also identified with building operations and with agricultural

pursuits. He was only ten years of age when in 1854 he came with his parents to Winnebago county, the family casting in their lot with its pioneer settlers. He was born in New York on Christmas day of 1844, his parents being Mr. and Mrs. James Johnson. The mother died during the infancy of her son, James H. The father afterward resided upon a farm in the state of New York until 1854, when he came west with his family, settling near Owen Center in Owen township. There he purchased a farm and was engaged in the cultivation of his land and the improvement of his place until his death.

James H. Johnson was reared on the old family homestead, early becoming familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. He attended the district schools of Owen township and aided in the work of the farm, while later he learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed until after the Civil war broke out. He had watched with interest the progress of events in the south, and his patriotic spirit was aroused by the attempt to overthrow the Union. He resolved to strike a blow in its defense, and on the 1st of October, 1861, he enlisted as a member of Company E, Fifty-second Illinois Infantry, under Captain Dewitt C. Herd and Colonel Wilcox. His company participated in many important battles, and in the engagement at Shiloh, on the 6th of April, 1862, Mr. Johnson was badly wounded. He lay on the battle-field for twenty-four hours without care, and was then taken to the hospital, where he received medical attention. As soon as he had recovered he rejoined his company, and, having re-enlisted as a veteran December 25, 1863, continued in active service until July 6, 1865, when he was honorably discharged. He did his full duty as a soldier and was often found on the battle-field where the leaden hail fell thickest.

After being mustered out Mr. Johnson returned to Rockford, where he worked at the carpenter's trade, but ill health forced him to give up that occupation, and he turned his attention to farming, renting a tract of land near this city on which he carried on general agricultural pursuits for nine years. On the expiration of that period he again took up his abode in Rockford, where he purchased a livery and boarding stable at the corner of Main and Elm streets, and was there engaged in the livery business for twenty years or until his death. He secured a good patronage, for he earnestly desired to please his patrons and gave to them the best service possible. He was always found trustworthy in his business dealings and his prosperity was richly deserved.

Mr. Johnson was married in Beloit, Wisconsin, to Miss Delia A. Smith, a native of Jackson county, Michigan, born March 18, 1845. Her parents, James and Roxana (Swift) Smith, were

both natives of Oswego county, New York, and her father followed farming as a means of livelihood. He removed from the east to Jackson county, Michigan, and afterward made his way down the Rock river on a raft to Rockford in 1845. He then engaged in farming in the southern part of Rockford township for a few years, after which he located in Burritt township, where he carried on farming until 1849. In that year, attracted by the discovery of gold in California and the business opportunities which there opened up, he made his way to the Pacific coast, where his death occurred. There are only two children of the family now living: Mrs. Johnson, and Mrs. John G. Henry, who also resides in Rockford.

Mr. Johnson was ever deeply interested in public affairs and was a champion of every progressive measure. He did everything in his power to promote the welfare of his city and was a member of the first fire department of Rockford, at which time the old hand pumps were used. In politics he was a republican where national questions and issues were involved, but at local elections he believed in considering the efficiency of the candidate rather than the party's choice. He served as collector of Rockford for sometime, and rendered capable and honorable service. He was a charter member of the Grand Army post at Rockford and was instrumental in holding the first camp fires of this city. He delighted in meeting with his old army comrades and in recalling the scenes and incidents of his military service, and in days of peace he was as loyal to his country as when he followed the stars and stripes on the southern battle-fields. He held membership in the First Presbyterian church, and he left to his widow an honored name as well as a comfortable competence. She now owns a large residence at No. 1123 North Church street, where she resides.

RUSSELL MARSH.

There is nothing of more interest than to examine into the history of a self-made man, noting the methods that he has followed and the plans that he has pursued as he has worked his way upward from a humble position to one of affluence. To this class belongs Russell Marsh, who is now living retired from active business at his home on section 17, Guilford township, having reached the age of eighty-five years. Few residents of Winnebago county have longer resided within its borders than has Mr. Marsh, who came here in the spring time of 1838, accompanying his father and mother on their removal in the month of May. He was born in Bradford county, Pennsylvania, in 1819, his parents being Russell and Abigail (Averill)



RUSSELL MARSH.

Marsh, both of whom were natives of Vermont. From the Green Mountain state they removed to New York, and afterward to Pennsylvania, whence they came to Winnebago county, Illinois, here spending their remaining days. The father died at the age of seventy-eight years, prior to the Civil war, and the mother's death occurred subsequent to the war, when she was eighty-two years of age. In their family were four sons and three daughters, but only two are now living, Russell and a sister, who makes her home in California. All spent some time in Winnebago county, however.

Russell Marsh, who was the next to the youngest in this family, passed the days of his boyhood and youth in various places, his parents removing at different times to localities in Pennsylvania, New York and Canada. His school life was interrupted because of this, but he acquired a fair knowledge of English branches in the common schools and at an early age he began work on his own account, since which time he has depended entirely upon his own resources. He was a youth of nineteen years when he arrived in Winnebago county, and here he labored until his efforts had brought him capital sufficient to enable him to purchase a farm. It was in the '40s that he became the owner of eighty acres of land in Guilford township, to which he afterward added until within the boundaries of his farm one hundred and sixty acres are now comprised. When it came into his possession it was covered with brush, but he cleared this away, preparing the fields for the plow, and in due course of time reaped rich harvests. He has erected a comfortable home, has adorned his grounds in attractive style and as the years passed has carried on general farming with excellent success, but at the present time this place is being managed by his son, G. W. Marsh, who also conducts a farm of his own.

Russell Marsh has been twice married. He first wedded Mary Ann Hayes, whose people were early residents of Winnebago county. She died leaving a son and two daughters, namely: G. W., who owns a tract of land on section 8, Guilford township; Mrs. Lucy King, who is living in Kansas, about one hundred and thirty miles southeast of Topeka; and Mrs. Rhoda Beers, of Otoe county, Nebraska. For his second wife Mr. Marsh chose Miss Maria L. Beers, who was born in Guilford township, and is a daughter of Daniel Beers, one of the pioneer residents of this county, settling here in 1837. The second wife died about four years ago.

Since the organization of the republican party Mr. Marsh has been one of its staunch advocates, believing firmly in its principles as containing the best elements of good government.

He served as school director and road supervisor and also filled other local offices. He was in former years a member of the Grange. Active for a long period in public and private life, he now well merits the rest that has been vouchsafed to him and the respect which is accorded him when in the evening of life he is resting after arduous toil. His material prosperity has been worthily won and his life is an exemplification of what may be accomplished through honorable business methods. His path has never been strewn with the wreck of other men's fortunes, for in his legitimate channels of business through close application to his farming interests and unremitting diligence he has won the success which he now enjoys.

PAUL L. MARKLEY, M. D.

Dr. Paul L. Markley, a physician and surgeon of Rockford, was born in Fulton county, Ohio, west of Toledo, on the 20th of February, 1861, his parents being A. L. and Juliette (Lingle) Markley. The father, a native of Pennsylvania, was born in 1819, and the mother's birth occurred in Ohio in 1825. Removing to the Buckeye state, A. L. Markley became one of the prosperous and progressive farmers of Fulton county, devoting the best years of his life to agricultural pursuits, and his practical and enterprising methods gained for him a desirable competence. He died in 1892, having for two years survived his wife, who passed away in 1890.

Dr. Markley, who is one of a family of four brothers, all physicians, spent his boyhood days on his father's farm, where he worked in the fields and meadows from the time of early spring planting until harvests were gathered in the late autumn. In the winter months he mastered the branches of learning taught in the village school, and then in order to continue his education he attended the normal school at Fayette, Ohio. Through two winter seasons he engaged in teaching in Ohio, but regarded this merely as an initial step to other professional labor. He determined to make the practice of medicine his life work, and to this end entered the State University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, where he took his first two courses of lectures. He then entered the medical department of the Northwestern University at Chicago and was graduated in 1886. Dr. Markley first practiced for a brief period in Nebraska, but came to Winnebago county in 1887, though he did not take up his residence in Rockford until 1895. Here he opened an office, and as the years have passed by his business has increased to gratifying proportions. During the past five or six years he has given considerable attention to sur-

gery and has successfully performed a large number of operations for appendicitis, in fact nearly three hundred cases in the past six years. He has a comprehensive knowledge of anatomy, a steady nerve and a delicacy of touch and nervous sensibility that prove valuable factors in his surgical work. He is also a surgeon to St. Anthony's Hospital and president of the Winnebago County Medical Society, the Illinois State Medical Society, the Central Wisconsin Medical Society and the American Medical Association. In 1809 he and William Crotty founded St. Anthony's Hospital, and with the assistance financially and morally of the other physicians of Rockford and vicinity have created an institution that stands to-day as a monument to their enterprise.

In 1886 Dr. Markley married Miss Hanna McHoes, and they have one son, Paul L., Jr. Dr. Markley belongs to Star in the East lodge, No. 166, A. F. & A. M., of Rockford, and in his professional career has ample opportunity to exemplify the teachings of Masonry and to show forth the spirit of the craft which is based upon brotherly kindness and mutual helpfulness.

PATRICK H. REYNOLDS.

Patrick H. Reynolds is the prosperous owner of the Palace Horseshoeing Shop of Rockford and is well known in business circles here because of his reliability, for the excellent work done in his establishment and for a laudable ambition that has prompted earnest effort leading to success. He was born in Cook county, Illinois, in 1856 and has made his home in Rockford since 1875. He was left an orphan when a babe and began earning his living when but twelve years of age. His education was acquired in the public schools and after his arrival in this city in 1875 he began working at the blacksmith's trade, having previously served an apprenticeship with Ed Doyle at Sycamore, Illinois. Later he was employed by T. I. Colby, with whom he continued for eighteen years, and in 1893 he began business on his own account without a dollar in capital. Later he made arrangements to purchase a home without capital but his untiring industry and capable management enabled him to discharge his indebtedness in a brief period. He worked for seven years in an old building and then built a fine shop at a cost of six thousand dollars. The Palace Horseshoeing Shop is the most palatial and best equipped establishment of its kind in the world. The building is lighted throughout with electricity and there is a fine office with both phones. The building is a two-story brick structure ceiled inside with Georgia pine and all of the doors and windows are screened. The forges are built of pressed

brick and the shop is located in the alley between First and Madison streets north of State street. Four horseshoers are kept busy all the time and Mr. Reynolds carries a larger stock of implements in his line than any other three shops in the city.

In 1885 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Reynolds and Miss Mary A. Welsh, a native of Ireland. They now have three children: Henry, who was educated at St. Beade College; Charles, who is attending the Sisters' school; and Nellie, who is in the millinery business. They have also lost three children.

Mr. Reynolds is an earnest democrat, recognized as one of the local leaders of his party and in 1905 was elected alderman from the first ward, receiving the largest vote given to any member of the city council of Rockford with one exception. He has likewise been park commissioner for two years. He is a member of six fraternal life insurance societies and also has membership relations with the Eagles while both he and his wife are communicants of the Catholic church, to the support of which he contributes most liberally. In his life he has largely followed the golden rule, doing unto others as he would have them do unto him, and in his business has made a most creditable record, owing his success and advancement to untiring industry. He does not owe a dollar and never incurs an obligation that he can not meet and within the last seven years he has accumulated property to the value of nearly fifteen thousand dollars. He owns the home where he resides at No. 628 Longwood street and he delights to supply his family with the comforts and conveniences of life. He has certainly won splendid success and his history is a creditable one, proving what may be accomplished through persistent and earnest effort guided by sound judgment.

GEORGE S. ELLIS.

George S. Ellis, who is engaged in blacksmithing in Rockton, was born in Canada, in 1840. His father, David Ellis, was a native of Vermont, and in early life removed to Canada, whence he came to Illinois in 1845. He followed farming in Owen township, entering land from the government. He secured one hundred and twenty acres in his claim and with characteristic energy began its cultivation, for not a furrow had been turned nor an improvement made when the family came into its possession. He lived there until his death, but did not long have the privilege of enjoying his new home, for he passed away about 1847 or 1848, when fifty years of age. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Maria Spencer, was a



P. H. REYNOLDS.

native of Michigan and died in 1851, at the age of fifty-three years. They were the parents of ten children, of whom three are now living: Henry, who was a soldier of the Civil war and makes his home in Rockford; George S., of this review; and Hannah, the widow of J. B. Conklin.

George S. Ellis was reared to manhood in this county, and in his youth learned the blacksmith's trade, which he has followed in Rockton for the past thirty years. His life has been a busy one, and whatever success he has achieved or enjoyed is attributable to his own efforts, being the result of his persistency of purpose and his unfaltering attention to the pursuit in which as a young tradesman he embarked.

Mr. Ellis was married in Rockton to Miss Ruth Knapp, a native of Vermont, who came to Harrison township, Winnebago county, with her parents in 1847, her father being William Knapp. Five children graced this marriage, of whom three are living: Emma, the wife of Barney Estes, by whom she has two children, Jessie and Fannie; Lena, the wife of Edward Shortliff and the mother of three children, Hazel, Florence and Edward; and William, who married Carrie Chatzey and has six children, Ralph, Arthur, Ora, Ruth, Clifford and Lois. Mr. and Mrs. Ellis also lost one daughter, Flora, who became the wife of Charles Seigel, and at her death left a son, Charles F.

In his political views Mr. Ellis is a republican, interested in the growth and success of his party, which he has supported continuously since casting his first presidential ballot for Abraham Lincoln. He served for about eleven years on the school board, was constable of Rockton township for some time and has been a member of the village board and in all these offices has been true to the general good. They have been conferred upon him by reason of his fidelity to duty and his progressive citizenship. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity of Rockton, and is a man held in the highest esteem because of his character worth.

F. L. BLACKMAN.

F. L. Blackman, a retired shoe merchant, whose successful life finds visible evidence in his palatial home at No. 215 North First street in Rockford, was born in Genesee county, New York, in October, 1835. His parents, Levi and Amy (Dean) Blackman, were early settlers of the Empire state, the father becoming one of the pioneer merchants of central New York. He was the founder of a town on Tonawanda creek, which he named North Pembroke, and he was instrumental in securing the postoffice there and served as the first postmaster. He was likewise the first merchant of the town, and was for many years the leading

spirit in all of its progressive movements and enterprises. Eventually, however, he came with his family to the west, locating in Rockford about 1857. Here he established a shoe store on the ground where the City Hotel was later built, and for some time was one of the prominent merchants and representative business men here. Both he and his wife spent their remaining days in Rockford. They had two sons: F. L. Blackman, of this review; and George W. Blackman, who, after spending some years in Rockford, went to the west and located near Alexandria, South Dakota, on a farm of four hundred acres. He was a successful agriculturist and stock-raiser, his well directed labors bringing him a gratifying measure of prosperity. Upon that farm he reared his family and spent his remaining days, passing away there in January, 1905, survived by his widow and three sons. Mrs. Blackman still resides in Alexandria. One of her sons, Frank Blackman, is an attorney and real-estate dealer residing in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and is also serving as city auditor there. The second son, George T., is a partner of his brother Frank, and makes his home in Sioux Falls; while Dean, the youngest of the family, is living upon the old home farm near Alexandria.

F. L. Blackman supplemented his early educational privileges by study in the Carryville Collegiate Seminary of New York, and later engaged in merchandising in Alabama, New York, for two years. On the expiration of that period he sold out and removed to Rockford, in 1860, and soon afterward he purchased the grocery business of Charles Ubell, located where the Young Men's Christian Association building now stands. Having conducted the store for two years, he again sold out and turned his attention to his shoe trade, being for a number of years one of the successful shoe merchants of this city. Eventually he removed to Chicago, where he conducted a wholesale boot and shoe business for several years, returning then to Rockford, where he again established a retail store, conducting the same with constantly growing success until 1898, when he retired. As a merchant he had the entire confidence and good will of his business associates and contemporaries, being known as a most reliable representative of commercial interests here, never making engagements that he did not fill nor incurring obligations that he did not meet. His business record stands in exemplification of the old adage that "honesty is the best policy" and also illustrates the fact that "there is no excellence without labor."

In 1863 Mr. Blackman returned to Genesee county, New York, where on the 5th of January of that year he was united in marriage to Miss Alice Halsey, who was born near Rochester, New York, on the 31st of March, 1840, her parents

being Edward and Nancy (Gauch) Halsey. Her father was a very prosperous farmer of Genesee county, and both he and his wife died in the east. In their family were a daughter and son, Mrs. Blackman and Henry Halsey. The latter, a resident of Oakfield, New York, owns a large flouring mill, is also engaged in the coal business and follows farming on an extensive scale. He has two sons; Frederick, who is engaged in business with his father; and Bruce, a member of the medical fraternity of New York city, who was graduated from the Buffalo Medical College and also of the Louisville (Kentucky) Medical College. Mr. and Mrs. Blackman became the parents of one son, Eddie, who was born in 1869 and died in 1871.

Mr. Blackman and his wife own and occupy a beautiful residence at No. 215 North First street, which he built a few years ago, and which is one of the most palatial homes of the east side. He also has considerable real estate in South Dakota, having from time to time made purchases of land—the safest of all investments. His political allegiance has been given to the republican party since he cast his ballot for its first presidential nominee, John C. Fremont, in 1856. He has voted for every candidate at the head of the ticket since that time, but has stoutly refused to accept office himself, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs. He is a member of the Masonic lodge and is a liberal supporter of the Congregational church, to which he and his wife belong. He has resided in Rockford much of the time for a third of a century and stands today among its foremost men because of his former activity in business affairs, his championship of progressive measures for the public good and his allegiance to all that is honorable and straightforward in man's relations with his fellowman.

OLIVER A. CRANDALL.

Oliver A. Crandall, whose death occurred October 10, 1880, was born at Penfield, Monroe county, New York, December 31, 1827. His parents were Jairus and Sarah Crandall, both of whom were natives of the Empire state, where they spent most of their lives. Oliver obtained a common school education and learned the cooper's trade. He removed to Beloit, Wisconsin, in 1845, where he worked at his trade until 1865, when he came to Rockford, establishing a large cooper shop on the water power, conducting all kinds of cooperage, etc., successfully for several years. He was then employed as traveling salesman by the Rockford Knitting Works of this city, and for seven years sold hosiery in California, after which he returned to Rockford to ac-

cept a position as a representative of the company here. He was a republican in politics, was a member of the Masonic fraternity, of the Order of the Eastern Star and Royal Arcanum. In business affairs he was reliable and trustworthy, and enjoyed the confidence of those he represented. Mr. Crandall took a deep interest in church work, was a member of the Court Street Methodist Episcopal church, serving as Sabbath school superintendent and leader of the choir for several years. He also belonged to a number of glee clubs of the city, and his musical talent made him a favorite in social circles. To his family he left an untarnished name, and his memory will ever be enshrined in the hearts of those who knew him.

In 1847, while residing at Beloit, Wisconsin, he married Miss Sarah F. Carpenter, a native of Hoosick, Rensselaer county, New York. She was born July 27, 1828. Her parents were George and Phebe (Crandall) Carpenter, the former a native of Williamstown, Massachusetts, the latter of Rensselaer county, New York. The father spent the greater part of his life in the Empire state, and was engaged in farming. He came west in 1843 and settled on a tract of land in Rockton township, where he lived until 1871, when he removed to Rockford, his death occurring in 1872. His widow, who is still living with her daughter, Mrs. Crandall, is one hundred years of age. She is the oldest lady in Rockford, and she yet retains her faculties in a remarkable degree, having a most retentive memory. On the occasion of her one hundredth anniversary, November 10, 1904, she was tendered a reception, many being present. Only two of her children are living, Mrs. Crandall and Martha A. Hyatt, widow of Jabez A. Hyatt, of Ithaca, New York. One son, David H. Carpenter, died May 25, 1890. Mr. Hyatt was born September 2, 1831, and removed from Ithaca to Beloit in 1855. At the outbreak of the Civil war he enlisted in defense of the Union cause as a member of the Sixth Wisconsin Regiment on the 28th of August, 1862, and was killed at the battle of Bull Run. Mrs. Hyatt is living with her sister and mother. Mr. and Mrs. Crandall were the parents of two children: Helen M. Dunham, who makes her home with her mother, at 1006 Rockton avenue; and George, who died in infancy.

DAVID CARPENTER.

David Carpenter, uncle of Mrs. Crandall and Mrs. Hyatt, was born in Berkshire county, Massachusetts, March 18, 1808, and died March 9, 1897. He was married to Miss Julia Pettibone, of St. Lawrence county, New York, in 1836, com-



GEORGE CARPENTER.



JACOB HYATT.



O. A. CRANDALL.



MRS. PHEBE CARPENTER,
one hundred years old
November 16, 1904.

ing to Winnebago county on their wedding trip and settling on a large farm near Rockton on the west side of the river. Mrs. Carpenter was the first white woman to settle on that side. When they came through Chicago it consisted of old Fort Dearborn and a cluster of houses. They came from Chicago by team, it requiring six days for the journey, and it seemed to them they were going to a far country indeed, but when they came in sight of the valley filled with groves and wild flowers they greatly rejoiced and felt that they had reached the "promised land." At an early gathering of neighbors Mrs. Carpenter was the only professing Christian, and she urged the importance of Christian observances, and through her effort a society was founded and finally a church built, Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter becoming the charter members. Rockton owes much of its moral status to these early settlers.

Mr. Carpenter was elected and served as supervisor several years. He was also one of the first jurors of the county, was president of the board of village trustees five years, and was superintendent and trustee of the Congregational church twelve years. At one time he, with several brothers and a sister, owned all the land between Rockton and Beloit, Wisconsin, on the west side of Rock river. The bridge at Rockton is still known as the Carpenter bridge. Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter had one son, Luman N., who is still living, at Lovelocks, Nevada. Mrs. Carpenter died January 28, 1901, greatly beloved by all who knew her. There are but few families better known in Winnebago county than the Carpenters.

JAMES A. WARREN.

The world is better for the life of every successful and honorable man. His labors contribute to the sum total of human accomplishment and his example must serve as a source of inspiration and encouragement to others, showing what lies within the power of accomplishment to him who possesses ambition, determination and industry. Such has been the history of James A. Warren, now deceased, who was well known in Rockford. His birth occurred in Washington county, New York, May 30, 1829. His parents spent the greater part of their lives in that county, locating there during the epoch of its pioneer development, but the father died while on a visit in Lynnville, Illinois.

James A. Warren made his home in Washington county, New York, for nearly forty years and in early life he learned the cabinet-maker's trade and afterward successfully engaged in the furniture business, conducting all his mercantile in-

terests with due regard to a high standard of commercial ethics. He afterward went to Albany, New York, where he was connected with the hotel business as landlord of the City Hotel for fifteen years. In the meantime he had prospered in his undertakings and on the expiration of that period, having acquired a handsome competence, he retired from the hotel and built a fine home near the Hudson river. For several years thereafter he was not actively connected with business interests, but later went to Chatham, New York, where he became proprietor of a boot and shoe store, which he conducted until 1888—the year of his removal to the west.

Mr. Warren was first married in Hartford, New York, to Miss Sarah Merithew, who died in Chatham, leaving one son, C. M. Warren, who is now engaged in the dry goods business in Catskill, New York. It was after coming to Rockford that Mr. Warren was married again, his second union being with Mrs. Thankful (Brown) Roberts, the marriage being celebrated in the house yet owned and occupied by his widow. She was a native of Cortland, New York, and a daughter of Abiel and Prudence (Church) Brown, both of whom were natives of the Empire state. They removed to the west in 1860, settling in Rochelle, Ogle county, Illinois, where the father followed farming until called to his final rest. Their daughter, Thankful, was first married in Rochelle, becoming the wife of John C. Roberts, of Lynnville, Illinois, who during his residence in Ogle county was well known to his friends as "Uncle John." He was born in Orange county, New York, and was a soldier of the Mexican war, enlisting in the service at Oswego, Illinois. He became a pioneer settler of Ogle county, Illinois, and was engaged in farming in the vicinity of Lynnville for several years, becoming one of the enterprising and prosperous agriculturists of his community. His land was secured from the government. His devotion to the general good and his fitness for leadership led to his selection for several township offices. He afterward removed to Monroe Center, Ogle county, where he was engaged in the real-estate business and in loaning money, both in that county and Rockford. He also conducted other business enterprises there and was postmaster of the town for several years. He held membership in the Masonic fraternity and the Knights of Pythias lodge of Rockford, and had a wide and favorable acquaintance among his brethren of those fraternities. He seemed to know that death was near and made arrangements for his funeral, which was to be conducted by the Masons and the Elks of Rockford. He passed away in Monroe Center March 10, 1891, and his remains were interred in the cemetery of Rockford, the funeral services being the first ever held in the Christian Union

church of this city. Mr. and Mrs. Roberts had one son, Frank Charles, who married Myrtie Earl, and is now a traveling salesman, residing at Rochelle, Illinois. Mr. Roberts had one son by a former marriage, Thomas S., who is living in Chicago, where he is a traveling railroad inspector.

Following his removal to the west Mr. Warren engaged in no active business pursuits, but lived retired in Rockford until his death, which occurred April 17, 1903, when his remains were taken back to Hartford, New York, for interment. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity and Eastern Star here and in his life exemplified its beneficent, kindly spirit, and both he and his wife held membership with the Eastern Star lodge of this city. Mrs. Warren still owns a fine residence on the Hudson which was once her husband's home. Mr. Warren was a republican in politics, while Mr. Roberts was a democrat and took a very active interest in the work of his party. Mrs. Warren attends the State Street Baptist church of Rockford. She and her son still own the old Roberts homestead farm near Lynnville, Illinois, comprising four hundred acres of valuable land, which they rent. She also has a beautiful home at No. 1613 East State street in Rockford, where she resides, and she is prominent in social circles here, while her own home is justly celebrated for its gracious and charming hospitality.

JOHN T. LA FORGE.

John T. La Forge, who is engaged in rendering tallow and dealing in hides at his place of business in New Milford, is a well known representative of manufacturing interests in Winnebago county, and he has a wide and favorable acquaintance in Rockford, his enterprise and reliability gaining for him the respect and confidence of those with whom he has been brought in contact. He is a native son of Rockford, born in 1870. His father, C. C. La Forge, is a contractor, engaged in sidewalk building in Rockford.

No event of special importance occurred during the boyhood and youth of our subject, who was reared in the city and obtained his education in the public schools of Rockford and in a business college. For the past ten years he has devoted his energies to his present line of business—dealing in hides and tallow. He has a plant at New Milford and employs about a half dozen men in its operation, also having three teams for collecting material for rendering. He has recently entered into the manufacture of fertilizers to supply the local demand of farmers and trucksters. He had previously handled fertilizers for

Swift & Company, of Chicago. There are only two enterprises of this character in Winnebago county, that belonging to Mr. La Forge being situated just within the township limits of New Milford. He has a fine sewerage system in connection with the plant, and the business has reached extensive and profitable proportions.

In 1888 Mr. La Forge was united in marriage to Miss Hattie Johnson, of this county, who came here in her early girlhood days. They have five children, John, Walter, Raymond, Ralph and Fernie. In his political adherence Mr. La Forge is a republican, believing firmly in the principles of the party as embodied in its platform. He belongs to Rockford camp, No. 51, M. W. A., and is a member of the Court Street Methodist church.

G. E. EKEBERG.

G. E. Ekeberg, who from the age of twelve years has been dependent upon his own resources, justly winning the proud American title of a self-made man, is now successfully engaged in the dry goods and millinery business as a member of the firm of Hill & Ekeberg. He is a native son of Rockford, his birth having occurred in this city in 1874. His father, John F. Ekeberg, was an early resident here, coming to America from Sweden, his native land. By trade he was a cabinet-maker and was employed in the different furniture factories of this state. His death occurred, however, about eighteen years ago, when he was more than forty years of age. His widow still survives him and makes her home in Rockford. She, too, is a native of Sweden. The members of the family are: Albert, who is in the employ of his brother G. E.; Joseph, who is employed in the Illinois Sewing Machine Works; and Mrs. G. W. Glynn, of Chicago.

G. E. Ekeberg, spending his boyhood days in his parents' home, entered the public schools of Rockford at the usual age of six years, and was advanced through consecutive grades until at the age of twelve years he started out in life for himself. Whatever success he has enjoyed or achieved has resulted entirely from his own labors. When thirteen years of age he became connected with the dry goods trade, and has continued in this line to the present time. He has been associated with Anton Hill for the past ten or twelve years, remaining in his employ for a number of years, while for four years the present partnership of Hill & Ekeberg has been maintained. The store at Nos. 510-512 Seventh street is under the management of the junior partner, and was established in April, 1901, while the original store is at No. 404 East State street, and is under the supervision of Mr. Hill. At the former store from

twelve to fifteen people are employed, and the stock occupies a double store building and comprises a carefully selected and complete line of dry goods and millinery. The house enjoys a liberal patronage and the business is constantly growing as the direct result of the efforts of Mr. Ekeberg, whose long experience in the dry goods line well qualifies him for the conduct of this business. He forms his plans readily and is determined in their execution, watches carefully all the details of the business so as to save needless expense, and at the same time he closely studies the desires of the public, that he may be ready to meet any demands made in his line.

Mr. Ekeberg was married in Rockford to Miss Olga Haglund, a daughter of John Haglund, who is residing on Eleventh street in this city. Mr. Ekeberg erected a home on Third avenue, and it is a favorite resort to their many friends. In his religious views he is a Lutheran, belonging to Emanuel church, and in his political faith he is a republican. As every true American citizen should do, he feels an interest in the political situation of the country and the issues which arise before the people, but has never sought the honors or emoluments of public office, preferring always to concentrate his attention and energies upon the control of his many business enterprises.

CHARLES A. LUNDVALL.

Charles A. Lundvall is one of the prominent and influential citizens of Guilford township, controlling important business interests and standing as the champion of progress and improvement in the county, so that his value in public affairs and as a promoter of agricultural and industrial activity, is widely acknowledged.

Mr. Lundvall was born in Smoland, Sweden, May 3, 1850. His father is the owner of a farm in that country and is now living retired there at the age of eighty-three years. His first wife, the mother of our subject, died in 1865, and the father afterward married Miss Lena C. Samuelson, by whom he had two children, both of whom are now married and reside in Sweden. Charles A. Lundvall is the third of four children born of the father's first marriage, of whom three are living in America—J. O. Lundvall, who owns and operates a farm near Dayton, Iowa; Charles A.; and Mrs. P. Larson, of Winnebago county. The other sister is Sophia, the wife of N. P. Dahlburg, a farmer of Sweden.

Charles A. Lundvall spent his boyhood days in Sweden and in the spring of 1867, when seventeen years of age, crossed the Atlantic to America, to benefit by the improved business conditions

which he had heard were offered in the new world. He arrived in Winnebago county in 1867 and since 1869 has been identified with its industrial interests as a manufacturer of brick, successfully carrying on the business for thirty-six consecutive years. He established his present brick plant in 1900 and employs from sixteen to twenty-two men, manufacturing eighteen thousand brick daily, which output is mainly consumed by the local trade. The product is a very marketable commodity and he finds no difficulty in disposing of all he can manufacture. Mr. Lundvall is also interested in various other business enterprises, including the Union Grocery Company, in which he owns considerable stock. His farm property comprises one hundred and fifty-two acres of valuable land, which he has placed under a high state of cultivation and on which he has made many fine improvements, including the erection of a beautiful and modern home supplied with all conveniences. He has also purchased the timber rights on forty acres of land and operates a portable sawmill, cutting considerable lumber through the winter seasons.

Mr. Lundvall was married, in Chicago, in 1882, to Miss Augusta C. Swanson, who in 1868 came with her sister Louisa, now a resident of Rockford, to America from Sweden, their native land. Their parents are both deceased. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Lundvall have been born six children: Hulda R., Alice R., Albion S., Julia E., Henry L. and Charles E. Alice R. is now the wife of Walter Peterson, of Rockford, and at present they reside in Denver. Albion S. is a graduate of the law department of Dixon College, at Dixon, Illinois, and intends to engage in practice as a life work.

Mr. and Mrs. Lundvall are prominent members and active workers in the First Lutheran church at Rockford. He has served for many years as a trustee of the church and was a member of the building committee at the time of the erection of their fine new house of worship. In politics he has always been a staunch republican but has never been an office seeker. However, he has been a member of the school board for several years and he is never remiss in any duty of citizenship but on the contrary supports loyally and enthusiastically every measure or movement which he deems will prove of public good. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to seek a home in the United States for his hope of being benefited thereby has been more than realized. He has improved the opportunities here offered in this land where competition is greater but where advancement is more quickly secured, and he stands to-day among the prosperous men of the county who owe their enviable financial position to their own efforts. On his

part desire prompted effort and effort resulted in accomplishment, and his history is an exemplification of what may be done through persistent purpose when guided by laudable ambition and clear judgment.

RICHARD S. ALLEN.

Richard S. Allen, deceased, for many years a resident of Rockford, was numbered with its early settlers, having located here in 1840. He was a native of Probus, Cornwall, England, born November 28, 1833, a son of Thomas Allen and a grandson of Henry Allen, both natives of Probus, in which place the grandfather spent his entire life, following the stonemason's trade. The father, Thomas Allen, was also a stonemason, who continued his residence in his native town and was there married to Miss Margaret Secomb, a daughter of Samuel and Joanna Secomb. Thomas Allen died in Probus in 1841, his wife surviving until 1843. They were the parents of ten children: Samuel, Elizabeth, Mary, John, Mary (2d), Henry, Emma, Edwin, Richard S. and William. Mary (1st) and Henry died in England but the others of the family came to America, making their homes in the Prairie state and nearly all are yet residents of Illinois. Samuel enlisted in Company D, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry and was killed at the battle of Little Fort, South Carolina. John Allen was a manufacturer of artificial stone in Rockford and is now living retired in this city.

Richard S. Allen received but a common-school education in his native country and there began to learn the trade of a cutter in a tailor shop. In 1840, in company with some of his brothers and sisters, he sailed for America and made his way direct to Rockford, where he secured employment in the tailoring establishment of Joe Burns. He afterward worked for Wallach & Bacherach for a short time and then accepted a position in the shop of George R. Atkinson, a leading tailor of Rockford, with whom he remained for twelve years, at the end of which time he began business on his own account, opening a tailoring establishment on his own account on East State street, where he remained for several years. He then removed to the west side, where he conducted business for several years, after which he returned to the employ of Mr. Atkinson.

On the 22d of July, 1857, Mr. Allen was married, in Beloit, Wisconsin, to Miss Clarissa Jane Woodworth, a native of Durham, Canada, born December 7, 1830, and a daughter of Gresham and Clarissa (Hill) Woodworth, the former a

native of the state of New York and the latter of Canada. The father, removing to Canada, there resided until 1840, when he came to Winnebago county and purchased a farm in Guilford township, where he carried on general agricultural pursuits until his death. Mrs. Woodworth then came to Rockford, where she made her home with her children until her demise. Mr. and Mrs. Allen became the parents of three children. Frank S., the eldest, a glazier by trade, married Carrie E. Smith, of Rockford, a daughter of H. T. Smith, who was a stonemason by trade and formerly resided in this city but is now living in Kansas. Frank S. Allen and his wife reside in Rockford with his mother and they have one son, Howard R., born February 9, 1895. Charles died at the age of ten months, and Hattie died at the age of fourteen months.

Mr. Allen continued to work at his trade until 1892, when he gave up business on account of ill health and lived retired for about eleven years, and on the 9th of February, 1904, he died at his home on Harlem avenue. He was never an office seeker but was always a staunch republican and took an active interest in the adoption of the principles of the party. He held membership in Rockford lodge, No. 102, F. & A. M., and in the Ancient Order of United Workmen and was true to the principles of those orders. Mrs. Allen, her son and his wife are all members of the State Street Baptist church, and they have one of the fine homes of the city, recently erected at No. 1107 Harlem avenue. Mr. Allen belonged to that class of citizens who form the real strength of the country—men who are industrious and reliable in business, who favor public progress and co-operate in those movements which secure the greatest good to the greatest number. He did not seek self-aggrandizement, but sought the general welfare, and he was worthy of high respect.

JOSIAH SHEPARDSON.

Josiah Shepardson, a retired farmer residing in the village of Harrison, came to Illinois in 1852, and after a year spent at St. Charles, Kane county, where he engaged in farming, he took up his abode in Rockford, since which time he has largely lived in Winnebago county. He is a native of Erie county, Pennsylvania, born November 12, 1827, and his parents were Seth and Minerva (Blakesley) Shepardson, the former a native of Guilford, Vermont, and the latter of Erie county, Pennsylvania. The father was a blacksmith by trade and conducted an ax factory near Jamestown, New York, for some time, but his last days



RICHARD S. ALLEN.

were spent in Erie county, Pennsylvania, where his death occurred. His widow was afterward brought by her son Josiah to Winnebago county, and died here many years ago on the 4th of December, 1876, when sixty-nine years of age. In their family were two sons and two daughters, all of whom are yet living: Emra, who has been connected with the circus during the greater part of his life; Ruby Ann, who became the wife of a Mr. Luther, of Pennsylvania, and is now a widow residing at San Diego, California; and Mrs. Christina Clement, who makes her home at Los Angeles, California.

Josiah Shepardson, the other member of the family, was reared in the east, acquiring his education in the public schools there, and in early manhood, anxious to make the most of his opportunities, he came to the Mississippi valley, hoping to benefit his financial condition in this part of the country. He was for seven years prior to coming to Illinois engaged in boating on the Erie canal in the state of New York. His first farm tract was in Kane county, this state, where he spent a year, and afterward was for a year in Rockford, during which time he was employed on the section of the railroad just being builded to the county seat. He next removed to Rockton and purchased a team and wagon, after which he engaged in teaming for some time by way of Savannah into Jones county, Iowa. He carried goods both ways and was quite successful. He later secured sixteen acres of land in Rockton township. Having lost one of his horses he traded his remaining horse and wagon for the sixteen-acre tract upon which he lived for three years. He also engaged in teaching school for three winters, having secured his certificate by passing an examination before H. H. Waldo, then county superintendent. He walked from the town of Harrison to Rockford, fifteen miles, and back again the same day with a foot of snow on the ground, and he began teaching the next day. After living on his first farm of sixteen acres for three years he purchased sixty acres of land, upon which he made his home for five years, and subsequently he bought an additional tract of eighty acres adjoining but lying across the boundary line in Harrison township. To the further cultivation and improvement of his forty-acre farm he then gave his time and energies for some years, but eventually sold a part of this and bought one hundred acres more in Shirland township, west of Pecatonica river. After having disposed of a part of that to Frank Cleveland, he bought the Oakes farm of one hundred and twenty acres on section 17, Harrison township, and this he still owns. He also purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land in Shirland township known as the Bennett farm, and both farms are now being operated by his sons. His landed possessions aggregate two

hundred and forty acres in the townships of Shirland and Harrison, and he also has several residence properties in the village of Harrison. Although his capital at the time of his arrival in Winnebago county consisted of but sixty dollars, he is to-day one of the prosperous citizens of the northern part of the county, and his success is attributable entirely to his own labors.

In April, 1849, in Erie county, Pennsylvania, Mr. Shepardson was married to Miss Cordelia A. Bartlett, who was born in Steuben county, New York, April 17, 1833, and is a daughter of David and Mary (Fawcett) Bartlett. Her father died in 1833, and her mother passed away in Brockport, New York, in 1878, at the age of eighty-six years. Mrs. Shepardson had one brother and one sister: Chester, who died in Brockport a number of years ago; and Martha, who married Orin W. Turner, of Chicago, but both are deceased. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Shepardson have been born seven children, five of whom are living: Seth D., born in October, 1857, and now following farming at McLean, North Dakota, is married and has five children: Annie is the wife of Amos Conklin, residing at Rockford; May is the wife of Thomas Atkinson, of Rockford, and they have one son; J. Clinton, a farmer of Shirland, is married and has three children: Elbert Le Roy, a resident farmer of Harrison township, is married and has four children. Those who have passed away are Charles L., who died at the age of seventeen years; and Chester at the age of two years.

Mr. Shepardson is a democrat in his political views, although he voted for Abraham Lincoln. He has served as assessor and collector for nine years in Harrison township, was justice of the peace for two terms, resigning on account of poor health, and was prompt and faithful in the discharge of his official duties. His wife is a member of the Congregational church, and they were formerly members of the Good Templars Society and of the Grange. Mr. Shepardson is now enjoying a well earned rest at his pleasant home in the village of Harrison. He may truly be called a self-made man, as he owes his prosperity entirely to his earnest labor and close application. He has followed a definite plan of action in his business life and his energy and capable management have been the means of bringing him in a very gratifying competence.

SYLVESTER CLAUDE ANDRUS, M. D.

Dr. Sylvester Claude Andrus, who is accorded a gratifying practice in recognition of his learning and skill as a representative of the medical fraternity and is now a physician to St. Anthony's Hospital of Rockford and a member of the hos-

pital staff, was born in Pecatonica, Winnebago county, on the 20th of April, 1872. He is a son of Henry and Jane (Love) Andrus, who are mentioned on another page of this volume. He attended the public schools and passed through successive grades until he had completed the high school course, graduating with the class of 1890 at Cherry Valley. His taste tended toward a professional life, and he became a student in the Northwestern University of Chicago, completing a course in the medical department with the class of 1897.

Thus well qualified for his chosen profession, he located in Rockford and almost immediately began a lucrative practice. Since that time his business has constantly grown, and he is now a worthy and capable representative of the medical fraternity of Winnebago county. He belongs to the Winnebago County Medical Society, the State Medical Society and the American Medical Association, and through the interchange of thought and experiences in the meetings of those organizations he keeps informed concerning the progress that is continually being made in the practice of medicine and surgery. Always ready to adopt new methods which he believes will prove of benefit in alleviating suffering and checking the ravages of disease, he is at the same time slow to discard old and time-honored methods, whose value has been proven.

Dr. Andrus was married to Miss Edna Priest, of Chicago, in which city she was born. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity, a charter member of the Elks lodge, No. 64, has attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite in Masonry, belonging to Freeport consistory, and he is also a member of a Greek letter society.

MRS. DELIA A. CHAPPELL.

Mrs. Delia A. Chappell, making her home in Rockford township, is well known here, having for many years resided in Winnebago county. She is the widow of John C. Chappell, who died on the 1st of July, 1889, when more than sixty years of age, his birth having occurred in Massachusetts in June, 1829. He was a son of Palmer and Sylvia (Hitchcock) Chappell and represented an old family of Massachusetts. When quite young he accompanied his parents on their removal to the state of New York and there he was reared by an uncle until twenty-one years of age. He afterward engaged in the hardware business in the east until his health failed him and, thinking he might be benefited by outdoor life, he turned his attention to farming. He then came to the middle west, settling in Winnebago county, Illinois,

in 1855. Here he purchased a tract of land of one hundred and thirty-five acres, which is now in possession of his widow, and taking up his home thereon he made it his place of residence until his death. He was an active man of affairs and wielded a wide influence not only in agricultural circles but also as the supporter of progressive measures for the general good. He served as school director and supervisor and whether in office or out of it he was always loyal to the general welfare and his efforts in behalf of public improvement were far-reaching and beneficial.

Mr. Chappell was united in marriage to Mrs. Lottie Curtice, who died in 1865, leaving three children. The eldest, Azur C. Chappell, residing upon a part of the old homestead, was married to Miss Elizabeth Bailey, of this county, and they have two children: John C., who was born in 1887; and Ella G., who was born in 1880. Azur C. Chappell now has a farm of one hundred and thirty acres of arable land, constituting one of the best improved properties of his locality. Ella G. Chappell, the next member of the family, is the wife of B. F. Searls, of Rockford. Alice S. became the wife of Nelson Crampton and died here in 1877.

In December, 1870, Mr. Chappell was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Delia A. Lansing, nee Brooks, who was born in New Hampshire and was a daughter of Freeman and Candace (Chellise) Brooks, who removed to the state of New York when Mrs. Chappell was but five years of age. They later came to Henry county, Illinois, where they spent their last days. Mrs. Chappell was married to Mr. Lansing in the Empire state in 1845 and came to the west in 1859, locating in Rockford, where her husband engaged in the drug business up to the time of his death. He passed away in December, 1863, at the age of forty-three years. There were two sons of that marriage: Edwin H. Lansing, who is residing in Maine; and Robert W. Lansing, who makes his home in Boise City, Idaho. By the second marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Chappell there was one son, John, who now resides in Rockford, where he is connected with the Weyburn plant. He is also interested in the farm with his mother. He married Emma Mutimer and they have a son, Guy J., now ten years of age.

Mrs. Chappell has rented the farm, although she resides in the old home. Mr. Chappell was a staunch and inflexible republican in his political views and his sons have followed in his footsteps in this particular. In early life he belonged to the Grange and he was a member of the Winnebago Street Methodist Episcopal church. When he was called from this life his loss was deeply felt by his family, to whom he

was a devoted husband and father; in the church, where he was loyal to its teachings; and in his community, where he furthered every substantial measure for the general good. His widow belongs to the Congregational church of Rockford, of which she has been a faithful member for over forty years. The accompanying picture shows four generations—Mrs. Chappell, R. W. Lansing, Mrs. Clara (Lansing) Knox and Alta Knox.

DAVID S. SCHUREMAN.

David S. Schureman, who has gained distinction as an architect, evidences of his handiwork being seen in fine buildings in various cities of the country, while in Rockford many important structures have been erected after designs that he has furnished, was born in Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania, April 29, 1854, and is a representative in the sixth generation of the descendants of Garrett Schureman, who was the third generation, making our subject the ninth. The family have the following history of the family. There have been Schuremans in Germany and Schuermans in the Netherlands but it has not been ascertained whether they were of one family, or of independent lines.

"About the year 1300 Hermann Schurman held, in fee, a hide of land at Scuren, i. e., Scheuren, near Dortmund, Arnsberg, Westphalia. Later on Johann Schuremann was in possession of the same and of other land, in 1371, at Arnsberg. Johann Schuyrman was enfeoffed, for himself, as well as for his brothers, Everhard and Heinrich, of various lands among the rest, of a "manse at Holland." (Abstract through Dr. Jacob Gould Schurman, from the "History of the Noble Families of Westphalia Cologne, Herberle, Lemperts", 1878—A. Fahne.) According to Fahne, the famous scholar and accomplished woman, Anna Maria Schuerman, was of this line. Although she was born at Cologne, her father and her grandparents were of Antwerp and she was identified with Utrecht and she seems to have asserted herself as a Netherlander.

Frederick, grandfather of Anna Maria, fled from Antwerp, for Cologne, with his wife, who was of the house of the Counts of Lumey, on the night of October 4, 1564, leaving his property and affairs in ruins rather than to give up Evangelical religion. On that day Christopher Smith (Fabricius) had been mangled and then burned at the stake. Frederick, son of Frederick, in 1602, married into a noble family of Cologne, Eva, daughter of ——— von Harf and Lucia Slaan. They had at least four children: Henry Frederick, b. 1603, d. 1632; John Godschalk, b. 1605, d. 1664, a clergyman; Anna Maria, b. November 5, 1607, d. 1678,

single, in the Labadist Community, at Wieuward, Friesland; and William, who died in his sixth year. Anna's father died in 1623, and his widow removed her family to Utrecht, where she died in 1637. It has not been found that either of the sons married. (Abstract by Professor Schurman, from "Kirchen-und Ketzler-Historie," Arnold, 1699; Anna Marie von Schurmann, Tschackert, Gotha, 1876; also "Rise of the Dutch Republic," Motley; and the "Liberators of Holland," Mrs. Charles.)

The name of Schuurman is extant in Utrecht, at the present time, and appeared there in a newspaper, October 15, 1890.

The Schuermans of New York seem to begin with Harman Schuerman, whose name is found at New Amsterdam, in 1649. In the records of the Dutch church, New York, the spelling with the double U is more common, and that is the present form in the Netherlands (Schuurman); but the older form "ue" (Schuerman) is the basis for the spelling now in use in this country (Schureman) by a mere transposition of two letters. The pronunciation Skureman, still prevails. The Royalist branch, who went to the British Provinces, dropped the e (Schurman).

The New Jersey line is an independent one. It began with Jacobus Schuurman, who came from Holland in 1720.

Frederick Harmenszen seems to have been a son of Harmon Schuerman.

Frederick Harmenszen, van Bremen, is in a list "since 1649" of church members at New Amsterdam; and his wife Christina Jans became such church member August 30, 1647. They had children baptized there, 1659-75; and other children within the same period, whose baptisms have not been found. Possibly Frederick was at one time a resident of Stamford, Connecticut. Frederick Schurman, aged eighty, appears in the list of the town of New Rochelle, XBr. 9, 1710 (October). The name of Mary Scurman, aged seventy, there follows his. There is a tradition that he took a sister with him to New Rochelle.

Children of Frederick Schuerman (2) and Christina Jans: Their fifth child was Johannes; bap. N. Y., April 9, 1662, "Harmenszen." He was probably the Johannes Schuerman who owned land at New Rochelle, which formed the boundary of land conveyed to Jacob Scuerman in 1702. (White Plains, Lib. C. p. 126.) He seems to have been, also, the Johannes Schuerman who married Johanna Verveelen, daughter of Daniel Verveelen and Aletta Schaata, of Hackensack. After his death Johanna was married to Nicholas Peterson. (Hist. of Harlem, p. 553.)

Children of Johannes (5) and Johanna Verveelen: Their eldest child was Daniel; bap. Hackensack, May 24, 1708; d. about 1749; m., 1st, Willemtje Blaauvelt; 2d, Elizabeth Helyer. Ob-

tained a lot of land in New York city, April 20, 1747. (Lib. 33, 329.) Last will, August 30, 1749. (Lib. 17, p. 61.)

Children of Daniel (12) and Wilhelmina Bhanvelt; their third child was Gerrit; b. November 27; bap. December 17, 1732; m. New York, March 4, 1754, Wyntje Van der Hoef.

Children of Gerrit (33) and Wyntje Van der Hoef. Their third child was Johannes; bap. October 10, 1759; Witnesses, Pieter Ennis and Maria Van der Hoef; wid. of Jacobus Ryckman; d. Asbury, N. J., 1833. He was left an orphan child and was brought up by his Aunt Steel. He served in the Revolutionary army while still under age. He was married three times. His first wife has been vaguely mentioned as a Miss Valentine or a Miss Day. There was a child, Michael, baptized at Scherectady, October 2, 1770, son of Johan Schurman and Catarina Merlelie.

Children of John (53) and ——— Leonard. Their oldest child was Thomas; m. September 2, 1800, Catherine Applegate. He lived and died at Asbury, N. J. His descendants were mostly in Pennsylvania.

Children of Thomas (79) and Catherine Applegate: Thomas; Henry; William; Bennet; LaFayette, father of the subject of this sketch; Polly; Rachel; Betsey; Catherine; Amanda; and perhaps another daughter.

James Schureman of another branch of the family was a member of Congress from New Jersey from 1786 to 1788 and again from 1797 until 1799. He was then chosen senator from that state to succeed John Rutherford, serving from December, 1799, until February, 1801. He was again elected congressman, his term extending from May 28, 1813, to March, 1815. His business was that of a banker and merchant.

Jacob Gould Schureman, president of Cornell University, like our subject, is a descendant of Garrett Schureman in the sixth generation of the family in this country, and they were born within twenty-three days of each other. In Revolutionary war times there were seven members of the family fighting for independence.

LaFayette Schureman came to Illinois at an early day, settling in Tazewell county, where he followed farming until 1865, and then after the death of his wife he returned to Pennsylvania, where he engaged in business as a contractor and builder. He had three children by his first marriage: David S.; Hattie, who died in infancy; Isabella became the wife of John Tucker, of Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania. By his second marriage he had four children, of whom one died in infancy, while Albert died in Indianapolis, Indiana, in 1902. The surviving son and daughter are: Warren, a resident of Decatur, Illinois; and Jean, the wife of Will Scarborough, a farmer near Delavan, Illinois.

David Schureman, son of LaFayette Schureman, was a student in the common schools of Pittston, Pennsylvania, and in the high school at Scranton, that state, and after putting aside his text-books he drove mules in a mine for a time. He then began working for his father, with whom he remained for three or four years, during which time he mastered the carpenter's trade. He afterward followed that trade for a number of years or until 1871, when he went to Pittsburg, where he became foreman of a building business. In 1873 he removed to St. Louis, Missouri, where he again became a foreman, although at that time but twenty-one years of age. Always fond of music, he began taking vocal lessons under Professor Malmene and sang in Christ church of that city. He likewise became interested in sanitary conditions of buildings, and took up the study of architecture, and previously, while in Pittsburg, he had pursued a course in mathematics. In the season of 1874 and 1875, Louise Kellogg, the noted prima donna, hearing Mr. Schureman sing in St. Louis, engaged him to go upon the road with her opera company. Later he was with the Julia Mathews Opera Company until her death about the close of the season, and in the season of 1875 and 1876 he sang with the Alice Oates Opera Company. This was the extent of his operatic career, for after visiting the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia in 1876 he went to Cincinnati, where he accepted a position with the firm of Duncan & Buntin, contractors, with whom he remained until 1880. In that year he began business for himself as an architect, and among the notable buildings that he planned in that city was the Wesleyan Avenue Baptist church, the Commercial Gazette building, the Hammond building, the Senator Foraker residence and the home of L. C. Black, law partner of Senator Foraker. He was also architect for the schoolboard for two years. He likewise built a number of carriage factories, including two for the Scheler Company. In 1885 he went to Moline, Illinois, to build a factory for the Scheler Carriage Company, and at that time opened a branch office in Rock Island. He likewise erected the Methodist Episcopal church at Rock Island, and numerous other buildings there. In 1890 he came to Rockford to compete with twenty other architects for the contract for the Second Congregational church, and was successful, erecting the fine church building to-day seen. Liking Rockford and its people, he closed his offices in Cincinnati and Rock Island and removed to this city, where he has since made his home.

Mr. Schureman has furnished plans for the building of public and private structures in Rockford costing in the aggregate over eight hundred thousand dollars, including the Second Congregational church, City Hall, Apple's Department Store, Svea Music Hall, Rockford Brewing Com-

pany plant, the Mead building, Masonic Temple, F. J. Shoudy's residence, the H. W. Buckbee Seed Company warehouse, and the residences of Mrs. Julia Warren, W. A. Stapleton, Aubrey Barnes, William Winter, J. B. Whitehead, Robert Lind, E. E. Bartlett, F. F. Nelson and A. E. Lindsey, and also the Swedish Lutheran parsonage on Third street. He also built the Illinois building, Mendelssohn Hall, the "Rockford" Hall, Trinity Lutheran church and the High, Freeman, Brown, Lincoln, Hall, Blake, Garrison, Jackson, Montague, St. Mary's and St. James' schools. No further comment is needed concerning the ability and success of Mr. Schureman in the line of his chosen profession to those who know aught of Rockford and her fine public buildings and private residences.

In 1880 Mr. Schureman was married to Miss Mary Elizabeth Ashley, of Cincinnati, and they became the parents of one son, Robert Clinton, a machinist of Chicago, who wedded Celina Roy, of Kankakee, Illinois. There is one son of this marriage, Roy, who is of the eleventh generation of the Schureman family in America. In 1890 Mr. Schureman lost his first wife, and in 1891 he wedded Nettie May Slack, of Delaware, Ohio, a daughter of LeRoy P. and Adeline (Terry) Slack, belonging to one of the old families of the United States. There have been three children of this marriage, of whom one died in infancy. David S., who was born on the day that Colonel Tom Lawler was elected commander-in-chief of the Grand Army—September 7, 1894—is a student in the Hall school. Adeline Isabell, born February 12, 1896, is also a student in the Hall school.

Mr. Schureman is a member of Forest City lodge, No. 12, A. O. U. W., and in politics is a staunch republican. His business career has been one of notable successes, ambition prompting earnest effort and effort resulting in prosperity. He is now the owner of several valuable patents in heating and plumbing.

THOMAS M. CLARK.

Thomas M. Clark, of Rockford, who for a half century made his home in this city, came in 1848 when this was a small village. He was born near Swansea, New Hampshire, September 2, 1800. His father, James Clark, died in the old Granite state when quite young, and the mother and her children afterward came to the west, locating in Wisconsin, where she and her two daughters died. The only surviving members of this branch of the family are a niece, Mrs. Lyons, who resides in Hawkeye, Iowa, and another niece in Kansas.

Thomas M. Clark obtained a good education in the public schools of the east, largely in Boston.

and while there he also studied medicine. He continued to reside on the Atlantic coast until about 1848, when he came to the west, settling in Rockford. Here he began in the jewelry business as one of the first merchants in that line in the city, but on account of ill health he soon abandoned the business, selling out to Horace Buford. As he had previously studied medicine he now began practicing in Rockford as a magnetic healer and built up a large practice. He effected many wonderful cures, and his powers in the line of magnetic healing made him a very successful representative of his calling.

Dr. Clark was married before coming to the west to Miss Sarah Gunn, of New Hampshire, who died in this city, and the only child of this marriage, Anna Clark, died at the age of five years and six months. In Rockford Mr. Clark was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Ellen (Morrison) Leonard, a native of Hancock county, Illinois, and a daughter of William and Hannah (Smith) Morrison, the former a native of Baltimore, Maryland, and the latter of England. Mrs. Morrison was twelve years of age when she came with her father to America, and he was the first merchant to introduce roasted coffee into Philadelphia. Mr. Morrison was a ship-builder by trade and followed that pursuit in Baltimore. Finally he came to the west, locating on a farm in Hancock county, Illinois, where his wife died. Later he removed to St. Louis, Missouri, where he followed his trade until his life's labors were ended in death. Four of the children of Mr. and Mrs. Morrison are now living, namely: Mrs. Clark; C. A. Morrison, who is vice president of the First National Bank in Ellendale, North Dakota, and is also engaged in other business enterprises there; Arthur Morrison, a well-to-do commission merchant of Oklahoma City; and Mrs. Lenora Harford, who resides in McClelland, Florida. Mrs. Clark was first married to Theodore Leonard, a native of Cleveland, Ohio, who was a commercial traveler, and spent his entire business life on the road. He died suddenly while visiting her parents in Hancock county, Illinois.

Dr. Clark continued to engage in practice here until his health failed, and he finally had to give up his work. He had already invested in land in Vernon, Wisconsin, and he again went to that place, where he purchased more land, but he lived there for only a year. He then began traveling for his health, visiting California and other parts of the country, and he lived a retired life for twelve years or until called to his final home. He passed away in the house which is now occupied by his widow, his death occurring October 21, 1899.

He was a democrat in politics and in early life a member of the Masonic fraternity. He did not

hold membership with any religious denomination, but contributed to the support of the Baptist church of Rockford. In his later years he sold his Wisconsin property and invested in city property in Rockford. His business operations were usually attended with a very desirable measure of success, and he became the possessor of a comfortable competence, so that his widow was left in easy financial circumstances. She now owns much valuable residence property in the most desirable section of Rockford, and the rental from this brings her a gratifying income. She is now residing at the old Blinn home at No. 510 North Horsman street.

JOHN A. TAYLOR.

For years no new names were added to the list of dead heroes of our American soldier boys, but in 1868 the blast of strife again sounded, causing the American citizens to throng to the support of the nation, and at that time John A. Taylor was among those who fought for rights and liberty. He was for many years a well known young man of Rockford, and his death, which occurred here as the result of an accident, was the occasion of very deep and widespread regret. He was born in the east, his parents being Samuel and Catherine Taylor, who were also natives of the east but now reside in Chicago, the father being engaged in the creamery business both in that city and in Rockford.

John A. Taylor was a young lad when he accompanied his parents to Illinois. He acquired his education in the public schools and afterward learned the butter-maker's trade which he followed here until his removal to Westfield, Illinois, where he remained for several years. He then returned to Rockford, and accepted a good position in the glucose factory, of which his father was foreman. There he was employed until the 11th of March, 1903. On that day the machinery of the factory stopped running and Mr. Taylor going to investigate was caught in the machinery when it started up again and was smothered to death before help could reach him.

In Rockford, in 1902, he had been married to Miss Nada Baker, a native of Elton, Illinois, and a daughter of William H. and Charlotte A. (Shamieur) Baker. The father was a native of New York and removed from that state to Canada, where he met and married Miss Shamieur, a native of that country. They resided there until 1865, when they came to Winnebago county, Illinois, taking up their abode in the village of Rockford. Mr. Baker was a blacksmith and machinist by trade and followed those pursuits for several years. Subsequently he removed to Elton, Illinois, where he engaged in

blacksmithing for two years and then returned to Rockton, where he again worked at his trade until 1900. On the expiration of that period he came to Rockford, where he and his wife are now living and where he is employed as a machinist. There were nine children born unto Mr. and Mrs. Baker, four of whom reside with their parents. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Taylor was born a son, Charles Arthur, whose birth occurred August 9, 1903, after the father's death. Mr. Taylor was a member of the Modern Woodmen camp, of Elida, and held offices in that organization, to which he was called by his fellow members who entertained for him the warmest regard. He also belonged to the Knights of Pythias fraternity and in matters of citizenship he was public spirited and progressive, always interested in everything that tended to promote the general welfare. At the time of the Spanish-American war he again demonstrated his loyalty to the government by enlisting in Company H, of the Second Battalion, under Colonel Fred Bennett, of Rockford. He held membership in the State Street Methodist Episcopal church, to which all of the members of the Baker and Taylor families belong. Mrs. Taylor and her parents now reside at No. 1117 Green street and she is in comfortable financial circumstances, having received a goodly amount of insurance at the time of her husband's death.

LARS M. NOLING.

Lars M. Noling, whose connection with many of the leading business interests and whose activity in political circles make him one of the representative and honored citizens of Rockford, was born in Sweden, May 4, 1843. He acquired a good common-school education in his native country, and in his home was instructed in the value of industry and integrity as motive forces in the affairs of life. He remained a resident of his native land until 1864, when at the age of twenty-one years, he bade adieu to friends and family and emigrated to the United States. The favorable reports which he had heard concerning this country attracted him. Landing on the shores of New York he made his way direct to Rockford, Illinois, where he arrived with very limited capital, but with strong determination and laudable ambition. Here he entered the employ of John Nelson, a native of Sweden, who was engaged in the manufacture of sash, doors and blinds. Mr. Noling had already acquired some knowledge of the use of edge tools in his native country, and displayed considerable natural mechanical ingenuity in working in wood. He continued in the employ of Mr. Nelson for two years, and for twenty-one years did contract work for N. C. Thompson, em-



JOHN A. TAYLOR.

ploying other men. His proficiency increased, so that his labors brought to him a good financial return, enabling him to command positions of trust and responsibility. Saving his earnings he invested his capital in enterprises which he believed would return him good profit. His name has now long been associated with the successful conduct of many important concerns of the city, and he is to-day the president of the Rockford Furniture & Undertaking Company, of the Skandia Coal & Lumber Company, the Swedish Building & Loan Association, the Rockford Manufacturing Company, the Mechanics' Furniture Company, the Forest City Bit & Tool Company, the Rockford Union Grocery Company and Scandinavian Cemetery Association. The hope that led him to leave his native land and seek a home in America has been more than realized. He found the opportunities he desired—which, by the way, are always open to the ambitious, energetic man—and making the best of these he steadily worked his way upward. He possessed the resolution, perseverance and reliability so characteristic of people of his nation, and his name is now enrolled among the best citizens of Winnebago county, and has become synonymous not only with successful dealing, but also with integrity in all active business affairs.

In 1866 Mr. Noling was united in marriage to Miss Josephine Johnson, a daughter of Peter Johnson. She is a native of Sweden and emigrated to the new world in her girlhood days in 1854. Mr. and Mrs. Noling now have one daughter, Mary, who is the wife of S. E. Erricson, and has three children, William, Marion and Helen.

Although controlling and promoting many important business enterprises of considerable magnitude Mr. Noling has found time to devote to the public welfare and has ever thoroughly informed himself concerning the questions and issues of the day bearing upon our social, economic and political life. In 1892 he was chosen by popular ballot a member of the general assembly from the tenth legislative district and in 1895 and 1897 he was re-elected so that for three terms he served as a member of the house. He took a very active part in the discussion of important bills and measures of direct interest to the commonwealth and was concerned in constructive legislation as a member of various important committees. He did not seek to figure prominently on the floor of the house, but he used his influence and efforts to advance whatever cause he deemed would prove beneficial to the state, and with equal resolution and energy he opposed each measure which he thought would prove detrimental. He was on the committee on railroads and on municipal corporations and chairman on the home, loan and building associations, and he rendered efficient service. He has always been

untiring in his advocacy of the republican party, and in 1900 was elected a member of the school board, in which capacity he is now serving the fifth year. He has likewise manifested a helpful interest in church work in his city, he and his wife being valued and consistent members of the First Swedish Lutheran church, while upon the church board he has served for over thirty-seven years, and has been chairman of the board for twenty years. In his four years as a member of the schoolboard, the cause of education ever found in him a friend.

He has never concentrated his energies upon his business affairs to the exclusion of other interests in life concerning man's relation to his fellowmen, to his country and his church. Yet to those who would win material prosperity we would say that the life record of Mr. Noling contains many lessons worthy of consideration and emulation. 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. In 1893 Mr. Noling erected a beautiful residence at No. 1508 Kishwaukee street, where he and his family are now living.

H. B. CHASE.

H. B. Chase, a retired farmer of Cherry Valley township, now living in Rockford, is numbered among the earliest settlers of the county. He was born near Concord, New Hampshire, in 1829, his parents being Ira A. and Hannah E. (Cate) Chase. The father, grandfather and great-grandfather were all natives of New Hampshire, and the last named was a soldier of the Revolutionary war, fighting for the independence of the country. The family is of English lineage, and was established in America in early colonial days. Ira A. Chase became a well-to-do farmer, and both he and his wife died in New Hampshire.

H. B. Chase was educated in the common schools of that state, but did not have the privilege of attending after eight years of age. He came to Illinois in March, 1858, settling in Cher-

ry Valley township, Winnebago county, where he purchased a farm, the deed bearing date of April, 1850. It was formerly owned by Joseph H. Lake, who entered the land from the government, and this property is still owned by Mr. Chase, who has greatly improved it by the erection of fine buildings, the planting of trees and the cultivating of the fields. He resided upon the farm for thirty years, successfully and energetically carrying on agricultural pursuits throughout that entire period, after which he removed to Rockford in 1800, to enjoy a well earned rest in the retirement from all further labor. He shortly afterward purchased the home where he now resides at No. 321 North Third street, but he still owns two hundred acres of valuable farming land, well improved, in Cherry Valley township.

When on his way to Illinois Mr. Chase stopped in Ohio, near Cleveland, where he remained for two years, and then continued his westward journey. During his residence in the Buckeye state he assisted in building the railroad between Cleveland and Toledo. It was also in that period that he was married, in 1857, to Miss Catherine Hannaford, a native of Cleveland, who was born there in May, 1834, her parents being Rueben and Nancy (Foster) Hannaford. Her father was a farmer by occupation, and both he and his wife died in Ohio. They left two sons: John, a resident of Cleveland; and Charles A., who is living in Traverse City, Michigan, while Mrs. Chase is the only surviving daughter of the family. Her grandfather, Abiah Foster, was in congress for sixteen years, and signed important bills in the continental congress. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Chase has been blessed with six sons and a daughter: Charles married Emma Cochrane and both have now passed away, leaving two children; Ira, who is engaged in the insurance business, traveling on the road, married Stella Barnes, by whom he has three children, and they make their home in Chicago; Frank H., a teacher in the high school of Chicago, married Ida Gayton and has two sons; George married Jennie Dickerman and died leaving three children, who are with their mother in Rockford; Arthur T., a resident of New Milford, Illinois, married Addie Rosecrance and has two children; Estella is the wife of Frank Rosecrance, of Ogle county, Illinois, and has two children; Harry H., who is manager of the advertising department of a newspaper office in Colorado Springs, Colorado, married Ida Barnes and has one child.

Mr. and Mrs. Chase now reside in Rockford but for some time the latter has been an invalid. They attend the First Congregational church, and their children and grandchildren (the latter fifteen in number) are all church people, the five sons of the family having been Sunday-school

superintendents, so that the influence of the family has been a strong element for religious development. In his political views Mr. Chase is a republican, and his father was a whig and a personal friend of Horace Greeley. He is a self-made man who has accumulated his property entirely through his own labors. When he first came to the county he found here a largely unimproved district, in which homes were widely scattered, little progress having been made in material, intellectual or moral lines. At that time religious services were held for several years in the schoolhouse on what was called the island, a Baptist church having been organized there. Later there came Irish Catholic families—the McMaurs, Dolans and others. One of the events which remains vividly in the memory of Mr. Chase was hearing a lecture by H. H. Waldo upon the subject of the Real and the Ideal. He takes just pride in what has been accomplished in the county and in the state, and through long years has been an interested witness of the growth and development of Illinois. None have ever doubted the sincerity of Mr. Chase or his devotion to the principles in which he believes, and all who know him entertain for him the warmest regard.

FRED E. STERLING.

The subject of this sketch was born at Dixon, Illinois, June 29, 1869, being the third son of Edward and Irene Bivins Sterling, early settlers of that section. The first ten years of his boyhood were spent in Dixon, where he attended the public schools until 1880, when his parents removed to Huron, South Dakota, and settled on a farm near that place. They were among the pioneers of central Dakota (then a territory), the subject of this sketch assisting his father and brothers in developing one of the first farms in Beadle county. He attended the public schools at Huron during the winter terms and worked on his father's farm during the summer until the age of fourteen years, when he entered newspaper work with the Huron Daily Times, which avocation he has since followed, with the exception of three years.

Mr. Sterling, in his boyhood, was constantly thrown in contact with men of much more mature years than himself, socially, politically and in a business way, in the development of the territory. On the promotion of Judge Louis K. Church, of Huron, to the governorship of Dakota, Mr. Sterling, who, although youthful in years, had been his close friend and companion, was appointed to the position of assistant commissioner of immigration, in which capacity he had much to do with the preparation and distribution of



FRED E. STERLING.

literature and statistics extolling the wonders of the territory, resulting in its rapid settlement by home-seekers from the eastern states. Near the close of his term of office he resigned this position to accept the management of the Dakota edition to the St. Paul Globe, a supplement issued with the daily each Saturday and devoted to the interests of the territory. In 1890 he came to Rockford to accept the city editorship of the Morning Star, which paper he served for a year and left to take a similar position with Register-Gazette on the consolidation of the two evening newspapers. In the service of the latter he continued for nine years when he resigned to take up other work. During that period he also served as the special Rockford correspondent of the Associated Press, the Chicago Inter-Ocean, Times-Herald, Chronicle, Evening Post, Journal, St. Louis Globe-Democrat and other metropolitan newspapers. On October 1, 1903, Mr. Sterling purchased an interest in The Register-Gazette and assumed the editorship of the same.

Ever since he became a resident of Rockford Mr. Sterling has taken an active, aggressive part in the business, political and social life of the city and lent his hearty assistance to every movement looking to its progress, welfare and up-building. He enjoys the honor and distinction of having been the youngest man ever elected in Rockford as a member of the city council. He represented the third ward as an alderman for eight years, until the spring of 1903, when, because of other duties, he declined to serve longer, after having received a unanimous caucus nomination. He was recognized as one of the leaders of the council, a fine parliamentarian and ready debater. During his term of office he served either as chairman or a member of the most important council committees, was for three years secretary of the board of local improvements and secured for his ward many needed improvements, including the new Blake school building. On his retirement from the council he was presented by his friends with a very handsome diamond ring.

Mr. Sterling is a staunch republican and has taken an active part in city, county and state politics, serving as a delegate from Winnebago county in every state convention for the past eight years or more. He served three terms as secretary of the Winnebago county republican central committee, being elected chairman of the same in 1904. During the presidential and gubernatorial campaign of 1900 he was secretary and manager of the press bureau conducted by the republican state central committee in Chicago, supplying party literature and statistics to the country press.

In 1901 Mr. Sterling was appointed by Governor Yates as land commissioner of the Illinois & Michigan canal, which he held until July, 1904, when he was appointed as a member of the board of managers of the Illinois State Reformatory, located at Pontiac. During the legislative session of 1903 he served as assistant secretary to the chief executive at Springfield. He enjoys an extensive acquaintance with and the friendship of a host of prominent politicians and publishers throughout the state.

In February, 1901, Mr. Sterling was appointed receiver of the Manufacturers' & Merchants' Mutual Insurance Company, of Rockford, by the circuit court. He made an enviable record for himself in winding up the affairs of this company, paying all loss claims in full and securing his final discharge within two years from the date of his appointment.

He is a member of the Elks, Knights of Pythias, Royal League, Modern Woodmen and Home Fraternal League.

On December 17, 1901, Mr. Sterling was married to Miss Anna C. Parmele and two children have been born to them, Arthur Edward and Olive Irene. His home is at 110 West street, Rockford.

ALONZO BACHELDER.

Alonzo Bachelder, although a resident of Rockford for but a brief period, became well known among the business men here and gained many friends. He was born in Strafford, Orange county, Vermont, December 16, 1820. His parents always resided in the east and both died in the Green Mountain state. In the schools of Vermont Alonzo Bachelder acquired a good education and then, attracted by the better business opportunities of the west, he came to the Mississippi valley, locating in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, where he secured a position as express messenger, being the first one to occupy that position on the railroad between Milwaukee and Oshkosh, Wisconsin. For several years he was thus engaged, after which he married and removed to Sheboygan Falls, Wisconsin, where he had charge of a flouring mill for a few years. On the expiration of that period he returned to Fond du Lac, where he learned the carriage-maker's trade, following that pursuit until he first came to Rockford. Here he entered the employ of his brother-in-law, Dr. M. D. Ogden, with whom he continued for several years, but because of failing health he returned to Fond du Lac, where he again followed carriage trimming. Later he began traveling for his health and received treatment in Boston and New York. He also took an ocean trip in the

hope of being benefited thereby and eventually he returned to Chicago for further medical treatment but grew worse instead. He then again made his way to his old home in Fond du Lac, where his death occurred on the 22d of May, 1871.

About sixteen years before that time Mr. Bachelder had been married, on the 19th of June, 1855, in Fond du Lac, to Miss Eliza A. Ogden, a native of Cooksville, Canada, born September 20, 1831, and a daughter of Samuel and Sarah (Cook) Ogden. Her father was a farmer of Canada and removed thence to Fond du Lac, where he resided for a few years. He then came to Winnebago county, Illinois, and purchased a farm in Cherry Valley township, where he carried on general farming until his death on the 3d of January, 1874. His wife survived him until the 8th of August, 1880. They were pioneer settlers of this county and were well known, while high regard was ever given them by those with whom they came in contact. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Ogden were born four children, who are yet living: Mrs. Bachelder; Mrs. Starkweather, also a resident of Rockford; Georgia Gertrude, who is living in Loyton, California; and E. J. Bachelder, who is a practicing physician of Chicago.

Mr. and Mrs. Bachelder became the parents of five children, of whom three are yet living: Laura, the eldest, born June 26, 1856, became the wife of Charles P. Woodruff, who died in Connellsville, New York. They had four children—Georgia Luella, Truman J., Bert and S. Mitchell—all of whom are living with their mother. After losing her first husband Mrs. Woodruff became the wife of William A. Jackson, who was a barber of Rockford and died in this city. There was one child by that union, Bessie May, who is a stenographer of Rockford. Fred M. Bachelder, born April 24, 1858, married Lucy Balderson and is a shipping clerk, residing in Rockford. Carlton, born November 19, 1859, has been twice married. After the death of his first wife he wedded Bessie Cowper, who is also deceased. He is now engaged with the Springfield Transfer Company at Springfield, Illinois. Of the daughters who passed away Ida May died in childhood, and Addie, who became the wife of Professor George Blakeley, died in Saginaw, Michigan, October 15, 1890.

When Mr. Bachelder was called to his final rest his remains were interred by the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of which lodge he had long been a consistent and exemplary member, acting at times in various offices, being for years noble grand. His wife was also connected with the ladies' auxiliary—the Rebekah lodge—at Fond du Lac. His political views were in accord with republican principles and he always cast his ballot for the men and measures of the party. He held membership in the Methodist Episcopal church,

to which his wife also belonged, and he was known as an earnest Christian man, justly meriting the regard in which he was uniformly held. For some time he was the owner of much valuable property in Fond du Lac, including the site of the leading hotel of that city, and he traded the same for a pair of boots. He afterward owned other property there and also a farm near Fond du Lac, making judicious investment in real estate. He was a very charitable man, of kindly spirit and generous disposition, and the poor and needy found in him a friend. He was also charitable in thought as well as act, never judging his fellowmen harshly, and to his family he was a devoted husband and father. Since her husband's death Mrs. Bachelder has returned to Rockford and has since lived with her children, now making her home with her daughter, Mrs. Jackson, at No. 725 Chestnut street.

REV. NICHOLAS BAYARD CLINCH.

Rev. Nicholas Bayard Clinch, rector of Emanuel Episcopal church at Rockford, was born in Waynesville, Georgia, February 3, 1864. His parents were Duncan Lamont and Susan A. (Hopkins) Clinch. The founders of the family in America came from England during an early epoch in the colonization of the new world and their descendants have since been prominent in affairs of state in the south. The grandfather of Rev. Clinch was General Duncan Lamont Clinch, who won his title through service in the United States army and he also represented his district in congress. His son and namesake was the owner of a large rice plantation and served as a soldier in the Confederate army. He died about 1893, having for several years survived his wife, whose death occurred in 1885. They were the parents of ten children, but five have passed away.

Rev. Clinch, the fifth of the family, acquired his education under the instruction of his parents upon the home plantation until thirteen years of age, when he entered Cheltenham Academy, at Philadelphia, from which he was graduated with the class of 1882. Coming to the west, he accepted a position in Chicago as a member of the clerical force in the hardware house of Hibbard, Spencer, Bartlett Company, with whom he remained for six years, when determining to devote his life to the work of the ministry, he entered the Western Theological Seminary at Chicago and completed the regular course, after which he was ordained to the priesthood of the Episcopal church in 1895. He was then called to the pastorate of Emanuel church at Rockford, after a year spent

in Grace church at Chicago, and since December, 1896, has lived and labored here, with conscientious zeal and untiring devotion.

On the 1st of January, 1895, Rev. Clinch was united in the holy bonds of matrimony to Miss Alice Dyer Loring, a daughter of Mrs. Stella Dyer Loring, of Chicago, and they now have one son, Nicholas Bayard, Jr., born June 19, 1898.

Rev. Clinch is a member of Rockford lodge, I. O. O. F. He is really independent in politics, though with democratic tendencies, and is never remiss in citizenship relating to the welfare and progress of the city, although devoting the greater part of his time to the duties and offices of his high calling.

HON. FRANK S. REGAN.

Hon. Frank S. Regan, legislator, lecturer and cartoonist, whose reputation is not limited by the boundaries of his county or state, but has spread abroad, as he has addressed the public from the platform, is known to-day as an influential factor in molding public opinion along lines that work for good to humanity. He was born in Rockford, October 3, 1862, his father having become a resident of this city in 1840, at which date he found here a small town, giving little promise of its present metropolitan development. Mr. Regan was educated in the city schools and entered business life in connection with the compilation of a set of abstract books of Winnebago county in company with Girton O. Williams. It required seven years to complete this task. In 1887 Mr. Regan was appointed to the position of stenographer in the Illinois legislature and after completing the abstract work he entered upon the reading of law in the office of A. D. Early, being admitted to the bar in 1895, since which time he has met with marked success in his practice. He has been accorded a large clientage.

While he has become known in his home district as an able practitioner at the bar, Mr. Regan has become still more widely known in connection with his work in behalf of the cause of temperance. He has been active and untiring in his labors in this direction for many years and served as president of the No License organization in Rockford, upon which ticket he was elected an alderman from the fourth ward in 1895, serving for two years. He identified himself with the prohibition party soon after the campaign of 1896 and was elected to represent his district in the state legislature on the prohibition ticket, being the only man so chosen that year in the United States. In the campaign of 1902 he was a candidate for congress. He has made a close and discriminating study of the issues now before the

public and he has delivered many addresses upon the questions which are claiming general attention. As a lecturer he has received favorable comment from press and public and his ability as an artist has been another strong element in the success which has attended his efforts upon the platform. It has been well said of him: "He is one of the few men who combine the skill of the artist with the power of the orator." A clever cartoonist, he sketches rapidly, illustrating his remarks in a manner that can not fail to leave a strong impression upon the minds of his auditors. Something of the scope of his investigation and research may be obtained from the fact that he delivers lectures upon the following subjects: The American Small Boy; Don't Get Gay; The Fool Set; Sunshine in the Shadow; Observations Out of School; and Modern Man, while his more serious lectures have been upon The Saloon in Politics; The Fool Taxpayer; The Building of a City; The Mob in Broadcloth; Under the State House Dome, and Human Wrecks. Some one has said of him: "In all his work there is a thread of gold which leaves upon his audience a splendid impression and tends toward the betterment of humanity. He turns on the searchlight of ridicule only where it ought to shine, bringing out the absurdities and follies of life in a strong, entertaining and forceful manner." Mr. Regan is now with four leading lyceum bureaus in the United States for the regular lecture courses, and is also given a large number of dates at the Chautauqua assemblies during the summer.

Mr. Regan was married to Miss Helen M. Crumb, of Rockford, June 11, 1896, and has two children: Frances C. and Leland. The family home is at No. 1201 North Church street. Mr. Regan is secretary of the Rockford Chautauqua Association and was one of the promoters of this enterprise. In contradistinction to the old adage "that a prophet is never without honor save in his own country," Mr. Regan's ability is much appreciated in his native and home city, and his circle of friends here is very large.

FRED JEWETT.

Fred Jewett, following farming on section 36, Harrison township, and also owning a tract of land of one hundred and forty acres in Owen township, gives his time and energies to the cultivation and improvement of both tracts of land. He is a native son of the former township, born November 25, 1864, and his parents were David and Martha A. (Reckhow) Jewett. The father was born in Genesee county, New York, August 24, 1811, and was a son of Josiah and Elizabeth (Bates) Jewett, farming people of Genesee county. He came to Winnebago county, Illinois,

in 1837, settling in Rockton township, where he built a sawmill, one of the first in the county. He was engaged in the manufacture of lumber for about five years, and then sold out, after which he gave his undivided attention to farming, becoming the owner of four hundred acres of land in Harrison township, which farm is now in possession of his son, Brittain Jewett. The father was twice married, having on the 15th of June, 1840, wedded Louisa R. Mosher, who died May 9, 1847. On the 5th of October, 1853, he wedded Martha A. Reckow, who was born in Great Bend, Pennsylvania, March 5, 1831, and resides in the village of Harrison. Her parents were William and Christiana (Gardner) Reckow, who left Pennsylvania about 1837, and the latter died at Michigan City, Indiana, when they were en route to Winnebago county. The father continued on his way and arrived in this county in 1838, locating on a farm in Shirland township, which he cultivated and improved, following general agricultural pursuits up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1883, when he was about eighty-seven years of age. Here he was again married, his second union being with Amanda Burch, who lived in this county until her death in 1864. Mrs. David Jewett was the second of four children. Sarah Jane, the eldest, became the wife of James Ingersoll, of Wisconsin, and died several years ago. Adeline became the wife of Alden Leffingwell, of Shirland, and has also passed away. Williston died about fourteen years ago upon his farm. Mr. Jewett filled the office of justice of the peace for four years, and was the first school treasurer appointed for the town of Harrison, filling that position in acceptable manner for eighteen consecutive years. He laid out the village of Harrison in 1848 and in other ways was closely associated with the substantial development and improvement of the county. He attended the Methodist church. In his family were four children: Brittain, a farmer residing in the village of Harrison; Nellie, who is a graduate of the Rockford Seminary of Music and has studied music in both Boston and Chicago, being now located at No. 3064 Langley avenue in the latter city, where she is engaged in teaching music; Elsworth, who is engaged in farming in Wellington, Kansas, where he has resided for several years; and Fred, of this review.

Fred Jewett, who was reared in Harrison township, acquired his education in the country schools and also spent one winter at Aurora Normal School. He has followed farming all his life, and he resided upon the farm in Owen township for fifteen years or until about September, 1900, when he removed to the Marshall farm in Harrison township. He was married here February 4, 1885, to Miss Minnie Marshall, who was born in this township in 1868, and is a daughter of

James and Elizabeth (Hamer) Marshall. Her mother first married a Mr. Dobson and was a sister of William Hamer, who now resides in Burritt township. She died August 3, 1900, at the age of sixty-six years. Mr. Marshall spent the summer months upon the farm and the winter seasons in Rockford until his death, October 3, 1905, at the age of seventy-three years. His son, A. H. Marshall, is engaged in the lumber and coal business in Rockford. By her first marriage Mrs. Marshall had two daughters: Ida, the wife of Abram Champion, of Harrison township; and Edna, the wife of J. H. Halsted, of Carbondale, Illinois.

Mr. and Mrs. Jewett have had four children: Ralph, who was born November 7, 1885, and is engaged in farming in this county at the age of twenty years; Nellie, who was born on the 5th of May, 1886, and died on the 12th of June, 1890, when about a year old; Hazel, who was born March 21, 1891, and at the age of fourteen years is a high school student in Rockford; and Leland, who was born July 7, 1893, and is attending the home school.

Mr. and Mrs. Jewett attend the Congregational church. The family of David Jewett were very helpful members of the church of that denomination in the village of Harrison and gave to the church its bell. Fraternally Mr. Jewett is connected with the Modern Woodmen camp and the Masonic lodge, and both he and his wife are members of the Royal Neighbors. Politically he is a staunch and earnest republican, who at one time served as deputy sheriff and in other local offices, but he prefers to give his attention to his business affairs, which are bringing to him a very desirable measure of success. He now carries on general farming and also makes a specialty of the raising of shorthorn cattle, of which he now has a fine herd of about twenty head.

MILES O. WRIGHT.

Miles O. Wright, who was connected with the business interests of Rockford for many years as a designer, decorator and painter, came to this city in 1875, being one of the worthy residents that the Empire state furnished to Winnebago county. His birth occurred in Sparta, New York, July 18, 1835, and his parents spent their entire lives in that city. The father was a soldier of the Revolutionary war and lost one of his limbs while defending his country. He was a shoemaker by trade and that business provided him with the means necessary for the support of himself and family.

Miles O. Wright acquired a good education in the public schools of New York and afterward began to learn the trade of painting and decorat-



MR. AND MRS. M. O. WRIGHT.

ing, being thus engaged until after the inauguration of hostilities between the north and the south. He enlisted at Sparta, New York, on the 25th of April, 1861, becoming a member of Company B, Thirteenth New York Infantry. Hardly had the smoke from Fort Sumter's guns cleared away when he joined the army, all the patriotism of his nature being aroused by the attempt of the south to overthrow the Union. He sustained an injury at the battle of Malvern Hill, being shot in the arm and he was mustered out on the 13th of May, 1863. Among the important engagements in which he took part were the battles of Blackburn's Ford, Gaines Mills, Malvern Hill, Fredericksburg, Antietam, Hanover Court House, Mechanicsville, the second battle of Bull Run and siege of Yorktown.

After the war Mr. Wright returned to his native state and followed the business of painting and decorating in Binghamton, New York, for a short time. He afterward went to Oil City, Pennsylvania, and was engaged in a similar manner during the boom in that locality. He worked there for a few years, receiving as high as twenty dollars per day for his services. He then went to Cleveland, Ohio, where he continued in the same line of business for three years and in 1875 he came to the west, settling in Rockford. Here he entered into a contract with the oldest decorator of the city, W. G. Johnson, and remained in his employ for twenty-two years, his services being engaged on the decoration of many of the finest homes of the city. He always kept abreast with the progress made in his line and his work was of a most satisfactory and pleasing character. At length he was obliged to abandon his trade because of failing eyesight, after which he lived retired until his death.

Miles O. Wright was married in Rockford to Miss Alwilda Bush, a native of Bath, Steuben county, New York, born August 31, 1840. Her parents, Abram and Harriet (Booth) Bush, were both natives of the Empire state and the father was a pioneer settler of Winnebago county, arriving here in 1844. He located on a farm in Guilford township on the old Belvidere road and there carried on general agricultural pursuits for a long period, after which he went to Cherry Valley, where he engaged in milling business until about fifteen years before his death. His widow afterward came to Rockford and made her home with her daughter until her demise. Mr. and Mrs. Wright were the parents of two sons but lost both, Frank dying at the age of seven months, and George G. at the age of four months. They afterward adopted a son, Charles Garrett, who is now twenty-one years of age and is a baker by trade. He has always made his home with Mrs. Wright.

The death of Mr. Wright occurred July 3, 1903. He was a staunch republican in politics and a member of the Grand Army post at Rockford and Ellis lodge, A. F. & A. M. He also belonged to the Centennial Methodist Episcopal church and his widow is a member of the Free Methodist church here. Mrs. Wright and her son are living at 1203 Jackson street but expect soon to remove to another part of the city. She receives a good pension from the government in recognition of the aid which her husband rendered to the country in the dark hour of her peril when the stability of the Union was threatened. In all matters of citizenship he was loyal, being as true to his country in days of peace as in days of war and he was equally faithful in the performance of any private duty which devolved upon him, so that he won the respect of his fellowmen.

JOHN G. RALSTON.

John G. Ralston is the owner of one of the beautiful country homes of Guilford township, and his farm of one hundred and ninety-two acres lies on sections 2 and 35. It is a valuable property, with good buildings and richly tilled fields, and everything about the place is attractive in appearance, showing the owner to be a man of practical, progressive ideas.

Mr. Ralston was born in Guilford township, October 26, 1867, and is of Scotch lineage. His father, James Ralston, a native of Argyleshire, Scotland, was born March 17, 1826, and when seven years of age was brought to America by his parents, who for eight years resided in Massachusetts and then removed to Ohio, where the succeeding twelve years were passed. They then came to Winnebago county, first locating in Harlem township, and later moving to a farm of his own in Guilford township, where throughout his remaining days James Ralston carried on agricultural pursuits, his practical methods and unremitting labors bringing him a desirable measure of success. He died at his home February 19, 1898. His wife, Ellen, was a daughter of John and Helen Greenlee, and was born in Harlem township, June 29, 1838—the first white child born in the township. Her parents had located there in 1836, coming direct from Scotland, and theirs was the first home within the township borders. Mrs. Ellen Ralston is now living with her daughter, Mrs. Gavin Ralston, in Caledonia township, Boone county, Illinois. The members of the family are: William A., a resident of Belvidere, Illinois, who is married and has one son: Earl J., who is living in Beloit, Wisconsin, and has one son and one daughter; Martha E., the wife of Gavin Ralston, of Caledonia township, Boone

county, and the mother of one son and one daughter; Maggie, who married James A. Brown, formerly of Harlem township and now of Rockford, and died leaving a daughter; and John G.

As a public-school student John G. Ralston mastered the common branches of English learning, and under his father's direction became familiar with all the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist, living at home until twenty-one years of age, when he began farming with his brother William in Belvidere township, Boone county, where he remained for eight years and then removed to his present farm of one hundred and ninety-two acres, lying on section 2, Guilford township, and section 35, Harlem township. It is a well improved property, the soil being rich and productive, so that rich crops are annually harvested. The residence is a beautiful country home, erected in modern style of architecture and supplied with all modern conveniences and comforts. There are also large and substantial outbuildings, all in good repair, and the farm is one of the finest of the township.

Mr. Ralston was married in 1807 to Miss Margaret Breckenridge, who was born November 30, 1871, and is a daughter of Hugh and Ellen Breckenridge, of Guilford township. Mr. and Mrs. Ralston had two children: James B., who died in infancy; and Helen Gladys, born November 25, 1903. Mrs. Ralston, after attending the district schools, continued her education in the Rockford Business College, and is a lady of superior culture and refinement, who with her husband dispenses the hospitality of their attractive home in a most gracious and genial manner. They are members of the First Presbyterian church of Rockford, and Mr. Ralston has always been a republican, keeping well informed on the questions and issues of the day, but never seeking office as a reward for party fealty.

ROBERT COLTON.

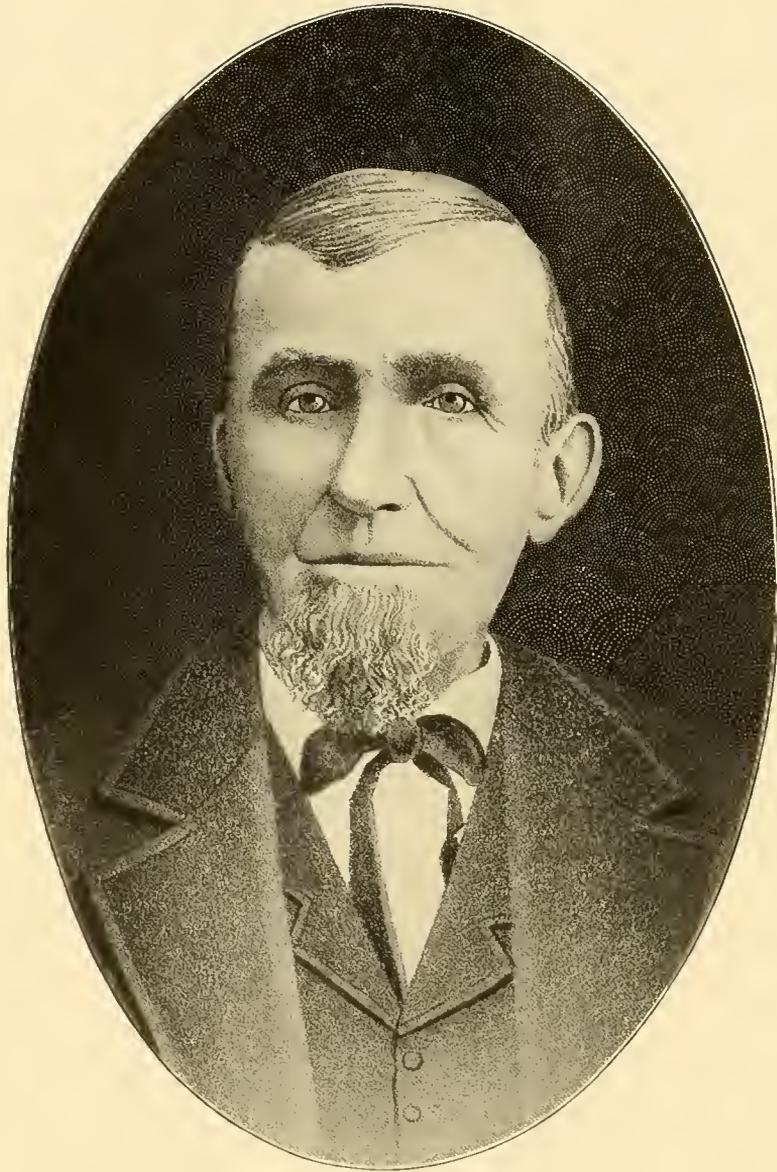
Robert Colton, the oldest pioneer in Durand township, having passed the eighty-fifth milestone on life's journey, while for a half century he has lived in this county, was born in Nottinghamshire, England, October 15, 1819. He was left an orphan when only five years of age, and was educated in the parish schools of his native land, but his privileges and opportunities in youth were very limited, and his advancement in life has come through the development of his latent energies and powers, through his close application and unremitting diligence to his business. He worked as a farm hand in England until coming to the United States on the sailing vessel, Mis-

issippi, landing at New York city in May, 1843. He then went on the steamer Swallow to Albany, New York, and thence to Steuben county, that state, where he was employed at general work until September, 1845, when he came to Winnebago county. Here he took up three forty-acre tracts of land from the government, located on the prairie in Durand township, and he has since made his home in this township, devoting his time and energies to agricultural pursuits with good success, so that he is now one of the prosperous agriculturists of the community, with a competence sufficient to supply him with all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

On the 17th of January, 1845, Mr. Colton married Miss Martha Jane Heine, of Durand township, who died in April, 1857, leaving five children, of whom one son died in infancy. Grace Amelia became the wife of Warren Pettingill and died July 1, 1904, leaving two sons and a daughter; Letitia is the wife of George Krone, of Whiting, Iowa, and has three sons and a daughter. Libbie is the wife of George Cole, of Durand township, and has a son and daughter. Annie is the wife of Charles Hammond, of Durand township, and has two sons.

In October, 1857, Mr. Colton wedded Mrs. Jane Rancy, of Durand township, who died in January, 1887, leaving a son, William W. Colton, who was a graduate of Rush Medical College, of Chicago, and died June 8, 1897. On the 10th of October, 1887, Mr. Colton married Mrs. Carrie Moore, nee Bradley, who is of English and Dutch descent and was born June 5, 1848, in Highland, Franklin county, Vermont. There she married Richard Moore and there were three sons and three daughters by that marriage: Fred H., of Beloit, Wisconsin, who has one son who lives with his mother's sister; Dick, who lives on his mother's place; Stephen, of Davis, Illinois, who has two sons and one daughter; Phoebe A., the wife of Dell Hughes, of Beloit, Wisconsin, and the mother of five sons and five daughters; Jennie, the wife of Frank C. Hughes, of Rock Grove, Illinois, by whom she has a son and daughter; and Ora May, the wife of Fremont Randall, of Durand township, by whom she has three sons and one daughter.

In his political views Mr. Colton has been a republican since the organization of the party. It seems hardly probable, in this present age of advanced civilization that there is living a man within whose memory has occurred the introduction of steam navigation, the building of railroads, and the construction of the ocean cables and the telegraph lines, to say nothing of the more modern inventions of the telephone, etc., but Mr. Colton has seen all this while in Winnebago county. He has witnessed the transformation of wild prairies into well developed



ROBERT COLTON.

farms, dotted here and there with churches and schools, while in their midst have sprung up several thriving villages which were not here at the time of his arrival. For sixty years he has lived in this county, and as one of its most venerable citizens and honored early settlers he deserves mention in this volume. Coming to America empty-handed, he has made continuous progress in his business career and his excellent farm of three hundred and twenty-five acres to-day proves his industry in former years.

THOMAS B. MOORE.

Thomas B. Moore, who follows farming on section 29 and has long been known as an extensive and successful dealer in live stock in Roscoe township, is a native of the middle west, and in his life displays the enterprising spirit which has been the dominant factor in the rapid growth and upbuilding of the Mississippi valley. He was born in Watertown, Jefferson county, Wisconsin, on the 14th of July, 1849, a son of Stephen and Sarah (Waite) Moore, both of whom were natives of Bugbrook, Northamptonshire, England, the father having been born October 10, 1801, and the mother on the 13th of April, 1807. His death occurred January 10, 1864, while she passed away on the 17th of March, 1881. Their children were: Robert W., born January 29, 1833, died October 8, 1868, in Kansas City, Missouri. Mary B., born May 6, 1837, became the wife of Lewis Brown, and died May 28, 1895, at Roscoe, Illinois, leaving three children. Hannah W., born August 4, 1841, married Horace D. Hopkins, of Roscoe, who died May 17, 1898, leaving four children. John W., born September 28, 1844, married Mary Goodrow and has one son. Martha J., born February 18, 1847, married Harris Hardy and has three living sons and lost one daughter.

No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of life for Thomas B. Moore in his boyhood days, his time being divided between play and work. He attended the public schools and aided his father in farming pursuits. He remained at home until twenty-five years of age, after which he followed the butcher's trade, his father being a butcher. Subsequently he turned his attention to farming and removed to Minnesota. He was there engaged in the hardware business for two years, on the expiration of which period he came to Illinois in 1877, settling in Roscoe township, Winnebago county, where he has since carried on general agricultural pursuits on the old farm homestead that belonged to his wife's father, Luther H. Fassett, who was a very prominent and prosperous farmer of this locality, leaving two hundred and forty acres at the time of

his death. He passed away October 19, 1895, having for several years survived his wife, who died August 28, 1888.

It was on the 3d of April, 1877, that Mr. Moore was married to Miss Emma Fassett, with whom he traveled life's journey for about twenty-two years, but on the 19th of January, 1900, Mrs. Moore departed this life at the age of fifty-five years, leaving one son, Frank Fassett Moore, who was born in Roscoe, February 13, 1880, and was married June 20, 1901, to Clare Runyard, who was born February 19, 1880, and is a daughter of Robert and Ella (Ketcham) Runyard, of Charles City, Iowa. Unto Frank Fassett Moore and his wife have been born two daughters: Emma F., born in Roscoe, January 4, 1903; and Eliza B., born May 21, 1905.

Mr. Moore and his son are associated in their farming interests, and now have a valuable and extensive tract of land, which they have placed under a high state of cultivation, adding all modern equipments. In addition to the cultivation of the cereals best adapted to soil and climate, they have engaged quite extensively in the raising of live stock, and their annual shipments return to them a good income. Mr. Moore is enterprising in all of his business interests, possesses keen discrimination and sagacity, and has so conducted his affair that he is now one of the prosperous agriculturists of this portion of the state. He and his son belong to Roscoe lodge, No. 75, A. F. & A. M., and in politics is a stalwart republican. While serving for twelve years as a member of the school board he has effectively promoted the cause of education in his district, and his co-operation can always be counted upon to further progressive movements.

JAMES HINKLEY.

James Hinkley, interested for many years in business life in Rockford, was born in Posey county, Indiana, in 1829, and died in this city, January 8, 1891. He came of English lineage, and among his ancestors was a governor of Massachusetts. In 1858 he removed to Washington county, this state, where he followed farming until the fall of 1860, when he came to Winnebago county, settling in Rockford. He owned a fruit farm in this locality and also established a canning factory in the west end of the city, the business being first located on the E. H. Skinner place. The factory had been built by Mr. Skinner and Mr. Hinkley purchased an interest in the business, finally becoming sole proprietor. He conducted the enterprise for a number of years and this together with a two-hundred-acre fruit farm in southern Illinois occupied his attention and claimed his time and energies until he

had accumulated a comfortable competence. His business interests were discerningly directed along well defined lines of labor, and his sound judgment and persistent energy were the strong factors in his success.

Mr. Hinkley married Miss Harriet Andrews; also a native of Posey county, Indiana, now living at the age of seventy-three years, and they became the parents of six children: Anson A., who resides upon a farm in Washington county, Illinois; George, deceased; Arthur S., an architect living in Boise City, Idaho; Ella, who has also passed away; Hargrove Otis, a florist of Rockford; and Ralph W., who is secretary and general manager of the Rockford Packing Company.

Mr. Hinkley attended the Christian Union church. He gave his political support to the republican party throughout the greater part of his life, but voted for Grover Cleveland. He never held office nor did he have aspirations in that direction, but he was not remiss in the duties of citizenship and co-operated in many measures for the general good.

Ralph W. Hinkley, a native son of Rockford, pursued his education in the public schools, took up the study of stenography, and was afterward employed at stenographic work for different attorneys and as court reporter. In 1892 he became connected with the Rockford Packing Company, with which he is now identified as secretary and general manager, being one of the large stockholders. His interest in its success indicates his careful control of its affairs, a large business being annually conducted, for the product of the plant finds a ready sale on the market. Mr. Hinkley is a republican, but like his father gives his attention in undivided manner to his business affairs. He is popular in the city where his entire life has been passed, and the circle of his social as well as his business acquaintances is continually broadening.

ASA E. CUTLER.

Asa E. Cutler, whose efforts have been characterized by intelligence and force, and who is now a representative of the business interests of the city, was born in West Brookfield, Massachusetts, in June, 1834, his parents being Abijah and Mary (Snow) Cutler. The ancestry of the family in the paternal line can be traced back to 1630, when representatives of the name came from England. He is of the seventh generation in descent from James Cutler, and through the intervening years farming has usually been the occupation of the family. Neither have its members been remiss in citizenship or lacking in loyalty

to their country. Abijah Cutler became a lieutenant of the American Army at the outbreak of the Revolutionary war and participated in the battle of Lexington, afterward taking part in other engagements which resulted in the establishment of the republic. Asa E. Cutler is the first of the name to leave New England and seek a home in the west. His father died in Massachusetts at the age of seventy years, and the mother passed away in the '80s, when ninety years of age, both having been born in the eighteenth century. In their family were seven children.

Asa E. Cutler, the fifth in order of birth, was a student in the schools of West Brookfield in early life, and afterward attended an academy at Warren, Massachusetts, while his more advanced education was acquired in Amherst Academy. He then pursued a business course in Worcester, and at the age of twenty years he put aside his text-books in order to become an active factor in business life. It was in 1855 that he came to the west, making his way to Chicago, where he was employed at varied labor until 1858. He then turned his attention to the lumber business as a member of the firm of Cutler, Witbeck & Company, with a yard on Canal street. Later their business was removed to Twenty-second street, where they continued operations until 1870, when Mr. Cutler sold out and the following year came to Rockford. He purchased a farm of three hundred acres in Winnebago county, lying along the river about three miles south of the city, and, giving his attention to agricultural pursuits, he continued the work of cultivating and improving his land until he took up his abode in the city in 1892. His son, Fred S., remained upon the farm, however, for a few years longer.

At the time named Mr. Cutler, establishing his home in Rockford, began dealing in implements and carriages, which business he conducted until 1902, when it was incorporated under the name of the A. E. Cutler Company. This company carries a full line of carriages, wagons, automobiles and harness and the place of business is at Nos. 202-206 South Church street, where they have a large building one hundred and thirty by sixty-five feet and three stories in height with basement. They are the leaders in their line in the city, and have a very extensive patronage. In addition to the carriage business they likewise deal in windmills and pumps. When establishing the house Mr. Cutler inaugurated a safe, conservative business policy which has ever been followed.

On the 17th of December, 1862, occurred the marriage of Asa E. Cutler and Miss Lucy Smith, of Princeton, Illinois, a daughter of Sidney Smith, a farmer and miller, who died a number of years ago. Mr. and Mrs. Cutler have seven children: Jessie, who died in 1901, was the wife

of Dr. Butterfield, of Ottawa, Illinois; Fred, who married Evaline Vinton and has three children, is interested in business with his father as the vice president of the A. E. Cutler Company. Alexander E., who married Susan Alexander, of Beloit, Wisconsin, is a minister of the Congregational church at Elk River, Minnesota. He is a graduate of Beloit College and the Chicago Theological Seminary, and is a well-known representative of the ministry of his denomination. He has one daughter, Jessie. Dwight, who married Miss Florence Wood, of Rockford, is secretary of the A. E. Cutler Company, and has three children. Asa Bryant is a student in the State University at Champaign, Illinois. Lucy, at home, is a graduate of Wellesley College of Massachusetts. Frank is a graduate of the class of 1905 in the State University at Champaign, and is now connected with the Western Electric Company of Chicago.

Mr. Cutler and his family are all members of the Second Congregational church of Rockford, and in politics he is a republican, having supported the party since casting his first presidential vote for John C. Fremont. He has been very active and helpful in church work, serving as deacon and superintendent of the Sunday school for several years. In fact, his incumbency in the former position covers a quarter of a century.

If those who claim that fortune has favored certain individuals above others will but investigate the cause of success and failure, it will be found that the former is largely due to the improvement of opportunity, the latter to the neglect of it. Fortunate environments encompass nearly every man at some stage in his career, but the strong man and the successful man is he who realized the proper moment has come, that the present and not the future holds his opportunity. The man who makes use of the Now and not the To Be is the one who passes on the highway of life others who started out ahead of him and reaches the goal of prosperity far in advance of them. It is this quality in Mr. Cutler that has made him a leader in the business world, and won him an enviable name in connection with industrial interests that is widely known.

L. W. CLEVELAND.

L. W. Cleveland, one of the honored pioneer residents of the county, was born in Allegany county, New York, October 5, 1824, and came here with his father, Sylvester Cleveland, in the fall of 1838, being then a youth of fifteen years. His father was born in Vermont and when a young man removed to the Empire state, taking up his abode in Allegany county, and married

Miss Lydia Seavey. After removing to Illinois, where his wife joined him in 1840, he devoted his attention mainly to farming and settled upon the present home property of our subject, where he erected a dwelling of which he took possession on the 1st of March, 1841. This continued to be his home until his death, in 1862. His wife continued to carry on the farm with her son until her death in 1871. The family consisted of three children, of whom two daughters are now deceased. Sophronia was the wife of Nelson Kinney, and they removed from New York to this county in 1840, but afterward removed to Pierce county, Wisconsin, where they both died. Phile Ann, wife of Isaac Van Slyke, removed to Nebraska with her family, where her death occurred some years ago.

Few residents of this county are more familiar with its pioneer history than L. W. Cleveland, who found here at the time of his arrival broad prairies covered with their natives grasses and the uncut forests which bordered the streams. Few roads had been made, and there were many sloughs which occasioned great difficulty to the traveler driving across the country in his wagon or carriage.

Mr. Cleveland was married in 1855 to Miss Alvira Burbank, who died in 1882. Mrs. Cleveland was also a native of New York, being born in Cattaraugus county, March 12, 1834, and came to Illinois with her parents in 1837. They also settled in Winnebago county, where the families were neighbors for many years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Cleveland were born eight children, three sons and five daughters, all of whom are living and married. Mr. Cleveland has now passed the eighty-first milestone on life's journey, and as a venerable citizen and pioneer settler is especially worthy of mention in this volume.

S. J. CASWELL, M. D.

Dr. S. J. Caswell, proprietor of the Caswell Pharmacy of Rockford, is a native American though his birth occurred in Bangkok, Siam, in 1847, while his parents, Rev. Jesse and Anna (Hemenway) Caswell, were engaged in missionary work in that far-off land. They were natives of Vermont and represented old and prominent families of Massachusetts. In the paternal line the ancestry could be traced back to Thomas Caswell, Sr., who came to Massachusetts in 1635, while later generations came from Vermont, following the Revolutionary war. The family was represented in the struggle for independence by one hundred and twenty-three members, and the great-grandfather enlisted four different times for service in behalf of the cause of independence.

Rev. Jesse Caswell, a minister of the Congregational church, determining to devote his life to labor in the missionary field, was sent to Siam by the American board of commissioners for foreign missions and spent nine years in that country. While there he was the instructor of the father of the present king of Siam. He died in Bangkok in 1848, a year after the birth of S. J. Caswell, who was the youngest of four children, three of whom were then living. The mother came with her children to America and devoted her remaining days to the education and rearing of the little ones who were left to her care. Her parents removed to Grand Detour, Ogle county, Illinois, and she, too, brought her family to this state, living in Ogle county until called to her final rest in 1890. She was a most devoted and loving mother, counting no personal sacrifice on her part too great if it would promote the welfare of her children.

Dr. Caswell is now the only living representative of the family. He pursued his education in the public schools of Beloit, Wisconsin, and Rockford, Illinois, and afterward entered the Chicago Medical College, wherein he pursued a full course, and was graduated with the class of 1868. He never engaged in practice, however, but has devoted his attention almost entirely to the drug business. In 1862 he secured a clerkship in a drug store, where he gained his first experience in that line, alternating this with his general school work. He completed his medical education in 1868, and for the succeeding three years was engaged in the drug business in Rockford. In 1871 he formed a partnership with William Worthington under the firm name of Worthington & Caswell, the relation being maintained until 1876, when the junior partner sold his interest. In the succeeding spring he went to Moline and from that time until 1881 was assistant postmaster there. In the latter year he returned to Rockford and entered the employ of Charles Sabin, a druggist, with whom he continued for four years. In April, 1885, he purchased a half interest in the drug store at No. 323 West State street, this business being conducted under the firm name of Hayes & Caswell until 1901, when by purchase Mr. Caswell became sole proprietor and has since conducted what is known as the Caswell Pharmacy. This is a paying business, yielding a good return upon the investment. The store is attractive in its appearance because of its tasteful arrangement and Dr. Caswell by his long experience in the drug business and the knowledge which he acquired in the study of medicine is particularly well qualified for the conduct of such an establishment. His business methods, too, are in conformity with commercial ethics, and he is now enjoying a very liberal patronage.

In 1869 Dr. Caswell was married to Miss Eliza Thomas, a daughter of the late Dr. Alden Thomas, of Rockford. They became the parents of four

children, but the first two died in infancy. Lewis F. married Miss Ermine Waddell, of Columbus, Georgia, and is a stenographer in the government employ under Commissioner James Garfield. Edward J. married Miss Bessie Conklin, of Rockford, and is engaged in farming near Grand Rapids, Wisconsin. The mother of these children died in 1898, and in May, 1905, the Doctor married Mrs. Nellie Rose Waugh, of Rockford.

Dr. Caswell has long been a resident of Rockford and a representative of its business affairs, and as a citizen and merchant merits the high regard that is uniformly extended to him. He is the pioneer druggist of the city, having been actively engaged in business for over a third of a century. He is a great student and has one of the finest libraries in northern Illinois, comprising some two thousand volumes of valuable works, largely scientific, particularly works on ethnology and antiquities. His books have been his inseparable companions through life and he has become quite an authority and an acknowledged enthusiast in philately and numismatics, having been a collector of stamps and coins for thirty-five years, as he started his collection in 1870.

RANSOM BEECHER.

Ransom Beecher, a retired farmer, living on section 13, Winnebago township, was born January 22, 1821, in Washington county, New York, the family home lying between Lake Champlain and Lake George. His parents were Isaac and Minerva (Gorham) Beecher, who came to Illinois in 1846, settling in Kendall county, where the father secured government land and engaged in farming. Their home was near Oswego, twenty miles from Joliet and fifteen miles from Aurora. The father, Ransom Beecher, and his brothers all took claims. They became pioneer settlers of the community, living there when the homes were widely scattered. They did teaming to Chicago, hauling their wheat to that market, and in Kendall county they remained for seven years, when in 1853 they all removed to Winnebago county, with the exception of Daniel. Isaac Beecher and his wife afterward left Illinois and took up their abode in York, Nebraska, where they resided up to the time of their death. Isaac Beecher passed away in 1883, at the age of eighty-four years, his birth having occurred in Connecticut in the fall of 1799, while his wife died in 1891, when more than ninety-one years of age. Both were representatives of old New England families, for the grandfather of our subject went from Connecticut to Vermont in 1807, when the section of the country in which he settled was new and unimproved, and the Gorhams had



MR. AND MRS. RANSOM BEECHER.

located in the same state several years before. Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Beecher were the parents of three sons and a daughter, of whom Ransom is the eldest. Charles, who resided in the village of Winnebago, worked in a wagon shop there with Isaac Johns for some time. He afterward went to Nebraska, where he followed his trade for a number of years, but about five years ago he removed to Pasadena, California, where he now makes his home. He has reached the age of eighty-one years. Betsy died in York, Nebraska, about seven years ago. Daniel I. was a resident of Kendall county, Illinois, until about 1854, when he went south into Mississippi, where he purchased a place. Later, however, he removed to Arkansas, where he resided upon a farm until his death, which occurred in March, 1905, when he was seventy-six years of age.

Ransom Beecher spent the days of his boyhood and youth in his parents' home in the east, and with the family came to Illinois in 1846, being at that time about twenty-five years of age. As before stated, he secured a claim and was engaged in general agricultural pursuits in Kendall county until his removal to this county in 1853. As a companion and helpmate for life's journey he chose Miss Sarah A. Drake, who was born and reared in Rutland county, Vermont, and was a daughter of Julius and Sarah (Tomlinson) Drake. Her brother came to Illinois with the Beecher family, but soon afterward located in Michigan, where he resided until his death, which occurred a number of years ago. Mrs. Beecher was one of a large family of children, but she and her sister, Mrs. Julia O. Thomas, are the only ones now living. She passed the eighty-fourth anniversary of her birth in June, 1905. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Beecher were born three children. The son, Edgar W., served during the Civil war with the Illinois troops, and later located near Windsor, Missouri, where he died about twenty years ago. Inez is the wife of Dr. Speaker, of Manson, Iowa, and they have four children: Clifford, a civil engineer by profession, is now in the employ of a large company; Faith, Lelia and Ethel, all at home. Editha married George Hollenbeck, a farmer residing on section 13, Winnebago township, and they have four children: William R., Frank A., Effie and Altha. Of these William R. married Jennie McLeash, and has recently bought his grandfather's farm of one hundred and twenty acres. He has five children: Ransom B., Lila M., Thelma B., Norma B. and Charles W., all at home.

Politically Mr. Beecher is a republican, interested in the success of his party. He has served in local township offices and as school director, and has ever been actively interested in matters pertaining to the public progress, giving his aid to many movements for the general good. He

has now passed the eighty-fourth milestone on life's journey, and he and his wife are among the most venerable residents of the county. They have long traveled life's journey together, sharing with each other the joys and sorrows, the adversity and prosperity which checker the careers of all.

RICHARD J. PRICE.

Richard J. Price, who is serving for the third term as road commissioner in Guilford township, where for many years he has followed the occupation of farming, owning and operating two hundred and forty acres of land on sections 14, 15 and 22, was born in this township near his present home in 1856, his father being David Price, who came to this county in the same year in which the son Richard was born. The father was a native of Montgomeryshire, Wales, born in 1831, and in that country he was reared to manhood. He came to America in 1850, settling first in Oneida county, New York, where he remained until coming to Winnebago county. He purchased a farm in Guilford township and for many years successfully carried on general agricultural pursuits, but in 1894 retired from business life and took up his abode in Rockford. He owns a fine home on Jackson street and is enjoying the comforts and many of the luxuries of life by reason of his activity in former years. He espoused his country's cause during the Civil war, loyally defending the Union, and in days of peace he has been equally loyal, serving in a number of local offices. It was on the 9th of August, 1862, that he was enrolled as a member of Company D, Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He served for three years or during the war and on the 10th of June, 1865, at Nashville, Tennessee, he was honorably discharged, being mustered out in accordance with instructions from the war department, dated May 29, 1865. He served under Captain H. H. Thatch and Colonel Jason Marsh in the First Brigade, Second Division, Fourth Army Corps of the Army of the Cumberland. He participated in the following battles: Perryville, Kentucky, October 8, 1862; Stone River, December 31, 1862, and the first two days of January, 1863; Chickamauga, Georgia, September 19 and 20, 1863; Lookout Mountain, Tennessee, November 24, 1863; Mission Ridge, November 25, 1863; Buzzard's Roost, Georgia, February 27, 1864; Resaca, May 13-16, 1864; Adairsville, May 17, 1864; Dallas, May 25-June 4, 1864; Kenesaw Mountain, June 9-30, 1864; Peach Tree Creek, July 20, 1864; Moy Creek, August 5-6, 1864; the siege of Atlanta, from the 22d of July to the 2d of September, 1864; Jonesboro, August 31st and September 1, 1864; Lovejoy Station, September

2-6, 1864; Franklin, November 29 and 30, 1864; Savannah, December 10 and 11, 1864; Averysboro, March 16, 1865; Bentonville, March 19, 1865. He was captured at Stone River in the battle of Murfreesboro and was imprisoned at Libby prison and Castle Thunder at Richmond for six weeks. For about two weeks he was detailed to guard cattle at Chattanooga, but with the exception of these brief periods was always on active duty. On the 10th of June, 1865, he received an honorable discharge and with a most creditable military record, returned to his home.

David Price was married twice. In Oneida county, New York, he wedded Miss Winifred Jones, also a native of Wales, born in 1830. She came to America when about twenty years of age and died upon the home farm in Guilford township, September 9, 1884, at the age of fifty-four years. There were nine children born of that marriage: Richard J., who died in infancy; R. J., of this review; Edward and David, who died in infancy; Margaret, who became the wife of C. W. Dempsey, of Guilford township, and died in New Milford in 1880, leaving a daughter, Mabel, who married Wallace Forsythe and resides in Guilford township, while Mr. Dempsey also makes his home in the same township; Eleanor, residing in Guilford township; Mary, who was a teacher and died in early womanhood; Fanny, who was married in 1902 to Carl Melin and resides in Moline, Illinois; and Frank H., who is engaged with the R., B. & I. Railroad as conductor, making his headquarters at Beloit, Wisconsin. After losing his first wife Mr. Price married Mrs. Jane Jones, nee Roberts, who was born in Montgomeryshire, Wales, in 1830, and came to America in 1856, locating first in Oneida county, New York, where she resided seven years. She came to Winnebago county in 1863. Mr. Jones was engaged in well-digging and died here November 7, 1891, at the age of sixty-three years. Mr. and Mrs. Jones were the parents of eleven children, nine of whom yet survive and are residents of Rockford and vicinity.

Richard J. Price spent his boyhood days on the old home farm, where he has resided continuously with the exception of seven years spent in South Dakota. At one time he owned considerable land in that state. He has always followed the occupation of farming and is to-day the owner of two hundred and forty acres of land, which is very productive and valuable, on sections 14, 15 and 22, Guilford township. This constitutes an excellent farm, which is well improved and in its neat appearance indicates the careful supervision of the owner.

Richard J. Price was married in 1886 to Miss Clara V. Teachout, a native of Rockford and a daughter of Gilbert and Melissa Teachout, early

residents of this county. The father died about thirty-nine years ago when a young man. He was a cooper by trade and was employed by Levi Rhodes & Company. Mrs. Price was one of four children, the others being Mrs. Hattie M. Weeks, a resident of Tullahoma, Tennessee; Frederick D., living in Tullahoma; and Will, who is an engineer of the fire department in Toledo, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Price have become the parents of three children: Cora May, who died in Dakota at the age of six years; Zaidee E., the wife of Peter Kalston, of Guilford township and the mother of one son, Norman Richard; and Herbert H., who is attending the Rockford Business College.

Mr. Price is a member of the Grange, with which he has been connected for twenty-four years. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp of Rockford and in his political views has always been a republican. He served as tax collector for two terms and is now filling the office of road commissioner for the third term, and in matters pertaining to general progress and improvement he is deeply and helpfully interested, giving his support to every measure which he deems will benefit the community.

II. F. MATHER.

H. F. Mather, who devotes his time and energies to farming on section 13, Guilford township, owning and cultivating a tract of land of one hundred acres, situated on that section and on section 18, was only nine months old when brought to this county, in October, 1838, his birth having occurred in Burlington, New York. His parents were Alfred P. and Celona (Orcutt) Mather, who located in Rockford township, where they resided until called to their final rest, the father's death occurring June 5, 1901, when he had reached the very advanced age of ninety-four years and six months, while his wife died February 14, 1870, at the age of seventy-three years. Both were natives of New York and the family is of English lineage. They became the parents of four children: Elizabeth, who married William Foss and died at their home in Wisconsin in 1902; Alfred P., of Rockford, who was a shopman and worked for Mr. Manny and also for Emerson for about forty years; Celona, the widow of J. T. Spencer, residing in Pomeroy, Iowa; and H. F., of this review.

H. F. Mather was reared in this county, attending its common schools, and he has always followed farming. In his youth he became familiar with the best methods of clearing and cultivating the fields and caring for the stock and he has never sought other occupation, but



MR. AND MRS. H. F. MATHER.

in the control of his agricultural interests has met with well merited success. His farm comprises one hundred acres of land, partly on section 13 and partly on section 18, Guilford township, and his home is directly opposite the sanitarium.

Mr. Mather was married to Miss Mary E. Cook, who came to Illinois in her childhood days. She was born in Maryland and is a daughter of John Warfield, who settled in Whiteside county, Illinois, where he followed the occupation of farming, while later he took up his abode in Rockford. Mrs. Mather died in July, 1903, at the age of fifty-nine years, leaving two daughters, both born in Rockford, namely: Mary C., who is now the wife of William Birch and resides upon the home farm; and Lillie E., who is the wife of George Easton, their home being in Jewell county, Kansas.

At the time of the Civil war Mr. Mather, responding to his country's call for aid, enlisted in 1862 as a member of Company D, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry, with which he remained for about a year and a half, serving as a private soldier under General Buell. He is now a member of Nevius post, G. A. R., and thus maintains pleasant relations with his old army comrades. He was at one time a member of the Order of United Workmen and his political support has always been given to the republican party. He has served twenty-one years as commissioner of highways, but he has never sought or desired office, preferring to give his undivided attention to his business affairs, in which he has met with signal success. For sixty-five years he has lived in Winnebago county and few settlers have longer resided within its borders. He is therefore numbered among the pioneers and while he has never sought to figure in any public light, nevertheless his worth has made him a valued citizen of his community along agricultural lines.

HON. C. HARRY WOOLSEY.

The life of Hon. C. Harry Woolsey is another illustration of the fact that a man is not born to public honor or office and that success does not depend upon environment for through well directed labor he has gained an enviable position in business circles of Rockford and through devotion to the general good and fitness for leadership he has become a prominent representative of the democratic party in this portion of the state, being now a member of the state central committee.

Mr. Woolsey is a native of England, his birth having occurred in Worthing, Norfolk, December 25, 1854. His parents, Clare and Elizabeth Manship (Warnes) Woolsey, brought their family to

the United States in 1862, locating in Rockford, where the father was engaged in the milling business and other operations for a number of years. He died in 1890 in this city, having for five years survived his wife, who passed away in 1885. They were the parents of eight sons and five daughters, and three of the sons now reside in Rockford.

C. Harry Woolsey was a youth of seven years when brought by his parents to the new world and his education was pursued in the public schools of this city. Putting aside his text-books, he entered upon his business career as a messenger for the Western Union Telegraph Company at the age of twelve years and studied telegraphy and became an operator. He was only fifteen years of age when placed in charge of the telegraph office at Neenah, Wisconsin. He continued in the railway service altogether for sixteen years, spending the greater part of that time in the employ of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company. He was cashier in the Rockford office and ticket agent at Winona, Minnesota, and was chief clerk in the office of the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley Railway Company, at Missouri Valley, Iowa. On leaving the railway service in 1887 he returned to Rockford and in 1889 he became one of the founders of the Skandia Furniture Company, of which he was secretary for two years. Being a lover of flowers, he built a small greenhouse in 1898 and has since conducted business as a florist. His patronage is constantly increasing, demanding greater facilities for carrying on the business until now he has five large greenhouses in addition to an extensive salesroom. The greenhouses are heated by warm water and are thoroughly equipped for the care of the most rare and delicate flowers. His sales are continually increasing and the output annually brings to him a very gratifying financial income.

Prominent politically as an advocate of democratic principles and a worker in the interests of the party, Mr. Woolsey was in 1890 elected a member of the city council from the first ward, and for four years acted in that capacity. In 1903 he was again elected a member of the city council and is the present incumbent in the office. In the campaign of 1894 he was elected to the state legislature on the democratic ticket and while a member of the house served on several important committees. His interest in the welfare of Rockford has been manifest in the tangible support which as an alderman he has given to measures for the general good, his labors proving of direct and practical benefit.

In 1877 Mr. Woolsey was united in marriage to Miss Lina Cora Howes, of Rockford, in which city she was born and reared and acquired her education. She is a daughter of the late Phineas

Howes, a highly respected citizen, and one of the pioneers of Winnebago county, who came here in 1830 from New York and died in 1804.

Her mother was Maria Barnum, who came to Rockford in 1830, and died in this city December 10, 1877. She was a distant relative of P. T. Barnum, the great showman. Mrs. Woolsey is an accomplished lady presiding in a hospitable manner over her pleasant home in which she was born in 1857, at 1055 East State street. Mr. and Mrs. Woolsey are the parents of four children: Marie Knapp and Earl J., both deceased; Ella Beth, at home; and Ralph Harry, a student in the Rockford high school.

Mr. Woolsey is accorded rank with the leading citizens of Rockford. He is one of the live men of the day, active, energetic and enterprising. The march of improvement and progress is accelerated day by day and each successive moment seems to demand of men a broader intelligence and a greater discernment. With a realization of this, Mr. Woolsey has improved his opportunities and qualified himself to meet existing conditions in the business and political world and in both has won for himself an enviable place. He is secretary of Rockford Lodge, No. 102, A. F. & A. M., has filled various chairs in the Knights of Pythias lodge, of which he has been a member for thirty years, and also belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. He and his family are all active members of the Christian Union church and he has served as a trustee of the same for several years.

THAD W. EVANS.

Thad W. Evans, who carries on general farming on section 13, New Milford township, having here a tract of land of eighty acres, was born in this township, May 27, 1872, his parents being Thomas W. and Caroline (Crill) Evans. They were early residents of Ogle county, and were natives of Oneida county, New York, coming to the west when young people. The father devoted his energies to farming and thus provided for his family, acquiring an estate of about fifty thousand dollars. His death occurred February 10, 1899. His first wife, Mrs. Caroline (Crill) Evans, died in 1874, and he subsequently married Laura E. Lewis of New York. By the first marriage there were six children who reached adult age and one by the second, while the other members of the family died in infancy. Jennie became the wife of W. P. Hotelling and died in Rockford about eighteen or twenty years ago, leaving a daughter, Rapha, who married a Mr. Munch and resides in the west. Belle is the wife of R. M. Barross, who is living near Garden

Prairie, in McHenry county, Illinois, and they have four children, Bert, Evans, Nora and Lucy. John O. Evans, who is now following farming in New Milford township, married Flora Bauder and they have four children, Thomas, Georgia, Bernice and John. Jean Paul Evans, owning a farm in Ogle county, was married to Miss Alice French, and they have four children: Lois, Paul, Harvey and Howard. Henrietta is the wife of J. C. Thompson, a resident farmer of New Milford township. Thad W. is the next of the family. Lois is the wife of Frank Denel, a resident of Rockford.

Thad W. Evans was reared in the county where his birth occurred, and throughout his business career he has carried on general agricultural pursuits. He now has eighty acres of land known as the Waugh farm, and devotes his time to the tilling of the soil and the raising of crops. There are good buildings upon his place, and altogether he has a finely improved tract of land, constituting one of the best farm properties of the neighborhood.

Mr. Evans was married October 23, 1895, at Salem, Wisconsin, to Miss Minnie French, who was born in Antioch, Lake county, Illinois, and is a daughter of John French, who came in his boyhood days from the Empire state to the west, and was one of the early settlers of Illinois. Mrs. Evans died February 17, 1901, at the age of twenty-six years, leaving a daughter, Jeanette Maude, now six years of age.

Politically Mr. Evans has always been a republican and that belief has ever been the political faith of the family. He belongs to New Milford camp, No. 419, M. W. A., of New Milford, and also to camp No. 26 of the Home Fraternal League of New Milford. His business affairs are capably conducted, and in all of his work he follows a definite plan of action. Both his systematic labors and diligence are bringing him to the goal of success toward which each man turns his face as he starts out in a business life.

GEORGE PFANSTIEL.

Among the German-American citizens who have contributed to the substantial improvement and development of Winnebago county was numbered George Pfanstiel, for through a long period he was an active factor in business life in Rockford, and at his death he left behind many friends who held him in high regard and greatly regretted his loss. A native of Prussia, he was born September 24, 1831. His father, Millet Pfanstiel, always remained a resident of Germany and departed this life in his native land at the

age of seventy-one years. He had always followed farming. His widow has also passed away. Their son Casper, coming to America soon after the arrival of George Pfanstiel, took up his abode in Rockford and has also departed this life, but his widow and children still reside in this city.

In the schools of his native land George Pfanstiel pursued his education, spending his boyhood days on his father's farm. In 1860, however, he sailed for America, taking passage at Bremen on a sailing vessel which weighed anchor on the 17th of November. He landed at New York, and for a year and a half was there employed in various ways. He scorned no labor that would yield him an honest employment, but thinking that he might do still better elsewhere he went to Cincinnati, Ohio, and subsequently came to Rockford. Various undertakings claimed his time and energies in this city. He was first engaged in the livery business for a number of years, and afterward owned a brewery. He likewise bought and sold real estate, dealing in city property until his retirement. He also owned a farm, and his property was the visible evidence of his great activity and well directed efforts in business life.

After coming to Rockford Mr. Pfanstiel was united in marriage to Mrs. H. C. Charlotte Groneman, who was born in Berlin, Germany, May 17, 1820, and was a daughter of Christian and Louisa (Loudwig) Brieger. Her parents were also natives of Prussia, and her father was a miller by trade, following that occupation until his death at the age of fifty-five years. His wife passed away when only thirty-two years of age. Both were members of the Lutheran church. The grandfather, Christian J. Brieger, served as a soldier under Napoleon Bonaparte. Mrs. Pfanstiel was the first of the family to come to America. She obtained a good education in her native country, and in 1856 crossed the Atlantic alone from Bremen to New York city, spending some months in the latter place. She arrived in Rockford early in the year 1857, and the following year gave her hand in marriage to Theodore Groneman, a native of Hamburg, Germany, who became a resident of the new world in 1856. He was a cabinet-maker by trade and for three years after his marriage was thus employed. He then embarked in the furniture business in connection with A. C. Burpee, that relation being maintained for twelve years. In politics he was a democrat and a member of the Germania Society and of the Lutheran church. He died in 1871, at the age of forty-four years. After ten years' residence in this country Mr. Groneman and wife went back to Germany on a visit, and spent three months very enjoyably, returning on the same vessel, the Westphalia. Following the death of her first

husband Mrs. Groneman became the wife of Mr. Pfanstiel, and they made their home in Rockford, where they had many friends among the German-American citizens. Having no children of their own, they reared Miss Helgren, now Mrs. August Pfanstiel, of Rockford. For several years Miss Charlotte Beisert has resided with Mrs. Pfanstiel, who is her great-aunt, and they now occupy the old Groneman homestead at No. 518 North Third street, where Mrs. Pfanstiel has lived for thirty-five years. She also owns other valuable property in Rockford and a fine farm of forty acres near Pecatonica.

Mr. Pfanstiel continued a resident of Rockford up to the time of his demise, which occurred May 23, 1901. In his political views he was an earnest republican, and never faltered in his advocacy of any measure which he believed to be for the general good. His religious views accorded with the teachings of the Lutheran church, of which both he and his wife were devoted members. Coming to America with little capital, he advanced steadily in his business career, winning success through close application, keen business discernment and unflagging perseverance. As the years passed he was enabled to add annually to his savings until with a comfortable competence he retired to private life, spending his last years in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former toil. He became well known here, and enjoyed in large measure the friendship of many of the German-American citizens of Rockford.

MOSES WILLIAM GLEASON.

One of the most active and energetic of the early pioneers who located permanently in what is now Winnebago county was M. W. Gleason, of Guilford township. His birth occurred at Williamstown, Massachusetts, September 15, 1814, and he was the second son of Jesse and Mary Gleason. He, with his brother Chase, arrived in the early spring of 1836, selected land and in conformity of the times "made a claim," receiving a deed therefor when the United States government first opened a land office at Galena, Illinois.

William had learned the trade of blacksmith in Bennington, Vermont, therefore his forge and anvil were a part of the "furniture" in this hurriedly built log cabin, being the first and only blacksmith shop for many miles around. Some of his customers came long distances, often requiring two days for the trip. He soon had many friends among the Indians, who were delighted with the new idea of having their ponies "shod" and their hunting implements in better shape.

They soon became very free to come to him for aid in different ways and manifested their gratitude in generous gifts of venison, fish, etc. When the tribe of Pottawattamie decided to move, a son of their chief wished to remain with the blacksmith, but his father would not consent.

The brothers built a more commodious residence and sent east for their father and family, who arrived during the summer of 1837. In this Gleason home religious services were frequently held, and at one of these meetings in June, 1838, the first Sunday school was arranged for, the first superintendent being elected one week later. The mother and two sisters were among the first teachers. This Sunday school has an interesting history, and is now known as "Pioneer Union" Sunday school, and is in a flourishing condition.

William Gleason made the molds in which the first bricks were shaped in this vicinity, and in 1840 erected a brick residence, then considered a fine house. In 1842 all was ready and he returned for his waiting bride, Miss Eunice A. Gilbert, of Pownal, Vermont. She was called to her higher home in 1852, leaving three daughters who are yet living: Mrs. F. S. DuBois, Mrs. J. H. Potter and Mrs. Job Alexander.

Aside from his trade and agricultural pursuits Mr. Gleason engaged quite extensively in sheep husbandry, which he made profitable. All who knew him felt the influence of his cheerful, helpful disposition; he was active in all work for the public benefit and especially interested in the welfare of young men; often sought for in cases of illness; and had the happy faculty of knowing the best thing to do at the right time. He was very fond of music and sincerely patriotic, following the practice of reading, or having read, the Declaration of Independence every Fourth of July. He never sought public office, but served in the capacity of supervisor of Guilford township several years; also as school trustee. The last twenty-one years of his life he was elected as a justice of the peace, and was chosen administrator of several estates. One of his mottoes was "Aim to leave the world better for your being in it." When he was called from his earthly existence April 22, 1883, every one who knew him felt that they had lost a true friend.

CHARLES MORGAN.

In the history of the pioneer settlers of Winnebago county Charles Morgan deserves mention for he took up his abode here about 1840, upon a farm in Pecatonica township. The traveler of to-day viewing the splendid improvements of Rockford and the fine farms of the

surrounding district can scarcely realize the conditions which then existed, much of the land being still wild and unimproved and covered with the long prairie grasses. Rockford, too, was but a little village and where now are seen thriving towns there was often not a single house to indicate that the future years would bring a settlement of importance to that point. Mr. Morgan was born in Ballinasloe, Ireland. His parents always made their home in that country until 1833 and have now passed away. The son was a young lad when he left home, sailing for the new world. He landed at New York city and secured a position in a book-publishing house. That he was faithful, capable and energetic is indicated by the fact that he remained in the employ of one company for eight years. Mrs. Morgan now has in her possession a number of old books and Bibles that were printed by that house when Mr. Morgan worked there during the early period of his residence in America. Thinking that he would have still better business opportunities in the middle west he made his way to Winnebago county in 1840, and settled upon a tract of land in Pecatonica township, where he carried on general agricultural pursuits. He was married in this county to Miss Barbara Kinghorn, a native of Scotland, and a daughter of William and Agnes (Darling) Kinghorn, both natives of that country. They came to America about 1835, making their way direct to Winnebago county, where the father purchased land in Burritt township, devoted his attention to the tilling of the soil until his life's labors were ended in death. His wife also passed away on the old homestead. Two of their children are still residing upon farms in Burritt township.

Following his marriage Mr. Morgan continued to carry on general farming in Pecatonica township for several years and then purchased land on the old state road in this county, where he made his home for twelve years, annually harvesting good crops as a result of the care and labor he bestowed upon the fields. He then removed to the city of Rockford in 1860, purchasing property in the southern part of the town and there he lived retired until his death, which occurred on the 22d of August, 1887. He had come to America empty-handed, but he overcame all difficulties and obstacles in his path and worked his way steadily upward to success. He knew no such word as fail, for such a word does not find a place in the vocabulary of men of enterprise, strong purpose and sound judgment.

Mr. Morgan voted with the republican party, but was without political aspiration for himself. He held membership in the Court Street Meth-



CHARLES MORGAN.

odist Episcopal church, which he joined more than a half-century ago, and he took a very active and helpful part in church work, belonging to both the Bible and Missionary Societies, and did everything in his power to advance the cause of Christianity and extend its influence as a moving force for the betterment of mankind. He left at his death a good farm and valuable property in South Rockford, which was the visible evidence of his life of thrift and industry, but moreover, he left to his widow the priceless heritage of an untarnished name. There is always something of interest approaching to the romantic in the history of a young lad who leaves a foreign land to establish a home in America and without the aid of influential friends or capital, works his way from a humble position to one of affluence, commanding at the same time the trust and confidence of those with whom he is associated. Such was the history of Charles Morgan. Since her husband's death Mrs. Morgan has sold most of the property, but now owns a nice residence at 1045 Mulberry street, where she makes her home. She has lived in the county through many decades and is one of its worthy pioneer women.

GEORGE W. JANVEVINE.

George W. Janvevine, deceased, who was well known in Winnebago county and likewise in the city of Beloit, where his last days were passed, was born in Exeter, New Hampshire, in 1825, and his death occurred in 1875. He pursued his education in the east, and entering business life became identified with mercantile interests in Lawrence, Massachusetts. He was living in New England at the time of his marriage, which was celebrated in 1851, Miss Eunice Greenleaf becoming his wife. She was likewise a native of New Hampshire and was a daughter of Samuel and Abigail (Davis) Greenleaf.

Mr. and Mrs. Janvevine removed from Lawrence, Massachusetts, to the middle west, settling first at Sugar River, Wisconsin, where he followed farming for some time and then took up his abode in Beloit, where he established a meat market, conducting it successfully for several years. He next turned his attention to the hotel business there, and was proprietor of the Bushnell House, later called the Goodwin Hotel. Afterward he again resumed business as a dealer in meats in Beloit, and in that enterprise was very successful. He was thus engaged during the period of the Civil war, and owing to his capable management and the careful husbanding of his resources he became enabled to invest in real estate, purchasing valuable land in Rockton town-

ship, Winnebago county, where he became owner of two hundred and fifty acres. Following the period of the Civil war he made his home on the farm in Rockton, where he lived for ten years, devoting his time and energies to agricultural pursuits, during which period there was a marked transformation wrought in the appearance of the place for his fields were highly cultivated under his supervision and good improvements were added. He was a man of resourceful business ability, and carried forward to successful completion whatever he undertook. He lived upon the farm until 1873, when having gained a very desirable competence he retired to private life, purchasing a residence on Fourth street in Beloit, where his widow now lives. He remained here only two years, however, when death claimed him. He was a man of forceful individuality, well fitted for leadership, and his fellow townsmen recognizing his worth and ability called him to the office of city marshal of Beloit. He was fearless in the discharge of his duty, and on one occasion while attempting to make an arrest he was hit on the head by a stone, which caused his death.

Mr. and Mrs. Janvevine were the parents of seven children, of whom six are living: Ida E.; Fred, who married Margaret Shay; Jennie, the wife of Alonzo Aldrich, by whom she has one child, Laura J.; Harry; Hattie, who married Stewart Mellick and has two children, Harry and Rolland; Joseph, who wedded Josephine Brenton and has one son, Brenton.

Mr. Janvevine's study of the political issues and questions of the day led him to give his support to the republican party for he believed that it contained the best elements of good government. He belonged to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and his life was in harmony with the high principles which form the basis of that organization. His was a very successful career, owing to his capable management and unfaltering diligence. He was popular with his fellow citizens, owing to his excellent personal traits of character, and his loss was deeply regreted. He was taken away in the prime of life, being only fifty years of age when his life was sacrificed to duty.

PHINEAS HOWES.

It has been customary to speak of men who have raised themselves to honorable stations in life without the aid of wealth or influential friends as "self-made." Such a one is our subject, who started out in life with nothing but his strong hands and his determination to succeed, and that his desire has been accomplished is noted by the fact that he was one of the most prominent and progressive citizens of Rockford. In

his life we find an excellent example for young men just embarking in the field of activity, showing what may be gained by honesty, prudence and industry. In his youth he enjoyed a few advantages but relied solely upon his efforts, and his conduct to win for him success, not in the sense of accumulating wealth, but in doing good to others, in serving others well and in winning their respect.

The original of this sketch was one of the pioneers of Rockford. He was born in the town of Southeast, Putnam county, New York, September 25, 1817. His father, Job Howes, was born in Southeast, Putnam county, New York, in 1762, of early English ancestry, and died in 1832. The latter named gentleman always followed agricultural pursuits and spent his last years in Putnam county, New York. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Elizabeth Eggleston, who departed this life in 1804 in the above named county.

Phineas Howes was reared and educated in his native town, and when seventeen years of age entered upon an apprenticeship of three years at the carpenter's and joiner's trade. He was then employed as a "jour" and remained in the Empire state until 1830, when he came to the Prairie state by way of the most expeditious route at that time, sailing up the Hudson river to Albany, thence on the Erie canal to Buffalo, where he embarked on a lake steamer, which conveyed him to Chicago. From that then small city of but a few thousand people, Mr. Howes was given the permission to ride with a gentleman who was coming to Rockford and landed in this city in 1830 with but twenty five cents in his pocket.

Rockford was at that time a very small place, the surrounding country being owned by the government, and deer and other wild game being very plentiful. Mr. Howes was very desirous to secure work and better his condition in life, and soon found employment at his trade. Being very industrious and economical, he saved a portion of his meager earnings and was soon enabled to purchase a lot in the village and claim a tract of government land located in what is now Cherry Valley township. When the land came into market he, with others, started with a team of horses and a wagon to the land office at Galena. They provided themselves with provisions and cooking utensils, camping out and preparing their meals on the way.

In the fall of 1830 Mr. Howes erected the first frame house ever built in Rockford. This structure is still standing on East State street. Our subject worked at his trade for a few years, then engaged in the lumber business with John Lake, the partnership continuing about fifteen years. After that his attention was chiefly employed in

looking after his private interests, and he was one of the wealthy and prominent residents of the city.

Miss Maria Barnum became the wife of our subject in October, 1830. Mrs. Howes was born in Danbury, Fairfield county, Connecticut, in February, 1811, and was the daughter of Daniel and Lorana Barnum, further reference to whom will be found in the sketch of D. H. Barnum. The ceremony which made them one was solemnized at the home of Miss Barnum in Cherry Valley township, and their wedding trip consisted of a ride with a pair of oxen in a wagon from Cherry Valley to Rockford. They commenced housekeeping in the dwelling above mentioned before the doors and windows were put in, and all their furniture was home-made. Mr. Howes was very prosperous, and soon built a larger and more commodious dwelling, in which they resided for many years. Mrs. Howes departed this life December 10, 1877. She was the mother of three children, namely: Ellen C., deceased, who was the wife of Charles Chamberlain; Herbert H., who died at Kansas City, Missouri, in 1888, aged thirty-five years; and Cora, the wife of C. Harry Woolsey, by whom she has had four children; Marie K., who died in 1902; Earl J., who died in 1882; Ella Beth and Ralph Harry, both living at home.

He of whom we write cast his first presidential vote for Andrew Jackson and ever sympathized with the democratic party. He was a man who combined strictness of moral principles with energy and decision of character. He made profitable investments, became interested in remunerative enterprises, won honorable success in business and secured a competency as a product of personal industry and good judgment put forth in a field wisely selected. He was, when in his prime, a careful business man, ever adhering to the dictates of his conscience in matters both of public and private nature.

JOHN McLEE.

John McLee, whose workmanship is seen in a number of fine public buildings and residences in Rockford, is a native son of this city, born March 6, 1807. His father, John McLee, was a native of Ireland, and in 1848 came to the United States, establishing his home in Rockford, then a small town. He was a well-to-do farmer, and owned two hundred and forty acres of land in Boone county, but is now living retired in Rockford at the advanced age of eighty years. A communicant of the Catholic church, a democrat in politics, a man with strict regard



JOHN McLEE.

for the higher ethics of life, he stands high in the regard of friends and neighbors. Benevolent and charitable, he is both liberal in his views and in his donations to the unfortunate ones of life. He married Bridget Seaver, also a native of the Emerald isle, from which country she came to America with her husband. She, too, was a member of the Catholic church, and she died in 1899, at the age of sixty-six years. In the family were eight children, of whom five are living.

John McLee, the seventh in order of birth, was a public school student of Rockford. He was reared upon his father's farm, but thinking to find other pursuits more congenial than the work of the fields, at the age of seventeen years he began learning the carpenter's trade, and has since been identified with building operations here. Sixteen years ago he began contracting, and many public buildings and fine residences are evidences of his handiwork, and are also attractive features in the city, noted for its beautiful homes and excellent business blocks.

In 1893 Mr. McLee was married to Miss Mary Tynan, a daughter of Patrick Tynan, who was born on a farm in Boone county, Illinois. They now have three children, Jennie, Bernard and Frances. The parents hold membership in St. Mary's Catholic church, and Mr. McLee is a member of the Modern Woodmen camp, and also has membership relations with the Mystic Workers, Fraternal Tribunes and Knights of Columbus, while his political endorsement is given to the republican party. He is yet a comparatively young man, and his life is in harmony with the spirit of enterprise and advancement which are dominant factors in the middle west.

FRANK E. PEARSON.

Frank E. Pearson, a native of Rockford, has seen no reason to change his place of residence, finding ample opportunity for the exercise of his talents and powers in business circles of this city. He is now serving for the fourth year as superintendent for the Rockford Manufacturing Company, and his connection with the company covers altogether twelve years. Mr. Pearson was born here in 1862, his parents being Ola and Sarah Pearson, who came to Rockford in 1855. The father, who was among the early Swedish settlers of this city, was an iron molder by trade and was at one time in the employ of John P. Manny & Company. Subsequently when his labors had brought to him sufficient capital to permit of his investment in real estate he became the owner of a farm situated in Franklin township, two and a half miles north of Kirkland, and thereafter was

one of the enterprising agriculturists of his community. He died in 1899, at the age of seventy-eight years, and is still survived by his wife, who is yet a resident of Rockford. In the family were the following named: Henry, who is residing on the homestead farm; Mrs. O. Carlson and Mrs. Charles Krans, who are residing in Winnebago county; Lawrence, who is a bookkeeper in the employ of the Co-operative Furniture Company of Rockford; and Alfred, who is chief engineer in a large manufacturing plant in Chicago.

Frank E. Pearson was reared and educated in Rockford, attending the public schools here, the days of his boyhood and youth being passed in the usual manner of lads of the period. He began earning his own living as a farm hand, but for twelve years has been a representative of the Rockford Manufacturing Company. His industry, capability and close application won him ready recognition in successive promotions here, and for the past four years he has been superintendent of the plant, having under his direction sixty-five workmen. He is well qualified for the position, having become thoroughly familiar with the business in every detail, and as a practical workman who understands each department of the trade. His long connection with the house, too, is unmistakable evidence of his loyalty to those whom he represents.

In 1895 Mr. Pearson was united in marriage to Miss Mary C. Peterson, a daughter of H. F. Peterson, who is one of the oldest stone-mason contractors of this city. Mr. and Mrs. Pearson now have two sons and a daughter, all born in Rockford: Irving, Raymond and Eva Marie, aged respectively eight, four and two years. The parents are members of the First Lutheran church and Mr. Pearson is a republican in his political views. Upon that ticket he was elected to the city council in the spring of 1898 and served for seven years in the most acceptable and faithful manner as a member of the board of aldermen, retiring in 1905. He belongs to Modern Woodmen camp, No. 51, of Rockford, and he is now one of its officers. Too progressive and enterprising to long occupy a subordinate position in business circles, he has gradually worked his way upward until he is now well known as a representative of manufacturing interests in Rockford and at the same time his public spirit classes him as a representative of the best citizenship.

DAVID H. ELLIS.

There have come to Rockford many citizens who in former years were the promoters of agricultural development and progress in this county and who by well directed labor and careful man-

agement have become possessors of means that enable them to live retired in the enjoyment of the fruits of their former toil. To this class belongs Mr. Ellis, who now makes his home at No. 414 Chestnut street, Rockford. He was born in Canada, October 7, 1838, his parents being David and Maria (Spencer) Ellis, both of whom were natives of the Dominion and were of English descent. The father followed the occupation of farming in order to provide for his family, which numbered ten children, eight of whom were living at the time of his death, while three yet survive: Hannah, the widow of Herman Kingsbury and now living in Rockford; George, a blacksmith, residing at Rockton; and David H.

While living in Canada the father engaged in the operation of his farm and in 1846 he came to Winnebago county, Illinois, still a pioneer district. The homes of the settlers were widely scattered and few roads had been laid out, but for miles one could ride over the prairies without coming to a fence or building to impede progress. Much of the land was still in possession of the government and Mr. Ellis entered a claim of one hundred and twenty acres in Owen township. Upon this place he built a one-story frame residence of three rooms, which is still standing, a mute witness of the many events which have occurred to shape the history of this portion of the state. At the time that house was built it was considered a model property. Mr. Ellis continued to carry on agricultural pursuits there until his death, which occurred in 1850, when he was forty-eight years of age, and resulted from the contraction of a heavy cold. He had prospered in his undertakings here, although his residence was of comparatively brief duration. He brought with him some horses from Canada, but otherwise his possessions were quite limited, but securing his land at the government price, he soon developed what has become a valuable farm property.

David H. Ellis was a youth of eight years when the family removed to Illinois. His mother remained upon the home farm for two years after her husband's death and then rented land. Mr. Ellis of this review was thirteen years of age at the time of her demise. He lived with his brother-in-law, James V. Conklin, who followed farming in Owen and Harrison townships until twenty-one years of age, when he turned his attention to farming on his own account, and when twenty-two years of age he was married, in 1860, to Amanda Burbank, who was born in Harrison township and was a daughter of Eli Burbank, a native of Springfield, Massachusetts, born October 6, 1801, and a son of Eben Burbank. Having arrived at years of maturity, Eli Burbank was united in marriage to Ann Woodle, who was born December 26, 1800, in Delaware, and in 1836 he

came west to Illinois, settling in Harrison township, Winnebago county. If one could have a picture of the county at that time it would present broad prairies uncultivated, timber tracts uncut, rivers and streams unbridged and little to note an advancing civilization, for only here and there had settlements been made on the prairies or in the wooded districts, the work of improvement lying largely in the future. Mr. Burbank entered government land and began the development of a farm, recognizing the splendid opportunities which Illinois afforded to the agriculturist. Later Ann Woodle came to this state and they were married in Rock county, Wisconsin. They took up their abode in Harrison township, and as the years passed the evidences of pioneer life on their farm were replaced by those of an advanced civilization. They had seven children: John, Myra and Clarissa, all deceased; Gordon; Mrs. Ellis; Joel, who is living in Rockford; and Thomas, who has been in the fire department for seventeen years in this city. Mr. Burbank long remained a resident of the county, honored as one of its first settlers and as the promoter of interests which proved of value in the substantial development of this part of the state. He died in April, 1892, at the age of ninety years. His political faith was that of the republican party, and his religious belief that of the United Presbyterian church.

David H. Ellis, responding to his country's call for aid, enlisted on the 1st of August, 1862, as a member of Company A, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry, with which he served until October, 1864. He participated in the battles of Perryville, Stone River, Crab Orchard, Franklin and Stevenson. He was in four different hospitals while with the army and was discharged in Louisville, Kentucky, returning to his home on the 26th of October, 1864.

When his military service was ended Mr. Ellis engaged in farming near Rockton for a year, after which he purchased land in Owen township, where he carried on agricultural pursuits for twenty years. He first bought forty-four acres of land, then eighty acres and still later one hundred and thirty acres, thus making judicious investment in land as his financial resources permitted. His labors were practical, progressive and profitable, and as a farmer he ranked among those who, readily understanding the value of industry and perseverance, so direct their labors as to make the fields of most value in the production of splendid crops.

After farming for more than two decades Mr. Ellis came to Rockford in 1881 and embarked in the implement business, in which he continued for two years. Subsequently he removed to Rock Rapids, Iowa, where he was in the implement business for five years, and on the expiration of

that period he came to Rockford, where he has since lived, now enjoying a rest from further business cares, his well earned competency supplying him with the necessities and the comforts of life.

Mr. and Mrs. Ellis have two children: Etta, the wife of M. H. McBarnes, by whom she has two children, Floy and Ola; and Bert, of Rockford, who has two children, Florence and Ralph. Mr. Ellis is a republican and served as deputy sheriff of the county for three years. He belongs to Nevius post, No. 1, G. A. R., and takes pleasure in the camp fires and in the fraternal relations with his old army comrades. He now owns and occupies a fine brick residence at No. 414 Chestnut street.

GEORGE M. KEYT.

George M. Keyt, the senior member of the firm of Keyt & Son, proprietors of what is the finest livery barn in the northwest, was born in Piqua, Ohio, in 1842. His father, James Keyt, was a native of New Jersey and, learning the stone-mason's trade in early life, eventually became a contractor in that line. He married Miss Laura Moffett, who was the first white child born in Piqua, Ohio. Her father was stolen by Indians in Kentucky, who kept him in their possession for four years, for the family home was then in the midst of a frontier district and the red men had not been forced to leave their old hunting grounds for new reservations farther west.

In the year 1857 Mr. and Mrs. Keyt removed with their family from the Buckeye state to Illinois, settling in Rockford, and he became one of the most extensive contractors and builders west of Chicago. The firm of James & D. Keyt built the old stone church (the Second Congregational) and James Keyt was the builder of the Presbyterian church and many other important structures of this city. In fact, evidences of his skill and ability are still seen in many of the old and substantial buildings of Rockford. His early political allegiance was given to the whig party, and when new issues arose before the people and gave rise to the new republican party he joined its ranks. He was a man of firm purpose, unfaltering in support of his opinions, and with his wife he attended the services of the Presbyterian church. In the family were six children, of whom three are residents of Rockford, namely: George M., Mary J. and Mrs. Margaret Lockwood, the last named living on North Main street. Both Mr. and Mrs. Keyt have now passed away.

George M. Keyt was educated in the schools of Ohio until the removal of the family to Rockford, after which he continued his studies here. His entrance into business life was as a plumber and

he was employed at that trade until after the inauguration of the Civil war, when he responded to the country's call, enlisting on the 15th of July, 1861, as a member of Company G, Sixth Wisconsin Infantry. He went to Beloit, Wisconsin, in order to join the army and for three years was with his regiment in the Army of the Potomac, during which period he participated in the battles of Gainesville, second Bull Run, South Mountain, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg and Mine Run, whereby he demonstrated his loyalty to the Union cause. He suffered from smallpox and was in the hospital for a time and he also had a sun stroke, from which he has never entirely recovered. When the war was over he was honorably discharged at Washington, D. C.

The country no longer needing his aid, Mr. Keyt then returned to Rockford, where for some years he continued in the plumbing business, while later he gave his attention to the sale of reapers and mowers for the John P. Manny Company for two years. On the expiration of that period he began buying and selling horses and became the most extensive shipper of this city. It was a logical step therefore for him to enter the livery business and in 1883 he opened a stable in connection with his dealing in horses. In 1891 he built his present barn and is now one of the oldest liverymen of the city. At the present time he is associated with his son, and they have a splendidly equipped livery barn at Nos. 218 and 220 Wyman street, the establishment scarcely being equaled throughout the entire northwest. The barn is built of brick, three stories in height, and is fifty by one hundred feet. On the ground floor seventy-four horses are stabled, and he has a splendid assortment of runabouts, buggies, carriages, hacks and other vehicles, which make him the leading liveryman of Rockford. He also has a fine office, and the firm have built up a splendid business and are justly regarded as the leaders in their line here.

On the 11th of June, 1865, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Keyt and Miss Caroline Smith Platner, a native of Little Falls, New York, and a daughter of George Platner. Her father was a stock-buyer and also conducted a meat market, and in the year 1856 he came to Rockford with his family and continued in the same line of business here, conducting a good meat market for a number of years. Both he and his wife departed this life in Rockford. In their family were ten children. Mr. and Mrs. Keyt have but one child, Ferdinand P., who was educated in the city schools of Rockford and is now his father's partner in the livery business. He married Harriet Lawless, a native of Rockford, and they reside at No. 512 Market street, while George M. Keyt and his wife make their home at No. 315 North

Horsman, where he owns a fine residence. He is likewise the owner of the livery barn, so that his property interests are quite valuable. His fraternal relations connect him with the Grand Army of the Republic, the Masons and the Home Fraternal League, while his political views have enrolled him in republican ranks. Both he and his wife attend the Presbyterian church, and in the years of their married life Mr. Keyt has found a faithful companion and helpmate in his wife. In their early married life their financial resources were quite limited, but as the years have gone by this has changed and Mr. Keyt has made steady progress toward the goal of prosperity.

OSCAR F. HALSEY.

Oscar F. Halsey, who has passed the seventy-eighth milestone on life's journey, was born in New York city, May 29, 1827. His parents were Samuel P. and Mary (Wygant) Halsey, the father a native of Sag Harbor, New York, and the mother of Marlboro, Ulster county, that state. The mother died when their son Oscar was only three months old and the father afterwards removed with his family to Ulster county. He was born August 15, 1801, and he remained a resident of the Empire state until within eleven years of his death, when he removed from Ulster county to Winnebago county, Illinois, in order to make his home with his son Oscar, his death occurring in Seward when he had reached the advanced age of ninety-two years and nine months. He was a mason by trade and through many years followed that pursuit.

The ancestry of Mr. Halsey, however, can be traced still farther back. His grandfather, Jesse Halsey, was born on Long Island, where he lived until his death, becoming a sea captain. The early ancestors came from England to America, locating in Boston, Massachusetts, at an early period in colonial history.

Oscar F. Halsey spent his boyhood days in his father's home, remaining at Marlboro, New York, until 1848. Attracted by the opportunities of the great and growing west he came to Winnebago county that year and for two years thereafter made his home at Roscoe. He was employed as a farm hand by the month, breaking the prairie with ox-teams and performing other arduous labor incident to development of new land. Anxious to have a home of his own he entered one hundred and sixty acres of land from the government in Seward township in 1849, and, breaking the wild prairie with ox-teams, he planted his grain and in due course of time gathered good harvests. As there were no railroads he hauled his wheat to Chicago, where it was marketed and he performed other service and

underwent such experiences as were common on the frontier. Upon his farm he placed all of the improvements and equipments that are found upon a model farm property of the present day and he carried on his work in a practical, progressive manner that brought good financial return. For many years he was actively engaged in farming but now renting his land he lives retired in Seward.

On the 5th of May, 1855, Mr. Halsey was married to Miss Lydia A. Hawkins, a daughter of Jonathan Hawkins and a native of New York. Mrs. Halsey was born in Ovid, Seneca county, New York, March 4, 1827, and died in Seward township, November 18, 1884. Five children were born unto Mr. and Mrs. Halsey, of whom four are now living: William H. S., who is a resident farmer of Seward township and is married and has three children; Mary E., at home; Anna M., who is married and living in Rockford; and Samuel P., principal of the Seward school. Nancy L., who was the fourth member of the family, is now deceased.

Mr. Halsey exercises his right of franchise in support of the republican party and its principles and belongs to the Congregational church. He was familiar with pioneer experiences when Winnebago county was a frontier district and through an active agricultural life has gained a handsome competence as a reward for his labors, so that now in the evening of his days he is enabled to enjoy the rest that has been honorably earned and is richly deserved.

COLONEL CHRISTOPHER M. BRAZEE.

A distinguished military service, a successful career as a lawyer and prominent connection with many of the movements which contributed to Rockford's welfare and progress well entitled Colonel Brazee to rank as one of the leading and influential residents of this city. He left the impress of his individuality upon its judicial records and its public life and came to be honored wherever known and most of all where best known. He was a native of Lockport, New York, born March 10, 1832, and when twenty-six years of age became a resident of Winnebago county. His parents were Andrew and Sarah (Washburn) Brazee, both of whom were natives of the state of New York, where the father followed the occupation of farming in the vicinity of Lockport, making his home there until called to his final rest. His wife also died in that locality.

Colonel Brazee acquired his early education in the common schools of Lockport, New York, and continued his studies in Wilson, New York, where he entered the collegiate institute. Sometime afterward he returned to his native township, where



MR. AND MRS. O. F. HALSEY.

he entered upon the study of law under the direction of his brother, who was a practicing attorney there. Colonel Brazee continued his reading until 1856, when he joined an engineering corps who were coming to the west. He made his way to Iowa, where he remained with the corps in survey and other work for two years, and in 1858, as before stated, he arrived in Rockford. Here he resumed his legal studies in the office of Miller & Taylor, well known attorneys here at that time, and after reading for a year he was admitted to the bar in 1859 and entered at once upon active practice. The favorable opinion which the public passed upon him at the outset of his career was in no degree put aside or modified as time went by, but on the contrary was strengthened by the able manner in which he handled his cases and his fidelity to the interests of his clients. He has been spoken of as one of the most aggressive advocates who have ever practiced at the bar of Winnebago county. He was notable because of the careful manner in which he prepared his cases, and for the clear and forcible way in which he presented his cause before court or jury, never failing to make a strong impression and seldom failing to gain the verdict desired. In 1860 he was elected city attorney and was holding that office when the Civil war broke out.

His patriotic spirit being aroused by the attempt of the south to overthrow the Union, Mr. Brazee enlisted as a private in Company C, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry, under Captain Sloan and Colonel Marsh, but before leaving Rockford in December, 1862, he was elected first lieutenant and was placed in command of the pioneer brigade of the Army of the Cumberland in September, 1863. He received a captain's commission and was assigned to duty on General Rosecrans's staff as assistant quartermaster of the Army of the Cumberland, and held that position until he was mustered out in January, 1864, on account of ill health. He was in the engagements of Champion Hill and Stone River as well as many others of less importance. Later he served as colonel of the National Guards for ten years, and was holding that rank at the time of his death.

Following his return from the war Colonel Brazee resumed the practice of law in Rockford and was accorded a large and distinctively representative clientage. He had an office over the Winnebago National Bank, and was retained on either the defense or prosecution in almost every case of importance that came up in his district. In fact his practice was so extensive and his work so arduous in connection with his preparation of cases that it undermined his health, and after an illness of three months he passed away on the 6th of September, 1886.

In April of 1861, Colonel Brazee was married to Miss Lydia Holmes, of Rockford, who died in

1883, leaving four children: Mary Elizabeth, residing in Chicago; Kate L., living in Minneapolis, Minnesota; Caroline L., the wife of F. C. Goodspeed, a business man of Chicago; and Martin Holmes, who married Clara Harbaugh and is a pressman and machinist living at 524 Division street, Rockford. In 1884 Colonel Brazee was again married, his second union being with Miss Caroline Potter, a native of New York, and a daughter of Joel B. Potter. Her father was born in Sherman township, Fairfield county, Connecticut, July 25, 1810, and died in Rockford, November 30, 1880. His parents were William C. and Anna (Hubble) Potter, who removed from Connecticut to Orleans county, New York, about 1826, the father following the occupation of farming throughout his entire business career. Both held membership in the Congregational church in New England, but became Presbyterians in New York, and their exemplary lives commended them to the confidence, trust and friendship of those with whom they were associated. Mr. Potter passed away when more than eighty years of age and his wife was more than seventy years of age when her death occurred.

Joel B. Potter supplemented his early educational privileges by a collegiate course and prepared to enter the Presbyterian ministry, but failing health interfered and led him to seek another field of labor. He became a pioneer merchant of Rockford, settling in this city in 1839, and he also became identified with the agricultural pursuits of the county. Some years later he purchased a drug store on East State street, and in partnership with J. F. Harding was closely connected with mercantile interests. The enterprise was attended with success, but soon after the death of Mr. Harding, which occurred in 1867, Mr. Potter withdrew from business life and lived retired in the enjoyment of a well earned ease. He was a public-spirited man, giving helpful co-operation to many interests that benefited the county aside from his activity in business, which contributed in large measure to the commercial prosperity of Rockford. His political views accorded with republican principles and he always stood strong in support of whatever he believed to be right. Two brothers of Mr. Potter also became pioneer residents of the county, their arrival antedating that of Joel B. Potter. Herman B. carried on farming near Rockford, while Eleazer Hubble was a merchant of the city, and then in 1839 Joel Potter came to add his forces to the business activity of Winnebago county.

In July, 1836, Joel B. Potter was married to Miss Adaline Lathrop, who was born in Vermont, May 18, 1813, a daughter of Adgate and Martha (Moss) Lathrop, who in early life removed from their native state of Connecticut to Vermont, where they were married. Mr. Lathrop

was a carpenter and joiner by trade and in connection with building operations he also successfully followed farming. In 1816 he removed with his family to Genesee county, New York, where he passed away at the age of seventy-five, while his wife survived him until eighty years of age. In religious faith they were Baptists and were earnest, consistent Christian people who enjoyed the high regard of all who knew them. Mrs. Potter was one of ten children and by her marriage became the mother of seven children, of whom two died in infancy, while Mrs. Mary Willis died at the age of twenty-two years. Those still living are: Caroline A., now Mrs. Brazee; Harriet J., who is the widow of J. F. Harding, at one time her father's partner and now resides in St. Joseph, Missouri; Frances L., who for many years was a prominent educator and a well known teacher in the high schools of Chicago; and Laura J., who is the wife of Edward S. Gregory, a wholesale and retail dealer in sanitary goods and heating apparatus in Rockford.

Mr. and Mrs. Potter were devoted members of the Westminster Presbyterian church and its teachings permeated their lives and molded their relations to their fellowmen. Mr. Potter passed away in Rockford, November 30, 1880, and was survived for almost twenty-three years by his wife, who died in this city in September, 1903, at the advanced age of ninety years.

Colonel Brazee was a very staunch republican in politics and took an active and helpful interest in the work of the party. He belonged to Nevius post, No. 1, G. A. R., of Rockford, to the Knights of Pythias fraternity and in the Masonic order attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish rite. He attended regularly the services of the Second Congregational church, of which his wife was a member. For twenty-two years he resided in Rockford save for the period spent in the Civil war and throughout the city and wherever known he was honored for his capability as a lawyer and his record as a man and citizen.

Following her husband's death Mrs. Brazee reared his four children, to whom she displayed all of a mother's love and devotion. She is a lady of superior culture and refinement, having been provided with excellent educational privileges in her girlhood days, while for many years she was a successful teacher. She taught in the colleges of Rockford for a long period, also in St. Joseph, Missouri, for five years, conducted private classes in her home and has also been a leader in many classes of different clubs of the city. She is very prominent socially and is a recognized leader in philanthropic and benevolent work and in intellectual research and for some years has been the leader of the Outlook Club, one

of the largest organizations of the kind in Rockford. It is composed of a number of the prominent women of the city and under the guidance of Mrs. Brazee the club has been a success. Its course of study has been very broad, covering art, science and literature in the past as well as the present age. Mrs. Brazee now resides in an attractive home at No. 314 South Second street, where she is living with her sister, and she also owns the old Potter home on Oak street.

HOBART L. JOHNSON.

Hobart L. Johnson, deceased, was one of the pioneer settlers of Winnebago county, having taken up his abode here in 1852. He was a native of Catskill, New York, born August 21, 1827, and his parents are also natives of the Empire state, the father being proprietor of a hotel in Catskill until 1842, when with his family he removed to the west, making the journey by wagon. They settled in Kankakee, Illinois, but had not resided there long before the father and mother were taken ill with fever and both died there.

Hobart L. Johnson afterward returned east to his native county, and during his residence there was married to Miss Charlotte L. Johnson, a native of Southington, Connecticut, and a daughter of Carmi and Merab Johnson, both of whom were natives of Southington. Her father was a well-to-do farmer there, and he served his country as a soldier in the Revolutionary war. Mrs. Johnson can trace here ancestry back to the year 1635, when the representatives of the name came from London, England, to the new world. Most of the family have since lived at what is still known as the old Johnson homestead in Connecticut. There were eight children born unto Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, of whom five are now living, as follows: Charles F., George R., Wesley L., Ira C. and Edwin H. Those deceased are Emma, Eunice and Merab.

Following his marriage Mr. Johnson resided in the states of New York and Connecticut, remaining in the east until 1850, when he again came to Illinois, settling in Winnebago county. He purchased a farm in Rockford township, three miles west of the city of Rockford, and from time to time he added to his realty holdings until the farm comprised four hundred acres. He called it the Whig Hill farm, and it is still known by that name. Here he engaged in general agricultural pursuits until 1880, when he removed to the city of Rockford, where he lived retired until 1887. In that year on account of ill health he went to the Pacific coast, accompanied by his family, and located in Los



HOBART I. JOHNSON.

Angeles, California, where he resided until 1892, when he returned to Rockford, and here again lived retired until his death, which occurred April 7, 1902, in the house which his widow yet occupies. Mr. Johnson was never an office seeker, but was a staunch supporter of the republican party, as are all of his sons, and later voted with the prohibition party. He was a member of the Court Street Methodist Episcopal church, to which his widow also belongs. His life was largely passed in the quiet pursuits of the farm, but through the faithful performance of each day's duties as they came to him he developed a character worthy of emulation. He was widely known among his friends as an upright, honorable Christian man, doing many deeds of kindness, and all with whom he was associated respected him for his genuine worth.

Mrs. Johnson owns a nice residence at No. 507 North Winnebago street, where she and her son, Wesley, reside. She has been in ill health since her husband's death, and her son returned from California to make his home with her. She and her children still own the Whig Hill farm of three hundred and sixty acres of very rich farming land, which is three miles west of Rockford, and upon his place two of the sons are living.

GEORGE M. HAINES, M. D.

Dr. George M. Haines, who in the practice of his profession in Durand, has attained a patronage such as is only accorded in recognition of thorough preparation and capability, was born in Greensboro township, Orleans county, Vermont, September 9, 1846, his parents being Moses and Deborah W. (Clark) Haines. The ancestor, Deacon Samuel Haines, sailed from Bristol, England, in 1635, intending to join the Plymouth colony, but the ship was driven north by storms and wrecked on the coast of Maine, near where the city of Bristol now stands. The survivors made their way through the forest to their original point of destination, but being pleased with the country at the mouth of the Piscataqua river, a portion of them, Mr. Haines among the number, returned to that point three years later, 1638, and founded the settlement at the present site of Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

The grandfather of Dr. Haines went to Vermont in 1795, settling at Orleans county, and he died there in 1856, at the very advanced age of eighty-two years. His son, Moses Haines, was born in Orleans county, and upon the farm which he made his home throughout his entire life his son Dr. Haines was also born. On the old farm the father died in the year 1896, at the age of seventy-four years, while his wife passed away in

1882, at the age of sixty-seven years. They were the parents of five children, all of whom reached adult age, namely: Abigail D., who was born in 1844, and died in December, 1902; George M.; Cephas Clark, who was born in 1848, and is now living at Lakeport, New Hampshire; Sumner Caleb, who was born in 1850 and died in 1886; and Alma J., born in 1852, who became the wife of Austin Rich and lives in Glover, Vermont.

Dr. Haines attended school in Orleans county and was also a student in the academy at Glover called the Orleans Liberal Institute, from which he was graduated with the class of 1866. He afterward engaged in teaching school for a year, but regarded that merely as an initial step to other professional labor, and in 1867 he entered upon the study of medicine at Vermont University, where he remained for one year. He afterward spent two years at Columbia College in New York city and was graduated with the class of 1870.

Dr. Haines located for practice in Greensboro, Vermont, and for three years was a member of the profession there. He afterward spent four years in Orford, New Hampshire, and in 1877 came to Durand, Winnebago county, where he practiced until 1885. He then traveled for two years and upon his return to Durand again entered upon the active work of his profession. He is a general practitioner, well informed concerning the most advanced methods followed by his fraternity, and his capability has secured him a very liberal patronage, while his strict conformity to the ethics of the profession has gained him the high regard of his brethren of the medical fraternity. He now belongs to the Winnebago County, Illinois State, Stephenson County and Wisconsin Central Medical Societies and also the American Medical Association.

Dr. Haines was married in 1870 to Miss Octavia L. Goodrich, a daughter of Joseph A. and Octavia A. (Wright) Goodrich, of Greensboro, Vermont, and they became the parents of five children, of whom three are deceased: Mary L., who died in 1875, at the age of two years; Emma L., who died in 1897, at the age of twenty-one years; and Fred G., who was born in 1880 and died in March, 1881. One son, George C., born in 1884, is now a student in Beloit College of Wisconsin, and intends to enter upon the study of medicine. Helen W., born in 1885, is both studying and teaching music in Durand.

Dr. Haines is a member of Durand lodge, No. 302, A. F. & A. M., and he likewise belongs to Shawbensee lodge, No. 146, I. O. O. F. He held membership in the Congregational church of Orford, New Hampshire, and in his political views he has always been a staunch republican. Interested in the welfare and progress of his town he has been called to serve in positions of public

trust, and has been president of the village board for three years and has since been re-elected for the fourth term. Prominent socially, professionally and politically, he is justly numbered among the representative citizens of Durand.

GIDEON B. PERRY.

Gideon B. Perry, deceased, was born in the town of Lee, Oneida county, New York, May 31, 1829, his parents being Freeman and Hannah (Peckham) Perry. The father was a civil engineer and surveyed a large portion of western New York at a time when that was a new and unimproved district. He was born in Rhode Island and was a cousin of Oliver H. Perry, the hero of Lake Erie. Both he and his wife died in Oneida county.

Gideon B. Perry obtained his education in Utica, New York, where he was reared. He taught school there for many years and was a most successful educator. He came of an ancestry devoted to professional life and his lines of life were cast in harmony therewith in early years. Later he came to the middle west, settling in Winnebago county, where he devoted his attention to agriculture, which George Washington said was "the most useful and the most honorable occupation of man." It was in the year 1855 that he arrived in this county, settling in Shirland township, where he purchased land, becoming owner of about two hundred and twenty acres. Later he sold a part of this but the estate now embraces one hundred and forty acres, which are cultivated by his son, Frank D. Perry. After coming to this county he engaged in teaching school for several winter terms, while the summer months were devoted to general agricultural pursuits. He was thus one of the early educators of the community and his influence was ever given on the side of intellectual development as well as material and moral progress.

Mr. Perry was first married in 1855 to Miss Ellen Waid, of New York, who died in 1890, leaving two children: Charles W., who is residing on a farm in Shirland township; and Albert G., of Winnebago township. In 1893 Mr. Perry married Miss Kizzie Gleason of this county and formerly of Wellsville, Ohio. To them was born a son, Frank D., who lives on the old homestead.

Mr. Perry was a republican in his political views and was called to several local offices by his fellow townsmen, who recognized his worth and ability. His life was at all times honorable and upright and while he never sought to figure prominently before the public he commanded the esteem of all with whom he was associated. He

passed away May 8, 1902, and is still survived by his wife who resides upon the old home farm.

Frank D. Perry, the youngest son of the family, was reared here, pursuing his education in the common schools and in Beloit. Like his ancestors, he has devoted a part of his time to professional labors, having taught for six or seven years in this county, and his ability to impart clearly and readily to others the knowledge that he had acquired made him a capable educator. He is now engaged in operating the home farm, comprising one hundred and forty acres of land which is rich and productive and which in its excellent appearance gives proof of his capable management and thorough understanding of the work.

Frank D. Perry was married to Miss Dora Mosher, of Janesville, Wisconsin, whose people were early residents there. Her grandmother was one of the pioneer settlers of that place and died there recently at the age of ninety-one years. Mr. Perry has fraternal relations with the Court of Honor and attends the Methodist Episcopal church.

PETER H. PALMER.

Peter H. Palmer, superintendent and designer of the Rockford Mantel Company, was born April 25, 1851, in Wester, Gottland, Sweden, a son of Andrew and Nelly (Bowman) Palmer. They are now residing in Rockford and have a daughter and five sons here, of whom Peter H. is the eldest; Paul E., the second of the family, is married and is now connected with the Royal Mantel Company; Frank E. is employed by the Schiller Piano Company, of Oregon, Illinois; Aaron J. is with the Northern Electric Manufacturing Company, of Madison, Wisconsin; Carrie D. is married and resides at home; and Simon E. is a resident of Madison, Wisconsin.

When in his twenty-first year Peter H. Palmer came to the United States, sailing from Gotenburg in 1881 and landing at Boston. Since that time the other members of the family followed him to the new world and located in Rockford. Learning the cabinet-maker's trade in early life, he became a skilled workman and for seven years was employed by the Union Furniture Company of this city and afterward was connected with the Standard Furniture Company, one of the leading industrial enterprises here. He was both vice president and superintendent of that concern, with which he continued in active connection until February 1, 1898, since which time he has been with the Rockford Mantel Company as superintendent and designer and his excellent work in the latter department is indicated by the fine mantels which the house annually places upon the market.

Mr. Palmer was married to Miss Amanda O. Swansen, who was born in Sweden near the old home of her husband, in October, 1862, and when twenty years of age crossed the Atlantic in 1882, living at times in Belvidere and in Rockford, Illinois. Her parents died in Sweden but her sister Emma came to this country and is now the wife of John C. Osborn, who is in the employ of the Mechanics' Furniture Company. Mrs. Palmer died March 20, 1896, at the age of thirty-four years, leaving three children, Rachel, Ebb and Mandus. On the 12th of July, 1901, Mr. Palmer wedded Clara O. Anderson, who was born in this county near Pecatonica, her father being C. O. Anderson, who is now living retired in Pecatonica. They have one son, Carl Andrew, now a year old.

Mr. and Mrs. Palmer are members of the Swedish Baptist church, of which he is a trustee. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp, No. 51, and is independent in politics, devoting all his energies to his business interests. He is one of the best known Swedish residents of Rockford, having made a creditable record for ability and commercial integrity and his life is an example of what may be accomplished in a land unhampered by caste or class.

FLOYD SMITH.

Floyd Smith, who after many years' connection with agricultural pursuits is now enjoying a well earned rest at his pleasant home at No. 2004 Green street in Rockford, belongs to that large and valued portion of the citizenship of Winnebago county that New York has furnished, for his birth occurred in Tompkins county of the Empire state on the 2d of July, 1843. His parents were Belden C. and Sarah (Mettler) Smith, the former a native of Tompkins county, New York, born April 19, 1811, while the mother was born in Pennsylvania, November 20, 1819. Belden C. Smith was reared to the occupation of farming and made it his life work. In 1852 he disposed of his interests in the Empire state and removed to Ohio, where he purchased a farm, and when he again sold out he made his way to Winnebago county, Illinois, settling in Harrison township, where, in 1865, he purchased eighty-six acres of land. He remained there for some time and then removed to Aurora, Illinois, where he died October 26, 1885, his wife surviving until December 23, 1892. Their daughter, Anna M., is now the wife of E. J. Bradley, of Aberdeen, Washington.

Floyd Smith, the only son and his sister's senior, was educated in the common schools of the home district and also the public schools of Rock-

ford and in his youth he became familiar with the labors of field and meadow, working on his father's farm until 1862, when at the age of nineteen years he responded to his country's call for aid, enlisting in Company F, Seventy-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He served until October 20, 1864, when he was honorably discharged on account of disability. During his service he was in the Army of the Cumberland and participated in the battles of Perryville, Tullahoma, Chattanooga, Stone River and many other engagements, and he was discharged at Camp Butler, Springfield, returning to his home with a creditable military record because of his unfaltering loyalty to the cause which he espoused and his prompt and faithful performance of every soldier duty.

Returning to Winnebago county, Mr. Smith began farming on his own account and soon afterward purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land on sections 15 and 22, Harrison township, which property is still in his possession. Year after year he carried on the work of the fields and his labors were resultant factors in the development of one of the best farm properties of the community. In 1898 he retired from agricultural life and removed to Rockford, where he purchased the home which he now owns, having a beautiful residence that stands in the midst of a block of ground. The lawn is beautifully shaded with fine trees and there is a splendid barn and other equipments on the place. He also purchased seven acres of land on the south side of School street in Rockford, which is very valuable, and this he still owns in connection with his farm. While living in the country he was extensively interested in the dairy business, which proved to him very profitable.

In June, 1881, Mr. Smith was married to Martha E. Graham, whose birth occurred in Rockton township, this county, May 14, 1860, her parents being Henry and Eleanor (Foster) Graham. Her father was born in Pennsylvania, while her mother was a native of Ohio, and in 1850 they removed to Beloit, Wisconsin, where they lived for some time, Mr. Graham working there at his trade of plastering. Subsequently he took up his abode in Rockton township, where he purchased a farm of two hundred acres, on which he spent his remaining days, his death occurring in 1895. His widow still survives and is now living with her daughter Mrs. Haughey. This worthy couple were the parents of three sons and five daughters: A. Foster, who is living in Rockton township; Mrs. Smith; Mrs. Margaret Rühl, a resident of Des Moines, Iowa; Mrs. Rachel Kenale, of Cedarville, Illinois; Matthew, who died July 28, 1890; Jennie, the wife of Dr. Haughey, living at No. 208 South Second street.

Rockford; Harry, who resides on the old home farm in Rockton township; and Mrs. Lucy File, of Rochelle, Illinois.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith are the parents of three daughters: Martha, the wife of Frank Bainbridge, who resides on a farm in Rockton township and by whom she has two children, Stanley and Sidney; Elizabeth, who makes her home with her parents and is connected with the American Insurance Company; and Eleanor, at home.

Mr. Smith votes with the republican party and is regarded as a capable leader in the local ranks. He served as supervisor of his township for five years, was township trustee for fifteen years and school director for about twelve years and in all these positions he discharged his duties in a manner creditable to himself and satisfactory to his constituents. He was formerly identified with Harrison camp, M. W. A., of which he served as clerk for seven years but now affiliates with the camp in Rockford. He likewise belongs to Nevius post, No. 1, G. A. R., the oldest organization of the Grand Army in the country, never failing to hold its regular meetings since its establishment in 1866. They meet three times each month and have the finest memorial hall in the country for old soldiers. Since he came to Rockford Mr. Smith has been appointed commissioner of distills for Rockford township, which position he filled for two years. He and his wife hold membership in the Congregational church. Mr. Smith is a self-made man in the best sense of that term, honest and upright, and respected by all who know him.

CHARLES B. DOW.

Charles B. Dow, following the occupation of farming on section 2, Winnebago township, belongs to that class of substantial and honored citizens that Scotland has furnished to this county. His birth occurred in Edinburgh, in September, 1848, his parents being Charles and Mary (Barklay) Dow, who, crossing the Atlantic to the new world, established their home in Winnebago county in the spring of 1840. They settled on a farm now owned by Charles B. Dow and they were preceded here by Daniel Dow, an uncle of our subject, who arrived at a very early day and followed shoemaking and grain buying in Rockford. He owned a very extensive tract of land which has recently been deeded to Charles B. Dow and his son Daniel. This place comprises two hundred and forty acres of land and was a wild and unimproved tract when it came into possession of the uncle, Daniel Dow, who about 1837 or 1838 arrived in Chicago, Illinois, there remaining until 1841,

when he came to Rockford. Locating in the city he conducted a shoemaking establishment and although he secured land he never farmed. He was, however, one of the well known business men of the county seat and at his death was one of the most venerable pioneers, having continued his residence in Rockford until called to his final rest in November, 1903, when in his ninety-sixth year. For many years he had been a grain-buyer and for more than forty years had operated on the Board of Trade, being a very successful speculator. He also owned the store now occupied by Mr. Wheelock, a merchant of Rockford, and of this property his grandson Daniel is now trustee. A notable figure in pioneer times and through the period of later progress and development he deserves mention among the founders and upbuilders of the city, where he was long so widely and favorably known.

Charles Dow, the father of our subject, taking up his abode upon the land which his brother Daniel had entered, carried on farming here until his death, which occurred in the spring of 1865, when he was about fifty-eight years of age. His mother afterward rented the farm and removed to South Rockford, where she died in 1891, when about seventy years of age. Both were natives of Scotland, the father being a Highlander, born in Perthshire, while the mother's birth occurred in the city of Edinburgh. Coming to America, Charles Dow, as the result of his study of the political issues and conditions of the country, gave a stalwart support to the republican party. He served in some local offices and in matters of citizenship could be counted upon to support progressive measures for the general good. He held membership in the Presbyterian church and lived an honorable, upright life. In the family were three sons and five daughters, who reached adult age, but only two sons and two daughters are now living, namely: Charles B.; Mrs. S. W. Stanley, of Wyoming; William B. Dow, of Aberdeen, South Dakota, who is engaged in the hardware business; and Mrs. J. W. Lake, of Joliet, Illinois, whose husband is a railroad man. Those deceased are: Mrs. J. A. D. Corey, who died at Cheyenne, Wyoming; Mrs. Dr. Sager, who died in Rockford; and two who died in infancy.

Charles B. Dow was reared in Winnebago county, being less than a year old when brought by his parents to America. Here he spent the greater part of his life. In 1866, however, he drove ox-teams across the plains and spent three years in Montana, traveling with a party of which Judge Bailey was also a member. He worked in Butte City in the spring of 1867, having previously been employed for a time at Virginia City. He then returned to this county



MR. AND MRS. CHARLES B. DOW.

and took up his abode upon the homestead farm, which he later purchased from the estate and upon which he has since resided. He has always carried on general agricultural pursuits and he also operates a dairy, supplying milk to many patrons in Rockford. In addition to the one hundred and sixty acres of land in the home place he has an interest in the two hundred and forty acre farm in Burritt township, which was originally entered from the government by his uncle Daniel. He has a finely improved farm, on which are large and substantial buildings, admirably situated, and his home is only about four miles west of Rockford on the state road.

Mr. Dow was married in this county to Miss Emma M. Tullock, who was born in Burritt township, in 1850, and was a daughter of George and Mary A. (Milne) Tullock, one of the early settlers of the county, who died at his home in Owen township about five years ago. His sons raise a large amount of fruit, including the well known Tullock strawberry, and they have a wide reputation as successful agriculturists. Mrs. Dow was afforded liberal educational privileges, being graduated from the Rockford high school, after which she taught for three years where the Lincoln school is now located. She was a lady of superior intellectual culture and natural refinement and her death, which occurred June 29, 1904, when she was fifty-four years of age, was deeply regretted by many friends as well as her immediate family. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Dow were born two children, Daniel C. and E. Myrtle, both born in this county. The daughter is yet at home. The son acts as trustee of the Daniel Dow estate and is also associated with his father in the operation of large farming interests.

Politically Mr. Dow is a republican, thoroughly in sympathy with the principles of the party, while fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America. As almost his entire life has been passed in this county he is well known to many citizens here and the qualities of manhood which he has ever displayed have been such as to commend him to the confidence and respect of all with whom business or social relations have brought him in contact.

R. C. MILLER.

R. C. Miller, superintendent of the Winnebago county alms house and poor farm, located on section 1, Rockford township, has been in charge here since October, 1902. He has lived in Winnebago county throughout almost his entire life, for, although he was born in New Jersey, in 1852, he was brought to Illinois before he had completed his first year. He was a son of M. M. and

Mary W. (Compton) Miller, who located in Owen township in 1853. They were farming people and remained residents of Winnebago county until called to their final home. Mr. Miller of this review has three brothers who are farming people of Rockton township.

He was reared and educated in Owen township, being indebted to the public-school system for the mental discipline which he received. After putting aside his text-books he devoted his attention to farm labor and carried on general agricultural pursuits until about seven years ago, when he began to give his undivided attention to buying and selling stock. He still owns, however, a good farm in Shirland township, which is rented. In October, 1902, he was appointed by the board of county supervisors as superintendent of the Winnebago county alms house. The present building was erected in 1883 and has a capacity of about one hundred inmates, there being between eighty and eighty-five there at the present time. The farm comprises one hundred and fifty acres, lying on section 1, Rockford township, and able-bodied inmates of the place assist in the operation of the land. The buildings are thoroughly up-to-date, supplied with all modern equipments, and in fact this is one of the model alms houses of the state, each occupant having a separate room. General farming is carried on, while six acres is devoted to gardening, and there is a large orchard and much small fruit upon the place. Grain and stock are raised quite extensively and a sufficient number of cows is kept to furnish butter for the entire institution. The work is done in systematic, methodical manner, and under the supervision of Mr. Miller the farm is a paying institution.

Mr. Miller was united in marriage in 1876 to Miss E. M. Capron, who was born in Canada in 1854, and is a daughter of Joseph and Mary (Scott) Capron, who removed to Rock county, Wisconsin, in 1856, settling in Beloit township, where they made their home during the greater part of the time until they departed this life. The father died about fourteen years ago, while his wife passed away eighteen years ago. Most of their children still reside in Rock county, although some live elsewhere. Mrs. Miller was reared in Rock county, making her home there up to the time of her marriage. By this union four children have been born, all natives of Winnebago county: Arthur, residing on a farm in Shirland township, who married Ethel Zahn, and has one son, Ernest, now two years of age; Myrtle, the wife of Frederick De Berard, a resident of Colorado, and the mother of two children, Marie and Fayette; and Iva and Favette, both residing at home.

Politically Mr. Miller is a republican, never faltering in support of the party since age gave him the right of franchise. He has been somewhat prominent in local political circles and his

fellow townsmen in recognition of his worth and ability have conferred upon him a number of public offices. He served as supervisor of Shirland township for two terms and for nine terms as its assessor and his public duties were discharged with promptness and fidelity. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Shirland.

LORENZO H. CROWELL, JR.

Lorenzo H. Crowell, Jr., who is now proprietor of a greenhouse in Owen township, and is one of the representative young business men of the community, was born in this township on the old family homestead, December 14, 1884. His father, Lorenzo H. Crowell, Sr., was also born on the old homestead, April 14, 1854, and was a son of Ezekial Crowell. The last named was born in Berwick, York county, Maine, October 24, 1813, and died in his seventy-third year. At the age of ten years he left home on account of his father's death. He was the youngest in a large family of ten children and it was necessary that he start out and earn a living for himself. On the 25th of December, 1843, he was married to Miss Hannah Peters at Lowell, Massachusetts, and some years afterward they removed to Steubenville, Ohio, where Mr. Crowell took up the study of law under Edwin M. Stanton. He was afterward admitted to the bar, but never practiced much, and returned again to the east to resume the position of weaver in one of the large woolen mills. In 1851 he came to Winnebago county, Illinois, and purchased a fine farm in Owen township, where he resided for a number of years, successfully carrying on agricultural pursuits until 1861, when he took up his abode in Rockford, there making his home to the time of his death. During the Civil war he carried passengers to and from the old camp ground, but in his later years he lived retired, having a sufficient income to keep him without work. He was an honest, upright man, always considerate in his treatment of others. It is said that he never wronged a single individual in any way. He was regarded as a good neighbor, a faithful friend and a devoted husband and father, and in these respects his example is well worthy of emulation. In religious faith he was a Spiritualist, with a firm belief in progression after death. His wife, who was born in Berwick township, York county, Maine, January 14, 1821, long survived her husband, spending her last years in the home of her son, A. F. Crowell, where she died June 7, 1901. She had been married on Christmas day of 1843 and she reached the advanced age of eight years. She was a lady of strong char-

acter, possessed of many qualities, for which she will be long remembered. Her love for the good, the true and the beautiful was marked, whether seen in nature, man or God, and she delighted in flowers, music and song, which she declared were food to her soul. Mr. and Mrs. Crowell were the parents of four children, of whom the eldest, Henry C., became a soldier of the Twelfth Illinois Cavalry and died in 1874 from disease contracted while in the service. Melvin died in infancy, while the surviving members of the family are Lorenzo H., Sr., who is living in Owen township, and Alvin E., of Rockford, a well known practitioner of law, who has been prominent in public affairs.

Lorenzo H. Crowell, Sr., born April 4, 1854, in Owen township, spent the first eight years of his life on his father's farm and then accompanied his parents on their removal to Rockford, the family home being established on Ferguson street. He was a student in the Rockford high school, which he entered in 1869, completing his course there in 1872. The following year he taught school and in fact followed the profession much of the time until 1878, teaching at Guilford, Burrill, Owen Center, Kishwaukee and other places. In 1878 he began farming and stock-raising, which pursuits he followed successfully until 1891, when he turned his attention to horticultural interests, raising cherries, apples and small fruits. In recent years he has given no attention to general farming, his horticultural interests claiming his undivided attention. He also built a greenhouse and is engaged in the cultivation of flowers. At one time he was connected with the Good Templars society. He is independent in his political views, supporting men and measures rather than party.

Lorenzo H. Crowell, Sr., married Miss Luella Phebe Strang, who was born May 13, 1854. The marriage ceremony was performed at Byron, Illinois, October 5, 1873, by the Rev. George G. Young. Her parents were Peter and Charlotte (Morris) Strang. Mr. Strang was a self-educated man and entirely self-made regarding his business successes. He was born in Kingston, Pennsylvania, August 1, 1814, and in 1820 he accompanied his parents on their removal to Newfield, Tompkins county, New York, while in 1833 they became residents of Peru, Ohio. On the 3d of September, 1843, Peter Strang married Charlotte Morris, and the following year they removed to Byron, Illinois. He was a blacksmith by trade, serving an apprenticeship of seven years in his youth, during which time he received no compensation for his services. His people were very poor and he had to help them by working at home. It was one hundred miles from his home to the place where he learned his trade and he walked that distance a number of



LORENZO H. CROWELL, JR.

times, dividing his time between blacksmithing and farm labor at his father's place. Subsequently he engaged in blacksmithing in New Orleans, being there during a yellow fever epidemic. He made his first visit to Illinois in 1843, traveling on horseback, and in the spring of 1844 he took up his permanent abode here, making the journey by team, accompanied by his wife and his parents. He then opened a blacksmith shop at Byron, doing general work in that line, also making plows, ironing wagons and buggies and also doing general foundry work in connection with a Mr. Wood. He was an excellent mechanic, being able to execute almost anything with tools, and in fact he manufactured the majority of the tools which he used in blacksmithing, foundry work and as a locksmith. About ten years prior to his death Mr. Strang, in company with his wife, went on a visit to South Dakota and as the health of both seemed so greatly improved, they decided to make their future home there. For two years prior to his death, however, his health gradually failed, but in the latter part of June, 1894, he felt so much better that he determined upon making a visit to his old home in Byron. This was not to be, however, for on the 26th of that month he passed away, his remains, however, being brought back to Illinois for interment. His father had lived to be nearly one hundred years of age and his mother was in her eightieth year at the time of her death. Mrs. Strang, the wife of Peter Strang, survived her husband. She was born February 9, 1828, in Jefferson county, New York, and with her parents removed to Ohio in 1833. There, as before stated, she was married and the following year she came with her husband to Illinois. Nine children were born unto them, of whom five sons and two daughters were living at the time of the mother's death, while one son and one daughter died in infancy. In 1885 Mr. and Mrs. Strang removed to Canova, South Dakota, where they lived until the death of the husband, June 26, 1894, after which the mother made her home with her son Oliver in Byron, Illinois.

Mr. and Mrs. Lorenzo Crowell, Sr., have become the parents of seven children, of whom six are yet living. Bertha L., born June 26, 1874, is the wife of Clark Burnett, an electrical engineer. Melvin A., born May 15, 1876, married Miss Myrtle Smith, by whom he has three children, and they are living in Owen township. George H. died at the age of two years. Rosetta B., born June 8, 1880, is the wife of Henry Nason, of Rockford, and they have four sons. Lorenzo H. of this review is the next of the family. Olive I., born January 3, 1886, is at home. Myrtle V., born December 23, 1888, is also with her parents.

Lorenzo H. Crowell, Jr., pursued his early education in the public schools near his father's farm and also continued his study in Rockford. He has likewise taken a course of engineering in the International Correspondence School of Scranton, Pennsylvania. At the age of sixteen years he rented the home place, where he followed farming until twenty years of age. He then held a sale of stock, after which he began working for the Rockford Street Railway Company as conductor, continuing in that service for about a year. He has since conducted a greenhouse, carrying on business with good success for six years, and his sale of flowers and plants is now extensive, making his business a profitable one.

Mr. Crowell was married November 8, 1904, to Miss Bertha I. Franklin, a daughter of George and Emma Franklin, who are represented elsewhere in this work. The young couple have a wide circle of warm friends in the community where they have always lived and he is justly regarded as one of the leading and enterprising young business men.

DANIEL G. SPAULDING.

Daniel G. Spaulding, born in Acworth, New Hampshire, November 25, 1839, died in Rockford, April 9, 1902. Death often claims those whom we can ill afford to lose, and such was the universal feeling when D. G. Spaulding was called from this life. He had figured actively and honorably in business circles and public affairs, which conserved the progress and upbuilding of his city and county. His energy and enterprise were no immaterial factor in the sum total of accomplishment in Rockford, and as one who has aided in framing the history and shaping the policy of the city we present his record to our readers.

He was a son of Dr. Nehemiah and Betsy (Hayward) Spaulding, both of whom were natives of New Hampshire, where the father practiced his profession for a number of years. In the early settlement of the middle west, however, he brought his family to the Mississippi valley, establishing his home in Nashua, Iowa, where he continued in the active practice of medicine and surgery until called to his final rest. His wife also died in that place.

Daniel G. Spaulding acquired his education in the public schools at his boyhood home and became a resident of Rockford in 1857, when in his eighteenth year. He was then a young man, seeking a business opportunity that would prove the path to success and he filled various positions in the city until after the inauguration of the Civil war. He had been a student of the signs of the

tines and noted the growing unrest and discontent in the south and its threatening attitude and resolved if war came to strike a blow in defense of the Union. Accordingly he joined the volunteers from Winnebago county, enlisting as a member of Company I, Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry, a regiment which made a splendid record. He was with that command throughout the war, participating in the greater number of its engagements, and meritorious conduct won him promotion to the rank of first lieutenant. In the thickest of the fight or on the lonely picket line he was always true and loyal to his duty, and when the war was ended he received an honorable discharge. His interest in military affairs caused him then to join the regular army, which he did in Chicago, in May, 1865, again being commissioned first lieutenant. His command was sent to the west, where he remained for three years, aiding in quelling the Mormon and Indian uprisings, which occurred about that time.

When discharged from the regular army Mr. Spaulding returned to Rockford and for many years was closely identified with its commercial interests. He established a grocery store here, in which he continued for many years, his last location being at State and Church streets. His business record was unassailable, being in strict conformity to a high standard of mercantile ethics, guided by upright principles and characterized by fair and just treatment of all his patrons. That he enjoyed the full confidence of those with whom business relations brought him in contact is indicated by the fact that many who gave him their support in the early days of his mercantile life continued as his patrons to the end. In 1892 he disposed of his store and practically lived retired until his death, giving his supervision merely to invested interests. He was also at one time in the shoe business and was connected with other enterprises of the city. He dealt to a greater or less extent in real estate and it has been said that there was no finer judge of realty values in the city. His undertakings were usually successful and he found that prosperity is ambition's answer. He closely studied the business situations and readily mastered its intricate points, after which he so shaped his course that the best possible results were obtained. Moreover, there was naught said of his business integrity, as his methods would bear the closest scrutiny.

Mr. Spaulding was twice married. In 1858 he wedded Miss Priscilla Smith, from which union one son survives, George D., who resides at No. 1136 North Court street, although he spends much of his time upon the road as a traveling salesman. On the 1st of January, 1872, Mr. Spaulding was again married, at which date Miss Sophia Rannie became his wife. She is a native of Scotland and a daughter of William and Chris-

tina Rannie, who were also born in that country. Crossing the Atlantic, they became early residents of Rockford. The father, who was a stone-mason and contractor, followed that business in this city throughout his remaining days, and his wife also died here. Mr. and Mrs. Spaulding became the parents of a daughter, Louise B., who has always resided with her mother.

Mr. Spaulding always manifested a public-spirited interest in affairs pertaining to the welfare and progress of his city and county and in politics was a staunch republican, firmly believing that the party platform contained the best elements of good government. He therefore labored to extend its influence and insure its success and upon that ticket was called to several local offices. He served both as alderman and supervisor in the city and exercised his official prerogatives in a manner that gave a tangible impetus to good citizenship and public improvement. He was a member of Nevins post, No. 1, G. A. R., of Rockford, and took great delight in meeting with his old army comrades, seldom being absent from the camp fire. He was also connected with the Masonic fraternity and the Odd Fellows lodge, and in his life exemplified the beneficent spirit of those organizations, which had their basic elements in mutual helpfulness and brotherly kindness. For about two years prior to his death he was in ill health, but the end came unexpectedly, he passing away in the early morning of April 9, 1902. Expressions of regret and sorrow were made by all who knew him in business relations, through his political activity or within the closer circle of his friendship. He had a wide acquaintance and commanded the respect of all, while many entertained for him the warmest feelings of friendly regard almost approaching to that of brotherliness, for while he was successful in business life, active and helpful in public affairs and held friendship inviolable, his best traits of character were reserved for his own family, to whom he was a devoted husband and father. His interests centered in his own home and he regarded no personal sacrifice on his part too great if it would promote the welfare or enhance the happiness of his wife and children. He never sought the prominence which makes one known far beyond the limits of his home locality, but in the city and county where he lived and labored so long Mr. Spaulding was justly accounted one of its most prominent and honored citizens.

Mrs. Spaulding and her daughter retain their residence in Rockford, and the former is a member of the Presbyterian church, while the latter is a communicant of the Episcopal church, and takes great interest in its work. She is a graduate of the Rockford high school and was also a student in a college at Elmira, New York. Both Mrs. Spaulding and her daughter occupy prominent

and enviable positions in social circles here and have an acquaintance throughout the state by reason of their active work in connection with the Woman's Relief Corps. In May, 1902, Mrs. Spaulding was elected its state president and her daughter state secretary, and they filled those offices for a year. They still take great interest in the work and have been faithful workers in many movements for charity and benevolence. They own a beautiful and commodious residence at No. 404 North Court street, and although they spend much time in travel, they consider Rockford their home.

WILLIS E. SAWYER.

Willis E. Sawyer needs no introduction to the readers of this volume, for he is one of the most extensive and prominent horse dealers of Winnebago county, his business interests bringing him a wide acquaintance. He is, moreover, well known in political circles as a stalwart republican and his opinions carry considerable weight in the local councils of the party. A native of the middle west, he seems imbued with the spirit of indomitable energy and enterprise which have been the strong forces in the upbuilding of this section of the country.

He was born February 9, 1846, in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, his parents being Hiram J. and Lorella (Baker) Sawyer, both of whom were natives of Cattaraugus county, New York. The father spent the early part of his life in the east and when a young man removed westward to Wisconsin, where he remained until coming to Winnebago county in 1850. His genuine worth, fidelity to duty and loyalty in citizenship awakened the attention and admiration of his fellowmen, who in 1863 called him to the office of sheriff, which position he filled for two years—the length of the term at that time. Later he was elected collector and subsequently acted as constable for many years, and not the shadow of a reflection concerning his capability fell upon his official service. He was justly recognized as one of the county's prominent and influential men, popular with many with whom he had come in contact and respected by all because of his genuine worth. He died in 1902, at the advanced age of eighty-two years. In the family were three sons: Willis E.; D. F. Sawyer, a retired clothing merchant of Iowa City, Iowa; and Hiram E., whose death occurred on May 1, 1875.

In the public schools Willis E. Sawyer mastered the elementary branches of learning, attending first at Darien, Wisconsin, afterward at Emerald Grove, Wisconsin, and still later in Rockford township, this county, but when the Civil war came on his patriotic nature was aroused and al-

though but fifteen years of age he enlisted in Company C, Sixty-seventh Regiment of Illinois Infantry, with which he served for three months under Captain H. R. Enoch. On account of ill health he was discharged for disability on the expiration of that period. He was afterward in the government employ as brigade wagon master for two years and three months, superintending the handling of freight and supplies for the army, hauling freight from Nashville, Chattanooga and that part of the country to the troops.

At the close of the war Mr. Sawyer returned to his home and purchased a threshing machine, which he operated for two years. At the end of that time he sold the machine and went upon the road selling Hamlin's Wizard Oil for three years and driving a four-horse team as he made his trips through the country. Returning to Winnebago county, he spent a year and a half here and then again started out, going to California in 1875. For six years he was in the livery business on the coast, being the first white man to let out horses in Santa Barbara county. He went from that place to San Francisco, where he was with a transfer company for six months, and thence crossed the bay to Oakland, where he drove an eight-horse team, doing heavy hauling for nine months. He then took a contract to handle a circus, which he moved from place to place, using fifty-four horses in that work. Sometime later he disposed of all his business interests on the coast and returned to Winnebago county. Here he engaged in farming for four years near Durand, when he sold his land and came to Rockford, purchasing a carload of horses, which he shipped to Cooperstown, North Dakota. He has since been handling horses, and he conducted a livery and hack barn for two and a half years. He then bought ground on Chestnut and Court streets and erected a large livery stable, in which he carried on business for three and a half years, but sold out in 1905. He is, however, one of the most extensive horse dealers in Winnebago county, handling a larger number each year than almost any representative of the trade.

In 1871 Mr. Sawyer was married to Miss Mary E. Blewfield, a native of New York and a daughter of Jacob and Rachel Blewfield, who came here during the early girlhood of Mrs. Sawyer. The mother has now passed away, but the father is still living at the advanced age of eighty-seven years and is one of the best known old gentlemen on the streets of Rockford.

Mr. Sawyer is a stalwart republican, quite prominent in the local ranks of the party and in 1894 he was elected sheriff for a term of four years. He is again spoken of in connection with the candidacy for that office. He belongs to Nevius post, No. 1, G. A. R., to the Modern Woodmen camp and to Rockford lodge, No. 102, A. F.

& A. M., all of Rockford. He has had in many respects a most interesting career, in which exciting chapters have not been lacking, these being furnished by his military service and his experience in the far west. He is now located permanently in Winnebago county, where he is conducting a profitable business.

P. M. HAMBORG.

P. M. Hamborg is the owner of a farm on section 35, Roscoe township, improved with a good set of buildings and modern equipments. He is a native of Sweden, his birth having occurred in that country in 1845. His father, Munson Anderson died when his son, P. M. Hamborg, was only a year old, while the mother passed away when the son was but six months old. In consequence he knows very little of his parents. He had his name changed legally while living in Rockford, because of others of the same name in that city.

Mr. Hamborg remained a resident of Sweden until twenty-two years of age and then went to Denmark, where he spent four years, following the occupation of farming. He heard favorable reports concerning the new world and its development, its business opportunities and its advantages and thinking that he might profit by a removal to the United States he crossed the Atlantic from Denmark about 1871. For two months he worked in Pennsylvania on the railroad, after which he removed to Michigan, where he secured employment in the iron mines for four years. On the expiration of that period he came to Winnebago county, making his way to Rockford, and soon afterward he accepted a position on a farm near that city. He was thus employed until his diligence and frugality brought to him a capital sufficient to justify his purchase of land, at which time he became the owner of fifty acres in Roscoe township. This was the nucleus of his present property. He has extended the boundaries of his place as opportunity has offered until it now comprises one hundred and five acres. He works the entire tract and also one hundred acres which he rents, so that he is extensively engaged in farming pursuits. His land is productive and upon it is a good set of farm buildings, including a comfortable residence and all the outbuildings necessary for the shelter of grain and stock.

Mr. Hamborg was married to Miss Tilda Evarstardt, who was born in Sweden and died in 1881 at the age of fifty-one years, leaving one son Peter. For his second wife Mr. Hamborg chose Sarah Johnson, also a native of Sweden.

In his political views Mr. Hamborg is a republican, keeping well informed on the questions and issues of the day and is thoroughly in sympathy with the American form of government. He has served as school director for the past nineteen years and the cause of education has found in him a warm friend. At the present time he is overseer of highways, which position he has filled for fifteen years, his long continuance in the office indicating that he is the champion of good roads, and he performs his public duties in a capable manner. Mr. Hamborg is indeed a self-made man and deserves all of the praise which that term implies. He came to Roscoe with very little money and indeed he possesses nothing that has not been gained through his own labors. That he has worked persistently and energetically therefore is indicated by the fact that he now owns an excellent farm. He is well liked by his neighbors and has been so reliable in all of his business transactions that one is reminded of a sentiment of a prominent traveler and lecturer who said that "Sweden is the home of the honest man."

FRANK H. KIMBALL, M. D.

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 directs his ability and efforts as to gain recognition as one of the truly representative members of the medical fraternity of Rockford. He was born in this city, July 13, 1855, and is a son of Henry P. Kimball, who for many years figured prominently in the business and public life of the city, winning the respect of all men by his close adherence to manly principles as well as by his success in business. He was descended from New England ancestry and displayed the thrift and industry so characteristic of the north-eastern section of our country. He died at Elgin, whither he had gone for treatment for an abscess on the brain, passing away at the age of fifty-nine years.

Dr. Kimball, reared in Rockford, was a public school student here until he had passed through successive grades and completed the high school work, after which he entered the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, of which he is a graduate of the class of 1877. Broad literary knowledge thus served as an excellent foundation upon which to rear the superstructure of professional



P. M. HAMBORG.

learning, and having determined upon the practice of medicine as a life work, he next matriculated in the Chicago Medical College after some preliminary reading and was graduated from that institution in 1880. Returning to Rockford, he opened his office, and for a quarter of a century has practiced here with constantly increasing success, keeping in touch with the marvelous advance of the profession, whose methods have almost been revolutionized in the last twenty years by science and invention. While engaging in an extensive general practice Dr. Kimball has informed himself thoroughly concerning the ideas which have been advanced by the leaders in the profession and the knowledge which has been gleaned through experiment and experience and in the application of his scientific learning to the practical needs of the profession he is notably correct and accurate. He was one of the promoters and managers of the Rockford City Hospital and the extent and importance of his private practice has been indicative of the consensus of public opinion regarding his capabilities.

In January, 1881, Dr. Kimball was married in Rockford to Miss Henrietta T. Kirk, a native of this city, and a daughter of E. A. and Rachel (Dennis) Kirk, the former a native of Maryland and the latter of Canada. When a young man Mr. Kirk sought a home in the then wild, but rapidly developing, west, arriving in Winnebago county in the latter part of the '30s. Miss Dennis came about the same time and they were married here, living for many years upon a farm, which in its excellent improvements indicated the careful supervision, practical methods and unremitting diligence of the owner. Mr. and Mrs. Kirk have both passed away, as have all of their three children. Their daughter Josephine became the wife of Samuel Kerr, who was at one time an attorney and alderman of Chicago.

Dr. Kimball's first wife died in September, 1892, and in July, 1895, he was again married, his second union being with Gudren M. Tillisch, who was born in Bergen, Norway, but has spent most of her life in Winnebago county. By this union there are two children: Elizabeth, aged nine years; and Alice, seven years of age. The family home is at No. 129 First street. Politically the Doctor has always been a staunch advocate of republican principles, and fraternally he is identified with the Knights of Pythias, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Improved Order of Red Men.

ROBERT GREENLEE.

Robert Greenlee, who devotes his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits on section 22, Winnebago township, is one of the county's native

sons, his birth having occurred in Guilford township on the 23d of March, 1866. His parents were Robert and Marion (Montgomery) Greenlee, early residents of this county, who came from Scotland to the new world. They were the parents of three children: James C., a resident farmer of Guilford township; Mrs. Peter Greenlee, of Harlem township; and Robert.

In taking up the personal history of our subject we present to our readers the life record of one who is widely and favorably known in Guilford and Winnebago townships and other sections of the county. He was reared under the parental roof in his native township and is indebted to the public-school system of the county for the educational privileges he enjoyed. He has always followed the occupation of farming and is now living on section 22, Winnebago township, where he has a well improved tract of land, in the midst of which stands a fine home.

Mr. Greenlee was married February 15, 1894, to Miss Nettie Ralston, of Boone county, Illinois, a daughter of Robert Ralston, an early resident of the Scotch settlement there. She was born August 8, 1865, near Argyle, her parents being Robert and Elizabeth (Andrew) Ralston, both of whom were natives of Argyleshire, Scotland, and came to America in childhood days with their respective parents. Robert Ralston settled in the Scotch settlement in 1841 and remained with his parents until he had attained his majority. He is still living at the age of seventy-eight years. Mrs. Ralston came to this country with her parents in the year 1840. In their family were five daughters and a son: Jane, the wife of George P. Ralston, residing upon a farm at Caledonia, Illinois; Mary, at home; Elizabeth, the wife of George Brown, a resident farmer of Guilford township; Mrs. Greenlee; John A., who resides upon and operates the home farm, and who married Miss Agnes Sillars; Maggie B., the wife of J. C. Greenlee, a resident farmer of Guilford township. Mrs. Robert Greenlee was reared in Boone county and attended the country schools. She resided at home up to the time of her marriage, when she went with her husband to his farm in Winnebago township. They now have three children, all born on the present farm, where they have lived since the spring of 1894. These are: Esther E., born February 17, 1895; Gladys C., born April 10, 1897; and Clark M., born March 8, 1899. They also lost a daughter, Marjora J., who was born September 21, 1902, and died January 11, 1903.

Mr. Greenlee supports the prohibition party by his ballot, for it embodies his views on the temperance question. Fraternally he is connected with the Knights of the Globe, belonging to the camp at Winnebago, and both he and his wife are members of the Winnebago Presbyterian church. They are people of genuine worth, true to the

teachings of the church, and throughout his entire life, whether in business or social relations, Mr. Greenlee has exhibited sterling traits of character that have commended him to the confidence and trust of all with whom he has been associated.

THOMAS M. ELLIS.

Thomas M. Ellis, general manager of the Rockford Interurban Street Railway Company, was born August 31, 1861, in Whitesboro, New York, his parents being Thomas and Mary (Davis) Ellis. The family is of Welsh lineage and the father with his parents crossed the Atlantic to America from the little rock-ribbed country of Wales during his early boyhood days. He settled at Remson, New York, where he was reared to the occupation of farming for many years. When a young man he turned his attention to the manufacture of tubs and pails at Whitesboro and to the management of that productive industry gave his time and attention for many years, carrying on the business with constantly growing success until about 1885, when he retired from active life. His death occurred in July, 1903, but his widow is still living and has recently paid a visit to her son Thomas in Rockford. They were the parents of four children, of whom one died in infancy, the others being: W. C., who is engaged with the Rockford & Freeport Railway Company; Nellie M., the wife of W. G. Stone, a civil engineer, living at Whitesboro, New York; and Thomas M.

At the usual age Thomas M. Ellis began his education in the public schools of his native city and subsequently entered the Whitesboro Seminary, from which institution he was graduated with the class of 1879. Having completed his education he then joined his father in business, being associated with him for ten years in the manufacture of woodenware. In 1887 he became assistant superintendent of the Utica Belt Street Railway Company, acting in that capacity until 1892, when in order to thoroughly acquaint himself with the electrical department of the business he entered the service of the General Electric Company, of Schenectady, New York, continuing therewith until 1901. He was with that company for a year and in 1892 he came to Rockford as superintendent of the Rockford Street Railway Company. He is now general manager of the Rockford Interurban Street Railway Company, with lines extending from this place to Jamesville, Wisconsin, and to Belvidere and Freeport, Illinois. Mr. Ellis is well qualified for the responsible duties which rest upon him in this connection, having made a close and systematic study of the various departments of the business. He is a typical citizen of the middle west, alive to oppor-

unities and quick to utilize every advantage which arises in connection with his business interests. An interurban railway system is a product of the age and an indication of the spirit of the times, when accommodation and rapidity characterize all departments of business activity.

Mr. Ellis is constantly studying to give to the public a superior service, knowing that in this way the business of the corporation which he represents will be increased.

In 1888 occurred the marriage of Thomas M. Ellis and Miss Mary Louise Kelly, of New Hartford, New York, a daughter of Thomas Kelly, of that place. They have four children—Bessie May, Milton, W. H. and Howard D.—all of whom are students in the public schools. Mr. Ellis is connected with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and politically is a republican, but while well informed on the questions and issues of the day, he is without political aspiration for himself. In citizenship he is public-spirited and progressive and has been a co-operant factor in many movements for the general good and withal is practical in his ideas of business advancement and public progress.

JOHN LAKE.

John Lake, a resident of Rockford, who for sixty-eight years has been connected with the business interests of Winnebago county, keeping pace with the rapid commercial and industrial development, is of English birth and lineage. He was born March 27, 1821, on the Blackford farm in Selworthy parish, Somerset county, England, the farm at that time being the property of his paternal grandfather, who was a farmer, dairyman, miller, malster and dealer in all kinds of seeds. His son, William Lake, was born on the same farm in 1798, and he died when his son John was but six months old. The mother afterward married again and John Lake was reared by his grandmother on the old home farm where his birth occurred. He received a good practical education and his advantages in that direction were perhaps above the average, but otherwise he had no assistance for the journey of life and since the age of fourteen years has been dependent upon his own resources for a livelihood. He was first employed as a farm hand and, being ambitious to make the best use of his powers, he resolved to try his fortune in America, of whose advantages and opportunities he had heard much. He was opposed by his family when he suggested the idea to them in May, 1836, but he did not abandon the plan and the following year secured the consent of his grandparents.

In May, 1837, John Lake, then but sixteen years of age, sailed for America, possessing little

save a strength of character and firm determination, which have proved the basic elements in his later success. He boarded the sailing vessel *Severn*, carrying a cargo of iron to Philadelphia, and after seven weeks, during which time severe storms and heavy seas were encountered, he reached the American port. He then started at once for Rockford, Illinois, with the intention of joining his uncle Thomas, but illness detained him at Rockport, a small town on the Ohio river, and it was not until the 1st of December, 1837, that he reached his destination.

Here began the struggle first for a livelihood and later for success, and from farm hand to commercial business he has made his way, occupying for many years a prominent position in commercial and financial circles in his adopted city. During three years he worked at farm labor and then entered upon an apprenticeship to Thomas Thatcher, a carpenter, joiner and architect, who paid him five dollars per month and board. He resolutely set to work to master the business and within a year had become competent enough to accept a position as a journeyman and soon afterward began taking contracts. He was thus connected with building operations until 1853, when he turned his attention to the lumber trade in partnership with P. Howes, conducting a yard where the East Rockford, Chicago & Northwestern passenger station is now located, that at the time being the terminus of the Chicago & Galena Railroad. When the railroad was extended across the river in 1853 their yard was removed to the west side, where they conducted their business until 1856, when they sold out to Mr. Freeman.

Mr. Lake then enjoyed a well earned vacation, making a trip, in November, 1856, to the old home which he had left nineteen years before. Returning to America in February, 1857, he resumed business as a lumber merchant at the corner of Third and State streets, in Rockford, and in 1859 he sold out to the firm of Cook & Brother. In partnership with Henry Fisher he engaged in the lumber business on the west side from 1861 until 1867, when he once more disposed of his interest and again went abroad, visiting France, Italy, Switzerland, Germany, Belgium, Ireland and Scotland, as well as his native England. In the fall of 1867 he returned to Rockford and in 1868 he entered into partnership with Seely Perry, which relation was terminated after five years, and through the succeeding year he traveled in Europe and twice again thereafter, gaining a comprehensive knowledge of the countries upon the continent. Since 1872 he has visited California seven different times and has spent six winters in that state, gaining the experience and culture which only travel brings.

Other business and public interests aside from those mentioned have claimed his attention and

have profited by his co-operation and business sagacity. He was vice president of the Rockford Fire Insurance Company from 1866 until 1886 and in the latter year was chosen president. In 1873 he was elected alderman of Rockford from the Second ward and during a service of ten years in the city council exercised his official prerogatives in support of many progressive measures, his public spirit finding tangible evidence in the support which he gave to all movements that he deemed would prove beneficial to the city. During a part of that decade he was also supervisor, and in 1877 he was chairman of the board of education.

Mr. Lake married Miss Almada M. Danley, a daughter of Cornelius and Sarah Danley, of Harlem, Illinois, on the 11th of October, 1849, and of their seven children three died in infancy. His first wife died May 5, 1893, and on the 25th of May, 1895, he was united in marriage to Mrs. Phoebe E. Benjamin, widow of Willis Benjamin and a sister of his first wife. The family home is at No. 1313 East State street, and the social position of the family has ever been one of prominence in cultured society circles. Fraternal prominence in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Mr. Lake has been grand master of the grand lodge of the state and for six consecutive years was representative to the sovereign grand lodge of the United States. A life of activity, crowned with honors and successes, has been the history of John Lake, and now at the advanced age of nearly eighty-five years he is living retired from active business and quietly spending his last days in the city which witnessed his early business struggles and which rejoices in his advancement and prosperity, because of the methods which he has ever followed in all commercial transactions.

EDWARD H. MARSH.

Edward H. Marsh, who is engaged in the practice of law and is prominent in republican circles in Winnebago county, was born in the city of Rockford, December 6, 1860. His father, John D. Marsh, was a successful and leading farmer of Winnebago county. He was born in New York and in 1856 came to Rockford, where he entered the employ of A. J. Work & Company.

Edward H. Marsh pursued his education in the public schools of his native city, passing through successive grades until he had completed the high-school course with the class of 1878. Having determined to engage in the practice of law as a life work he entered the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor and was graduated from the law department in 1882. In the same year he was admitted to the bar and began practice. He

has now for almost a quarter of a century been a representative of the legal fraternity of his native city and has a good law business to which he is conscientiously devoted. His knowledge of the principles of jurisprudence and his capability in handling important litigated interests have been the means of securing him a creditable and distinctively representative clientage.

Mr. Marsh has held various political positions, being first called to office as justice of the peace, in which capacity he served for four years. He was a member of the board of supervisors for one term and city attorney for two years, while in 1868 he was appointed master in chancery by Judge Garver, and was appointed a member of the state board of equalization to fill a vacancy occasioned by the death of Charles A. Work. On the expiration of that term he was elected to the office, which position he is now filling. A staunch advocate of republican principles, he has served on the republican central committee of his county, and has labored earnestly and effectively for the success of the party. In 1868 he married Miss Lizzie L. Lewis, of Rockford, and in social circles of the city they occupy an enviable position.

JOHN MUTIMER.

John Mutimer, a retired farmer and gardener, residing at 1209 South Winnebago street, was born in Lincolnshire, England, April 15, 1826, and has therefore almost reached the eighteenth milestone on life's journey. His parents were Jeremiah and Frances (Jacobs) Mutimer, the former a stock-buyer of England. With his parents he came to this country on a sailing vessel in 1838, being at that time a youth of twelve years. It required six weeks and three days to complete the voyage, but ultimately anchor was dropped in the harbor of New York and the family made their way thence to Amsterdam, that state. There the father worked as a laborer and in 1875 he came to the west, settling in Rockford. He was a gardener here and his remaining days were passed in this city, where his death occurred at the age of eighty-eight years. Both he and his wife were in London, England, at the time of the coronation of Queen Victoria. John Mutimer largely acquired his education in the schools of New York state, where in his youth he worked on a farm for his board and clothes for six years and the privilege of attending school through the winter months. He afterward secured employment in factories of the east, being engaged at carpet-weaving for five years. Later, however, he resumed work as a farm hand by the month and subsequently started out upon an active business venture by working land

on the shares, being thus engaged until 1875, when he came to Winnebago county and located on the Kiskwaukee road. Here he purchased thirty-seven and a half acres of land and subsequently he bought forty acres adjoining. He also leased and operated other land but subsequently he traded his land for city property. In 1899 he took up his abode in Rockford, where he has since lived retired.

In 1858 Mr. Mutimer was united in marriage to Miss Susan Heigle, of Amsterdam, New York. They have become the parents of six children: James W., who is a solicitor and collector for the A. L. Bartlett Company, of Rockford, married Esther Lester, and after her death wedded Ada Schafer, of this city; Lauren Y. married Jennie Cooper and is a brass molder, residing in Schenectady, New York; Fannie is the wife of Eugene Laughlin and resides in Rockford, where he is engaged in the coal business; and Betsy R. is the wife of Eugene Sailor, a liveryman of Rockford. The wife and mother died in January, 1899, and later in the year Mr. Mutimer was married to Mary A. Mutimer.

He owns a brick flat building and two lots in Rockford, and his wife owns the home where they reside at No. 1209 South Winnebago street, and has a life lease on a store building. Mr. Mutimer belongs to the Grange. For many years he lived a life of persistent and earnest toil. His boyhood days were fraught with much hard labor and he enjoyed few privileges and advantages, but he possessed a strong and sturdy character and made the most of his opportunities and as the years passed by he was enabled to accumulate a farm property and now with a comfortable competence is enabled to live retired. Such a history should serve to encourage and inspire others who are forced to start out as he did empty-handed.

FLETCHER COFFIN.

Fletcher Coffin, whose beautiful home in Rockford, which he has owned and occupied since 1863, is the visible proof of his life of energy and enterprise through the long years of an active business career, was born in Roscoe, this county, on the 6th of November, 1841, and comes of an old New England ancestry. His paternal great-grandfather, born in New England, was the first of the name to leave that section of the country, locating in Deerfield, Herkimer county, New York, where in the midst of the forest he opened up a farm, upon which he made his home until his death. It was there that Isaac Coffin, the grandfather, was born and reared, and the occupation which claimed his labor in youth continued to be his life work, and he assisted in clearing



JOHN MUTIMER.

seven different farms of that locality. He removed from Herkimer county to St. Lawrence county about the year 1839 and, having purchased a tract of timber land, he and his sons began cutting away the trees, grubbing out the stumps and preparing the land for cultivation, and in due course of time abundant harvests were gathered there. He had wedded Peggy Patton, whose birth occurred in eastern New York and who passed away in St. Lawrence county. Her father was of the heroes who fought for the independence of the nation in the Revolutionary war.

Henderson W. Coffin, a son of Isaac and Peggy Coffin, first opened his eyes to the light of day in Newport, Herkimer county, New York, and there he spent his youth, and when a young man went to Canada, where he learned the trade of brick-making under the direction of his brother Horace. On leaving the Dominion he came to Illinois and located in Winnebago county in 1838. Here he continued in the employ of his brother for a time, but later engaged in farming on his own account. Subsequently he went to Beloit, Wisconsin, where he established a brickyard, but previous to this time he had become the owner of land in Burritt township, Winnebago county, having entered a claim from the government. In 1860 he took up his abode thereon and after cultivating and improving the place for several years he removed to Winnebago township, where he purchased a tract of land that was his home until his life's labors were ended in death in May, 1876. He was married in early manhood to Miss Mary H. Kenear, who was also a native of the Empire state. They were farming people, energetic and diligent in business affairs, and at all times commanded the esteem of those with whom they came in contact. So successful was Mr. Coffin in his farming operations and so carefully did he invest his earnings that he was at one time the owner of more than one thousand acres of land. In his family were eleven children.

Like the others of the household Fletcher Coffin spent his boyhood days in his parents' home, acquiring a public-school education and aiding in the farm work as his age and strength permitted. Throughout his active business career he continued his connection with agricultural pursuits and while he has now retired from business life, he is still the owner of two hundred and seventy-five acres of valuable and productive land, lying in Burritt and Pecatonica townships. While on the farm he was also interested in dairying and stock-raising, together with the cultivation of the fields and all branches of his business proved profitable, owing to his keen discernment, marked sagacity and executive force.

On the 22d of December, 1874, Mr. Coffin was united in marriage to Miss Harriet Keeling, who was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, July 11,

1853, her parents being John and Elizabeth (Taylor) Keeling, the former born near Liverpool, England. His parents were William and Harriet Keeling, the former a tailor by trade. On coming to America he settled in Philadelphia, where he engaged in tailoring for a number of years, but eventually he removed to Rockford, where he resided up to the time of his death. John Keeling also mastered the same business and followed it for a number of years in America, but eventually became a house decorator of this city. His wife was likewise a native of England and a daughter of William Taylor. She came to the United States with a brother and sister.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Coffin have been born two children: Gertrude May, who was educated in the Rockford schools, has now successfully engaged in teaching for ten years, while Alta Marie is the wife of Chester Lane, who is engaged in the insurance business in Rockford. In 1893 the family left the farm and Mr. Coffin purchased his beautiful home at No. 442 Oakley avenue, where he has since lived a retired life. In its rich and tasteful furnishings this home indicates the cultured and refined taste of the inmates and the members of the household occupy a prominent social position.

Mr. Coffin is a republican in his political views, strong in his endorsement of the principles of the party, yet has never been an aspirant for office. He stands to-day as a splendid example of what may be accomplished in the business world through force of character and honorable effort, his life record indicating that success is ambition's answer and also showing that a man of resolute will and determination, although unaided by inherited wealth or influence, can win simultaneously for himself an honored name and notable prosperity.

HENRY H. WOOD.

Henry H. Wood, extensively and successfully engaged in the dairy business and also controlling farming interests in the vicinity of Pecatonica, was born October 22, 1853, on Prospect Hill, in Somerville, Massachusetts. It was in the doorway of his father's home (although not then in possession of his father) that the first American flag was raised. He traces his ancestry back to William Wood, who came from England and settled in Concord, Massachusetts, about the year 1638. He died in 1671 at the age of eighty-nine years, leaving a son and daughter, Michael and Ruth.

Michael Wood, the son, died May 13, 1764, leaving five sons and one daughter—Abraham, Isaac, Thomson, Jacob, John and Abigail.

Jacob Wood died October 6, 1723, leaving three sons and three daughters: Jacob, Mary, Ephraim, Dorcas, Hannah and Millicent, and of this family Ephraim, who died March 20, 1780, at the age of eighty-eight years, was the father of Ephraim Wood, Jr., town clerk and judge of the court of common pleas, who was born August 1, 1733, and died April 8, 1814, at the age of eighty-one years. His wife, Mary Heald Wood, was born in Concord in October, 1758, and died July 13, 1807. They left ten children: Daniel, born October 23, 1760; Priscilla, born October 26, 1762; Stephen, who was born October 10, 1764, and died February 27, 1820; Nathan, who was born January 8, 1766, and died November 16, 1810; Hannah, who was born July 16, 1768, and died March 8, 1799; Hannah, the second of the name, who was born February 3, 1770, and died November 6, 1795; Ephraim, who was born October 7, 1773; William, who was born June 10, 1775, and died August 24, 1840; Elijah, who was born October 31, 1776, and died February 11, 1785; and John, who was born April 1, 1778. All of this family were born in Concord. Judge Ephraim Wood was a great-grandfather of Henry H. Wood of this review.

His son, William Wood, born in Concord, June 10, 1775, married Nancy Wyrick, of Charleston, Massachusetts, who was born May 3, 1780, and was married October 16, 1800, in Charleston, where they afterward resided, William Wood being there engaged in the morocco business. They had eight children: William, born September 23, 1801, died in Portland, November 25, 1870; Daniel Parker, born February 17, 1803, died in Bangor, Maine, November 18, 1878; Ann was born October 15, 1804. Mary Heald, born May 2, 1806, died in Charleston, Massachusetts, December 9, 1873. Edward Wyrick, born April 23, 1808, died March 28, 1836. Martha Wyrick, born January 20, 1810, died October 13, 1812. Caroline was born May 24, 1811. Alexander, born November 30, 1812, died in Somerville, Massachusetts, February 27, 1882. The mother of this family, Nancy Wood, died in Charleston, August 22, 1814, aged thirty-four years, and the father, William Wood, afterward married Mary Pilsbury, who was born in Boston, April 1, 1779, and by whom he had two children: George, who was born October 17, 1816, and died September 24, 1843; and Maria, who was born August 17, 1824. Mrs. Mary Wood died in Charleston, November 27, 1852, at the age of seventy-three years.

Alexander Wood, father of Henry H. Wood, was born November 30, 1812, at Charleston, Massachusetts, and died in Somerville, February 27, 1882. He was in the boot and shoe business from 1835 until 1870 and was in the old Benjamin Franklin building on Hanover street in Boston

until 1862 or 1863, when the old building was torn down and a new structure erected in its place. He then removed to a building across the street at No. 134 Hanover street, where he continued in business until 1870, when he retired to private life. He built many houses in Somerville which he sold and rented and he also did a renting business for others. He was thus closely identified with the improvement of the city through his building operations and was well known there. He also served as justice of the peace and was active and influential in public affairs. He was married at Christ church in Boston, October 10, 1837, to Phoebe Southwick Whitmore, and although they had no children of their own, they adopted a daughter, Grace Adelaide, who was born September 12, 1846. Mrs. Phoebe S. Wood died in Boston, and Alexander Wood afterward married her sister, Amelia Hewer Whitmore, November 28, 1850. She was born at Newburyport, Massachusetts, May 30, 1823, and is now living at the old homestead in Somerville, where she has resided for fifty-five years. There were four children of this marriage, Alexander Lovel, born October 11, 1851, died February 23, 1855. Henry Hunt is the next of the family. Caroline Lovel, born August 17, 1855, was married to Alfred Seymour Maynard at Somerville, Massachusetts, November 25, 1875. Katharine Walker, born February 3, 1801, is living at the old homestead with her mother.

Henry H. Wood pursued his education in the public schools of his native town, passing through the consecutive grades until he completed the high school course. He then entered upon his business career as an employe in the dry goods house of Sweters, Swan & Blodgett, with which he continued for seven years, and in 1870 he came to Peconia, where he embarked in the produce and grocery business, conducting his store with a fair measure of success for ten years. In 1884 he turned his attention to the creamery business, in which he remained for about four years, after which he rented the building, which was later destroyed by fire. In 1888 he went to Long Branch, New Jersey, where he spent one year in connection with Mr. Warren, building the race track there. He afterward returned to Boston, where he engaged in the milk business for three years and on the expiration of that period he again came to Peconia, where he has since resided and has conducted an extensive and profitable dairy business upon his fine farm of one hundred acres, which adjoins the city limits. His residence, a large and attractive one, built in modern style of architecture, stands upon the farm and yet is within the city limits. Mr. Wood cares for each winter about one hundred head of stock, including cattle, sheep and horses. In addition to his home property he owns a fine tract of land of

one hundred and sixty acres about a mile and a half east of the town, which he rents. His business interests are capably conducted and his keen discernment and sound judgment ably supplement his indefatigable energy.

On the 5th of October, 1876, Mr. Wood was married in Pecatonica to Miss Jennie Roena Salisbury, a daughter of Francis and Jane (Scott) Salisbury. Her father was born in Hamburg, Erie county, New York, August 2, 1823, and was a son of Smith and Roena (Parker) Salisbury, both of whom were natives of New York and died in Hamburg, that state, at the ages of forty and seventy years, respectively. On both the paternal and maternal sides of the family Francis Salisbury was descended from English ancestry, four brothers of the name coming originally to America. Francis Salisbury remained at home until nineteen years of age, assisting his father upon the farm, and then went to Louisiana, but did not remain long in the south, being called home on account of his father's death. He, however, purchased one hundred and forty-four acres of Indian land, which he cleared of the timber, and in a few years a plank road was built through his land, connecting him with the city limits of Buffalo. He later sold this property to a Catholic mission. After owning that farm for about two years Mr. Salisbury was united in marriage at Hamburg, New York, November 11, 1845, to Miss Jane Scott, a daughter of Thomas and Martha (Lindsey) Scott, who were of Scotch-Irish descent. In 1850 Mr. Salisbury came to Illinois, but afterward returned to New York. However, he was pleased with the western country and on the 15th of May, 1854, he brought his family to this state, becoming a pioneer resident of Stephenson county, where he resided until 1864. He owned there about eight hundred acres of valuable land. In the year mentioned he removed from Stephenson to Winnebago county and was here extensively engaged in buying cattle and grain. In fact, he figured prominently in many business enterprises and undertakings and contributed in substantial measure to the upbuilding of Pecatonica and his part of the county. He built the old Western Union Railroad, now a part of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad from Shirland to Davis and he was also interested in oil wells for a number of years in Pennsylvania. Whatever he undertook he carried forward on an extensive scale. At one time he planted two hundred acres of potatoes and this caused him to be known by the sobriquet of Potato Salisbury. His crop was very extensive and he gave potatoes to all who would come and dig them. He also conducted a packing business in Pecatonica at one time and was in the hop business. He was likewise proprietor at one time of the largest nursery in Winnebago county and he

owned a farm of twelve hundred acres in Iowa, which he afterward divided among his children. He was connected with Mr. Wood in the creamery business and was proprietor of a lumberyard in Pecatonica at one time, while in connection with his son-in-law, J. W. Harrenstein, he conducted a mercantile enterprise here. During the last twenty years of his life he was a great sufferer from rheumatism. His intense and well directed activity made him a valued factor in industrial and commercial circles and his labors contributed substantially to the upbuilding of the community. In politics he was a democrat, supporting the principles as advocated by Jefferson and Jackson. He died April 16, 1904, when in the eighty-first year of his age, and his wife passed away November 14, 1891. They were the parents of eight children. Mary, born February 15, 1847, became the wife of H. M. Cook, a farmer residing in Pecatonica township. Frances, born June 8, 1848, is the wife of J. W. Harrenstein, now living in California. Franklin E. was born February 27, 1851. Thomas S., born April 4, 1853, died on the 10th of September following. Martha, born August 16, 1854, died May 26, 1862. Mrs. Wood was born June 18, 1856. Sarah was born November 20, 1858. Douglas was born February 2, 1861.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Wood have been born two children. Amelia Whitmore, born July 29, 1877, is the wife of G. R. Owen, a resident of Kirkland, Illinois, and an engineer on the Illinois, Iowa & Minnesota Railroad. Jennie Scott, born September 25, 1879, is at home. Mr. Wood has served as a member of the town board and also as a member of the school board. The family are members of the Congregational church, and Mr. and Mrs. Wood and his daughter are prominent in social circles of the city.

EDWIN S. GLEASMAN.

The business interests of Rockton find an active and progressive representative in Edwin S. Gleasman, who is dealing in agricultural implements there. He was born in Rockton in 1867. His paternal grandfather, Godfred Gleasman, was a native of Germany, and with his two brothers, Valentine and George, was killed in the battle of Antietam, in the Civil war, the explosion of one shell causing the death of all three. In the grandfather's family were five sons and three daughters, of whom George Gleasman was the second son and fourth child. The members of the family still living are: Fred and Phillip, both of whom are residents of Rockton; Lizzie, the wife of J. B. Atwood, of Roscoe township; Mrs.

Louisa Faass, living in Utica, New York; and Kate, who is residing in Rome, New York. George Gleasman, the father, was born in Syracuse, New York, June 30, 1840, and is represented elsewhere in this work.

Edwin S. Gleasman spent his youth in Owen township upon the old homestead farm, where he remained until twenty-three years of age. His education was acquired in the district schools, which he attended through the winter months and in the summer seasons he was trained to the active work of the farm. After reaching man's estate he followed farming in connection with his father and was identified with general agricultural pursuits until 1890, when he removed to the village of Rockton, where he has since been engaged in merchandising as a dealer in agricultural implements and kindred supplies. He has met with much success in the conduct of his store here for he is careful in making his purchases and is thus enabled to realize a good profit on his sales. Moreover, he secures a desirable patronage by reason of business principles that are so honorable and straightforward as to require no disguise.

On the 26th of February, 1892, Mr. Gleasman was married to Miss Lissie Truman, a daughter of J. C. Truman. They have two children, Maria H. and Ruth L. Mr. Gleasman is a republican, has served as highway commissioner of Owen township and is now a member of the library committee. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, holding membership in Rockton lodge, and in the Scottish rite he has attained the thirty-second degree. He is also connected with the Modern Woodmen of America. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church and takes quite an active and helpful part in its work, doing all in his power to promote its growth and extend its influence. In his life record he displays many of the sterling characteristics of the German ancestry although he is distinctly American in thought, interests and feeling, having as a progressive citizen contributed to the welfare of his community along material lines and at the same time has aided in upholding its political and legal status.

EDWARD FRANCIS CARTY.

Edward Francis Carty instituted in Rockford a business which, constantly growing in volume and importance, has become a profitable meat packing industry. A native of Dubuque, Iowa, he was born in 1867, a son of Edward Carty, who removed from Cherry Valley to Dubuque. Subsequently, however, he returned to his old home in 1870. He was a baker by trade and followed that pursuit for several years. His death oc-

curred in 1872. In his family were four children: J. J., a resident of Dixon, Illinois, who is engaged on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad; Elizabeth, who died at the age of seventeen years; and Rose, who died at the age of sixteen years. The mother is still living at the age of seventy-two years and makes her home at No. 1272 South Church street, Rockford.

Edward F. Carty accompanied his parents on their removal from Cherry Valley and there attended the public schools until sixteen years of age, when he entered upon his business career by learning the butcher's trade, being employed in that way for one year at Cherry Valley. In 1887 he entered the employ of the Schmauss Company, with whom he continued for seventeen years, eventually securing advancement and recognition of his fidelity and capability until he became manager of the firm. Ambitious to become an independent factor in business circles that his labors might more directly benefit himself he organized a company in 1903, becoming associated with Don Dever, Tom Mommex and Henry Bingham, under the name of The Carty, Dever & Mommex Company. They now conduct four stores at No. 321 West State street, 518 East State street, 1003 South Main street and 1061 West State street, and the volume of their business is constantly growing until it represents a large investment and returns a very gratifying income each year. At their slaughter house they have twenty acres of land, upon which they have also erected a cold storage plant. They furnish employment to thirty-five people and slaughter one hundred head of cattle and six hundred head of hogs per day. They pack hogs, doing both a wholesale and retail business, and are represented on the road by traveling salesmen. The business was incorporated in March, 1905, and has become one of the leading enterprises of this character in Rockford.

Mr. Carty lives with his mother at No. 1272 South Church street. He has taken an active interest in the affairs of the city and in 1903 was elected alderman from the fifth ward upon an independent ticket. He was made chairman of the committee of streets and alleys, fire and water, the purchasing committee, the lease committee and the sidewalk committee, and he exercises official prerogatives in support of all practical measures that tend to advance general progress and improvement. He belongs to St. Mary's Catholic church and holds fraternal relations with the Knights of Columbus, the Knights of Pythias, the Elks, and Kishwaukee Tribe of Red Men. Mr. Carty is yet a young man but has already attained success that might well be envied by many a man of twice his years. He has wrought along modern business lines, watchful of every indication pointing to advancement, utilizing each

opportunity that has presented and making every forward step after thoughtful consideration. His mistakes therefore have been few and his progress and prosperity are assured.

JOHN VINCER.

John Vincer, who is engaged in farming and threshing, his home being on section 10, Cherry Valley township, was born in London, England, in 1846, his parents being Henry and Mary (Powell) Vincer, both of whom died in England, the father passing away in 1895 and the mother in 1898. Both were about sixty years of age. Mr. Vincer was a wagon-maker and followed that business throughout his active life in London. The parents reared a large family, including Elizabeth, deceased; John; Daniel, who is employed in the machine shop of Harry Dickerson in Rockford; Harry, who is in business in London, England; Mary Ann, the wife of William Jones, also of England; Martha, who married William Wiles, a brush-maker residing in England; Harriet, who is married and lives in that country, where her husband is a police officer; and three children who died in early life.

John Vincer was reared in the land of his nativity and is indebted to its public-school system for the educational privileges he enjoyed. He came to America in 1870, when about twenty-four years of age, landing at Castle Garden, New York. He had previously learned the trade of an engineer and machinist and continuously followed those pursuits until the last thirteen years. Making his way to Chicago, he remained four years in that city, being employed as engineer in the H. P. Robinson flour mills. In 1875 he came to Rockford, where he entered the employ of Gault

& Hill, manufacturers of plows, with whom he worked as a machinist for six months. He then went to Freeport in the employ of J. D. Ester & Company, and in December, 1876, he entered the service of the Rockford Watch Company, with which he was connected for thirteen years. Since that time he has devoted his energies to farming and threshing and is now the owner of seventy-six acres of land on section 10, Cherry Valley township, near the station of Perryville. This is known as the old Perry farm and in connection with the tilling of the soil Mr. Vincer owns and operates a threshing machine, carrying on business in that way for thirteen years.

Before leaving his native country Mr. Vincer was married in London to Miss Frances Baggs, of that city, who came to America a few months after the emigration of her husband, joining him in the middle west. They have seven children, who are still living: Henry, a resident farmer of Cherry Valley township; Benjamin, who follows farming in Boone county; Fred, who is working in Cherry Valley township; Frank and William, at home; Frances, the wife of F. Hazelton, who is living in Flora township, Boone county, Illinois; and Lillie, the wife of Charles Wheeler, also of Flora township. They also lost seven children.

In his political views Mr. Vincer has been a republican throughout his naturalized life as an American citizen and his religious views are in accord with the teachings of the Methodist Episcopal church. Starting out in life for himself, with few educational or other advantages and becoming imbued with a laudable ambition to attain something better than he could secure in his own country, he crossed the Atlantic to America, where by his business ability and fidelity he has gained creditable success and to-day commands the respect and esteem of the entire community in which he lives.

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